



Perspectives:

Research Notes & News

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Gale Summerfield

This fall was an especially busy time for WGGP beginning with Professors Wu Qing, Irene Tinker, and Kathleen Cloud making presentations in September. Former executive committee member, Isabel Wong helped arrange Wu Qing's visit as part of the Year of Asia sponsored by the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies and the MillerComm series. Although Wu Qing has recently retired as a professor of American Studies at the Foreign Studies University in Beijing, she remains amazingly active in politics and NGO work. Her article in this publication addresses her work with women who migrate from the countryside to the city in China. Despite laws restricting relocation, approximately 150 million people [30-40% women] have migrated from rural areas since the reforms began in the late 1970s. Wu Qing helped organized training classes and a cultural club for women migrants in Beijing and has helped them get their children into city schools.

The urban registration system in China has recently been relaxed, and the pace of migration is accelerating. Moreover, rural land contract laws are ending the redistribution of land that previously accommodated births, deaths, and women moving from their parents' village to that of their husbands when they marry. This puts more pressure on people to seek alternatives to traditional farming. I examine these changes in my chapter in a book that Jane Jaquette and I are just finishing editing, *Institutions, Resources, and Mobilizations: Women and Gender*

Summerfield cont. on p. 7

MIGRANT WOMEN IN CHINA

Wu Qing

China has the largest rural female population of any country. Many of our women cannot read or write. This limitation, combined with thick layers of feudal tradition, makes a formidable obstacle to attaining goals related to improving their quality of life.



Our Organization and its Growth

In 1993, three women who shared the mission of helping rural women in China began a magazine called *Rural Women Knowing All*. That year China prepared for the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, an exciting year for us. Like a well-nourished seed, our magazine has grown. We have become an NGO and we are now known as the *Beijing Cultural Development Center for Rural Women*. The magazine has 60,000 readers and is our main communication vehicle. New seeds have been sown; our group of three women has grown to 42 women and men. We manage projects and coordinate with the Practical Skills Training Center

Wu Qing cont. on p. 4

WGGP FALL ACTIVITIES

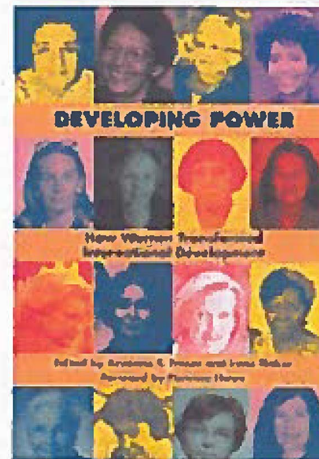
Women and Power in Asia

As part of the Year of East Asia, the Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program and the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies brought Professor **Wu Qing** to the University of Illinois as a George A. Miller Visiting Professor for the week of September 17-24, 2004. While she was on campus, Professor Wu met with students and colleagues, spoke at several noon seminars and luncheons, and gave a MillerComm lecture on *China's Rural-Urban Migrants: Equal Opportunities?* on September 21 to an overflow audience at Levis Faculty Center. (See article on page 1.)

In conjunction with Wu Qing's visit, WGGP brought **Irene Tinker** to campus for a week of interaction. Dr. Tinker is Professor Emerita, City and Regional Planning/Women's Studies, University of California, Berkeley. She was a founder of the International Center for Research on Women, the Wellesley Center for Research on Women, and the Equity Policy Center. Her current research focuses on women's accumulation of power through home ownership and electoral representation. Professors Tinker and Wu Qing spoke together at a seminar and led discussion on "Women's Political Participation in Asia," on September 22, 2004.

Developing Power: How Women Transformed International Development.

Irene Tinker and Kathleen Cloud gave a presentation on September 20 on their new book, (co-edited by Arvonne Fraser and Dr. Tinker). Dr. Cloud has a chapter entitled, "Hard Minds and Soft Hearts: A University Memoir," in which she chronicles her work in international development. Irene Tinker also wrote the introduction and a chapter. The book includes writings of 27 pioneering women from 12 countries who changed the face—and focus—of international development projects and policies. The book can be ordered from the Feminist Press at www.feministpress.org.



Transnational Migration

WGGP's Fall Symposium: Gender and Transnational Care Work was held on October 22, 2004. The symposium program included the following:



Women and Power in Asia, Sept 2004

Welcoming Remarks: Gale Summerfield, WGGP.

Film: *Chain of Love* (2001)

Panel I

US Immigrant Careworkers and Immigration Policies: Historical and Policy Perspectives, by Dorothee Schneider, UTUC; *Neoliberalism, Globalization, and the International Division of Care* by Joya Misra and Sabine Merz, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst; *Still Realizing the Patriarchal Bargain: The Strategic Negotiations of Hindu Immigrant Widows Living with Daughters and Daughters-in-Law in Southern California* by Lata Murti, U of Southern. California. (Discussant: Susan Koshy, UTUC)

Panel II

The Balance of Care: Trends in the Wages and Employment of Immigrant Nurses in the U.S. between 1990 and 2000 by Mary Arends-Kuenning and Paul McNamara, UTUC; *Transnational Women Health Care Workers: Agents or Victims* by S. Uma Devi, Univ. of Kerala, India and Univ. of Bergen, Norway; *The Symbolic Power of Homo Faber: The Body and Masculinity in Care Work* by Lise Isaksen, Univ. of Bergen, Norway; and *Globalization, the Increase in Transnational Care Work, and Its Flip Side: How Can We Make Sense of It?* by Jean Pyle, Univ. of Massachusetts, Lowell.

(Discussant: Winifred Poster, UTUC)

Closing Remarks, Manisha Desai, WGGP

Keynote MillerComm Address: *Android Dreams and Transnational Care Work*, Nancy Folbre, Professor of Economics, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst. A reception followed as the closing event of the symposium.

Other Events

WGGP jointly sponsored two other fall conferences: *Family, Gender and Law in the Middle East and South Asia*, with the Program on South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Oct. 7-9, with keynote MillerComm speaker, Suad Joseph, Anthropology, Univ. of California at Davis, and the Joint Area Centers Conference on *Contested Waters in a Globalizing World*, Nov. 4-6, with keynote MillerComm speaker, Amita Baviskar, Sociology, Univ. of Delhi, India, on "Water and Its Publics: Social Action Across Spaces and Scales."

