



Gender and Communication
Section International
Association for Media and
Communication Research
(IAMCR) – Newsletter
April, 2023

The Gender and Communication section would like to bring attention to its members to the series of events that the section will be hosting in the next months ahead of the IAMCR conference in Lyon in July, 2023.

April 2023

2023 IAMCR LYON CONGRESS NEWS



The Gender and Communication Section IAMCR evaluated 324 proposals. Most researchers selected a topic to submit their proposals, which included 1) Gender and sexuality, 2) Gender and social movements or conflicts, 3) Queer and LGBTQIA+, 4) Gender violence, 5) Gender equality, equity and economic prosperity, 6) Gender identity and inclusion, 7) Gender online, and 8) Gender politics. The Gender and Communication Section is considering to include another topic "Gender and health" on recommendation of the reviewers. The Section and IAMCR together have shortlisted 92 proposals for face-to-face presentations in Lyon from 238 proposals submitted in the "Lyon23 and OCP23" category and 55 proposals for OCP presentations from 86 proposals submitted in the "OCP23" category.

Further, we converted 146 "Lyon23 and OCP23" proposals to "OCP23 only" to improve the acceptance rate for IAMCR 2023 - Lyon Conference. We were unable to accept many good proposals for Lyon due to the shortage of space. We are sorry for these circumstances. We are expecting more participation at Christ Church in New Zealand in 2024. Please send an email to section heads if you are interested in reviewing abstracts for the Section in 2024.

The **Gender and Communication Section** of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) invited the submission of proposals for papers and panels for IAMCR 2023, to be held in Lyon, France, from 9 to 13 July (Lyon23) with an Online Conference Papers (OCP23) component from 26 June to 5 July.

The **Gender and Communication Section (GEN)** sought research that addresses theory and practice, and which explores the relationship between gender, media, and communication. In recent years, the sessions have included papers on representation, body image, (digital) feminism, queer theory, LGBTQIA+, pop culture, hook-up apps, inclusive reporting, power struggles and relations, identity, (emotional digital) labor, health, HIV/AIDS, pandemic, violence, human rights, social change, activism, media production, reception, consumption, monitoring, elections, development, and culture. The papers examine diverse forms of media such as film, television, radio, print, social media, advertising, and the Internet.

In keeping with our philosophy of inclusivity, we welcome contributions without regard to empirical, theoretical, disciplinary, and/or philosophical perspectives.

We welcomed submissions on any topic involving gender, media, and communication. We encouraged scholars to tackle the intersections of gender, identity, dignity and sexuality with media and communication processes. Themes suggested, which seem more consonant with our current section, included:

- Gender, voice, and visibility
- Gender, identity, and equality
- Gender expression and social participation
- Gender rights and the achievement of universal dignity
- Gender and sustainability
- Gender and social equity, economic prosperity, or health
- Gender and climate change
- Gender and the environment
- Gender in higher education and pedagogy
- Gender and social movements
- Gender and (eco)territorial conflicts
- Social media campaigns of women and non-binary people
- Sexism and body as battlefield
- Femme resistance
- Queer and LGBTQIA+ resistance
- Gender and conflict
- Gender, misrepresentation, and authenticity
- Gendered health, history, or politics
- Gender and development
- Gender, consumption, and aspiration
- Sexuality and technology
- Marginalised sexualities: representation and resistance
- Gender, sexuality, and violence
- Technology and/as gender
- Representations of gender
- Gendered identities and experiences online
- Gender and inclusion
- Queer theory and culture
- Gendered experiences and futures

Books and Journals



1. The book, *African Women in Digital Spaces: Redefining Social Movements on the Continent and in the Diaspora*, has been published.

https://www.africanbookscollective.com/books/african-women-in-digital-spaces?fbclid=IwAR20Yuu5tJ1pmIDNt6gDOXN7dI-HE-V3q1-lopa8ovgN-IBKg6_0WPOpq94

Editors*: Msia Kibona Clark and Wunpini Fatimata Mohammed

The book examines the way that African feminist movements utilize digital media in organizing.

