Director’s Notes

During the Fall semester, WGGP has built new collaborations across campus addressing the human security areas of biofuels sustainability and gendered impacts of the associated rising food prices on well-being and agency. We are cosponsoring a workshop here at UIUC in May and plan to have one focused on Brazil in the 2008-09 academic year. In addition, we are examining the challenges of the rapidly changing global labor market, especially in information technology service work. An interdisciplinary project addresses the under-representation of women as faculty and students in higher education in the fields that serve as pipelines for this work. The third major area of our work continues on immigration/transnational migration in preparation for the Center for Advanced Study Initiative on Immigration that will take place next year. Prof. Doug Massey’s MillerComm lecture in October stimulated much discussion on US immigration policies. Donna Gabaccia will speak here on March 6th, bringing in both historical and policy dimensions. WGGP also joined with several other units to present a conference in September on Women and HIV/AIDS in Africa.

The lack of gender balance and other forms of diversity in the faculty of some departments, especially in engineering and the sciences, has implications for education and employment in these areas globally. Initiatives on gender equity and diversity are underway at UIUC to transform the institutional environment. This is a promising intersection of local and global concerns that we support through research and other efforts.

Our GRID students and the Goodman Fellows are doing remarkable research and applications around the world. Any contribution to the Goodman fund, Duc-Ferber or Yates funds goes entirely to support student research, and I hope you will consider supporting these young students through these funds in your gift decisions this year. To make a donation, contact WGGP at 217-333-1994.

May 2008 Workshop on Sustainable Biofuels and Human Security:
Critical Issues of Gender, Health, Environment and Food

A multidisciplinary team will explore critical human security issues associated with the partial shift to biofuels in specific contexts around the world. These issues are best addressed at the early stages of policy and technology design and implementation. The needs of groups that are usually marginalized, such as women and the poor, will be examined with attention to costs of adjustment and creative involvement of these groups in the new processes.

Co-sponsors include WGGP, Center for Advanced Bioenergy Research (CABER), Center for Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security (ACDIS) and Energy Biosciences Institute (EBI) partners at UIUC and University of California at Berkeley.

Further details will be forthcoming.
Building for the 2008-09 Center for Advanced Study Initiative on Immigration

Donna Gabaccia
Professor of History and Director, Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota

Nations of Immigrants

Tuesday, March 6, 2008

Time and location TBA.

WGGP Annual Award Opportunities, Deadline: Feb. 15

A Full Fellowship is available to new and continuing graduate students in any program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: The RITA AND ARNOLD GOODMAN FELLOWSHIP is a full scholarship of $13,000 plus tuition and service fee waiver to support graduate students working on such issues as literacy, reproductive rights, political participation, economic security, child welfare, and environmental protection with preference given to students whose work promises to make a significant practical contribution to the improvement of women's lives and gender equity in the developing world.

Grants are also available to new and continuing graduate students in any program who select the multidisciplinary graduate minor, Gender Relations in International Development (GRID), offered by WGGP [see GRID enrollment details below]*:

DUE AND FERBER INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD FOR DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH: Grants of up to $1,500 for travel expenses related to dissertation research addressing international issues of women, gender, and development for international students from developing countries whose work promises to make significant contributions to the improvement of women's lives and gender equity in the developing world.

BARBARA YATES INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD: Award of up to $500 to support a graduate student focusing on policy-oriented research on socioeconomic issues related to women and gender in developing countries for study on campus, conference presentation, or research abroad.

*TO ENROLL IN THE GRID MINOR: Submit the one-page GRID minor form available at the WGGP office, or you can download the form at http://www.iris.uiuc.edu/wggp/AWARDAPPLIC08.pdf

TO APPLY FOR WGGP AWARDS: Submit the application form available at the WGGP Office or at http://www.iris.uiuc.edu/wggp/grantfind.html. A student can submit a single application form to be considered for one or more awards. To apply, submit application and required materials by February 15, 2008 to: WGGP Office, 320 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth St., Champaign, IL 61820 (phone: 217-333-1994; fax: 217-333-6270; WGGP website: http://www.iris.uiuc.edu/wggp/.

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Perspectives: Research Notes & News

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WGGP welcomes your input in the form of news and articles for our newsletter as well as financial contributions of any amount. Please contact us at address and email below:

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