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Have you paid your CSWEP dues? If your mailing label does not say "1999" in the upper right hand corner, then you have not paid dues for this academic year. Beginning with the Spring, 2000 issue, our Newsletter will only be sent to dues-paying associates, so please check your membership and send your dues, if necessary, to:

Joan Haworth, Membership Secretary
4901 Tower Court
Tallahassee, FL 32303

We appreciate your support!
Social Policy Research in the Private Sector

NY RESEARCHER UNDERSTANDS that there is a plethora of topics on which study is needed. There are "basic" research topics — topics that concern fundamental fundings of the economy, or equilibria, or firms. The purpose of this type of research is to understand how and why things work the way they do. There is no particular eye toward solving a current problem. Rather, it aims to elucidating basic mechanisms underlying an issue. Another category of topic is the applied research topic. The purpose of this type of research is to understand how and why observable events occur the way they do — why wages get set the way they do, why tariffs are negotiated as they are, what effect regulation has on an industry. I would like to write a bit on a subcategory of applied research, namely social policy research. I consider social policy research to be research that directly addresses a public policy issue — what effect does time limits have on the length of time people are on welfare, what effect does a specific social security scheme have on people's retirement behavior, etc. The government spend more on after-school activities.

One of the fundamental features of policy research that attracted me to the field is that one has a chance of having an effect on the way things run. One not only learns more about why the world works the way it does, but one can contribute to changing it. By answering questions that policy makers are currently interested in, rather than answering questions that only the researcher thinks is interesting, timely social policy research information can be put into the hands of people who make or set policy. This is not unique to social policy researchers, for many applied researchers address issues that are of policy relevance, such as the relevance of regulatory regulations, intellectual property. But what distinguishes much social policy research from other applied research is that the ultimate goal of the research is to provide usable answers and information to the relevant policy makers and program operators in order to effect change, not publish the research in an academic journal. Thus, social policy research often does not necessarily use the newest econometric technique or generate a new theoretically model of the issues. Rather, most social policy research uses whatever the most appropriate techniques are (even if they are just old loving OLS). The results are also not written up in a manner that is similar to journal articles. To be effective, social policy research should be communicated in an easily understood non-technical manner. Writing good social policy reports is not easy. It must be written using language that an interested by-person could understand but demonstrate to the econometrician or evaluation expert that the research is methodologically sound. Technical appendices and footnotes come in very handy for the more technical discussions. Well-done, well-written and timely social policy research can have a powerful effect on policy, as was the case with Barbara Devaneys work on the WIC program and my work on the homeownership. Unfortunately, it is too common for ones research to have a delayed or indirect impact on policy. Often politicians make their decisions long before the data are in or the analysis is done. For example, transportation assistance is becoming part of the welfare reform effort long before data on the PIV's bridges to success demonstration (an experiment that is testing the effects of this type of transportation assistance) is in. Rather, a vague notion of mine once told me that while your current research rarely has an impact on the initiative you are actually studying, it feeds into the discussion about similar initiatives in the future. For example, the negative income tax demonstrations did not affect the welfare reform efforts being considered at that time, but did affect the construction of the food stamps program later on.

What else have I learned over the almost twenty years I have been in the social policy field? First, I discovered that there were two entire areas of knowledge one needs to know to do policy research that economists are not trained in, namely experimental design and primary data collection. Economists and sociologists receive this training, but economists do not. In general, economic theory questions using econometrics on already collected data so they do not need to know what issues are involved in collecting primary data. Thus, over the first several years I was in the field I learned as much as I did during graduate school. It was a lot of fun because in my eyes experimental design and issues of primary data collection were reverse econometrics — how do you collect data so that you don't have to use complex econometric techniques to correct for bias or other problems.

Because most policy questions are about the effectiveness of a specific program or policy approach, policy research almost always relies on data collected explicitly for the study. This means you are not constrained by the specific questions available in existing data sets. You can ask all the questions you believe you need to in order to get the boat answer. (However, if during the analysis you realize you are missing a piece of data, you have no one else to blame but yourself!)