2. Youth, gender identity and power in digital platforms Dr. Adriana Gewerc , Spain. Dr. Inés Dusel, Mexico. Dr. David Lee-Carlson, USA

The tendency towards isolated bubbles or echo chambers in digital networks is worrying, as this leads to a growing polarization and a lack of diversity and plurality in social interactions. Also of great concern is the continuation of stereotypes and hierarchical and binary relations in many of the contributions made by the young in the platforms. In order to reverse these trends, public institutions, especially educational institutions, must prioritize extending critical digital education and a plural and diverse gender perspective.

<https://www.revistacomunicar.com/index.php?contenido=revista&numero=75&idioma=en>

Panel events and conferences



You are warmly invited to the **panel** to mark the book launch of Dr. Carolina Matos's ***Gender, Communications and Reproductive Health in International Development*** (McGill Queen's University Press).

Matos is a visiting scholar in Global Communications and senior lecturer in Media and Sociology at the department of Media, Culture and Creative Industries (MCCI) at City, University of London, and will present the research findings and core theoretical frameworks of the book, which received funding from the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF). The panel will be moderated by Sallie Hughes, Professor and Associate Dean for Global Engagement. Panelists include Professor Karin Wilkins, dean of the School of Communication; Suzanne Clisby, Professor from the University of Coventry, UK; Rosalind Gill, Professor of Cultural and Social Analysis from the City, University of London; and Margarita Diaz, CEO of Reprolatina.

This panel offers an opportunity to leverage the insights from Dr. Carolina Matos' research as we consider how contemporary strategic interventions benefit women's health, as well as navigate challenges in their work," said Professor Karin Wilkins, Dean of the School of Communication. "The mission of our school includes producing evidence-based knowledge about important social issues from a communication perspective, as well as using communication research, creative work, and practice in support of positive social change from the ground up

The panel will open with an introduction by Hughes on the School of Communication , followed by a brief presentation of Matos' work, and then commentary and interventions by the panel. Audience members are invited to participate in a Q&A forum following the panel's discussion. The panel will be on the **19th of April, 10 a.m.-1p.m.**, at the **School of Communication Center for Communication, Culture, and Change at the University of Miami**, US, in a hybrid event.

Please register your attendance here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/595952508997>.

You can join the Zoom You can join by Zoom

<https://miami.zoom.us/j/95620857877?pwd=UklYUDQvR0ozSnJkc3d2bVVMWC83Zz09>

For further information on the book, see here: <https://www.mqup.ca/gender--communications-and-reproductive-health-in-international-development-products-9780228017554.php>

Digital feminist activism: A mini conference

King's College London, 20th of April 2023, 2.00 – 7.00 pm

Funded by the British Academy Grant: Feminism is Trending: Digital Feminist Activism, Labour, and Subjectivity.

In recent years, feminism has experienced a wave of unprecedented popularity in North America and Western Europe. This resurgence variously manifests itself in renewed media interest in feminist stories, celebrities embracing feminism and a swell of activism that increasingly – though not exclusively – takes place in digital spaces.

Bringing together speakers from the UK and the US, who specialise in different geographical contexts such as the US, UK, Germany and Nigeria, this conference will explore some facets of digital feminist activism. In particular, the event will shed light on the complex interplay between digital protest cultures and neoliberalism as well as digital feminist activism and the classed and racialised politics of 'the perfect'.

This event will take place at King's College London on April 20th between 2.00–7.00 pm. Participation is free. To attend, please sign up by using Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/digital-feminist-activism-a-mini-conference-tickets-604241973007>

Panel I: Digital feminist activism, the politics of class, and the perfect.

Panel II: Digital feminist activism and neoliberalism.

International Congress on Media, Gender and Sexualities: Representations, Literacies & Audiences.

