Below are the responses to SU college alumni from the class of 1971. They are responding to the following questions:

1) Academics:  What was your major and home college?  What was the male to female ratio in your program?  Were the faculty mostly men or women (or was it a pretty even mix)?  Were men and women in your program ever treated differently?  If so, how?  Were you involved in any academic honor societies or any other academic clubs?  If so, what were those like?

2) Campus life:  What else on campus were you involved with (other student organizations, student government)?  What was that like?  What were the ratios of men to women?  Were women ever treated differently than men?  Who was involved in student government/student association (what was it called at that point?)?  Were there women presidents of student government/student association?  What was Greek life like?  What were sorority women and fraternity men like?  What other supports existed for women?  Was there a women's center?  Did you ever use the women's building?  Generally how did women dress and how were they expected to act?  What was dating like/what were the norms?

3) Overall campus culture: What was it like to be a woman on SU's campus from 1967-1971 (I think those dates are right...)?  Did your experience change dramatically over those 4 years or not?  Did larger social movements affect your experience?  If so, in what ways?  What did you learn about yourself during your time at SU and/or how did you grow?

NOTE: One limitation of the following information is that the participants’ recollection of specifics may differ due to inconsistencies with memory.

**Lorrie Losapio (’71) 2/29/12:**

When I first arrived at SU, all the dorms were single sex (can you imagine?).  Women had a curfew - I don't remember what it was, but it was probably something like 11:00PM on weeknights and 12:00 on weekends - after that you got locked out.  During the second semester, our parents could consent to us staying out later, but I believe there was still a curfew, just later.  I remember when Mom send back her signature - I had a date and we were determined to stay out as late as possible, but had nothing to do!  So we just walked around.  Men were never allowed in the women's dorms, or vice versa, except into the lobby and dining rooms.

During my sophomore year (68/69), they introduced parietal hours.  I was living in what they called a cottage or small dorm, and it was all honor students, so we were one of the first trials.  The small dorms were old houses - the living room was used as just that, all the other rooms were bedrooms - there were 17 of us in our cottage.  BTW, it was in the best location - on South Crouse, just below Crouse College, about a block from M St.  I digress.  Parietal hours were set times when men could visit in the dorm.  I think it was Sunday afternoon, and one evening during the week.  If you had a man visiting in your room, your door had to be open, and everyone had to have 2 feet on the ground at all times.

Some time after that, so it would have been either my junior or senior year, they had a coed dorm - I think it was just one to start, and it was by floor.

Ground-breaking times!

1. I started as a math major, and switched to religion in my sophomore year - both in the College of Arts and Science (called Liberal Arts in those days).  I don't recall the male/female ratio, but I don't remember feeling outnumbered.  I do remember female math teachers as well as male, but oddly, now that I'm thinking about it, I believe almost all my religion and philosophy teachers were male.  I also don't recall ever feeling that I was treated differently as a woman - something that was not true in the business world.  I was an honors student - as were most of my friends who may respond to you.  We were enrolled as honor students, segregated in our dorms, but the only requirement I recall was that we had to take an honors course each semester that was above and beyond our course load.  We could select any honors course - we were given a list of them - it didn't have to be related in any way to our curriculum, but although that's a great concept we didn't receive much direction in selecting them.  I think there were no more than about 10 students in each section.  My first semester I selected some philosphy course, without really knowing what philosophy was.  It was a terrible experience.  We read Kierkegaard - ever read him? - and the professor sat at the head of the table with his hands folded in front of him, looking down (never made eye contact), and when he spoke it was in a monotone.  It's kind of amazing I changed my major to religion after that experience!  I was elected to the academic honor society of Phi Kappa Phi, it was an honor, but not really much more than that.  We were given a luncheon and had an induction ceremony, and then that was that - but I guess it's someting to put on your resume.

So, I guess the take-away from this subject (for me, anyway) was that academically there didn't seem to be sexual discrimination.