It is extremely rare for academic economists to collect their own data. Why? I believe it is because it takes too much time, especially if you need a longitudinal data set to answer your questions. Academic tenure clocks, and the need to publish fairly regularly even after tenure if you are to be respected in the field, pushes academic economists away from a whole area of social policy research. It is a rare academic who is intimately involved in demonstration research; those few that do exist are tenured faculty and are able to do so through long-term consulting arrangements. It is a shame because many of the brightest minds are not considering critical policy issues.

Another thing I learned — and this one more slowly — was that one could not really satisfy one's answer most policy questions with economics alone. The full answer must be obtained using continued on page 6
Being Chair

Nancy Marion - Dartmouth College

At some point in your academic career, you will probably find yourself in a department chair position. This position requires some change in orientation. As academics, we are used to being in the driver's seat, working on our own terms. We develop our own research projects, possibly with a co-author and a research assistant, and we teach our courses in our own way. We have full control over our careers, and we make our own academic decisions. But as you move into a department chair position, you will find that your work has to be oriented towards the needs of the department as a whole. You will have to work hard to ensure that your research projects are compatible with the department's overall goals, and that your teaching is consistent with the department's expectations.

As chair, you will have to work closely with your faculty colleagues to ensure that the department's goals are met. This means that you will have to work hard to build a strong team of faculty members who are committed to the department's success. You will have to work hard to ensure that your research projects are compatible with the department's overall goals, and that your teaching is consistent with the department's expectations.

One of the biggest challenges of being a department chair is that you have to be able to work effectively with a variety of people. This means that you will have to be able to work well with people who have different political, social, and cultural backgrounds. You will have to be able to work with people who have different perspectives and approaches to teaching and research. You will have to be able to work with people who have different levels of experience and expertise.

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**CSWEP Board Member Biographies**

**Kim Marie Mcgoldrick**

_A M I ECONOMIST BY ACCIDENT OR SIMPLY AS A MATTER OF FACT?_ Sometimes I wonder... I entered college as an accounting major and had to take economics courses for my degree. I enjoyed the subject, but thinking that it had to do with my major and generally seeing it as a dull, numb college subject, I behaved like a good economics student and only attended my principles classes on exam days. Then came the upper division requirements. Again, inadvertently acting like a rational self-interested individual, I chose a course that best fit my major and, not caring to really look at the topic—Intermediate Microeconomics—I did as well in the course that I rationally decided my second requirement should be filled with a course by the same instructor—Labor Economics. Soon I was asking questions that were "beyond the scope of the material" and bagging other economics professors for my mentor. I became my mentor and my commitment to economics was sealed.

I attended graduate school in economics at the State University of New York at Binghamton, specialized in Labor Economics and Industrial Organization and Regulation. I wrote my dissertation on compensating wage differentials by gender for earning uncertainty, but was dissatisfied about much of my work and was generally discouraged by the narrow views being harbored in institutions of higher learning. I originally sought for a Ph.D. because I wanted to teach economics, but during my program I developed a desire to broaden my knowledge of alternative views in economics and investigate alternative approaches to teaching. I took a job teaching at a small private liberal arts college (the University of Richmond) that had a strong commitment to research, including research about teaching. My research naturally began to include pedagogical issues in addition to the labor studies. I made an unconscious decision to focus my research and my energy on improving the teaching of microeconomics in general and my commitment to economics was sealed.

I was grateful to be accepted into the CSWEP Carolyn Shaw Bell Award Fund and would like to thank Barbara Frenstein for her support.

**Andrea H. Beller**

_PLANNED TO BE A MAJOR IN ECONOMICS, and my parents had planned to send me to the University of Chicago to study with the department's well-known microeconomist. But as I began my second year, I decided that I did not want to go to the University of Chicago._

My family's financial situation was such that I needed to learn how to make ends meet. At the time, I was working as a research assistant and had some discretionary income. I decided to allocate a portion of this income to my education by taking Economics 101. I was interested in the subject, but I was not satisfied with the way I was learning it. I wanted to understand the material better and I wanted to be able to discuss it with others.