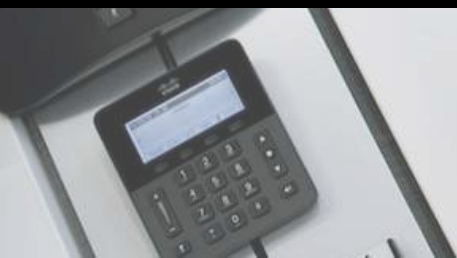
Benasque (Spain), 6 to 10 June 2023.

The pre-eminence in public debate of issues related to gender identities and sexualities shows how urgent and necessary they are.

This congress is organised around three core thematic areas: Representations, Literacies and Audiences. Its main purpose is to serve as a showcase for the bravest, most innovative and most challenging work associated with the different theoretical approaches to understanding the relationship between the media, gender and affective-sexual identities. However, it is also being offered as a platform for a variety of social agents (e.g. media, regulators, non-governmental organisations), activists and educators to present their formal and informal practices and experiences around these issues. The ultimate goal of the meeting is the joint fertilisation of frontier science perspectives and professional praxis to contribute effectively and creatively to social development.

Detailed information about the congress at the site of the CCBPP:
<https://www.benasque.org/2023media/>

Call for papers and conferences



Gender, Media, and Developmentalism: A Networking and Methodological Workshop

8 June 2023

Lancaster University, Lancaster (UK)

Deadline for proposals: 30 April 2023

The workshop aims to explore the role of media and gender in developmentalism, an ideological framework that became dominant between the 1950s and the 1990s to conceptualise, discuss, and tackle global inequality. Based on the certainty that (capitalist) economic growth inevitably leads to social progress and modernisation, developmentalism has been used as a dominant paradigm for state and inter-governmental support for various media projects, especially in relation to Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Please submit a 250-300-word proposal with a short bio (max. 150 words) by 30th April 2023 to d.missero@lancaster.ac.uk and masha.salazkina@concordia.ca

Gender Equality Plans. Processes, potentialities, contradictions and resistances in contexts of science production

Editors: Maddalena Cannito (Scuola Normale Superiore), Barbara Poggio (University of Trento) e Alessia Tuselli (University of Trento)

At a European level, the promotion of gender equality in research and innovation is regarded as a key element, especially since the launch of the European Research Area (ERA) in the 2000s. Within the Communication, among the tools suggested to deal with existing gender inequalities, reference is made, for the first time, to the Gender Equality Plans (GEP).

Deadline by which to receive proposals: June 10, 2023

Deadline by which to have confirmation of proposal acceptance or rejection: end of September 2023

Publication of the call: end of November 2023

<https://riviste.unige.it/index.php/aboutgender/genderequalityplans?fbclid=IwAR2cOLeKhmWGiP7kXk4ldCAYrr4MGct1obLiYwgbK9mab2p9BxxinQC3RHw>

L'Atalante 37 - Women and sport in audiovisual media: bodies, images, politics

Submissions: 1 May 2023 to 31 May 2023

Date of publication: January 2024

Editors: Manuel Garin, María Aparisi Galán

Articles should be between 5,000 and 7,000 words including all sections. There are no article processing costs charged to authors. More information at: <http://www.revistaatalante.com>

Dialogues on decolonizing the university: Racialized gender transnational learning (A book project)

Spring 2025

While each chapter will focus on decolonization, racialization and gender in situ, the collection as a whole will also look at decolonization in universities as a global project to draw out its enduring racialised gender entanglements, complexities and contradictions. The overall aim of the edited collection is to engage transnational learning on how, to/with who and why decolonizing the university matters and the necessity to think through racialized gender in decolonization efforts in terms of knowledge, policy, and practical interventions. We invite submissions of articles of 6000-7000 words (including references) on any aspect of the topics outlined above. We welcome varied and even conflicting gendered decolonial perspectives expressed through a range of theoretical, empirical, methodological, activist, artistic, pedagogical interventions, auto-ethnographic reflections or experiments of decolonization as offerings.

