[Robin Morgan visits campus]

“Specific tactics she suggested to women in the audience were to stop ‘by any means necessary’ a women’s history course at KU taught by a man, to ‘make the university library buy a $900 library of historical documents about women’, and to organize vigilante ‘anti-rape squads.’”
February 4, 1972

Women and Children are now occupying a building on campus

This action has been taken because the needs of women in this community have been neglected. We are demanding a daycare center for women on campus—students, faculty, faculty-staff, and workers. We recognize the fact that many other groups of women and individual women have been working very hard to achieve the demands we are making. We appreciate the tremendous efforts of these women, and we hope that our action will illustrate the need for the concerns these women have been working on.

If you wish to support the action you may illustrate the need for daycare by taking your children everywhere you go—to class, to work, etc.

For more information and a complete list of demands stop in or call the Women's Center located at the Student Activities Center (across the street from the Union)

Human Development
February 5, 1972

*Parsons Sun*

“The women, some accompanied by children, took over the East Asian Studies building, an old house on the east edge of the campus, about 6 p.m. Friday. Some children were included in the group. The women refused to show themselves, answer questions, or say how many were involved. It was reported there were between 10 and 20 women in the building.”
February 5, 1972

Hutchinson News

“The demands included:

1. Affirmative action for women under direction of the February Sisters.
2. A preschool day care-center.
3. A woman named as vice chancellor of academic affairs—a post recently vacated—with nominations made by February Sisters.
February 5, 1972

Hutchinson News

Continued...

4. An end to ‘grossly unfair employment practices at the university based on sex alone,’ and more women placed in staff positions.

5. A department of women’s studies, controlled and chiefly taught by women.

6. A women’s health program, with free cancer tests, health examinations, and easy access to birth control devices and information.”

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
February 5, 1972

Topeka State Journal

“Chancellor E. Laurence Chalmers Jr., apparently by coincidence, earlier Friday announced that a new staff position would be created to further advance equality of opportunities for women. He said a women member of the faculty would be appointed, to report directly to the chancellor.”

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
February 5, 1972

Hutchinson News

“The statement said they ‘peacefully seized’ the building because it was ‘easily accessible,’ and ‘no insult was intended to the East Asian Studies or the Oriental Languages Department.’
February 5, 1972

'Sisters' End Sit-in After KU Talks

“Conrad said KU may have been at fault for not publicizing its efforts more, as the women were unaware of many steps the university has taken and was contemplating. The peaceful demonstration marked the first break in campus calm which has prevailed for more than a year since the bombing of Summerfield Hall in December, 1970.”
“Grant Goodman, chairman of the East Asian Studies Department, said he took two women visitors on a tour of the building Thursday. He said they expressed interest in converting it to a child care center after the Oriental language Department moves to Wescoe Hall, now under construction.”
Women’s liberationists liberate a Kansas university building

“Representatives of the ‘February Sisters’, a group of women who occupied a University of Kansas building seeking establishment of a day care center and other women’s liberation demands, agreed today to evacuate the building.”
February 6, 1972

Wichita Eagle

Satisfaction Expressed

KU Women’s Lib Calls Off Sit-In

“The 10 to 20 women, who camped in the East Asian Studies building at the east end of campus at 6 p.m. Friday—some of them accompanies by children—vacated after they received a joint statement from Dr. E Laurence Chalmers, chancellor and the student senate executive committee.”
“A campus womens-lib [sic] group called off an overnight sit-in Saturday and left a University of Kansas building they had occupied 13 hours, expressing satisfaction with negotiations over their list of six demands.”
February 6, 1972

Topeka Capital

“Chalmers, who said a ‘number of significant actions had already been taken’ before the demands were issued, said the university ‘can neither condone nor ignore the type of action’ the group demonstrated. ‘To accede to the demands made on this basis,’ he told the group, ‘would be to violate the rights of all other members of the university community and attack the fundamental liberties of free discussion...’”
“The women said they had reached a secret agreement Saturday morning with the University Senate Executive Committee (SenEx) ‘expressing support for a student-senate funded day-care center and a commitment to the implementation of a health-care program.’”
“A spokesman said that a prepared statement would be read, followed by a question-and-answer period. She added that no group member would be identified by name nor would any photos be allowed.”
February 8, 1972

Masculine Image Being Challenged—

Women’s Lib Compels Confession

“This is what I have denied you—an ego. I have allowed you to feel—for me. I have allowed you to exist—if you did not think too much, talk too much, or fight my ‘right to power.’

