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Appendix S

Letters of Support for Proposed Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA

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   c) Purnima Mankekar, Professor of Asian American Studies and Women’s Studies
   d) Elizabeth Marchant, Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese and Women’s Studies

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   i) Sandra Harding, Professor in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies
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   z) James Schultz, Professor of Germanic Languages and the Program Director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Program
   aa) Jenny Sharpe, Professor of English
   bb) Sharon Traweek, Associate Professor of History
   cc) Juliet Williams, Visiting Associate Professor of Women’s Studies (in visiting status from UCSB; to be appointed in WS at UCLA upon departmentalization)
   dd) Haiping Yan, Associate Professor of Theatre
**Women’s Studies Librarian:**
Ellen Broidy, Librarian VII (Distinguished), Emerita; Adjunct Assistant Professor;
UCLA Library, Women’s Studies

**Additional Faculty Affiliates:**
- a) Kathleen McHugh, Professor of English
- b) Anne Mellor, Professor of English

4. **UCLA Center for the Study of Women (ORU)**

5. **UCLA Departments and Schools**
   - a) Department of Anthropology
   - b) Department of Asian American Studies
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   - i) Department of Political Science
   - j) Department of Sociology
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6. **University of California Women’s Studies**
   - a) UC Berkeley, Barrie Thorne, Chair, Gender and Women’s Studies Department
   - b) UC Irvine, Jennifer Terry, Director, Women’s Studies Program
   - c) UC Riverside, Alicia Arrizón, Chair, Women’s Studies Department
   - d) UC Santa Barbara, Leila Rupp, Chair, Women’s Studies Program

7. **Nationwide Women’s Studies Departments (with Doctoral Programs)**
   - a) Emory University
     Carla Freeman, Chair, Department of Women’s Studies
   - b) Indiana University
     Suzanna Walters, Chair, Department of Gender Studies
   - c) Ohio State University
     Jill Bystydzienski, Chair, Department of Women’s Studies
   - d) Pennsylvania State University
     Lorraine Dowler, Department Head, Department of Women’s Studies

8. **Women’s Studies Ph.D. Students**
   - a) Laura Foster
   - b) Evangeline Heiligcr
   - c) Loran Marsan
   - d) Saru Matambanadzo
   - e) Jennifer Musto
EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST
April 24, 2007

Robin Garrell, Chair
Faculty Executive Committee
College of Letters and Science

Dear Robin:

Women's Studies at UCLA has a long and distinguished history, characterized by an outstanding faculty and dedicated students. The program has developed to the point, with strong support from both faculty and students, that departmentalization is a logical and important step that will help solidify the academic gains of several decades. I fully and enthusiastically support this proposal.

To facilitate this process, I will commit resources to enable faculty to move their appointments into a new Department. Specifically, support the intention of Chris Littleton and Emily Abel to move 50% of their appointments out of Law and Public Health into Women's studies, so that they can have split appointments. I will also urge that these and other units continue their investment in fields related to the study of women once the new department is established.

The foundation of a department of Women's Studies is a significant step for UCLA: at once it recognizes the vital contribution of a field of study to the academic community at UCLA and brings UCLA in line with its peers across the country. I am optimistic about the future of Women's Studies at UCLA and wish it every success as it evolves into a new institutional formation.

Sincerely,

Scott L. Waugh
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost
cc: Assistant Vice Chancellor Glyn Davies  
    Assistant Provost Maryann Jacobi Gray  
    Executive Coordinator Judith Lacertosa  
    Chair Christine Littleton  
    Acting Dean Reynaldo Macías  
    Executive Dean Patricia O'Brien  
    Vice Chancellor Steve Olsen  
    Chancellor's Communication Service
DEAN SOCIAL SCIENCES
February 22, 2007  
Academic Senate  
3125 Murphy Hall  
14081

Dear Senate and Committee Members,

I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the Women’s Studies Interdepartmental Program’s request for departmental status. Since its inception in 1975, the Women’s Studies Program at UCLA has consistently ranked among the finest programs in the country, attracting outstanding students and professors from within and beyond UCLA. Departmental status will enhance that attraction by elevating the curriculum beyond being dependent on borrowed and temporary instruction to one derived from permanent curricular and research support for students and faculty. I am confident that with full departmentalization the Women’s Studies program at UCLA will become the preeminent research and teaching department in the country.

The latter half of the 20th century saw the unprecedented academic awakening to the study of the lives and endeavors of women. Long neglected by a traditional academy, the full force of feminism and the modern challenge to the societal strictures placed on gender unleashed a rapidly burgeoning body of research. Over the last 50 years, women’s studies research has increased dramatically, establishing it as a critical component of modern liberal arts education and interdisciplinary research.

With these factors in mind, it is not surprising that Women’s Studies at UCLA has seen a doubling of its undergraduate majors in the last decade and a quadrupling of its graduate majors since the degree’s inauguration in 1999. Non-major student credit hours have seen a 50% increase in that same period. Now with approximately 125 undergraduate majors and 15 graduate majors, Women’s Studies equals or exceeds undergraduate and graduate majors and other enrollment benchmarks in several established departments as can be seen in the chart below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparative Measures of Other Small Departments</th>
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<td>DEPARTMENT</td>
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<td>Women’s Studies</td>
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<td>Chicano/a Studies</td>
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<td>Slavic Languages</td>
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<td>Musicology</td>
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<td>Classics</td>
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[NOTE: Student credit hours are inclusive of double majors and minors in the listed departments. Sources: APB MP Tables 2004/05; Class Report 2005/06]
I believe current chair Christine Littelton has wisely chosen to preserve Women’s Studies’ historical interdisciplinary approach to curriculum and has effectively constructed the elements of a robust curriculum.

The new department will have a more than adequate number of faculty. The program currently has two full time equivalents (distributed as four .5 FTE appointments), and a .5 FTE that is unfilled and used for the hiring of temporary faculty. One FTE has been committed upon departmentalization to convert a visiting faculty appointment to a regular appointment, and I have committed a future FTE to be filled within 3 years, and the Executive Dean has committed one FTE from the College pool. In addition to these directly assigned FTEs, there are five Social Science faculty that have expressed interest in splitting or moving their appointments to the new department. Three of these faculty are from the Department of History and are asking for a .5 split, one is from Anthropology and is asking for .25 appointment in Women’s Studies, and one is from the Department of Economics and is asking for a transfer of the full appointment to the new department of Women’s Studies. I am in support of these splits and transfers and will approve them at the appropriate time. Almost all of the current faculty are tenured and will provide a stable base to the new department.

There are also some long-term implications to the above mentioned affiliations and appointments. Some of the faculty were originally hired in departments with the intent of expanding the intellectual resources of Women’s Studies within the campus, but did not have appointments in the Inter-Departmental Program because it was not then allowed. As these FTEs are released, there is a strong expectation that they will be reassigned to Women’s Studies to be filled either fully in the department or in continued collaboration with these other departments. In all, I believe the proposed department will have a small but effective core of tenured faculty to begin, and a mid-range prognosis of growth to further deepen its stability, resources, strengths, and future.

The operating budget currently set at $185,000 in permanent funding, was recently augmented to provide a dedicated manager’s position. It is a modest but adequate budget to provide administrative and counseling support for the faculty and the students. Executive Dean O’Brien and I have shielded the program from the brunt of our recent budget cuts, and in a better fiscal environment, one of my first priorities will be to seek funds to augment the S&E budget.

As the Department of Women’s Studies takes its place alongside the other departments in the Division of Social Science, it will be incumbent upon my office to continue to provide teaching assistance resources at a level commensurate with the Divisional averages. That being said, instructional resources across the Division remain inadequate to meet the crushing demand for social sciences courses.

Women’s Studies is currently housed in recently acquired, contiguous space in Rolfe Hall. The Division is in the midst of a widely-known space crisis, and at present the Social Sciences Division has only a small amount of additional space to meet the new department’s faculty expansions plans. New provisions of space will have to be part of a determined campus effort to meet the Division’s pressing needs, lest this and several other emerging departments and programs find themselves unnecessarily hobbled by space shortages.

With a permanent budget, proposed faculty and robust curriculum already in place, I believe the Department of Women’s Studies will be off to a fast and auspicious start, one that will certainly enhance its already stellar reputation. It will also be a strong signal to our students and faculty that UCLA is committed not only to the academic study of women, but the applicable knowledge that will result from those studies—knowledge that will improve women’s and men’s lives now and in the future.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lucy McAlpin F. McAlpin
Dean of Social Studies
DEAN HUMANITIES
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall, CAMPUS

Dear Chris:

Having read the Proposal requesting departmental status for the IDP in Women's Studies, I write to express my strong support for this change in structure. The proposed change to departmental status is clearly justified, given the demonstrated success of the Women's Studies IDP in developing and maintaining a rich curriculum and active affiliated faculty.

I am particularly pleased that the Women's Studies Program has developed interdisciplinary programs, both undergraduate and graduate, that incorporate both the social sciences and the humanities, as well as some of the professional schools on campus. This range of curricular and faculty resources bodes well for the future of the proposed department.

I believe that the proposed change is overdue; it will lend stability to Women's Studies and this can only be in best interests of UCLA. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Tim Stowell  
Dean of Humanities  
UCLA College
EXECUTIVE DEAN
MEMORANDUM

Office of the Deans
UCLA College
2300 Murphy Hall
143801

February 23, 2007

FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Re: Departmentalization of Women's Studies

Dear Committee Members:

I strongly support the proposed departmentalization of Women's Studies. It is already a well-established degree-granting program with a national reputation. However, its inability to act autonomously and to control its resources has limited it to its current program and has put severe strains on its ability to guarantee continuity and ongoing quality.

The departmentalization of Women's Studies fits into the College's overall strategic plan. Housed in the Social Sciences, it necessarily works across divisional boundaries. Its ability to hold its own FTE as well as make joint appointments will enhance programmatic development and ensure the continuity of a core curriculum. It will also allow Women's Studies to establish its own distinctive identity, one now that is now contingently defined and dependent on the cooperation of overstretched departments that are asked to release overcommitted faculty.

I have reviewed the plans for departmentalization and the resources needs addressed by the dean of Social Sciences. The plan is reasonable and will leverage existing commitments. I consider its departmentalization long overdue. A department of Women's Studies will allow UCLA to be able to build a distinctive research and teaching profile and to recruit the best faculty in the study of women and gender.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patricia O'Brien
Executive Dean
WS FACULTY
January 26, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the excellent and persuasive Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department. I am writing to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become an even more active a member of the department once established.

I am writing as someone who already holds a 50% appointment in Women’s Studies (with 50% in Anthropology) and plan to continue with that arrangement in the new department. As you know, I have had a long association with Women’s Studies, my having been hired as a Visiting Associate Professor, with Women’s Studies money, in 1987. I was housed in Anthropology. For a number of years after the term-limited Visiting post ended, I was a Lecturer, moving afterwards into an Adjunct position, which formalized the 50-50 split appointment. July 1, 2001, I was tenured in that joint position in Women’s Studies and Anthropology.

Since receiving tenure (and even before) I have been playing an active role, not only in the undergraduate program for many years, but more recently in the graduate program. I have chaired undergraduate Honors committees as well as the committees of both M.A. students and Ph.D. students. I am currently the chair of six WSP Ph.D. committees and serve as a member of other committees. As you also know, between 2003-2005, I served as Acting Chair of the Program while you served as Interim Director of the Center for the Study of Women. In addition to serving on the Graduate Committee, I have served on a number of other committees in the WSP: Awards Committee, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and the Graduate Curriculum Committee. I have also chaired two search committees, one in which we successfully hired Grace Hong for a joint position in Women’s Studies and Asian American Studies, a search which, nearly two years later, resulted in an offer made to Michelle Habell-Pallin, which would
be a joint appointment with Chicano Studies. I also chaired the Search Committee that resulted in the hire of Purnima Mankekar. Other searches in which I participated were not so successful because of lack of interest and cooperation from host departments. These were especially disappointing because they were attempts to further diversity our Program. These experiences resulted in underscoring for me the need to control our own hiring, i.e., to become a department.

