The Center for The Study of Social Difference is an interdisciplinary research center supporting collaborative projects that address gender, race, sexuality, and other forms of inequality to foster ethical and progressive social change.

The Center’s work has two overarching research themes, Women Creating Change and Imagining Justice.

2017-2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lila Abu-Lughod
Rachel Adams
Tina Campt
Tina Campt
Laura Cicikowski
Patricia Dailey
Kevin Felcez
Eileen Gildidy

Stathis Gourgouris
Farah J. Griffin
Lydia H. Liu
Jack Halberstam
Jean Howard
Frances Negron-Muntaner
Ana Paulina Lee

Anupama Rao
J.C. Salyer
Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
 neferti Tadiar
 Kendall Thomas
 Paige West
We had a dream. Twelve years ago, we dreamt about creating a vibrant intellectual space at Columbia for thinking, exchanging ideas, and advancing the scholarship of extraordinary colleagues across the university who were committed to combating injustice in our world. Enforced by political power, the social constructs of gender, race, ethnicity, class, culture, and sexuality sort people in ways that sustain inequalities and justify violence. These forms of injustice demanded deep analysis and new thinking that could ground transformative action.

A number of centers and institutes at Columbia emerged from the social movements of the 1970s and their demands for curricular innovation. Faculty connected to the Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality, the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, and the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, as well as Barnard’s more long-standing Center for Research on Women, each worked to teach, research, write and theorize about global structures of gender, race, class, ethnicity and inequality.

The center we envisioned would let us strengthen and share our important work across these centers, across disciplines, across Columbia’s many schools, and across the globe. Scholars live and breathe ideas. But we wanted more: we wanted to use our humanistic knowledge and social theorizing, emerging from the liberal arts, to make a difference in the world. We wanted to connect academics, artists, practitioners and activists. Our vision was powerful and convincing. With the generous support of President Lee Bollinger, we celebrated the inauguration of the Center for the Study of Social Difference (CSSD) in 2008.

Our collaborative directors’ letter testifies to the spirit of collaboration that continues, among us as present and former directors and with so many fellow travelers who have shaped what we have been able to do through CSSD.

In the last ten years, the Center has hosted 19 multi-year projects involving scores of faculty and graduate student fellows, as well as artists and practitioners from many of Columbia’s schools, from the New York region, and the world. We have studied borders, religion and rights, the vicissitudes of the welfare state, the future of disability studies, the erasure of archives and memory in the wake of violence, the effects of climate change, unpayable debt, and more. Our working groups have organized conferences and lectures, shaped numerous books and articles, offered innovative new courses across the curriculum, and fostered the careers of students and younger colleagues. Together, we have been able to forge critical new knowledge and envision paths to justice.

As our working groups examined the mutually constituted categories of difference that shape our social world, and their cultural and economic impacts, some of us came to understand that we still needed to pay particular attention to the pressing global issues affecting women and to women’s creative ways of addressing inequalities. Five years ago, just as Columbia inaugurated its Global Centers, we formed Women Creating Change (WCC). Working with the Global Centers in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, and Santiago, we were able radically to internationalize our research, broaden our intellectual community, and deepen the impact of our work.

During this last year, our community has grown. We are launching seven new projects bringing colleagues from medicine, social work, public health, law and journalism to the Center and engaging topics as diverse as urban precarity, prison education, nursing’s role in international health crises, racial capitalism, and the future of black feminism. We have also benefited greatly from the creation of the Women Creating Change Leadership Council, chaired by Ann Kaplan – a dedicated and distinguished group of friends who will help us multiply and magnify our impact beyond the university.

Some of these accomplishments have certainly exceeded our dreams of a decade ago. But the political developments of the last years have given our work new urgency and immediacy. What can we do when we feel as if there is nothing to be done? That will be the topic of our late September 2018 anniversary symposium.

More than a celebration of CSSD @ 10 and WCC @ 5, this intellectual gathering is meant to spur new ways of thinking and working that will turn attention to the futures we want, inspiring action and engagement in the present historical moment.