I continued to take economics courses throughout my undergraduate career and, by the time I graduated, I was confident in my ability to teach and to do research in the field. I am now a full-time faculty member at a public university and I enjoy teaching and doing research in economics. I have also been fortunate enough to have received funding from the CSWEP Carolyn Shaw Bell Award Fund, which has allowed me to continue my studies and to pursue my research interests.

I continue to be grateful for the support of the CSWEP and for the opportunities it has provided me.
News and Notes

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is encouraging researchers with proposals of potential interest to BEA to submit such proposals to NSF grant programs. Anyone wishing a copy of the BEA email containing further information should send an email to Barbara M. Fraumeni, Chief Economist of BEA, at: Barbara.Fraumeni@bea.doc.gov

The International Atlantic Economic Society will be hosting its 49th conference in Montreal, March 15-20, 2000 at Lohud Maximum University. More information can be found on the IAES web page at: http://www.isoc.org/conferences/ future/munich_49/index.htm


The 1999 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International will take place in Montreal (Qc) November 10-14, 1999, hosted by the Canadian Regional Science Association (CRSA). Details can be found at: http://www.geog.umanitoba.ca/ nasa09

OBITUARIES

Dr. Margaret G. O'Donnell, Professor of Economics at the University of Southern California, died in November, 1998. She was born in New Orleans in 1943 and received her doctorate in Economics from Texas A&M University. She previously taught at the University of Minnesota in Asheville. A master teacher, she also published numerous articles in the areas of history of thought, concentrating on the work of early women economists, and in economics education. She published two books in each of these areas, and directed many consulting projects on regional and state economic development issues. She is survived by her husband, Rick Whitlock, and three daughters, Erin, Kay, and Rikki.

Dr. Elizabeth Dobrin, Professor of Economics at NYU's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service for nearly 30 years, died in January, 1999. Professor Dobrin received her B.A. and M.A. from Oxford University and her Ph.D. in Economics from Columbia University. She received a Fulbright Travel Grant and President's Fellowship from Columbia University. In addition to serving at NYU, she served as visiting professor at the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Rome and Bocconi University in Milan. A social activist and a champion of the rights of women and minorities, she developed an innovative curriculum on the role of women in management in the public sector at NYU. She wrote on the issues of poverty and welfare and the political struggles of the British Labor Party.

The CSWP 'Brag Box'

"We need every day to herald some woman's achievements...go ahead and boast!"

Linda Bonner is now a Managing Economist in the Washington, D.C., office of the Law & Economics Consulting Group. She also continues to consult on strategic and litigation matters in antitrust and energy.

Regional Meetings

WESTERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

CSWP will sponsor three sessions at the Western Economic Association Meetings to be held on Tuesday, July 6 through Sunday July 10, 1999 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, San Diego, Calif.

Labor and Gender Economics

Date: July 9, 1999

Chair: Joyce Jacobsen (Wesleyan University)

Papers:

"Gender Gaps in Demand and Supply of Contingent Workers," Suman Kharbanda (University of Louisville-

"Gender and Workers' Willingness to Accept Contingent Employment," Douglas Kinzer (Colorado State University) and Alexandra Bernske (Colorado State University)

"Ex-Spousal and Public Transfers to Single Mothers and Their Children: A Causality Analysis," Emily Y. Lin (University of Connecticut)

"Economics and the Breitfuehring Decision," Nancy J. Barnett (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh)

Discussants: Deborah Reed (Public Policy Institute of California) and Jill M. Constantine (Williams/College)

Health Economics

Date: July 9, 1999

Chair: Sharron Tennyson (Cornell University)

Papers:

"The Effect of State Medicaid Policies on Medical Care for Persons with HIV," Arlen Liebowitz (UCLA), Dana Goldman (RAND), and Ronald Andersen (UCLA)

"HMO Contracting: Who Bears the Risk?" Patricia H. Born (University of Connecticut)"Community Rating and Small Group Reform in Health Insurance Markets," Allison Percy (University of Pennsylvania)

A Panel on the Research Climate in Economic Institutions

Date: July 9, 1999

Chair: Helen Popper (Santa Clara University)

Pundits: Anna Meyendorf (William Davidson Institute, University of Michigan); John Lowell (The RAND Corps); Dan Newko (National Science Foundation); Catherine L. Mann (Institute for International Economics)

EASTERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

CSWP held two sessions at the Eastern Economic Association Annual Meetings March 12-14, 1999, in Boston, Mass.