The book will be edited by: Dr Alude Mahali (Chief Research Specialist, Inclusive Economic Development, Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa) and Professor Shirley Anne Tate (Professor and Canada Research Chair Tier 1 in Feminism and Intersectionality, Department of Sociology, University of Alberta, Canada)

Abstracts of no more than 250 words and a short biographical note (not more than 100 words) should be sent to the editors directly at:

amahali@hsrc.ac.za shirleya@ualberta.ca

Submission deadline for abstracts: 30 April 2023 Decisions regarding acceptance: 31 May 2023 Submission deadline for manuscripts: 1 November 2023 Peer review feedback: 29 February 2024

Revised manuscript submission: 31 July 2024

Edited volume submission: 30 September 2024



Gender and Communication Section, IAMCR organized a webinar on International Women’s Day 2023 with Delhi Metropolitan Education, India and Beaconhouse National University, Pakistan.

Women of substance from 6 Countries discussed challenges in creating safe and equitable spaces at the workplace.

Women of substance from six countries came together to discuss challenges and future opportunities for women at the workplace in a discussion titled ***Inspiring Women - Global Faces*** on March 25. The webinar was organized by IAMCR GEN section.

DME Media School has conceived this collaborative venture to commemorate International Women’s Day every year. This year, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan also supported the webinar as an Academic Partner.

With the theme ***Creating safe and equitable spaces for women at workplace: Challenges and the way ahead***, this is the third consecutive year of Women’s Day celebration with deliberations. Women of substance from India, Pakistan, Africa, the United States, Maldives and Canada deliberated on relevant issues of woman’s employability.

Dr. Susmita Bala, Professor and Head, DME Media School expressed, “In the first edition of *Inspiring Women: Global Faces in 2021*, we organised an interview-cum-interaction based digital live programme. The second edition witnessed a discussion on gendered media space - shattering the glass screen. Now, in its third edition, this panel discussion has added new dimensions for the media and communication scholars to deliberate upon.”

Session moderator Dr. Wajiha Raza Rizvi, Associate Professor, School of Media & Mass Communication, Beaconhouse National University and Director, Film Museum Society Pakistan, shared the work status of women in Pakistan and highlighted how women are facing socio-political and economic problems. She said, “We all know that women have been marching for equal rights and facing similar challenges worldwide.

Dr. Rizvi added that workspaces for women offer more challenges than opportunities in Pakistan. While urban women have greater opportunities, the rural women “are mostly engaged in unpaid work” on “family agricultural land,” or other. She said most Pakistani women cannot actualize or work on their social capital or human potential to a maximum degree.

She said most Pakistani women cannot actualize or work on their social capital or human potential to a maximum degree. She said the UN has noted that 94% of young professional Pakistani women are engaged in the teaching profession, and 89% skilled Pakistani “women in agriculture and forestry occupation” are market oriented workers (2020). Even still, only 32% “employed young women” do “paid work in villages compared to” 52% “young men. In urban areas, this gap” narrows to 66% “young women vs. 64% young men” (UN, 2020). She emphasized on the dire need to engage Pakistani women in paid work.

Session moderator Dr. Ambrish Saxena, Professor and Dean, DME Media School explained, “In Asian subcontinent, the overall work status of women is almost the same. The challenging workspaces at India and Pakistan are relatable. Women are paid less than men. The daily wages of a man are Rs. 264 as compared to Rs 205 daily wages of a woman in India.”

While highlighting on Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace-POSH Act that was enacted in India in 2013, he said that “it is unfortunate that the situation is not too rosy even in the developed countries. It’s high time that women should now be empowered and determined to work.”

Dr. Abena Animwaa Yeboah-Banin, member of the faculty of Department of Communication Studies, University of Ghana explained, “At the current rate of progress, it will take **another 132 years to close the existing global gender gap between male and female**. If you look at things from African perspective, the future really doesn’t look bright. Women here are not conscious of their existence.”