Over the coming years, we hope to deepen our reach across Columbia’s many schools, to disseminate further the model of collaborative research and teaching that has been our hallmark, and to explore ways to increase the public impact of the work we do as scholars and creative practitioners. In the struggle for social justice, all of us must work together to contribute in whatever way we can.

LILA ABU-LUGHOD
RACHEL ADAMS
MARIANNE HIRSCH
JEAN HOWARD
NEFERTI TADIAR

DIRECTORS’ LETTER

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**67% increase** in CSSD-supported working groups from 2016 to 2019.

We’re collaborating with over 16 Columbia Schools/Units on projects and content.

We’re collaborating with over 16 Columbia Schools/Units on projects and content.

- Columbia Law School
- School of Journalism
- Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- Columbia University Libraries
- School of General Studies
- School of International and Public Affairs
- Columbia College
- Barnard College
- Mailman School of Public Health
- Columbia University Irving College of Physicians and Surgeons
- School of the Arts
- Columbia Global Centers

**BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS**
**PUBLIC EVENTS AND WORKING GROUPS**
**CREATING NEW ACADEMIC COURSES**
**INFLUENCING POLICY AND WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES**

**3 YEARS**
DURATION OF OUR PROJECTS

**$75,000**
AVERAGE PROJECT COST

**OUR WORK SPANS**
8 WORLD REGIONS AND OVER 28 COUNTRIES

PHOTO CREDIT: Eileen Barroso, Columbia Office of University Publications.

IMAGE CREDIT: Saturday Mothers Protest, Istanbul, Turkey, Saturday, September 20, 2014 ©Lorie Novak
Women Creating Change, celebrating its fifth year in 2018, engages distinguished feminist scholars from diverse fields throughout Columbia University who focus on contemporary global problems affecting women and on the roles women play in addressing these problems.

ACTIVE WORKING GROUPS IN 2017-18:
Religion and the Global Framing of Gender Violence
Reframing Gendered Violence
The Rural-Urban Interface: Gender and Poverty in Ghana and Kenya, Statistics and Stories

NEW WORKING GROUPS LAUNCHING IN 2018:
Geographies of Injustice: Gender and the City
On the Frontlines: Nursing Leadership in Pandemics
Menstrual Health and Gender Justice
Combating “violence against women” (VAW)—or more recently, “gender-based violence” (GBV)—has become a highly visible and powerful global agenda with immense but uneven consequences for policy and women’s rights. While a growing body of research has begun to address the effectiveness of embedded VAW and GBV within the new modes of global and national governance, there has been no systematic research on this impact in the Middle East and South Asia, where religion visibly frames global understandings and policy interventions.

By focusing on these areas, this project mobilizes the expertise and creativity of feminist scholars, practitioners, activists, and journalists to examine religion’s role in naming, framing, and governing gendered violence. RGFGV encourages a critical discourse with the conviction that nuanced analyses lead to more effective strategies for decreasing gender violence—and to more robust understandings of how certain framings of religion and violence can cloud the very diagnoses essential to treating human suffering. This three-year initiative is supported by a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation with additional support from the Columbia Global Center | Middle East, Amman.

DIRECTORS

LILA ABU-LUGHOD
REMA HAMMAMI
JANET R. JAKOBSEN
NADERA SHALHOUB-KEVERKIAN

LEA ABU-LUGHOD, Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of Social Science, Anthropology and Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality, Columbia University
Rema Hammami, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Birzeit University
Janet R. Jakobsen, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies, Barnard College
Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian, Lawrence D. Biele Chair in Law, Faculty of Law-Institute of Criminology and the School of Social Work and Public Welfare, Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Distinguished Visiting Professor, Queen Mary University of London

