

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, April 09, 2025
12:00-12:30 pm Boston Time
Kresge 606

[Click here for Zoom Link](#)

Meeting Minutes

Attending on Zoom: Nancy Krieger

Attending in Person: Sabra Katz-Wise, Ann Caroline Danielsen, Sirad Hassan

12:00 - 12:05 pm

Welcome – Nancy Krieger

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

12:05-12:10 PM

Events Committee – Ann Caroline Danielsen and Sirad Hassan

- **Upcoming Spring Events**
 - **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 with speaker Alejandra Caraballo
 - Time and location: 1-2 PM, FXB G12
 - Lunch at 1 pm; Lunch will be provided by LGBTQ+ event
- May WGH: Documentary/Short Film Screening:
 - **"I Came to Testify"** – This powerful documentary, part of the *Women, War & Peace* series, focuses on the landmark case of Bosnian women who survived sexual violence during the war and testified in international courts—a pivotal moment in recognizing wartime sexual violence as a crime against humanity.
 - 52 minutes run-time
 - **"Pray the Devil Back to Hell"** – This film chronicles the incredible story of Liberian women who organized a nonviolent movement to end their country's civil war, ultimately leading to the election of Africa's first female head of state, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. - **CHOSEN!**
 - Wednesday, May 7th: 5:30 PM
 - The movie has a 1 hour and 12 minutes run time
 - Sirad as potential discussant and will prepare slides for
 - How will we show the movie?
 - Option 1: Order the DVD and then screen that if the room has capability
 - Option 2: Reach out to the Harvard libraries to see if there is a way to access
 - **Action Items:**
 - WGH staff need to order Sebastians & create a google form for RSVPs
 - Create an uplifting flyer, and reach out to Africa Health Forum,

FXB, Women in Public Policy

- **“Pride”** (we showed a clip at IWD for “Bread and Roses”)
 - 2 hour run-time
 - Important to note: HSPH Pride reception on Thursday, May 8th

12:10-12:15 PM

Curriculum Committee – Liz Boskey & Sirad Hassan

- **Courses:**
 - 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** (Liz Boskey)
 - Liz Boskey will be teaching remotely (with appointment via Epi Dept) due to unexpected emergency
 - Javaras could not teach this semester due to a family emergency, but 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)
 - 7 students enrolled + 2 auditors (as of 04/09/25)
 - WGH will cover TF cost
 - 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)
 - Of the times proposed, Tues/Thurs 2-3:30 pm was confirmed as the best option
 - WGH student staff will check in with Ariel to progress on scheduling the WGH 211 course on the Tues/Thursday 2-3:30 PM time slot
- **Conference Stipends**
 - We presently have 9 applications (as of 04/01/25), and our Spring application deadline April 28, 2025 (funded 4 in the Fall)
 - Ann Caroline and Sirad will meet ahead of the May meeting to review stipend applications
- **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. **Need to review**
 - 1 application received
 - Information not clear, so WGH team will decline the application & therefore will put the \$500 back to the conference stipends
 - Regarding budget, we will likely exceed \$20k (the annual amount provided by HSPH), but we can make adjustments to make sure that we don't go above \$25k (with the extra \$5k from our reserves)
 - Action Item: WGH staff will get back to respectfully decline the application
- **Concentration completion**
 - **Discuss concentration completion celebration. Invite students to May 7, 2025 WGH working group meeting?**
 - Invite concentrators to the May 7th, 2025 and order cake + advertise a working group meeting as a celebration with a separate flyer - and encourage people if they come in person that they can stay for the movie that night
 - Print the concentration letters on nice paper before May 7th, and there were gifts in the past (e.g., WGH water bottle or mug, WGH pens)
 - Get the letters to NK ahead of time so that NK can sign them before May 7th WG meeting
 - We do still have some WGH water bottles + pens, but in the summer will need to order new items & decide what we want to get
 - Sebastians - can they make smaller cake? Maybe rainbow cupcakes and see if we can figure out that - and order a dozen cupcakes
- **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!

12:15 – 12:20 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 worked with WGH student staff to prepare presentation (which will also inform our June 2025 end-year planning meeting) – **internal WGH meeting on Tuesday, April 08, 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.
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?
 - 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 and interest from other parts of the School; 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

WGH student staff to give a heads up to faculty about the CEP presentation. We will do this by sending out the slides we’ve submitted to CEP ahead of time and make sure that if there’s any last minute feedback (due by April 23) that we are able to include that ahead of the presentation on Tuesday, April 29.

12:20-12:25 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):
 - Bluewave postcard movement
 - Lemonade stand for public health
 - TAT for April 22: Lemonade Stand for Public health, purchase lemonade & bring data-thon postcards!
 - Grab a pen (and a free cup of lemonade 🍋) to uplift public health! Join the Lemonade Stands Up for Public Health campaign (inspired by CSU activists) by writing postcards to elected officials and thank-you notes to public health professionals who keep our communities safe. Let your words inspire action, gratitude, and change. Postcards will be provided by WGH!

12:25 – 12:30pm

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, May 7, 2024 (Kresge 606)
- June Planning Meeting (Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – 11:00 am to 1pm)
 - 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)
 - Kresge 606 booked & we will need to order Sebastian's for the meeting
 - Action Item: WGH staff will send out a reminder the week of April 21st with RSVP link to determine if people will be attending virtually or in person

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

- **Spring Event Reflections**

- **International Women's Day Luncheon**

- Friday, March 7, 2025, 1-1:50 pm (Kresge 110)
 - [Dora María Téllez](#) was our speaker; 26 attendees
 - **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 asked the following question 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 sang the Bread and Roses song.

- 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
- **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
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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?
- 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

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