Oh, one thing I should mention - I told you the other day that sophomore year I lived in a cottage.  That was kind of a cool thing - a group of us were allowed to block the cottage as honor students, so we got to not only pick where we lived, but who we lived with.  The unfortunate part was that they closed the cottage mid-year because there were enough rooms on campus to place us elsewhere, so closing it was a cost-cutting effort.  We were then shipped all over to wherever there were rooms.  They tried to put us on the Mount, but we really fought that - that's where the "pink luggage set" lived - my friends and I were about as far from that as you can get - at least I don't think anyone ended up there.
2. Probably I won't be much help on this one.  My friends and I were pretty much anti-establishment (for lack of a better term).  I wasn't a "joiner", certainly not involved in either government or sororities.  I don't believe there were women in student government, but honestly, I couldn't say it was because they were excluded.  We were the protestors and the radicals!  We were the people who attempted to facilitate change.  I think Larry told you about some of the actions that occurred on campus - I don't remember all of that.  I do remember that a few of us went on a Peace March in DC (there's picture posted on FB of us leaving for the march) - that was a pretty awesome experience.  And of course there was the student stirke following Kent State, but that wasn't specific to Syracuse - it happened at campuses all over the US.  Was there a women's center?  I don't think so.  The Women's Building was our gym - that's all I recall it being used for.  Greek life - probably the same now as then?  There was a freshman rush - I did not participate even in this first step.  Freshman women would go to sorority houses they were interested in.  They would meet the sisters.  Then the sorority would decide who they wanted to invite back.  I'm not sure if that meant you were in or if there was further screening.  Then you got to pledge if you were accepted.  And the next year you could live in the house.  Valerie belonged to a sorority for about a year - did she give you info about that?  I had only one other friend who joined a sorority and she was about as unlikely a candidate as you could find, but it was a family thing - her mother and older sister had been tri-delts.  As to your last couple of questions - jeans were the norm.  We fancied ourselves hippies - so any image you have of the late 60's/early 70's would probably be about right.  I worked in the social work library.  I would go to work on a Saturday (I was the only one working there) in jeans that were ragged on the bottom - we wore bell-bottoms long, so they got worn, bare feet, a rope belt (that Poppo made for me), and of course my floppy hat.  Are you picturing this?  Dating - very ivy league when we first arrived - and continued to be for others (I earlier referred to the pink luggage set); for us, more hanging out together than traditional dating, and we liked stuff like poetry readings and music.  We did go to concerts - I think I told you I saw Janis Joplin at the War Memorial, Arlo Guthrie, others...
3. I came to Syracuse as a kid, in the true sense of the word.  I was always very young for my age.  I was physically a late bloomer, and that colors your life - I was a late bloomer in every respect.  A silly little example - I never even wore make-up before I went away to school.  So I grew in many ways - intellectually, socially.  People talk about finding themselves, I think I really did.  Part came from living on campus - from being away from the family for the first time, making my own decisions (and certainly there were both good and bad ones).  I was a very different person from my own mother.  I had ideas of what I wanted and had to figure out how to get there.  I had a boyfriend in HS - I broke up with him before I left because I had so much in front of me and I didn't picture him as part of it.  Mom, on the other hand, came into my room one night before I left and told me it wasn't too late to change my mind - if I wanted to stay home and get married that was ok too.  What?!!!  No way.  That was her life.  I was also really shy, so I had to push myself every step of the way.  You know, I just re-met Larry on FB, hadn't seen him since we left SU - we met for lunch and he kept staring at me and saying, "you're so different, I remember you never talked."  But that breaking away was the first step.  I think the changes that I experienced over the course of 4 years were both personal growth and also the larger social movement.  I just remembered that Timothy Leary came and spoke at SU.  Do you know who he is?  If not, look him up - an icon of the times.  "Tune in, turn out, drop out."  And I think I've already talked about other things - peace marches, fighting for a black student union, Roe v. Wade, etc., etc.

As an afterthought, I came into the business world also at a time when change was brewing.  I hear some of the stuff coming out the mouths of politicians today and we wonder why today's students aren't engaged.  I think it's because they have been reaping the rewards that we fought for and don't get what it was like before - and can be like again.