HIGHLIGHTS

Religion and the Global Framing of Gender Violence

PUBLICATIONS BY RGFGV MEDIA FELLOWS

* Yazidis in Iraq: ‘This genocide is ongoing’ on AlJazeera.com, “The Refugees Whose Husband Sold Her Into Sex Slavery” on Broadway, and “A Dressmaker, a Sewing, a Cooling – Is This Really How We’re Going to Empower Women?” on TheGuardian.com, all by Samira Shackle
* “What the Egyptian Revolution Can Offer #MeToo” by Yasmin El-Rifae on TheNation.com
* “Muslim Women and the Challenge of Religion in Contemporary Mumbai” by Oudsiya Carpenter in Economic & Political Weekly
* “Violence against women and some of its problems” by Wafa Al-Khadra on Alghad.com
* “Women Flee a Hellscape in Yemen. Here Are Their Lives Now.” by Nafeesa Syeed on Bloomberg.com

GLOBAL AND DOMESTIC IMPACT

* A September 2017 RGFGV workshop at the Global Center | Middle East, Amman focused on violence, feminist advocacy, and representations of Muslims and Islam in Bangladesh, India, Iran, U.S., Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Yemen, and Palestine (Gaza and Occupied East Jerusalem).
* RGFGV Co-Director Lila Abu-Lughod joined an amicus brief against the Executive Order on the “Muslim Ban.”
* RGFGV Co-Director Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian was a Visiting Professor of Law at Columbia Law School.
Over the past few decades, "violence against women" (VAW) and "gender-based violence" (GBV) have become prominent loci for activism throughout the world—garnering international media attention and occupying a growing place in international law and global governance. Related to the "Religion and the global Framing of Gender Violence" project, this working group moves beyond religion to engage the terms, the assumptions, and the policies that underwrite this unprecedented outpouring of attention.

When invoked in the halls of the United Nations and used to shape international policy, the terms violence against women (VAW) and gender-based violence (GBV) are often assumed to have stable meanings, yet they do not. What do different parties mean when they talk of VAW or GBV? Is the main form of violence against women sexual in nature? Does it occur primarily in domestic settings? What is left out when the problem is framed in this way, and whose interests are served by such a framing?

Reframing Gendered Violence opens up a critical global conversation among scholars and practitioners that recasts the problem of VAW in academic and policy-oriented fields, including human rights, activism, public health, journalism, law, feminist studies, literature, sociology, religious studies, anthropology, and history. This project is supported by the Dean of the Humanities and the Columbia Global Centers. The Columbia Global Center in Istanbul regularly holds a graduate seminar with sessions that parallel the New York group meetings.

DIRECTORS

Lila Abu-Lughod, Joseph L. Buttenwieser Professor of Social Science, Anthropology and Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality, Columbia University
Kaiama Glover, Associate Professor of French and Africana Studies, Barnard College
Jennifer Hirsch, Professor of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University
Marianne Hirsch, William Peterfield Trent Professor of English and Comparative Literature, and Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality, Columbia University
Jean Howard, George Delacorte Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University
Anupama Rao, Associate Professor, History and Associate Director, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Barnard College and Columbia University
Kendall Thomas, Nash Professor of Law, Columbia Law School
Paige West, Claire Tow Professor of Anthropology, Barnard College and Columbia University

PUBLICATIONS

* Anupama Rao edita Gender, Caste and the Imagination of Equality, (Women Unlimited)
* Columbia undergraduate Bindu Bansinath writes essay in Narrating Rape course, taught by Marianne Hirsch, that is published as "How 'Lolita' Freed Me From My Own Humbert" in the New York Times Modern Love column
* New Yorker magazine publishes article called "Safer Spaces" by Jia Tolentino, on Jennifer Hirsch’s work on the SHIFT program at Columbia, a comprehensive research project that examines the many factors that shape sexual health and sexual violence for undergraduates at Columbia

GLOBAL

June 7, 2018: Reframing Gendered Violence workshop and presentation of Turkish student work at Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, moderated by Susanna Ferguson (Columbia University)

TESTIMONIALS

"We had an amazing RGV workshop series and the CSSD contribution meant a lot to us and to the participants. Our experience has shown that working groups on specific topics, workshop series, and conferences create more dialogue between local and global partners and have a more long-term impact." - Eylen Nazlı Tayyipeli, Program Officer, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

