



FRIENDS OF THE  
**IGS**  
(INCORPORATING CCCRW)  
**NEWS BULLETIN**

**International Gender Studies Centre** (formerly The Centre for Cross-Cultural Research on Women) at **Lady Margaret Hall** has a broad international research agenda and fosters its overseas links through Visiting Fellows, workshops, and its cooperation with a wide network of development agencies, NGOs, and research groups. The Centre's teaching and publications address current issues in gender, feminism and development.

### **DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

We have been consolidating our institutional identity as IGS at LMH making rapid progress in an important key research priority related to IGS long-term engagement with Myanmar/Burma. We are developing research programmes reflecting members' research interests, whilst marking **30 years of IGS** (formed in 1983 as the Centre for Cross Cultural Research on Women) with a series of anniversary lectures and workshops as well as exhibitions and concerts. Celebrations will last well into next year and we hope they add a cerebral buzz as well as celebratory shine to our Centre's activities!

Reference was made in the last issue of IGS Newsletter to our response to Patron Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's challenge to the University of Oxford for academic investment into education in her country. The Centre's identity is known as cross-cultural and gender studies-centred, with a preference for transformative research. We have commenced our long-term commitment to Myanmar with a funded Junior Research Fellowship (the Daw Aung San Suu Kyi JRF) to address critical questions in relation to Burmese contexts of gendered cultures of education and aspiration. The project requires collaboration and consultation with local partners so I just returned from a visit to Myanmar exploring issues with people from a broad spectrum of occupation, gender, generation and status. Education in Myanmar is a site of political and cultural contestation, both highly regimented and also fragmented. Such societal complexity demands that as we offer models of education, capacity and leadership training, we must remind ourselves of the limitations of any intervention. Referencing one of our ancestors of educational reform, Mary Wollstonecraft, it is wise to remember 'Till society be differently constituted, much cannot be expected from education.'

Today 8th May **Professor Rosi Braidotti** delivers the Barbara E. Ward Commemorative Lecture commencing the IGS 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary programme. As a distinguished and influential feminist thinker and philosopher she will lecture on 'Writing as a Nomadic Subject.'

IGS website features this anniversary year with details of Workshops (also as below) and Anniversary Lectures, with a Special Events Day on November 13th and a programme comprising a lecture by Baroness Helena Kennedy QC: and showcasing of IGS current research, in particular work from our evolving Myanmar programme. We conclude our anniversary celebrations with Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, as the guest Commemorative Lecturer in May 2014. For the continued support of many colleagues, visiting research fellows (current and past) and countless friends Thank You! **Maria Jaschok**

### **GENDER IN AFRICAN STUDIES WORKSHOP**

LMH graduate students are co-hosting with IGS at LMH a workshop on **Gender in African Studies**, with delegates from diverse academic disciplines. Key debates on Gender will be reviewed with reflections on the practical application of gendered research in African Studies to policymaking and programme design.

A fun evening celebrating African food, music and dancing follows.

**Saturday 11 May 2013 at 1pm-5:30pm**  
**Lady Margaret Hall in the Old Library**

**Professor Susan Wollenberg, Fellow of LMH.** We are delighted to welcome Susan as a member of IGS. She specialises in 18th and early 19th century Austro-German music, keyboard music, the social history of music in Britain, and women composers.

**IGS Member Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh** received the Lisa Gilad Prize, International Association for the Study of Forced Migration for 'the most innovative and thoughtful contribution to the advancement of Refugee Studies' in her article 'The Pragmatics of Performance: putting 'faith' in aid in the Sahrawi refugee camps', *Journal of Refugee Studies* on Faith-Based Humanitarianism in Contexts of Forced Displacement.

#### **VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS**

**Professor Xiao Wei** from the Department of Philosophy at Tsinghua University conducts research Public Health ethics and gender studies. She is noted as one of the 'one-hundred promising scholars of the Beijing government for the 21st century'. A current project is on contemporary western feminist philosophy funded by the National Social Science Foundation.