The courses I have taught in Women’s Studies have been both undergraduate and graduate. The undergraduate classes have included Women and Social Movements, Gender Systems—Global (both cross-listed with Anthropology); Introduction to Women’s Studies (which I taught for many years); Internship in Women’s Studies; Feminist Theories—Social Science; and the Senior Research Seminar. The graduate courses have included a core course—Multicultural Feminist Knowledge—contemporary and Women and Social Movements (variable topics). I also offered a 2-unit Feminist Pedagogy seminar.

Women’s Studies has been a visible teaching force on the campus, offering a large minor for undergraduates and a concentration for graduates, meaning that our reach has been considerable. We have also been a visible intellectual force, gradually infusing gender studies ideas into the general UCLA campus. Our programming, some of which was linked with ethnic studies and area studies programs and centers to diversify curricula and develop innovative pedagogies (I coordinated such a workshop some years ago) is important in overall campus development. Also, we carry the spirit of diversification with our very raison d’etre. As only one example of the work our faculty has done in this vein, I was given the Academic Senate’s Diversity Award a few years ago, for work toward a diverse and equal campus. We also have an international look with our UCLA/Global South Gender Initiative, in which we collaborate with gender studies institutions I the Global South. When we are a department we would be strengthened in these endeavors and goals.

Our graduate program has been expanding and is one of the richest in the country in its breadth and depth. I am truly proud to be a part of its early years. Our various areas of strength will be even more strengthened and visible when we become a department. Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I strongly concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA, as outlined in the Proposal, and very much want to be a large part of it.

Sincerely,

Sondra Hale, Professor
Anthropology and Women’s Studies
January 23, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Professor Littleton:

I am writing to express my strongest and most enthusiastic support for the departmentalization of the Women’s Studies Program (WSP), as described in the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies. I further write to express my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I am currently a joint appointment in Asian American Studies and Women’s Studies. The WSP initiated the search that led to my position, but because of the WSP’s lack of departmental status, my tenure home has had to be in Asian American studies. This is only one of many examples of how the lack of departmental status has hindered the WSP in its mission of expanding the field of feminist studies at UCLA, nationally, and globally. The size and scope of the undergraduate program, the national and international prestige of the graduate program, and the research profile of the affiliated faculty leads me to feel, along with the rest of the members of the Advisory Committee, that departmentalization is imperative.

I concur in unqualified terms with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Grace Kyungwon Hong
Assistant Professor
Department of Asian American Studies and Program in Women’s Studies
Date: Wed, 21 Feb 2007 10:17:16 -0800
From: mankekar@ucla.edu
To: "Littleton, Christine" <Littleton@law.ucla.edu>
Cc: jenna@women.ucla.edu, mankekar@ucla.edu, mankekar@stanford.edu
Subject: letter of support

User-Agent: Internet Messaging Program (IMP) H3 (4.1.3)
X-Probable-Spam: no
X-Scanned-By: smtp.ucla.edu on 169.232.47.137
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by weber.sscnet.ucla.edu id I1LiIDxV014352

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my enthusiastic and unequivocal support for departmentalization.

I was hired with a 50% appointment in Women's Studies (with a split appointment in Asian American Studies) this year, and have felt honored to join such a distinguished roster of faculty. The UCLA Women's Studies faculty are some of the most highly respected nationally and internationally, and are a huge asset for the University. Departmentalizing the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies can only enhance UCLA's overall stature and demonstrate to the rest of academia UCLA's commitment to Women's Studies and to cutting-edge interdisciplinary scholarship in general.

Departmentalizing the IDP will further strengthen the training undergraduate and graduate students receive at UCLA. The IDP in Women's Studies already serves about 150 undergraduate and no less than 20 graduate students annually. Women's Studies courses contribute to the overall breadth, rigor, and strength of the curriculum: currently, an astounding 5000 UCLA students take our courses every year. These figures, however, are only the tip of the iceberg, and some of the achievements of this IDP are less easy to quantify. For instance, Women's Studies provides intellectual community to a stellar group of faculty and students who have made their mark across a range of different bodies of scholarship. Our students' excellent record in receiving internal and extra-mural funding demonstrates the high caliber of their training. Yet, we tend to lose several of our graduate student admits who prefer to go to universities with established departments in Womens Studies and Feminist Studies. With
departmentalization, UCLA will be able to recruit outstanding graduate students even more aggressively and competitively than it does currently.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, this is an appropriate juncture to adopt a structure that will better serve interdisciplinary and feminist scholarship at UCLA. I strongly support request for establishment of a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

\[\text{Shameekar}\]

Sincerely,

Purnima Mankekar
Associate Professor
Asian American Studies and Women's Studies
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women’s Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization. My involvement with Women’s Studies at UCLA began shortly after my arrival in 1998 and has increased steadily over the past eight years. As part of a recent retention negotiation, I requested that a portion of my FTE be moved to the Women’s Studies Program. To my delight, my request was granted and as of 2006, 50% of my FTE resides in the Women’s Studies.

I currently serve as the Women’s Studies Program’s graduate chair am acutely aware of the difficulties of administering a PhD program within the structure of an IDP. Given the size and complexity of Women’s Studies current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its PhD program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I therefore concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Elizabeth A. Marchant  
Associate Professor  
Spanish & Portuguese and Women’s Studies
January 26, 2007

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Professor Littleton:

I am delighted to add my name in support of the proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s studies to establish a department. I believe the establishment of such a department is long over-due and look forward to becoming a member of it.

I have served on the Advisory Committee of the Women’s Studies IDP since joining the UCLA faculty in 1992 and therefore have participated in numerous conversations about the need for such a department. The current proposal is excellent. I also have taught courses on women’s health care in the undergraduate and graduate programs and plan to continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

Emily Abel
Professor
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I routinely teach a women’s history course that is cross-listed with WSP, and I was Chair of the IDP 1996-99. As the Proposal persuasively argues, given the departmentalization of Comparative Literature, Chicano/a Studies, and Asian American Studies, UCLA’s old “IDP” model of interdisciplinary studies (designed I believe in the 1960s or 1970s) no longer applies. Women’s Studies as well as other interdisciplinary fields of study have become increasingly important as distinct “disciplines” in their own right.

WSP has been remarkably successful in cobbling together a good program, but the problems listed in the Proposal greatly hamper its development and impede academic involvement among its faculty affiliates. WSP has grown greatly, and the time has come for it to receive the recognition, support, and stability of a department.

I greet the possibility of become a part-time faculty member in a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA with the utmost enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

Ruth Bloch  
Professor  
Department of History
January 24, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I’m delighted with the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department; it’s been a long time coming. I’m writing to put on record my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

As you know, our affiliated faculty has been discussing departmentalization since my stint as director 1987-1993. As director, I split my teaching equally between Women’s Studies and Anthropology, regularly teaching WS 10 as well as other core courses and the anthropology gender course. Since then, I have taught both undergraduate core courses and the graduate feminist methodology course (203) in
Women’s Studies. I’m very enthusiastic about becoming a department and will become a member of it.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, a departmental structure will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Karen Brodkin

Karen brodkin
Professor
Anthropology
January 30, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

My thirty-year career as a medical anthropologist has been defined within the context of Women’s Studies, initially as the field emerged and became legitimated, and subsequently, as it has flourished into a mature area of pedagogy and investigation. I was lucky enough to come of age academically at the start of the Second Wave of the Feminist Movement, and quickly came to see the huge gaps in our understanding of culture and society that resulted from systematically excluding or marginalizing women. In an effort to help rectify this situation, my own intellectual activities have always been informed by and designed to contribute to understanding women’s lives and their social experience.

As graduate students, my cohort and I fought to get Women’s Studies established as a legitimate field of investigation, and I taught the first graduate and undergraduate courses in the subject at Wayne State, my first academic position. Since joining UCLA’s faculty in 1983, I have continued to teach similar courses and train graduate and undergraduate students.

It’s long struck me as unfortunate that UCLA has been unable to establish its own department of Women’s Studies. Having served for the past few years on the WS Graduate Admissions Committee, I have seen the amazingly strong applicant pools we get, even without being a department. Yet as an IDP, we don’t have the ability to accept the great majority of qualified applicants who apply. I am therefore extremely enthusiastic about the prospect of departmentalization and would seek a 0% affiliation with this much-needed department.

Carole H. Browner
Professor

voice (310) 794-6299
tax (310) 794-6297
browser@ucla.edu
Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Carole H. Browner
Professor
Departments of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences and Anthropology
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Professor Littleton,

I have read the proposal to establish a department of Women’s Studies and want to register my enthusiastic support for departmentalization along with my intention to become a member of the department once it has been established. I hope UCLA can join some of the other tier-one institutions that have long offered degrees in Women’s Studies. I think it will bring distinction to our campus.

Much of my academic career has been focused on women and performance, from my first book, Feminism and Theatre to my forthcoming anthology, Feminist Performance on the International Stage. My decision to accept a position at UCLA was greatly influenced by the national visibility of the Center for the Study of Women, which provided a forum for the ……… group of feminist scholars assembled here. Adding the departmentalization of Women's Studies to this visibility will announce to the profession the central role such studies play in the academic environment of UCLA.

Thank you for inviting me to join this department. I would be honored to serve. I find the proposal to be both traditional and prescient and hope that it succeeds.

Sincerely,

Sue-Ellen Case  
Professor and Chair, Critical Studies  
Department of Theatre  
Director, Center for Performance Studies  
UCLA
January 25, 2007
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I am delighted that the WSPAC has finally moved formally to arrange for departmental status, a change I have long and enthusiastically advocated, especially for the enhanced ability it will lend us to attract interdisciplinary women’s studies faculty. I have read the excellent Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I have been deeply involved with WSP at UCLA since my arrival in 1988. I have served on the Advisory Committee for most of my time here, and also as Graduate Advisor in the first year of the PhD program. I have also taught in the undergraduate program. I expect to continue at least this level of involvement, once department status has been received. I will ask for a 0% appointment, for reasons of my home department in History, but will serve on committees, teach courses, and take administrative responsibilities as asked.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Ellen Carol DuBois
Professor
History Department/Social Sciences
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402  

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies  

Dear Chris:  

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to continue as an affiliated faculty member of the department once established.  

I have been an affiliated faculty for some years, now, and have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to work with both undergraduate majors and graduate students in developing a strong academic foundation that connects the disciplinary methods and analytical frameworks of Women’s Studies, Chicano/a Studies, and Queer Studies. I am currently chairing one Women’s Studies student’s dissertation committee and am also another Ph.D.’s student’s advisor. Moreover, three of my courses in Chicana/o Studies are cross-listed with WSP.  

As a member of a department that recently became departmentalized, I can attest to the feeling of academic legitimacy that is conferred by departmentalization. Given the size and complexity of the Women’s Studies Program’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  

Alicia Gaspar de Alba  
Professor  
Departments of Chicana/o Studies & English
Jul 6, 2007

Chris Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
Campus 150402

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal to establish Women’s Studies as a department. I strongly support this departmentalization.