"Since its launch in 2011, the Istanbul Center has been focusing on gender issues through a collaboration with the CSSD. The RGV project is one of the unique projects which enabled us to bring together local graduate students and Columbia professors to share their expertise and knowledge both from global and local aspects." - Ipek Cem Tahta, Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul
This Africa-led research endeavor, including colleagues at the Universities of Ghana-Legon and Nairobi as well as Columbia, Barnard, NYU and Princeton, focuses on the rural-urban interface in Ghana and in Kenya. This interface is a diversified and broken continuum. Its underclass inhabitants are converted into statistics for policy through interview techniques unacquainted with sociological research in the field starting from Erving Goffman in the ’50s. We learn together how to “hear” them and make narratives emerge. The interview venue is a conversation situation located in their space whenever possible, problematizing disciplinarization. Native language discourse is connected to academic translation standards rather than perfunctory “interpretation.” We bring together Population Studies, Area Studies, Urban Studies and the Humanities, contribute to the disciplinary auto-critique of Oral History, and question African Development regionalism by working with East and West Africa together.

**DIRECTORS**

 Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, University Professor, Columbia University
 Reinhold Martin, Professor of Architecture, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University
 Ben Baer, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Department of English, Princeton University

**THE RURAL URBAN INTERFACE: GENDER AND POVERTY IN GHANA AND KENYA, STATISTICS AND STORIES**

This Africa-led research endeavor, including colleagues at the Universities of Ghana-Legon and Nairobi as well as Columbia, Barnard, NYU and Princeton, focuses on the rural-urban interface in Ghana and in Kenya. This interface is a diversified and broken continuum. Its underclass inhabitants are converted into statistics for policy through interview techniques unacquainted with sociological research in the field starting from Erving Goffman in the ’50s. We learn together how to “hear” them and make narratives emerge. The interview venue is a conversation situation located in their space whenever possible, problematizing disciplinarization. Native language discourse is connected to academic translation standards rather than perfunctory “interpretation.” We bring together Population Studies, Area Studies, Urban Studies and the Humanities, contribute to the disciplinary auto-critique of Oral History, and question African Development regionalism by working with East and West Africa together.

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 Ben Baer, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Department of English, Princeton University

**FEATURED CONFERENCE**

* April 30, 2018: Culminating conference on The Rural Urban Interface: Gender and Poverty in Ghana and Kenya, Statistics and Stories with Helen Yitah (University of Ghana), Aloysius Denkabe (University of Ghana), and Wanjiru Gichuhi (University of Nairobi)

**FUTURE PLANS**

Professors Spivak, Martin, and Baer will continue working with colleagues at the Columbia Center for Oral History and at the School of Journalism to develop an online presence for the pilot study of the group. In continuing collaboration with the US-based group, Professors Denkabe, Gichuhi, and Yitah will edit and annotate videos, transcripts, and other documentation. Future steps will be discussed at a planned meeting in Ghana.
“I realized that once we work in coalitions that CROSS BOUNDARIES between art and literature and film and politics and anthropology and creative forms of all kinds, then there really is something we can accomplish together.”

- Nicole Gervasio, Women Mobilizing Memory graduate fellow

“I think what we often fail to do in the world is recognize the differences. We focus on the similarities, and those are important to acknowledge, but the ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DIFFERENCES helps us move away from a paradigm of assuming what is important in one context is important in all contexts.”

Safwan Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University

“The Center has been a way of really creating a sense of thinkers who are engaged in projects beyond the academy, IN REAL WORLD ISSUES AND QUESTIONS.”

-Farah J. Griffin, William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African-American Studies, former project director

“The work that we do here inherently ENGAGES PROBLEMS, QUESTIONS, COMMUNITIES that are not contained by the university.”

- Frances Negrón-Muntaner, Co-Director, Unpayable Debt
Imagining Justice brings together scholars, activists, and artists on projects that envision new ways of fighting inequality and promoting gender, racial, economic, and environmental justice in global and domestic contexts.