**Jo Paoletti (’71) 2/29/12:**

1. Apparel Design, College of Home Economics. Few male faculty, even fewer male students in the college. (None of either in my major). I changed my major from Graphic Arts (Journalism) after an entire semester with an instructor who greeted every project I turned in with "Not bad for a girl". I was the only woman in the class. I was inducted into the Home Economics academic honor society. It was utterly useless, except as seomthing on my resume.
2. jeans, t-shirts, turtleneck sweaters, workshirts, sandals, boots. Minidresses for fancier occasions. I made most of my own clothes, since I was a design major. We tended to hang out in groups, rather than date, though I went on a few conventional dates with guys I met in class. Met my husband freshman year, married fall of our senior year. Many of my classmates were surprised I didn't drop out after I was married.
3. I also went 1967-71. I always tell people I started college in the 50s and graduated in the 70s. 67-68 was pre-hippie, pre-drug, still very Greek, curfews and controls. I was active in the anti-war movement and the student strike in 1970 after the Cambodian invasion and Kent State.I lived (illegally) in a men's dorm with my boyfriend for two years. I also participated in a student-run co-op dorm. College exposed me to new ideas, different kinds of people and gave me my first opportunities in activism and leadership. It led me to question everything about the values I knew growing up, some of which I discarded and some of which I embraced even more closely.

**Valerie O’Hara (’71) 2/23/12:**

Background:  I grew up in a small town on Long Island, the middle child of a working-class family.  My (older) sister graduated High School 4 years ahead of me, and was set to go into nursing school until she spent a summer in California with her boyfriend & his family, and she decided to move west.  It took her a year or so to save the required funds, during which she worked in a department store in our town.

I had, during my senior year of high school, said that I wasn't sure I should be going off to college, as I had no idea what I wanted to do in life.  My mother cried and carried on, and off to college I went, clueless as before.

1)  Academics:

I majored in Philosophy, in the College of Arts and Sciences, which I think was, at the time, a new name for Liberal Arts.  I don't think there were very many Philosophy majors; I knew of only 3 others, one male and two females, one of whom left S.U. after sophomore year.  Most of the department faculty were men; I remember only one woman, who was married to one of the male Philosophy professors.  I can remember 7 professors (or associate professors or assistant professors or whatever they may have been) in the department, 6 men, one woman.  I didn't perceive any different treatment of male/female students in class from any of them, but I'm not sure that I was sufficiently aware at the time to have realized the difference.

During sophomore year, I and the other philosophy majors were invited to join the philosophy honor society.  I think it was a formality, as I was never aware of any subsequent meeting (or maybe they dropped me, who knows?).  The one meeting was very strange:  each person was questioned along the lines of "What is the difference between indifference?".  An odd group, if ever there was one.  I don't remember my question or my answer; somehow, I think both were ridiculous.

Other than that, I was not involved in any academic societies or clubs.  I was not much of a "joiner" ... or rather, I was not much of a "remainer".

2) Campus life:

As I mentioned, I was not much of a "joiner", though I did pledge a sorority at the end of freshman year, and stayed in it for half of sophomore year.  I lived in the sorority house the first half of sophomore year, away from the friends I had made during freshman year, and I missed their company more than I enjoyed the company of my "sisters".  I deactivated from the sorority.  A year or two later, the chapter was closed permanently, due to lack of interest.  I think it reflected the fact that we in the sorority were a collection of individuals, more dissimilar from one another than alike one another.  If anything, we may have been the "lovable losers", and that is not the most attractive advertisement during rush.

Anyway, I did do some legwork during one student government election, in which Dennis DeSnoo ran for student government president.  That may have been my junior year.  Dennis and his wife Debbie were friends of my roommates at the time, and I kind of was swept up in the whole party atmosphere of the electioneering.  The interesting thing about Dennis is that he was NOT a member of a fraternity; we wanted to elect a "freak".  I don't remember how the election turned out.  We probably lost.

