Welcome to the 2002-03 academic year. The issues and goals of gender and international development are more important than ever as war with Iraq is debated [we hope], and the problems of poverty, environment, illness, and other aspects of human security still challenge us. These challenges fuel our work, and WGGP has many stimulating activities planned for the year that we hope you will be involved with. Our work got an unanticipated kick-start when the U.S. Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate finally passed CEDAW (The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) with a 12-7 vote in August. This makes it likely that the whole Senate will vote on ratifying CEDAW soon, and the expression of grassroots support can influence this vote. Many students haven’t heard of CEDAW, which is also called the Women’s Rights Treaty. WGGP has notified our associates about the impending vote with the suggestion that they contact senators and other elected officials, asked the campus newspaper to run a story on the topic (which it did on September 6th), and contacted other media about it. The National Council for Research on Women (WGGP is a member center) is taking the lead in urging all member centers to take action to support ratification of CEDAW. [For more on this campaign, see the box on page 3 and check out www.women-treaty.org on the web.]

Continued on page 3

Highlight from NCRW

NCRW Conference and Rockefeller Humanities Fellowship Program Stress Gender Dimensions of Human Security

Kristen Timothy
Senior Research Scholar, National Council for Research on Women (NCRW)

The National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) held its Annual Conference from May 30-June 1 at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York City on the theme: “Facing Global and National Crises: Women Define Human Security”. Attended by over 250 researchers, activists, policymakers, the media, educators, and affiliates of the Council, the Conference addressed crises that increasingly spell reduced security for people around the globe, such as deepening disparities in global wealth distribution; violence and terror perpetrated in the name of ethnic, nationalist and religious identities and differences; economic and social dislocation of whole populations, and trafficking in drugs, arms and people. Panelists and participants discussed the global and national impact of such forces, particularly on women and girls, and the many tensions they create, and talked about types of interventions and particular obstacles to ensuring the security of women and girls in the face of these and other threats. A shift away from a state-centered concept of national security and from the military security defense paradigm was advocated during the Conference.

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Join Us
for
WGGP Symposium 2002
“Gender and Transnational Networks”
October 17-19, 2002
314 Illini Union
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
See page 5 for details.
WGGP Announcements and Activities

WGGP 2002 Fall Events, Biennial Symposium 2002 and Co-Sponsored Presentations

Per Pistrup-Andersen, Dir. General, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C., Food Security and Poverty Eradication as a National Security Goal for the United States, the first in ACES Global Connect's series of public lectures on Global Food Security, Sept. 5, 4 p.m.

Walden Bello, Prof. of Sociology, U. of the Philippines, Chalalangolen U. Bangkok, Globalization from Below: The World Social Forum, the first in the Center for Advanced Study's (CAS) series of public lectures: Initiative on Globalization, Sept. 9, 4 p.m.

Syeda Saiyidah Hameed, Founding member, India's Muslim Women's Forum and Women's Initiative for Peace in South Asia, Women and Islam in South Asia, Levias Faculty Center, 919 W. Illinois, co-sponsored by South Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, Global Crossroads, IPRH and WGGP Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.

William Masters, Prof. of Ag. Economics, Purdue U., Institutions and Technology for Food Security: Peril and Progress, ACES Library, the second lecture in ACES Global Connect's series. Oct. 3, 4 p.m.

Rethinking Terrorism, Annual Area Center Director's Conference, 149 National Soybean Research Center, 1101 W. Peabody, Urbana, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.

Carol Cole, Senior Research Fellow, Political Science, Wellesley College, Gender and Terrorism of 9/11, 149 National Soybean Research Center, 1101 W. Peabody, U., Oct. 4, 2:25 p.m.

Svetlana Broz, Physician, Director Saranjovo Office, Gardens of the Righteous Worldwide Facing Atrocity: Revenge, Activism, A Century of Transformation, Herzogovina, Levias Faculty Center, Third Floor, 919 W. Illinois, Sponsored by Russian and East European Center, CAS, WGGP and others. Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.


Margaret Helderling, Director, America's Health Together, Mental Health: New Places, New Needs in a Time of Global Terrorism, Levias Faculty Center, 919 W. Illinois, the second in CAS's Initiative on Globalization series, Oct. 25, 4 p.m.

Werner Kiene, Representative of the United Nations World Food Programme to the Brenton Woods Institutions, Title to be announced, ACES Library, the third lecture in ACES Global Connect series, Nov. 7, 4 p.m.

Stephen Humphrey, Islamic and Middle Eastern History, University of California at Santa Barbara and past president, Middle East Studies Association of North America, Roots of Large Scale Violence in the Name of Islam, Levias Faculty Center, 919 W. Illinois, the third CAS's lecture. Nov. 8, 4 p.m.

The International Area Centers, Asian Educational Media Service, and WGGP are again co-sponsoring an International Documentary Film Series to be shown on Wednesday day room in Room 101 International Studies Building, 910 S. Fifth St. C. This year's theme is "Family Life." WGGP films are: Oct. 16: Chain of Love (2001) on migration and domestic help; Oct. 30: Arun from Benin (2000) on the struggles of an African teenager; and Nov. 20: Mexican Migrant Women on the Prairies: Transnational Motherhood and Communities (2002) on experiences of migrant women in the Midwest by Marta Silva. GRIDA, whose student, Communications Research, UI. The complete schedule is available on our website.

