

Gender and Policy Network Report 2018-1019

The 2018 - 2019 GPN year was busy in terms of events and programming. We hosted numerous guests listed below--from academia, domestic and international politics, policymakers and MPA/MPP alumni. We also started a mentoring program, with the help of Ana Billingsley (MPA '19), for students that attended the WWS Junior Summer Institute in 2017. Additionally, we worked towards integrating male-identifying students into conversations around gender. As co-chairs, we would like to thank our amazing steering committee for their engagement, ideas and help during this year; to the GPO administration and Public Affairs for their help in organizing talks; and in general to the WWS community for their participation.

Co-chairs:

- Francisca Vidal, MPA '19 International Development
- Paloma Bellatin, MPA '19 Economics and Public Policy

List of steering committee members and thematic interest:

- Ana Billingsley, MPA '19 -- mentorship program
- Kate Vlach, MPA/JD '19 -- reproductive rights
- Isabel do Campo, MPA '19 -- reproductive rights
- Margo Berends, MPA '19 -- gender and development
- Paulina Lopez, MPA '19 -- diversity and inclusion
- Ella Lipin, MPA '19 -- women in foreign policy
- Karen Scott, MPA '19 -- mentorship program
- Graham Simpson, MPA '19 -- conversations on masculinity

Events summary:

Tuesday, March 6th: Lunch talk with Sally Nuamah

Sally Nuamah is a Values and Public Policy Fellow at Princeton University. Her work specializes in Race, Gender, Education Politics, and Political Behavior. She discussed her research and advocacy on education in Ghana, her role as the founder of Herstory: the TWII Foundation Girls Scholarship and her documentary on girls and education titled HerStory. This event was attended by 28 students.



Thursday, April 5th: *Sexual Assault on College Campuses: A Behavioral Approach*. Lunchtimer with Betsy Paluck and Ana Gantman (co-organized with previous co-chairs)

Dr. Betsy Paluck, is a Professor in the Department of Psychology and WWS. Ana Gantman, is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the WWS. Dr. Betsy Paluck and Dr. Ana Gantman discussed a behavioral perspective on campus sexual assault, analyzing how individual psychological phenomena and environmental configurations interact, and drive patterns of sexual assault. Based on this theoretical framework, Dr. Paluck and Dr. Gantman field-tested an intervention in Princeton University eating club parties, by using pledges that primed towards consent mindset. The event was attended by over 30 students and they discussed the results and policy implications of this study.

Thursday, April 12th: *The right to non-discrimination policies: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.* Discussion with Estefanía Vela (co-organized with Paulina Lopez)

Estefanía Vela is a Mexican Lawyer whose research is focused on the right to non-discrimination and the public policies that are required to implement it. She recently wrote a book about work discrimination in Mexico, and collaborated in generating the Mexican Supreme Court's Protocol of Action for Cases involving Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.



The event was attended by 15 students and engaged a lively discussion of activism, legal approaches to gender rights and intersectionality.

Wednesday, April 25th: GPN Happy Hour

We bid farewell to our amazing previous GPN co-chairs and celebrated their time at Princeton with the second year students involved in GPN. We also brainstormed planned activities for the semester and the summer with our steering committee.

Thursday, May 3rd: Lunch talk with Krishanti Dharmaraj

The final event of the 2017-2018 academic year was a lunch talk with Krishanti Dharmaraj, the executive director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers. She is a human rights activist with over 25 years of experience working to advance the rights of women and girls. Krishanti is the founder of the Dignity Index, a human rights measurement tool utilized to ensure equity and inclusion to reduce identity-based discrimination. Previously, Ms. Dharmaraj was the Western Regional Spokesperson for Amnesty International USA. She is also the co-founder of WILD for Human Rights (Women's Institute for Leadership Development) and the Sri Lanka

Children's Fund. Krishanti discussed her career as well as a human's rights approach to public policy with 18 students.

Tuesday September 25th: GPN Mixer

We welcomed the first year class and talked over wine and cheese about the GPN, the upcoming events for the semester and how to get involved in the Steering Committee. We discussed new ideas and approached with 20 students.



