



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Biweekly E-news

April 13, 2026 ♦ Spring 2026 ♦ [View past newsletters](#)

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CSGGE Hosted Events



Weaving Resilience: "Communities, Ecosystems, and Knowledge from the Colombian Caribbean in Times of Socio-Environmental Crisis"



Student Dialogue: "Bridging Ancestral Knowledge and Scientific Research: Community Perspectives from the Caribbean"

Date: Tuesday, April 14th

Time: 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Date: Monday, April 13th

Time: 4:00 p.m.

**Location: 210 Levis Faculty Center
919 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL**

Join the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity for a panel exploring ecological and community-based approaches to resilience in the Colombian Caribbean.

Panelists will discuss topics including marine science, environmental risks, biodiversity conservation, and collaborative knowledge systems.

[Registration and co-sponsors](#)

**Location: Women Resources Center
616 E. Green St., Champaign, IL, Suite 213**

Join CSGGE for a student-centered dialogue examining the intersection of ancestral knowledge and scientific research in shaping sustainable and inclusive environmental practices.

This session highlights student perspectives on community engagement, resilience, and knowledge production.

[Registration and co-sponsors](#)



Comparative Research Roundtable: "Bridging Science and Governance"

Date: Wednesday, April 15th

Time: 4:00 p.m.

**Location: 210 Levis Faculty Center
919 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL**

As part of the Global Policy Forum, this panel brings together scholars and practitioners to explore how gender, sustainability, and resilience are understood across global contexts.

The discussion will highlight interdisciplinary and cross-regional perspectives on knowledge production and policy.

[Registration and co-sponsors](#)



"Aimé Césaire in the Era of Black Lives Matter" by Freida Ekotto

Date: Thursday, April 16th

Time: 4:00 p.m.

**Location: Bruce Nesbitt African American Cultural Center
1212 W. Nevada St., Urbana, IL**

Join the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity for a lecture by Dr. Freida Ekotto, who will discuss the historical significance of Aimé Césaire's work in relation to contemporary movements such as Black Lives Matter.

[Registration and co-sponsors](#)

Spring Reception

Honoring GRID Graduates &
CSGGE Award Recipients

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

4:30-5:30pm

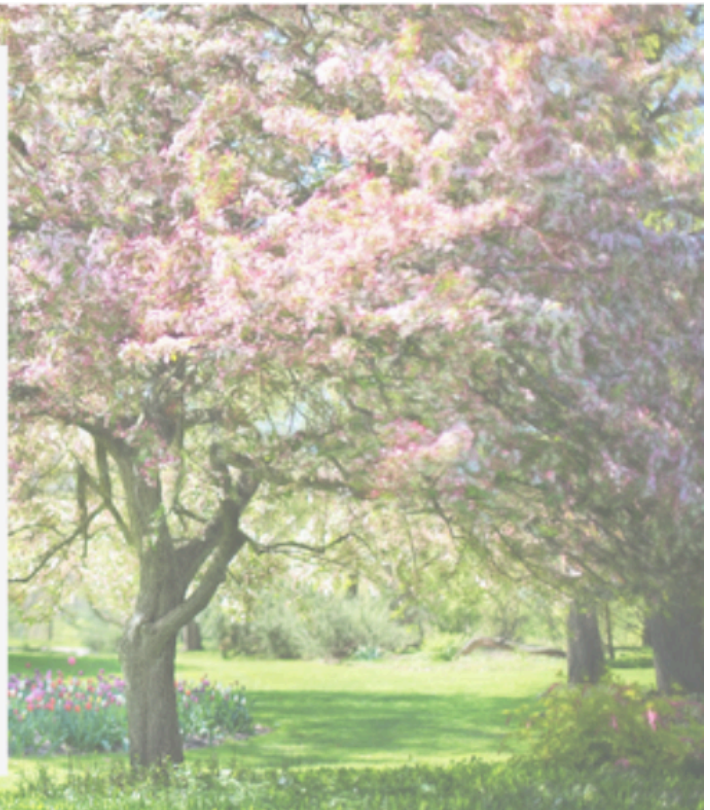
YMCA LATZER HALL

1001 S. WRIGHT ST, CHAMPAIGN

Remarks begin at 4:45pm

RSVP appreciated by April 21st

<https://go.illinois.edu/CSGGEreception>



Please join us as we honor our GRID Graduates and CSGGE Award Recipients. Remarks will begin at 4:45pm.

