Despite the claim that it is the contemporary woman's dilemma, women have always been confronted with the problem of managing the dual roles of mother and worker outside the household: roles which are associated with both biological reproduction and economic production. The problem, therefore, is one which is significant both from an historical (and prehistoric) perspective and in the context of changing roles of women and men in the twentieth century.

This seminar is interdisciplinary in composition, content and intent; participants will represent a variety of academic disciplines and each member will focus on a specific topic which is related to the general subject of the seminar. A cross-cultural perspective will be taken; while data on women in Euroamerican societies will be emphasized, information from other cultures, particularly developing societies, will provide a valuable data base from which comparisons will be drawn and alternative roles will be examined and interpreted. A substantial body of literature is available, including both historical and contemporary writings; these works represent a wide spectrum of disciplines, from the biological and social sciences to the humanities. Each member of the seminar will be responsible for core readings, and a number of books will be assigned before meetings commence. Each participant will be expected to devise a bibliography and will undertake independent research on which she/he will report to the group at large.
It is believed that a seminar of this sort will contribute significantly to faculty development. An anticipated result is that it will aid in providing materials and ideas for a number of courses that will be taught by those who participate in the seminar; for example, a course in philosophy and feminism, a course in sex and gender in anthropological perspective and a course on women in history will directly benefit from this seminar. Future course offerings might include women in literature and an interdisciplinary introduction to women's studies. Scholarly growth, represented by independent faculty research will also be enhanced; it is hoped that the seminar will result in papers that would be presented at an organized symposium at Lafayette or at an appropriate professional meeting (such as that of the American Anthropological Association, for example), and perhaps in eventual publication.

This kind of seminar lends itself quite readily to interdisciplinary study. In order to explore any issue raised here, it will be essential to draw upon the resources offered by the various disciplines. For example, as increasing numbers of women seek training and employment outside the home, psychological issues of stress and self-worth are raised, which lead to a more generalized questioning of traditional role identification. Other aspects of change entail the reevaluation of socioeconomic definitions, as well as political and legal changes in the institutions of society. Also, as women begin to view themselves in
new ways, culture evolves in new directions. This occurs both in the proliferation of recognized women writers, artists, musicians, etc., and in the reshaping of public attitude through the mass media. Many other aspects of this phenomenon might be examined, including the disadvantages that marriage imposes on women and the advancement of their careers in academia (recently explored in an article entitled "Geographic Constraints on Women's Careers in Academia" which appeared in the September 21, 1979 issue of Science). Thus, the participants' work in the seminar will necessarily be integrative, rather than compartmentalized, achieving both breadth and depth of intellectual vision.

Individuals who have expressed an interest in being included in this seminar are:

William Aiken  
Christine Drake  
Ellen Hurwitz  
Stacey Schlau  
Rebecca Schumacher  
Janet Sola

The following provides a tentative schedule for the summer seminar:

Spring, 1980: Reading list devised and materials obtained distributed to participants.

June 2 - 13, 1980: Biweekly meetings to discuss assigned readings

Remainder of June and all of July 1980: Weekly meetings, each to be led by a single participant. Presentation and discussion of individual projects will occur at each of these
meetings. Drafts of papers will be distributed before the last two meetings, which will focus on discussion of papers. Extra meetings will be scheduled as they become necessary (e.g., bi-weekly instead of weekly meetings during the month of July).

We would like to request that an additional $150 be budgeted for each participant for the purpose of covering the cost of books, many of which are available only in hardbound editions, and to defray the expenses involved in obtaining journal articles from other libraries.

Professors Drake and Schlau are the organizers of the seminar and will serve as its coordinators as well as participants. Please contact them if any questions arise concerning the nature of the seminar, its content or its participants.
Addendum to Proposal for Mellon Summer Seminar Program,  
C. Drake and S. Schlau  

Budget*  

Stipend: $750, 8 members $6,000.00  
Extra stipend, 2 coordinators, $250 each: 500.00  
  (optional)  
Xeroxing and books, $100 per member: 800.00  
Travel to libraries and to  
  other sources: $75 per member 600.00  

Total $7,900.00  

*This budget replaces paragraph in proposal regarding funding.