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Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Monthly Perspectives

October 2025 ♦ Fall 2025

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Fall Reception Reflection

Dear CSGGE Community:

On behalf of everyone at the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), I wanted to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for our Fall 2025 Reception! It was wonderful to see so many of you and to share such engaging conversations. We are truly grateful for your continued support of our Center, and we look forward to more connections and collaborations in this coming year.

Warm regards,



Min Zhan
 Director, Center for the Study of Global Gender
 Equity
 Professor, School of Social Work

Reflection on 2022 Talk by Evelyne Accad



On March 3rd, 2022, Dr. Evelyne Accad gave an in-person talk on, "La Maison de la Tendresse," a collection of five short stories recounting various forms of violence experienced by women in Lebanon. The stories center on the role of tenderness, as a guide to understanding and reconstructing the inner house of the self. This quest for self-discovery allows the reader to discover a country where family ties sometimes destroy and sometimes aid in healing trauma.

[Click to view recorded talk by Dr. Evelyne Accad](#)

Evelyne Accad is a professor emerita in French, Comparative Literature, African Studies, Gender and Women's Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, and the Honors Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign, and co-creator of The Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille International Research Award. In explaining her motivation for establishing the award, Professor Accad, reflects on her own experiences and the urgent need for greater academic access and focus on women's issues.

[The Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille International Research Award](#)

Impact Through Giving



Dr. Evelyne Accad and Mahbubeh Moqadam (Ph.D., Sociology), April 2024

The College of LAS Annual Day of Giving is **October 22nd**.

Donors Make Impact

Evelyne Accad shared the reason she created the Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille International Research Award.

"Because of my personal journey, I am very aware of the importance of offering scholarships to students who could not afford to study and conduct research at a university; and given the condition of women in the Middle East and North Africa, I am also very aware of the need for opportunities to do research on women living in that area of the world. It is probably one of the most explosive areas in the world today geographically, religiously and politically. It is also the place where women pay the highest price as victims of the terrible conflicts afflicting the region both in their personal and public lives."

[Click to learn more about giving opportunities with CSGGE](#)

Stay tuned for more stories from donors and graduate award/fellowship recipients and how you can make an impact!

Upcoming Events

Join the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE) in conjunction with the Center for Global Studies, College of Law, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Department of Natural Resources, & Environmental Science Institute for Sustainability, Energy & Environment, School of Social Work on *October 8 at 4 pm in the Alice Campbell Alumni Center, 601 S. Lincoln Ave, Urbana IL*. In this talk, Dr. Reyes Mason will highlight examples of climate injustice in the US



and abroad, then provide ways to "connect the dots" and multi-solve the climate crisis with other societal problems. For more information, click [here](#).



Join CSGGE Faculty Affiliate, [Dr. Erik McDuffie](#) on *October 8 at 12 pm at 306 Coble Hall* for a talk on **"The Second Battle for Africa: Writing New Histories for Africa."** This talk discusses research ethics and the politics of research in relation to writing new histories of Global Africa, with special focus on women, gender, and sexualities. Given the histories of unethical research practices of African people on the continent and the diaspora together with the uncertainties of our times, the presentation emphasizes the

necessity of African/Africana studies scholars to promote socially responsible scholarship committed to advancing the freedom and well-being of African descended people globally.



The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is excited to invite you to Beyond Borders: Global Collaborations for Mental Health Research and Services Conference, hosted by the School of Social Work and co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE) and more. Join us on *October 9 and 10 from 8:45 am to 5 pm at the I-Hotel and Conference Center, 1900 S 1st Street, Champaign, IL 61820*, or join virtually. Coinciding with World Mental Health Day, our theme is: **From local to global, encouraging creative solutions to transcultural mental health challenges.** This two-day hybrid conference will bring together

leaders, researchers, practitioners, and people with lived experience from the local Champaign-Urbana community and around the world. To

learn

more and register, please click [here](#).