Other campus events and speakers co-sponsored by WGGP and other campus units included: Julio Cammarota and the Social Justice Education Project, Sept. 16, sponsored by Latina/Latino Studies; "Communities and Conflicts in Central Asia and the Caucasus," Sept. 30, sponsored by Russian, East European and Eurasian Center; the visit of Sidney Mintz who gave a special seminar on Oct. 11 on "Food in the Transnational World," sponsored by Anthropology; Dr. Nwando Achebe, Oct. 15, on "When Glances Meet: Interrogating African Womanhood from Within and Without" sponsored by African Cultural Association and the Center for African Studies; and "Beyond a Boundary: Area, Ethnic, and Gender Studies and the 'New' Global Imperative," with Keynote Speaker, Neil Smith, on "Remapping Area Knowledge: Beyond Local/Global," Dec. 2-4, sponsored by Center for African Studies and Center for Democracy in a Multiracial Society.



WGGP Symposium: Gender and Transnational Care Work, Oct. 2004

Wu Qing, cont. from p.1

for Rural Women set up in 1998 and the Migrant Women's Club set up in 1996. Our target groups are grassroots women, women leaders at village, township, and county levels and girls who have dropped out of junior high due to poverty. Our courses are designed to tap their potential, increase their self-esteem, and help them become responsible citizens. We also offer skill building in computers, hairdressing, waitressing, and domestic work. This helps girls between 16 and 18 find employment after training. When they are earning money and feeling empowered, they are able to help their families get out of poverty and help their siblings continue their education.

The Migrant Women's Club was established in April of 1996, with the purpose of empowering migrant women who come to Beijing to look for employment. After 1979, more and more women and girls migrate to the cities to better themselves.

We now have over 700 members in this Club. We offer lectures on Labor Law, Marriage and Family Law, Gender and Citizenship, Social Values, City Life, and so on. We set up a "Legal Aid Group" in 2002 and "Emergency

Relief Fund for Migrant Women" in 2003 to follow proper legal process of these women to protect their rights and interests. We held a fundraising dinner in 2003. From feedback requests, we added classes in Chinese, mathematics, computer literacy and English classes to help them improve their job possibilities.



Additionally, we publish books to communicate our goals to a wider audience and to share success stories to inspire those who are uncertain. We have three sets of textbooks for literacy classes as well as books directed toward specific groups of girls and women, such as "Rural Women and Development in China," "The Chinese Registration System and Migrant Women," "Basic Readers for Teenage Girls in Rural Areas," "Manual for Preventing Rural Women's Suicide," and so on.

Our Mission and Brief History of our Work

Our mission is to advance women's human rights. Finding ways to provide services for women (especially rural women) regarding education, health, employment, and social and public services has become our first priority. We must help rural women become literate! We set the stage by emphasizing to women that they are human

beings first and women second. Women should not be constrained by stereotyped gender roles and longstanding traditions.

During the Fourth World Conference on Women, we

participated in workshops and had in-depth discussions with women from different continents. We all face the same issues: feminization of agriculture, poverty, and migration. We established training about gender, citizenship, democracy, and equality. We use participatory methodology in all our training, which helps form the foundation for a democratic approach to our society. Participants became independent and

self-reliant, and they began to voice their needs and demands.

Success Stories

Success stories have been abundant since 1979 when China opened up to the modern world and began to search for its place in that world. In our organization, socially committed editors with gender awareness have gone to the grassroots, listened to the stories of rural women, learned about their lives, their struggles, and the challenges they face. Then they have written about them in our magazine, thereby encouraging readers to feel empowered by the success stories of other women. Like a seed, they grow and form circles. We feel the circle represents the ideal management of our organization because in a circle no one is in charge.

Women have begun to read stories to those who cannot read, hopefully stimulating them to learn to read. An example is Wang Shuzia, who obtained one of the first copies of our magazine in 1994, and has been reading it ever since. She has attended many of our empowerment training workshops.

Her mindset changed. She has encouraged others to subscribe to the magazine. She has become a trainer at a Peasant School, teaching gender and empowerment.

Some of our stories are quite touching. Imagine being afraid to go to the local market because you cannot read the place names at the bus stops. Imagine not knowing the character for "Female,"

and being afraid of entering the men's toilet! Many could not write their names when their children brought school reports to be signed.

One woman from Hubei Province came to a literacy class with dull eyes and messy hair. After only two weeks, her eyes radiated confidence, and she took pride in making her hair attractive. She also began to participate openly in the class.

A woman from Gansu Province, influenced her entire family. She could not read or write. Every time one of her little boys brought home a school report, if the Dad was away, he would ask his older brother to sign the report. When the teacher learned of this, she criticized the boy and shamed him. After the mother came to our literacy classes, very soon with her hard work, she could write her own name. Imagine the

little boy's pride when he announced to his teacher, "My mother signed it!" Another mother relied on her fifth grade son to help her learn the characters. He



He began to concentrate in class and worked hard at school because he knew he had to be a "teacher" to his mother. He wanted to be good!

One pregnant woman insisted on joining a project to improve medical services in Southern China, in spite of her condition, because she did not want to miss the learning opportunity. To remember her experience, she named her baby

boy "An Guo," the name of the place where she had the training.

There are many stories like these. Now we begin to see that our goals are attainable.

Desired Outcomes for the Women

We know that in the final analysis, the most important goal is to empower women to have a strong sense of citizenship, to speak up, to be a part of the decision-making process so that their needs are reflected in laws and policies. We need both male and female voices in all decisions. We want to dare to speak out when there is violation of the Constitution.

We want to push for transparency, democracy, and the rule of law in the People's Republic of China. Our literacy training focuses on these subjects, so that what they learn will help them become active participants in the political process while learning to read and write. We train rural women and female cadres to learn to use the Constitution, not only to protect their own rights, but also to use it to supervise the work of government officials.

Since 2001, our organization has used our own resources to hold symposia on Women's Political Participation to encourage rural women to get into the decision-making process, to voice rural women's needs, and to try to make changes in their own local areas to show both the citizens and government servants the importance of supervision.