I first taught a women’s studies course at SUNY-Albany in 1973. In my two decades on the faculty at the University of Delaware, I yearly taught an introduction to feminist theory and also taught other courses in philosophy at the undergraduate and, in sociology, at the graduate level. I chaired the Women’s Studies Program there from 1985-1992. It included a number of lecture series of the sorts provided by the Center for the Study of Women at UCLA. At UCLA I have taught in the WSP since the early 1990’s. I now teach the undergraduate feminist philosophy course every other year, and offer graduate courses on feminist and postcolonial epistemology and philosophy of science in the school of education. One of these graduate courses is now a cross-list with the WSP. I am one of the scholars internationally who co-founded the field of feminist epistemology and philosophy of science and remain one of the few senior scholars in the U.S. working on postcolonial epistemology and philosophy of science. Additionally, I directed the Center for the Study of Women at UCLA 1995-2000, and then co-edited Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society with Kate Norberg 2000-2005. My fifth authored book is about to be “in press,” and I have published 9 edited collections. All of these except the first book are on feminist and/or postcolonial issues.

Women’s studies needs to become a department, and UCLA needs such a department. I have had a half-time commitment to teach in the WSP since my arrival at UCLA (a commitment which had to be adjusted to accommodate the 10 years of administrative and editorial work indicated above). I intend to continue to teach half-time in the program. As a department WS could better serve and supervise both its students and faculty, and can better negotiate with departments for the services of the many distinguished researchers and scholars with WS affiliations. The list of faculty already committed to partial-lines in the department is spectacular. There are few WS programs or departments in the country which could come close to this resource.

Sincerely,

Sandra Harding, Professor
Department of Education
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

As I have been teaching feminism in my UCLA seminars for many years and have had many excellent Women’s Studies students in my seminars, I am very happy that Women’s Studies has been departmentalized and am looking forward to participating in the program.

Thus in view of the growing size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I therefore concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Douglas Kellner  
George F. Kneller Chair in the Philosophy of Education  
Department of Education and Information Studies
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I am pleased to write in strong support of the proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a Department of Women’s Studies here at UCLA. I am in favor of departmentalization and intend to become a member of the department once established. I have been affiliated with Women’s Studies since I joined UCLA in 1994, teaching cross-listed courses for both undergraduate and graduate students as well as serving as an advisor or, more recently, committee member. To be sure, the Women’s Studies Program has steadily developed, attracting ever better students. In view of the size and complexity of the Women Studies Program’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, the prominence and productivity of its women’s studies-related faculty in the College and professional schools, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time—if not, might I note, overdue—to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Gail Kligman,
Professor
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a 0% FTE member of the department once established.

I teach a course for Women’s Studies nearly every year, and I will be more than happy to continue to teach for the program. I have extended my own research into the area of Women’s Studies as well. My last book was on contemporary women who rewrite the character of Clytemnestra. I think that women’s studies is a crucial area of interdisciplinary research that ties the North and South ends of campus together. It could serve as a productive meeting ground for faculty across campus. I would be delighted to see the program put on a firmer footing by its becoming a department.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Komar,
Professor of Comparative Literature & German
UCLA College
February 21, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I have been very active in the current IDP, teaching one core course every year, and an additional cross-listed or elective course every year for the program; as well as serving on the Advisory committee, undergraduate curriculum, graduate, and various awards committees over this last decade. Currently, I act as either the chair or certifying reader on two graduate committees of Women's Studies Ph.D. students, and advise several others who have not yet advanced to candidacy. I have also been quite involved with the Center for the Study of Women, and believe that departmentalization of Women's Studies will foster more sustained intellectual exchange among the departmental faculty, exchange that currently happens more under the auspices of the Center than the Program.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA.

Sincerely,

Rachel C. Lee
Associate Professor
English, Women's Studies, and Asian American Studies
20 February 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member (0%) of the department once established.

For more than 20 years, Women’s Studies programs around the country have led the way in providing strong models of interdisciplinary scholarship that are now imitated by many other programs. Given the size and complexity of UCLA’s WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise.

When I arrived at UCLA several years ago, I brought a graduate student (Karina Eileraas) who entered the (then) newly established PhD program in Women’s Studies. She became the first one to receive a UCLA Women’s Studies PhD. I continue to remain completely committed to the intellectual and pedagogical goals of the program, am honored to be affiliated with it, and thrilled to see that this proposal to establish a department is going forward.

Sincerely yours,

Françoise Lionnet
Interim Associate Dean, International Institute
Director, Global Fellows Program
Co-Director, Mellon Postdoctoral Program
Professor, French and Francophone Studies & Comparative Literature
February 23, 2007

Robin Garrell, Chair
Faculty Executive Committee

Re: Women’s Studies Program Departmentalization Proposal

Dear Robin:

As the Proposal indicates, I plan to be a member of the faculty of the new Department of Women’s Studies if approved, as well as its first chair. Therefore I think it appropriate that a letter of support from me might be appropriate.

Because the term of my latest appointment as chair of the IDP in Women’s Studies expires in June, Dean Reynaldo Macias and I have already discussed my reappointment with the understanding that it might well turn into chairing a department during the next term. This is agreeable to both of us. It also appears agreeable to the current members of the Faculty Advisory Committee and to the proposed faculty who were made aware of my willingness to continue heading the Program and (we hope) the Department.

I have been an active member of the Faculty Advisory Committee for most of my tenure at UCLA, have taught regularly in the Program both in the undergraduate and graduate programs, and have directed Women’s Studies for an initial three-year term and later for a five-year term. I have long planned to request a transfer of 50% of my FTE into Women’s Studies upon its departmentalization, and have communicated that intent to each successive Dean of the Law School for the past five years.

I am extremely enthusiastic about the prospect of Women’s Studies becoming a department, and believe that this change in structure is long overdue. We have an extraordinary faculty, and they deserve the recognition of their hard work that will come from membership in an established department. We have an extraordinary group of graduate students, and they deserve the sense of security that comes from departmental status. Each year our undergraduate majors seem more talented, eager and intellectually curious, and they deserve the stability of a department. In short, we have a marvelous local example of the national and international development of an entirely new “discipline” in the span of 30 years that has transformed the academic and intellectual landscape. Not only has UCLA been part of this development from its beginnings, but we has been a leader for much of it.
Beyond the benefits to the Women’s Studies Program, our students, faculty and staff, departmentalization will benefit the campus, the community and the field. The prominence of UCLA’s Women’s Studies Program is already such that we are asked regularly to assist new women’s studies programs with information and advice. That prominence can only grow with departmentalization; indeed since our plans to seek departmental status have become known we increasingly are being used as a model for department establishment elsewhere.

I look forward to continuing to grow – intellectually and experientially – with Women’s Studies, and hope that our request will be approved as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Christine A. Littleton
Professor of Law
Chair, Women’s Studies Programs
(310) 206-1245 (Law)
(310) 206-8101 (WSP
(littleton@law.ucla.edu)
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women’s Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies and 0% Appointment

Dear Chris:

Having read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, I am writing to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I joined the UCLA faculty in 1994 in part because of the strong program in women’s studies and the Center for the Study of Women. I have served on the advisory boards of both the Women’s Studies Program and the CSW, sometimes even chairing the boards. I have also served on several committees — including search committees for new directors or chairs and the awards committees — on a regular basis. For some years I have taught a GE course, Music and Gender, cross-listed between Musicology and Women’s Studies. I now advise a graduate student in the program and look forward to having close contact with additional students. I anticipate that I will continue to participate at least this level and probably even more with a 0% appointment in the new Department of Women’s Studies.

Given the size and complexity of the Women’s Studies Program’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I heartily endorse the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Susan McClary, Professor  
Department of Musicology
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

February 21, 2007

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I am writing to express my strong commitment to support Women's Studies in its efforts to become a full-fledged department. Intellectually, it is a very important move and I pledge to become a member once it is established. I have now read the Proposal that the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies has prepared and I wholeheartedly uphold its ideals and programmatic goals.

I have taught numerous courses, including the Introductory course, the senior seminar and courses on gender that relate more specifically to my field of French and Francophone Studies. My department has encouraged me to teach in Women's Studies and has given me a course relief of one course per year to teach in the program. I plan to teach the Senior Seminar again next year. I would hope to offer additional courses that would be relevant to gender issues.

The nature of the Women’s Studies has evolved significantly over the past few decades, blossoming more fully than most people probably realized at the beginning. While the structure of a simple inter-disciplinary program was once sufficient for the initial stages of study, that is no longer the case. A departmental structure would best provide for the needs of such a broad and complex discipline. The proposal's outlines for a department are sound, solid and exciting. I will do whatever necessary to make sure that this newly formed department is the success I am sure it will be.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sara E. Malzer  
Associate Professor of French and Francophone Studies
January 25, 2007

Professor Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
CAMPUS 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

As you know I have taught in the program several times during my eighteen years on the faculty, served on the Advisory Committee, and watched the growth of the program with great interest.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ruth Milkman
Professor of Sociology
Director, Institute of Industrial Relations
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women’s Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I am currently a member of the WSP Advisory Program and have served in the past (as recently as Fall 2006) as interim Director or CoDirector of the Program. Departmentalization is long overdue. WSP has a committed faculty and a healthy (40) number of majors graduating annually. Our graduate program is only 5 years old but already it has graduated one PhD with others soon to follow. Our longstanding excellence in instruction and research merits departmentalization. I endorse the proposal without reservation.

I look forward to being a member of the UCLA Women’s Studies Department and hope to serve that community for many years to come.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Kathryn Norberg  
Associate Professor  
Department of History
From: Nussbaum, Felicity [mailto:nussbaum@humnet.ucla.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2007 4:43 PM
To: Littleton, Christine
Subject: RE: URGENT -- letter of support

Professor Christine A. Littleton

Chair, Women's Studies

Dear Chris,

I am writing to confirm my intention to be affiliated with the new Department of Women’s Studies. I look forward to the association.

Yours sincerely,

Felicity Nussbaum

Professor of English
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402  

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies  

Dear Chris:  

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.  

I have worked with the WSP for more than a decade, teaching courses as well as serving on the Advisory Committee. Over the course of this period my research program and teaching in other units have shifted towards gender studies as well. My current research agenda is on psychoanalytic (I have been in psychoanalytic training for four years) reading of fundamental economics texts with a particular attention to gender issues. I believe departmentalization of the WSP will allow for growth of the faculty that will be enthusiastic about joining the department. Furthermore, I believe it will provide a unique environment for growth of faculty with multidisciplinary approaches to gender studies.  

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.  

Sincerely,  

Name: Sule Ozler  
Title: Associate Professor  
Department/School: Economics Department.
EUROS
Cardiff University
65-68 Park Place
Cardiff CF10 3AS

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

23 February 2007

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my support for departmentalization and my intention to be affiliated with the department once established.

As you know I have been involved with Women’s Studies both as a teacher and a member of a number of committees since I came to UCLA in 1990.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Carole Pateman
Professor of Political Science
January 30, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the excellent proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department. I write to express my strong support for the departmentalization of Women’s Studies, and my intention to become a member of the department once it is established.

I am actively involved in research and publishing dealing with women in European literature and intellectual history; this has in fact become my main field of research. I regularly teach a course for Women’s Studies on women in Italian culture. Most of my courses have a substantial Women’s Studies component. I am extremely enthusiastic about the perspective of departmentalization and the new possibilities this will open up.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, I believe that it is highly appropriate at this time to adopt a departmental structure. Such a structure will better serve the current and future enterprise of Women’s Studies as an academic field at UCLA.

I therefore enthusiastically concur with the request for the establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the proposal.

