



Working Group Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2022, 12:00-2:00pm EST

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

Chair: Nancy Krieger

MINUTES

Attended by:

a) in person: Nancy Krieger, Kieran Todd, Alison Schulte, Brittney Butler, Natalie Slopen

b) by zoom: Sabra Katz-Wise, Liz Janiak, Even Paglisotti

● Introduction [12:00-12:10pm]

- Welcome, brief introductions
- Evaluation of past year and planning for next year

● Review of 2021-2022 activities and accomplishments [12:10 - 12:30 pm]

- [WGH Course Ratings AY 2021-2022](#) (See Document)
 - courses are doing well in relation to both attendance & course evaluations; range of course ratings (for the 6 WGH core courses): 4.6 to 5.0; mean = 4.8)
 - send the faculty thank you's for a job well done teaching these courses
- [WGH Events for AY 2021-2022](#) (See Document)
 - Take Action Tuesday highlights – with 20 TAT taking place from Sept 2021-Jan 2022, and 14 TAT events occurring in Feb-May 2022.
 - WGH hosted events and attendance – in the fall, we held two in-person events (welcome event & social event), plus remote speaker events; in the spring, we had 2 hybrid event (for International Women's Day & another with speakers), 2 in-person events (a graduation celebration & the abortion rights protest contingent), & 1 remote event (with a speaker)
 - Ideas
 - Think about the purpose of the events, and let that determine the format (i.e., in person, hybrid, remote)
 - For instance, social events in person and then speaker-events being all on Zoom
 - We could have an option where folks can get together in a room and watch a streamed event and have bagged lunches
 - gives students a place to go and participate in a hybrid event which is hard for students without offices

- The Abortion after Roe event (put together quickly after the draft decision was leaked) was really well attended and useful & needed for students, staff, and faculty alike
- [WGH Conference Stipend Awards for AY 2021-2022](#) (See Document) – in the discussion, we noted that the award of 7 stipends was a good sign, akin to the number before COVID hit
- [WGH Concentration Completion Letters for AY 2021-2022](#) (See Document)



- Put out feelers for if people are interested in some sort of WGH contingent going to demonstrations when the Roe ruling is released
 - Keep an eye on what is happening with demonstrations so that WGH can lead students, etc to show up in numbers
 - WGH Staff reaching out to other students groups, FXB, cambridge groups if there are other plans happening for the Roe ruling
 - Medical Students for Choice - HMS Students
 - OBGYN Interest Group - HMS Students
 - Students for Choice - HSPH Students
 - Planned Parenthood MA - follow their public announcements for news
 - Beyond Roe Coalition - follow their public announcements for actions & demonstrations
 - If there is a listserv we could sign WGH email up
- What style of event do we want for future rulings that are relevant to sexual & reproductive rights? & reproductive justice? – especially in relation to the attacks underway on abortion, contraception, trans youth, and LGBTQIA+ rights more generally
 - create a list of faculty/experts who may be interested in being available to field questions/comments/etc.
 - send an email to WGH faculty asking for their ideas & if they wish to be involved

- Think about implications of the decisions and who might be able to speak on those topics – regarding impacts and also resistance
 - **Review of WGH 2021-2022 budget [12:30-12:45pm]**
 - [WGH Budget Review 2021-2022](#) (See Document): to set fiscal basis for planning – and review of our expenses shows we are in good shape, and expect costs to rise in coming academic year as we resume having in-person meetings & events with food costs, possibly some speakers who have travel costs, etc (i.e., the kinds of spending not feasible in the first years of the COVID-19 pandemic)
 - Funds allocated, funds spent, funds remaining
 - Remind WGH instructors there are funds allocated for WGH courses, to use for snacks (e.g., for the final class) or for food costs if a class session has to be rescheduled to the evening due to bad weather, etc.
 - Need to make sure the uses of these funds for WGH courses are in accord with school regulations
 - WGH staff will send Lauren (the SBS staff liaison for budgets for WGH) an email to ask what is a permitted expense for the WGH Coursed budget line
 - One request: to find out if these funds could be used for tickets for movies or events that are related to the course content, pedagogy, etc.
 - Changes for allocation amounts (including carryover)
 - Confirmation of the process for obtaining the funds
 - Ali/Kieran get started on paperwork for obtaining next year's funds - ask when those funds will be available to us (ask about specific date, with aim to have funds approved before the start of Fall 1)
- **WGH courses for AY 2022-2023: updates [12:45-12:55pm]**
 - [WGH Course Offerings 2022-2023](#) (See Document)
 - No changes
 - WGH 211 Gender and Health: Fall 1 2022 - Introductory Perspectives: *Dr. Brittany Charlton*
 - WGH 300 Independent Study: *Fall 2022 - Dr. Sabra Katz-Wise*
 - Also offered in Spring as an option
 - WGH 250: Embodying Gender: Public Health, Biology, and Body Politic: *January 2023 -Dr. Nancy Krieger*
 - WGH 220: Sexuality and Public Health: *Spring 2022 - Dr. S. Bryn Austin*
 - WGH 207: Advanced Topics in Women, Gender, and Health - *Dr. Sabra Katz-Wise*
 - Sabra might explore changing the time for the coming year
 - Currently in contact with Whitney (SBS) about another day of the week
 - potentially Tuesday 945-1115 slot in Spring 2
 - important to keep it in the same quarter (Spring 2)

