

Good photography—long has been one of the strong points of the *Missouri Alumnus*. In the 4½ years that Ye Old Ed has been on the scene, he has received scads of compliments for the imaginative pictures, and only reluctantly did he explain that he hadn't taken any of them.

For some time, the *Alumnus* has had an enjoyable and advantageous arrangement with students in the photojournalism sequence of the School of Journalism whereby they work cheap and we provide them with a showplace for their work. Former *Alumnus* staff photographers have done very well when they left school, on newspapers, magazines, in industry, and as free lancers.

Which brings us to Jim Domke, who is finishing up his year as staff photographer with this issue. Jim also will do very well out in the big world. In fact he already has: Last month he won the \$1000 William Randolph Hearst Foundation award for photojournalism in competition with students from campuses throughout the nation. And he starts June 7 as a staff photographer for the *San Francisco Examiner*.

Ye Old Ed couldn't have been prouder if he had taken the pictures himself. — S.S.

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By Anne Skelton

Interest in the status
of women is more serious now;
once people laughed
about it, but not any more.

Brazen in hot pants, provocative in minis, demure in midis, feminine in maxis, liberated in baggy bell-bottoms and traditional in tailored suits, freshman girls and grey-haired professors alike are trying on new roles and searching for their identities as women.

At the University of Missouri-Columbia, there is a flurry of activity, a ripple of excitement, as women seek their status.

"Interest on the part of the University about the status of women is becoming even more serious now. We went through a stage when people tended to laugh; now they don't laugh any more. The University is putting even more emphasis on the quality of its education for women," said Margot Patterson, assistant professor of extension education and coordinator of continuing education for women.

The Extension Division's program for the continuing education for women began in 1965. Included have been non-credit courses, seminars and workshops throughout the state.

On March 16, the Extension Division Conference and Short Course Office co-sponsored the state Commission on the Status of Women's Conference in the Memorial Union.

More than 200 women attended the third annual event, which recognized women's contributions to the state's progress and prestige.

Chairman of the commission, Miss Alberta J. Meyer of Jefferson City, said, "The commission is interested in focusing attention on today's woman, on the challenge of legal inequities, and the possibilities in life styles of girls and women in a changing society."

Mrs. Caroline Crum, dean of students at the Kansas City Art Institute spoke on "Creating Feminine Identity." Mrs. Virginia E. Johnson, assistant director of the Reproductive Biology Research Foundation, St. Louis, told the predominately female audience to develop a sense of identity while realizing that a female is a human being whose life goal and potential is realized best when she realizes the similarities between males and females.

Senate Majority Leader William Cason of Clinton talked "About Women and Missouri Laws." Senator Cason sponsored legislation making the commission a permanent body in 1967.

University alumnae have for the past two years been able to honor an outstanding woman faculty member. The Alumnae Anniversary Fund Committee makes the annual selection from a list of

faculty women nominated by alumnae.

Ruby Cline, professor emeritus of physical education, is the chairman of the standing committee. "The award lets us point out that there are women on the faculty that are doing an outstanding job," Miss Cline said.

"Alumnae, especially graduates of the School of Journalism and the College of Arts and Science, are shocked to find there are not more high ranking women on the University faculty," she said.

"I didn't realize that there weren't more. I never felt that women didn't get their just dues. Perhaps the award will point out these outstanding women to the University and campus administrations," she said.

Dr. Frances Lea McCurdy, professor of speech and dramatic art, is the 1971 Outstanding Faculty Woman. Dr. Helen S. Allen, professor of home economics, received the award last year.

"I am appreciative and grateful. I never thought of myself as having been particularly helpful to women students. I never thought of students as women or men. Students have always been welcome to come in and chat. I can remember having conversations with women about marriage. Perhaps it is possible to have a home and a career. A husband has to be appreciative of a wife's career," Dr. McCurdy said.

Dr. McCurdy estimated that about 25 percent of the students in the Department of Speech and Dramatic Art are women. There are four women faculty members in the department.

"There are more opportunities for women in speech and dramatics now. Notices used to come into the department that specified male PhD. That is no longer true," Dr. McCurdy said.

"I'm aware that women are not equal in status, but I'm not at all militant. I don't want to be associated with militancy. Some of this problem is women's fault. Women have to learn to think of themselves in a career with the same kind of responsibilities as a man," she said.