This event is free and open to the public and registration is appreciated by April 21st!

Registration and co-sponsors

CSGGE Co-Sponsored Events

FRIDAY FORUM + CONVERSATION CAFÉ

FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27 | MARCH 6, 27 | APRIL 3, 10, 17



Student Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN

12-1PM | UNIVERSITY YMCA
1001 S. WRIGHT ST., CHAMPAIGN
FREE LUNCH PROVIDED

YMCA's Friday Forum + Conversation Café

ILLINOIS

Lemann Center
for Brazilian Studies

Women in Local Government Leadership
during COVID-19 Pandemic in Brazil

Date: Friday, April 17th

Time: 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Location: University YMCA

1001 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL

On April 17th, the African American Heritage Trail(blazers) of Macon Co., Champaign Co., and Cairo, Illinois will present "Where History Lives: Creating Spaces for Learning, Reflection, & Pride."

The conversation highlights the role of community memory, public history, and storytelling in creating spaces for learning, reflection, and pride.

Free lunch will be provided, and all are welcome!

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)

Speaker: Dr. Ivan Filipe Fernandes, Federal University of ABC and CEAPS/IGI Visiting Scholar.

Date: Tuesday, April 14th

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: 306 Coble Hall

801 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL

This presentation examines the impact of women in leadership roles within local governments in Brazil amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Using novel municipal-level data, we investigate how female leaders in executive positions responded to the crisis.

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)



Addressing Racial Inequality in Brazilian Higher Education: The Expansion of Affirmative Action to Graduate Programs

Speaker: Thais Zappellini, Postdoctoral Fellow at the Brasillinois Initiative.

Date: Tuesday, April 21st

Time: 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Please join us in a discussion examining the expansion of affirmative action for historically excluded Black (pretos) and Brown (pardos) students in Brazilian federal and state universities.

It proposes that implementation has been gradual yet enduring, contributing to a demographic shift



SCHOOL OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

Gender@Work: Global Interdisciplinary Perspectives

Date: Wednesday, April 22nd

Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Location: 422 Levis Faculty Center

919 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL

The School of Labor and Employment Relations bring together Dr. Elisa Frühauf Garcia (Fluminense Federal University (Brazil) History Department; Dr. Christian Darko, Associate Professor at University of Birmingham (UK) Management Department, and Dr. Fuk Ying Tse at University of Birmingham (UK) Management Department for a lively discussion.

in student composition.

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)



Looking Ahead: Women in Science Lecture Series with Dr. Samar Hegazy

Please join is for a lecture with Dr. Samar Hegazy, Teaching Associate Professor of Biomedical and Translational Sciences, as she discusses her research on pathologies in female reproduction and her work on improving pathology education.

The event will be held on Wednesday, May 6th at 12:00 PM at the University Archives, Main Library, Room 146 (1408 W. Gregory St., Urbana, IL).

Please note that a Zoom link will be provided upon registration.

[Registration and co-sponsors](#)

Campus Events of Interest

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW):

Integrating structural analysis and lived experience

Missing and murdered indigenous women

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW): Integrating Structural Analysis and Lived Experience to Address Risk and Protective Factors

Date: Tuesday, April 14th

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Location: Illini Union, Room C
1401 W. Green St., Urbana, IL**

Join the Native American House for a Dinner on Us (DOU) workshop featuring Olivia Walker (Meskwaki Nation). This session examines the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives through both structural analysis and lived experience.

This event is open to the public!

[Click for event details](#)



Poetry Reading: Rita Dove

Date: Wednesday, April 15th

Time: 7:30 p.m.