I listened to Robin Morgan and silently nodded my head. Intellectually, I knew she was right. But could I apply that challenge to myself?”

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
“In reference to their demands to a women’s health program, several Sisters said that women going to Watkins Hospital for a pelvic examination or birth control devises, did not have any assurances that they would be treated without ‘an insulting moral lecture’ or even treated at all.”
February 10, 1972

Women's Status Involved

Mrs. Banks Declines Post

“Elizabeth Banks, assistant professor of classics and art history at Kansas University, said today she has declined an offer to fill a new position, created by Chancellor Lawrence Chalmers, designed to address itself to the concerns of university women. Mrs. Banks helped present the university in talk with the February Sisters during the occupation of the East Asian Studies Center Friday night and Saturday morning, after having been offered the position by Chalmers.”
“Wednesday night the sisters’ request for student senate funding of a center ran into opposition at a finance and audit committee meeting. The senators agreed to recommend against financing the described operations.”
February 10, 1972

Lawrence Journal World

Sisters Denied Day Care Funds

“The panel met for more than an hour Wednesday night with two representatives of the sisters, who identified themselves and Christine Leonard, a classified employee, and Judy Castle, a student.

In discussions with the women, and in deliberations after hearing their proposal and request for more than $6,000 to finance a short-term operation which the women described as essentially ‘a cooperative baby-sitting establishment,’ the senate group decided against suggesting money for the project.”

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
Nonsense can be helpful

“The Sisters do not want equal rights. They want special rights, special courses for women, special positions for women in the administration, free baby sitting and free birth control information.”
Chalmers Concerned Over Women’s Lib Assertion

“Chalmers called the seizure and overnight occupation of the East Asian Studies Center a week and a half ago, an ‘irregular and counterproductive act’ that could have an effect on the university’s budget, now being considered by the Kansas Senate Ways and Means Committee.

What concerns him most, he said, is that the occupation was chosen by the women rather than conversations with him, SenEx or the vice chancellors, all of whom, he noted ‘are quite accessible.’”
"Marilyn Stokstad, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, praised the group, ‘I’m proud of them. They didn’t want to damage anything and they were careful not to. I realize that it’s an illegal action, but we’ve been working within the system and have gotten no results. You can’t help admiring people who do it as long as they don’t damage anything.’"
February 17, 1972

Senate Tells ‘Sisters’ No

“Peter George, Lawrence Special student, questioned the advisability of providing funds to a group which had demonstrated its irresponsibility by occupying a university building. The initial public act of the sisters was to seize the East Asian Building.”
“Kansan coverage of the February Sisters has been constantly biased, culminating Wednesday (Feb. 16) in Tom Slaughter’s editorial attacking the February Sisters as ‘gangsters and hoodlums,’ ‘criminals’ and accusing us of ‘philosophical bankruptcy,’ and being hypocritically committed to human rights.”
“Contrary to popular misconceptions, the action of the February Sisters was warranted by the continual frustration by the administration of efforts to achieve equity for women on this campus. We have finally begun to see some action; it is our intent to continue to work for women’s liberation until we win.”
“The Sisters had collected 1,250 signatures by Thursday afternoon on a petition urging the University to provide funds for a child care center for the KU community....”
Watkins Staffs Clinic for Women