Where women have done the same kinds of things as men, they have been successful. Women have an obligation to do their part. They can not expect something to be done for them, she said.

At the University, women hold 316 full-time academic positions, 112 part-time academic positions and 258 student teaching jobs. There are 22 professors, 30 associate professors, 61 assistant profes-



sors, 98 instructors, 11 assistant instructors, 5 research associates, 12 research assistants, 2 lecturers and 13 resident physicians.

However, the University has been slow to honor women, Mrs. Mary Paxton Keeley says. Mrs. Keeley was the first woman graduate of the School of Journalism in 1910 and the first woman reporter in Kansas City. She recalls writing an article that was printed in the *Kansas City Star* in the late 1930s that chided the University for never having granted an honorary degree to a woman. One was given in 1940 to home economist Louise Stanley — and since that time five women have received the honorary degree at Columbia campus ceremonies — opera star Helen Traubel, art curator Fern Shapley, nurse Helen Nahm, educator Blanche Dow, and poet Mary Ann Moore.

The School of Journalism has awarded gold medals to eight women since 1930: Doris Fleeson, Pauline Frederick, Oveta Culp Hobby, Dorothy Roe Lewis (University assistant professor of journalism), Malvina Lindsay, Mary Margaret McBride, and Margot Sherman.

Faculty-Alumni Awards were given to Congresswoman Martha Wright Griffiths, and Professors Kathleen Kaiser and Kate Ellen Rogers in 1968, the first year of the awards. In 1969, dietician Theodocia Temple Meier, Professor Merea Williams and Curator Avis Green Tucker were honored. In 1970, journalist educator Adeline M. Hoffman, Professor Martha E. Nahikian, singer Jane Froman Smith and journalist Sue Ann Wood received awards.

In 1968 the Alumni Association gave its distinguished Faculty Award to a woman, Dr. Lois Knowles, professor of education.

Research on the status of women at the University is being done by the College of Arts and Sciences Committee on the Status of Women. The chairman of the committee, Luverne Walton, University associate professor of German, is working with her committee on a questionnaire which will be sent to department heads asking for information on recruitment policies. In Journalism, Mrs. Murrell Wilson Jr., has been awarded a \$1000 scholarship to study how the women's liberation movement is affecting the editorial policies of major women's magazines.

Many female faculty members are interested and encourage women students in their departments. Dorothy Nightengale, professor of chemistry, said that 10 years ago there were fewer than 25 women in

major universities in high-level faculty ranks in chemistry in the United States.

"Women in such fields as chemistry are not as uncommon as when I started out. I recall a newly hired male faculty member saying 'You're an oddity,' when we were introduced," Dr. Nightengale said.

Government pressure against discrimination on the basis of sex will act as a catalyst, she added.

Women's groups base their charges of discrimination on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination by sex. The Women's Equity Action League and the National Organization of Women have filed approximately 250 complaints with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Columbia and state newspapers reported that WEAL had charged the University with discrimination. No charge has been made by HEW, however, and there has been no investigation of the University. HEW issued guidelines for the University of Michigan which require salary equity, pay compensation retroactive to October 1968, when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed an executive order forbidding sex discrimination, a realistic ratio of females in academic positions, increased admissions to PhD programs, increased female participation on committees, compensation for nepotism, and changes in recruiting and promotions for non-academic personnel.

Student pressure may also be a catalyst. The Association of Women Students has a Commission on the Status of Women. Tandy Thompson, a sophomore majoring in Spanish and Business, is the chairman. Her commission of 20 girls is surveying each department on the campus. The commission also will try, for example, "to encourage girls to go into math rather than to teach it."

Individual students, loosely organized by Barbara Burgower, a freshman in Arts and Science, are more militant and are trying to develop a women's liberation group on campus and in the community.

Barbara and her friend, Becky Kruger, a sophomore in arts and science, are pretty girls with sincere and passionate feelings about their status as women.

They presented a program to about 50 University and Columbia women on "The exploitation of Women in Advertising" in February.

"I want men to look inside my head and not at the length of my skirt, and I want to know who I am and what I can become," Barbara said. □



Becky Kruger (top left) and Barbara Burgower (right) presented a program on the exploitation of women in advertising last winter. Barbara heads a loosely organized women's lib group on campus. Above, Sandra Chatman graduated as an industrial engineer June 1.