**Monday, October 1st:
Conversation about SCOTUS testimony (co-organized with Isabel Do Campo)**

GPN hosted an informal conversation about the testimonies from Dr. Blasey Ford and Judge Kavanaugh at the Senate Judiciary Committee, as part of the SCOTUS nomination process. It was a space for reflection about recent events and sharing students' thoughts, with 20 WWS students.

Friday, October 12th: Lunch talk with Mu Sochua

Mu Sochua is an outspoken and respected Cambodian politician who has dedicated her life to fighting for women's rights and democracy in Southeast Asia. After a period in exile, she returned to her country and won a seat in Parliament, where she served as the first Minister of Women and Veterans' Affairs between 1998 and 2004, and again from 2013 to 2017. For her life's work combating sex trafficking and promoting gender equality, she received a Vital Voices' Leadership Award and was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2005. She is once again living in exile after the Cambodian government dissolved her party and threatened its leaders in 2017. The event was attended by 21 students, who discussed Sochua's political career and her advocacy for women in Cambodia, as well as the personal trade-offs and sacrifices of a life in activism.



Thursday November 8th: Breakfast conversation with Valerie Jarret

Valerie Jarrett was born in Iran and spent much of her childhood traveling abroad. Working in corporate and real estate law until 1987, Jarrett moved into politics at the state level. Jarrett became a highly influential member of Obama's inner circle and a forceful advocate of the president's agenda. She was also known for advancing progressive measures, such as the inclusion of free birth control in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2010). During the Obama administration, she was the chair of the White House Council on Women and Girls and co-chair of the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault. Jarrett helped Obama win reelection in 2012, and she continued to serve as a senior adviser until his second term ended in 2017. She discussed issues of public service, activism and addressing inequality with 30 students.



Wednesday, November 28th: *Power of Hyper-Local Storytelling to Disrupt the Power Gap* with Alyson Neel

Alyson Neel (MPA '15) has spent her career elevating overlooked stories of women and girls, through journalism, policy design, and advocacy. Her work spans Turkey, the United States, and

most recently Myanmar. Neel has worked to shed light on and address many manifestations of gender inequity, including gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and the gender wage gap, with The Washington Post, UN Women, and the Offices of Louisiana Senator “JP” Morrell and U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin. Neel recently returned to New York after spending 18 months in Yangon, Myanmar, where she was supporting a local women's organization. On the side, she authored *Girl Power in Myanmar*, a bilingual children's book about 14 pioneering women throughout Myanmar history. For that project, she did original reporting, and brought on board five Myanmar artists, all women, to illustrate the book. In a lunch event with 30 students, Alyson discussed her time at the Woo, her current projects in Myanmar and with UN Women, as well as her role as an activist against sexual assault on campus at LSU and at Princeton.



Thursday, December 6th: *Reproductive Rights in the US and abroad* with Beth Sully and Ellie Witwer (co-organized with Isabel DoCampo)

Beth Sully is a Senior Research Scientist at the Guttmacher Institute. Her research focuses on sexual and reproductive health, including abortion measurement, adolescent health, the impact and cost of sexual and reproductive health services, and socio-behavioral dynamics of HIV transmission. Dr. Sully previously conducted research with the Medical Research Council and Uganda Virus Research Institute in Uganda, with the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network in multisite studies across Canada, and with Liverpool VCT Care and Treatment in Nairobi, Kenya. Ellie Witwer is a Research Associate at the Guttmacher Institute and previously worked for Planned Parenthood. Her current work focuses on sexual and reproductive health, including abortion access in the United States, workplace sexual harassment, and adolescent health. Ms. Witwer received her MPH from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and managed practice-based research projects in rural-serving family medicine clinics. She has also served as a board member and funding hotline manager with the Northwest Abortion Access Fund.

The talk focused on measuring abortion in different settings, with reference to a current study that measures the impact of the Global Gag Rule. It also covered a general overview of abortion laws in the US, with an emphasis on potential changes in state abortion laws and their impact.