“One of the new policies put into practice Monday at the hospital was the stamping of the word ‘contraceptive’ on clinic registration slips. Lominska said this practice would allow women to see a doctor who would give examinations and prescribe birth control pills. Schwagler also said the policy at Watkins Hospital was that doctors treat the student as they would private patients, and a doctor’s response to birth control information would depend on his personal beliefs.”
February 23, 1972

KU Charges Filed Against February Sisters Action

“The complaint against the unnamed women alleges that they broke the KU regulations in occupying the building, that they violated the code of Students’ Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct in several respects and that they use profane language in a threatening manner and behaved in a rude and challenging manner in violation of the Code of Conduct drafted by the Kansas Board of Regents.”
February 23, 1972

Charge Filed on Sisters

Peter George, Lawrence special student, and the KU Ombudsman Office filed the complaint. Dave Dysart, Lawrence third-year law student and one of George's attorney's, said George had filed the complaint because he thought the women’s actions might have set an unhealthy precedent for other groups at KU.
KU to Amend Complaint
Adding Sisters’ Names

“Dave Dysart, KU Ombudsman and Lawrence third-year law student, said Monday the manes would replace four or five of the 20 Jane Does listed in the original complaint. Dysart said it wasn’t known whether the defendants named were actually in the building but said, ‘We have reason to believe that they have knowledge of who was in the building.’”
March 1, 1972

Lawrence Journal World

“Progress has also been made on providing women’s health services. Four nurses at the student health center have been trained, and special information on contraception has been added to the health center from, so that women who want such information will be sent to certain doctors, Miss Bell said.

‘We sent some girls through last week on dry runs, though, and we found that the system isn’t working,’ Miss Bell said. ‘The girls were sent to the wrong doctors—doctors who morally didn't believe in contraception and who were not sympathetic,’ she said.”
1960
Civil Rights, “Equal taxes, equal rights”
c. 1965
Support student sit-ins, information booth
Jayhawk Blvd.
1967 Peace Marathon marchers

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
November 10, 1968  Anti-war funeral march

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
1968

"Stop the War" graffiti

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
1968

Vietnam protest from Strong Hall steps

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
October 15, 1969
National Vietnam Moratorium Day
October 15, 1969
National Vietnam Moratorium Day

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
1969
“Kill for Peace?”

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library
1969 Anti-Vietnam march on Jayhawk Blvd.

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
February 23, 1970

Black Student Union Protest

Men pull copies of the UDK out of Potter pond

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
April 20, 1970

Memorial Union fire
April 24, 1970  
Aftermath of Union fire

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
April 1970
Strike March
April 1970

Civil rights – high school students

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
April 1970
National Guard arrives
May 8, 1970
Day of Alternatives
Chancellor Chalmers with students at Memorial Stadium
May 8, 1970
Day of alternatives – sidewalk with spray painted sign “STRIKE! MAY 8”
May 8, 1970
Day of Alternatives
Chancellor Chalmers addressing students at Memorial Stadium

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
May 1970
Graduation armbands

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
May 1970
Peace Demonstration at Kansas Relays on Campanile hill

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
May 1970
Attorney General Vern Miller and police

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
Summer of 1970
Attorney General Vern Miller with Highway Patrol and students
Summer of 1970

Line of police officers with night sticks

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
Summer of 1970

Two policemen with 2 students; policeman handcuffing one of the students

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
Summer of 1970
Police frisk a protester
July 23, 1970
Rick Dowdell Funeral

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library
1970 Anti-draft picket

PLAYING GOD CAN BE FUN
JUST ASK YOUR LOCAL DRAFT BOARD

THIS DRAFT BOARD PLAYS WITH PEOPLES' LIVES!
STOP THE DRAFT!

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
1970
Nick Rice
site of death

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library
1970  Rock Chalk cafe, night Nick Rice killed

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
1970
Ron Washington

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library
1970

Civil Rights march

University Archives, Spencer Research Library
February 28, 1971

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library
1971

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library
1972
February Sisters press conference

Christine Leonard (Smith) speaks for childcare

University Archives,
Spencer Research Library