Sincerely,

Lucia Re
Professor
Department of Italian
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong and enduring support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established at 0% time. That commitment does not reflect a lack of willingness to be fully integrated in the WSP Department, but rather it reflects how I believe my position in English over the last thirty-five years has helped us to build a feminist cohort of scholars in a field most would consider essential to the health of a vibrant Women's Studies community and department. As I continue to teach, to recruit and work with graduate students, to mentor younger women coming of age in the profession today, I feel that mission can best be accomplished through the primary 100% appointment in English and my abiding commitment to fostering the intellectual lives of WSP students, both undergraduate and graduate, who do go forward into the profession and their lives, enhanced by the synergy that makes both of these Departments strong and vital agents of change.

As you know, I was among the very first UCLA faculty to teach in the interdisciplinary seminar we offered through CED, which was a showcase for the scholarship in women's studies that in the early 1970s was emerging in many disciplines across the campus. It was the leadership of such pioneering scholars as Helen Astin and Kitty Sklar that we (as an informally constituted faculty group, then a formally constituted exploratory group) pushed to found the Women's Studies Program as an IDP. Its success as an IDP has brought us to what is now a belated, long overdue recognition of the need for Departmentalization, a topic under discussion for the past decade. I am and have been one of those faculty who routinely teach the English M107A-C series of courses in English, English 180 level seminars, English 254 graduate courses--all of which have made consistent contributions to the Women's Studies Program through the cross-listings. I've also mentored Internships through Women's Studies, sat on dissertations on women's topics (necessarily departmental committees), and the Committee service over the years is too varied to catalogue. We have routinely divided undergraduate enrollment openings to permit 40 students through the English route, and 20 through the Women's Studies enrollment rubric, but that underestimates how many of those students are WSP majors or minors. As you also know, I helped to spearhead the founding of the Center for the Study of Women and served for four years (1984-88) as the Founding Director. If we date back further, I was a 1974-75 member of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of
Women (which ensured out Title IX compliance), and it was that Committee that called for the development and growth of Women’s Studies as an academic component and for the need to hire faculty women at an accelerated pace.

It is from the perspective (shared with you, Chris, who has so devotedly and brilliantly shepherded the program in recent years) that I enthusiastically support the Advisory Committee’s request to the Dean and to the Academic Senate for “legitimation” of what is, in curricular and administrative form, function, and success already among the most functional of departments. In the years when Raymond Orbach was Provost and in an effort to create critical mass when we (UCLA) allocated FTE to the various ethnic studies programs, Women’s Studies never received the comparable allocations of permanent, full-time FTE. As a result of my years as Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee in the College of Letters and Science, I would support wholeheartedly and call upon Acting Dean Macias and Dean Tim Stowell (among others) to make a commitment NOW to strengthening what is the “core” faculty in a Women’s Studies Department by allocating at least 4 NEW full-time FTE, with factored in plans for growth over the next five years that would make WSP commensurate with other FTE-funded Departments with 150 majors, 20 graduate students, and a thriving minor. Such commitments, as you note in the proposal, have come most recently in the form of joint/split appointments with other units, but the administration of a Department requires, in my experience, a healthier core of full-time appointees. I am struck by the very healthy FTE allocations for such programs at other UC campuses and institutions across the country—so, imagining a faculty that grows over the next decade to 8-10 FTE would be to bring UCLA to a degree of prominence commensurate with what is already the stellar quality of our contributory affiliated faculty, too many of whom will also be taking retirement. There are few guarantees that the “home” Department will hire replacements that sustain our scholarly preeminence in the fields of gender and feminist studies across the multiple disciplines.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I endorse and fully support the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal—with the hope that the Advisory Committee would discuss with the Deans (Waugh and Macias) and Executive Dean their written commitments to FTE support that will sustain the program and promote growth, particularly with commitments that link WSP increasingly to the global studies of women’s lives.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Rowe, Professor
Department of English, UCLA
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Program  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I am currently an Assistant Professor in the Sociology Department and a member, for the second consecutive year, of the Women's Studies Program Advisory Committee (WSPAC). I have taught classes cross-listed with Women's Studies, at the graduate and undergraduate level. I am currently serving on Women Studies PhD Candidate Anna Ward's dissertation committee and have advised other Women's Studies students informally. I have supervised three Women's Students' students as Teaching Assistants for "Sociology of Gender (WS/SOC162) and for the Cluster Course I am currently coordinating, "Sex: From Biology to Gendered Society" (GE CLUST 72ABCW). As someone who does research on gender and publishes in Women's Studies journals, I am very enthusiastic about the prospect of the departmentalization of UCLA's fine Women's Studies Program and of continuing involvement in the new department.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Abigail C. Saguy  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the proposal to establish a Women’s Studies department and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I have taught a course in the Women’s Studies program since 2003 and have served on its Advisory Board since 2005. I offered to teach a required undergraduate course every year in response to the program’s interest in exposing their students to gender issues relevant to the global south in core courses. I have enjoyed teaching the course over the years due to the range of cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic background of Women’s Studies students and their genuine commitment to learning. This learning can be fostered much more effectively if WSP becomes a department. Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future role of Women’s Studies on the campus. In addition, I have found WSP to be a strong source of community and camaraderie for women faculty across disciplines, and it has (and continues to) provide a intellectual forum for interdisciplinary work, particularly in its ability to bring the humanities and social sciences together. Its departmentalization will only strengthen and build upon what is already a strong program. For these reasons, I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Jenny Sharpe
Professor of English
and Comparative Literature
February 20, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Campus 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris,

Having read the proposal to establish a Department of Women's Studies, I write to express my support as well as my intention to become a member of the department once it has been established.

As director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Program, I have worked closely with the Women's Studies Program. As an instructor of several LGBT Studies courses cross-listed with Women's Studies (WS M114, M116, M118), I have, in effect, taught for many years in the Women's Studies Program. I look forward to having a 0% appointment in the new department.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I strongly support the proposal to establish a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA.

Sincerely,

James A. Schultz
Professor of German
Director, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Program
20 February 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall, UCLA 150402

Dear Chris:

I strongly support the UCLA Women's Studies Program becoming a department, and I am eager to become a member of the Women's Studies Department as soon as it is established. Because this transition from Interdepartmental Program to Department status has been under consideration for several years, many voices have been heard about this process. Consequently, the proposal is very well formulated and it has the enthusiastic endorsement of a very large group, including me. I have been engaged with this field of inquiry and its institutionalization for three decades. I am delighted to participate in this process at UCLA.

In graduate school at the University of California at Santa Cruz I first began to study the then emergent research in women's, gender, and feminist studies, as well as new approaches to the formation and maintenance of systems of difference [including classes and ethnicities] around the world. I learned how to teach these topics, methods, and interpretive strategies as part of classes in history and anthropology. Some of us graduate students hoped that a faculty member who conducted research on these topics would be hired and we helped to define such a position. Toward the end of my graduate career Donna Haraway was hired.

While finishing my dissertation I worked at Stanford 1980-1981 with a team teaching a set of interdisciplinary courses on “western culture” in which we worked to include these topics, methods, and interpretive strategies in a rather traditional format. The courses I taught were focused on science and technology and our students came from those fields. Fortunately, the study of patterns of difference provided a familiar entry point for those students into ways of thinking about genders, ethnicities, and classes in the sciences and engineering. While at Stanford I continued working with the late Michelle Zimbalist Rosaldo who also was on my dissertation committee. During that time the Stanford Center for Research on Women was being formed, so I was able to watch that process closely.

My first faculty position was at MIT and while I was there the number of women faculty finally reached 100 [out of 1300]. Mildred Dresselhaus, later president of the American Physical Society, convened the women faculty monthly and out of those meetings many initiatives took form. One of the first was a map to the then sparse number of women's restrooms on campus. I was an eager member of the committee that worked on the formation of a women's studies program during those years.

Eventually, I moved to Rice University in Houston. When I arrived the governor and the mayors of the five major cities in Texas were women; there already was a powerful "old girls' network" in the state and I learned a lot from them. I also learned how important university women's studies programs could be in the political world. The networks and knowledge base at the Rutgers program on women in politics had a significant influence on the activities of women in Texas politics. At Rice we formed a Women's Studies Program with faculty affiliated with many departments at a time when there were about 325 Rice University faculty members. Our proposal easily passed the Academic Senate and had the full support of the university president and provost [the former became president of Columbia and the later became the director of NSF and then Science Advisor to the US President].

Finally, I came to UCLA. Before I arrived Kate Norberg contacted me about joining the Center for Research on Women. That center and the Women's Studies Program have provided me with my primary intellectual and collegial base at UCLA. It also has given me ties to important colleagues and research around the entire campus. I have served on the advisory board of the Center for Research on Women for many years. I have been very glad that research on gender, science, and technology and courses on
these topics have been welcomed at UCLA for more than a decade and that this environment has facilitated the recruitment of various faculty members, including Sandra Harding and Kate Hayles. [We continue to share students.]

I am exhilarated at the prospect of the Women's Studies Program becoming a department and I look forward to developing more resources for the new department. In particular I am eager to continue the formation of international links for the new department, a project begun by Sondra Hale. I would like for us to develop many more kinds of exchanges, including digitally linked teaching. A few years ago I was invited by Roberto Peccel, UCLA Vice Chancellor for Research, to teach a digitally linked course between UCLA and Kyoto University in science and technology studies; it was the first course in that short-term experimental program sponsored by NTT to have all women faculty. I have discussed this kind of teaching with my UCLA colleagues in Women's Studies, as well as those in Japan, Mexico, and Sweden; I will begin an experiment this spring.

The UCLA Women's Studies Program has had an international reputation for its students, faculty, and research for decades. The departmental status will reflect that standing. It will remove some restrictions on our activities and will enable us to engage in even more robust development. I commend the proposal and the departmentalization process most highly.

Sincerely,

Sharon Traweek, Women's Studies and History, UCLA
http://www.history.ucla.edu/traweek
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Dr. Littleton:

I have carefully read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my most enthusiastic support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

I have been working with colleagues in WSP since I joined the faculty at UCLA School of Theatre, Film and Television in fall 2003, and have benefited tremendously from such working relationships both in terms of my professional development in the field of women’s studies and my personal well being on the UCLA campus. I have also been continuously having both undergraduate and graduate students from WSP in my seminars on feminist theory, women and theatre, and transnational studies of women and performing arts. I am deeply impressed by their creative energies, intellectual strength, high level of analytical rigour, and professional dedication.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Haiping Yan
Associate Professor of Critical Studies
The Department of Theatre
The School of Theatre, Film and Television
UCLA
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization and my intention to become a member of the department once established.

For the past six and a half years, I have had the privilege of being the Librarian for Women's Studies. Responsible for building the collections to support research and teaching in Women's Studies, I have observed first-hand the exponential growth of scholarly resources in the field. Library acquisitions in Women's Studies are easily on a par with, and increasing surpass, other social sciences and humanities disciplines. In addition to providing library support to Women's Studies, I currently serve on the Women's Studies Program Advisory Committee (WSPAC) and hold a 0% appointment as Adjunct Assistant Professor.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, and the rapidly expanding array of research resources, both print and digital, available to Women's Studies scholars, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Ellen Broidy, Ph.D.
Librarian VII (Distinguished), Emerita; Adjunct Assistant Professor
UCLA Library; Women's Studies
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal for Departmentalization of the Women’s Studies program at UCLA. I am writing to express my strong support for departmentalization and to indicate that this is precisely the kind of department I would want to be involved with once it is established.

