



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

Weekly E-news

August 24 ♦ Fall 2026 ♦ [View past newsletters](#)

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Director's Welcome

Dear CSGGE Community:

On behalf of everyone at the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity (CSGGE), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to a new academic year. This year marks the 46th anniversary of our Center, a milestone that reflects both our history and our continued commitment to advancing scholarship, education, and service in women, gender, and international development.

We have an exciting lineup of events this year. We will kick off the semester with our Fall Reception on [September 3rd](#) and hope to see you there! Alongside our annual Alumni Lecture, Faculty Affiliate Lecture, and International Women's Day celebration, we are thrilled to announce the 2026-2027 Lecture Series on *Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era*, as well as the series that celebrate the *International Year of the Woman Farmer 2026*. We also offer a series of professional development opportunities for our graduate minor students on Gender Relations in International Development ([GRID](#)), students in our new [Master of Science in Global Studies](#) program (*Gender*

and Public Policy track), and graduate students across campus. We always welcome opportunities to co-sponsor events with units across campus, and please check our website at csgge.illinois.edu for the full list of upcoming programs.

We are proud of the education and support that CSGGE provides to students as they develop innovative ideas, build interdisciplinary connections, and pursue impactful careers. Each year, we offer a competition for [graduate student awards](#) that includes two full year fellowships and a research award. Please join us in congratulating the 2026-2027 CSGGE Fellowship and Award Recipients: Jianing (Ginny) Lu (Rita and Arnold Goodman Fellowship), Azifah (Ina) Astrina (Barbara A. Yates Fellowship), and Seung Deok Seo (Accad and Vieille Award). Asmaa Elsayed and Soodeh Mansouri received the 2026-2027 IGI Language Fellowship through CSGGE to study Arabic.

The dedication and support of you, our faculty affiliates, students, campus and community partners, are at the heart of our work. We look forward to working with all of you in another year filled with meaningful dialogue, impactful research, and a continued commitment to equity and justice. Our biweekly newsletters will continue to share upcoming events, and our Monthly Perspectives will highlight updates from our faculty affiliates, students, and alums. If you have news to share, we would love to hear from you. We are always happy to meet to discuss any questions about our programs or ways to get involved with CSGGE. Please feel free to contact me or our Associate Director, Anita Kaiser, at arkaiser@illinois.edu or (217) 333-6221.

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

AAUW Information Session, Friday, Aug. 28

AAUW Fellowship Information Session

Led by:
Dana Johnson, PhD,
Director of External Fellowships, Graduate College

Since 1888, AAUW has been one of the largest funders of women's graduate education, investing in women who go on to change the world. This information session will focus on AAUW's International, American Dissertation and Selected Professions Fellowships.

IMPORTANT CHANGES THIS CYCLE include International Fellowship is only available to students in STEM, American Dissertation Fellowship is open to students at any stage of study.

FELLOWSHIP INFORMATION SESSION

American Association of University Women

Information Session led by
Dana Johnson, PhD
Director of External Fellowships, Graduate College

Friday, August 28th
12-1:30 PM

306 Coble Hall, 801 S. Wright Street
Lunch included with Registration (starting at 11:45am)

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

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IMPORTANT CHANGES THIS CYCLE

International Fellowship is only available to students in STEM
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Current submission deadlines are Sep. 17 (International),
Sep. 30 (American Dissertation) and Feb. 18 (Selected Professions)



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(International), Sep. 30 (American Dissertation)
and Feb. 18 (Selected Professions)

Friday, August 28th

12:00-1:30pm (Lunch starting at 11:45am)

Room 306 Coble Hall

Lunch provided with registration

CSGGE Fall Reception



CSGGE Fall Reception

Thursday, September 3rd

4-5:30pm (Remarks at 4:30 pm)

YMCA Latzer Hall,
1001 S. Wright Street, Champaign

Registration appreciated by Aug. 31

International Year of the Woman Farmer

This year long series on the International Year of the Woman Farmer aims to raise awareness in agrifood systems and the challenges they face.

This first presentation will discuss advances in understanding the empowerment of women farmers and addressing their needs. Beginning with the conceptual foundations of empowerment, Ruth Meinzen-Dick will reflect on experiences in developing the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index and associated tools for measuring gender gaps and impacts of programs. She will then review research and progress on women's land rights, technologies, and women's voice in governance. Concluding remarks will identify further critical research, programmatic, and policy needs.



Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Research Fellow Emeritus at the International Food Policy Research Institute

Research Frontiers on Empowerment of Women Farmers

 **Thursday, September 10th**

 **4-5:30pm**

 **210 Illini Union**

Ruth Meinzen-Dick is a Research Fellow Emeritus at the [International Food Policy Research Institute](#). She has extensive transdisciplinary research experience in using qualitative and quantitative research methods. Her work focuses on two broad (and

sometimes interrelated) areas: how institutions affect how people manage natural resources, and the role of gender in development processes. She has over 200 peer reviewed publications on land and water policy, property rights, collective action and other governance arrangements, games for experiential learning, and the impact of development interventions, drawing on fieldwork in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

This event is hosted by the Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity in conjunction with the ACES Office of International Programs and the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.

Graduate Student Lightning Talk on Gender Research

Graduate Student Lightning Talk on Gender Research

"Talks on Fire: Big Ideas, Elevator Pitches"**Friday, September 11th****1:00-3:00pm****via Zoom**

Speaker information and Zoom registration

**Talks on Fire: Big Ideas,
Elevator Pitches"** **Friday, September 11th** **1-3pm** **via Zoom**

Preparing an elevator pitch regarding your research is crucial for networking, being on the market, and finding a job. Please join us for this exciting, co-hosted event by CSGGE and GWS to hear from your colleagues who are minoring in GRID, GWS, or Queer Studies about their groundbreaking research.