ACTIVE WORKING GROUPS IN 2017-18:
- Pacific Climate Circuits: Moving Beyond Science, Technology, Engineering, and Economics
- Unpayable Debt: Capital, Violence, and the New Global Economy
- Precision Medicine: Ethics, Politics and Culture
- Bandung Humanisms

NEW WORKING GROUPS LAUNCHING IN 2018:
- Queer Theory: Here, Now, and Everywhere
- Racial Capitalism
- Pedagogies of Dignity
Pacific Climate Circuits reads current analyses of climate change in the Pacific Region through the critical lenses of race, class, gender, sexuality, and inequality. The working group examines the specific political-economic systems culpable for climate change in the region, linking them to histories of colonialism and neoliberalism. Researchers seek solutions outside the typical hard sciences approach, instead drawing on scholarship in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences to scrutinize the region, its environment, and its people.

The working group is in the initial stages of proposing an anthology based on the work its principal investigators and invited participants have fostered over the last three years. This includes senior as well as junior scholars working on various locations throughout the Pacific, giving a wide perspective on the effects of global climate change, as well as the responses of indigenous and other actors in the area to those effects. They have also reached out to NY-based scholars engaged with the Pacific in order to strengthen and broaden the scope of the discussions and work initiated by the Center for the Study of Social Difference.

DIRECTORS

**Pacific Climate Circuits:** Moving Beyond Science, Technology, Engineering, and Economics

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DIRECTORS

Paige West, Claire Tow Professor of Anthropology, Barnard College and Columbia University

Kevin Fellezs, Assistant Professor of Music, Columbia University

J.C. Salyer, Assistant Professor of Practice in Human Rights and Anthropology, Barnard College

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**PUBLICATIONS**

* Columbia University Press Distinguished Book Award received by Paige West for *Dispossession and the Environment: Rhetoric and Inequality in Papua New Guinea*

* Kevin Fellezs awarded a contract with Duke University Press for *Listen But Don’t Ask Question: Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Across the Polycultural TransPacific*.

**FILM SCREENINGS**

* Mele Murals: documentary on the transformative power of modern graffiti art and ancient Hawaiian culture for a new generation of native Hawaiians, including discussion with filmmaker Tadashi Nakamura moderated by Kevin Fellezs

* December 8, 2017: 100 Tikis: An Appropriation Video, including a panel discussion with the filmmaker Dan Taulapapa McMullin

**BEYOND THE CAMPUS**

* Paige West discussed UN Sustainable Development goals at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, with a presentation called “Bridging the Goal Gap: How We Integrate Climate Action, Life on Land and Gender Equality”.

* Kevin Fellezs awarded a Global Humanities Project Grant gathering scholars from Asia and the US for a Spring 2019 symposium to be held at the Columbia Global Center in Beijing

**PAIGE WEST**

**KEVIN FELLEZS**

**J.C. SALYER**
Unpayable Debt: Capital, Violence, and the New Global Economy raises critical questions about the role of debt in contemporary capitalism; the relationship between debt, migration, colonialism, and violence; intersections between debt crises and ecological catastrophes; and the emergence of new political and cultural identities, particularly among subordinated groups. Working group members, which include scholars, filmmakers, and journalists, also examine the politics of information asymmetry—a lack of data and conceptual tools—and how this might undermine social mobilization in impoverished communities, peoples, and countries.

The interdisciplinary group compares recent and landmark cases such as Puerto Rico, Argentina, Greece, Spain, and U.S. cities like Detroit as well as other spaces that have been historically affected by debt. The group is also developing a series of conferences, web platforms, and other projects to disseminate existing information, facilitate public engagement and analysis, and increase discussion about the politics of debt.