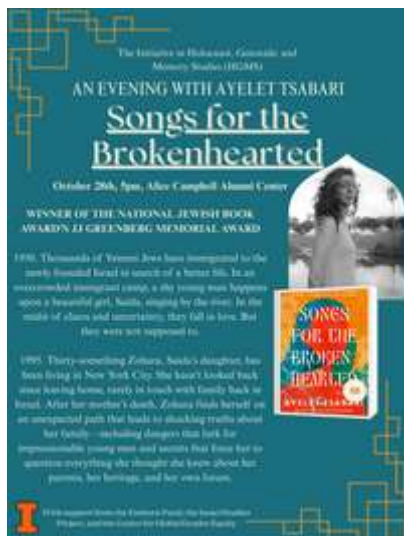
The Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), in conjunction with the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Institute, Humanities Research Institute and the Graduate College Career



Development is hosting a panel on “Community-Engaged Research in Action: Insights for Graduate Students”. This event will take place on *October 21 at 12 pm at the Levis Faculty Center, Room 210*. Lunch is provided with an RSVP. Click [here](#) to register and learn more.



Join the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE) for a graduate student workshop led by Dana Johnson, PhD. The "Writing Effective Fellowships Proposals" workshop will take place on *Wednesday, October 22 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm*. The "Tips for Applying for Grants and Fellowships" workshop will take place on *Wednesday, October 22 from 2:30 to 3 pm*. Both workshops will be held at *306 Coble Hall, 801 S. Wright Street*. Lunch is provided for attendees at 12 pm. To register, please click [here](#).



This lecture is sponsored by the Einhorn Family, co-organized by HGMS, PJCS, and co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE). It will be taking place on *October 28 at 5 to 6:30 pm in Alice Campbell Hall*. Ayelet Tsabari's National Jewish Book Award winning, novel, *Songs for the Brokenhearted*, traces the story of the history of Yemeni Israelis through a fictional family. For more information, click [here](#).

Please view our full schedule of hosted and co-sponsored events on our website.

Please, click [here](#) for CSGGE Master Calendar

University YMCA Friday Forum



YMCA Friday Forum + Conversation Café

Speakers: Jeanne Kramer and Kim Patton, Leaders of the Neurodiversity Initiative for students

Date: Friday, October 3rd

Time: 12 pm - 1 pm

Location: University YMCA Latzer Hall
1001 S. Wright St, Champaign IL

Please join the University YMCA and Diversity & Social Justice Education for our Fall 2025 Friday Forum + Conversation Café series. Students, faculty, and community members are invited to hear from local advocates as they discuss crucial

public issues. All lectures are free and open to the public, taking place on Fridays at 12 PM in Latzer Hall at the University YMCA! Free lunch will be provided. On Friday, October 3rd, the presentation will be on the topic What Neurodiversity Means + How We Can Advocate for Our Neurodivergent Community.

[Please, click here to view upcoming events](#)

This event is co-sponsored by: Bruce D. Nesbitt African-American Cultural Center; Center for Advanced Study; Center for Global Studies and the US Department of Education Title VI Grant; Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity; College of Fine & Applied Arts; Department of African American Studies; Education Justice Project; First Mennonite Church of Champaign-Urbana; First Presbyterian Church; Champaign, Gender & Sexuality Resource Center; Humanities Research Institute; Office of the Provost; Prairie Research Institute; School of Social Work; Social Action Council of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Urbana-Champaign; Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting; Urbana Champaign Reproductive Justice; Women's Resources

Women in Science Lecture Series Fall 2025

The University of Illinois Archive has announced that they will be hosting monthly women in science lecture series, featuring speakers from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign scientific enterprise. The lecture series will concentrate on highlighting a vast range of innovations and contributions of women in

sciences at the University of Illinois. The University of Illinois Archive wants to highlight the importance of identifying women in scientific fields of study and engineers, in order to develop a diversified historical record. Please share this information with anyone who seems interested!

Dr. Karen Terio will be the first speaker in the Fall 2025 lecture series, presenting on **"Wildlife Pathology: Dead Animals Tell Tales."**



Speaker: Dr. Karen Terio, Professor and Interim Assistant Director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, Chief of the Zoological Pathology Program, and Professor of Veterinary Clinical Medicine

Date: Thursday, October 9th

Time: 12 pm - 1 pm

**Location: Main Library, Room 146
1408 W. Gregory Dr, Champaign, IL**

Virtual: Join Online via link provided upon registration

Please, click here to register for
Women in Science October Lecture:
Karen Terio

This event is hosted by: The University of Illinois Archive

Co-sponsored by: The Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

CSGGE Faculty Affiliate News

This is a selection of highlighted publications and presentations for CSGGE faculty affiliates. To learn more, please visit the CSGGE faculty affiliates webpage and click on each scholar's profile to explore their recent scholarly publications, engagements, and academic service.