- Should know by the end of June for the new time
 - Changes
 - WGH 201 Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice: would be good to move to Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30am-1pm for Fall 2022 – Dr. Elizabeth Janiak
 - Check in with Whitney, Kieran about potential course conflicts, with goal of choosing time that enables more doc students, particularly SBS students can participate
 - Kieran contact Whitney about Liz’s course - Liz is open to exploring, do you have other suggestions, etc?
 - See what times she can recommend
 - When is the MCH seminar?
 - WGH 210 Critical Issues in Mental Health – Dr. Elizabeth Boskey
 - Approved change: from 1.25 to 2.5 credits (as of Spring 1 2022)
 - Awaiting Erin Driver-Linn’s response whether Liz Boskey can be granted permission to teach the course remotely
 - Trans Health course planned for Fall 2, 2022: Currently undergoing the approval process with CEP – Dr. Sari Reisner
 - Sari and Kieran met with CEP to go over some of their proposed changes
 - minor revision, resubmitting within the next few days
 - CEP plans on moving forward offering the course
 - WGH 2xx? Could it be WGH 222
 - WGH staff will follow-up to find out what course number will be assigned to this new course, with aim to have this sorted out in time for our WGH brochure
 - also need to find out what timeslot the course will be assigned
- **Taking stock of how we work & planning for next year [12:55-1:15pm]**
 - WGH Student Staff: Kieran & Alison 100% on board!
 - Subcommittee Leadership & Student recruitment
 - Concerns? Changes?
 - Events Subcommittee
 - Ali Schulte & Kieran Todd
 - Curriculum Subcommittee
 - Dr. Liz Boskey
 - Need to recruit a student for this committee
 - Take Action Tuesday subcommittee
 - Currently led by WGH staff (Kieran & Ali)
 - Recruitment for students to take on TAT
 - Are there other student groups that may be interested?
 - Actions that we are proposing are more awareness raising at times?

- Would it make sense to have a monthly topic or something we try to implement in a more meaningful way
- or is TAT more of a newsflash?
 - Fall 2022 will be geared towards the midterm elections, with emphasis on “Get Out The Vote” (GOTV)
 - theme for the Fall - registering to vote, do you know how to vote if you are voting out of state
 - WGH actions to GOTV – can build on what we did for 2020 (see: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/women-gender-and-health/event-summary-get-out-the-vote/>)
 - check in with the Harvard GOTV to see how WGH can connect (see: <https://iop.harvard.edu/vote>)
 - Reach out to existing student groups at HSPH to co-sponsor a TAT once a month or so
 - Brittney Butler checking in with Emy Takinami at FXB Center for Health and Human rights
- Student recruitment
 - Try to recruit during orientation
 - we are really trying to build up this committee and get some new people in mind
 - Draft an email that WGH faculty can send to their past course lists to reach students who might be interested and aren't on the WGH listserv
- School-wide Gender Pedagogy Fellowship: Proposal – Even Paglisotti
 - Work with all departments to improve appropriateness and accuracy of use of gender in courses
 - Sabra's course has teaching examples that could be very useful and this could improve implementation
 - Gender Sci Lab at GSAS could be tied in (see: <https://www.genderscilab.org/>)
 - *Could also take a look at WGH syllabi to see if there are any improvements to be incorporated*
 - *Maybe reach out to MCH program as well*
 - *dissonance between language shift and data shift*
- [Review proposed Monthly Lunchtime WGH meetings](#) (See Document)
 - Approved list of dates, avoiding Tuesdays so as not to conflict with Maternal and Child Health.
 - Agreed to have WGH monthly meetings be hybrid, with the in-person meeting having lunch available; the meetings will all be on Wednesdays, from 1 to 1:50 pm, on: Sept 7, Oct 12, Nov 16, Dec 7 (for 2022) and Feb 8, March 1, April 5, and May 10 (for 2023)

