



Working Group Meeting

Thursday, June 6, 2024, 11:00am-1:00pm EST

Hybrid Meeting: Kresge 708 and [Zoom](#)

Chair: Nancy Krieger

Minutes

- **Introduction [11:00-11:10am]**

- Welcome, brief introductions
- Attendance:
 - WGH Chair: Nancy Krieger
 - WGH Staff: Laura Chen, Sirad Hassan, Ann Caroline
 - WGH Faculty: Kristin Javaras, Sabra Katz-Wise, Liz Boskey
 - Jennifer Opp
- Evaluation of past year and planning for next year

- **Review of 2023-2024 activities and accomplishments [11:10 - 11:20am]**

- **Please review these documents before the meeting and bring any comments, concerns, or questions**
 - [WGH Course Ratings AY 2023-2024](#) (See Document)
 - Summary: The overall average course rating for WGH courses is 4.74. All of the courses performed well and two courses (WGH 230 and WGH 250) received an overall rating of 5.0! Well done everyone!
 - [WGH Events for AY 2023-2024](#) (See Document)
 - Take Action Tuesday highlights
 - WGH hosted events and attendance
 - Summary: Attendance at events (in-person and a few hybrid) averaged around 30 people this year across 10 events. Events ranged from an in-person discussion co-hosted with PHS, to virtual speakers with a hybrid Zoom. The Fall and Winter Socials brought out 29 and 20 individuals, respectively.
 - Important that we build up momentum and plan in accordance for the upcoming year to expand
 - [WGH Conference Stipend Awards for AY 2023-2024](#) (See Document)
 - 12 applicants will be funded (7 Fall, 5 Spring) to attend/present at a wide range of conferences, including SER/SPER, APHA, IAPHS, National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Conference, Plastic Surgery the Meeting, Society for Family Planning, World Professional Association for Transgender Health, International Society for the Study of Drug Policy

- Note that N=3 Spring cycle applicants have been pre-approved to be funded through the AY 2023-2024 budget & have been notified of this decision (reason for this being that the conferences they sought funding for will take place in Fall 2024)
 - Spring cycle applicants have all been notified, will fill out [written reportback form](#) with option to also attend and share at a working group meeting
 - As part of budget discussion, need to discuss options for handling more requests than we can fund
 - High number of application reflects fact that people are now traveling again to go to conferences
- [WGH Concentration Completion Letters for AY 2023-2024](#) (See Document)
 - 10 wonderful concentrators this year. One student was able to come to the May working group meeting to celebrate and share their experiences with the concentration.
 - All letters have been handed/mailed out to concentrators
 - We had a drop during COVID, but now the number has gone back up. Sign of recovering and sign of sustained interest from students.
- **Review of WGH 2023-2024 budget [11:20-11:40am]**
 - [WGH Budget Review 2023-2024](#) (See Document): to set fiscal basis for planning
 - Funds allocated, funds spent, funds remaining
 - For the next 5 years, our budget will effectively be 25k/year (20k of regular annual funding + 5k of spending down reserves)
 - First string is \$20,000 submit all receipts, when the cap is hit here then we can use the second string which is the \$5,000 in reserves. Sirad and Ann Caroline know about this
 - **WGH Staff:** remember to remind WGH instructors that they have a budget for snacks for the course, when courses start, letting them know how much the budget is. Instructors can submit receipts to WGH staff
 - WGH 230 TF salary will be through SBS, if the enrollment is over 15 students
 - WGH Staff: Follow up with SBS about the budget for WGH 230 by the end of July
 - Limiting to 1 stipend/year/student and continue to review on case by case basis and fund only % (i.e. around 70-80%); with language would be “up to 750\$” instead of “750\$” with a proposed budget is 5000\$/year, with at least \$500 funded per application
 - WGH Student Staff: Draft language on the website and brochure that concisely states all of this by Thurs June 13
- **WGH courses for AY 2024-2025: updates [11:40am-11:45 am]**
 - [WGH Course Offerings 2024-2025](#) (See Document)
 - No changes

- WGH 211 Gender and Health: Fall 1 2023 - Introductory Perspectives - *Dr. Colleen Reynolds & Dr. Brittany Charlton*
 - Confirmed that Charlton and Reynolds will be teaching in the fall. There might be uncertainty for Fall 2025, but we could potentially utilize a postdoc
 - WGH 201: Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice: Fall 2 - *Dr. Elizabeth Janiak*
 - WGH 250: Embodying Gender: Public Health, Biology, and Body Politic: January 2024 -*Dr. Nancy Krieger*
 - WGH 220: Sexuality and Public Health: Spring 1 - *Dr. S. Bryn Austin*
 - WGH 207: Advanced Topics in Women, Gender, and Health: Spring 2 - *Dr. Sabra Katz-Wise*
- Changes
 - WGH 230: The Health of Transgender and Gender Diverse People: Fall 2. *New instructor (Dr. Sabra Katz-Wise) and course transferred to the SBS Departement*
 - Course structure mostly the same, but will be looking to integrate developmental perspective and focus on adolescents because my own background is in this area
 - WGH 210 Critical Issues in Mental Health: Spring 1. *New instructor (Dr. Kristin Javaras) and course transferred to the Epidemiology Department*
 - Dr. Javaras is excited to teach
 - WGH Student Staff: Schedule for November working meeting re: syllabus review and plan for Canvas website; coordinate with Dr. Javaras since the syllabus is due in December
 - Diverse group of students enroll in the course: international, psychiatrist, community-based mental health, etc.
 - WGH Student Staff: Send out short survey to WGH faculty to ask about how they approach grading, and how they share grading responsibilities with TFs (to inform planning for WGH 210 and other WGH courses)
- Reminder: WGH course refreshment fund
- **Update of WGH website (as part of HSPH website redesign) [11:45-11:55 am]**
 - Description of changes to WGH website (Jennifer Opp)
 - HSPH is undertaking a major website redesign. All of the content that is currently on the website will be retained, but reorganized and updated as warranted. This will be done by Jennifer Opp and Dr. Krieger, with input on contents and updates by entire WGH team.
 - Content templates must be finalized by the end of June; back end site opens on July 1st; for WGH, Jennifer Opp will work on migrating the content in July and August, which will require iterative review and

