WGS Summer Newsletter

WGS hopes you all are having a wonderful relaxing summer. WGS has been busy this summer, check it out!

- Did you take Introduction to Feminisms and love it?
- Looking to gain valuable leadership experience and earn credit for it?
- Want to make your transcript and resume stand out?

Be a Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Feminisms in the Fall of 2014!

Applications are still open! Apply today.

Click here!
Studies program co-sponsored the “Coming at Things Differently: Challenges, Advances, and Diversity Within and Across Mixed Methods Research Communities” conference, with The Mixed Methods International Research Association (MMIRA) on the Chestnut Hill Campus. The MMIRA is comprised of scholars, researchers and practitioners from across the disciplines, who seek to engage in-depth research of various approaches to the field of mixed methods and to further expand these approaches in the service of understanding complex social, behavioral, health, educational, and political concerns related to the human condition and natural world. The WGS program aimed to showcase the incredibly talented and dedicated female scientists who have made conducted exemplary research in this field.

This year’s three-day conference focused on featuring women researchers and scientists in the field of Mixed Methods Research. With over 25 female presenters from more four different continents, this field was well represented. The keynote speakers included Dr. Janice Morse, from the University of Utah, who discussed the relevance and importance of MMR, titled "Why Mixed Methods Matters". Dr. Tom Weisner, Professor of Anthropology at UCLA and fellow keynote speaker, discussed “Findings that Matter: The many reasons why mixed methods add value to research and practice". This event brought 350 participants together from different parts of the world including Australia, South Africa, and Brazil. The conference program on June 27 and 28th, 2014 consisted of paper sessions that focused on the diversity in this field from MMR in movement, therapy, and the arts to Mixed Methods Approaches in healthcare and nursing. Invited plenary paneled key conference themes, and roundtable sessions where both novice and seasoned researchers could informally and in a supportive environment, present works in progress and receive feedback.

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Janice Morse, Ph.D.

University of Texas women scientists
WGS featured female scientist panel, featured doctor's Janna Lesser, and Carole White from The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Socorro Escandon, and Rebecca Bonguil. These presentations addressed how to improve the community based participatory Research Using Mixed methods Approaches. Rochelle Frounfelker and Theresa Betancourt from the Harvard School of Public Health, discussed the mental health and health disparities research in community and refugee based settings.

Saturday WGS’ female scientist panel featured Valeria Espinosa, Victoria Liublinska both from Harvard University, and Cassandra Pattanayak, from Wellesley College. Their panel topic discussed the crucial role of cross-disciplinary communication from a statistician’s perspective. The conference included all day Sunday skills based workshops that covered a variety of MMR topics ranging from introductory mixed methods design to more advanced topics such as constructing complex designs,

MM sampling, writing grants, etc. Dr. Hesse-Biber presented a workshop on Sunday titled“Qualitatively- Driven Approaches to Mixed Methods Research and Design & Analysis”. This was co-facilitated by Boston College Student, Chen An, and Deborah Rodriguez from Middlesex University, in England. It was quite a success and conference that will be continued in 2016.

WGS program director and MMRIA conference chair, Sharlene Hesse-Biber spearheaded the planning and execution of this conference with the assistance of the MMIRA board of directors and, Darcey Lewis, a past WGS and BC graduate assistant, and Boston College students Sarah Van Schaik, Lauren Simao, Aubrey Luisgnan.
WGS Workshops presented at the MMIRA Conference:

WGS topic workshops were offered throughout the weekend. WGS program Director, Dr. Sharlene Hesse-Biber facilitated two WGS presentations:

* Gender Differences in Men and Women’s Motivations to Seek Genetic Testing for Hereditary Breast Cancer and Their Post Medical Decision Making

* Socio-psychological Determinants in Men's Decision to Seek Genetic Testing and Its Impact Men's Self-Concept and Post-Medical Decision-Making A Sequential Mixed Methods Design Approach.

Other WGS Presentations:

* Mixed Method Approaches in STEM and Gender Research: A Deductive Content Analysis
   Presenter: Elizabeth Creamer

* Identifying and understanding sexual orientation disparities in Pap Test use at the intersection of sexual orientation and race/ethnicity
   Presenter: Madina Agenor

* The Application of Qualitatively-Driven Multi-Method Approach to the Reformulation of Identity in Mothers of Children With and Without Disability
   Presenter: Deborah Rodriguez

* What Do Young People Leaving Care Need? A Mixed Methods Approach of Abandoned Care Leavers
   Presenter: Ahmed Albar

* A Mixed Methods Inquiry Into Multisystem Collaborative Involving Juvenile Justice Professionals, Child Welfare Professionals and Families
   Presenter: Wendy Haight

* Student Difference in Academic Self-Efficacy with Vulnerable Populations
   Presenter: Karen Thwaites
The Status of Qualitative Research in the Field of Special Education in Saudi Arabia: A Methodology Whose Time Has Not Come Yet

Presenter: Ibrahim Alhano

A Mixed-Methods Evaluation of a Multi-Level Intervention to Improve Rate of Facility-Based Births and Skilled Birth Attendance in Kalomo District, Zambia

Presenter: Elizabeth Henry

Transforming Quantitative Data on Mother-Child Interaction into Qualitative Data

Presenter: Carolyn Graff

The Status of Qualitative Research in the Field of Special Education in Saudi Arabia: A Methodology Whose Time Has Not Come Yet

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Gathering of workshop presenters

Transforming Quantitative Data on Mother-Child Interaction into Qualitative Data

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Centering Women and Newborns in Health Human Resources (HHR) Planning: Informing Health System Transformation Using A Needs-Based, Mixed-Methods Approach

Presenter: Annette Elliot Rose