Other events on campus

Fall 2002 African Film Series on Fridays, IPRH African Cinema Studies Reading Group offers screenings on Sept. 28, 6 p.m.; Oct. 19, 7 p.m.; Oct. 28, 6 p.m.; Nov. 29, 7 p.m.; Dec. 6, 6 p.m. The full program is available on the Center for African Studies website.

Svetlana Broz, Physician, Director Saranjovo Office, Gardens of the Righteous Worldwide Facing Atrocity: Revenge, Activism, A Century of Transformation, Herzogovina, Levias Faculty Center, Third Floor, 919 W. Illinois, Sponsored by Russian and East European Center, CAS, WGGP and others. Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.


Much of our work focuses on human security themes, not only freedom from war and violence, but security related to income, health care, housing, and a clean environment. Globalization has increased flows of people across borders and created regions of the world. The WGGP will host Symposium 2002: Gender and Transnational Networks. This symposium brings together a group of outstanding specialists from different fields to discuss themes of socio-political transformation, gender-identity, technology, popular culture, migration, and human security networks. From the array of topics that we arrived at through many discussions of the WGGP executive committee, you can see that we believe that you can understand human security and evaluate policies to promote it if you grasp the many elements that go into well-being, including cultural expression (more on this on page 5). Events that WGGP is cosponsoring at UI this fall also address aspects of human security, from food security, to religious tolerance, to addressing terrorism. We have already heard a lot on food security and eradication of poverty as national security goals presented by Per Pistrup-Andersen, who has served the maximum ten years at director of IFPRI and will now be at Cornell. The lead sponsor of this talk is ACES Global Connect, a new organization of international studies and research in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. The conference on terrorism is planned for the year and are listed in our coming events section. WGGP also is supporting the initiative on the study of globalization by the Center for Advanced Studies. The first talk in this series was given by Walden Bello, who discussed the issue of globalization from below. On September 15th, Dr. Syeda Saiyidah Hameed, who is a founding member of India’s Muslim Women’s Forum and Women’s Initiative for Peace in South Asia spoke about Women and Islam in South Asia. Her visit was sponsored by the Global Crossroads for Living and Learning and cosponsored by WGGP and several other units. Dr. Hameed was at UI several days making presentations and interacting with students and faculty. We have been working with the area centers to provide a gender perspective at the conference, Rethinking Terrorism, Oct. 3-5th Carol Cohn will speak on Gender and the Technologies of Terror on Oct. 24, 2:25 p.m. The full program of this conference can be found in our newsletter. The conference and WGGP will also provide a development studies film series this fall at noon on Wednesdays that focuses on the theme of family. WGGP will show three films (see page 2).

The Gender Relations in International Development (GRID) multidisciplinary graduate concentrations are thriving. Several GRID alumni report on area centers that this is the most important part of the GRID experience and staying engaged in area centers and cosponsoring events with the area centers and the ethnic studies centers on campus. Most of these units are now sponsors of the GRID concentrations and we look forward to working with them. We have been fortunate to have growing donations to support GRID student research. The Goodman Fellowship has reached its goal for matching by the University; so next year we will be able to offer a full stipend to a fellow to allow her/him to concentrate on research. The Yates and Furber grants will be awarded again, and the Due and Perger grant will be available soon (see page 13). For more information on these awards or on becoming a GRIDS graduate student, contact our office and check the updated webpage.

Well, these are plans just for the fall semester. We are indeed fortunate to have so many excellent speakers and events on campus. For those of you who cannot make it to UI, some of the events will lead to publications [and we'll be summarizing material from our symposium in the newsletter]. Furthermore, we continue to have outstanding short articles contributed to the newsletter that we can share with you. As we go through this year, we hope that you will share your ideas, insights, and accomplishments, with us and newsletter readers.

Take Action NOW!

CEDAW, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, has finally passed the U.S. Senate's Foreign Relations Committees with a 93-0 vote. It will come up before the entire Senate for a vote this fall. Adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly, CEDAW is often described as an international bill of rights for women. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. Currently, 189 countries that have ratified CEDAW are legally bound to put its provisions into practice. CEDAW has been used in many countries to support women's rights to education, voting, employment, and property ownership. It is past time for the U.S. to join the other 170 countries of the world that have ratified the treaty. The lack of U.S. ratification hinders our diplomatic efforts to help stop domestic violence, sexual trafficking and the denigration of health and education. You can write your senator to support CEDAW; passage would send a strong message in support of equity for a very low cost. Write letters to editors and get the information to student groups on campus. Talk to others about the importance of getting the U.S. to sign the treaty. For more information, see these web pages: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/ and http://www.womenstruggle.org
Program highlights included a two-part opening plenary on May 31 focused on expanding militarism and unregulated movements of capital that threaten human security and the need for a feminist perspective on violence, globalization, and human security. Panellists were Charlene Bunch (Center for Women’s Global Leadership), Rutgers University), Cynthia Enloe (Women’s Studies, Clark University), Sima Wati (Refugee Women in Development), Rosalind Pescevelly (CUNY Graduate Center, Ngoro Okomo (Europe (World Bank), Rabah Abdullatif (Center for Gender and Sexuality, New York University), and Virginia Vargas (UNIFEM/Flora Tristan). The opening plenary on May 31 featured Leith Mullangi (CUNY, US Representative Carolyn Maloney and Eleanor Smeal (Feminist Majority Foundation) and focused on: "The New War against Terrorism: Implications for the US".

