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## January, 1983 Newsletter of the Division on Women in Crime

American Society of Criminology. Division on Women and Crime

Nanci Koser Wilson

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIVISION ON WOMEN AND CRIME  
The American Society of Criminology

January, 1983

Edited by Nanci Koser Wilson, Vice-Chair  
Address: Center for the Study of Crime,  
Delinquency and Corrections  
Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, IL 62901

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Division

The meeting was called to order by Phyllis Jo Baunach at 3:30 p.m., November 4, 1982. Some 25 persons attended the meeting.

The major point of discussion was the constitution for the Division. Recommended changes in the draft of the constitution had been made at the ASC Executive Board meeting. At the Division meeting these changes were presented, along with the draft of the constitution. With some discussion all of them were adopted and the Division unanimously voted to send the constitution to ASC's Executive Board for initial ratification on Saturday, November 6th.

ASC Executive Board recommendations further included the following. The Board approved the concept of Division letterhead stationary using the ASC logo. Costs for this will be borne by the Division, once funds are available. The Division approved this suggestion in its meeting, with the decision to print "Division on Women and Crime" beneath the ASC logo. Since officers change periodically, the Division voted not to include Division officers' names on the letterhead. Instead, appropriate names and addresses will be placed in the body of correspondence.

The Executive Board also suggested that the Division might want to consider using the Criminologist in lieu of their own newsletter in the future. The Division discussed this idea and decided that we should keep our newsletter for the present and submit brief items to the Criminologist concerning the Division's activities.

Finally, the ASC Executive Board recommended that the Division include by-laws which would concern such items as dues, which may be subject to change. The membership agreed that by-laws are easier to amend than the constitution itself. However, for the time-being the Division is guided simply by the constitution.

The Division voted to send the President-Elect, Al Reiss, a list of names and some biographical information about women who we feel would work well on various ASC committees, and who are willing to do so. The next issue of the newsletter will include a tear-off page requesting interested parties to submit their names and relevant information. The Division Executive Board will then compile a list of these names and information will be forwarded to Professor Reiss, for consideration for committee appointments for the year 1983-84.

Nanci Wilson suggested that the Division consider sponsoring an award for the best work on Gender and Crime. Discussion ensued, with the members generally favorable toward working for the establishment of such an award. Ira Silverman and Nanci Wilson were appointed to look into the matter during the year and report back to the Division at the next annual meeting. In addition, the Division voted to stay in touch with the committee which nominates persons for awards so that the Division may have a voice in suggesting candidates. Anna Kuhl and Cathy Spatz-Widom will work on this task.

The Division voted to elect an interim Executive Board (comprised of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and three Executive Counselors). These people will serve for two years, pending ratification of the Division Constitution by the ASC Executive Board. The following were elected unanimously:

Chairperson: Phyllis Jo Baunach  
Bureau of Justice Statistics  
Room 1158-D  
633 Indiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20531  
202/724-7759 or 7760

Vice-Chairperson: Nanci Koser Wilson  
Crime Studies Center  
Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
618/453-5701

Secretary: Anna Kuhl  
San Jose State University  
512 Macquarrie Hall  
San Jose, CA 95192  
408/277-2992

Executive Counselors: Cathy Spatz-Widom  
Indiana University  
311 Sycamore Hall  
Bloomington, IN 47405  
812/335-9880

Christine Rasche  
University of North Florida  
South St. James Bluff Road  
Jacksonville, FL 33216  
904/646-2758

Executive Counselors: Ira Silverman  
(Con't.) Department of Criminal Justice  
University of South Florida  
Tampa, FL  
813/974-2815

It was decided that Christine Rasche will look into the matter of by-laws for the Division and that PJ Baunach will obtain the minutes from the ASC Executive Board and contact Joe Scott regarding panels on issues related to women and crime for next year's conference.

The Division voted unanimously to let the record show a commendation to PJ Baunach and Nanci Wilson for their work in developing the Division during the past year.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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Call for Papers

The 35th annual meeting of the ASC will be in Denver, November 9-13, 1983, at the Denver Marriott Hotel-City Center. Submit paper topics and suggestions for panels on topics dealing with women and crime to the Division, in care of Phyllis Jo Baunach, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Room 1158-D, 633 Indiana Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20531.

\*\*\*\*\*

Participation of Women Within ASC

We are making steady progress in terms of the participation of women within the organization. On the 1982 program there were 198 women participants from a total of 799. Thus, 24.78% of the participants were women. This compares favorably to the 20% figure for 1981. As the membership of the Society is some 40% female, we are gradually coming closer to full representation on the program.

The incoming president, Travis Hirschi, has announced his committee appointments. These include 18 women, so that women are participating in the committee structure at about the same rate (23%) that they are appearing on the program as participants.

It is gratifying that so many women are now active in the administration of the Society. As you will have noted from reading the minutes of this year's Division meeting, the Division hopes to continue this participation and perhaps increase it. To that end we are gathering information about persons who are willing to serve on committees. You will find a form attached to this newsletter. Please fill out the form if you are interested in such work for the Society. The Division's Executive Board will forward this information to next year's president, Al Reiss, in time for his consideration of nominees for the 1983-84 committees.

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### Progress of the Division on Women and Crime

As those of you who attended the Division meeting in November are already aware, the proposed constitution was approved by the Division membership. With a minor modification, the ASC Executive Board accepted this constitution. (The Board voted that in regard to dues, we add, after "dues" the following phrase: "subject to approval by the Executive Board of ASC.").

We note that the issues surrounding gender and crime are continuing to reach a wider audience. At the November meetings 15 of the 134 sessions listed in the program (11.19%) dealt with these issues. There were some 60 papers delivered in these sessions. Another 16 presentations (13 papers and 3 roundtable discussions) concerned issues related to women and crime. This makes a total of 73 papers and 3 roundtables on the topic, comparing very favorably with the 48 papers presented in 1981. If you have a topic in mind for a paper or panel respond to the Call for Papers printed in this issue of the newsletter.



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