GendeR Effects on Human Capital and Work

Chair: Barbara M. Fraumeni (Brookings Economic Analysis)

The first paper, "The Effects of Co-residence on Women's Reservation Wages and Labor Supply," by Zocoby Anne and Jane Kokolinsky (University of Vermont) focuses on elder parents' health status in investigating how co-residence affects women's reservation wages and labor supply in the short-run and longer-run. The effect could be argued to be in one direction as elder parents might share in household production such as childcare or require care themselves, raising the reservation wage.

The second paper, "College Enrollment Rates, Investment in Education and Lifetime Labour Income by Gender," by Barbara M. Fraumeni (BEA) posits that women are responding to the significant differences in expected lifetime market (paid) income by gender by enrolling in college in significantly higher numbers than men. In 1996, even among 18-19 year olds, the percentage of young women enrolled in college (almost 50%) is significantly higher than the percentage of young men enrolled in college (42%).

The last paper, "Fertility and Growth: The Significance of Gender Differences in Human Capital," by Susan Razzaq (The World Bank) proposes a theoretical model which can explain a hump-shaped relationship between fertility and income. At the lower ranges of income, fertility increases with income; at the higher ranges of income fertility decreases with income. The model focuses on the role of education in this relationship and the changing productive and reproductive roles of men and women as the return to human capital increases. The discussants were Joyce Jacobsen (Wesleyan University), Jane Street (Johnson and Wales University), and Barbara M. Fraumeni (BEA).

Infrastructure: Transportation and Housing

Chair: Barbara M. Fraumeni (Brookings Economic Analysis)

The first paper, "An Investigation into the Determinants in the Decline of Home Ownership Rates Among Young Families in the United States," by Arotsi Bahaguna (Fleet Bank) studies the changes in home ownership rates for families headed by individuals under 35 years of age between 1975 and 1995. The paper notes that one of the most important determinants of the decline in home ownership rates during this period is an increase in

Beller Biography

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ing against me things they would reward in a man. I think he was right. On top of that, my dissertation was on anti- discrimination laws! I had offers from government agencies, but took post-doctoral work in order to continue to search for an academic position. One of the Post-Docs, at the Institute for Research on Poverty, had a big influence in shaping my research agenda and in sharpening my empirical skills. There. I began my work on gender differences in the labor market, and became comfortable working in an interdisciplinary environment.

Finally I landed an academic position in the then Department of Family and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois-Urbana. The department was largely female, which had its good points and its bad points. It was good because it was a supportive environment. An appointment in the Agricultural Experiment Station offered a reduced teaching load and some Hatch funds for research. The department offered a steady flow of graduate students and the city offered little in the way of distractions! This enabled me to be quite productive and is how I developed my research interests in child support payments. It had been because the unit was regularly under attack and every three years or so you had to put a good deal of effort into justifying your existence. Recently, my department joined with another to form the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics. I met my husband, a (male!) professor of Economics at Illinois, during my first year there. I became pregnant with my first child the month after I found out that I had gotten tenure. I had my second child during my first sabbatical. I was promoted to full professor roughly "on time". For my second sabbatical, I am visiting the Economic Growth Center at Yale, a welcome return to the East Coast and to an Economic Geography conference nearly 20 years in Central Illinois.

continued on page 10
younger females in the relative order of earning versus renting a home, suggesting an affordability problem for the young.

The second paper, "Measurement of Productive Highway Capital Stock," by Barbara M. Fraumeni (BEA) discusses the differences between measures of productive and wealth capital stock. The paper noted that most researchers who had conducted studies of the productivity or impact on growth of highway investment employed capital stock measures that were not at least one of these three problems, bringing into question the validity of the analytical results.

The last paper, "The Economic Impact of the Jones Act," by Dene Huley (Lehman College) examines the effect of this legislation on the U.S. maritime industry and proposes a theoretical framework to be employed in an industry-specific cost study. It highlights the diminishing share of the U.S. vessels relative to the world fleet following the introduction of the Jones Act, while revealing the major domestic waterborne trade rivals for the Jones Act vessels, as well as the dominant commodity groups transported.