Facilitated group discussions followed on a range of topics, including: Addressing 'Human Security in the Academy' (Janet Holmgren, Mills College and Tehobo Moja, New York University); "Globalization and Corporate Citizenship" (Roslyn Dickerson, Honye Wel); "Militarization, Globalization and Violence" (Ann Tackes, University of Southern California), and "Labour Unions Organizing for Human Security" (Dorothy Sue Cobble, Institute for Research on Women, Rutgers University). A panel discussion on Risk, Rights and Gender in the 21st Century, organized by Gale Summerfield (University of Illinois Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program) was chaired by Kristen Timothy, NCRW.

According to Linda Basch, Executive Director of the National Council for Research on Women, a major outcome of the conference was a heightened awareness of the importance of holding institutions accountable for human security and the need to advance a gendered definition of human security, with a focus on inform activism and engage policy makers in a new and timely dialogue.

One of the new avenues for developing a feminist critique of security is the newly established Humanities Fellowship Program of the National Council for Research on Women and the Center for the Study of Women and Society at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY). The program, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, addresses the theme: "Facing Global Conflict, Finding Human Security: A Gendered Critique".

A centerpiece of the new program is a biweekly seminar that will meet over the course of the program and engage scholars, policy analysts and activists. The themes for the first semester’s meetings are: "Human Security: Definitions and Scope (26 September); Discourses of Globalization: From Empire to Empire (10 October); Human Rights and Human Security (24 October); Conflict, Terror and the State (7 November); Cultures of Violence (21 November); Trafficking, Nations and Boundaries (5 December), and Accountability and Citizenship (19 December)." Three fellows have been selected for the program: Jacqueline Berman, Visiting Professor in the Department of Political Science/Women’s Studies Program at Tulane University, has her Ph.D. in International Relations from Arizona State University, her project for the program is "The Illicit Border Transgressed: Sex Trafficking Discourses." Berman’s publications include "The Body Politic or an Embodied Politics: Toward an (E)Gender Analysis of Security Studies." Indra Sajja, former Executive Director of the Asian Center for Women’s Human Rights has her Ph.D. from the University of the Philippines in Political Science. Her project is: "Documenting Women’s Human Rights Violations in Situations of War and Armed Conflict as a Human Security Issue". Mariana Malycheva, researcher at the Institute of Socio-Economic Studies of St. Petersburg, Russian Academy of Sciences, and Project Director at the Moscow Center for Gender Studies holds a Ph.D. in Economics. Her project is: "Limits and Opportunities of Women’s Integration into Global Governance." A fourth fellow, not yet announced, will present her project for 3 months in 2003. For a program of NCRW’s Annual Conference and summary of proceedings, and more information on the Rockefeller Fellowship Program, including the application form for 2003-2004 fellows, go to www.ncrw.org.

Globalization is changing immigration patterns and networks around the world and presenting new challenges for public policies. Gap remains in our knowledge about whether women and men play different roles or utilize different social networks in promoting security, creativity, and community involvement for their families. This symposium brings together specialists from different fields to explore gender issues of transnational networks in socio-politics, hybridity-identity, technology-popular culture, migration-mobility, and human security-economic policy.

PROGRAM

Thursday, October 17, 2002
Miller Center Keynote Address, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Evelyn Hu DeHart, Department of History and Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University.

Scenes from the Pacific Rim: Gender, Globalization and the Asian Diaspora. Introduction by Earl Kellogg, Associate Provost for International Affairs.

Reception following from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, October 18, 2002
Opening, 9:00 - 9:15 a.m.
Gale Summerfield, Director of WGP, UI
Panel 1. Hybridity and Identity, 9:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Cynthia Radding, UI; Pradeep Dhillon, UI; Angharad Valdivia, UI; Evelyn Hu DeHart, Brown U. (titles pending).


Break, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Panel 2: Transnational Socio-Political Networks, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Jane Jaquette, Occidental College, Women and Participation as the Third Wave Ebb. Discussant: Merle Bowes.

Irene Tinker, University of California at Berkeley, Quotas for Women in Elected Legislatures: Does this really Empower Women? Discussant: Marianne Ferber.

Break, 2:30 - 2:45 p.m.
Panel 3: Technology-Popular Cultural Networks, 2:45 - 5:15 p.m.

Isabel Wong, UI, Inventing an Imaginary Space: China’s Tibetan Inspired New Age World Bear. Discussant: David Goodman.

Maria Silva, UI, Mexican Migrant Women on the Prairies: Transnational Motherhood and Communities (film). Discussant: Carol Huang.

Saturday, October 19, 2002

Evelyn Accad, UI, September 11 and its Implications for Arab Women. Discussant: Cliff Singer.