I have been involved with the Women’s Studies Program since I joined the faculty at UCLA in 2002. My research on visual media, domesticity, theory, and autobiography has always been conducted through a feminist lens. I have taught a course in Film and Television crosslisted with Women’s Studies on Women Filmmakers several times and I am currently mentoring several of the excellent graduate students in WSP who are interested in media. I am very enthusiastic about the possibilities for the growth of the Women’s Studies program that will become possible once it is established as a department.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McHugh

Professor of English and Cinema and Media Studies
Director, Center for the Study of Women
From: Mellor, Anne [mailto:mellor@humnet.ucla.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2007 11:59 AM
To: Littleton, Christine
Subject: RE: URGENT -- letter of support

Dear Chris,

I fully endorse the creation of a new department in Women’s Studies at UCLA, and would be happy to support this department in any way I can. In the past, I have taught several courses that were cross-listed with the Women’s Studies IDP, both for the undergraduate major and the graduate program.

With best wishes,

Anne K. Mellor
Distinguished Professor of English
UCLA
CENTER FOR THE
STUDY OF WOMEN
27 February 2007

Chris Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Program
UCLA

Dear Chris—

I am writing a letter to express my own and the Center for the Study of Women’s (CSW) enthusiastic support of the departmentalization of the Women’s Studies Program (WSP). For the last thirty years, the WSP has provided vital interdisciplinary instruction in Women’s Studies to UCLA undergraduates, and, as of 2000, mounted the first Ph.D. in Women’s Studies in the UC system. While the Ph.D. provides WSP’s excellent graduate students with the necessary training to become university level researchers in and teachers of women’s studies, the undergraduate program serves the curricular needs of the college with general education courses for all students and advanced studies classes for majors. The departmentalization of this crucial and longstanding program marks its importance and its vital contribution to the curriculum of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UCLA.

The departmentalization of the Women’s Studies program will also mark a new and exciting chapter in CSW’s close and productive relationship with WSP. As called for in CSW’s 15 year review, the two units recently separated what had been merged staff in order to develop their interrelated but distinct missions. The 15 year review recommended that CSW re-establish its focus on research and also advocated for the departmentalization of Women’s Studies, thereby recognizing the distinct mission of each unit. While CSW provides research support to faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates working on gender, sexuality, and women’s issues in disciplines throughout the college and the university overall, WSP serves graduate and undergraduates working in the burgeoning and cutting edge discipline of Women’s Studies. The CSW 15 year review observed that separating the two units would allow each to fully develop their potential to become autonomous and mutually supportive. This has indeed been the case, as CSW and WSP have continued to have a close working relationship after our staff was successfully separated. Currently WSP and CSW are collaborating on the Global South Gender initiative and the two units co-sponsor a reception for new faculty in the fall each academic year. CSW programming benefits the research interests of the WSP affiliated faculty as well as WSP graduate
students, while CSW relies on the patronage of WSP faculty and students, among others, for the success of its speaker's series.

The departmentalization of Women's Studies will not impact CSW in any negative way and indeed will provide new opportunities for productive relations between our two units.

All the very best,

Kathleen McHugh
Professor and Director, UCLA Center for the Study of Women
English and Cinema and Media Studies
1400H Public Policy
Box 957222
Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-206-7735
310-825-0456 (fax)
UCLA DEPARTMENTS
February 8, 2007

Christine Littleton
Chair, UCLA Women's Studies Program

Dear Chris,

At our faculty meeting today, we discussed the proposal to departmentalize Women's Studies. I am happy to report that we voted unanimously to support this proposed action. As you know, several of our faculty have been key players in the development of Women's Studies here at UCLA, and we are happy to lend our support to them and to the program more generally. Good luck with this.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Doug Hollan
Professor and Chair
March 1, 2007

Professor Christine Littleton
Chair
UCLA Women’s Studies Programs
Box 951504, 2225 Rolfe Hall
Mail Code: 150402
Fax: 310-206-7700

RE: Proposal for the UCLA Women’s Studies Programs to Receive Departmental Status

Dear Chris:

I write with pleasure to let you know that at a regularly scheduled meeting on February 28, 2007, the faculty of the Department of Asian American Studies voted unanimously (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain) to support the Proposal for Women’s Studies Programs to Receive Departmental Status. We also affirm our support of your program in terms of classes and faculty as outlined below.

The Department of Asian American Studies will continue to offer courses relevant to the Women’s Studies Programs. We fully intend to offer on a regular basis the following courses that satisfy requirements in your program: AAS 115 (Asian American Women) and AAS M164 (Women, Violence, and Globalization: India, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam).

Two of the Asian American Studies faculty – Grace Hong and Purnima Mankekar – have split appointments in Women’s Studies Programs and will be among the core faculty in the proposed Women’s Studies Department. Asian American Studies will continue to support their teaching and other roles in Women’s Studies and we welcome opportunities to crosslist their Women’s Studies courses with Asian American Studies.

The Department of Asian American Studies has had very fruitful collaborations with Women’s Studies in the past. We are pleased to affirm the department’s interest in future collaborations with Women’s Studies.

Sincerely,

Cindy Fan
Professor and Chair
Department of Asian American Studies
February 21, 2007

Professor Christine Littleton, Chair
UCLA Women's Studies Program
Box 951504
2225 Rolfe Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1504

Dear Professor Littleton,

I am writing to report the good news that the faculty of the César E. Chávez Center for Interdisciplinary Instruction and the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies unanimously supports the departmentalization of Women’s Studies at UCLA by a February 16th vote of 6-0-0 (2 faculty members absent, 3 on sabbatical leave). Our collaboration with Women’s Studies dates back to the very inception of Chicano Studies as an Inter-Departmental Program (IDP) in 1995, with the arrival of new faculty members whose research and creative work emphasizes the distinct experiences of Chicanas and the centrality of gender and sexuality as categories of historical and cultural analysis. Since then, the relationship between Chicana/o Studies and Women’s Studies has blossomed and our recent departmentalization in 2005 heightens the support and imperative for granting departmental status to Women’s Studies.

Four of our eleven faculty members in Chicana and Chicano Studies affiliate themselves with the Women’s Studies Program at UCLA. Three faculty members in particular dedicate much of their teaching and service to the Program. Dr. Alicia Gaspar de Alba, whose research and creative projects underscore the intersection of race, gender and sexuality, not only maintains a zero-percent appointment with Women’s Studies, but also teaches courses that are cross-listed between Women’s Studies and Chicana and Chicano Studies. For example, Chicana/o Studies M133, “Chicana Lesbian Literature,” M110, “Chicana Feminism,” and M135, “Bilingual Creative Writing,” are all cross-listed with Women’s Studies. Moreover, Dr. Gaspar de Alba serves as the primary advisor to two graduate students in Women’s Studies and chairs the dissertation committee of one of four Ph.D. candidates in the program. Dr. Maylei Blackwell, similarly, who studies the transnational history of Latina and Chicana feminism, cross-lists Chicana Studies M146, “Transnational Women’s Organizing in the Americas,” and M154, “Contemporary Issues Among Chicanas,” with Women’s Studies and serves on faculty search committees and on the Advisory Committee for Women’s Studies, as well as on the dissertation committees of several Ph.D. candidates. Another colleague, Dr. Maria Cristina Pons, whose research explores currents in Latin American literature, also cross-lists Chicana/o Studies. M144, “Women’s Movement in Latin America,” with Women’s Studies and serves as an advisor to a number of Women’s Studies students, undergraduate and graduate alike. The extensive pattern of cross-listing between Chicano Studies and Women’s Studies,
and the long-standing service of our faculty to Women’s Studies, demonstrate our mutual commitment to the ongoing development of both Women’s Studies and Chicano Studies at UCLA, and to the vitality of interdisciplinary research and education at our university.

We know by experience that there is a world of difference between an Inter-Departmental Program and a Department, and for us, the struggle to departmentalize has paid off. Our department is now eleven full-time faculty members strong; we are launching an effort to create an endowed chair in Chicana and Chicano Studies, the first of its kind in the nation; and we are working to implement a master’s and doctoral program. We have profited immensely by the autonomy that comes with departmental status and we wish the same for Women’s Studies. As you know, our faculty is deeply committed to promoting interdisciplinarity at UCLA and to the expansion of institutional spaces for exploring the intersections of race, class, gender and sexuality. Writing on behalf of the faculty of the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies, we unanimously agree that the departmentalization of Women’s Studies is central to this effort. It is not only a matter of mutual benefit for our department and yours, but also of UCLA’s potential as a vital center of dynamic and innovative education and research. Please let me know if there is any additional information, support, or assistance that we can provide as you proceed through the departmentalization process.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric Avila
Interim Chair, César E. Chávez Center for Interdisciplinary Instruction and the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies
Associate Professor, History
20 February 2007

Dear Chris:

In consultation with the faculty in the Department of Comparative Literature, I write this letter to express emphatic support for the departmentalization of the Women’s Studies Program at UCLA, a move that surely is long overdue.

There can be no question today that the field of women’s studies has matured into a fully-fledged discipline. Women’s Studies sustains thriving professional organizations nationally and internationally, and supports a number of highly respected journals, including *Signs* and *Feminist Studies*, which publish some of the most widely cited research in fields spanning the social sciences and the humanities.

At UCLA, Women’s Studies seems to function in every way as a department, despite the significant administrative burdens imposed by its continuing IDP status. The Program’s list of accomplishments and contributions to the campus is long and impressive. On an annual basis, Women’s Studies provides rigorous training to large numbers of undergraduates. The Program also is home to one of the premier Women’s Studies PhD programs in the United States. At the same time, Women’s Studies has played a central role in recruiting and retaining some of the most innovative and productive scholars on our campus. In all of these respects, Women’s Studies has distinguished itself in its commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration while building upon UCLA’s reputation as a leading research institution in the study of women and gender.

As the proposal makes clear, departmentalization will benefit not only Women’s Studies, but the campus as a whole. Several faculty in the Department of Comparative Literature—Professors Katherine King, Kathleen Komar, Francoise Lionnet, Jenny Sharpe, and Shu-mei Shih—have strong research and teaching interests in gender studies, and would be especially eager to see the University support intellectual growth in this area because of its intellectual vibrancy and contribution to interdisciplinary collaboration.

In conclusion, it seems clear that by any standard, Women’s Studies has more than earned departmental status, and Comparative Literature is delighted to offer its strongest possible endorsement of your proposal.

Yours,

Ali Behdad
Chair, Department of Comparative Literature
TO: Christine Littleton, Chair, UCLA Women’s Studies Programs

FROM: Thomas Wortham, Chair, UCLA Department of English

RE: Proposal for Women’s Studies Interdepartmental Program to become a Department

DATE: 15 February 2007

The Executive Committee of the UCLA Department of English, acting on behalf of the English faculty, endorses enthusiastically and unanimously the UCLA Women’s Studies Program proposal for departmentalization and pledges to continue offering those courses on a regular basis (particularly the 107 series) that are of great value to students both in English and in Women’s Studies. English will also continue to cooperate fully with Women’s Studies in the sharing of faculty, both those whose appointments in part originated in Women’s Studies and a number of other faculty members whose participation in Women’s Studies is long standing and beneficial to both programs. As the campus moves increasingly to realize concretely the benefits of interdisciplinary work, the Women’s Studies Proposal should stand as a model of intellectual and pedagogical responsibility in departmental planning. English is delighted to be able to be a partner in this fine undertaking.
Professor Christine Littleton, Chair  
UCLA Women’s Studies Program  
Box 951504  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1504  

February 9, 2007  

Dear Professor Littleton,  

I am writing to express my undivided support for the proposal to grant departmental status to the Women’s Studies Program at UCLA. This move has been discussed for years and it is certainly time to move on this and formalize UCLA’s commitment and support to this important campus presence. Not only should UCLA accord this program departmental status on the basis of its exemplary record, but perhaps more importantly because UCLA is behind the times in according such a discipline/field full institutional recognition and therefore legitimacy (there are, after all, 43 such departments in the U.S. today). This is a rare opportunity for UCLA to support a department that will surely be one of the top ranked in the U.S. given its extraordinarily distinguished list of faculty from the Humanities and Social Sciences, but also from a broad range of other graduate and professional schools.  