In the Chinese traditional culture, there has never been supervision, democracy, and the rule of law, so this means a major change in

thinking and acting. The first symposium was held in 2001 for village level party secretaries and heads of villages from the northern part of China. More than 130 women gathered to share their experiences, lessons, and how to face and overcome common difficulties. More than 100 attended in 2003.

These were very successful. For example, in 1994 Jia Junqiao was the head of a small mountainous village in Hebei Province. After our workshops, she knows about sustainable development. With her leadership, the incomes

of the villagers have increased from 200 yuan in 1994 to 2,000 yuan in 2004, a tenfold increase. In 1998, she was elected as deputy to the Hebei Provincial People's Congress; she is serving her second term.

Now she hopes to become a deputy

to the National People's Congress. She has encouraged eleven women from her village to attend our workshops on political participation; three of the eleven were elected to the township People's Congress.

China has had 2,400 years of feudalism. It may take centuries to change those deeply embedded traditional ideas. We know it is another Long March for us. Nevertheless, we are working hard to change the mindset of our people. We are confident of attaining gender equality in China.

Lack of funding has been a crucial problem. But so far we have been extremely lucky. Many foundations are supporting us because we are trying to be an NGO that is democratic,

和吴青校长在一起，学员们笑得多么开心。



transparent, accountable, and truly serve the target groups.

We believe in every seed, We know that if a seed is strong and healthy, it will send its roots deeper into the soil to absorb nourishment; it will have a strong stem to stand straight, to blossom, to bear flowers or fruits and to produce good seeds. Seeds grow and form circles, circles of sharing, equality, empowerment, and solidarity. We are both a seed and a circle, because only seeds of sharing can form circles. Every global citizen is a seed, and we form circles of equality, peace, and development to make this world a better place for us and for the generations to come.

Wu Qing is Professor Emerita, Beijing Foreign Studies University, and she has been a People's Deputy to the National People's Congress in China since 1984. She was the first to hold weekly office hours to talk to her constituents and to have public meetings for them to understand issues and results. In 2001 she won the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service which is the equivalent of the Nobel prize in Asia. Last year, Schwab Foundation chose her as one of the world's outstanding social entrepreneurs. She helped set up and run the first telephone hotline in Beijing for women to voice their problems and get support. She started a television series about a young woman in Beijing. She is Director of the Beijing Cultural Development Center for Rural Women. Wu Qing is presently fighting for the rights of rural-urban migrants to education in the city: supporting a bill that passed that gives the children the right to enter public schools without paying extra fees; helping improve schools that the migrants have set up; and registering migrants for services. This article includes excerpts from a talk she gave at the United Nations, New York, Fall 2004. She can be contacted at wuqing@public.bta.net.cn. We thank Wu Qing for permission to use 3 photos of her training classes for migrants in Beijing.

(Summerfield, cont. from page 1)

Equity in Development Theory and Practice
[forthcoming, Duke University Press].

Xiaoyuan Dong [Univ. of Winnipeg], Gunseli Berik [Univ. of Utah], and I are editing a special issue of *Feminist Economics* on gender aspects of changes in China since accession to the WTO at the end of 2001. "Chinese reforms of the past

two decades have fundamentally transformed the organization of agricultural production and marketing, increased the inflow of foreign direct investment and brought tremendous growth in manufacturing and exports. At the same time, serious regional and class inequalities and gender disparities have also emerged. Accession to the WTO is expected to exacerbate these inequalities. The changes are likely to produce great wealth for some, but poor women and men who are unable to move out of agricultural production and certain occupations may be especially disadvantaged" (editors' statement about the issue).

The WGGP Symposium in October explored transnational care work. Marianne Ferber helped us arrange for Nancy Folbre [U Mass Amherst] to be keynote MillerComm speaker. Nancy once again illustrated her creative thinking by discussing issues of technology and culture in the use of androids for elder care. Presentations by five visiting speakers and three UIUC speakers (see details on page 3) stimulated lively discussions of transnational migration for health care as well as general trends. Susan Koshy and Winnie Poster gave thoughtful comments to the panels. Manisha Desai, Sabine Merz, and I are editing a volume of conference papers. Kathy Martin (WGGP) was indispensable in making the symposium a reality.

During this semester we also jointly sponsored a symposium with PSAMES on gender, law, and family in the Middle East and South Asia and cosponsored the Joint Area Center Conference on water problems. Anthropologist Sidney Mintz was on campus for a conference on food, and through arrangements that David Goodman and Ethel Hazard made, Dr. Mintz graciously agreed to give a seminar to our associates on a new paper.

We welcome summaries of your work for the next issue of *Perspectives*. In Spring 2005, I will be on one semester sabbatical, and Manisha Desai will be acting director. *****

WGGP Perspectives, Vol. 24(1), Page 7

Transnational Feminism Revisited: Cautionary Notes for a Transnational Feminist Sociology

Manisha Desai

Is transnational feminism just the latest incarnation of “international” and “global” feminisms as some scholars argue (e.g., Mackie 2001, Mendoza 2002) or does it have the potential to be the basis for a transformatory politics as articulated by others (Escher 2002, McLaughlin 2004, Mohanty 2002, Sampaio 2004)? Does transnational feminism go beyond the assumptions operative in early US white women’s feminism? (This is not to suggest that white women’s feminism was a homogenous category with no differences that led to critiques from women of color.) Or does it reinforce those assumptions in new ways? I address these questions by differentiating transnational feminisms.

I argue that when feminists come together across borders at the transnational level, specifically around spaces like the UN conferences, they tend to reproduce inequalities among women and privilege women from the North and elite women from the South. However, when feminists come together across borders at local levels for specific struggles, while the tensions and contradictions persist, local women are able to negotiate and influence politics based on their knowledge and resources. This is not meant to privilege the local over the transnational but to recognize that different groups of women operate at different levels with varying capabilities that facilitate or limit their abilities to engage in social transformation.

Transnational feminism became a privileged discourse in the 1990s in the academy at the same time that women activists began to privilege transnational activism over local activism. In part, this reflects the common realities of globalization and structural adjustment policies that began to influence women’s lives all around

WGPP Perspectives, Vol. 24(1), Page 8

the world as well as the opportunities made possible by the communication technologies and the UN world conferences that enabled women to meet across national borders. This convergence between academic discourse and activism has led to certain assumptions about transnational feminist solidarities which can best be addressed by delineating the levels at which transnational feminism is practiced.