Wrap-up Discussion. 11:45-12:30
News from WGGP Associates

Jocelyn Armstrong, Community Health, UIUC, co-edited an article on "Populations in Contemporary Southeast Asian Societies: Identities, Interdependence and International Influence.

Naimunna Barro, GRID doctoral student in curriculum and instruction, UIUC, did her fieldwork this summer in Senegal, working with an NGO called Tostan, an adult literacy program for women in rural Senegal.

Boataa Boateng, Ph.D., Institute of Communications Research, UIUC, completed her dissertation in August 2002 in African Culture in the Global Marketplace: The Case of Folklore and Intellectual Property in Ghana and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication, U. of California at San Diego, where her research and teaching areas include: international communications policies; the politics of knowledge production in communications and feminism; issues of power in global cultural flows; and women in African film.

Liora Bresler, Curriculum and Instruction, UIUC, co-edited with Christine Thompson, The Arts in Children’s Lives: Context, Culture, and Creativity by Alexander Ardichvili, Multiple Paradigms for International Research in Education: Experience, Theory and Practice, Bresler’s Across Music Education & Other Disciplines was the keynote speech at the 2002 International Seminar in Music Education, Bergen, Norway.

Janna Crawford, GRID student in Urban and Regional Planning, UIUC, participated in the 2002 Gold Cup Wheelchair Basketball Competition in Kitakyushu, Japan in August. The world’s top eight women’s teams competed for gold. Janna is one of five USA members that also represent the UIUC academic and athletic teams. The US women played great and came home with a silver medal.

Flora L. Kenny, Sokoine U. of Agriculture, Kenya, and former GRID student, UIUC, presented a paper, Demand and Supply Factors Determining Contraceptive Use in Tanzania, at the Population Association of America Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, May 9-11, 2002.

Alma J. Gottlieb, Anthropology, UIUC, is the 2001-03 Vice President and President-Elect, Society for Humanistic Anthropology. During 2001-02 she served as a Faculty Mentor in the Teaching Academy, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UIUC. Her new book chapter, Interpreting Consequences: The hierarchical community from Cultural Anthropology, appears in Exotic No More: Anthropology on the Front Lines, edited by Jeremy McCanny.

Myriam Baku, GRID, UIUC, graduated in May 2002 with a Master of Laws degree specializing in International Human Rights Law with emphasis on women’s rights.


Suyia Salamons, Human and Community Development, UIUC, serves as the President of the Rural Sociological Society (2001-02). Salamons delivered the presidential address ‘From Hometown to Homestead: Rural Community Effects of Suburbanization in the Society’s annual meeting in Chicago Aug. 14-17. The address featured her new book to be published by the University of Chicago Press in November 02, Newcomers to Old Towns: Suburbanization of the Midwest. She was also appointed for a three year term, 02-05 to the National Research Council, Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Mahir Saul, Anthropology, UIUC, spent six weeks (May-June) as a visiting scholar at the University of Leuven in Belgium where he was invited to give four lectures. One of them, ‘The Language of Creativity: Transnational Trade in West Africa’, was on cross-border and transcontinental women traders in West Africa.

Mark Steinberg, Russian and East European Studies, UIUC, published Voices of Revolution, 1917 (Yale University Press) and completed Preliminary Imaginaries: Self, Society, and the Sacrifices and Illusions that appear from Cornell University Press this fall. Questions of gender, masculinity, and the image and experience of women are themes in both studies.

Lauren Tobey, GRID student and Ph.D. Candidate, Nutrition, UIUC, submitted two papers for publication to Foodservice Research International and the Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, both concerning different aspects of international food guide graphics.

Suzanne Wilson, GRID student and Ph.D. Candidate, Human and Community Development, UIUC, has been serving as Project Coordinator for the Adolescence in the 21st Century Study Group (Pl, Reed Larson). The work of the Study Group has been completed and is now available in three published volumes. For more about the books and the Study Group, visit www.s-a-s.org/studygroup. Suzanne is also co-author of two chapters in Perils and Promise and is the Associate Editor for the IAFFE Newsletter.

Greetings from Our GRID Alumnae

Beatriz Padilla, Ph.D., Sociology, I have been in Lisbon, Portugal for seven months now. I am currently teaching at the Universidade Autonoma de Lisboa (UAL), which is a private university. As in many other countries, but unlike the USA, there is little or no research in these private institutions, so the professor limits herself to teaching a course or part of a course. In my case, I am teaching two courses: a seminar on Strategic Management for students of International Relations; and Theory of International Relations for students of Communications. Teaching is very different from the experience in the United States, as evaluation is mainly based on a written final exam and students are not expected to produce anything or do much while they attend classes. That has been a challenge, as I am trying to incorporate some different patterns and ways to evaluate students. In these courses, I have been able to incorporate a lot of my research interests and topics into the curricula, so I am happy about it.

In addition to the teaching, I have been working on a research project that focuses on the relation between inequality and the diffusion of new technologies. It is not only promising but also challenging, as the rest of the team are engineers, and they have expectations about my contributions from the social sciences, qualitative aspects of research and from perspectives of developing countries in terms of diffusion of new technologies. As this project takes place in an Engineer School, and as it would be expected, other team members are engineers. I have been concerned about this project because I add an interdisciplinary to my research experience, and I hope I can improve the issue of gender as it relates to the hard sciences and to the gender gap in technology use and diffusion.