College of ACES

International Food Security at Illinois Symposium: "Cultivating a New Vision for International Food Security in ACES"

Date: April 15th - April 16th

Time: All Day

**Location: ACES Library, Heritage Room
1101 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana, IL**

Join the College of ACES for a symposium that brings together faculty, researchers, and students to explore interdisciplinary collaboration across departments and colleges working toward global food security.

Sessions will feature panels highlighting key themes in ACES research and initiatives. All ACES stakeholders and others interested in global food security are welcome to attend.

[Click to register](#)



DOLCE Symposium: "Cities and Economic Democracy: Experiments in Comparative Perspective"

**Location: Alice Campbell Alumni Center
601 S. Lincoln Ave., Urbana, IL**

Please join the Humanities Research Institute (HRI) for a free poetry reading and book signing featuring Rita Dove, an award-winning poet, Pulitzer Prize winner, US Poet Laureate, and National Medal of Arts awardee.

This event is hosted by the Humanities Research Institute; co-sponsored by the Robert J. And Katherin Carr Visiting Author Series and Department of English.

[Click for event details](#)

Date: Thursday, April 16th

Time: 1:00-5:30 p.m.

**Location: 300 Levis Faculty Center
919 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL**

Join the European Union Center and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning for the DOLCE Symposium exploring how cities are advancing democratic economic models. This event brings together scholars and practitioners to discuss urban governance, economic inclusion, and community-driven development.

This event is hosted by the 2025-2028 Jean Monnet Center of Excellence grant; co-sponsored by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Center for Advanced Study (CAS).

[Click for event details](#)



Diversity and Social Justice Awards

Date: Thursday, April 16th

Time: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

**Location: Illini Union, Illini Rooms B & C
1401 W. Green St., Urbana, IL**

Join Diversity & Social Justice Education for the annual awards recognizing individuals and groups advancing inclusion and equity across campus. Celebrate the work of community members creating a more just and inclusive university.



**Small Stories as Stepping Stones to
Cultural Awareness and Language
Revitalization**

**Speaker: Professor Marilena Karyolemou,
University of Cyprus**

Date: Friday, April 17th

Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Virtual via Zoom

This virtual talk is hosted The Department of the Classics.

This event is hosted by Diversity and Social Justice Education

[Click for event details](#)

As part of the documentation and revitalization initiative for Cypriot Arabic—launched by the Cyprus Ministry of Education, Sports, and Youth in 2013—a corpus of 81 interviews with native speakers was compiled. A significant portion of the narratives elicited during these interviews consists of personal anecdotes and brief life stories, which we have termed *Small Stories*, following Roth

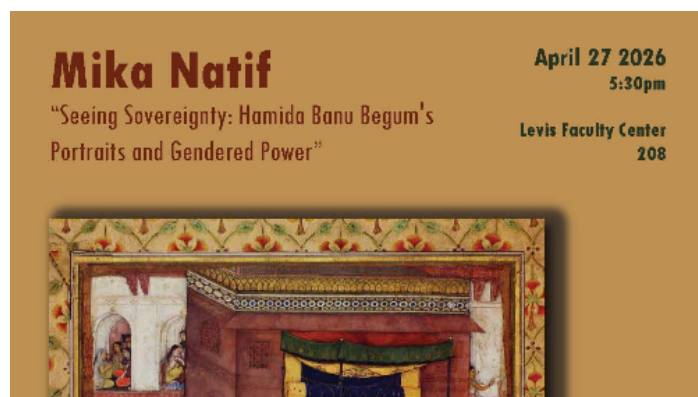
[Click to register for Zoom Event](#)



Global Policy Forum, April 14-15

The Center for Global Studies (CGS) is pleased to host a two-day *Global Policy Forum*. This inaugural event brings together the University community to discuss pressing issues of global governance and policy. At this pivotal moment, the CGS will convene voices from across campus to analyze global challenges, practice policy engagement, and generate applied outputs that contribute to scholarly and public debates. The forum will offer a space for undergraduate and graduate students to gather, share ideas, and meet colleagues in a warm, low-stakes, and supportive setting.

