

Women's History Collections, Gothenburg University, Sweden

Activities 2008-2009

Conferences

WHC Conferences

Every year since 2004 the Women's History Collections (WHC) have organized an annual conference.

- 2008 - Genus och bibliotek (Gender and Libraries, also including lectures on gender and archives)
- 2009 – November 12-13 we will organize a conference called “150 Years of Women's Journals”. This is to celebrate that it is now 150 years since the first Swedish women's journal “Tidskrift för hemmet” was published, in 1859. The conference is organized in co-operation with the Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion at Gothenburg University.

Conferences attended

Librarians from the WHC have taken part in several conferences during the last years, with presentations of our work and resources.

- Athena/Wine meeting in Madrid 2008 and in Utrecht 2009. In Utrecht we presented a poster session on the theme “Illustrating Women's History on the Web”.
- At Biblioteksdagarna, the annual meeting of the Swedish Library Association, we have taken part in the poster session, presenting different historical portals, 2006-2008. At the meeting 2007 the WHC received the Library Association's Award for Good Marketing.
- IX Nordic Women's and History Conference “Gender, Space and Borders” in Iceland 2008. Two participants presented the historical portal “Women at Work” as well as at
- Labouring Feminism, conference on feminist working class history in Europe and beyond, in Stockholm 2008.

Digital resources

Expert database

In November 2008 we launched our expert database Greda – Gender Researchers Database. The database was created in co-operation with the Swedish National Secretariat for Gender Research. It is also available in English.

<http://www.ub.gu.se/kvinn/greda/>

Portals

In order to make our collections available to a broader audience, we have constructed historical portals on different themes. We have collaborated with gender researchers, who have written a historical introduction and we have digitized photos, pamphlets and manuscripts from our archives. Since 2006 we have produced four portals, the latest being

- Kvinnor i arbete - Women at Work, 2008
- Kvinnor och fred – (Women and Peace, not translated), 2009

Journals

In the late 1990s we started digitizing older women's periodicals. By now 11 Swedish journals are available in fulltext and the archive is constantly growing.

Swedish Women's History

A new entrance on the web has been constructed. Here we link to all our historical resources – archives, photographs, portals, journals, etc.

<http://www.ub.gu.se/kvinn/portaler/historia/>

Exhibitions

Produced by the WHC, shown at the University Library

- Jubilee exhibition about the WHC, founded in 1958. The exhibition opened on March 8th 2008 and the same evening we had an anniversary party for library staff and special guests.
- The Swedish journalists Elin Wägner and Barbro Alving, Bang, were presented in an exhibition during Spring 2009.
- The next exhibition will be opened in October 2009, on the same theme as our Autumn conference, “150 years of women’s journals”.

Contributions

The WHC have contributed with material to an exhibition on the suffrage movement in Europe. It opened in Bonn, Germany, in 2006 and was later shown at the Women’s Museum, Aarhus, Denmark, and in Berlin and Offenburg, also in Germany, 2007-2008.

Seminars

The WHC are part of a Nordic network for libraries and documentation centres on gender issues. NING –the Nordic Information Network Gender - meet twice a year in the different Nordic countries.

Education, demonstrations

As part of our work we regularly give classes for university students and demonstrations for members of various organizations.

In progress

- In co-operation with the “Gender Secretariat” we are working on a new database containing literature on gender mainstreaming. This is part of a larger project on gender mainstreaming, funded by the Swedish government.
- Portal on Second Wave Feminism – we are updating and enlarging our portal on the women’s movement of the 60s and 70s. The revised version will be launched in the beginning of 2010.
- More women’s journals are being digitized.
- Fragen-project. The National Secretariat for Gender Research will be responsible for the Swedish part of this European project, in which the WHC will also take part.
- Nordic Women’s Literature. In the years 1993-1998, a history on Nordic women’s literature was published. It contains five volumes and is the product of co-operation between Danish and Swedish researchers. Now these volumes will be translated into English and all three versions will be available on the Internet. The WHC is one of the Swedish partners in this project, which is led by KVINFO, Denmark.

Media

Articles about the WHC

Databas för genusforskare. About the expert database. In: DIK-forum 2009:4, s. 29. - ISSN 0281-6873

Hugosson, Cecilia, Kvinnors fredsarbete blir tillgängligt på nätet. About the portal Women and Peace. In: Göteborgs Fria Tidning 2009-02-21. - ISSN 1651-1190.

Rusanen, Rita, Här bevaras kvinnornas historia. About the WHC. In: ST Press 99(2008):4, s. 26-27. - ISSN 1652-3075.

Swedemyr, Fredrik, Kunskap som döljer sig bakom patriarkala principer : genusforskningen behöver bättre tillgång till arkivmaterial. About gender and archives. In: Framsteget Special 2009, s. 52-53. - ISSN 1651-128X

Zorn, Henriette, Kvinnohistoriska samlingarna lanserar ny portal: den arbetande kvinnan. About the portal on women and work. In: Biblioteksbladet 93(2008):2, s. 17-19. - ISSN 0006-1867.

Zorn, Henriette, Ny portal om kvinnor och fred. About the portal Women and Peace. In: Biblioteksbladet 94(2009):3, s. 19-20. - ISSN 0006-1867

Link to website

<http://www.ub.gu.se/kvinn/>

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