Finally, but not least, I have been awarded a grant by the National Foundation of Science and Technology. The proposal, that was submitted last April and recently approved, is to study Brazilian immigrants in Portugal. This is a topic which I am more familiar with and that I already explored at the UIUC. I am very excited to have my own grant! In this project I am planning to use gender as one main variable to study and analyze, as I did when it comes to immigration, people tend to forget the differences in experiences for men and women and I am very interested in studying the phenomenon.

I am happy with the new life in a new country, and probably I will have more surprises and life changes once our son, Francisco, is born next month. However, I still miss Urbana-Champaign, my friends, colleagues and professors.

Varsha Venugopal, M.A., Urban Planning: Greetings! I completed my Masters in Urban Planning with a specialization in International Planning and a minor in Gender Studies. I got interested in gender and development, development after taking the GRID course offered by WGGP. It opened my eyes to a whole school of thought regarding gender concerns in development, which had been ignored for so long in development theories. After working in Nepal on the issues of gender empowerment and decentralization (with the aid of the Barbara Yates grant offered by WGGP) I became more specifically focused on issues of gender and governance. I am presently interning with an international advocacy organization WEJO (Women’s Environment and Development Organization), Gender and Governance Program in New York. The organization ‘seeks to develop the power of women worldwide as policymakers to achieve economic and social justice, a healthy and peaceful planet, and human rights for all.’ The Gender and Governance Program seeks women’s full and equal access to all areas and all levels of public life, working toward gender balance in terms of participation and representation, especially in governmental decision-making positions. It focuses on three strategies: raising awareness about the under-representation of women in decision-making positions and the policy difference that women make when represented in critical numbers; spreading a gender-based called ‘Get the Balance Right’; and developing information resources and advocacy tools on strategies to achieve equal representation in decision-making bodies.

I have primarily been conducting research in two areas. One is in the area of gender and environmental decision-making, looking at gender policies of environmental organizations such as UNEP and financial institutions, such as the IMF and World Bank (incidentally the IMF does not have any policy on environment or gender though its policies have a large impact on them). This research has been primarily for presentation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg.

My other research focus has been on factors affecting women in political processes. This research include quotes in the parliament, source of funds in elections for the individual parties etc. It’s a new field and I believe there is a potential for research in this area.

September 2002

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Gender Action (GA)*

Gender Action’s mission is to ensure that women and men equally participate in and benefit from multilateral development bank (MDB) investments in developing countries. Achieving GA’s mission is a prerequisite to realizing the Women Bank’s and development community’s dream of “a world free of poverty” and a gender equitable world. Less poverty and more democracy are essential in achieving a world of peace, a world without terrorism.

Research indicates that countries that achieve these goals is not possible without considering the role of women. Societies with greater gender discrimination tend to experience more poverty, slower economic growth and inferior living standards than societies with greater gender equality. Despite compelling worldwide evidence correlating greater gender equality with less poverty and greater economic growth, international development projects rarely attempt to reduce gender disparities. A recent World Bank evaluation of over 3,000 loan agreements found that only 7 percent contained gender-sensitive components to gender or women. Therefore, the most loan benefits have accrued to men, and not only women benefited less but their welfare has often deteriorated. Today, 70 percent of the world’s poor are women.

Even with persuasive research demonstrating that gender equality matters to development, the new poverty reduction strategies required of the poorest countries by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund have not been mainstreaming gender. Evidence suggests that many civil society development initiatives also hardly address gender concerns but substantiating data need to be collected. Underlying the disconnect between strong gender equality rhetoric and sparse attention to it in many development projects is a lack of incentives for staff to address gender issues and a lack of information about the importance of gender in the development process. MDB personnel evaluations, salaries and bonuses are not tied to project gender analyses and outcomes. Rarely does MDB training raise awareness about the importance of development of reducing gender gaps. Mandates for MDBs to reduce gender inequalities do not exist.

Over the last quarter century, many MDBs have established gender units and have succeeded in incorporating gender considerations into many reproductive health and some education and livestock projects. Nevertheless, most analytical work, country dialogue, public expenditure reviews, and investments contain few gender considerations.

* Select Sector Examples of MDB Investments Neglect and Need to Address Gender Concerns

Poverty: Projects typically target “the poor”, “poor communities”, “vulnerable groups” and “poor households”, not men and women separately. But poverty has different consequences for men and women reflecting differences in control over resources and income. Treating communities and households as single static units can overestimate women’s well-being since community and household distribution often favors men. It is important to disaggregate poverty effects by gender.

Assess: Gender disparities in access to and control of productive assets (such as land, information, technology and credit), human assets (such as education and training) and social assets (such as business networks), hinder women’s opportunities and reduce their economic status and ability to influence decisions. Despite African women access less than 10% of small farmer credit and less than 1% of total agriculture sector credit.

Lending: Projects rarely address women’s lack of legal rights to owning ownership in many developing countries. Female-headed households are particularly vulnerable to homelessness.

Employment and Privatization: Women are usually the first to be laid off and last to be rehired in MDB investments. Resulting loss of social services expands women’s caring role and reduces their time for income-earning activities. Male unemployment victims often engage in alcoholism and domestic violence.