DIRECTORS

UNPAYABLE DEBT: CAPITAL, VIOLENCE, AND THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMY

NEW CURRICULUM

* Caribbean Syllabus: Life and Debt in the Caribbean, the first ever digital resource to study debt and the Caribbean, published in Spring 2018 and received close to 8,000 views in its first month online

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

* April 19 & 20, 2018: Frontiers of Debt in the Caribbean and Afro-America, a conference that brought together scholars, journalists, activists, and artists from across these regions, with speakers and keynote from the University of the West Indies
* Puerto Rico Under Water art exhibit, co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, featured on popular local television station NY1

PUBLICATIONS

* Unpayable Debt faculty fellow Ed Morales published “Puerto Rico in the Dark” in the NYTimes and “In Puerto Rico, Disconnection and Chaos but Grace Under Pressure” in The Nation

FUTURE PLANS

*Unpayable Debt is working on an art collaboration that includes visual art, performance, and video to raise questions such as: what is money? what is value? and how can communities with limited resources create value?* - Frances Negron-Muntaner, Co-Director, Unpayable Debt

Frances Negron-Muntaner, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Former Director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University
Sarah Muir, Director, International Studies Program, City College, City University of New York
Precision medicine—an emerging approach for disease treatment and prevention that takes into account individual variability in genes, environment, and lifestyle for each person—raises a myriad of cultural, political, and historical questions that the humanities and social sciences are uniquely positioned to address. The PMEPC lecture series represents a broad-based exploration of questions that precision medicine raises in law, ethics, the social sciences, economics, and the humanities.

The Precision Medicine: Ethics, Politics, and Culture working group is co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Social Difference and Columbia Precision Medicine & Society.

PUBLIC TALKS

* Oct 12, 2017: Christopher Hult (University of Chicago): “The Economics of Precision Medicine: Medicine and Disparities in Health”
* Nov 30, 2017: Kadja Ferryman (Data & Society Research Institute): “Fairness in Precision Medicine”
* Feb 15, 2018: Cinnamon Bloss (University of California, San Diego): “Consumers, Citizens, and Crowds in the Age of Precision Medicine”
* April 5, 2018: Misha Angrist (Duke University): “Ask But Don’t Tell: The Stubborn Alienation of Research Participants in the Twentieth Century”

TESTIMONIALS FROM GRADUATE FELLows

“It is paramount that interdisciplinary dialogues be a persistent feature in discussing the ethical, social, and legal implications of genetics technology, big data, and scientific engineering. The Center’s support made these important interdisciplinary first steps feasible.” - Jude Tan, Health Policy & Management, Mailman School of Public Health

“The fellowship with the group has been one of the most meaningful experiences I had as a graduate student at Columbia.” - Moran Levy, Department of Sociology

DIRECTORS

Rachel Adams, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
Maya Sabatello, Assistant Professor of Clinical Bioethics, Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons
Bandung Humanisms is an interdisciplinary research project that examines the progressive political, social, and cultural movements among nations of the Global South that refused to ally with either major power bloc during the Cold War. The working group, a collaboration between scholars at Columbia University and the University of California, Los Angeles, uncovers the post-colonial developing world’s espousal of a radical brand of humanism and self-determination that gave rise to the Non-Aligned Movement of non-aggressor states.

This project revisits the lost legacy of Bandung—from Hanoi to Oakland—by discovering institutions, journals, organizations, exhibitions, films, and international collaborations that characterized this movement, further connecting it to current global struggles for social justice. It also explores the ways in which humanist thinking, unencumbered by ‘Western’ commands, offers new possibilities for radical configurations of thought and action against the rampant dehumanization of societies by the economic and political forces of capitalism in its “globalization” phase.

**DIRECTORS**

Stathis Gourgouris, Professor of Classics, English, and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
Lydia H. Liu, Wun Tsun Tam Professor in the Humanities, Columbia University

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Stathis Gourgouris, Lydia H. Liu

**NEW CURRICULUM**

* Graduate course “The Decolonial Turn and West Asia” taught by Visiting Professor Anaheed Al-Hardan, ICLS

**PUBLIC TALKS**

* March 26, 2018: “On South-South Circulations, Histories and Possibilities in the Arab World” by Visiting Professor Anaheed Al-Hardan
* April 11, 2018: “The Afro-Asian ‘Silk Road’ and the Rhetoric of Connected History Today” by Tamar Chin (Brown University)

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

August 8, 2018: “The Bandung Spirit Today: Reflections on Afro-Asian Solidarity” at the Columbia Global Centers | Beijing
CSSD projects have received support from external partners and from Columbia University, including:

- BARNARD CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN
- NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
- NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
- OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
- OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ARTS & SCIENCES
- OFFICE OF THE PROVOST
- OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ARTS & SCIENCES
- OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ARTS & SCIENCES

Our work spans 8 world regions and over 28 countries.