I think the Student Government was mostly populated by fraternity and sorority members.  Except maybe David Ifshin.  And Chuck Hicks.

As far as sorority women and fraternity men, I think that there were personalities associated with the houses.  I remember that the Delta Delta Deltas seemed to all be blondes.  There were predominantly Jewish houses, though I don't remember which they were.  I traveled in a small circle, or rather a few minuscule circles.

The physical education facilities for women were co-located with the Women's Building, and that was the extent of my association with either.  During our freshman year, physical education was mandatory for all Arts & Sciences students.  The requirement was later dropped, and you could petition to have the one credit per course counted toward graduation requirements (which is how I managed to get a diploma, given my "incompletes").

Women students dressed as they saw fit.  I think many began their college years wearing skirts, but soon switched to slacks.  By the middle of freshman year, I think jeans and a sweatshirt was my usual outfit.  I think I was one of many, in that respect.  I still usually wear jeans and a t-shirt.  A lot of this may have depended on one's social set.  It's altogether possible that the sorority ladies dressed up more than I and my friends did.  They probably had occasions to dress up, as well:  socials, teas, formals.  Not so, the Independents.

We began college life with curfews:  midnight on week nights, 2 AM on Friday and Saturday (date nights).  We didn't have bed-checks, but there may have been some in other places (other dorms, other floors ... we were on an "honors floor" that year).  You needed parental permission to leave campus for a weekend, I think.  The doors were locked after curfew, and if you were out, you just stayed out ... mostly.  You were supposed to "sign out" at the front desk if you were going out, and "sign in" when you returned, so signing-out was probably as honored in the breech as in the observance.  The RAs were grad. students in those days, and  on the freshman floor, we also had a "Student Assistant " (SA), who was an upper-classman.  I think Roz Levy, our SA, was a senior.  The RAs and SAs worked for the Dean of Women.

I don't remember how it worked freshman year, but in later years, when I lived in smaller dorms, the residents had to take turns as "proctors".  This meant you sat down by the front door, announced visitors, and relayed phone calls to the residents by means of buzzing them in their apartments.  The "mid-size dorms" were converted apartment buildings in those days, and there were several "Cottages", old mostly Victorian houses along Crouse Avenue and other places, all of which have long since been razed.  There were also Co-ops, two men's co-ops and one women's co-op, which were semi-autonomous.  Jo Paoletti lived in a co-op, and she will be providing input to you, too.

Many freshman dates were the result of cold calls based on pictures in the Orange Aid (photo array of the incoming class), known affectionately as the "pig book". There were also freshman mixers, which the "Goons" herded us to.  The Goon Squad was a kind of pep-squad of sophomores who acted as social coordinators.  I think we also met people in class, and in the dining hall.  The dining hall in our dorm was the assigned dining hall for some men's dorms as well.  I'm not the best source here, as I didn't have a very active social life.  I think it was a very mixed bag, though.  Probably different for Greeks, with the Little Sisters associated with fraternities, and there may have been some formal and informal sorority-fraternity pairings.

The legal drinking age in NY State was 18 in those days.  There was a bar off Marshall Street called The Orange, which was a watering hole for those who could not get any farther away.  Drinking was not allowed in dorms, and such behavior was probably punishable by suspension and/or expulsion.  Unescorted females had to drink upstairs at the Orange for at leas the first year we were there.  This had to have changed at some point, though, I'm sure.

3) Overall campus culture:

This is the most difficult of your areas to address, and I'll start with your last question "What did you learn about yourself during your time at SU and/or how did you grow?"  I am not sure how much I learned about myself, as I remained fairly immature, unsophisticated, and naive.  I think most of my growth took place decades later (if at all).  But I can say this:  I was exposed to people from different backgrounds, from different geographic areas.  It's interesting to realize, however, that the friends I made then (and still have now) were mostly from the northeast, as I was.  The only outlier, as it were, was a girl from Evanston, Illinois:  Kathi Spaeth.

