

# From Hull House to Human Rights: A Jane Addams Symposium

## Program

**Friday, September 24, 2010**

**Noon-12:15 Opening Remarks**

Harriet Alonso  
Dean Juan Carlos Mercado, Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for  
Worker Education, CCNY

**12:15-1:15: Jane Addams as Activist**

**Moderator:** Mary Lutz

**Jane Addams and the Origins of the Feminist Peace Movement, 1915**

Speaker: Harriet Alonso, Professor of History, CCNY

**Jane Addams and Hull House: The Cultural Connection**

Speaker: Barbara Sicherman, Kenan Professor Emerita, Trinity College  
(Hartford)

**1:15-1:45: Break**

**1:45-2:45: The Legacy of Jane Addams Today**

**Moderator:** Martin Woessner

**Reclaiming & Advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda**

Speaker: Sam Cook, Former director of PeaceWomen Project, WILPF

**Settlementhouse Activism today**

Speaker: Nancy Wackstein, Director of United Neighborhood Houses  
of New York

**2:45-3:15: Break**

**3:15-3:30: Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Kathlene McDonald, Chair, Department of Interdisciplinary Arts and  
Sciences, CCNY

**3:30-4:30: Keynote Address: Louise Knight, author of *Jane Addams: Spirit in Action***

**4:30-4:45: Closing remarks**

Harriet Alonso

## Panelists

**Harriet Alonso** is a peace historian whose many publications include *Peace as a Women's Issue: The History of the U.S. Movement for World Peace and Women's Rights* (1993); the award-winning *Growing Up Abolitionist: The Story of the Garrison Children* (2002), and *Robert E. Sherwood: The Playwright in Peace and War* (2007) for which she received an NEH Research Award. In 2003, she wrote an introduction to the University of Illinois Press reprint of *Women at The Hague* by Jane Addams, Emily Greene Balch, and Alice Hamilton.

**Sam Cook**, a former lawyer from South Africa, joined the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission as Communications and Research Director in February, 2010. Prior to that, from 2005 she directed the PeaceWomen Project at the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom---a project focused on UN Security Council monitoring, policy advocacy, information sharing and coalition building around women, peace and security issues. She has published articles in South African and international law journals and has been a contributing author to several books and NGO publications.

**Louise W. Knight** has always liked to have one foot in the present and one in the past. In her younger years, she worked as a journalist in Washington, D.C., and as a fundraiser at Duke University, Wheaton College (Mass.), and United South End Settlements in Boston. In 2005, her first book, *Citizen: Jane Addams and the Struggle for Democracy* (University of Chicago Press), about the first half of the life of Jane Addams, was published. Her second book, a full life biography of Addams entitled *Jane Addams: Spirit in Action* will be published by W. W. Norton in September, 2010.

**Barbara Sicherman** is William R. Kenan Jr., Professor Emerita, Trinity College (Hartford), where she taught History, American Studies, and Women's Studies. Her most recent book, *Well-Read Lives: How Books Inspired a Generation of American Women*, published earlier this year by the University of North Carolina Press, features Jane Addams. Other publications include *Alice Hamilton: A Life in Letters* (1984), *Notable American Women: The Modern Period* (1980), and *The Quest for Mental Health in America, 1880-1917* (1980).

**Nancy Wackstein** was named Executive Director of United Neighborhood Houses of New York (UNH) in 2002. Formerly, for eleven years she was Executive Director of Lenox Hill Neighborhood House. She also served as Director of the Mayor's Office on Homelessness and SRO Housing from 1990-1991 under Mayor David N. Dinkins. In 2003, she was appointed by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg to the New York City Youth Board and to the Citywide Coordinating Committee to End Chronic Homelessness, and in 2006 to the New York City Commission for Economic Opportunity.

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**Cosponsors:** From CCNY: Department of History, History Club; CWE Student Government; From the CUNY Graduate Center: Women's Studies Certificate Program and the Center for the Study of Women and Society

**Symposium Organizing Committee:** Professors Mary Lutz, Martin Woessner, Harriet Alonso

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