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IWY/TP In a Nutshell, April 1977

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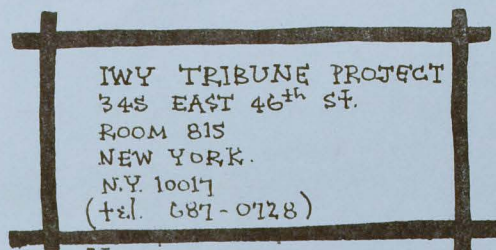
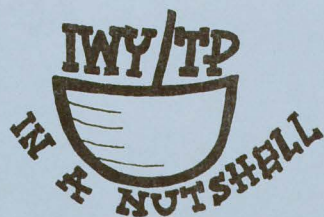
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"IWY/TP In a Nutshell, April 1977" (1977). *Mildred E. Persinger Papers*. 73.
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April 1977



The IWY Tribune Project is an attempt to respond to the requests for information that have been received during the year and a half since the historic International Women's Year meetings in Mexico City. There seems to be a clear desire on the part of many people to continue the momentum generated in 1975, particularly in the area of women's developmental projects. With this aim in mind, grants were sought to support a communication resource effort, and major funding for one or two staff, along with some communication support, was given by the Canadian International Development Agency. In April 1976, Gail Gowanlock from Canada joined Mildred Persinger and Rosalind Harris, volunteers who had been working on the aftermath of the Tribune. Dr Anne Walker, Fiji citizen, gave consulting services to the project for 2 months in August and September of 1976, carrying forward the preparation and testing of resource books, producing 2 newsletters & helping plan future possible directions. In November 1976, Gail Gowanlock returned to Canada to continue her studies and in December 1976 Anne Walker became director of the project.

Present Activities: All of the planning and actual project activity to date has revolved around the need to facilitate the gathering of information, and the sharing of that information amongst women involved in activities that attempt to raise the status of women in society. The following five areas are presently underway:

1. Newsletter: As a major means of disseminating information and continuing dialogue between women around the world, a regular bimonthly Newsletter is being produced and sent to over 3,000 people. The core of the mailing list for the Newsletter is the list of names and addresses of those women from developing countries who attended the Tribune. Because of demand, other names are constantly being added. Women in the USA have been offered the possibility of subscribing to the Newsletter at a cost that will cover basic charges only. The Newsletter includes information received from individuals and organizations about women's projects, news of U.N. activities and plans, progress of the Decade for Women, lists of resources on "women in development", upcoming seminars and conferences of interest to women and other items and articles. It has been enthusiastically received and is seen as a useful vehicle for dialogue and the dissemination of information.

2. Resource Books: (Global and Regional). Information on people, projects, organizations, funding sources, media resources, etc. is being gathered and sorted with a view to producing booklets that women everywhere would find of use. Regional resource books are seen as coming from within the region itself, with IWY/TP playing a possible facilitating role and adding an international dimension if requested.

3. Collection of Project Information: Project Information Profile Sheets have been attached to the most recent editions of the Newsletter as a means of forwarding the process, already begun in correspondence received, of collecting important project news. A start has been made towards organizing this information into subject categories, and future editions of the Newsletter will feature certain types of women's projects along with possible resources that might be of use to the people involved in that activity area. Many systems of data collection and organization are being investigated, such as that developed by ISIS, the Women's International Information and Communication Service based in Rome and Geneva. Hopefully, the ongoing running and updating of this project collection will be assumed by the proposed International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to be set up by the United Nations.

4. Women's Developmental Research: Contact is being maintained between this office and other groups that have close links with women researchers, and ways are being looked into whereby there could be a sharing of some of the more relevant findings from recent research efforts.

5. Audio Visual Resources: As a response to the many requests for audio-visual materials that could be used with women's groups around the world, a slide/tape presentation has been produced of the IWY Tribune in Mexico City 1975. Consisting of 80 slides, a script and a 15 minute cassette tape, the presentation touches on many of the issues raised at the Tribune and attempts to highlight some of the developmental planning needs of women. Because of the positive response to this resource, other audio-visual presentations are planned.

Priority has been given at this point in the project, to the preparation of Spanish language materials so that the Latin American Tribune participants can be reached and put in touch with current developments.

IWY Tribune Project Personnel - April 1977

Chair, IWY/TP	M.Persinger
Director	A.Walker
Consultant (Latin America & Communications Media)-1 month	V.Semler
Secretary (part-time).....	J.Arias

