

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, March 05, 2025

1:00-1:50 pm Boston Time

Kresge 606

[Click here for Zoom Link](#)

Minutes

Present in person: [Nancy Krieger](#), [Sirad Hassan](#), [Ann Caroline Danielsen](#), [Sabra Katz-Wise](#), and [Mai-Han Trinh](#), [Dougie Zubizarreta](#)

Present on Zoom: [Ariel Beccia](#)

1:00 - 1:05 pm

Welcome – Nancy Krieger

- Introductions
- Purpose of meeting: review current WGH activities & plan new ones (including TAT)

1:05-1:15 PM

Events Committee – Ann Caroline Danielsen and Sirad Hassan

- Spring Event Planning
 - **Reproductive Justice in the Aftermath of the US Elections**
 - Thursday, February 13, 2025 (Kresge 200)
 - Speakers: Aziza Ahmed, Sarah Chaisson-Warner and Liz Janiak; Nancy Krieger (moderator)
 - 13 attendees
 - **International Women's Day Luncheon**
 - Friday, March 7, 2025, 1-1:50 pm (Kresge 110)
 - [Dora María Téllez](#) secured as speaker
 - 33 RSVPs as of 3/4/2025
 - **Overview of the event:**
 1. 1:00 - 1:10 pm: Prof. Nancy Krieger gives an introduction to the history of International Women's Day (IWD) & introduces Dr. Tellez.
 2. 1:10 - 1:25: Dr. Tellez shares remarks for IWD (translated live from Spanish to English by Cris Alonso and from English to Spanish by Nylca Munoz)
 3. 1:25 - 1:30: WGH asks the following questions to Dr. Tellez:

You personally experienced the Sandinista movement going from a liberatory and revolutionary force to an authoritarian regime with increased influence by the Catholic Church and opposition to so-called “gender ideology.” What insights or advice would you be able to share with those facing authoritarianism today? More specifically, what do you think that those of us in the US today concerned with gender, sexuality, health and social justice should be thinking or strategizing about?

4. 1:30 - 1:45: Q&A with the audience (translation from English to Spanish: Nylca; translation from Spanish to English: Cris)

5. 1:45 - 1:50: We all sing the Bread and Roses song.

- This is the first ever bilingual WGH event (Spanish/English)
- Ann Caroline will send reminders the organizing team and to the those who have RSVP'd
- After the event, people will be invited to go together to the Stand up for Science rally in front of the MA State House
- **U.S. v Skremetti: Arguments and Consequences for Transgender Health Care**
 - WGH will be co-sponsoring this [event](#) organized by the LGBTQ Health Center event
 - Speaker: Alejandra Caraballo
 - Time and location: 1-2 PM, FXB G12
 - We will be having our WGH business meeting from 12 to 12:30 pm (Kresge 606) right before the event
 - Lunch from 12:30 to 1 pm
 - WGH staff to confirm with Keirith/Brittany at what time lunch will be available in FXB G12
- May WGH events: ideas?
 - WGH Staff: Panel on teaching and research in the current political environment
 - Ariel Beccia: Considering that May is the national month of sports, we could organize an event on gender and sport (could touch upon inclusion of transgender athletes, similar to the event that was planned in May last year but cancelled)
 - Nancy Krieger: Showing a documentary or short film, preferably with an uplifting edge

1:15-1:25 PM

Curriculum Committee – Liz Boskey & Sirad Hassan

- **Courses:**
 - Winter term:
 - **WGH 250 Embodying Gender: Public Health, Biology, & the Body Politic** (N. Krieger): 3 enrolled
[For future years, NK is coordinating with Jarvis Chen's R course to avoid scheduling conflicts](#)
 - Full Spring:
 - **WGH 300 Independent Study:** Any independent studies to report?
 - Spring 1 term:
 - **WGH 210 Women, Gender, and Health: Critical Issues in Mental Health** (K. Javaras)
 - Liz Boskey will be teaching remotely (with appointment via Epi Dept) due to unexpected emergency
 - Javaras still wants to teach in Spring 2026
 - 15 students enrolled

[WGH to follow up with Prof. Javaras in early Fall regarding her](#)

