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**WOMEN AT THE CENTER:  
HISTORY OF WOMEN'S STUDIES  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**

**TAPE LOG**

Emily Hayworth served as the Women Studies Interdisciplinary Program Office administrator for fifteen years.

Name of person(s) interviewed: Emily Hayworth

Other people present: No one else present

Interviewer: Marie Laberge

Date of interview: June 23, 2012 at 10:30 am

Location of interview: Interview took place in home of Marie Laberge

Special conditions (noise, interruptions, etc.): Paused for water once

General description of contents: Background, past education and employment, what brought her to UD, impact of changing WOMS locations from Ewing to own house. Successes important to developing WOMS program, how success of WOMS at UD compares to other universities programs and possible reasons why. Speaks about great faculty, proud that she can say she worked for WOMS. Others' reactions when she says she works in WOMS. How the department has impacted her. What still needs to be addressed in the field. Future goals for the department. Speaks a little about the impact of funding on the program. Speaks about how powerful the department is in making students aware of issues and able to respond to them.

Recording Format and disc number: Video interview

Total Running Time: 32:11 minutes

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**TOPIC SUMMARY**

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0:20 Born in Germany, grew up in Chester outside Philadelphia. High school at Ridley Park. Married and moved to Wilmington. Relocated to Landenberg where had children, started with children when her kids were in school and volunteered as parent volunteer. Position as reading teacher. When kids in high school she came to work at UD. Hired at library in 1985 for 10 years – general office administration

3:35 Wanted to move up so left library. Had attended events from WOMS department so when opening came for jobs (office coordinator) she wanted to take it.

4:35 Status of WOMS when she started – in Smith Hall, small closets, small budget around \$5,000.

6:15 Two part time faculty and some off campus faculty.

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7:21      Transition from Smith to where we are now. When major started, happy to see program expand.

8:36      Discussion about WOMS students graduating with major, were excited to have the first 6 who graduated.

9:42      Staff positions changed over years as well. Marion Palley came in as director, moved to Ewing Hall, had a little wing in building, good to have their own space.

12:00      Expanding number of faculty, bring in off campus faculty. Number of students in major/minor increased a lot. Classes filled. Discussion of Kathy [Turler] /Sue [Cherrin] positions secured, [Marie] Laberge's position. In Ewing for 2 years maybe 3, then secured house across the street for Women's Studies. [34 West Delaware Ave.]

13:51      Curriculum expanded, global perspective concentration, Stetz joined as first tenured faculty.

14:45      Successes important to development of Women Studies. Mae Carter gives WOMS research grant used for 3 years so could expand program by developing new courses from faculty across campus ; brought in more WOMS courses. Sexuality and Gender Studies part of Women's Studies, Bueno-Hansen became another tenured faculty, Alvina Quintana from English to WOMS.

16:30      How does WOMS at UD compare to WOMS at other universities? Relationship with university. Strong leadership. Nervous that finances would cut off WOMS like at other universities. Shafi is strong leader and able to be friend. A&S friend of WOMS and program grew to department. Largest interdisciplinary department, presence on campus.

18:43      UD WOMS with other universities' departments. Other schools have more faculty/resources but UD has more majors/minors but less faculty. Teaching style and faculty. Reputation of faculty in UD WOMS is very good. Faculty have following, students like to continue with faculty they start WOMS with, keep students engaged.

20:05      Impact of departmental status have on WOMS – continue to grow hopefully, funding come through and keep it going, status has secured WOMS at university.

20:50      Amount of faculty who have taught WOMS courses across disciplines of other departments there are a lot of new faculty who want to teach WOMS, cluster faculty – line in 2-3 departments and teach courses in those departments. Faculty want to teach WOMS which is to our advantage.

22:05      Most proud to say that she worked in WOMS. Opened eyes of so many students to what they should be aware of, leave university as different person because of courses they took.

23:00      Reactions when say work for WOMS – what do you do with a WOMS degree? Lots of people don't associate life and WOMS background and how helpful it is. Don't make connection, can have degree and go into teaching, services, personnel services in big companies, etc. awakening for a lot of people.

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24:18    What still needs to be addressed? How society views WOMS changes, be careful of what gets taken away very subtly. Women need to stand up for rights, know rights, and demand their rights.

25:15    Future of WOMS and gender studies – Gay rights, still battle in gay rights area. Things change after years of getting things through but will change if enough people passionate and rally for those rights. Heard maybe louder because strong department.

26:19    Impact of 40 years – great celebration, lots of things have changed because of it, still battles to be fought. Glad that we are here and there are enough students aware of what still needs to be worked out

27:20    How has WOMS impacted you? Better person, more rounded, never thought about issues before come to WOMS, thought women had equal rights until really tune into what isn't fair to women, most people just don't realize it.

28:08    Gets a drink

28:25    Anything else important to know about? WOMS is powerful place to be, miss hearing all the issues in news/classroom/etc since retired. Glad to have been there and know faculty, faculty doing a great job teaching students, important for students to know what's going on and solve problems, future in students

30:00    Funding – from \$5000 to now. Budget now close to \$40,000. Some for supporting Sexuality and Gender Studies. Highly visible program. Seminars, 2 in fall, 2 in spring, high visibility speakers come. Lecture series, film series, visibility on campus much expanded. Dean attended many events and they were successful. Students drawn to series, convinced WOMS would survive and have dedicated faculty and number of students interested. Budget expanded after deans saw success and interest of students.

32:11    End