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Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program

Monthly Perspectives

September ♦ Fall 2023

Message from the Director



WGGP Director, Colleen Murphy

On behalf of the Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program (WGGP), it is my pleasure to introduce you to the inaugural issue of our series of Monthly Perspectives.

This year, we are experimenting with a new format for our communications. Monthly Perspectives will provide a comprehensive look into news, interviews, and achievements of our faculty affiliates and GRID students. We will continue to publish our Weekly E-news, which will be shorter, focusing on upcoming events. We hope you enjoy the monthly series that celebrates the brilliance of our WGGP community. Please share

your own publications, grants, awards, and innovations! We are also happy to help circulate advertisements if you are looking for research collaborators. Any items to share should be submitted to Anita Kaiser arkaiser@illinois.edu by the 20th of each month.

We are always happy to meet with you to discuss any questions you might have about our program or about how you may get involved with WGGP. Please don't hesitate to contact me or our Associate Director, Anita Kaiser, at arkaiser@illinois.edu or (217) 333-6221. We look forward to hearing from you!

With best wishes for the fall semester,

Colleen Murphy

Director, Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program

Roger and Stephany Joslin Professor of Law

Professor of Philosophy and Political Science

Chair, Illinois Scholars at Risk Committee

Faculty Awards & Recognitions



Dr. Brian Ogolsky and Dr. Merle Bowen

Congratulations to Dr. Merle Bowen & Dr. Brian Ogolsky for being named University Scholars!

Dr. Merle Bowen, a professor of [African American studies](#), and Dr. Brian Ogolsky, a professor of [human development and family studies](#) are among the five scholars who have been recognized as University Scholars for

excelling in scholarship, teaching, and service. They are awarded with \$15,000 each for each of three years to use towards enhancing their academic careers.



Dr. Judith Pinter, Associate Teaching Professor and Director for Game Studies and Design (GSD) Program

Dr. Judith Pinter's project selected for Investment for Growth Program

Dr. Pinter's Games Studies and Design project titled "*Playful by Design: Expanding the Transformative Potentials of Games@Illinois*" has been selected as [one of 11 proposals to be supported](#) through the Office of the Provost's [Investment for Growth Program](#) in FY24. This seed funding will allow the Games Studies and Design (GSD) program at Illinois to continue to make significant contributions to a growing body of research on the impacts of games, gaming, and the interactive and

immersive technologies often developed for games.



Dr. R. Elizabeth Velasquez Estrada, Dr. Magdalena Novoa, and Dr. Jessica Greenberg

Three WGGP Faculty Affiliates awarded HRI faculty fellowships

Congratulations to **Dr. R. Elizabeth Velasquez Estrada**, **Dr. Jessica Greenberg**, and **Dr. Magdalena Novoa** for being awarded the HRI faculty fellowship for 2023-2024. The Humanities Research Institute at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

has awarded its annual **Faculty and Graduate Student Fellowships** to seven faculty members and seven graduates students from the campus for the 2023–24 academic year. The theme for the year is **"Themeless."** [Click here to read more and see the full list of winners](#)



Distinguished Professor Norman Denzin passes away

We are saddened at the demise of Professor Emeritus Norman Denzin on August 6th, at the age of 82. Dr. Denzin was one of the world's foremost authorities on qualitative research and cultural criticism, and a renowned figure in symbolic interactionist theory. A writer, scholar, teacher, and visionary, he was a mentor to many generations of students, faculty, and staff at the University of Illinois. Among his many

achievements at Illinois, he founded the Illinois Institute of Qualitative Inquiry in 2005. WGGP is proud to have had him as one of our faculty affiliates and extends support to his family and friends.

WGGP Student Recognitions

WGGP GRID Student awarded HRI Mellon Interseminars Graduate Fellowship 2023-24



Marina Moscoso Arabia, PhD
Student in Human Geography
and GRID Student

Congratulations to [Marina Moscoso Arabia](#) for securing the [HRI Mellon Interseminars Graduate Fellowship](#) 2023-24! Marina is part of a cohort of seven graduate students who have been selected for this year's Fellowship program. The theme of this year's fellowship is 'Improvise and Intervene.' Marina is a PhD student in Human Geography, with a minor in Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) minor. Together with her Interseminars cohort, she will be engaged in interdisciplinary research and training over the next 18 months.



Anissa Chitwanga, PhD student in Social Work & GRID student

GRID student awarded Jean M. Due and Marianne Ferber International Research Award

Congratulations to Anissa Chitwanga for securing the Jean M. Due and Marianne Ferber International Research Award 2023-24! Anissa is a PhD student in social work and a GRID student. She will be using the travel grant for her dissertation research. Her thesis is titled "*Narratives of distress & coping: A qualitative study of the experiences and perspectives of women in Blesser/Slay Queen relationships in sub-Saharan Africa*".

WGGP and IGI Awards 2023-24

Congratulations to WGGP and IGI award recipients for the academic year 2023-24!



