

CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES AND SERVICES
714-286-6063

Dear Roxanne Dunbar,

My name is Joyce Nower and I am Publications Co-ordinator for the Center for Women's Studies and Services at San Diego State College. On behalf of the CWSS Board, I am inquiring into the possibility of your presence as keynote speaker at our conference "Education and the Status of Women: Reform or Revolution" to be held sometime in March. If you decide to speak, we will immediately enter a request for funds, based upon an estimate of your expenses, to the Cultural Arts Board. They are a rather conservative body and fund moderate amounts.

San Diego State College is the home of many firsts in the Women's Movement. Some of the founding members of the Center for Women's Studies and Services participated in the creation of the first academic program of feminist studies in the nation. That program is now a separate, fully accredited program of upper division electives. Some of us, feeling strongly that the division between campus and community was an artificial one, then went on to build a completely separate and different kind of program, a multi-component program of radical services, CWSS, which actively implements the twin principles of community orientation and self-determination. (Please see the accompanying sheet for a description of our activities.)

The CWSS Recruitment Component reaches out to women in special need areas who otherwise might not have the opportunity to receive a higher education - welfare women, older women, women ex-convicts. Recruitment work, for example, with women prisoners and ex-convicts is unique: CWSS has catalyzed Sisterhood Chapters inside the California Rehabilitation Center and the California Institute for Women. We have set up a network of supportive services for ex-convicts in the San Diego area - housing, job referral, emergency money - as well as presenting workshops, child communication services, and co-sponsoring cultural events with the women inside. Workshops during the Conference will underscore the special problems of education and work for women in this, as well as other need areas.. Your presence at the Conference would stimulate a general concern for the vast array of women's needs and provide a broad framework within which to discuss these more specific problems. So please let us hear from you with a "yes". And if March is not possible, we would be interested in telling you about our CWSS Convention Action (see enclosed sheet) and the dates for that are sometime between August 17 and August 23.

Sincerely,

Joyce Nower