A Directory of Archives of Feminist Philosophers, Journals, and Organizations

Abstract
The aim of the project is to create a website that will serve as a source directory of archives of feminist philosophers as well as journals and organizations of feminist philosophy. This annotated directory will enable scholars researching a wide range of topics and individuals in feminist philosophy to locate archived materials and enable enriched understanding of the evolution and connections among various strands of feminist thought. Funding will support not only creating the website, but also publicizing it on social media and communicating individually with many philosophers, librarians, and archivists. In this project, “feminist philosophers” includes feminist theorists in related disciplines.

Basic Information
Project Coordinator(s)
Ann Garry, Alison M. Jaggar

Steering Committee
- Marilyn Frye, University Distinguished Professor, Emerita, Michigan State University
- Sandra Harding, Distinguished Research Professor, Emerita, UCLA

Funding Amount Requested
$3,500

Expected Project Completion Date
December 2023

Project Description
In recent years, feminist philosophers as well as feminist philosophy organizations and publications have established archives of their papers in the libraries of various colleges and universities. Some of these individuals’ scholarly publications are listed in Phil Papers and similar databases, but much more material has been archived in special collections at various colleges and universities. No directory of these archives currently exists, so there is no systematic or comprehensive way to identify and locate them.

Archives hold documentation of the range of the individuals’ contributions and engagements as feminist scholars, including correspondence, unpublished manuscripts and presentations, also as organizers, academic officers, administrators, students, and teachers. In some cases, they also hold records of the individuals’ public lives, such as items in the public media and records of activism.
Individuals’ archives provide windows into their education, intellectual development and professional careers, including others they engaged with via correspondence, programs of meetings of organizations, and so on. The directory will make a substantive contribution by enabling scholars to find material that places individuals in webs of influence—who they influenced and who/what influenced them (e.g., what works, conversations, correspondence, conferences, etc.). The directory will include feminist theorists in disciplines related to philosophy so that these connections might be more easily explored.

Ann Garry and Alison Jaggar, co-coordinators, and Marilyn Frye and Sandra Harding, steering committee members, propose to coordinate a project that creates an annotated directory of these archives and makes the information widely available to individuals and libraries. The directory will document the work of feminist philosophers and will be valuable as a research and outreach resource, and as a historical document. It can also encourage other feminist philosophers to create archives, thus expanding further the range of available scholarly material.

As noted below under “Project Outreach,” the co-coordinators and steering committee members consider engagement with and publicity about the project to be integral parts of it. They and the website creator will invite wide participation from feminist philosophers, organizations and journals of feminist philosophy, and academic librarians who support feminist scholarship.

**Project Impact**

In the early 1970s contemporary feminist philosophers began making a case that their work was, in fact, philosophy. The initial skepticism that feminist philosophy is “real philosophy” has declined somewhat over the decades, but it has not disappeared. In order to continue diversifying the field of philosophy, it is crucial that feminist work, along with the work of others from marginalized groups, is taken seriously and pursued in depth. The directory's facilitation of archival work on feminist philosophers and their journals and organizations contributes to a deeper pursuit of feminist philosophy and helps to reveal the some of its hidden historical richness.

**Project Goals**

- The directory will facilitate scholarship and research into the history of Western feminist philosophy
- It will contribute to creating a deeper, richer, and more comprehensive historical record
- By being inclusive, it will enable fuller appreciation of the depth and range of feminist philosophy and theory
- It will demonstrate the importance of creating archives and encourage others who have not yet begun an archive to do so.

**Project Timeline**

January - February 2023: create the website.

March - December 2023:

Publicize the website across social media, academic sites, and through organizations.
Communicate with faculty, librarians, and archivists

Input links and describe archives listed

Provide upkeep.

**Project Outreach**

The primary audience for the directory is scholars and students who are interested in studying and contributing to feminist philosophy. The secondary audiences are philosophers with other specialties and scholars in related disciplines, including students in both of these categories.

Making the directory useful and expansive will be a cooperative project from the outset. The website creator will use social media, listservs, and academic sites to encourage individuals and organizations to list the sites of their own archives, and to publicize the directory as well. In addition, the co-coordinators and steering committee members will invite participation from feminist philosophy organizations [e.g., the Society for Women in Philosophy (SWIP) in various countries, Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST), Feminist Epistemology, Metaphysics, Methodology, and Science Studies (FEMMSS), the Society for the Study of Women Philosophers, the Collegium of Black Women Philosophers, the Latina/x Feminisms Roundtable, the APA Committee on Women (CSW), the Women's Caucus of the Philosophy of Science Association, the CSW of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP)] as well as feminist philosophy journals such as Hypatia, Feminist Philosophical Quarterly, and PhiloSOPHIA. The work of outreach and publicity will have wide engagement.

**Accessibility Plan**

The webpage created will adhere to ADA standards required at U.S. universities. The experts will be found in the IT departments of the website creator's university. If that presents any difficulty, Ann Garry has access to experts in Cal State LA's IT department.

**Evaluation Plan**

Evaluation of the success of the website will be primarily by its use: the frequency of use, the time spent exploring it, the role it plays in subsequent scholarship, and so on. In addition, there will be a short questionnaire on the site concerning the site’s usefulness that will also include space for suggestions.

**Online Presence**

Because the project is completely online it is described in the other sections of the application.

**Budget Narrative**

The only item in the budget is salary. The hourly wage of $27 was chosen after an online search of state-by-state average wages in the US for web design. Our calculation of approximately 130 hours (129.63) includes webpage design, communication with those listing their archives as well as publicity about the site, and upkeep during 2023. Our expectation is to hire someone with skills to create a website and use social media who also has an interest in feminist philosophy. The work
requires a knowledge base of the organizations and individuals in the field of feminist philosophy as well as initiative to both contact and follow up with leaders of organizations, individual feminist philosophers, and librarians and archivists.

At this point we are still exploring possibilities with existing organizations to include our directory as part of their own website so that there will be no ongoing hosting costs.

**Other Funding Sources**

None.

[The College of Arts and Letters, Calif State Univ, Los Angeles will pay the administrative costs of the project.]