The late '60s were a turbulent time.  During my years at SU, social changes included the institution of the draft lottery (sophomore year), escalation of the war in Viet Nam, the shootings at Kent State (end of junior year), and the beginnings of the "Women's Movement".  The sexual revolution had begun, with general availability of oral contraceptives, and with AIDS way in the future.  However, the Roe v Wade decision was still years away, and I knew two young women who dropped out of school due to pregnancy.  The atmosphere of "sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll" was not without its dangers.

Although the voting age was still 21 at the time, there was a lot of political activism, especially leading up to the 1968 Presidential election.  Eugene McCarthy was very popular with many students, and then when Bobby Kennedy entered the race, this sort of split that group.  There were protest marches on and around campus, especially after the shootings at Kent State. Your aunt can tell you about the March on Washington, as I believe she took part in that.  I tended to be less activist.

The biggest difference between being male and female at that time, I think, was the overriding threat of being drafted into military service with an increasingly unpopular war escalating on the other side of the world.

[Something you have to realize here is that the Kent State shootings took place on May 4, 1970.  After that, there were general student strikes across the country. Syracuse was closed down for a while, and the semester ended prematurely.  In many classes, students were given the option to (a) take an "incomplete" in the course, (b) take a "class standing" grade, or (c) take a final examination.  That was the end of our junior year.  Returning in the fall was not easy.]

What did happen to me, though, was that I began to question authority.  I became disillusioned when the campus [Roman Catholic] chaplain declared one Sunday at mass that those who did not believe in the resurrection had "missed the boat".  That didn't fit in with the idea of a campus community to me.  The riots at the Democratic National Convention in 1968 didn't give me any great respect for the police.  Personally, I found myself with many, many more questions than answers.  I started my college life clueless, and ended it only slightly less clueless.

This phrase just popped into my mind.  "In loco parentis", as in "The University acts in loco parentis" (in place of parents).

The big student revolution in 1968 or so was in response to this; the students did not agree.  The premise of the students was that we were adults, and should be treated as such.  This started many changes, including the elimination of curfews, "parietal hours" in the dorms, and [coed] integration of the Mount Olympus housing complex, previously all female.  Not co-ed dorms; just the designation of one dorm as a men's dorm.

Physical changes to the campus included the erection of the engineering building, and the commencement of construction on the Byrd Library (which involved the demolition of the Chi Omega sorority house, among other Greek houses.

When I visited the campus in 1993 or so, with my children, I hardly recognized the place.  But The Varsity was still there.

**Deb Jason (’71) 2/22/12:**

Lorrie and I met when we were both freshmen in the honors dorm/floor (Shaw 5) at SU in Fall 1967.  Many of the other women she asked to help you with this we also met in that way.  I was a psychology major in the liberal arts school/college.  I don't remember involvement in any campus clubs, etc., except Phi Beta Kappa and the psych honor society (the name of which I don't recall).  My campus job (part of my financial aid) was working in the library (as was Lorrie's).  In those days, there was a main library, but each school also had its own.  I worked in the main library freshman year, and after that, in the business library.

Although I could not hazard any specific guesses, my recollection is that, psych being a "soft" major, there were more women in it than in other majors/schools.  However, I cannot recall any women professors (or TAs, for that matter).  Not to say there were none - I just can't recall any.

I pulled out my 1971 yearbook, which pictured grads by school (e.g., liberal arts, architecture, journalism, etc.).  No surprise that the grads in schools such as architecture, engineering, forestry and business were overwhelmingly men.  My experience working in the business library certainly confirmed that, as well.

As you can probably already surmise, I was (and probably remain) what would be called a wallflower/late bloomer.  So, I was not involved much in the dating scene or in other campus activities (that I can recall - it's 40 years ago, and my memory tends to big-picture impressions rather than details).  Conseqently, I'm afraid I have little to offer.  Lorrie and the others will have much more.