In the US academy, transnational feminism was a response to the critique of second wave, white, middle-class feminism by women of color in the US and the “Third World,” post-structuralism, and post-colonialism. Grewal and Kaplan (1994) and Mohanty (1991) were among the early framers of this discourse. Theirs was an exciting articulation that incorporated critiques of western feminisms and postmodernism without jettisoning either. They underscored the need for feminist political practices that addressed the concerns of women around the world in their historic and particular relationships to multiple patriarchies as well as to international economic hegemonies. For a transnational feminist politics, they noted, feminists have to move beyond constructed oppositions, without ignoring the histories of unequal power relations that have informed them, and build coalitions based on practices that different women use in various locations to counter the scattered hegemonies that affect their lives” (Grewal and Kaplan 1994: 18). By mapping these scattered hegemonies and linking diverse local practices, feminists, they argued, could construct transnational solidarities. This formulation of an intersectional analysis and transversal politics came to be defined as transnational feminism in the 1990s.

At the same time that this discourse was being articulated, there were transnational feminist solidarities being forged among women across national boundaries around two important sites: the UN and specific local struggles. There are also transnational policy and research networks that I do not address here for lack of space. And it is here that one can see the limits and possibilities

of transnational feminism as a political project.

There are several structural and ideological reasons for the limitations of transnational feminism around the UN. (1) Born in the aftermath of WWII, the UN's original mission of peace soon became secondary to development as countries in Africa and Asia were becoming independent from colonial rule. Development has been seen by many scholars as a neocolonial discourse, and a neocolonial stance is reflected in the structure of the Security Council, the veto power for the victors of WWII, and its ideology and language of development which identifies countries based on their level of economic development. (2) The UN's functioning is based on "inter" national rather than "trans" national relations among member-states which centers the nation as the primary site of action. (3) Most member states see it as a space for the developed countries to "aid" the developing countries, rather than a place for nations to come together as equals around common issues. (4) Participation by non-state actors is confined to registered NGOs which furthers the NGOization and depoliticization of movements.

These inequalities of the UN system and its location in New York and Geneva, Switzerland, has meant that women's NGOs in the US and Western Europe have easier access to and familiarity with it. Furthermore, most of the US based women's international NGOs, whose activists are primarily white women, focus on women's issues in the Global South and reproduce the sense of the UN as a space for helping women of developing countries rather than for seeking gender justice for women in their countries. Thus, structural inequalities within the UN are reproduced among the women's NGOs participating in transnational activities at the UN. The domination of women's NGOs from the US and Europe in the transnational space around the UN has been shown by many scholars who have analyzed the international women's decade and activism around the four women's world conferences as well as the other UN world

conferences (e.g., Desai 2002, McLaughlin 2004, Mendoza 2002).

Hence, despite the recognition within US and European feminism of the differences and inequalities among women, the persisting global inequalities have meant that transversal politics of location, which have facilitated democracy within feminist movements is not adequate at the transnational level, especially at the UN whose structure embodies inequalities among nations.

But transnational feminist politics is not limited to activism around the UN. As the burgeoning literature on transnational social movements shows, activists are coming together across national borders at various local levels for specific struggles such as that in Chiapas, coalitions against sweatshop labor, fair-trade cooperatives and various other social justice movements. Feminist activists have been at the forefront of these transnational social movements (as shown by Mackie 2001, Naples and Desai 2002, Lara 2003, Sampaio 2004).

What analyses of these transnational feminisms reveal is that even these projects are fraught with tensions and contradictions as activists with varying degrees of material, linguistic, technological, and other resources work together on common agendas. But what is promising about these transnational feminist projects is that local and less privileged activists still have a great deal of agency based on their "local" knowledge, strategies, and skills, gained in the context of movement organizing, which enables them to question, critique, and negotiate with more privileged activists not on a basis of equality but of mutual solidarity.

Thus differentiating transnational feminism at different levels enables us to identify mechanisms, such as contextual knowledge and strategies, that facilitate solidarity and social justice versus participation in global level gatherings which reproduce inequalities, depoliticize movements, and divert resources

from local struggles to transnational activism. This is not to advocate one kind of transnational feminism as opposed to another but to recognize that political activism at different levels have different consequences. These are the cautionary insights that transnational feminism has to offer transnational sociology.

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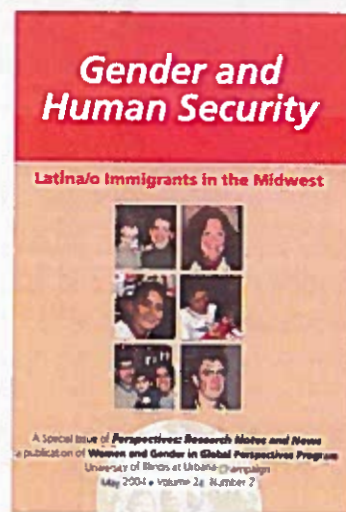
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This paper was prepared for presentation at the Transnational Feminist Sociologies: Current Challenges and Future Directions, August 13, 2004, University of California, Berkeley. Manisha Desai is Program Coordinator of Women and Gender in Global Perspectives Program and Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, mkdesai@uiuc.edu.

**Gender and Human Security:
Latina/o
Immigrants
in the
Midwest, A
Special Issue of**

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Gender in Global
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at <http://ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/immigration.html>. A hard copy can also be requested free of charge by contacting the WGGP office.

WGGP Spring 2005 Course List is available online at <http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/course.html>.

ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AT UIUC RETIRES

Earl Kellogg, Associate Provost for International Affairs and Director, International Programs and Studies, UIUC, has announced his retirement effective December 31, 2004. Dr. Kellogg has provided leadership

for expanding and enriching the international dimension throughout UIUC, supervising eleven international academic and administrative units, one of which is the Women and Gender in Global Perspectives



Program. His previous positions have included Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Winrock International (1992-1997) and Executive Director of the Consortium for International Development (1985-1992). He was a Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Illinois from 1971-1985. Dr. Kellogg has extensive research and teaching experience related to the economics of agricultural development, technology development and transfer systems, the international dimension of the university and the effects in the U.S. of agricultural development in developing countries. He has worked in more than 15 countries for numerous international and U.S. institutions including USAID, FAO, CGIAR, IFPRI and the Ford Foundation. He is currently Chair of the Advisory Council to the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa—a group of universities, government agencies, NGOs, and research institutes in the US and Africa. He has provided unwavering dedication to international women's issues and steadfast support of WGGP programs. We will greatly miss him and wish him well in his retirement.