- Additional WGH welcome & social events: Welcome event (Wed, Aug 31, 1-1:50 pm); WGH fall social (Wed, Sept 7, 5-6:30 pm); will also hold a spring social event (date TBD)
 - Additional social events for the year?
 - We have budget carryover that we could use for more socials through the year
 - Send specific notices for each meeting with RSVP option (in addition to listing in the WGH newsletter), so that the reminder about the WGH meeting doesn't get lost in the midst of all else listed in the newsletter
 - Send Outlook calendar invites for the whole year

- **Brainstorming for WGH events for AY 2022-2023 [1:15-1:35pm]**
 - Add event ideas to [WGH Event Schedule](#) (See Document)
 - International Women's Day is on Tues, March 8 and we will hold our annual IWD celebration & lunch on this date (1-1:50 pm) – and will start planning the content & outreach in Fall 2022
 - Liz Janiak's former student Rachel Gross is publishing a [book](#) ("Vagina Obscura: An Anatomical Journey) and may be interested in giving a talk in the Fall
 - Hybrid or In-person Planning Considerations
 - What activities should WGH do next fall?
 - Potential event themes
 - Theme for the Fall
 - Resilience and Resistance - Policies and Health
 - related to LGBTQ rights, reproductive justice, and sexual reproductive rights
 - Event ideas:
 - Pair speakers who can speak to what the attacks are and what the activist responses are to these attacks
 - At least a monthly event
 - September: Abortion update event
 - Lead organizer: Liz Janiak
 - Monday 9/12; 5 - 7 pm
 - RSVP for food
 - Arts related: comedy, storytelling
 - Something related to self-managed abortion
 - New research from UW publishing soon on alternative abortion approaches
 - Abortion storytelling: WeTestify - POC lead
 - BeyondRoe Org
 - October: LGBTQIA+ Event
 - Lead organizer: Sabra Katz-Wise
 - Thurs, 10/6; 1-1:50 pm
 - LGBTQIA+ History Month

- gender affirming care providers in states where restrictive legislation has been passed
 - Maybe the Fenway clinic would have something folks can get engaged with
 - November: Reproductive Justice
 - Lead organizer: Brittney Butler
 - Mon, 11/15; 5 - 7 pm
 - a gender/repro justice lens
 - November: Post-election breakfast
 - Thursday, Nov 10 (chosen since there may still be some results pending on the morning of Wed, Nov 9, given the election on Tues, Nov 8)
 - hybrid remote option
 - 8am - 930am
 - December: No events
 - graduation party (for MPH 65)
 - working group meeting
 - What should our event frequency be to ensure participation?
 - Monthly
 - How do we maintain our presence? Balance of remote and in-person activities?
 - Important to have in-person orientation & socials
 - Important to have hybrid option for monthly WGH meetings (with food provided for those who attend in person)
 - Important to have hybrid option for events (with food for those attending in person)
 - WGH IWD event will be primarily in-person, but with a remote option to watch
 - Potential collaboration with Harvard College Women's Center
 - Their upcoming project: updating materials about sexual & reproductive resources for undergraduates
 - Invite them to be at a working group meeting in September or October to find out how they might want to partner with WGH
- **Fall Orientation: Timeline, Logistics, Plans, Materials, and Events:**
[1:35-1:55pm]
 - Review proposed WGH orientation/welcome meeting on [WGH Event Schedule](#) (See Document)
 - Orientation table: during week of Aug 22
 - WGH welcome event: Wed, Aug 31, from 1 to 1:50 pm – expect WGH faculty to attend, along with WGH staff
 - Check with registrar's office for getting on their schedule
 - When do they send out their orientation information via email to new students? – and what is the deadline for us to be able to get WGH information included in this packet?

- Update Student News, different departments (GHP, SBS, EPI)
 - Update materials for the orientation (finalize updates by mid-July)
 - brochure (updated)
 - meeting schedule
 - events that are planned
 - Get people to show up to the orientation
 - reaching out to faculty now to make sure they have the orientation schedule & set aside time to attend
 - Make posters for all the courses
 - Sari's course having a special banner (since a new course)
 - Separate ads for orientation and the welcome back social (& on WGH website)
 - WGH participation in Fall schoolwide orientation
 - Orientation is scheduled for August 22 - 26; mix of live programming and asynchronous content likely
- Revise WGH info sheet & brochure for 2022-2023
- **Close of meeting [1:55-2:00pm]**