In this event, we will have 8 students, from the three minors present a 5 min lightening talk or elevator pitch about their research. Following that, they will receive feedback from faculty and other graduate students regarding their presentations. The aim for this event is to showcase the brilliant work our students are conducting and the various ways that they employ gender in their research. This event will showcase the convergences and divergences in the ways we can present our core arguments and research puzzles and how to condense it in ways that highlight the major contributions to our respective fields of study!

[Click for speaker information and Zoom registration](#)**Fall 2026 Events**

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August 28 | 12pm
AAUW Information Session
306 Coble Hall
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/AAUWInfo

September 3 | 4pm
CSGGE Fall Reception
Latzer Hall, University YMCA
RSVP appreciated by Sep. 1
go.illinois.edu/CSGGEFallReception

September 10 | 4pm
Series on International Year of the Woman Farmer Research Frontiers on Empowerment of Women Farmers
Ruth Meinzen-Dick, Research Fellow
Emeritus, International Food Policy Research Institute
210 Illini Union

September 11 | 1pm via Zoom
Graduate Student Lightning Talk on Gender Research "Talks on Fire: Big Ideas, Elevator Pitches"
go.illinois.edu/TalksonFireSep11

September 24 | 12pm
Public Speaking Workshop
Laura Stengrim
co-hosted by Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies
306 Coble Hall
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/PSWSep24

October 1 | 12pm
Series on "Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era"
Sexual Harassment and the Geography of Service Work in the U.S.
Emily E. LB. Twarog, LER
306 Coble Hall
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/LunchTalkOct1

October 8 | 12pm
Series on "Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era"
Audiences interpretations of gender problems based on the Netflix show, Adolescence
Shaimaa Khanam, Communication
306 Coble Hall
go.illinois.edu/LunchTalkOct8

October 13 | 12pm
Panel on "Fostering Student Agency for Community Engagement"
Hosted by CSGGE and IHSI
ACES Heritage Room
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/CEROct13

October 15 | 12pm
Series on "Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era"
Pushed Out and Boxed In: Gendered Silence and Exit Orientations in China's Tech Industry
Tingting Zhang, LER
306 Coble Hall
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/LunchTalkOct15

October 21 | 12pm
Workshop on "Writing Effective Fellowship Proposals for Research Abroad"
Illini Room A, Illini Union
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/Fellowshipworkshop

October 22 | 12pm
Series on "Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era"
Title: TBD
Maria Hadjipolyarcou, Classics
306 Coble Hall
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/LunchTalkOct22

October 29 | 12pm
Series on "Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era"
When Women Are Ideal Workers: The Gendered Impact of Overwork on Wages and Promotion
Yeaseul Hur, LER
306 Coble Hall
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/LunchTalkOct29

November 3 | 3pm
Panel Discussion "How Graduate Minors Help You on the Job Market"
210 Levis Faculty Center
go.illinois.edu/JobMarketNov3

November 5 | 12pm
Panel on Academic Publications
co-hosted by Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies
104 Illini Union
Lunch with RSVP
go.illinois.edu/AcadPubNov5

December 3 | 12pm via Zoom
Series on "Gender Equity in an Inequitable Era"
Threads of Care: Ralli-making and Women's Wellbeing Under Climate Stress
Marwah Malik, Urban and Regional Planning
go.illinois.edu/LunchTalkDec3

GRID Minor Information Sessions

September 30 | 4-5pm
October 9 | 10:30-11:30am
Learn about the Gender Relations In International Development (GRID) Graduate Minor
306 Coble Hall or virtual with pre-registration at go.illinois.edu/GRIDInfo



For information on CSGGE hosted or co-sponsored events,
please visit <https://go.illinois.edu/CSGGEevents> or click on QR code

Please visit our website for a full list of hosted and co-sponsored events

Click to view full calendar of events

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 for more info on GRID minor](#)

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 to learn more information on MSGS](#)

Master of Science in Global Studies



Call for Applications
Apply Now

The MS in Global Studies (MSGS) is a 33-hour, three-semester program that also offers a 5-year dual BA or BS and MSGS degree option. The program prepares students for careers that require knowledge of and an ability to work within areas related to (1) Global Governance, (2) Global Security, and (3) Gender & Public Policy by equipping them with the analytical and professional skills necessary to navigate an increasingly interconnected world. It emphasizes real-world, professional training and experience by enabling students to study, research, and work globally and with international universities and industry partners. The MSGS develops broadly educated and well-trained scholars, practitioners, and professionals who will become future leaders with a global impact.



Admission requirements

- Completed or be pursuing a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher learning for three (3) or more years of stated professional work experience
- Submit an application to the Graduate College for admission

<https://gsi.illinois.edu/admissions/global-studies/program-overview/application>

CERTIFICATE IN GLOBAL HEALTH
discover
LAS GLOBAL STUDIES AND CENTER FOR
THE STUDY OF GLOBAL GENDER EQUITY



ILLINOIS GLOBAL INSTITUTE
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

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 for more information on Undergraduate
Certificate



Center for the Study of Global Gender Equity

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

201 Coble Hall, MC 401 | 801 S. Wright Street | Champaign, IL 61820

Contact: csggeatillinois@illinois.edu



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