Nehal Elmeligy, Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellow

Nehal Elmeligy is a PhD Candidate in Sociology. Through an ethnography in Cairo, Egypt and digital data collection, Nehal's research investigates Egypt's contemporary mostly digital feminist counterpublics, created by recently founded feminist consciousness raising and knowledge production initiatives.



Marwah Maqbool Malik, Barbara A. Yates Fellow

Marwah Maqbool Malik is a PhD student in Urban and Regional Planning. Marwah's research uses a multiple case study design to explore how women-led grassroots organizations in Pakistan employ the notion of solidarity in their flood relief narratives and practices, in order to carve paths for a climate justice praxis premised on transformational change.



Asmaa Elsayed, Evelyn Accad and Paul Vieille International Research Awardee

Asmaa Elsayed is a PhD student in Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership Department at the College of Education. Asmaa's research is focused on emancipatory transformative lifelong learning for healing, resilience, and holistic wellbeing of minoritized women in the Middle East region.



IGI Language Fellows: Srinanda Ganguly, Art & Design/Art History (Arabic); Arezoo Ataollahi, Linguistics (Arabic); Janet Husunukpe, Urban and Regional Planning (Swahili)

WGGP Alumni Spotlight



The Alumni Spotlight showcases previous GRID students and where they are since graduating from UIUC.

Septemeber Spotlight on Dr. Pilar Egüez Guevara

After the screening of *Raspando Coco* earlier this Spring, we asked Pilar about her current work and here are snippets of what she shared:

1. Current position: Founder and director, Comidas que Curan; Director/producer, Raspando coco. Producer, Tarpuna:

Guardians of the Coconut and the Mangrove

2. Location: Topeka, KS, USA and Quito, Ecuador

3. What is the focus of your current work? I am an anthropologist of food, focusing on the value that traditional and ancestral foodways, which are still alive today in many parts of the world, bring for human health and wellbeing.

For more information about Pilar and her work, please see [Full interview available on our website.](#)

Click to see more WGGP Alumni Spotlight news

WGGP Events to look out for!



ILLINOIS GLOBAL INSTITUTE
WOMEN & GENDER IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PROGRAM

"Resilience Amidst Repression: The Chinese Feminist Movement in the Era of Escalating Authoritarianism"

Lü Pin
 PhD Student in Political Science
 Rutgers University

Sept. 12, 2023, 12pm
 308 Coble Hall and via Zoom
 Register via <https://go.illinois.edu/LuPin>
 Lunch provided with RSVP

Lü Pin is a prominent Chinese feminist activist and an emerging scholar specializing in Gender and Politics. Her journey in advocating for women's rights began in the late 1990s. In 2000, she established Feminist Voices, a pioneering and largest new media platform dedicated to women's issues in China, which was banned in 2010. Since 2010, Lü Pin has been dedicated to empowering young feminists and supporting their activism throughout China. After relocating to the U.S. in 2015, she spearheaded the organizing of the diaspora Chinese feminist community. Presently, Lü Pin is pursuing her Ph.D. in Political Science at Rutgers University.

This talk is part of the Illinois Global Institute Speaker Series "China and the World".
 Co-sponsored by: Center for Africa Studies, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies Center for Global Studies, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, European Union Center, The Chinese Center for Gender Studies, Program in Asian Studies and Democracy, and International Security, and the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center.

Click here for a complete list of WGGP Fall 2023 events

Women in History Wednesday

Every week WGGP celebrates accomplishments of women associated with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. These series are part of the 150 for 150 website that was created by the



Gender Equity Council and the University Library to highlight women who have made significant achievements during their time at the University either as students, staff, faculty, or alumni.

This Wednesday we celebrated **Ramona Faith Oswald** who joined the University of Illinois faculty in 1998 and became a professor in 2001. She is a recognized leader in LGBT family life; she founded and co-chaired (1998-2003) the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Alliance Focusgroup. Currently she is the main organizer of the LGBT Research Symposium, a national meeting in C-U.

You can find the series every Wednesday on WGGP [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#). You can learn more about the 150 for 150 website [here](#).

WGGP Funding Opportunities

WGGP Event Programming Support now available!

The Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program invites University of Illinois faculty to apply for funding to support event programming with an emphasis on gender equity globally. This funding is available to support programming such as conferences, symposia, workshops, or lectures that align with WGGP's mission. Preference will be given to programming that includes the Global South. More details can be found [here](#).

If you have news to share about your publications, grants, awards, and innovations, please get in touch with Associate Director, Anita Kaiser, at arkaiser@illinois.edu or (217) 333-6221. We look forward to hearing from you!



Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program

Illinois Global Institute | College of Liberal Arts & Sciences | University of Illinois

7/1/25, 8:15 AM

WGGP Monthly Perspectives

111 Coble Hall, MC 401 | 801 S. Wright Street | Champaign, IL 61820 ** New Address and Mailcode Fall 2021**

Contact: wggp@illinois.edu



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