Building on Dr. Abena’s point, Ms Kathryn Lancioni, Public Relations Expert from United States talked about the gender pay gap in her country. She said: “As per Pew research in March 2023, working women over the age of 16 made 82 cents for every dollar earned by men in 2022. This percentage might look promising to other growing countries. However, I must mention that this rate has not meaningfully changed since 2002 in US. The pay gap has only narrowed 2 cents since 2002, when women made 80 cents for every dollar earned by men. This issue is global and women need to talk a lot more.”

Dr. Mariyam Shakeela, Former Cabinet Minister of Government of Maldives, highlighted women’s freedom in Maldives. She said that Constitution here guarantees the same rights to both men and women. In a revolutionary step, first female judges were appointed in 2007. However, it cannot be denied that gender stereotype still exists in Maldives. The challenges that women face is here to stay but women should never hesitate to be opinionated. A woman should keep pushing her boundaries and must remain unique and strong.



Ms. Yili Fan, an Award-winning script writer and director of international theatre and film festivals attempted to provide solutions for creating safe and equitable spaces for women at workplace. She explained, “I have come with this concept called *Fill the space* which is a collective intelligence matter. It starts with fill the space, freeze and melt. It is like a mathematic algorithm providing an answer to the problem. Similarly, I am also working on *Stop and talk* which will be the first global metaverse data festival. The aim is to create safe place in both physical and metaverse. This is how theatre could be used for talking about solutions of women problems.”

Dr. Maithili Ganjoo, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Media Studies and Humanities, and Chairperson, Gender Sensitizing Cell explained, “It is important to take cognizance of women issues as they constitute 52 percent of world population. In India specifically, we have umpteen laws for development and gender empowerment. Interestingly, 40% of girl education is in STEM education. Unfortunately, when we look deeper, we have numbers that do not make us smile. We have only 14 % of students becoming a scientist. Important to note here is that these issues of women bring the whole world together.”

Nicole K. Stewart, Assistant Professor, University of the Fraser Valley and IAMCR Ambassador in Canada shared her recent three research papers emphasizing on dialogues of equity. She said, “75% of women are responsible for domestic labour. It is time for the voices of women to be heard. Women just not need to be there on the top but also need to be there non-stop.”

Dr. Manasvi Maheshwari, Associate Professor, DME Media School, moderated questions of the keen audiences that wanted to understand the strategies which can be implemented to increase the number of women in leadership roles. She highlighted significance of the discourse and the initiative taken by DME Media School. Dr. Manmeet Kaur, Associate Professor, DME Media School introduced IAMCR-GEN Section and Beaconhouse National University.

The webinar was attended by students and teachers from different parts of the world. During the Question-Answer Session, the panelists happily answered the questions thrown by inquisitive minds.

Ms. Carolina Matos, Co-Chair, IAMCR-GEN section, City University of London, Ms. Faiza Rafique, Vice-Chair, IAMCR-GEN Section, Formerly Forman Cristian College, Pakistan and Ms Patricia Nunez-Gomez, Vice Chair, IAMCR-GEN Section, Complutense University of Madrid were also the organizing committee members for this webinar.

You may access the event details on social media.

Report compiled by Dr Sumedha Dhasmana, Dr Manasvi Maheshwari and Dr Ambrish Saxena



The newsletter from the Gender and Communication section is distributed monthly to its members. If you have an event, publication or job ad that you would like to see included in the newsletter, please e-mail the sections' chair and/or co-chair, Dr. Carolina Matos (Carolina.Matos.1@city.ac.uk) or Dr. Patricia Núñez-Gomez (pnunezgo@ccinf.ucm.es). Layout and design by Marta Scandella, Complutense University student.



IAMCR Gender and Communication Section

Wajiha Raza Rizvi, Co-chair (Film Museum Society | Beaconhouse National University) Carolina Matos, Co- chair (City University of London) Faiza Rafique, Vice-chair (FCCU University) Patricia Núñez-Gómez, Vice-chair (Complutense University of Madrid).