Asia
- India
- Jordan
- Palestine
- Turkey
- Lebanon
- Bangladesh
- China
- Pakistan

Africa
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Egypt
- South Africa

North America
- USA (New York, Detroit, Mississippi, Los Angeles, New Orleans)
- Canada
- Puerto Rico
- Central America
- Mexico
- Guatemala

South America
- Chile
- Brazil
- Argentina
- Ecuador

Europe
- France
- Spain
- Greece
- Germany
- United Kingdom

Oceania
- Papua New Guinea
- Australia
Columbia University’s Women Creating Change Leadership Council is comprised of individuals who are committed to the exploration of issues which affect women and the ways in which women address global gender challenges. The mission of the Council is to promote interdisciplinary collaborative research and to sponsor events that publicize this important work. Council members assist the faculty in framing how their academic endeavors can create greater impact. The WCC Leadership Council provides a critical link between the university’s faculty-led projects and the interlinked sphere of global business, academia and civil society.

**Ann KAPLAN** (CHAIR), New York
Annette ANTHONY, London
Anjali BANSAL, India
A’lelia BUNDLES, Washington, D.C
Lisa CARNOY, New York
Isobel COLEMAN, New York
Georgina CULLMAN, New York
Abigail ELBAUM, New York
Melissa FISHER, Denmark
Amal GHANDOUR, Lebanon
Deborah JACKSON, New York
Safwan MASRI, New York
Molly Mathews MULTEDO, Rio de Janeiro and New York
Cynthia MOSES-MANOCHERIAN, New York
Ehwa Moon SANGHYUN, South Korea
Adel PAADEH, New York
Philips PORTNOY, New York
Samer SALAHEID, Jordan
Claire SHIPMAN, Washington, D.C.
Esta STECHER, New York
S. Mona SINHA, New York
Selena SOO, New York
Davia TEMIN, New York
Richard E. WITTEN, New York
Jacki ZEHNER, Utah

“When I was first introduced to Women Creating Change, I was very impressed by the interdisciplinary approach to researching issues that women impact as well as issues that impact women. In our current global environment, it is extremely important that we understand the influence of women on the economic, political, and cultural forces that shape our surroundings. Our programs seek to incorporate academic research about women and other underrepresented groups in the classroom and to better inform global decision making. Our faculty leverage donor support in impressive ways to produce extraordinary global projects. Please join us in supporting this dynamic research and outreach.”

**Ann KAPLAN, Columbia University Trustee Emerita**
Partner, Circle Wealth Management

**OUR VISION**

- Communicate with our constituents and our community.
- Publish work related to the findings of our research.
- Teach the next generation of activists through coursework.

**COMMUNITY**

- Connect with our community through an increased number of public events.
- Engage with community leaders through the Women Creating Change Leadership Council.
- Collaborate with new areas of Columbia and faculty across campus.

**RESEARCH**

- Diversify the scope and impact of our research projects.
- Increase the number of projects and the number of faculty affiliated with the Center.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

- Raise funds for our research and programming.
- Grow our endowment to sustain the activities of the Center.

**YOUR SUPPORT**

- Sustains our future
- Fortifies our research
- Supports our students

Your gift to the Center for the Study of Social Difference:

"When I was first introduced to Women Creating Change, I was very impressed by the interdisciplinary approach to researching issues that women impact as well as issues that impact women. In our current global environment, it is extremely important that we understand the influence of women on the economic, political, and cultural forces that shape our surroundings. Our programs seek to incorporate academic research about women and other underrepresented groups in the classroom and to better inform global decision making. Our faculty leverage donor support in impressive ways to produce extraordinary global projects. Please join us in supporting this dynamic research and outreach."