1993

Correspondence: 1993 Mentoring Committee

American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime.

Nicole Rafter

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Dear Lynne:

As I think you are Acting Chair of the Division on Women and Crime of the ASC, I am writing with an agenda item for the October 1993 meetings in Phoenix.

Actually, this is a follow-up on a proposal I made in 1990 for a Division mentorship program, modeled after that of SWS. This plan matches up a senior professor who has volunteered to be a mentor with a new faculty member who want to be mentored. I've done this myself as an SWS mentor, and the program has worked well in my case; at any rate, I found the relationship very rewarding, and my mentee (ugly word), Ruth Seidlitz, has just recently received tenure at Univ. of New Orleans. (She will be attending her first ASC meetings this October.) Now she's my mentor!

When I proposed the plan to the Division in 1990, I didn't offer to implement it; and not surprisingly, no one else rushed into the breach. Thus I want to propose the plan more formally this year and to offer to get it started.

Please let me know what you think and how to get on the agenda.

I also want to thank you for your generous help last December with my application for the Director of Women's Studies at Indiana University. As it turned out, they never contacted me, even to say that the search had been completed; but that didn't matter much as after 3 weeks as a Visiting Professor in southern Indiana I realized it wasn't a place I'd want to live, especially with Robert in Vermont. (A dilemma you are familiar with, I think.) But I was very grateful for your sharing your ideas on the future of women's studies and for sending me copies of your materials.
I'll be looking forward to seeing you in Phoenix.

Sincerely,

Nicole F. Rafter

P.S. I'll be at the address above until 1 September 1993 and thereafter back in Boston. My Vermont telephone number is 802-635-2483.
TO: Executive Committee of the Division on Women & Crime, American Society of Criminology

FROM: Nicole Rafter (Northeastern University) and Ruth Seydlitz (University of New Orleans)

RE: Establishment of Mentoring Program
DATE: 29 October 1993

We propose that the Division establish a Mentoring Program, modeled after that run by Sociologists for Women in Society, in which professionally established members would advise relative newcomers on scholarship and other professional matters.

The goal of the program would be to assist junior Division members in developing their professional strengths and becoming tenured.

The program would be run as follows:

1. The Division would invite members to participate, developing lists of senior faculty volunteering to help and of junior members (i.e., those who are less experienced, but not necessarily untenured) interested in being helped.

   Issue for consideration: While we see this program as a service to junior Division members, we wonder if eventually non-Division members might be invited to participate as mentors.

2. Senior and junior members would be paired; whenever possible, they would be matched according to substantive and methodological interests.

3. An initial one-year or one-paper period of contact would be recommended, but individuals could of course continue the mentoring relationship as long as they wanted to.

If this proposal is approved, we would volunteer to start the program by developing two lists of names and matching interested senior with junior Division members over the next year. During this first year, we would aim at a maximum of 15 pairs as we are not requesting funds for computerization of lists or for mailing. However, we would keep track of all those who volunteered to participate.

At the next annual ASC meeting (1994), we would report the results for the first year. At that point, the Division should evaluate these results, decide whether to continue and expand the program, and (if the decision is to go ahead) consider charging the junior members a small fee to cover program costs. In addition, we might want to build in an evaluation component.
TO: Executive Committee of the Division on Women & Crime,  
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FROM:Nicole Rafter (Northeastern University)  
and  
Ruth Seydlitz (University of New Orleans)

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October 31, 1993

Dear Nicky,

Hi. It was great to see you again. I have the dizziness back, but it isn’t too bad so far. I am largely able to control it with big doses of allergy medicine.

I forgot to pick up the sign up sheet for the mentoring program from the Division’s table on Friday. If I remember correctly, the Division did not have the table on Saturday. Did you get the sign up sheet? If not, could you contact Lynn Goodstein or Chris Rasche to get the list? I am panicking about my work load right now, but I’ll be better soon. (I slept most of the day today.)

Here is the name and address of a person who wants to be mentored.

Susan Toni Krumholz  
Somerville MA 02143

Here is my attempt at an advertisement of the program for the Division newsletter.

The Division is running a pilot mentoring program. The idea is to match members with less experience who would like assistance with job related issues with a member with more experience. For this year only, the program is focusing on people in academics (including students). The goal for those in academic positions is to have a paper ready for presentation or publication at the end of one year. The mentoring pair can also discuss other matters such as job searches, tenure issues, etc. If both members of the mentoring pair wish to continue the relationship beyond the one year, this continued relationship is encouraged. If the program is continued by the Division, it will be expanded to include people in other positions such as activists and criminal justice positions.