These consequences are often ignored in MDB projects.

Agriculture: Projects usually target male farmers and 93% of African extension agents are male, although women constitute 70% of African farmers. Women food producers have access to smaller, inferior plots and fewer inputs than men. Women are often denied legal rights to own land.

Transport: Water, Fuelwood and Crops: In many countries water, fuelwood, crops and other necessities are transported by women on foot. In African countries they are often transported by women on their heads. Although MDBs have financed many transport investments, rarely they have reduced women’s transport burdens and facilitated children’s access and safety in traveling to school.

Environment: Most environmental information and training target men although women manage natural resources daily, e.g., collecting and burning fuelwood, and women are the primary environmental educators to children about sanitation (including hand-washing and excreta disposal).

WGGP Associates at the Women's Congress, Kampala, Uganda*

Namkar Grace David Muni, GRID student in Human Resource Education, UIUC, The Congress was held in Uganda at Makerere University in Kampala. Representation of over 1,000 women and many governments and NGOs around the globe facilitated critical discussions among the participants on specific needs, demands and expectations of gender issues by all stakeholders. For example, a workshop session on Women and Gender Education highlighted how a simple classroom setting like sitting in a circle can hinder or promote gender capabilities, depending on the culture. Another paper on Women Entrepreneurs pointed out that a woman’s business in some countries is a cultural phenomenon, not just a business. The enterprise is not only the means of survival, but the way of life for many women—a career which starts quite early in life; hence the business aspect is relative. Other workshops I participated in included: A Community Library Project for Women; A Case Study on Creating New Ways of Literacy for Women, in spite of their heavy loads; Women Go Global (in which Zakka Salime (GRID student in Sociology) and Winifred Poster (UI Professor of Sociology), co-presented a paper on The Limits of Micro-credit: Transnational Feminism and USAID Activities in the US and Morocco; and Gender, Agriculture and Environmental Conservation, focusing on deprived environments and avoiding blaming women for environmental degradation. Strategies for reclaiming indigenous skills for survival in this century and acquiring...
Women’s Rights at Risk at the World Summit in Johannesburg

Wendy Annecke*, Cape Town, South Africa

Despite the best efforts of the Women’s Caucus and other women’s groups, women and gender issues tended to be marginalised at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa at the end of August. Women and vulnerable groups such as the Landless People’s organization made the secretariat headquarters at the Summit in a last ditch attempt to rescue poverty eradication and human rights which had been pushed into the background. The Women’s Caucus served as the meeting place for many discussions and discussions, but there did not seem to be the political will on the part of the leaders to move on gender issues. Indeed, spokesperson for the Women’s Caucus noted that the gains made at the Earth Summit in Rio 10 years ago were, in the case of health and other sectors, being eroded and in some cases reversed.

My particular interest was in the efforts to put gender on the energy agenda, which was a particularly fraught task, with energy specialists displaying stale patriarchal tendencies and the USA refusing not only to sign the Kyoto Protocol, but also, along with Japan, unwilling to commit to the target of 15% renewables suggested by the European Union. The one positive, an agreement to halve the number of people in the world without access to water and sanitation by the year 2015, will, in itself assist women if it is met and especially those caring for people who are HIV-positive. Other hot topics for women, especially women farmers, were biotechnology and genetically modified organisms, as they need to have the real problem to realise their potential to have to work hard to retain their viabilities and rights, and even harder to make any progress. Check out www.genderlinks.org.za. Also http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/ and http://www.issd.ca/wssd/portal.html.

*Wendy Annecke, Energy expert, South Africa and WGGP Associate

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skills for new technologies are topics for further discussion and debate. The participation of a group of women with disabilities in many of the workshops calls for another agenda for discussion. I also observed that at least 10 women delegates from Uganda and one top Ugandan government official were present in various sessions from the beginning to the end and presented issues for debate from their communities. The President of Uganda, Yoweri K. Museveni, officially opened the Congress on July 21st, and his wife, Janet, officiated at some of the sessions. The Minister of Gender, Labor and Social Development, Hon. Zoe Biko-Bakora, and the Vice President, Dr. Speccious Kazibwe, also participated in some of the sessions. Dr. Kazibwe is the only woman in Africa to hold the post of Vice President of a country.

During the Congress proceedings, at the entrance lobby, the WGGP GRID video, entitled We’re All In This Together, was screened and presented, among others. Featuring WGGP’s graduate concentration, Gender Relations between Women and Men (GRID), video, illustrates the efforts and solidarity of 13 IUUC GRID students and graduates working in institutions and organizations, both locally and globally, to support and promote global gender perspectives and human resource development.