Indeed, the insistence on the analysis of the intersection of gender and race has become crucial to our mission of promoting a challenging, open, and tolerant learning environment. The strong representation of faculty from Asian American Studies, Chicana/o Studies, and French and Francophone Studies underscores your commitment to these issues. My own department of French and Francophone Studies, under the transformative leadership of my predecessor Professor Françoise Lionnet from 1999 on, and since 2005 when I became chair, remains committed to expanding the boundaries of research, scholarship, and teaching in order to foreground women writers, theory, gender studies, and of course francophone (post)colonial studies. These curricular reorientations and focus on a more global and incorporative perspective have allowed for
a better contextualization of French history. Naturally, these programmatic reforms have resulted in greater national and international visibility, improved our enrollments, assisted us in faculty recruitment and retention, enhanced our competitive edge in graduate student recruitment, while also expanding the parameters of our departmental configuration to enable us to establish productive cross and inter-disciplinary partnerships with multiple campus departments, centers, programs, and groups, among which of course I include the Women’s Studies Program.

Two faculty members from French and Francophone Studies have been long-term advocates for the Women’s Studies Program (we have in fact provided FTE release and course support for many years) and for the move to departmentalization, namely Professors Françoise Lionnet and Sara Melzer. In fact, one of the things that made UCLA such an attractive prospect for our two most recent hires, Professors Laure Murat and Zrinka Stahuljak, was precisely the prospect of being active contributors to a Department of Women’s Studies and of dialoguing with such a rich and vibrant academic community. Additionally, you have demonstrated your appeal to a large constituency of UCLA students through your majors/minors and doctoral students - I currently serve on the dissertation committee of a brilliant young Muslim woman scholar who is exploring the various cultural and social pressures Muslim women are forced to confront in Europe as they negotiate spaces for themselves in the complex and complicated landscape of religious, national, diasporic, and ethnic politics. This has afforded me the privilege to work closely with Professors Sondra Hale (Anthropology and Women’s Studies) and Khaled Abou el Fadl (Law School), and a further occasion for interdisciplinary exchange and enrichment, qualities that make UCLA such a stimulating place for me to work in. I was also appointed to the Faculty Advisory Board for the Global South Initiative, an innovative and collaborative program designed to “promote[s] the development of a feminism attuned to women’s issues in the developing world,” operated under the aegis of the Women’s Studies Program.

The move to departmentalization is very much a move in the direction of the kind of interdisciplinarity we have been encouraged to pursue at UCLA, and that UCLA is in turn so uniquely poised to foster. The practical benefits of
departmentalization seem obvious to me and secondary to the importance of UCLA committing in a very tangible way to what will surely continue to be an important member of the UCLA academic community. I am quite confident that the newly-formed Department of Women's Studies would continue to produce informed, ethically-conscious, and responsible global citizens, the hallmarks of a UCLA education.

Dominic Thomas
Chair and Professor
Department of French and Francophone Studies
February 14, 2007

Professor Christine Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mail Code: 150402

Dear Chris,

I am delighted to inform you that at its business meeting this afternoon the Department of History voted 19-1-1 to support the proposal to departmentalize Women's Studies. On behalf of the department, we look forward to working closely with Women's Studies to build the strongest possible complementary programs in our respective disciplines at the undergraduate, graduate, and faculty levels.

Best regards,

Edward A. Alpers
Professor and Chair

cc: Reynaldo Macias, Acting Dean
Division of Social Sciences
Reynaldo F. Macias
Acting Dean, Division of Social Sciences
The UCLA College
310.825.4017 (voice)
310.825.9368 (fax)
2300 Murphy Hall 143801

-----Original Message-----
From: Alpers, Edward A.
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2007 12:39 PM
To: Macias, Reynaldo
Subject: Women's Studies/History split FTEs

Reynaldo,

As you know, three members of the Department of History faculty - Ruth Bloch, Kathryn Norberg, and Sharon Travek - have indicated that when Women's Studies becomes a department, they would like to split their FTE between History and Women's Studies, 50-50. This possibility was discussed in general terms at the department meeting where we approved the move to departmentalization, so the department certainly understands that this would be a distinct possibility. Accordingly, I can tell you that should all three colleagues indeed determine to split their FTE after WS becomes a department, I recognize that we would not be compensated for the loss of the total 1.5 FTE. This is a reasonable price to pay for departmentalization of an important component of the Social Sciences at UCLA that I am happy to endorse.

Best,

Ned
February 22, 2007

Christine Littleton, Chair
UCLA Women's Studies Programs
Box 95-504, 2225 Rolfe Hall
Los Angeles, California 90095-1504

Re: Proposal to Receive Department Status

Dear Professor Littleton:

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Musicology, who met today to discuss the pending Proposal from Women's Studies to form a department. We have been asked for a letter of support because one of our faculty, Susan McClary, has been active in the WSP, and will assume a 0% appointment in the new department.

Our department welcomes the proposal and endorses it heartily. For a long time, our department has counted among its strengths its close connection to Women's Studies, and departmentalization can only add to that dimension. In particular, we do not anticipate any difficulties with the proposed appointment of Susan McClary to the department.

Cordially,

Raymond Knapp
Professor and Chair of Musicology
MEMORANDUM

February 23, 2007

Professor Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Program
2225 Rolfe Hall
UCLA 150402

Dear Chris:

Our departmental Executive Committee took up the matter of your request for a letter of support for the departmentalization of Women’s Studies at a meeting on Tuesday of this week. I am happy to report to you that there was esteem expressed for the intellectual project of Women’s Studies, and on that basis, we are happy to lend our department’s support.

At the same time, several members of our Committee asked that we use this letter of support to raise a broader issue of concern. This has to do with our university’s financial situation reflected in its self-description as a “steady state” environment, something that has been stressed repeatedly in meetings of department chairs. This concern, of course, is not specifically directed toward Women’s Studies and its move toward departmental status but, rather, toward the general tendency to approve new departments in the face of uncertainty about resources.

As I mentioned to you in our previous e-mail exchanges, our department has just been through a rigorous 8-year review. If any single conclusion has emerged from that exhausting process, it is the extent to which the steady-state environment now has ripple effects that permeate everything we do and plan. Indeed, severe resource constraints now prevent us from fulfilling the most basic obligations of our academic mission. As a department with 1600 majors, we find that our undergraduate courses are now so desperately overcrowded that we are forced to consider a cap on new majors. Our graduate support packages are now so un-competitive with those offered by other major universities that we tend to lose our very top ranked graduate applicants to other universities. This, in turn, affects our placement record, a major determinant of any department’s status in the national rankings. In addition, our ability to recruit and retain the most promising younger scholars - those who will build the future of this department - is similarly compromised by resource scarcity.

In a steady-state context, the resources for any new program must come, at the margins, at the cost of expanding the resource endowment of existing departments.
Thus, while expressing every hope for your program's success and for its departmentalization in particular, we also want to urge the university authorities who review this letter, and who are presumably involved in the broader university process of approving new departments, to consider the broader resource implications of founding new departments.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Lofchie
Professor and Chair
February 22, 2007

Christine Littleton
Women's Studies Program
Campus
FAX 67700

Dear Chris:

The Executive Committee of the Department of Sociology carefully considered the Women's Studies proposal to receive departmental status, and at its meeting on February 7, 2007 voted unanimously to support the proposal. The Department of Sociology has a long record of cooperation with Women's Studies. Several members of our faculty are affiliated with the Program and or the Center and several of our courses on both the undergraduate and graduate levels are integral to their degree programs. We will do everything possible to continue to teach these courses, including Soc M162, Sociology of Gender, Soc M164 Politics of Reproduction and Soc 241, Theories of Gender and Society. As is always true in any large department, questions of resources and focus were raised in our review of your proposal, but there is strong support for Women's Studies in this Department and we will continue to cooperate with Women's Studies in the future, whether it be a department or program.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
David Lopez
Professor and Chair
March 6, 2007

Christine A. Littleton  
Chair, Women’s Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall

Dear Professor Littleton,

I write with great enthusiasm to support the proposal to establish a Department of Women’s Studies. We strongly feel that the need and timing for departmentalizing the Women’s Studies program is both appropriate and urgent.

As you note in the proposal, WSP has already functioned as a de facto unit for several years and presently serves nearly 150 undergraduate majors and almost a half-dozen doctoral students. In addition, since its inception as an interdepartmental program in 1975, WSP has become well-known on a national and global level as a leader in its discipline. For these reasons, we believe that departmentalization is the natural and obvious next step for this growing and highly respected unit.

Departmentalization of WSP would be smooth progression that would likely bring higher visibility to women’s studies at UCLA. We believe that it is crucial for the academic development of the unit and that it will continue to contribute in highly significant ways to the academic growth of the field. We are also confident that this change will help the University better serve the educational needs of the ever-growing population of students interested in women’s studies.

The Theater Department currently has one faculty member officially affiliated with WSP, with a second faculty member listed in the “proposed faculty” section of the proposal. We are pleased to reaffirm our relationship and support and look forward to continued collaboration when the Women’s Studies Program becomes a Department.

Please keep me apprised of your progress. We look forward to seeing the departmentalization of your program become a reality.

Sincerely,

William Ward  
Chair, Theater Department
UC WOMEN’S STUDIES
February 22, 2007

Letter of support for the proposal by the UCLA Women’s Studies Program to receive departmental status

I have carefully reviewed the well-documented and carefully argued proposal by the UCLA Women’s Studies Program to move to departmental status. In my observation, this shift is long overdue and will help UCLA Women’s Studies realize its potential to become a national and even international leader in this flourishing interdisciplinary field of teaching and research. The many advantages of departmentalization far outweigh the only potential drawback – the possible loss of close ties to the wide range of disciplines engaged with feminist scholarship. Other women’s studies departments across the U.S., including the one at Berkeley, have mitigated this problem through joint and split faculty appointments, through active cross-listing of elective courses, and through engaging far-flung affiliated faculty in shared intellectual activities. UCLA has already instituted these practices. I can see nothing but significant gain in moving forward with departmentalization.

Like UCLA, UC Berkeley first developed a women’s studies program about 30 years ago, relying on cross-listed courses and gradually moving to a few joint appointments. We moved to departmental status in 1991. This shift helped us realize the advantages laid out in the UCLA proposal: we gained more autonomy and predictability in course and curricular planning and could develop more coherence in our undergraduate major and minor and in the teaching of core courses in our Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender, and Sexuality. We began to make our own faculty hires, and are now building a mixed configuration of 100% and joint appointments. We are able to do strategic planning, figuring out needed areas of faculty hiring, and looking for scholars who do highly creative interdisciplinary work, rather than having to negotiate with more bounded disciplines to hire faculty who might teach courses for an interdisciplinary program. It has been thrilling to interview and hire job candidates who use interdisciplinary methodologies and who are pursuing projects that bridge, say, between the humanities and social sciences (for example, one of our recent hires, Prof. Minoo Moollem, is doing research on the Persian carpet as a gendered material and symbolic object in the Iranian diaspora; her work attends to representations as well as historically changing institutional formations). Moving to departmental status brings a sense of permanence and continuity and makes more efficient use of resources.