I also pulled out my Orange Aid, a publication containing pictures of the incoming freshman in 1967.  I was surprised to see that we were segregated by gender - all the women's photos first, followed by the men's.  Another puzzling observation: under each picture, in addition to our name; where we were from; our dorm, floor and dorm phone extension; was *our height*?!  That's it.  What was that about?  To assist in making appropriate dating decisions?

Freshman year, we had curfews, etc., under the rubric of in loco parentis.  All of that changed in the following years, but I could not give you the specifics.

The incoming freshmen in 1967 dressed much more formally - in skirts, etc., than we did in the following years.  So much happened and changed between 1967 and 1971: Vietnam, war protests, Kent State, campus strikes, the continuing civil rights struggles, drugs, the women's movement, access to contraception/Planned Parenthood, the sexual revolution.  I was an observer, more than a participant in much of that.  My sense is that the student government and protest leaders were primarily men, but women were also involved.  The others will be able to give more details.

The women's movement had a profound affect on me (and, I suspect, on many of the other women Lorrie has asked to help you).  Many of us went on to graduate school and/or had successful careers, delayed marriage/children, etc.  I got an MA in Rehabilitation Counseling from George Washington University, had a career as a Federal Probation Officer becoming deputy chief before retiring, met my future husband when I was 31, bought a house/lived with him for four years before we married when I was 36, had our daughter when I was 40 (not deciding to even try having children until I was 39, so conflicted was I about that choice).  I decided early-on, probably while at SU, that, if I ever married, I would not take my husband's name.  I did not, and our daughter has a hyphenated last name, including both of ours.  I have proudly identified myself as a feminist since my days at SU, although I could not point to any specific experiences there that informed that decision, other than course readings in classes like social psychology, etc.  I don't recall there being a women's center, but that's not to say there wasn't.

You asked if social movements affected our experience.  Even without actively participating, I don't think it would have been possible to be a college student in the late 60s/early 70s and not be affected by the turmoil and changes taking place in our culture.  I look back on those times as both very painful - Vietnam continues to be a would that doesn't heal for our generation - and exciting.  I despair at the erosions, in the freedoms we fought for and gained in those years and the ones that followed, that seem to be taking place on so many fronts today.

**Larry Singer (’71) 2/20/12:**

Syracuse was a wonderful place in the late 60’s.  I started in Sept. ’67 and graduated May ’71.  During the time I was there it changed enormously.  I think that the classes of ’70 and ’71 had more to do with the changes than any other classes.  It seems to me that the classes after ours were more passive and career oriented.  I don’t have time to go into great depth now but I will say a few things.

Academics – I was an American History Major.  I think the mix in that major was about 70% male and 30% female.  I don’t remember a female faculty member but there were some female graduate assistants.  I don’t think that the men and women were treated differently based on academics.

Campus Life – Big changes here.  Syracuse had something called “Parietal Hours” in 1967 when we arrived.  They were a set of rules designed to protect the girls.  Among the rules that I remember there was an 11:00 pm curfew during weekdays and 12:00 Friday and Saturday nights.  Girls had to sign out of their dorms at night and the university had checkers signing them back in.  If anybody was not checked in by 12 great agitation ensued.  If you brought your girlfriend back a little early to sign in she could usually go back out for a few minutes.  There were campus police and graduate assistants who watched over the scene.  I remember it as being a little like a 9th grade make out party.

There was a campus wide student strike in the later part of the winter demanding an end to Parietal Hours and we won that strike.  One of the things that changed was that girls could visit us in our dorms.  I think they were called visiting nights and there were rules about open doors and stuff like that.  You should look up Parietal in a good dictionary.

There was another demonstration in the spring of 68 about library hours.  The libraries closed at 11.  I believe that was changed to 12 or 1.