[Annie Abbott](#), Director of Undergraduate Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Faculty Affiliate of CSGGE, has recently co-authored a research paper titled "Examining the impact of human-centered design in the language curriculum: A new Framework for medical

Spanish," with Sánchez-Gilbert and L., Shehab, S. (2025). The paper is now published in *The Foreign Language Annals*. To read the full article, click [here](#).

[Julie L Cidell](#) is a Professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a focus on critical perspectives on transportation geography and Faculty Affiliate of CSGGE. Cidell has recently co-authored a research paper titled "A Multiscale Method to Improve Social Vulnerability Estimation for Water Infrastructure System Planning and Management," with Rivera, S. J., Schmidt, A. R., and Minsker, B. S. (2025). The paper is now published in the *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*. To read the full article, click [here](#).

[Paolo Gardoni](#) is the Alfredo H. Ang Family Professor and an Excellence Faculty Scholar in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the Grainger College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as a Faculty Affiliate of CSGGE. Gardoni has recently co-authored a research paper titled "Improved Z-number based Bayesian network modelling to predict cyber-attack risk for maritime autonomous surface ship (MASS)," with Muhammet Aydin, Sukru Ilke, and Emre Akyuz (2025). The paper is now published in *Applied Soft Computing*. To read the full article, click [here](#).

[Jessica R Greenberg](#) is an associate professor of Anthropology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, former Interim Director of the European Union Center, and a Faculty Affiliate of CSGGE. Professor Jessica Greenberg has recently published a new book titled "Justice in the Balance: Democracy, Rule of Law, and the European Court of Human Rights." To learn more, click [here](#).

[Jose M Atilas Osoria](#), an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Faculty Affiliate of CSGGE, recently co-authored a research paper titled "*Dispossession by Production: the pharmaceutical industry and COVID-19 resource shortages in India and Puerto Rico*," with Asha Sawhney (2025). The paper is now published in *New Political Economy*. To read the full article, click [here](#).

CSGGE Faculty Affiliate Rated as Excellent by Their Students Spring 2025

Annie Ruth Abbott	Melissa Rae Goodnight	Samantha Anne Lindgren
Catalina Alzate	Faye V Harrison	Erik S McDuffie
Mary Paula Arends-Kuennning	Heidi M Hurd	Mariselle Melendez
Valeria Bonatti	McKenzie Frances Johnson	Judith A Pintar
Merle L Bowen	Hyun-Sook Kang	Rebecca Lee Smith
Caitlin Vitosky Clarke	Patrick J Keenan	Helga Varden
Jesse Couture	Mahruq Khan	Ryan Wade

Yazmín M Crespo Claudio

Charles Joseph Fogelman

Julie Gaillard

Amit Kramer

Sandraluz Lara-Cinisomo

Jessica Li

Min Zhan

Tingting Zhang

If you would like a Faculty Affiliate CSGGE publication to be featured in an upcoming issue of the CSGGE Monthly Perspective Newsletter, please contact Anita Kaiser at arkaiser@illinois.edu.

Please, click here to learn more about CSGGE Faculty Affiliates

CSGGE Student News



[Ayşenur Şenel](#), a PhD student in Architecture with a concentration in History, as well as a GRID student, has recently co-authored a research paper titled "Ambivalent spaces/moving bodies: gender politics of mosque design in Turkey," with Bülent Batuman. The paper is now published in *Gender, Place, and Culture*. To read the full article, click [here](#).



[Kshitij Tewari](#), a Doctoral Student in the Department of Recreation, Sport, and Tourism, as well as a GRID student, has recently published a research article titled, "Beyond Binaries: Reimagining Leisure Education Through Queer Pedagogy." The article appears in *SCHOLE: A Journal of Leisure Studies and Recreation Education*. To read the full article, click [here](#).

If you would like your work and accomplishments to be featured in the CSGGE GRID Student Spotlight, please contact [Anita Kaiser](#).

