



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Biweekly E-news

March 16, 2026 ♦ Spring 2026 ♦ [View past newsletters](#)

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Best Wishes for Spring Break

As Spring Break begins, we would like to extend our best wishes to you for a refreshing and well-deserved pause from the semester's busy pace. Whether you are traveling, spending time with loved ones, or simply taking time to rest, we hope this week brings you moments of renewal and joy. Thank you for your continued dedication and care, which make our community strong. On behalf of everyone at the Center, we wish you a bright, relaxing, and joy-filled break!

Min Zhan and Anita Kaiser

Director and Associate Director, CSGGE

CSGGE Upcoming Hosted and Co-Sponsored Events



Women in Science Lecture Series: Archana Verma

Speaker: Archana Verma, Ph.D. Candidate; Chemical Engineering

Date: Monday, March 23rd

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: University Archives, Main Library Rm 146

1408 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL

Please join us for a lecture with Archana Verma as she discusses her research on the development of a Monte Carlo model for doping in organic semiconductors and reflect on her time working on her Ph.D. at Illinois.

Please note that you will only receive a link to the zoom meeting after you register!

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)



Sanders Peace & Social Justice: "There is No Health Without Mental Health"

Speaker: Dr. Jerome Galea, University of South Florida School of Social Work

Date: Tuesday, March 24th

Time: 5:30-9:30 p.m.

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

Join the School of Social Work for the 29th Annual Daniel S. Sanders Peace and Social Justice Lecture.

Dr. Galea will discuss Global Mental Health, focusing on the treatment gap, access barriers, and innovative strategies to expand care worldwide.

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)



YMCA's Friday Forum + Conversation Café

Date: Friday, March 27th

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



CSGGE Alumni Lecture: "Planning with a Purpose: Reflections from a Journey in Urban Sustainability and Gender Equity"

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

Join the University YMCA for a discussion on labor unions and collective organizing, featuring the Graduate Employees' Organization at the University of Illinois.

This event will explore how labor unions advocate for and protect graduate workers' rights. Free lunch will be provided, and all are welcome.

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)

Speaker: Dr. Mansi Sachdev, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Alumna; GRID Alumna

Date: Thursday, April 9th

Time: 4:00 p.m. CST

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Dr. Mansi will discuss her work integrating climate resilience and gender equity into urban planning. Drawing on her professional experience and her GRID minor at Illinois, she brings a global perspective on gender inclusion and sustainable urban development.

[Event registration and co-sponsors](#)

Spring Reception, Apr. 23rd 4:30-5:30 p.m.

ILLINOIS GLOBAL INSTITUTE
Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity
present

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>

CSGGE Spring Reception

Please join us as we honor our GRID Graduates and CSGGE Award Recipients

1001 S. Wright Street, Champaign

Remarks at 4:45pm

Registration Appreciated

[Click to view event details and registration](#)

Campus Events of Interest

Food For Thought: Merle Bowen

Speaker: Merle Bowen, CAS Associate 2024-25; African American Studies

Date: Wednesday, March 25th

Time: 12:00-1:30 p.m.

Location: Levis Faculty Center, Room 210

919 W. Illinois St., #400, Urbana, IL

Please join us for a Food for Thought talk with Merle Bowen, CAS Associate (2024–25) in African American Studies. In *Remembering the Black World: African-Descended Rural Communities in Atlantic Canada*, Bowen examines the long struggle of African-descended rural communities for land, livelihood, and citizenship rights, highlighting their resilience and the stories that shape Black rural life in Atlantic Canada. With support from the Center for African Studies and the Department of African American Studies.

[Event details and co-sponsors](#)

The final session of the 2025-26 Community-Engaged Research Series, “Why Understanding History Matters for Research,” will take place on **Friday, March 27, 10:30 – noon**, at the **Urbana Free Library**.

Attendees are invited to explore why understanding history matters for research and community impact by viewing the *Journey to Freedom: Illinois' Underground Railroad* exhibit and participating in a panel discussion. **Please make sure to register by March 19th!**

Schedule

10 – 10:30 a.m. | Exhibit viewing

10:30 – 11 a.m. | Community coffee and chat, Lewis Auditorium

11 a.m. – noon | Panel discussion

Featured Panel Speakers:

Barbara Suggs-Mason and Angela Rivers, Co-Chairs of the Champaign County African American Heritage Trail

Dr. Stephen Boppert, Director, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Institute

Dr. Kevin Tan, Associate Dean and Associate Professor, School of Social Work (moderator)

[Register now](#)

This event is organized by the College of Education, Center for Social & Behavioral Science (CSBS), and Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Institute (IHSI) at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, with co-hosts College of Applied Health Sciences, College of Fine and Applied Arts, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and School of Social Work.

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

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