

Hollins University

Hollins Digital Commons

Mildred E. Persinger Papers

Manuscript Collections

1986

Letter from Charlotte Bunch to Mildred Persinger, April 14, 1986

Charlotte Bunch

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.hollins.edu/persinger-papers>



Part of the [Women's History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Bunch, Charlotte, "Letter from Charlotte Bunch to Mildred Persinger, April 14, 1986" (1986). *Mildred E. Persinger Papers*. 65.

<https://digitalcommons.hollins.edu/persinger-papers/65>

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the Manuscript Collections at Hollins Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mildred E. Persinger Papers by an authorized administrator of Hollins Digital Commons. For more information, please contact lvilelle@hollins.edu, millerjc@hollins.edu.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S
TRIBUNE CENTRE, inc.

777 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017
U.S.A.
212-687-8633
Cables: TRIBCEN, N.Y.

April 14, 1986

Mildred Persinger
26 Judson Avenue
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522

Dear Mildred:

This letter is to let you know what has happened with the IWTC Resource Centre transformation project since we last talked. As you may recall, we initiated several pilot project activities during 1985 to test the interest in and support for an autonomous women's resource centre focused on women internationally based in New York.

The activities we undertook were met with considerable enthusiasm and many more ideas were generated about what could be done in this area. The need for such a centre that addresses a primarily US audience was demonstrated throughout 1985 not only in our pilot project but also in many other Nairobi related activities. However the problems with our proposal to create such a centre from the IWTC collection at this point in time also became clear.

While many organizations were enthusiastic about the idea, most were also over-extended and did not have much time or resources to develop it further with us. Where energy came from other groups for the pilot project was when it coincided with an existing priority for that group, but this did not often extend to the whole project. Thus it seemed clear that the initiative for developing such a centre would still have to come from IWTC. Furthermore, the kind of collaborative centre that we envisioned -- while probably possible and very useful to many -- would take considerable time on the part of one person or group to develop.

We do not feel that IWTC can make it a priority to take on this major task at this point especially given the emphasis that the centre would have on a US audience. We are however still open to collaborating on any such efforts that may be initiated by other groups. For now, we are focusing on several other efforts related to the resource centre.

We are publishing a special bulletin about our experiences with the IWTC resource centre. It will outline not only our particular history but also analyze certain key issues that women's resource centres face especially when they are oriented to women in Third World countries. We will send you a copy when it is completed.

We have worked with the National Council for Research on Women - a consortium of about 65 research centres in the USA - on a survey about women's resource collections internationally. This project began as part of the pilot during which we produced a listing of collections of materials about women internationally based in the USA. This list was distributed in Nairobi, where interest in expanding it to centres outside of the US was expressed. The project plans to send a survey to each centre, which will then enable the publication of a directory with information about what is in each collection and how it can be accessed.

We anticipate further collaborative projects that grow out of the work of the pilot project. Through sharing aspects of our resource centre with other groups, we hope that another way to approach the issues raised in our transformation proposal will emerge. We particularly welcome any initiatives from you as one of those who we have consulted during this process.

Finally we want to thank you for your participation in this project. We hope that we will continue to work together in further endeavors.

Sincerely,

Charlotte

Charlotte Bunch, consultant
IWTC Resource Centre project

Vicki

Vicki Semler,
Acting Director