This year’s Congress was coordinated by the Department of Women and Gender Studies (DGWS) at Makerere University. Dr. Consolata Kabomora, (GRID graduate, 1998, Human and Community Development, IUUC); Acting Head of DGWS, was a major convenor of the Congress. The University has been very instrumental and supportive in the development of the DGWS. It is said to be one of only a few African universities in the 1990s to offer a graduate degree (MA) in Gender Studies. Indeed, the effect of Makerere University as a catalyst for change and development is observed at one steps out of the campus fence. For example, just 200 yards away at Wandegeya bus stop, at the banks, or at the market place, you see women and men from all walks of life equally engaged in meeting the challenges of the day. Perhaps one of the most touching moments during the Congress was the welcoming and opening of a brand new, three-story building to house the Department of Women and Gender Studies. The ceremony marked the end of ten years of struggle to create a permanent working space for the development and education and development but as a venue for debating issues and planning for greater sustainable growth and participation. Present at the Council of Representatives opening ceremony, were a local national and international friends and colleagues who supported the department from its early years, even when it started operating as a small office renovated from a demolished bathroom! The story of the “humble beginnings” was narrated by the first founder of the Department, Honorable Professor Victoria Mwaka, who is now a member of the Ugandan parliament. Supporters and well-wishers such as the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD), The Swedish International Agency for Development (SIDA-SAREC), the Carnegie Corporation, African Women’s Development, and the Forum for African Women Educators (FAWE) helped create the new building as a tangible structure of hope and, hopefully, not merely an ivory tower, erected in the institution of higher learning, as evidence of gender solidarity and commitment to more dynamic progress for opportunities for all.

The opening of the new DGWS building in Kampala also symbolized a physical networking growth in the implementation of some plan of action activities debated in other previous International Women Conferences. The FAWE house in Nairobi, Kenya, a number of children’s and women’s hospitals and clinics, the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme, (TGNP), some universities struggling to establish Gender and Women’s Studies centers, departments, and courses for women’s organizations and trust funds offer opportunities to dialogue among and between various stakeholders who are committed to creating a positive environment for all. Still, a lot remains to be done.
The local setting of implementation of micro-credit. We argued that there are many limitations in the ideological frameworks of micro-credit that originate in First World settings like USAID, which are transposed globally through NGOs, and reinforced through the state. More precisely, the problem lies in "defining," on the one hand, micro-credit as the primary strategy for empowering women economically, and on the other hand, women as the primary or exclusive members of micro-credit programs.

We concluded that there are many costs to this approach, including "magnifying women's burden as providers for the family, discouraging male responsibility in household maintenance, and increasing the household workload for other family members, especially daughters."
COURSES AND FELLOWSHIPS

Gender, Organizational Change, Agriculture and Leadership Course, Wageningen University in the Netherlands, February 10-28, 2003. Deadline 1 December 2002. Some fellowships from the Dutch Government are available for the course. Visit the International Agricultural Centre’s Website at: http://www.iac.wageningen-un.nl, or e-mail: training@iac.dlo.nl.

New Voices Fellowship Grants. Deadline January 13, 2003. For individuals with initiative and good ideas to work with small progressive groups in the US on a range of issues from gender and reproductive health to international economic rights (labor, trade, environment). The 2003 New Voices Fellowship Grant Application is now available online at http://newvoices.aed.org/processform.html.

Gender and Globalization in Asia and the Pacific, Deadlines: For Fall 2003, December 1, 2002; for Spring 2004, April 1, 2003. Office for Women’s Research, University of Hawaii at Manoa seeks scholars from Asia-Pacific and other nations who wish to extend or initiate work on gender and globalization within an Asia-Pacific context. Detailed information and application materials available at http://www.hawaii.edu. Or contact Dr. Kathy Ferguson, Director, Women’s Studies Program, University of Hawaii, 2434 Maile Way, No. 222, Honolulu, HI 96822; Ph (808) 956-8835; Fax (808) 956-9610; e-mail kfergus@hawaii.edu.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) offers American & International Fellowships for the 2003-2004 academic year. Postdeadline 1 December 2002. International Fellowships are awarded for full-time study or research to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Both graduate and postgraduate study at accredited institutions are supported. The foundation will award 38 fellowships for the 2003-2004 academic year. Six of these awards are available to members of International Federation of University Women affiliate organizations. These fellowship recipients may study in any country other than their own. International Fellowships deadline: 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004. American Fellowships support women doctoral candidates completing dissertations or scholars seeking funds for postdoctoral research leave from accredited institutions. Applications are due to AAUW in Washington, DC prior to the deadline indicated for the fellowship. American Fellowships deadline: Applications available from 1 August to 1 November 2002. Application postdeadline: 15 November 2002. Fellowship year: 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004.

2003 Economic and Social Policy Fellows, Network of East-West Women, U.S.A. or European Placement (Feb. 1, 2003 - May 1, 2003) and In-country placements (CEEE/NIS) (May 1, 2003 - Apr 30, 2004). Deadline: November 01, 2002. Provides intensive training and regional networking opportunities to young women from Central and Eastern Europe, Independent States of the former Soviet Union, Independent States and the Russian Federation working to achieve economic and social justice for women in their country. Women economists, NGO activists, trade unionists or others from CEE/NIS/Russian Federation working on economic and social justice for women may apply. Applicants should submit the following materials in English: Cover letter summarizing: 1) the applicant’s involvement in the field of women’s economic/social justice; 2) her training and experience in economics and/or public policy; and 3) her work with local women’s organizations; Curriculum vitae; Two letters of recommendation in English; Translators’ English translations, including all current contact information for the letter’s author; Personal statement describing the applicant’s future career plans, and her reasons for applying to the Economic and Social Policy Fellowship Program; 3-5 page country briefing paper about women’s economic status in her country, including recommendations for advocacy and reform; and Signed declaration that, if selected for the Program, the applicant will return to her home country to complete a 12-month follow-on project immediately following the placement period. Completed application should be sent by email to NEWW at <ecels@neww.org>. If email is not possible, please send the complete application packet by regular mail to NEWW, 1761 S Street NW, Suite L-12, Washington, DC 20009, Tel (202) 290-9001, Fax (202) 290-9003, Website: www.neww.org.