It has long seemed odd to observers of the national women’s studies scene, that while UCLA has an impressive array of noted scholars in the field; a large number of majors and minors; the first free-standing Ph.D. in women’s studies in the UC system; and an outstanding research center with highly visible conferences and other programs, the academic unit does not have full-fledged status as a department. The acquisition of departmental status will be a big boost towards giving UCLA Women’s Studies the national, and increasingly international stature that it deserves. It will bring more clarity in faculty hiring and reviews and will strengthen the experiences of undergraduate and graduate students. In my view, the move from program to department should be effected as quickly as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Bdrie Thorne
Professor and Chair of Gender and Women’s Studies and Professor of Sociology
February 20, 2007

Christine A. Littleton
Professor of Law and Chair, Women's Studies Program
UCLA
2225 Rolfe Hall, Box 951504
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1504

Dear Professor Littleton,

I write in strong support of the proposal to departmentalize the Women's Studies Program at UCLA. The move to become a department reflects an important trend among women's studies units in the UC system and nationally. Conferring departmental status indicates a commitment on the part of the university to the stability, integrity, and future vitality of the rich interdisciplinary field of scholarship encompassed by Women's Studies. Three of the University of California campuses have already departmentalized their programs (UC Berkeley, UC Riverside, and UC Santa Cruz), and two others are finalizing this process (UC Irvine and UC Santa Barbara). It is especially important for UCLA's program to become a department, since its PhD program has been in existence for almost seven years now and the Program now has the impressive commitments of a number of outstanding faculty scholars to move at least part of their FTE into women's studies dependent upon the process of departmentalizing. This would put UCLA's women's studies unit on par, finally, with its aspirational peers, including UC Berkeley but also many other prominent universities around the nation, including a majority of the Big Ten universities.

Departmental status conveys not only a sense of established competency to important constituencies (faculty, students, administrators, alumni, and potential donors), but also affords the affiliated faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates an important marker of scholarly seriousness and integrity when they deal with peers outside the unit and beyond the UCLA campus. Indeed, the faculty members at UCLA—who are planning to become part of the department are outstanding and certainly will contribute to raising the academic status of the program to be among the highest ranked in the nation. Furthermore, departmental status entailing the ability to hire 100% FTE in the unit will be a step-towards enhancing the majors and minors in women's studies, as well as the PhD program in Women's Studies. Furthermore, it will ensure the autonomy of governance that will bring the unit to a more equitable status in relation to other traditional departments on campus. It is a step that is long overdue, and I am glad to be able to write to support it finally.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Terry
Director, Women's Studies
February 14, 2007

Christine A. Littleton,
Professor of Law
Chair, Women's Studies Program
UCLA
Box 951504
2225 Rolfe Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1504

Dear Professor Littleton,

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the UCLA proposal to departmentalize the Women’s Studies Program. I read the proposal and believe that it clearly justifies the need to transition from Program to Department.

UCLA not only has succeeded in developing the first and only Ph.D. program in the UC system so far but also has maintained a national and international reputation in the field. Currently, your program is well situated to become a Department. I consider the Proposed Faculty plan of your affiliates, which indicates that at least eleven of them, if not more, are committed to transfer part of their FTE to Women’s Studies, as a crucial indicator of success of the new Department. I am familiar with most of your faculty’s research agenda and strongly believe that their commitment to women, transnational feminism, cultural studies, ethnic studies, gender and sexuality studies, among other areas, would be particularly valuable for the new Department.

Your graduate program has been a model that helped our Department at UCR conceive our proposed graduate program. We mostly value your graduate program’s dedication to the interdisciplinary production of knowledge, which has had a significant impact on the academy and the institutional identity of Women’s Studies in the UC system. This departmentalization will strengthen your graduate curriculum and make the undergraduate program more visible not only at UCLA, but also locally and internationally.
I believe that the creation and maintenance of your demanding and broad Women’s Studies Department will hasten the field’s path to achieving senior status. The Department’s interdisciplinary graduate/undergraduate program will also enhance the synergism that is so indispensable in the intellectual and academic environments of the University. As such, your departmentalization is a principal antecedent that will contribute to the continual success of Women’s Studies at UCLA.

I congratulate you and all involved in the proposed departmentalization of Women’s Studies.

Sincerely,

Alicia Arrizón
Professor and Chair
February 5, 2007

Professor Christine A. Littleton
Chair, Women’s Studies Program
UCLA

Dear Chris,

I am happy to provide a letter of support for the proposal of the UCLA Women’s Studies Program to be granted departmental status. It is, in my opinion, a long overdue move, given the prominence of women’s studies scholars at UCLA, the strength of your undergraduate and graduate programs, and the fact that the program has been functioning as a department in every way that counts.

The benefits of departmentalization are many, not least of which are the ability to hire core faculty and the acquisition of a name that signals to prospective faculty and graduate students that this is an established unit. It is ironic that the only women’s studies unit in the UC system that has a Ph.D. program cannot hire faculty at 100 percent. In contrast, we at UCSB, who are in the process of proposing an M.A. and Ph.D. program, have 9.2 FTE, 9 at 100 percent. Other of the UC campuses, some of which are departments and some of which are programs, also have much larger core faculties than UCLA. The name “program” signals to the outside world that this is a unit in the process of development, something that is clearly not the case at UCLA. I can imagine that that inappropriate designation is a deterrent to both prospective faculty and graduate students.

The lack of departmental status is an anomaly for a unit that is the only one in California and one of only ten in the nation to offer a comprehensive Ph.D. in women’s studies. At UCSB, the only thing that stands in the way of our becoming a department is the lack of an autonomous graduate program, now required by campus rules. We have already submitted a proposal for departmentalization (which here requires only a name change, since we already function as a department) along with our proposal for a graduate program in feminist studies.

I look forward to seeing the preeminent women’s studies program in the system—yours—be granted full departmental status. It is surprising that the UC system has lagged behind
the big ten universities and other major public universities in the area of women's studies. It is something that all of us are hoping to remedy.

Sincerely yours,

Leila J. Rupp
Professor and Chair
NATIONAL WS
Reynaldo Macias,
Acting Dean, Division of Social Sciences,
College of Letters and Sciences
University of California-Los Angeles

Dear Dean Macias:

I write to you on behalf of the Women’s Studies Program at UCLA to fully encourage and endorse their proposal for departmental status. The move across the country for programs in Women’s Studies to gain departmental status has been growing, and the logic for this shift is very clear. As your faculty have elaborated in their proposal, this logic is both an intellectual as well as structural one, in particular for those programs in the nation that have achieved a critical robustness in the field and on their campuses.

As the proposal aptly points out, Women’s Studies as an interdisciplinary field has matured and expanded greatly since the time in which most of the nation’s programs were formed. Far beyond the early focus on women’s lives in literature and social sciences, the field of Women’s Studies now is closely connected with such wide ranging areas as Law, Public Health, Economics, and Medicine (to name only a few), and is associated with some of the most innovative realms of theory and method in the Arts and Sciences today. The number of Women’s Studies programs and the Departments have grown, the scholarship in the field has deepened, and the institutional base (in the form of journals, book series, conferences, etc.) for Women’s Studies as a field now parallels that of many ‘traditional’ disciplines.

I was the chair of Women’s Studies at Emory at the time (2003) when we proposed and achieved departmental status, and can attest strongly to the benefits to the university at large, the department, and to the growth of the field at large. Far from eroding the ties we had built with the traditional disciplines/departments, our reach within the university, and the depth of our connections is now greater. Our students find it increasingly possible to form committees of faculty across fields, and also find themselves markedly successful on the job market. They are getting tenure track jobs in Women’s Studies as well as joint appointments in fields such as History, Philosophy, English, Comparative Literature, etc. Indeed, given the demands of interdisciplinary scholarship, we are finding our graduate students to be of the highest caliber, often receiving the most prestigious university fellowships, research grants, and professional awards.
Very much like your program, we had become effectively a department in all but name. Much like Emory, UCLA’s capacity to offer the undergraduate major and minor in Women’s Studies, and at the graduate level, both the MA and PhD degrees, and a concentration for students in other PhD programs, makes yours an especially strong program. Your affiliated faculty represent some of the leading feminist scholars in the nation.

I see UCLA as in an ideal position in which to departmentalize, and would encourage this development from all vantages—that of the students, faculty, other programs and departments at UCLA, university administration, and the field of Women’s Studies at large.

With best wishes,

Carla Freeman
Department of Women’s Studies (chair)
Department of Anthropology
Emory University
Atlanta GA 30322
February 7 2007

Christine Littleton  
Chair, Women’s Studies Program  
UCLA  
Box 951504, 2225 Rolfe Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1504

Dear Christine:

I am writing regarding the possible departmentalization of the Women’s Studies Program at UCLA. I hope you will share this letter with your faculty and affiliates, and with the dean and other administrators who will weigh in on this decision.

Let me say, at the outset, that I fully support this move and see it as wholly positive — both for the unit and for the university as whole. I have read your proposal with care and am enormously impressed at the work that has obviously gone into planning this process of transformation. You lay out in detail how the university and the program will benefit from departmentalization: through curricular regularity, faculty recruitment and growth, graduate student recruitment, unit coherence and reliability, and intellectual suppleness through enhanced faculty involvement.

Given your thorough proposal and my own experience I have no doubt that departmentalization is the way to proceed. I have had the unique experience of chairing both a program (while at Georgetown University and even earlier at Colorado College) and a full-fledged department with a (new) doctoral program (here at IU). After MANY years in women’s/gender studies, I can say unequivocally that full departmental status is more than just “window dressing” and can often make the difference between a unit that becomes a major “player” in the field and those that are second and third tier.

Women’s and gender studies departments are growing by leaps and bounds. At least 5 new doctoral programs are due to hit the scene in the next few years and — across the board — both undergrad and graduate enrollments continue to increase. Here at IU, we have tripled our undergrad majors in just three years — and that growth seems to be mirrored at UCLA and other institutions. But these units can no longer be “minoritized” in program status. They need tenure-granting status to recruit the best faculty and then attract the best graduate students and they need the regularity and coherence that full departmental status offers in increasingly balkanized University structures.
UCLA has a smart, developed, well-researched plan for departmentalization and I urge the administration to move with all due haste to institutionalize this plan. I was, frankly, quite surprised to learn that UCLA's program was not in full department status because they are so well-respected and successful; departmental status would both reward such exemplary work and ratify what is, in effect, a department (but one with the responsibilities of a department and few of the benefits!).

I commend you on your wonderful work and look forward to hearing the good results!

All the best —

[Signature]

Suzanna Walters
Professor and Chair
Department of Gender Studies
Indiana University
February 7, 2007

Christine A. Littleton
Professor of Law
Chair, Women's Studies Programs
UCLA
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1234

Dear Professor Littleton:

I write in support of the UCLA Women's Studies Programs' (WSP) proposal to receive departmental status.

The WSP at UCLA has had a 30-year history of sustained growth. Like many women's studies programs, it began as an interdepartmental unit, offered first a minor and a major, and then, more recently, developed a graduate program. However, unlike most women's studies units that have developed graduate studies and offer the Ph.D., it has remained an interdepartmental program. Of the now twelve Ph.D. programs nationally, ten are offered in departments of women's or gender studies.

As someone who has worked in several different women's studies programs, and now chairs a department of women's studies, I can appreciate the importance of the departmental structure for administering and offering women's studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. As a department, Women's Studies will be able to recruit, hire and tenure its own faculty rather than being dependent on faculty who are recruited by and whose tenure-homes and primary allegiances are in other departments. While it is still advantageous to maintain split and joint appointments, faculty with full-time responsibilities in Women's Studies will provide stability and continuity that cannot be attained with only split/joint appointments. A department will be able to staff courses more effectively and efficiently by not having to rely primarily on other units' scheduling and staffing. A department also will be a more effective unit for the graduate program, particularly in delineating appropriate dissertation chairs and committee members for Ph.D. students. Given the large size and complexity of the UCLA Women's Studies undergraduate and graduate programs, it makes perfect sense to change to departmental status.