Monday, February 11th: *Gender concerns in policy design in developing countries.* Lunch with Pallavi Govil, MPP'03.

Dr. Govil is part of the Indian Administrative Service. She has served in various assignments in the State and Central government in India for over 24 years and is currently the Health Commissioner & Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration, Madhya Pradesh. Previously, she served as Director in the Prime Minister's Office from 2009 till 2014. She received her MPP degree from the WWS in 2003. She also holds a Ph.D. from the City University New York and a Masters in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics.

Dr. Govil discussed gender concerns in policy design in developing countries in general, and in India, in particular, with 23 students. The conversation delved on her experience in policy design and implementation at the local level in India, with a focus on health policy, reproductive rights and behavioral approaches to improve health outcomes.



Wednesday, February 13th: Lunch talk with Mara Liasson

Mara Liasson is the national political correspondent for NPR. Her reports can be heard regularly on NPR's award-winning newsmagazines *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*. Liasson provides extensive coverage of politics and policy from Washington, DC — focusing on the White House and Congress — and also reports on political trends beyond the Beltway. Each election year, Liasson provides key coverage of the candidates and issues in both presidential and congressional races. During her tenure, she has covered six presidential elections — in 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012. Prior to her current assignment, Liasson was NPR's White House correspondent for all eight years of the Clinton administration. She has won the White House Correspondents Association's Merriman Smith Award for daily news coverage in 1994, 1995, and again in 1997. From 1989-1992 Liasson was NPR's congressional correspondent. The conversation focused on her career as a political journalist, her insights on the 2020 election and current events.

Wednesday, February 27th: *The Status of Women in U.S. Foreign Policy*, a Talk by Rachel Vogelstein (led by Ella Lipin and the CISS)

From the White House and the State Department to the campaign trail, Rachel Vogelstein has dedicated her career to elevating the status of women and girls. For over a decade, Vogelstein served as a top counselor to Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton on domestic and global women's issues. She advised Secretary Clinton on her historic 2008 and 2016 presidential campaigns, helping her become the first woman ever to win a U.S. presidential nomination. During the Obama Administration, Vogelstein was a member of the White House Council on Women and Girls and served as a top official in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues at the U.S. Department of State, developing a groundbreaking foreign policy agenda for women's empowerment.

Vogelstein currently serves as the Douglas Dillon Senior Fellow and Director of the Women and Foreign Policy program at the Council on Foreign Relations, writing frequently in the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, and other leading publications on some of the most important issues facing women globally.

A lawyer by training, she is a professor at Georgetown Law School and has also taught on women and foreign policy at the Center for Global Legal Challenges at Yale Law School.

Vogelstein serves on the Board of Planned Parenthood Global, and previously fought for women's health and reproductive rights as Senior Counsel at the National Women's Law Center, drafting legislation for the U.S. Congress and amicus briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Wednesday April 24th: *Gender, Economic Data, and Policymaking* with Tricia Koroknay-Palicz, World Bank

Tricia Koroknay-Palicz is an Economist in the World Bank's Africa Gender Innovation Lab. She is currently leading studies in Ghana and Liberia in the areas of life skills, financial inclusion, savings, agriculture, and intra-household power dynamics. She also assists with new research program development. Before joining the World Bank, she served as the Liberia Country Director for Innovations for Poverty Action, and a Senior Project Manager at the Jameel Poverty Action Lab. She holds a masters degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy and International Affairs and a bachelors degree from Macalester College.

The Gender and Public Policy Network and the Center for International Security Studies (CISS) present:

First event of lecture series, next lecture on April 17th



RACHEL VOGELSTEIN
Director of the Women and Foreign Policy program at the Council on Foreign Relations

“WOMEN’S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS: EVALUATING PROGRESS AND OPPORTUNITIES”

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.
LECTURE: 4:30-6PM BOWL 1
Dinner: 6:15 - 7:45PM Prospect House