Investing in Women In Development (IWID) Fellow Program - U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Institute of International Education (IEE). Various locations. Deadline: October 11, 2002. Eligibility criteria: U.S. Citizenship. Must possess a graduate degree in an area of emphasis: 4-15 years practical work experience in one of the following sectors: environment, business and economic development, democracy & governance, education and poverty reduction. Application technologies along with one of the aforementioned sectors is also desirable. Criteria: Availability for year-long assignment in a developing country or Washington, DC. Must attend orientation and field training in Washington, DC prior to assignment; Technical implementation skills in given sector(s); Field/Development experience; Leadership/Supervisory skills; Ability to initiate and maintain effective partnerships; Ability to communicate in English; highly flexible; Alternate language proficiency recommended. Applicants can download an application by going to the IWID program’s website at http://www.iwid.org/program/index.html.

The Asia Foundation, a non-profit grantmaking organization headquartered in San Francisco with 17 offices in Asia invites qualified applicants to fill two openings:

Representative for Media and Representative, Cambodia (Each position is located in the country specified). The Representative represents the Foundation in the country of assignment. Within established policy guidelines, the Representative directs all Foundation programs, administrative, development and public relations activities within that country. Requirements: At least ten years of progressively responsible relevant program and management experience in international development is required; academic experience in a field related to Foundation interests and relevant Asian language capacity are desirable. Master’s degree, or earned doctorate in an appropriate field (Political Science or economics degree preferred). Excellent managerial and supervisory skills required. Proven verbal and written communication skills. Send resume with cover letter, specifying the position for which you are applying, to: Human Resources, The Asia Foundation, P.O. Box 19322, San Francisco, CA 94119-3223 or fax to 415/956-4837 or email to jobs@asiafoundation.org.

Food for Development, Project Assistant. ACDI/VOCA, Washington, DC USA. Seeks a D.C.-based Project Assistant to provide support to ACDI/VOCA’s Food for Development Division (FDD) in assisting in the backstopping and administration of food aid-based programs, and to serve as the administrative assistant to the divisions’ Senior Vice President. Candidate must have: Bachelor’s degree in international development or related field; international development experience living or working abroad; strong analytical, written/oral communication, and computer skills; ability to work as part of a team; must be able and willing to travel extensively. Preference will be given to candidates with major foreign language skills. Send resume, cover letter, and salary history to: HR/VP-FPD, P.O Box 77316, WDC, 20013, Fax:(202)638-7477 or email: openings@acdicova.org. For this and other related positions visit www.acdicova.org.

Maternal and Child Health - Reproductive Health Specialist. International Medical Corps (IMC), Heart, Afghanistan seeks a Maternal and Child Health/Reproductive Health Specialist to work with communities and manage IMC’s MCH programs in Western Afghanistan. The Maternal and Child Health/Reproductive Health Specialist will assist the Ministry of Public Health in Herat Province to develop a maternal and child health care department within the province which will include training of MOHP clinic and hospital staff as well as developing MCH standards and a method of monitoring and supervision for MCH services in the province. The Maternal and Child Health/Reproductive Health Specialist will also work in collaboration with the IMC Technical Officer in the implementation and supervision of IMC’s MCH clinics in the provinces of Herat and Badghis. Qualifications: MD with three to five years experience in clinical and technical aspects of maternal and child health and/or reproductive health; Experience in the implementation and management of health care projects; Previous training experience; Strong organizational and supervisory skills; Ability to analyze and prioritize needs; Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work with a large team of MOHP staff; Fluency in English required; applicants with language abilities in Dari and Pashtun encouraged to apply; Prior experience working in insecure environments. Submit resumes or CVs and cover letter by mail, fax or email. Resumes submitted by email preferred. Please state the Position Code (IMC-MCH/RHS/ AFG) in the Subject Heading of your email. Email: careers@imcworldwide.org. For openings in Indonesia and Afghanistan, please contact: International Medical Corps, PO Box 200, Australia, 8 Cascade Street, North Balwyn, 3104 Victoria, AUSTRALIA, Tel: +61 425 770093, Attention: Joy Kusserow at careers@imcworldwide.org. Website: www.imcworldwide.org.

RESOURCES

Website: African Women Lawyers Association. Aims to strengthen networking between African women lawyers, to share information and to lobby for gender equality in Africa through legislative reform, public education and advocacy; to promote the principles of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, and the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights; to enhance the legal status of women in Africa. Visit website a www.aawlafrica.org.

Women’s Rights Website: Coalition on Violence Against Women - COVAW, Kenya is a women’s human rights organisation that is committed to the eradication of all forms of violence against women and the promotion of women’s human rights. Visit: website at www.covaw.org.uk


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