JANE JAQUETTE RECEIVES AWARD

Jane Jaquette, Professor, Diplomacy and World Affairs Department, Occidental College, was honored on October 22 at a commemoration of United Nations Day in Los Angeles, CA. To recognize women in the community who have empowered women both locally and internationally, the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women honored 8 women whose life work reflects the spirit embodied in this year's United Nations Day theme. Recognizing that the problem of unequal treatment of women leads to illiterate societies, poor maternal and child health, and the overall low levels of development in every corner of the world, the theme selected for this year's observance of United Nations Day is "Women's Rights and Empowerment: The Millennium Development Goals and Gender Equity."

REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PLATFORM FOR ACTION

The UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service announced that the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will undertake a review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995) and of the outcome document of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly (2000) during its 49th session in Feb-March 2005. From Oct. 2004 to Jan. 2005, WomenWatch, the website of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality is hosting a series of online discussions on the critical areas of concern on the Platform for Action and other important issues to provide input into the review and appraisal. Discussions will be facilitated and moderated by UN entities that are members of the Inter-Agency Network on Women & Gender Equality. Discussions can be accessed at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/forums/review/>. A summary of the discussions will be available at the CSW in February 2005 and posted on WomenWatch.

NEWS FROM WGGP ASSOCIATES at UIUC

MaryArends-Kuening, Agricultural and Consumer Economics, published "School incentive programs and children's activities: The case of Bangladesh" with S.Amin in *Comparative Education Review*, 48(3) 295-317, 2004; made presentations on "The impact of school quality and school incentive programs on children's schooling and work in Brazil" at: Midwest Economics Assn Annual Meetings, Chicago, March; Population Association of America Annual Meetings, Boston, Apr.; Hewlett Workshop meetings, Brazil, July; Northeast Universities Development Consortium, Montreal, Canada, Oct.; she and Paul McNamara presented "The Balance of Care: Trends in the Wages and Employment of Immigrant Nurses in the U.S. between 1990 and 2000" at WGGP Gender and Transnational Care Work Symposium, October.

Jocelyn Armstrong, Community Health/ Human & Community Development, co-edited a book with Juliana Flinn, *Grandparenting in Contemporary Pacific Societies*, that examines Pacific grandparenting in context of ongoing change in grandparent roles worldwide. Contributors draw on research in eight Pacific settings to address grandparents as caregivers of grandchildren; grandparent households, gender and ethnic differences.

Antoinette Burton, History, and **Jean Allman**, History/African Studies, are the new co-editors of the *Journal of Women's History*—the first devoted exclusively to the international field of women's history.

Junje Chen, PhD GRID Student, Anthropology, presented a paper on "Rural Development and Gender Realities in China," co-authored with Gale Summerfield at a conference in Hangzhou, China in June. He received the 2004-05 Goodman Fellowship and is conducting research on rural women's reproductive experiences in an WGGP Perspectives, Vol. 24(1), Page 12

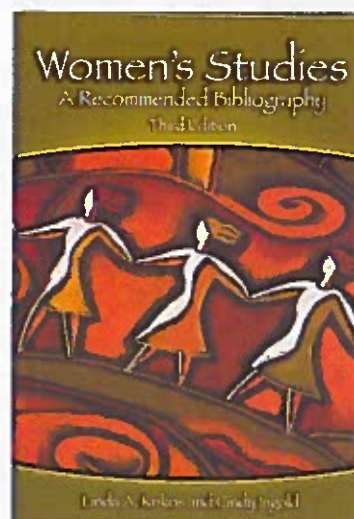
interethnic Manchu-Han village in China.

Angelina Cotler, PhD GRID student, Anthropology, received the 2004-05 Due and Ferber Award and is finishing her research on women's micro-enterprise in Peru.

Manisha Desai, WGGP/Sociology, presented a paper on "Transnational Feminist Solidarities" at a symposium on Transnational Feminist Sociology: Challenges and Prospects at the Univ. of California, Berkeley in August. She is also teaching Global Inequalities in the new Global Studies Initiative in LAS and in conjunction with that will be taking 20 students to Mumbai in Dec.

Alma J. Gottlieb, Anthropology, published a book, *The Afterlife Is Where We Come from: The Culture of Infancy in West Africa, 2004*, Univ. of Chicago Press; an article, "From Pollution to Love Magic: The New Anthropology of Menstruation," in *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*, ed. Sargent and Brettell, Prentice-Hall: 256-67; reviewed E. Gruenbaum, "The Female Circumcision Controversy", in *American Anthropologist* 105 (3) 652-4, 2003; and presented talks on "The Anthropology of Menstruation," Carleton College, Oct.; "Who Minds the Baby? Beng Perspectives on Mothers, Neighbors, and Strangers as Caretakers," at Macalester College, Oct. & at Wenner-Gren conf. on "Alloparenting in Human Societies" May, London.

Cindy Ingold, Women and Gender Resources Library, co-edited (with Linda A. Krikos), the third edition of *Women's Studies: A Recommended Bibliography*, Greenwood Publishing, 2004. The volume maps



the literature of women's studies in the last two decades of the 20th century, including studies of women in many regions and cultures, as well as minority women in the US.

Karen Kelsky, East Asian Languages and Cultures/Anthropology, Unit for Criticism, has been appointed Head of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. She recently returned from a 10-day research trip to Japan where she conducted fieldwork for a project on lesbian and transgendered Japanese women in Tokyo and Osaka, and participated in a seminar on Judith Halberstam's *Female Masculinities*. The project is titled, "Femmes and FTMs: The contested politics of lesbian drag in urban Japan." She also traveled to Kobe to promote the UI Konan Year-In-Japan program.

Isadore Lobnibe, PhD GRID Student, Anthropology, received a 2004-05 Kathleen Cloud International Research Award and is conducting his research on immigration patterns of men and women in rural Ghana.

