

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### NEW INTERDISCIPLINARY BOOK SERIES



THE University of Minnesota Press is considering initiating an interdisciplinary medieval series of books and is looking for referees for the project (not for individual books as yet). Contact Margaret Bodellan at the Press at: 2037 University Ave., S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414; Tel. (612) 624-2516.

### NEW JOURNALS



GENDER AND HISTORY is the only specialist journal for research and writing on historical questions about femininity and masculinity and the roles of women and men in the past. Contributors are invited to submit papers for publication. Manuscripts should be sent to:

N. America: Nancy Hewitt, Dept. of History, University of South Florida,  
Tampa, FL 33620, U.S.A.

UK/Elsewhere: Leonore Davidon, Dept. of Sociology, University of Essex,  
Colchester, Essex C04 3SQ, England

JOURNAL OF GENDER STUDIES is an international forum for debate on gender in all fields of study. An interdisciplinary journal, it will be published twice yearly (May and November) and will take account of a diversity of cultural backgrounds and differences in sexual orientation. Contributions — articles (3,000 - 5,000 words), short pieces, letters and news items — are invited. Please send them to:

Marion Shaw, Journal of Gender Studies, Dept. of English, The University,  
Hull HUG FRX, England



A.M.A. IN WOMEN'S HISTORY at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College in London has been announced by Lyndal Roper. Entitled "Gender and Society in Britain and Europe 1500 - 1980", this new M.A. in women's history explores how the lives of women have changed since the sixteenth century, and how the meanings of masculinity and femininity have shifted. It offers the chance to explore the history of women in the early modern and medieval periods — a new and growing field of study — as well as the history of women after 1800. With its strong emphasis on the study of the past, the M.A. enables students to explore challenging theoretical and critical issues in other disciplines from within a firm grounding in history and historical method. The course will look at the

history of prostitution, sexuality, witchcraft, women's work, religion, education, and women in the family. The course has a strong interdisciplinary element, and raises methodological questions about feminist theory and the use of sources. The course can be studied full time (one year) or part time (two years).

**GENDER AND MEDIEVAL STUDIES** There will be a meeting of the Gender and Medieval Studies Group on January 3, 1991 in London (probably at the Romance Institute, Senate House, Malet St., London WC1). "Gender, Space, the Body" will be the issue of the day. Further details are available from Karen Pratt, European Languages Dept., Goldsmiths' College, New Cross, London SE14 6NW.

## THE FUTURE OF MFN: SOCIETY FOR FEMINIST MEDIEVAL STUDIES



THE editors of MFN feel it is time to create a society that would be the official umbrella over activities that MFN has already put in place: the yearly meeting at Kalamazoo, the sessions we sponsor there, and the newsletter itself. The society we envisage would not necessarily be restricted to those events and products; we hope, for example, that it would encourage participation from more of the medieval disciplines than have contributed until now.

Part of our reason for wanting to see a society established is philosophical. We are aware that because MFN is at present the only publication devoted entirely to feminist thought in medieval studies, and to the interests of medieval feminist teachers and scholars, there is a risk that the newsletter, as we edit it, will come to represent in itself feminist medieval studies. Stasis contributes to canon formation, and that would be contrary to the spirit of free exchange and the idea of many voices to which we aspired in founding MFN. The way to continue our effort toward that goal is to involve more people in it. We therefore propose the establishment of a Society for Feminist Medieval Studies (or other title). The Society will need at least three officers (President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer). We would also like to establish an Advisory Board for the newsletter. We recommend that all have three-year terms.

The other part of our reason is pragmatic. We plan to file for tax-exempt status as a non-profit organization. We also look forward to a time when we will be able to share with others the pleasures and responsibilities of editing the newsletter.

To begin the process we would like to call for nominations to the Society and the Advisory Board, and we encourage representatives from philosophy, religion, the many types of history, art history, medieval Latin, and literature (Anglo-Saxon, English, French, Italian, Spanish). We also encourage those who specialize in Jewish and Arabic studies. Self-nominations are welcome.

Nominations should be sent to Roberta Krueger at Hamilton College, Clinton, NY 13323 and should be postmarked no later than January 30, 1991. When we have received all the nominations, a ballot will be sent to each MFN subscriber.