plans for teaching the course next year

- **WGH 220 Sexuality and Public Health** (B. Austin)
 - 14 students enrolled
- Spring 2 term:
 - **WGH 207 Adv Topics in Women, Gender, and Health** (S. Katz-Wise)
 - 9 students enrolled (as of 03/02/25)
 - Will WGH cover the cost of having a TF (\$1644)?
 - Yes, WGH has room in the budget for covering this TF cost
 - Sirad to work on a flyer to advertise the course
- Fall 1 2025:
 - **WGH 211 Gender and Health: Introductory Perspectives** [Ariel Beccia](#) has agreed to take over teaching the course, and she and Brittany Charlton are in the process of getting the paperwork approved for Ariel's appointment in EPI to have her teach WGH 211 via an EPI dept appointment (starting in Fall 2025)
 - Ariel + WGH team to discuss WGH 211 timing for the Fall 2025
 - Ariel explored potential times, taking into account core courses, including those for MPH students in the SBS and Global Health department
 - Of the times proposed, Tues/Thurs 2-3:30 pm was confirmed as the best option
 - Ariel to communicate this to department
- **Conference Stipends**
 - Spring application deadline April 28, 2025 (funded 4 in the Fall)
- **WGH-focused student-led initiatives**
 - In an efforts to fully utilize our yearly budget allocation, \$500 were set aside for student-led initiatives with a WGH focus during 2/19/25 WGH meeting
 - Application deadline: Monday, April 7, 2025
 - Sirad to make a flyer for this. Flyer will be circulated at upcoming IWD event
 - WGH staff to add this flyer & information related to these funds to the WGH website
- Reminder of enrollment open dates and deadlines to register for winter and spring courses:
 - Deadline for Spring 2 is April 3, 2025
 - Sign up in advance to secure a spot in the course and to avoid the waitlist!

1:25 – 1:35 pm

Additional WGH business

- **WGH presentation to CEP: Tues, April 29, 2025, 2:15 to 3:15 pm**
 - CEP is "Committee on Educational Policy"; see: <https://intranet.hsph.harvard.edu/office-of-educational-programs/cep/>
 - NK will work with WGH student staff to prepare presentation (which will also inform our June 2025 end-year planning meeting) – meeting on Mon, March 10, from 4 to 5 pm
 - Text of email sent to us on Feb 6, 2025:

We are delighted to invite you to join us at one of our upcoming virtual meetings this academic year—either on February 25th or April 29th from 2:15–3:00 PM—to present on the Women, Gender, and Health Concentration. Typically, presentations run for about 15 minutes, followed by time for questions and discussion with CEP members.

Program Presentation Guidance:

Below are a few framing questions we've provided in the past to interdisciplinary concentration leaders for their presentation to CEP.

While degree program presentations are unique, CEP recommends using the following guidelines to structure your update.

1. Brief program overview: # of years in existence, curricular requirements, # of students who enroll, # of students who complete, annual evaluation themes, if available, and governance structure.
 - WGH has all of this information
 2. How satisfied have students been with the concentration and programming?
 - Go through course evaluations and pull some quotes
 - Check with WGH faculty to see if students have shared any feedback or statements with them over the years
 3. What is working well & what needs shoring up?
 - Good attendance and events
 - WGH is one of the few spaces at the School where issues related to gender and health are systematically discussed and addressed
 - TAT as an initiative that is good for morale and community building
 - TAT is a platform/format that is gathering attention an interest from other parts of the School (e.g. Byron Thomas from ODI office expressed interest in learning about it; TAT has been supporting recent Data-Thon initiatives
 4. Any concentration priorities where CEP could be helpful in providing guidance/feedback?
 - Guidance on how WGH pedagogy might be affected by the recent “gender ideology” executive order
 - CEP could help with sharing teaching examples developed in WGH207 across departments, so that faculty can incorporate these case examples in the classes they teach
- In general, June Meeting notes are an excellent source of information with respect to all that the WGH has been doing over the year, so we can refer back to what we talked about last June. Question: could CEP help run Sabra case examples across the departments? Get this onto a form, with the dissemination of the cases so that other faculty can incorporate the case examples in their classes as relevant and as useful.

1:35-1:45 PM

Take Action Tuesday – Sirad Hassan

- Weekly Actions are included in the weekly newsletter and every Tuesday at a table in Kresge Cafeteria
- Upcoming Actions (& brainstorm for new ideas)
 - March 11: Postcard-writing campaign (about childhood vaccination)
 - March 18: Spring Break (virtual action)
 - March 25: Support the 2025-26 Massachusetts Reproductive Equity Agenda! With federal threats to reproductive rights growing, now is the time to expand abortion access and protect patient privacy in Massachusetts. Urge your legislators to support key bills: the Prioritizing Patient Access to Care Act (HD.2651, SD.1742), which removes barriers to abortion later in pregnancy; the Location Shield Act (HD.2965, SD.501), which prevents the sale of cellphone location data to protect abortion seekers and providers; and the Full Spectrum Pregnancy Care Act (HD.1456, SD.1199), which ensures insurance coverage for all pregnancy-related care without copays or deductibles. Massachusetts has made historic strides in protecting reproductive freedom, but we must go further—email your legislators today to help break down the remaining barriers to care! [Take action now.](#)

Ideas for future actions:

- [Bluewave postcard movement](#)
- [Lemonade stand for public health](#)

