



American Economic Association

1988 Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession

NANCY M. GORDON (Chair)
Congressional Budget Office
2nd & D Streets, SW
Washington, DC 20515
202 / 226-2669

BETH E. ALLEN
Department of Economics
University of Pennsylvania
3718 Locust Walk CR
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6297
215 / 898-6774

CECILIA CONRAD
Department of Economics
Barnard College
New York, NY 10027
212 / 280-3333

ALAN E. FECHTER
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20418
202 / 334-2700

ELIZABETH HOFFMAN
Department of Economics
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
602 / 621-6224

SHULAMIT KAHN
School of Management
Boston University
704 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
617 / 353-4299

JUDITH R. LAVE
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15261
412 / 624-0898

KATHARINE C. LYALL
University of Wisconsin System
1730 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706
608 / 262-4048

MARJORIE B. McELROY
Department of Economics
Duke University
Durham, NC 27706
919 / 684-4003

KATHRYN MORRISON
NYC Health and Hospitals
Corporation
230 W 41st Street, Room 500
New York, NY 10036
212 / 391-5510

BARBARA NEWELL
Department of Economics
Florida State University
467 Bellamy Building
Tallahassee, FL 32306
904 / 644-5001

JUNE O'NEILL
Baruch College, Box 348A
17 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10010
212 / 505-5903

ex-officio, AEA President
ROBERT EISNER
Department of Economics
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL 60201
312 / 491-5394

Membership Secretary:
JOAN G. HAWORTH
Economic Research Services
4901 Tower Court
Tallahassee, FL 32303
904 / 562-1211

NEWSLETTER

Winter Issue - February 1989

Nancy Gordon, Co-editor
(202) 226-2669

Kathryn Morrison, Co-editor
(212) 391-5510

Toni Foxx, Assistant Editor
(202) 226-2650

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Annual Report -- 2
- Older Women's Work -- 7
- Translating a C.V. to a Resume -- 10
- Strategies for Publishing Journal Articles -- 12

- Supply, Demand, and the Green Eyeshade -- 13
- Institute for Women's Policy Research -- 15
- CSWEP Activities at the Midwest Meetings -- 16
- Upcoming Meetings -- 16

- Calls for Papers -- 17
- Funding Available for Summer Institutes
in Economic Theory -- 17
- Summary of SEA Meetings -- 18
- Summary of AEA Meetings -- 19

- Recent Publications of Interest -- 23
- Short Notes -- 24
- Job Openings -- 25
- Membership Information -- 27

**** WELCOME TO NEW CSWEP BOARD MEMBER ****

Shelly Lundberg, University of Washington

COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMICS PROFESSION ANNUAL REPORT, 1988

The Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP), established by the AEA in 1972, was charged with monitoring women's position in the profession and undertaking activities to improve it. This report summarizes changes that have occurred in the position of women economists in academia during the 1980s and describes the Committee's activities during the past year.

The Changing Status of Women Economists

Overall, women economists are more numerous now than in 1980 and they are slowly advancing in academia, but few have reached the rank of full professor. These conclusions are based on data from a matched sample of colleges and universities that responded to the Universal Academic Questionnaire in both the 1980-1981 and the 1987-1988 school years.^{1/} Although the matched sample includes only half of all institutions reporting in 1987, the characteristics for the entire group are essentially the same as for the sample analyzed here.^{2/}

As shown in Table 1, the proportion of Ph.D.'s in economics awarded to women by schools in the matched sample rose sharply between 1980 and 1987--from 12 percent to 19 percent, in part reflecting women's rapidly growing representation in economics at the Bachelor's degree level during the late 1970s.^{3/} The share of Master's degrees in economics awarded to women also increased substantially--from 21 to 29 percent--but the proportion of Bachelor's degrees was stable at about 30 percent. The gender distribution of graduate students shifted somewhat, from 18 percent of Ph.D. students in economics being women to 22 percent. Among students in both Master's degree and Ph.D. programs, women remained slightly more likely than men to receive aid.

As women have progressed through their careers, they have made up a growing proportion of faculty at the ranks of assistant, associate, and full professor, as shown in Table 2. Only in the case of full professors at undergraduate institutions did the proportion of women fall, and when this relatively small group is combined with full professors at graduate institutions that award Ph.D.'s, the overall proportion of women rose from 2.7 percent to 3.7 percent. Nonetheless, only 30 of 803 full professors at institutions in the matched sample were women.

Women made up a higher proportion of those who were hired in 1987 than they did in 1980, as shown in Table 3, but their progress to higher ranks has been limited. This is especially true at the institutions with Ph.D. programs, which employed 66 percent of all associate professors and 81 percent of all full professors in 1987. Only 1 of the 30 faculty members promoted to associate professor in 1987 at these institutions was female and all 28 who became full professors were men. Considering that women made up 12 percent of assistant professors at these schools in 1980, rising to 19 percent in 1987, it seems that they are not advancing within academia in the same way as men. Moreover, women were not "bidden away" to tenured positions at other universities in this

-
1. The Committee thanks Charles Scott and Joan Haworth for their valuable contributions to this analysis.
 2. The matched sample contains 80 of the 188 undergraduate institutions that responded in 1987, 20 of the 42 institutions that award only Bachelor's and Master's degrees, and 50 of the 71 institutions that award Ph.D.'s. The tables presented here are available for the entire 1987 sample on request.
 3. See CSWEP Annual Report, 1985, American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings, May 1986, pp. 452-457.