**Dr Angela Raven-Roberts** is VRF for the academic year and is finalising a literature review on Gender, Security and Governance in the Horn of Africa. She worked with UNICEF and other agencies on humanitarian operations worldwide.

**Andrea Press** is Professor of Media Studies and Sociology at the University of Virginia. This term she aims to complete her book on the way feminist and post-feminist ideas are represented in popular media in the U.S. Her co-authored book is entitled *The New Media Environment*, Wiley-Blackwell

#### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2013**

**'Stepping Forward, Looking Backwards  
Celebrating History'**

**Debbie Hollingsworth**, Oxford International  
Women's Festival

**Professor Xiao Wei**, Tsinghua University, Beijing

**Dr Nancy Lindisfarne**, SOAS

**Professor Susan Wollenberg** LMH

**Maria Le Brun** LMH - piano recital *Sarabande*,  
Debussy - Vocal solo *An die Musik* Schubert

#### **IGS at LMH CONTACT DETAILS**

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**International Gender Studies, Lady Margaret Hall,  
Norham Gardens, Oxford OX2 6QA**

#### **FRIENDS of IGS COMMITTEE**

Shirley Ardener, Fiona Armitage, Mary Bull,  
Janette Davies, Elsa Dawson & Jackie Waldren

**FRIENDS of IGS** support the Centre in raising funds,  
developing a network of friends, attracting visiting research  
fellows and assisting in public relations.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE of £10** payable to the IGS  
mailing address by standing/bank orders/ details on  
request/address as above

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Janette Davies

**IGS at LMH acknowledges a generous donation  
from QEH (ODID) towards the 30th Anniversary  
30 Years of IGS at Oxford – 1983 to 2013**

#### **IGS SEMINARS: HILARY TERM 2013**

**'Closing Gender Gaps: gender-critical turns in  
researching education, gender and society'**

**Week 1 Dr Christina Hellmich**, International  
Relations and Middle East Studies, Reading  
'Rewarding the pundits? A gendered assessment of  
impact in terrorism studies'.

**Week 2 Dr Rahel Kunz**, Institute of Political and  
International Studies, University of Lausanne  
'When international gender norms travel: Gender  
Mainstreaming in Security Sector Reform'.

**Week 3 Dr Rachel Harris**, Dept. of Music SOAS,  
University of London  
'The Importance of Listening and Weeping: reciting the  
Qur'an in Chinese Central Asia'.

**Week 4 Fr Dan Mai SJ** Campion Hall/School of  
Social Policy and Intervention, Oxford  
'Gender & Filial Piety: 21st Century Rural China'.

**Week 5 Prof Harriet Evans**. The Contemporary China  
Centre, University of Westminster  
'Gender, memory and place: an oral history of change  
in an "old Beijing" neighbourhood'.

**Week 6 Research on NATO: Cambodia and Minorities.**  
**Matthew Hurley** Oxford Brookes University  
**Siobhan Miles** OCMS/Cambodia  
**Margaret Greenfields** Bucks. New University

**Week 7 Dr Kirsten McConnachie**, JRF at LMH and  
Refugee Studies Centre  
'Refugee Women: local/global relationships on  
protecting the Thai-Burma Border'

**Convenors:** Dr Janette Davies & Dr Maria Jaschok

#### **FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2013, TALBOT HALL, LMH**

**ROUND TABLE** convened by IGS members **Drs  
Tina Wallace and Fenella Porter**: 'How can women  
influence current development paradigms? Validating  
knowledge and reclaiming spaces' and **Book Launch**  
for Aid, *NGOs and the Realities of Women's Lives: A  
Perfect Storm*. Practical Action Publishers

#### **FORTHCOMING WORKSHOP 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

**'Gender at Work: women project managers leading  
change'**.

Convenors: Shirley Ardener and Dr Teri Okoro of  
Women in Project Management Group.  
Delegates include Dr Janet Smart, Said Business School