Entry type: Organisation
Entry ID: AWE1032

Third Women and Labour Conference

(1982 - 1982)

Born	19820604, Adelaide South Australia Australia
Died	19820606, Adelaide South Australia Australia
Occupation	Conference, Feminist conference

Summary

One of a series, the Third Women and Labour Conference intended to encourage research and experience sharing which furthered women's understanding of their participation in the workforce and Australian society. More than 100 sessions were conducted with papers and workshops covering topics such as women and work, technological change and its impact upon women's employment, women and the family, the programs to assist women to take up "non-traditional" employment, migrant women, women's studies, feminist theory and practice, lesbianism, women and ageing, women and the media, women and art, work and unions, feminist literary criticisms and the strategies for women in the 80s (discussed by guest speakers Deborah McCulloch and Bettina Cass). The conference aimed to ensure the participation of a wide range of women and to promote contributions on important topics.

Details

Approximately 1200 women from all states of Australia, New Zealand, and Canada registered. 57 papers were presented and 54 workshops were conducted covering the disciplines of anthropology, politics, philosophy and fine arts with the role of women in education, social work, science and health also being discussed. A two volume collection entitled "All Her Labours" (1984, Women and Labour Publications Collective, Hale & Iremonger Pty. Ltd) was compiled from selected papers from those presented at the conference. Proceeds from the books sales and conference profits enabled a trust fund to be established. Grants were available to any woman or group of women who were undertaking a project of benefit to women. Although surplus funds had been available since the first Women and Labour Conference held in Sydney in 1978, it was no longer limited to literary projects. By 1984, funds from the Third Women and Labour Conference had been dispersed among almost 30 successful applicants. Further funds were obtained by the end of 1984 following the publication of two more volumes of conference papers.

Published resources

Edited Book
Worth her Salt: Women at Work in Australia, Bevege, Margaret, James, Margaret and Schute, Carmel, 1982

All Her Labours: Working it Out, Women and Labour Conference Publications Collective, 1982

Journal Article
A touch of nostalgia at the Women and Labour Conference, Allen, Margaret, 1995

Warmth and unity with all women? Historicizing racism in the Australian Women's Movement, Murdolo, Adele, 1995

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

State Library of South Australia
Women & Labour Conference : SUMMARY RECORD

Author Details
Robin Secomb and Rosemary Francis

Created 23 July 2004
Last modified 1 May 2018