Meera Murthi, PhD GRID Student, Educational Psychology, received the 2004-05 Barbara Yates International Research Award and is currently conducting research on communal violence against minority Muslim women in India.

Cynthia Oliver, Dance/ Gender and Women's Studies, completed a dance film, "AfroSocialiteLifeDiva," in collaboration with German Director M. Behrens for Canal Arte to air in spring 2005. The work tackles four generations of women in one African American family. She also published in *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory* and "Undivided Dance," in *Movement Research Journal*.

Aida Orgocka, GRID Alum, Human and Community Development, published "Perceptions of Communication and Education about Sexuality Among Muslim Immigrant Girls in the US," in *Sex Education* 4 (3) October 2004:255-71.

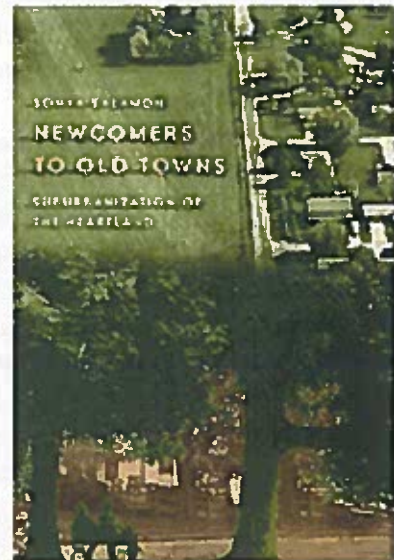
Rashelle Roos, GRID Student and Predoc Fellow, Art and Design, received a WGGP Student Travel Grant for an exhibition of her work on Modern Women's Voices Through Art in Turkey at Gallery Orca, Istanbul this December.

Sonya Salamon, Human and Community Development/Anthropology/Agricultural and Consumer Economics, won the Robert E.

Park Award for her book entitled, *Newcomers to Old Towns Suburbanization of the Heartland* (2003)

University of Chicago Press. She draws on ethnographic studies of six small towns in central Illinois.

The award was presented in August at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Society.



Susan Searing, Library and Information Science, wrote the foreword to the recently published third edition of *Women's Studies: A Recommended Bibliography*, co-edited by Linda A. Krikos and Cindy Ingold, Greenwood Publishing, 2004.

Kristy Shih, Ph.D. GRID Student, Human and Community Development, received a WGGP Student Travel Grant for the poster presentation of her paper, "Gendered division of labor and decision-making in Taiwanese households" for the National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, November 17-20, 2004. Her research examined whether division of household responsibilities and gender role attitudes in modern-day Taiwan have been transformed because of women's

increasing educational and occupational opportunities. Fifteen individuals living in Taipei were interviewed. Results demonstrated that, similar to their mothers, women today are solely responsible for most household chores. In contrast, a woman's financial contribution to her family served as a leverage to parallel her power in decision-making. A majority of women reported sharing equal decision-making power with their husbands. Furthermore, gender role attitudes were significantly related to participants' education level and household income.

Gale Summerfield, WGGP/Human and Community Development/Gender and Women's Studies, made presentations this summer in the US, China, and the UK: At the National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) in Washington, DC in June, she facilitated a session on immigrants and taxation and presented a summary of issues in the Midwest. At this conference Gale was invited to be a member of the board of NCRW. At the International Workshop on *Women and Development in Post-Reform China* at the Center for China's Economic Research, Beijing University, she presented, "Gender, the Household Responsibility System, and Property Rights in China" and at the Chinese Economists Society International Symposium on *China's Rural Economy after WTO: Problems and Strategies* in Hangzhou, China, she presented "Rural Development and Gender Realities in China" co-authored with Junjie Chen. In August, at the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) in Oxford, she presented work on transition economies in the pre-conference workshop. She organized a panel at the conference where Nahid Aslanbeigui presented their joint paper on gender equity as a global public good. Jean Pyle, Günseli Berik, and Yana Rodgers also presented in the panel. Marianne Ferber and Kathleen Cloud also participated in the IAFFE conference in Oxford.

Lauren Tobey, PhD GRID Student, Food Science and Human Nutrition, received an

International Research Travel Grant from the ACES administered Charlotte Biester Endowment to participate in the European International Business Immersion Program in Belgium, France and the Netherlands in summer 2004 to analyze the international food marketing chain.

Joy Williams-Black, PhD GRID Student, History, received a 2004-05 Kathleen Cloud International Research Grant and is currently conducting her research on the impacts of study abroad on higher education in Kenya, with an emphasis on African women's participation.

WELCOME NEW WGGP STUDENT STAFF

Ethel Hazard, PhD GRID Student, Anthropology, is a Research Assistant working on the Gender and Immigration Project. She has expertise in grant writing and has been helpful in contacting foundations. This summer, Ethel conducted research in Spain on activism in the Caribbean during the late 19th century.



Jane-Frances Lobnibe, PhD GRID Student, Educational Policy Studies, is a Graduate Assistant for Fall Semester. Jane won a WGGP Research Award this year for her research on how gender construction and ideology in Ghana shape educational policies that impact female access to higher education. She also won an International Peace Scholarship for Women from Developing Countries.



CONFERENCES

Human Development and Capability Association Conference Paris, Sept. 2005

During the 4th International Conference on the Capability Approach, Nobel Laureate **Amartya Sen**, eminent philosopher **Martha Nussbaum** and over 200 scholars from 36 countries launched a new academic association entitled the Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA). The Association will promote high quality research in the interconnected areas of human development and capability. It will be concerned with a broad range of topics including the quality of life, poverty, justice, gender, development and environment inter alia. It will further work in all disciplines - such as economics, philosophy, political theory, sociology and development studies - where such research is, or may be, pursued. While primarily an academic body, the HDCA shall bring together those primarily involved in academic work with practitioners who are involved in, or interested in, the application of research from the fields of human development and capability to the problems they face. All members of the Association will receive the *Journal of Human Development: Alternative Economics in Action*. This Journal, founded in 2000, publishes original work across disciplines that expand the concepts and measurement tools for human development and challenge traditional views of economics. It also acts as a conduit for members and critics of human development. For more information or to join the HDCA please visit the website at <http://www.hd-ca.org/>

Michigan State University Conference on Ethics and Development April 8 – 15, 2005

Tentative Schedule:

Friday, April 8: *Nigel Dower*, on the Capabilities Approach in Ethics and Development

April 11-13: Workshop & Conference on The Capability Approach in Practice

This workshop/conference's purpose is to explore the practical value of the Capability Approach, first initiated by Nobel laureate Amartya K. Sen. In addition, participants will be discussing how best to move forward with a new interdisciplinary doctoral specialization in ethics and development at MSU. **Invited Speakers:** *David Crocker, Nigel Dower, Onora O'Neill, Des Gasper, Asunscion St. Clair, Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, and Dan Little* already have confirmed their participation.

