

1989

Letter Concerning 10th Anniversary of Women's Studies

Sam Thios
Denison University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.denison.edu/lookingback>

Recommended Citation

Thios, Sam, "Letter Concerning 10th Anniversary of Women's Studies" (1989). *Looking Back, Looking Forward*. 64.
<http://digitalcommons.denison.edu/lookingback/64>

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the Women's and Gender Studies at Denison Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Looking Back, Looking Forward by an authorized administrator of Denison Digital Commons.

Office of the President

P.O. Box B
Granville, Ohio 43023
(614) 587-6281

Denison University



February 20, 1989

Tom Gallant
Education Department

Dear Tom:

Next year Denison will reach an institutional milestone; the Tenth Anniversary of the Women's Studies/Minority Studies General Education requirement. I am writing to seek the support and cooperation of the Education Department in celebrating this anniversary.

Recent faculty meetings and the open hearings of the Task Force on Racism and Diversity have been marked by numerous viewpoints about how Denison may best proceed further along the path towards a more heterogeneous community. But I think there is little disagreement about the goal. The 1989-1990 Anniversary is both the opportunity to celebrate our past achievements and to draw together as a community to renew our educational commitment to diversity.

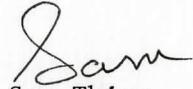
Denison faculty can take pride in their pioneering role in incorporating new perspectives into the undergraduate curriculum. Ten years later we continue to draw national recognition. The strength of the Black Studies Program is corroborated by the distinction granted it in Rugg's Recommendations on The Colleges (1986). It was among only a handful of Black Studies Programs from 400 colleges that Rugg found deserving of entry in his evaluations. A recent (1988) survey of gender in the college curriculum commissioned by the Ford Foundation evaluates Denison's efforts to create a gender balanced curriculum very positively. Of the ten schools studied--University of Arizona, University of New Mexico, Duke University, Emory University, Kenyon College, Colgate University, Hamilton College, Wheaton College, and Hood College--Denison emerged as the national leader in including gender in the curriculum.

Accordingly I am asking for all departments in their own unique ways to participate in this celebration. For example, departments might pay special attention to the work of outstanding minority or women dramatists, film makers, or performers, consider prominent minority or women scholars in their selection of symposia speakers, or invite scholars interested in race or gender issues to campus to speak with faculty and students about their work. Colleagues teaching any appropriate course might take the occasion to develop lectures or units on minorities or women. There are many ways the Anniversary might be celebrated and shaped to the needs and interests of particular faculty and departments, while reinforcing educationally for our students the message of diversity.

Much of this programming can likely be accommodated within existing budgets. However, some special funds are available to help departments with special needs who want to sponsor a Tenth Anniversary event. Applications for financial assistance should be submitted to Dee Ghiloni in the President's Office by March 15.

Please discuss this issue with your departments. It is my hope that a sufficient number of departments and other units will respond enthusiastically and positively to this opportunity so that we can produce a 1989-1990 calendar of special events. I will be back in touch later to seek information about your departments plans so this information can be included in the special events calendar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam".

Sam Thios
Acting President

/dlg

c: All teaching faculty