possibly edits. New site goes live on September 3, 2024. No content will be lost, it will be only reorganized (and updated, as warranted).

- Any decisions we need to make re the WGH website will be overseen by Dr. Krieger (including updates, as warranted)
 - There are character limits for different component of the template for the WGH website, which will required conceptual editing of existing text
 - WGH Student Staff: need to connect with Jennifer about how to make this website change as smooth as possible
- **Taking stock of how we work & planning for next year [11:55-12:10pm]**
 - WGH Student Staff
 - Sirad Hassan and Ann Caroline Danielsen are the new student staff, with Laura Chen continuing on through orientation in September 2024
 - Monthly Working Groups ([See Document](#)) – hybrid, with in-person lunch
 - How can we improve attendance from both students and WGH faculty?
 - Possibility: advertise monthly meeting as opportunity for informal “hot topic” open discussion re issues involving women, gender, & health, with 25 min set aside for discussing WGH decisions/ideas that need to be tabbed down, and 20 min for open discussion?
 - WGH Student Staff: think of ways to advertise meetings as informal space and engage more students/people (not necessarily formal presentations, we want it to be a relaxing, welcoming space)
 - Subcommittee Leadership & Student recruitment
 - Concerns? Changes?
 - Events Subcommittee
 - Led by WGH Staff
 - Curriculum Subcommittee
 - Led by Dr. Liz Boskey & WGH Staff
 - Take Action Tuesday subcommittee
 - Led by WGH Staff, plus additional students to be identified at the start of the 2024 Fall semester
 - WGH Student Staff: Encourage WGH faculty to tell their students that TAT can be a place to do advocacy on course-related topics, or things that come up from class discussion
- **Brainstorming for WGH events for AY 2024-2025 [12:10-12:45 pm]**
 - Format: continue with in-person & food, with hybrid option
 - Possible themes:
 - Ideas raised at prior WGH meetings: gender & democracy (given election year; could also be: political & economic democracy, and bring in possibility of focus on unions & work & gender & health, as well as focus on governance & laws affecting issues of gender & health ...)
 - Brainstorming additional theme ideas
 - Consensus on “***the politics of gender and health: current social, economic, and democratic challenges***”
 - Possible speaker for International Women’s Day: perhaps we could invite Donna Maria Tellez (from Nicaragua; she will be a DRCLAS fellow & HKS Visiting

Professor – see:

https://drclas.harvard.edu/news/announcing-our-2024-2025-visiting-scholars-and-fellows?admin_panel=1

- Add event ideas to [WGH Event Schedule](#) (See Document)

- **Fall Orientation: Timeline, Logistics, Plans, Materials, and Events:**

[12:45-12:55pm]

- Review proposed WGH orientation/welcome meeting on [WGH Event Schedule](#) (See Document) – and set dates & timeline for having materials ready
 - Timeline:
 - Orientation Week: August 26-30, 2024
 - WGH Orientation: Wednesday, September 4, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM
 - WGH Fall Social: Thursday, September 5, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (likely Penguin Pizza)
 - WGH Student Staff:
 - Book rooms for events when dates are finalized
 - Figure out the schedule for the Resource Fair.
 - Send out "hold date" notices for orientation events, opening social, and fall WGH meetings.
 - Create a WGH calendar, prioritizing reservations for room 708 or 606 for the monthly WGH Working Group meetings.
 - Ensure the language "a space for conversation, community, and hot topics" is used consistently for working group meetings.
 - September 2024: Panel Discussion Ideas
 - Referendums (eg abortion), engaging authentically with gender and health, with repro justice health, in context of election
 - WGH Student Staff:
 - Check in with Liz as soon as possible who potential speakers for this could be
 - Reach out to Movement Voter Project: <https://movement.vote/> - consider if they could join remotely?
 - Dr. Krieger can do 16, 17, 19 Sept, not the Wednesday (Sept 18) since NK is not available then
 - Room booking depends on what is available, the smaller G rooms are good (like G2, G3 → avoid FXB G10) → find a room that we can book from 12:30-2
- WGH participation in Fall schoolwide orientation
 - Orientation is scheduled for August 28 - 30, 2024
 - Mix of live programming and asynchronous content likely
- Review [WGH info sheet & brochure](#) for 2024-2025
 - Overall review
 - Review of WGH faculty listed on the brochure

- **Close of meeting [12:55-1:00pm]**