Women's discussions were Naundine Kutty (Cornell University) and Kevin Carlson (Emmanuel College).

MIDWEST ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

CSWEP sponsored two sessions at the March 1999 MIA meeting held March 26-28, 1999.

Gender-Related Issues in Economics
Chair: Karine S. Moe (Macalester College)

Anna Maria Turner Lomperis (Saint Louis University) presented "Restructuring the U.S. Health Care Workforce: How Have Women Fared?: A Preliminary Analysis." She investigates how the changes in the health care industry have affected infants, with a particular emphasis on the effects on female health care workers. Her preliminary analysis indicates that health services continue to be a predominantly female industry, and that the industry has been characterized by overall job growth vs. job loss.

Anna Regina Vides de Andrade (Vanderbilt University) presented "Male-Female Wage Differentials in the Urban Labor Market of El Salvador: A Decomposition Analysis." She studies changes in the male-female wage differentials over time due to changes in productivity characteristics and inequality differentials. She finds an increase in the male-female wage gap over the period from 1989 to 1992, and that the wage ratio would have been higher if women had not increased their schooling and experience.

The final paper, by Sonjadee Zandvliet (University of Cincinnati), was titled "Income Inequality Among Female Heads of Households: Racial Inequality Reconsidered." He investigates factors affecting both short-run and long-run income inequality among female heads of households from 1978-1996. His results suggest the existence of permanent income inequality among female heads of households.

Nontraditional Work Arrangements: Causes, Consequences, and Policies to Mitigate Unfavorable Outcomes
Chair: Marianne A. Berber (University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana)

The first paper, presented by Barbara A. Wiener-Tosca (California State University, San Bernardino) was "The Taxonomy of Institutional and Structural Differences in How People Are Employed." Her main conclusion is that even after controlling for other factors, some outcomes for workers can be predicted based on the type of employment arrangement in which they find themselves.

The second paper by Susan Houseman (W.E. Upjohn Institute) and Anne Polivka (Bureau of Labor Statistics) discusses "Reasons Cited by Managers for Creating Nontraditional Jobs and their Relation to Organizational Characteristics." She presented a paper on "Comparing Temp to Permanent Workers: Evidence from Spain" by Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes (Ohio State University). She examines the reasons for the rapidly growing use of temporary and contingent work arrangements in Spain, and the lack of success in converting them to permanent positions.

The able discussants were Sandy Cleonon and Ronnie Steinberg.

SOUTHERN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

CSWEP will sponsor a roundtable on Mentoring and a poster session on Teaching Innovations to be held in conjunction with a cocktail party reception at the Southern Economic Association annual meeting. The meetings are November 21-23 at the Fairmont Hotel in St. Louis. The Roundtable and Poster Session will be Monday, November 21. For more information please go to the SFA website: http://www.olemiss.edu/economics/journal/southea.html

Call for Papers

CSWEP at the Eastern Economic Association Meeting – At the Eastern Economic Association Meetings, March 24-26, at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Crystal City, Va. (just outside Washington, D.C.), there will be two or more CSWEP-sponsored sessions. For gender-related topics, we are particularly interested in receiving one page abstracts for research investigating labor market and welfare issues, but all gender-related research topics are welcome. For other topics, we are particularly interested in receiving one page abstracts for research having to do with health and environmental issues.

Please include with the abstract your name, affiliation, e-mail address, phone and fax numbers, and known limitations on which days and times you are available to make a presentation. Abstracts should be submitted by November 15, 1999 to:

Barbara M. Fraumeni
100 Longdon Street
Newton, MA 02458
(617)965-2783 weekdays
(202)996-1927 weekday evenings
Fraumeni@msn.com

Submissions of full papers to the Eastern Economics Journal, directly through the Eastern Economics Association are also encouraged, but not expected or required of individuals wanting to participate in a CSWEP session at the meetings. For further information on the Eastern Economic Association Meetings or the Eastern Economics Journal, please see: http://www.iona.edu/economics/arts_science/eea/eea.htm
CCOFFE Workshops


A very successful and lively CSWEP/NSF COFFEE mentoring workshop was held at the EEA Meetings in Boston. Twenty participants came from a wide geographic area, including as far south as Florida and Tennessee, as far west as Kansas and Nebraska, from the Great Lake states of Indiana, Minnesota, and Michigan, as well as from the New England and Middle Atlantic states.