There were lots of demonstrations for civil rights and against the war in Vietnam.  There were demonstrations to support a woman’s right to choose abortion.  New York State was considering the legalization of abortion before any other State or the Federal Govt.  I believe that New York legalized it in the spring of 1970 or 1971.  In connection with this aspect of the times, I remember girls complaining about the infirmary.  I seem to remember that people in the infirmary didn’t like this whole area of contraception and they made girls feel badly about it.  That was 67, 68, 69.  But…then the book, Our Bodies, Ourselves came out and, there was something of a sexual transformation.  Sexuality, which had been on the verge of opening up, suddenly was totally out in the open.  You can’t understand the times unless you get a copy of the original newsprint version that came out in 1970 or the not much improved version from 1971.  I think this was the most influential book of the times of the period ’67 to ’71.

The Whole Earth Catalog represented another subset of the times; back to land and nature, communal living, sustainable lifestyles.  It was also influential.  Basically, I think you have to think of a series of subsets.  There were the back to earth, communal life style people, there were the rock music people, there were the sexual politics/sexual identity/control my body people, the civil rights people, the Vietnam War people and the brown rice/transcendental meditation people.  Oh – I’m leaving out the high people.

I don’t have any more time but I do want to close on one thought.  The region between Syracuse and Rochester, centered in Seneca Falls, was the center of the Women’s Suffrage Movement beginning about 1845.  Thirty miles east of Syracuse is Oneida which was founded as a free love commune around 1835 and 30 miles west of Syracuse is Palmyra where Joseph Smith found his golden tablets and founded a polygamous religion called Mormonism.  There is a Museum in Seneca Falls dedicated to the women’s suffrage movement and other radical human rights issues of the pre-civil war era that deserves a trip.  As you enter the Woman’s Museum there is (or used to be) an inscription from the Bible.  It was the cornerstone of the Suffrage Movement but, it’s just glossed over today.  Perhaps you already know that the Bible contains 2 stories about the creation of men and women.  Most people think of Adam and Eve; that God thought Adam needed a “helpmate”.  So God put Adam to sleep and took one of his ribs to make a woman.

The Adam and Eve Story is the second story.  If you look at the beginning of the Bible and look at what takes place on the 6th day, the passage says, in part, “God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”  To me this says that male and female were created together, at the same time and as equals in the eyes of God.  It also says to me that God must have had both male and female characteristics.

**Joyce Roberts (’71) 5/4/12:**

1. I majored in physics with a minor in math and attend the College of Arts and Sciences.  I was the only female in my class of about ten majors (less by the time we got to be seniors).   I don't actually remember another female major in the department at the time. I believe at the time all the faculty were men.  I did not notice any difference in the treatment of men and women in the program, but I was a very good student so this may have influenced my treatment.  I was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and worked on the student seminar program in the physics department.  As far as I was concerned Phi Beta Kappa was boring and I did not participate much.  The student seminar program was fun -- professors and graduate students were always cooperative.
2. My first year I was involved in the freshman weekend program book -- getting advertisers and making sure their ads were included.  Even drew a few up myself.  After my freshman year I was to involved in my academic studies to participate in other activities.  I did not join the Greek community.  There was no Women;'s center.  My first year I still wore skirts to class with leggings in the cold weather.  My the time I graduated it was jeans.  I did not date very much at Syracuse as I had a boyfriend at Cornell.  When I did go out at SU it was mainly with other science majors -- most men were not interested in a physics major.  For a while I dated a graduate student who was in the lab where I had a part-time job (broke-up with my Cornell boyfriend).  We had mostly quiet dates -- did a lot of cross-country skiing in the winter.
3. At the time I probably thought things changed dramatically but in hindsight this is unlikely to be true.  It was the time of Vietnam war protests and I did go march in DC only to get tear gassed (a new and one-time experience).  The Kent state massacre occurred during this period in my junior year and I participated on on-campus protests.  For a bit of time I participated with SDS-- attending meetings etc.  I never officially joined though.  All these events opened my eyes to larger political issues which I had not paid any attention to during high school and changed my parent's influence on social and political views.  Another important aspect of attending college was learning to operate on one's own -- that is managing one's time between fun and academic studies and learning to live on one's own.  Since I had a part-time position in one of the physics labs this also allow me to learn than just the academics but also the practical side of physics.  I believe my experience at SU prepared me for graduate school in a very positive manner.