



October 6, 2008: Gillian Sutherland, who taught history at Newnham College, Cambridge, and is author of *Faith, Duty and the Power of Mind: The Cloughs and Their Circle 1820-1960*, spoke about her experiences writing the biography of several generations of a family that promoted the education of women. Rachel Brownstein moderated.

November 3, 2008: Seminar member Amy Swerdlow and guest Eva Kollisch spoke on “Memory, Remembering, and Form in Memoir.” Amy Swerdlow, who was a co-founder of Women’s Strike for Peace and professor of history at Sarah Lawrence, is writing about growing up in the workers’ coops in the Bronx, a Communist community. Eva Kollisch, born in Vienna and taken by the Kindertransport to England, taught comparative literature at Sarah Lawrence and is author of two memoirs, *Girl in Movement* and *The Ground Under My Feet*. Bell Gale Chevigny moderated.

December 15, 2008: Brenda Wineapple, longtime seminar member, discussed her newest book *White Heat: The Friendship of Emily Dickinson and Thomas Wentworth Higginson*. She spoke about the special challenges she faced writing what she termed “Not Biography.” Sydney Ladensohn Stern moderated.

January 5, 2009: “Selling and Promoting Our Books to Publishers and Prospective Readers” was the subject of this first session of 2009, organized by Nancy Rubin Stuart. Louise Bernikow moderated and the guest speaker was Nancy Bachrach, whose mother-daughter memoir *The Center of the Universe* was scheduled to appear in May.

February 2, 2009: Honor Moore, former chair of the seminar, spoke about her acclaimed and controversial memoir *The Bishop’s Daughter*. “Finding Ourselves Through Family History” was the topic. Polly Howells moderated.

March 2, 2009: Guest presenters were Elizabeth Horan, professor of English at Arizona State University and biographer of the Latin American poet and 1945 Nobel laureate Gabriela Mistral, and Gail Malmgreen of the Tamiment Library, who has spent thirty years working in archives. The topic: “Biography and the Politics of Archives.” Trudy Balch moderated.

March 20, 2009: The Women Writing Women’s Lives seminar participated in “Women*Writing*Lives,” a CUNY Grad Center conference co-sponsored by WWWL, the Center for the Study of Women and Society, the MA in Liberal Studies, the Center for Humanities, the PhD program in English, and the Leon Levy Center for Biography. Dorothy O. Helly served on the planning committee. WWWL members who spoke at the event were Blanche Wiesen Cook, Carla L. Peterson, Alix Kates Shulman, Mary Ann Caws, Gail A. Hornstein, and Brenda Wineapple. Many more seminar members attended.

April 6, 2009: Marjorie Lightman, co-author of *The A to Z of Ancient Greek and Roman Women*, was our guest presenter on the subject of “Writing Brief Biographies.” Dorothy O. Helly moderated.

May 4, 2009: Gail A. Hornstein spoke about her new book *Agnes's Jacket: A Psychologist's Search for the Meaning of Madness*. The cover letter stated a central concern of this session: "Since WWWL began as a feminist alternative to more traditional biography seminars, let us confront the complicated questions that arise from 'wanting to write to change the world.'" Polly Howells moderated. With the agreement of all, we made an exception to our no taping policy and recorded this very lively session.