The assistance of senior women Rachel McCullough and Amy Schwartz, field specialist Kathy Kiel, Lisa Lynch, and Winnie Rotherberg, national coordinator Andrea Ziegert and the Eastern Economic Association is gratefully acknowledged by the organizers, Berna H. Ramman and Daphne Kenyon. We are all looking forward to getting together at the ASSA/AEA Boston 2000 Meetings in January and the EEA 2000 Meetings which will be held in Crystal City, Virginia, next March.

*C-COFFE at the 1999 Western Economics Association Meetings*

CREATING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEMALE ECONOMISTS

An NSF/CSWEP WORKSHOP will be held during the WEA July 1999 Meetings in San Diego, California. The purpose of this workshop is to bring together senior and junior women economists to form teams to improve grant writing, research organization, and other professional skills. The workshop will include working and informational sessions. In the working sessions, participants will have time to work on a grant or research project with the help and guidance of a senior woman economist and the other team members. These also will be sessions devoted to networking, life-balancing, and tenure issues. Senior economists participating include:

JOYCE JACOBSEN
Associate Professor
Department of Economics
Wesleyan University

ARLEEN LEBOWITZ
Chria
Department of Public Policy
University of California, Los Angeles

VALERIE RAMEY
Associate Professor
Department of Economics
University of California, San Diego

The workshop will run from 12 p.m. on Friday, July 9 - until 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 10. The fee to cover expenses will be $100. If you are interested and interested in this workshop or you know of an unserved female professor who could benefit from this mentoring workshop, please download an application from the CSWEP upcoming events website:

http://www.cswep.org/events.html

Please e-mail or mail your completed application to be received by March 1 to marjory@uic.edu, or to Professor Helen Pepper, c/o Sharon Squires, Department of Economics, Santa Clara University Santa Clara, CA 95053. Applications will continue to be accepted as long as space is available.

Participants will be responsible for their own lodging, and transportation costs. WEA registration, lodging, and other conference information is available at:

http://www.weainternational.org/annual.htm

How to Become an Associate

CSWEP

THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMICS PROFESSION

CSWEP depends on all of its dues-paying associates to continue its activities. In addition to publishing the Newsletter, we maintain a roster of women economists that is used by associates, employers, organizations establishing advisory groups, and the like. We also organize sessions at the meetings of the AEA and the regional economics associations and publish an annual report on the status of women in the profession.

If you have not paid your dues for the current member year (July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000), we urge you to do so. Questionnaires and dues reminders were mailed in September to associates.

If you have paid, please pass this newsletter page on to a student, friend, or colleague and tell them about our work. Thank you!

NOTICE: STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE TO PAY ASSOCIATE DUES!!! JUST SEND IN THIS APPLICATION WITH A NOTE FROM A FACULTY MEMBER VERIFYING YOUR STUDENT STATUS

To become a dues-paying associate of CSWEP and receive our Newsletter and Roster, send this application, with a check for $20 payable to:

CSWEP
c/o Dr. Joan Haworth
4901 Tower Court
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Name ________________________________

Mailing Address __________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip ________

Check here if currently an AEA member ______

Check one: Renewal of CSWEP associate ______ New CSWEP associate ______ Student ______

If you checked student, please indicate what institution you attend

Check here if you wish a copy of the Special Reprint Issue ______

The Special Reprint Issue of the newsletter contains reprints of ten articles designed to help women economists advance in the profession. The cost for non-paying members is $8.00.
CSWEP: People to Contact

General Policy Matters and Items for Newsletter .......................... Robin Bartlett, Department of Economics
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bartlett@denison.edu

Dues, Change of Address, Roster .................................................. Joan Haworth, Membership Secretary
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