National Council for Research on Women Annual Conference

**June 6-8, 2005, New York City,
City University of New York Graduate Center
*POWER Matters: Reshaping Agendas Through Women's Leadership***

In a world embroiled in continuous conflict and war, as democratic institutions face threats at home and abroad, economic disparities grow, and people feel increasingly insecure, women's leadership matters. But for women's visions and leadership to have a hearing and an impact, we must also work to transform assumptions and the structures of power that shape institutions and govern our lives. NCRW's 2005 Annual Conference will look at the differences women's leadership, voices, and visions have made and can make. We'll examine women leaders' catalyzing role, exploring how women have begun to reframe debates and policies on diversity, economic security, rights, health, immigration, work/life, peace and war, and other issues around which we have knowledge and commitment. We'll address transformative strategies for wielding power effectively—probing successful models for leading for change in business, government, academia, and the nonprofit sector, and on international, national, state, and community levels. Because the barriers to power remain systemic, and, many

times, unyielding, we'll also look at the structural and cultural barriers that impede women from enacting their visions and agendas. We'll address the conditions that enable women leaders to succeed; the coalitions they have built, and still need to forge; and ways they have been able to shape agendas and make their power count. NCRW invites researchers, activists, and leaders in politics, education, business, and policy arenas to join us to discuss ways women's leadership has and can address the social, economic, and cultural inequities that impede democracy and limit our lives.

Call for Proposed Sessions and Speakers:
The NCRW Conference Planning Committee invites proposals for breakout sessions that touch on any of the following general areas listed below. Please note: The questions and categories below are intended to stimulate ideas for panels that bring your own research and experience to bear. Please feel free to propose relevant panels that do not fit neatly into these categories.

Leading for Change: How is women's leadership reshaping debates and policies in politics, education, business, nonprofits, and NGOs? How are issues being framed around: the economy, health, gender, racial, and generational diversity, globalization, world crises, human security, politics, incarceration and prisoner's rights, immigrants' rights, the family, religion, the media, sexuality, work/lif, sports? How do we measure "success" when we talk about women leading for change? What are the models for asserting women's leadership?

Structuring Power: What conditions need to be in place for women's leadership to succeed and to enact change? How do women build critical mass, constituencies, and clout? What can we learn from countries (e.g. in Africa and Scandinavia) where women leaders have achieved a critical mass in major institutions? How are leadership and authority gendered in the public eye and the media, what are the resulting implications, and how can we change perceptions? To whom are women leaders accountable, and how do they avoid succumbing

to co-optation once in leadership positions?

Collaborating for Change: How are women leaders working across boundaries of gender, generation, race, nation, and culture to lead toward change? How do women's or feminist agendas intersect, overlap with, or differ from anti-globalization, anti-racist, GLBTQ, and other agendas? How do, and how can, women leaders collaborate transnationally? How can new emerging leaders and seasoned leaders learn from one another?

Theorizing Change: What kind of research is needed to help achieve institutional change, particularly in creating more inclusive environments and practices? And how can we best use such research? How are trends in feminist scholarship reshaping the ways we think about power and leadership? What effects are leaders in women's studies and similar programs having on academic institutions, on other disciplines, and on broader thinking and debate?

Contact: Deborah Siegel, dseigel@ncrw.org, 212 785-7335, ext 218.

2005 International Association For Feminist Economics-Europe

Central and Eastern Europe: A Feminist Economic Dialogue on Transition and EU-Enlargement, January 21-22, Budapest. Main themes: Gender effects of the restructuring of the economy; Gender effects of political restructuring and EU-Enlargement; Central issues in feminist economics. A selection of the papers will be published in a special issue of *Feminist Economics*. This conference is organized by the European chapter of the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE-Europe) in cooperation with the Women's Studies Centre at the Budapest University of Economic Sciences and Public Administration. Registration Fee (after November 1st, 2004): 200 Euros. Also more information on <http://www.iaffe.org>. On site registration is possible by following the links to the conference. For further information, please contact [Budapest\(at\)iaffe-europe.org](mailto:Budapest(at)iaffe-europe.org).

2005 International Association For Feminist Economics Conference in Washington, DC, June 17-19

The 14th Annual Conference on Feminist Economics sponsored by the International Association for Feminist Economics will be held at The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. USA. It will be held in tandem with the Institute for Women's Policy Research conference (below). For more information see <http://www.iaffe.org>.

2005 Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) Conference

When Women Gain, So Does the World, June 20-21, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC will be held immediately after IAFFE's conference. The conference will be held in conjunction with the Research Network on Gender, Politics and State (RNGS). For more information on RNGS, visit their website at <http://libarts.wsu.edu/polisci/rngs> and for IWPR, see www.iwpr.org, for more details on the conference (but note that abstracts were due Oct 31, 2004).

Missing Data on Women in the U.S.

Over the past few years, vital data has been deleted, buried, distorted, or has otherwise gone missing from U.S. government websites and publications. WGGP is a member center in the National Council for Research on Women, which documents these changes and exclusions in a recent report, *MISSING: Information About Women's Lives*. The report is available online at: <http://www.ncrw.org/misinfo/report.htm>. A clearinghouse has been set up so that additional findings can be posted.

Elimination of data about women continues. The Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics

(BLS) has announced that at the end of the year it will stop collecting data on the number of workers who are women as part of its monthly survey of 400,000 business establishments. The head of the BLS Current Employment Statistics Program, Patricia Getz, has stated that the data are not used often and the bureau wants to cut some questions from the survey because it will add new questions about supervisors and managers in 2005. The current population survey, a survey of 60,000 households conducted monthly by the Census Bureau will continue to gather information on women's employment. According to Heidi Hartmann, president of the Institute for Women's Policy Research in Washington, DC, researchers use the BLS data to tell the gender breakdown as jobs are lost or gained by industry and that these data are considered much more reliable than the current population survey.