[Click for event details and registration](#)



Mike Natif: "Seeing Sovereignty: Hamida Banu Begum's Portraits and Gendered Power"

Date: Monday, April 27th

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Room 208 Levis Faculty Center

Mika Natif is Associate Professor of Art at George Washington University. She focuses on the intercultural exchanges and global connections that Muslim societies forged with the European sphere during the premodern period.

[Click for event details](#)

Announcements

Call for International Research Proposals

The Illinois Global Institute invites proposals for international research projects and collaborations. Funded by the college of Liberal Arts and Sciences INSURE program, they welcome proposals that support new and ongoing international research, with the aim of sustaining and strengthening the international agenda of research by LAS faculty.

The program is open to all LAS faculty regardless of the impacts of funding cuts to their research, but they particularly welcome proposals that support research that faces other funding constraints.

Each grant will offer up to \$5,000 (or, \$10,000 for teams of two or more) in research support with the aim to keep LAS faculty's international research on track and globally competitive.

INSURE program details

Eligibility:

1. Open to full-time LAS faculty, including tenure-stream faculty, teaching and research professors, and lecturers
2. Open to faculty at all level; preference will be given to early-career scholar

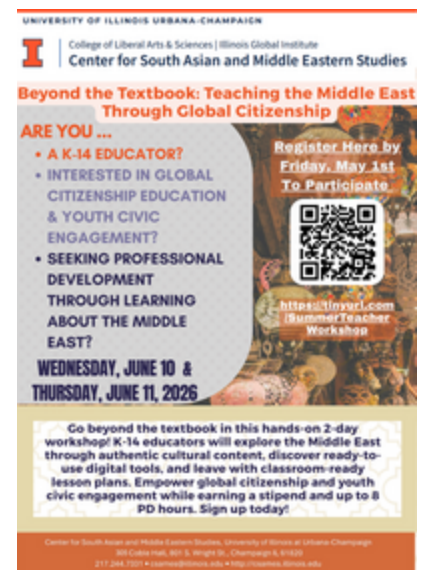
Applications will be accepted for a May 1, 2026, deadline.

Beyond the Textbook: Teaching the Middle East Through Global Citizenship

On **Wednesday, June 10 and Thursday, June 11, 2026**, the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies will host an interactive workshop for K-14 educators. Participants will explore the Middle East through a diverse range of cultural content, gain professional development experience, leave with a valuable set of lesson plans, and earn up to eight PD hours.

Please register by Friday, May 1st, to participate.

Registration



Call for Proposals: Beyond Borders Global Mental Health Conference, Oct 8-9, 2026

We invite you to submit original and creative proposals that help improve the ways that we think about global mental health and community wellbeing. The deadline for proposal submissions is **May 31, 2026**.

We welcome a wide range of submissions, including traditional scholarly abstracts as well as creative

formats such as artwork, poetry, music, short films, digital storytelling, and other multimedia presentations. To increase accessibility and accommodate our global partners, this year's conference will be held **fully online**.

[Click for proposal submission guidelines \(Due May 31, 2026\)](#)

Fall 2026 Courses of Interest

CGGE 581: Gender Relations & International Development (Online Course)

Interdisciplinary seminar examining theoretical and empirical research on gender and the transformation of social and economic structures. Students will develop a comparative perspective on issues of women and public policy by contrasting and comparing such policies in North and South America, Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Please note: This online class format is NOT open to GRID minors.

[Click for link to online course information](#)

UP 423: Community Development in Global South

Introduces students to the main theoretical frameworks and conceptual building blocks of urban and community development in the Global South. It helps students to develop a critical grassroots focused understanding of the approaches to community development, the notions of participation and empowerment, and the role of various actors including the non-government organizations and the community-based groups. There is a particular emphasis on grassroots women as agents of change and informal politics of community development.

[Click for link to online course information](#)

CSGGE Social Media

Follow our social media for the latest updates from CSGGE.

[Click to join our Social Media](#)



CSGGE Programs



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 2025, 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

[Click here for more information on GRID minor](#)



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 & 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.

[Click here to learn more information on MSGS](#)



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.**

[Click here for 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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