CSGGE Alumni Spotlight



Featuring Rachel Storm, Ph.D.

Current Position: Assistant Director of Community Engagement and Learning, Krannert Art Museum; Member of CSGGE Executive board (2025-2028)

Location: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

What is the focus of your current work and/or research?

In my new role on campus, I direct public engagement and educational programs for Krannert Art Museum with a vibrant team of museum educators who develop events,

curriculum, tours, workshops, and engagement opportunities for classrooms far and wide with diverse audiences of all ages. We are in the process of evaluating and improving upon existing educational programs, assessing the evolving needs of educators and schools, and expanding our commitment to diverse and accessible learning opportunities for all museum visitors and collaborating organizations. I am responsible for the museum's public events and initiatives, including curating community-responsive programs like Night OUT at the Museum, Rest Lab, ArtSpeak, and the Teen Artist's Retreat. These events center BIPOC voices, LGBTQ+ communities, and intergenerational audiences through performances, panels, hands-on artmaking, and storytelling. I work in close partnership with local artists, educators, and cultural organizations to ensure our events reflect the lived experiences and creative expressions of our broader Central Illinois community.

Prior to taking this role, I spent the past five years as the Arts and Culture Coordinator of the City of Urbana. Within that role, I managed a grant program of up to \$90K annually in direct support for artists and arts and cultural organizations. I launched the City of Urbana's Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate Programs and managed a variety of programs and initiatives in direct collaboration with area K-12 schools, community groups, nonprofits, and municipal agencies. This diverse line-up of multicultural and all-ages programs included Young Artist's Studio monthly arts education workshops for youth; Artist of the Corridor exhibitions of local artists; Art at the Market concerts; Urbana's Downtown Get Down downtown summer festival; various sculpture and mural programs, and more.

My work has often lived at the intersection of arts and cultural work, centering the stories and peoples most often marginalized. I've organized programs that prioritize the stories of people with lived experiences with facing oppression on the basis of identity, incarceration, trauma, and homelessness. I designed programs for audiences with disabilities and neurodivergence, parents and caretakers, veterans, and historically underserved populations.

How has your GRID minor influenced your career?

My GRID Minor has been such a gift! I came into the University in 2005 as an international studies (now named global studies) major when the major was brand new and as my research interests narrowed in many ways, WGGP and the GRID minor helped me maintain a global focus in my work and continue studying development and the Global South. I benefitted from WGGP awards open to GRID students and collaborated as a GRID student on a Focal Point research grant and later working in the WGGP office. I consider many of the GRID-affiliated courses some of my favorites I took during my masters and doctoral programs.

What advice would you offer to current GRID students?

Follow your heart and your interests! Get involved in WGGP—attending lectures, affiliated programs, and seeking collaborative opportunities!

How can we follow your work on social media?

To learn more about my work, visit: <https://kam.illinois.edu/news-article/rachel-storm-lead-community-engagement-krannert-art-museum>

Please, click here to see all CSGGE Alumni Spotlight

CSGGE Programs



Master of Science in Global Studies

CSGGE joins the ACDIS and the Center for Global Studies to offer a Master of Science in Global Studies. CSGGE's track is Gender and Public Policy. The MS in Global Studies (MSGS) is a 32-hour, three semester program that also offers a 5-year dual BA or BS and MSGS degree option.

Please, Click Here to Learn More About the Masters Program



CSGGE Gender Relations in International Development Graduate Minor

CSGGE offers a graduate minor in Gender Relations in International Development (GRID). The GRID interdisciplinary minor is designed to give students the analytical and empirical skills needed to address and critically evaluate human development issues in research and policy analysis, as well as in daily life. As of 2021, GRID Alumni have come from 41 departments across campus and 52

different countries. To learn more about the GRID minor, please contact

Anita

Kaiser at arkaiser@illinois.edu or by phone at 333-6221.

Please, click here to learn more about the GRID Minor



Certificate in Global
Health

Undergraduate Certificate in Global Health

Joint with CSGGE and LAS Global Studies

LAS Global Studies, in conjunction with the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), is offering a Certificate in Global Health. **This certificate is open to all undergraduate majors at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.**

Please, click here or more information on the Undergraduate
Certificate



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

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

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