Women, Human Security and

Globalization is the theme of a Special Issue of *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*, March 2004, Special Editor, Linda Basch, National Council for Research on Women. "The essays in this issue point to massive insecurities that characterize the human condition. They also illustrate the complexities, nuances, and historical specificities that must be considered in articulating a framework to foster human security" (p. 12).



International Impact is a student organization at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign dedicated to providing grassroots service to the international community, bridging cultural differences and promoting experiential learning.

It is an entirely student-run, student-staffed, not-for-profit registered student organization currently in its fourth year of establishment, backed by strong student interest. Projects are established through coordination with recognized non-profit agencies around the world. Projects consist of eight to ten student members spending winter break and/or summer break at the location of service. Students aim to provide direct help to the community in need by addressing various issues predetermined in conjunction with the non-profit agency and the community being served. Possible issues may include education, housing, poverty, health, environment, agriculture, hunger, community development, and many others. In order to continue the tradition of providing students on the UIUC campus the opportunity to provide service to the global community and to bridge the cultural gap, this year they have organized a service-learning project in Dakar, Senegal during the winter break in December-January that may entail construction work, orphanage work, and work with a women's group, Tostan, an organization started by a former University of Illinois student for the purpose of education about women's health. Students will also work with the JFK Center's youth program in Dakar. They will engage in classroom discussions with fellow Senegalese youths about the global community and international affairs.

A second service project will take place once again in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala during summer break. Students will engage in work aimed at enhancing the quality of life for the local community. The work in San Lucas focuses primarily on land development by providing assistance in building an elementary school, organizing a donations depository, assisting in subsistence farming, and laying the groundwork

for a park. Last year, students helped build the house of a local resident, worked alongside the community members to pick coffee beans to be harvested, and worked in the town's reforestation area. And every night, volunteers were able to play, communicate, and listen to individuals, especially children, in this small rural town.

International Impact appreciates contributions from campus and community organizations. One of the main goals is to provide all students, regardless of personal finance, the opportunity to take part in a service learning project. For more information about International Impact, see their website at <https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/ro/www/InternationalImpact/> or contact Chanel Castaneda at cncastan@uiuc.edu.

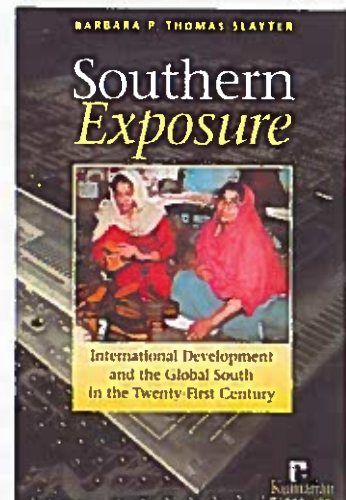
Southern Exposure: International Development and the Global South in the Twenty-First Century, by

Barbara P. Thomas-Slayter, 2003, Kumarian Press, examines

the changes brought about by globalization from the perspective of ordinary people in the Global South, such as small farmers in Kenya, coca growers in Bolivia, or garment workers in Bangladesh.

Using an issues-based approach and keeping questions of gender and culture to the fore, Thomas-Slayter explores key political and economic challenges facing Southern countries as they engage with the global system and identifies critical issues that will shape twenty-first century developments.

Paperback, US: \$29.95. Contact Kumarian Press at www.kpbooks.com.



AN INVITATION TO APPLY

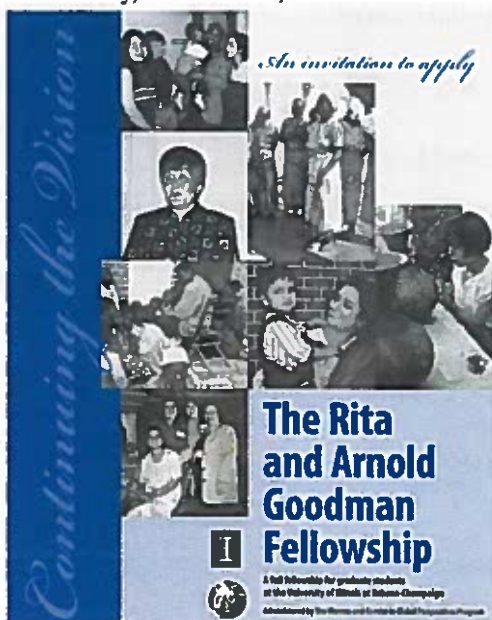
WGGP Annual Award Opportunities

Available to new and continuing graduate students in any program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:

RITA AND ARNOLD GOODMAN

FELLOWSHIP:

A full scholarship of \$12,000 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.

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, next column]*:

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.

KATHLEEN CLOUD INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT:

Grants of \$1,500 or less for travel expenses related to doctoral dissertation research addressing international issues of women, gender, and development.

BARBARA A. YATES INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD:

Awards of up to \$500 to support graduate students 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.

CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANT FOR GRID STUDENTS:

Up to three \$100 travel grants will be awarded for GRID students making conference presentations at academic conferences.

*ENROLL IN THE GRID MINOR:

Submit the one-page GRID minor form available at the WGGP office, 320 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (phone: 217-333-1994) or you can download the form at

<http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/Griddoc.html>

TO APPLY FOR WGGP AWARDS:

Submit the award application form available at the WGGP Office or at <http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/grantfund.html>.

A student can submit a single application form to be considered for one or more awards. To apply for the fellowship or grants, select the appropriate box (or boxes) on the application form and submit the required materials (listed on the form)

by the **deadline of February 15** to:

Women and Gender in Global Perspectives,
320 International Studies Building,
910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820
(phone: 217-333-1994; fax: 217-333-6270);
WGGP website:

<http://www.ips.uiuc.edu/wggp/>.



Perspectives: Research Notes & News

Perspectives: Research Notes & News is a publication of the Women and Gender in Global Perspectives (WGGP) program established in 1980 as the Office of Women in International Development at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. *Perspectives* is published once each semester and distributed to WGGP associates and other individuals interested in issues of women and gender in global perspectives.

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