If you would like some help from a colleague with more experience or if you have more experience and would like to assist a colleague, please send the information listed below to Nicole Hahn Rafter, College of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Avenue, Boston MA 02115 or Ruth Seydlitz RASSQ@UNO.EDU. We need information on how to contact you from both those seeking assistance and those volunteering to assist is: 1) name, 2) address, 3) phone number(s), 4) fax number and 5) e-mail address. We also need information concerning your work: 1) primary methodology (qualitative or quantitative, cross-sectional or longitudinal), 2) area(s) of interest (e.g., theory, corrections, courts, police, type of crime), 3) and the part of the research process where you feel that you need the most help (if you are seeking assistance - e.g., searching for data, a particular part of the writing
such as the intro, discussion and conclusion or the data, statistics and results) or can be most helpful (if you are volunteering to assist - e.g., searching for data, a particular part of the writing such as the intro, discussion and conclusion or the data, statistics, and results). Please be sure to specify if you are seeking assistance or volunteering assistance.

Well, I guess this is all I have for now. Do we want to try to do the matching? I don’t think we will have time to let those seeking assistance choose a possible mentor because we will just barely have people matched before the next meeting since this ad won’t get out until the next division newsletter. Do we want the people to be members of the division - I think we should for those seeking assistance but not for those offering assistance. Can you think of anything I have forgotten? Please feel free to edit the ad in anyway you want. You can then send it back to me or on to Chris Rasche.

I will be going to the library as soon as possible to look at the college catalogue for N.U. so I can say something about the courses I would be qualified to teach, etc. This will take me some time to put together on top of all the rest of the work, but I’ll get it done.

It is cold down here (below freezing at night). I am not quite sure I like the cold but my allergies should if it is enough to stop things from producing pollen.

Take care
I’ll send the application stuff later. (NU-position)
Ruth
11/30/93

notes on start-up of ASC DWC Mentoring program

At the annual meeting of the ASC's Div on Women & Crime, Oct 27-30, 1993, Ruth Seidlinz & I proposed a mentoring program, and this was approved. Several suggestions were made:

Sue Martin sugested that we make the program available to people who don't work in academia as well as to those who do.

Laura Fishman suggested that we develop a list of women who could serve as reviewers for tenure etc. cases.
Professor Lynne Goodstein
Chair, ASC Division on Women and Crime
College of Human Development
Administration of Justice
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802

Dear Lynne:

As you will recall, at its last annual meeting, the ASC's Division of Women and Crime authorized Ruth Seydlitz and me to start a mentoring program. I am writing now to update you on our work and ask for your help with publicity.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our program announcement, revised to incorporate as many of the Division members' suggestions as possible. Later today I will be sending a copy to Chris Rasche for the DWC newsletter. The newsletter will be one way of advertising the program, but I find that people often need several reminders before they respond. Thus I wonder if you could arrange to have a copy of the announcement sent out by Sarah Hall to all Division members, either in a separate mailing or along with another one. In addition, I would appreciate your suggestions for other ways in which we might make Division members aware of this program.

Ruth put a sign-up sheet on the Division's table in Phoenix, but the table was dismantled before we picked this paper up. Do you have it, and if so, could you forward it to me?

I'm sorry we didn't get a chance to chat in Phoenix; I'd like to get caught up on your news.

With best wishes,

Nicole F. Rafter
(New home tel.: 617-739-5508; this is fax # as well)

cc: Ruth Seydlitz
The Division on Women and Crime is starting a mentoring program to pair more experienced members ("mentors") with less experienced members who would like assistance ("authors").

The goal is to help authors prepare a paper for presentation or publication within a one-year period. Of course, the mentoring pair can also discuss other matters, such as job searches and tenure issues; and if they wish, they can continue the mentoring relationship beyond the one-year period. If the pilot program is successful, it may be expanded to include people in non-academic positions.

To get the program started, we need to hear from potential authors and mentors. Send the information outlined below to either:

Nicole Hahn Rafter, College of Criminal Justice, 400 Churchill, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115.
Fax # 617-739-5508

or

Ruth Seydlitz RASSO@UNO.EDU or Dept. of Sociology,
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana 70148.
Fax # 504-286-6468.

We need to know:

1) your name; 2) address; 3) phone number(s); 4) fax number and/or e-mail address, if you have one; 5) whether you are volunteering as an author or mentor;

and something about your work:

6) primary methodology or methodologies (e.g., qualitative, quantitative, cross-sectional, longitudinal, historical); 7) area(s) of primary interest (e.g., theory, corrections, victimization); 8) the part of the research and writing process where you feel you need the most help (if you are volunteers as an author) or can give the most help (if you are offering to be a mentor).

This program will succeed only if we get volunteers. So send us your name today.