and the unassuming but steadfast Kepler. Although Doyle prefers Kepler’s quiet contribution to the history of American nonviolence, he admits that each man would have been hard-pressed to operate on his own. Indeed, those who wandered the evocative aisles of Kepler’s Books & Magazines knew that Sandperl could only hold forth out front because Kepler held forth in back.

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*Women and Social Movements, International – 1840 to Present* is a subscription-based digital archive containing 150,000 pages of published and manuscript material on women’s international activism since the mid-nineteenth century. The archive includes proceedings of women’s international conferences, women’s writing about international political and social movements, and correspondence, diaries, memoirs, and interviews of women involved in international activism. There are also links to other relevant documents and sources found on nonsubscription sites such as Google Books and the Internet Archive. The bulk of the primary source material is in English, but about eight percent is in other languages, primarily French, German, and Spanish.

While the archive references hundreds of different topics, those subjects with the richest content include international campaigns against prostitution and sex trafficking, information on birth control and reproduction, literature on equal rights, documents covering women’s education, economic development, work, and religious and peace activism. Organizations heavily represented in the archive include the Inter-American Commission of Women, the International Alliance of Women (IAW), the International Council of Women, the League of Nations, the Peace and Disarmament Committee of Women’s International Organizations, the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, and the World Young Women’s Christian Association. Many of the documents provide an overview of the activities and goals of specific groups and their leaders. Evidence of
behind-the-scenes deliberations and motivations, however, can be found in some of the digital interviews and manuscript sources.

The site provides a variety of ways to search for documents. It allows browsing by archive, organization, place, person, proceedings, subject, and themes such as “Women and education,” “Peace, international governance, and international law,” and “Women of color.” Particularly useful when browsing by person or organization is corresponding information on how many documents by or about a group or individual are housed in the archive, short pop-up descriptions of the organizations, and data on the birth, nationality, and occupations of the individuals listed in the archive. There is also a keyword search function that can locate material not only based on a document’s author or title, but also on the document’s text if it is in typescript, an abstract if it is handwritten, and a transcript if it is a video. Search results can be sorted by relevancy, title, or date and filtered by author and document type. The advanced search function is particularly detailed allowing for searches based on numerous categories including archive, language, material types, date range, subject, recipient, historical event, author occupation, gender, and race. A particularly helpful advanced search feature is the ability to select the search terms available in each category.

The digital archive also contains thirty essays, typically between 2,500 and 6,500 words in length, by scholars of international women’s activism. A few of the essays examine the physical archives from which some of the materials for this site were obtained, including Annette Mevis’s “The Aletta Institute in Amsterdam and Its International Collection” and Nancy Cott’s “American Women Acting Globally: Collections at the Schlesinger Library.” Marijke Peters’s essay, “The Importance of Archives for the History of the International Women’s Movement,” delivers a brief history of the IAW, as well as explaining why the organization’s papers are scattered in several different archives in nearly half a dozen different countries.

Most of the other essays provide short histories of international women’s movements and organizations. Some of the most helpful provide brief historiographies of their topics in addition to background information on international women’s activism, including Barbara Reeves-Ellington’s “American Women’s Foreign Mission Boards,” Eileen Boris and Jill Jensen’s “The ILO: Women’s Networks and the Making of the Women Worker,” and Judith Zinsser’s “Untold Stories: The United Nations Decade of Women.” A few essays on the site were
initially written for other purposes. While most of these works have the same historical focus as many of the other essays, Hanna Papanek’s “The Work of Women: Postscript from Mexico City,” published in 1975, could as easily be located in the primary source document section of the website.

Missing in the essay section are works on the International Federation of University Women, the World’s Young Women’s Christian Association, and the International Federation of Business Women. Although the archive contains multiple documents and proceedings from each of these organizations, there is no scholarly attention paid to their history or their contribution to international activism.

One useful feature of the archive is the ability to create “playlists” of documents and essays that can be annotated and edited to save for future reference or to share with other users. Another convenient feature is the ability to view, print, and download documents and essays for offline use.

This site is a valuable resource for anyone working on international women’s activism over the last one hundred and fifty years. It can be both a starting point for a scholar just beginning a project or as a means to do archival research without traveling to multiple international locations. The archive will perhaps be most beneficial for those interested in doing transnational research because it allows one to incorporate multiple perspectives from many nations.

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