1:45 – 1:50pm

Wrap up and Questions – Nancy Krieger

- Reminder: Spring 2024 monthly Working Group Meetings
 - Select Wednesday's of each month (*unless otherwise noted*), 1-1:50 pm Boston Time, in-person and Zoom
 - Wednesday, April 9, 2024 (**12:00-12:30 pm**, Kresge 606)
 - Wednesday, May 7, 2024 (Kresge 606)
 - June Planning Meeting (Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – 11:00 am to 1pm)
 - [WGH staff to book IT support and lunch](#)
 - [For day-of logistic support, WGH staff to identify individuals on the RSVP list who could help \(considering that both Ann Caroline and Sirad will not be in Boston\)](#)
 - [NK will discuss with WGH staff whether they are planning to stay in their roles next year or whether recruitment is necessary](#)

Sign-up for the WGH Mailing List: www.tinyurl.com/wghlist

For a brief flyer about what WGH is, all the courses offered, and how to complete the concentration, see our [new info sheet!](#)

PAST ITEMS (FOR THE RECORD)

Events Committee – Ann Caroline Danielsen and Sirad Hassan

- WGH panel discussion on reproductive justice in the context of the upcoming US elections (September 19, 2024 - 1:00-1:50, Kresge G2)
 - 28 attendees
 - Panelists: Dr. Liz Janiak (HSPH), Sarah Chaisson-Warner (Movement Voter Project), Dr. Aziza Ahmed (BU Law); Moderator: Dr. Nancy Krieger (HSPH). The Harvard Votes student organization joined for the last 5 minutes of the event to share information & resources on voting.
- Fall events series: “The politics of gender & health: social, economic, and democratic challenges”
 - Project 2025: Implications for Public Health (Wednesday, October 9 - 1:00-1:50, FXB G13)
 - Attendees: 14
 - Speakers: Dr. Elizabeth Sommers (Assistant Professor in Family Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine) and Dr. Chris Chanyasulkit (Immediate past-president of the American Public Health Association)
- Post-election lunch (Wednesday, November 6, 2024 - 1:00-2:00pm, Kresge 606)
 - Attendees: 16
- Fannie Lou Hamer' America: Film Screening (Wednesday November 20, 2024 - 5:30 to 7:00 pm, FXB Building, 7th Floor)
 - 3 attendees (but 15 RSVPs)
 - The WGH Concentration is hosting a post-election film screening of Fannie Lou Hamer's America to highlight the political and humanitarian impact of this extraordinary Mississippi civil rights activist. This event is also co-sponsored by the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights.
- Passing the Maternal Health Bill in Massachusetts: How Community Activism Transformed the Maternal Health System in the State (Thursday December 12, 2024 - 1:00 to 1:50, Kresge G3)
 - Panel discussion with Tiffany Vassell, Susan Hernandez and Emily Anesta, moderated by Cris Alonso
 - 30 RSVPs, ~15 attendees (as of 01/22/2025)
- Spring Social: Thursday, January 30 at MFA (5:30 - 7:00 pm)
 - 11 people attended the event

Curriculum Committee – Liz Boskey & Sirad Hassan

- Courses
 - WGH 211 Gender and Health: Introductory Perspectives (C. Reynolds & B. Charlton): Cancelled (an independent study was offered to all those who were originally enrolled – 1 student only chose to enroll in EPI300, 2.5 credits)
 - [Ariel Beccia](#) has agreed to take over teaching the course, and she and Brittany Charlton are in the process of getting the paperwork approved for Ariel's appointment in EPI to have her teach WGH 211 via an EPI dept appointment (starting in Fall 2025)
 - WGH 201 Reproductive Health, Rights, and Justice (L. Janiak): 20 enrolled, 6 waitlisted
 - WGH 230 The Health Transgender and Gender Diverse People (S. Katz-Wise): 9 enrolled, 0 waitlisted
 - Promo poster created: shared via WGH newsletter & posted across campus locations

- WGH 300: any independent studies to report?

Stipends:

- Fall application deadline November 4, 2024
 - 3 applications received from this application cycle, 2 applications from the previous cycle that we wanted to fund as part of the AY 24/25 budget
 - Funded 4 applications in total

Take Action Tuesday – Sirad Hassan

Take Action Tuesday past actions (in Fall 2024):

- Latest Actions:
 - FreeHer Campaign (decarceration)
 - Casa Myrna + Asiyah's Women Shelter (supporting orgs that help those who are survivors of domestic violence)
 - Union Bargaining
 - Petition against sand mining in Southeastern Massachusetts (Indigenous health)
 - Voter Registration Drive
 - Planned Parenthood petition supporting pro-choice
 - Women Against Abuse
 - Support for Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act
 - March of Dimes (maternal and infant health crisis)
 - Supporting Black and Indigenous community resilience and institution-building
 - Supporting Indigenous Day of Mourning