Additional benefits of departmentalization for WSP, and UCLA, include increased national standing and reputation in women's studies and beyond; increased faculty engagement in teaching and research in the field; an updated and improved undergraduate and graduate curriculum; a stronger base for recruiting graduate students; and greater likelihood of obtaining external funding and donations.
Having reviewed the proposal and other WSP documents, I am greatly impressed by how much the programs have accomplished and am certain that under a departmental structure, WSP will be able to move to another level of excellence, becoming an even stronger more effective unit, and serving as a model for other women's studies programs and departments.

Sincerely,

\[Signature\]

Jill M. Bystrydzienski
Professor and Chair
February 21, 2007

Dr. Christine Littleton  
Chair  
UCLA Women’s Studies Programs

Dear Dr. Littleton

I write as the Head of the Department of Women’s Studies at Penn State University and would like to express my strongest support for the request to change Women’s Studies into a Department at UCLA. The valuable service that the program now serves would only be enhanced if such a move were to be made. Integration of the undergraduate mission, the training of graduate students, and faculty research activities that mark the aim of all units at your university can best be achieved only with departmental status.

It is clear that the UCLA Women’s Studies program is fulfilling all the expectations of a Department and the proposal is well articulated and provides a well-supported case for official recognition of a status already earned in practice. The program has a highly successful undergraduate program, 150+ majors, which would be considered high in Women’s Studies departments across the country. The graduate program, with 20 students, would also be considered one of the most robust programs in the country. A simple glance at the list of faculty to be involved with the department reads like a Who’s Who of feminist theory. These scholars are both nationally and internationally renowned.

Speaking as a geographer and political theorist (and one that works in feminism and social justice issues), I see the strong need for a department such as Women’s Studies that garners cross-disciplinary expertise and directs it to areas of specific cultural and social concerns. Only as a department can Women’s Studies continue in its mission to direct attention is issues of gender and sex inequality in this important way.

I wish you luck with this endeavor and enthusiastically support it.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorraine Dowler  
Department Head  
The Department of Women’s Studies
WS PhD STUDENTS
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women's Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department, and write to express my enthusiasm for departmentalization.

As a third year doctoral student I have first-hand knowledge of both the current strengths of the Women's Studies Programs, as well as the need for a departmental structure whereby Women's Studies can initiate its own appointments and attract and retain outstanding students and faculty.

I strongly support departmentalization because it ensures the continued success and further growth of interdisciplinary research that is dedicated to improving the lives of women and men. My own research regarding complex problems within the intersections of biotechnology, patent law, and society requires an interdisciplinary approach that draws upon feminist theories and methodologies. Departmentalization will bring increased autonomy and resources that can be dedicated to strengthening such interdisciplinary frameworks for research. The change in institutional structure will also increase the prestige of an already well-respected Women's Studies program and the number of full time faculty positions. Future and current graduate students will benefit tremendously from interacting with a full time faculty dedicated more exclusively to the mentoring of Women's Studies graduate students.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women's Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Laura A. Foster
Christine A. Littleton, Chair  
Women's Studies Programs  
2225 Rolfe Hall  
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women's Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies to establish a department. The Proposal is thoughtful and well-articulated, and I want to express my enthusiastic support for departmentalization.

As a third year doctoral student in Women's Studies, I am pleased by the move towards departmentalization. The major reason I chose UCLA's first-class PhD program in Women's Studies over other equally competitive PhD programs in Women's Studies was because I was so impressed by the faculty affiliated with the Women's Studies Programs at UCLA. Not only are the WSP faculty at UCLA on the cutting edge of feminist research in their specific, disciplinary fields, they are leading scholars in high-impact interdisciplinary fields such as science studies, critical development studies, embodiment studies, and critical race and sexuality studies.

Departmentalization will formalize the community of feminist scholars who have, up until this point, been the heart and soul of women's studies scholarship at UCLA. The process of departmentalization will be invaluable for ensuring institutional memory, and for rewarding the years of voluntary work that these feminist scholars have given to women's studies students at the graduate and undergraduate level.

When I met with individual faculty during my recruitment visit, I was greatly impressed by the tremendous respect the WSP faculty had for one another across disciplines. As someone who was coming out of university administration, I was well aware that this lack of competitiveness regarding institutional resources across disciplinary lines was highly unusual. This general attitude of respect within the women's studies programs assured me that as a graduate student, I could draw on the disciplinary knowledge of some of the world's best feminist scholars in order to create a truly interdisciplinary dissertation project. An important part of graduate training involves active mentoring by tenured faculty in one's field. Departmentalization will clearly define which faculty members are eligible to be inside committee members, and which faculty members are available to be outside readers.
Finally, departmentalization will lend legitimacy to Women's Studies within the larger UC system, making it easier for WSP graduate students and faculty to access financial and intellectual resources. While you, as the Chair of Women's Studies, have remarkable skills in locating funding for graduate students and in persuading faculty to offer courses to women's studies graduate students, there is a strong need for a departmental structure whereby Women's Studies can initiate its own appointments and attract and retain outstanding students and faculty. It will be a tremendous asset for UCLA to be able to hire some of its most brilliant Women's Studies graduate students as faculty, instead of losing them to institutions that have the financial and institutional resources to hire Women's Studies PhDs. Women's Studies as a field is growing, both nationally and internationally. Women's Studies scholars are in high demand as more colleges and universities add programs and departments in women's studies, sexuality studies and critical race studies every year. UCLA is poised to become the major institutional source of the next generation of Women’s Studies scholars. Departmentalization is crucial if UCLA is to continue generating the kind of sophisticated scholarship currently emerging out of the Women's Studies Programs at UCLA.

Given the size and complexity of WSP's current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women's studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. On a more personal level, departmentalization will have a significant and positive impact on my graduate experience, as well as my academic career. I wholeheartedly support the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Evangeline M Heiliger

PhD Student in Women’s Studies
Graduate Representative, Women’s Studies Program Advisory Committee
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization.

As a third year doctoral student, I have first-hand knowledge of both the current strengths of the Women’s Studies Programs, as well as the need for a departmental structure whereby Women’s Studies can initiate its own appointments, attract and retain outstanding students and faculty, and offer more courses across the many subject areas within the field of women’s studies.

While my experience in the WSP has been excellent so far because of the dedication of many people, departmentalization would make my journey towards a Ph.D. smoother and more productive by alleviating administrative confusions, providing more stability, bringing in faculty across the field whom I could learn from and work with, and concretizing relations with faculty already at UCLA but with priority commitments to other departments. The change in structure to a department would increase the stature and visibility of the graduate program and would then also increase my own marketability within the field once I graduate.

I would benefit greatly from Women’s Studies’ departmental ability to hold FTE and hire faculty independently. As an interdisciplinary scholar myself, being able to interact with, learn from, and work with distinguished faculty trained in interdisciplinary scholarship would improve my education and opportunities. I would also benefit from Women’s Studies faculty whose first priority is women’s studies and Women’s Studies students as opposed to competing in an uneven playing field where faculty and courses must give priority to their own department’s students. I also look forward to the wider variety of courses in a multitude of specialties that departmentalization will enable.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I enthusiastically concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Loran Marsan
WSP Doctoral Student
Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have recently read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department. After reading the committee’s proposal, I wanted to write to express my strong support and great enthusiasm for departmentalization.

As a third year doctoral student in the Women’s Studies program, it has been my privilege to gain first-hand knowledge the current strengths of the Women’s Studies Programs. The Women’s Studies program has developed a rigorous broad curriculum taught by a world class faculty with a minimum number of full time appointments. It has also managed to attract competitive graduate studies and provide a basic level of minimal funding for each of them. The Women’s Studies program has done a great deal in its current incarnation. While I have completed graduate work at two other world class universities, the faculty relationships I have developed at UCLA are among my most cherished and they have been essential in my intellectual development. Throughout my time here, our staff, our appointed faculty members and our affiliated faculty members have given generously of themselves, often going above and beyond in their efforts to make UCLA’s Women’s Studies Program stronger every year.

In spite of these numerous strengths, however, UCLA’s Women’s studies program would be greatly improved by a departmental structure. On a practical note, departmentalization would lead to clearer systematization of the PhD’s requirements. Departmental systematization of the PhD requirement would make it easier for the students to understand the requirements and to fulfill them in a timely fashion. A departmental structure would also allow Women’s Studies to initiate its own appointments and to attract and retain outstanding students and faculty. Further, departmental structure would also increase the prestige of Women’s Studies at UCLA. This increased prestige would enable the faculty to be more competitive in terms of obtaining grants and would enable the faculty who worked so willingly with the program
without appointment to obtain part time appointments and recognition of their hard work. Each year, we have attracted competitive graduate students from prestigious universities around the country. As the cohorts grow and our interests become more diverse and complex, departmentalization would enable us to fulfill gaps in UCLA’s broader curriculum. For example, I and many of my classmates do substantial work in conversation with continental philosophy. UCLA’s philosophy department works primarily in analytic philosophy and our faculty working in continental philosophy are scattered throughout the university. Fortunately though, three of our leading continental philosophers at UCLA are affiliated with UCLA’s Women’s Studies program. This allows students to locate their project and themselves in a place where the expertise they need is present. Departmentalization would enable us to build our reputation and faculty in continental philosophy, for example, making UCLA (in the future perhaps) one of the leading programs in feminist theory and philosophy. Departmentalization would also allow students in Women’s Studies to be more competitive in obtaining outside funding and support and in later obtaining jobs at research universities. Finally, departmentalization of the Women’s Studies Program would increase UCLA’s prestige as well as it would provide what few universities nationwide offer: a free-standing Women’s Studies Department with an undergraduate major, an undergraduate minor, a graduate certificate program and a PhD program.

Given the size and complexity of our current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal and I wish you the best of luck in moving forward.

Sincerely,

[sigil]

Sara Matambanadzo, J.D.
Teaching Associate and PhD Student in Women’s Studies
February 22, 2007

Christine A. Littleton, Chair
Women’s Studies Programs
2225 Rolfe Hall
Mailcode 150402

Re: Proposal to Establish Department of Women’s Studies

Dear Chris:

I have read the Proposal prepared by the Advisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Women’s Studies to establish a department, and write to express my strong support for departmentalization.

As a fourth year doctoral student, I have first-hand knowledge of both the current strengths of the Women’s Studies Programs, as well as the need for a departmental structure whereby Women’s Studies can initiate its own appointments and attract and retain outstanding students and faculty.

It is my strong impression that departmentalization will allow Ph.D. students in Women’s Studies at UCLA to foster more in-depth relationships with faculty advisors than is currently feasible within the program structure. Consistent advising throughout the Ph.D. process seems integral to assisting students complete courses, pass examinations, and finish a dissertation in a timely manner. Though the current program structure boasts a long list of UCLA faculty, graduate students are often unsure about affiliated faculty’s level of commitment to the program and whether affiliated faculty have the time and resources to work with them. Departmentalization will provide Women’s Studies graduate students with a clear and focused understanding of faculty that are committed to working with them throughout their doctoral educations. I am very excited about the departmentalization of Women’s Studies and feel that it will offer current and future Ph.D. students with invaluable tools and resources to assist them in completing their doctoral degrees.

Given the size and complexity of WSP’s current undergraduate program, the steadily increasing stature of its Ph.D. program, and developments in the field of women’s studies nationally and globally, it is appropriate at this time to adopt a structure that will better serve the current and future enterprise. I concur with the request for establishment of a Department of Women’s Studies at UCLA as outlined in the Proposal.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lynne Musto
Ph.D. Student
UCLA Women’s Studies Programs