

“How Women and Gender Perspectives Make a Difference to Peace and Security in Asia Pacific”

IFJP Conference Workshop

The Lady Thies Room, Customs House, Brisbane, Wednesday 17 June 2015

Concept Note

The 2015 IFJP Conference is devoted to examining the impact of gender equality on international peace and security. Celebrating fifteen years since the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, this workshop will attempt to identify existing knowledge on the positive peace and security dividends that arise from identifying and addressing women’s economic, social and political human rights as a conflict prevention measure.

The workshop seeks to focus on how women and gender perspectives can make a difference to peace and security in Asia Pacific. The workshop brings together diverse perspective from policy, academic and civil society realms in the Asia Pacific region.

The goal of the workshop is twofold. First, in the Asia Pacific region, what are the policy and research priorities of women rights and gender inequality experts? Second, how can research assist and empower policymakers and women’s rights advocates?

We will explore three key themes to guide discussion and help us identify the intersections and synergies between policy and practice.

- 1) ***Conceptualisation:*** *What does Women, Peace and Security mean in Asia and the Pacific?*
- 2) ***Methodology:*** *Who and what is being counted, and how do we find those excluded?*
- 3) ***Policy/Academic/Civil Society relationship:*** *What is the optimal relationship?*

Program	
0930-1030	Welcome to Workshop
0930-1000	<i>Women Making a Difference to Peace and Security</i> Gaynel Curry , Gender and Women's Rights Advisor, OHCHR New York
1000-1030	<i>Group discussion</i>
1030-1100	Morning Tea
1100-1230	Theme 1. Conceptualisation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Women Make a Difference to Peace and Security. Why?</i> ○ <i>How is the concept of 'Women, Peace and Security' conceptualised in Asia? In the Pacific? Are there regional distinctions important for progress?</i> ○ <i>How do we connect the focus on women's rights in conflict and post-conflict situations to non-conflict situations where there may be a history of rights-violations?</i>
	Speakers:
1100-1115	Devanna De La Puente , Regional GBV Humanitarian Advisor, United Nations, Bangkok, Thailand
1115-1130	Noelene Nabulivou , Diverse Voices and Action for Equality (DIVA), Development Alternatives for Women in a New Era (DAWN)
1130-1145	Sister Lorraine Garasu , Founder of the Nazarene Rehabilitation Centre on Bougainville, Papua New Guinea
1145-1230	<i>Group discussion</i>
1230-1330	Lunch
1330-1430	Theme 2. Methodology.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>How do we measure progress when we know that the data available to 'count' sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and/or women's inclusion is elusive (both limited and excluding)?</i> ○ <i>What are the good and poor examples of measuring gender inequality and SGBV?</i>

1330-1345	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>What are the clear policy goals with respect to making peace processes gender inclusive (e.g. numbers of women versus inclusion of women representatives from civil society etc.)?</i>
1345-1400	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Nicole George, Senior Lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia</p>
1400-1430	<p>Jacqui True, Professor of Politics and International Relations, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia and Dr. Sara Davies, Senior Research Fellow, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia</p> <p><i>Group discussion</i></p>
1430-1500	Afternoon Tea
1500-1630	<p>Theme 3. Policy, Academic and Civil Society Relationship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Can critical scholarship contribute to the policy environment?</i> ○ <i>Does critical scholarship wish to contribute to the policy environment?</i> ○ <i>Are academics making their analysis accessible to policymakers and women's rights advocates?</i>
1500-1515	<p>Speakers:</p> <p>Dr. Ma. Lourdes Veneración-Rallonza, Assistant Professor, Ateneo de Manila University and Consultation on the WPS National, Action Plan, The Philippines</p>
1515-1530	<p>Laura Shepherd, Associate Professor of International Relations at the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW</p>
1530-1545	<p>Melissa Curley, Senior Lecturer in International Relations, The University of Queensland</p>
1545-1630	<p><i>Group discussion</i></p>
1630-1700	Discussion of workshop findings, outcomes and future projects

SPEAKERS

(In order of appearance)

Gaynel Curry, *Gender and Women's Rights Advisor for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in New York, United Nations Headquarters, United States*

Gaynel Curry is the Gender and Women's Rights Advisor for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in New York. In this capacity she works closely with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and provides substantive supports to the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its causes and consequences, UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children and the UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women in law and practice. Ms Curry leads OHCHR's engagement with the Commission on the Status of Women and in other inter-governmental bodies where there is a focus on women's rights. She represents her office on the Advisory Panel of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, the UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict and the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality.

Ms Curry started her UN career in 1998 as a Human Rights Officer in Geneva servicing the Committee on the Rights of the Child. She subsequently supported several other human rights treaty bodies, including, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee against Torture. She served as the UN Human Rights Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of East Timor, at independence facilitating the country's ratification of the core international human rights treaties as well as the inclusion of human rights in its policies and institutions. As Coordinator with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, Ms Curry worked to strengthen coherence in the common policies and programmes of the Afghan Government, troop contributors, donors and UN entities on issues of governance, rule of law and human rights. She recently led the field implementation of Security Council resolutions 1888 and 1960 on women peace and security. This meant setting up Women's Protection Advisors in the UN Mission in South Sudan and rolling out the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements in response to conflict-related sexual violence. She has been among the leads in setting up and operationalizing other UN mechanisms, including the Team of Experts on the rule of law and sexual violence in conflict.

Before joining the UN, Ms Curry worked as Personal Assistant in the Office of the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and as Senior Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She holds a Master's Degree in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford and a Master's Degree in International Affairs, with a specialization in Public International Law, from the American University in Washington, DC. She also has a Degree in Law (LLB) from the University of London, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Social Sciences from the University of the West Indies and an Advanced Diploma in Public Policy and Administration from the College of The Bahamas.

Devanna De La Puente, *Regional GBV Humanitarian Advisor, United Nations, Bangkok*

Devanna de la Puente, MSc, is a Chilean national and specialist in gender and gender-based violence (GBV) in emergencies. She has over ten years experience working globally with the UN, I/NGOs and civil society. For the past four years, Devanna has worked primarily in Asia to initiate and strengthen multi-sectorial response to GBV in Pakistan, Myanmar, and Afghanistan and during the Typhoon Haiyan response in the Philippines. She has also previously worked to promote women and adolescent girls' rights in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, and to prevent child marriage in Bangladesh. Devanna is currently the Inter-agency Regional Emergency GBV Adviser for Asia-Pacific, hosted by UNFPA, and member of the IASC Gender Standby Capacity project (GenCap).

Noelene Nabulivou, *Diverse Voices and Action for Equality (DIVA), Member of the Executive Committee of Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN), Member of UN Women Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Advisory Group*

<p>Noelene Nabulivou works with Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN), a network of feminist scholars and activists from the economic South Asia. DAWN is also an Operating Partner of the Women’s Major Group working across the United Nations’ Post Rio+20 and Post 2015 Development Agenda processes; and linking with ICPD Beyond 2014. For the past 25 years, Ms. Nabulivou has used feminist political economy approaches to work on various aspects of gender equality and human rights, social and economic justice and ecological sustainability, including climate justice. She has a special interest in bodily integrity and autonomy as necessary for human rights, sustainable development and social justice, and works across many critical small island state and Least Developed Country (LDC) issues.</p>
<p>Sister Lorraine Garasu, <i>Congregation of the Sisters of Nazareth, Coordinator of the Bougainville Inter-Church Women's Forum, Founder of the Nazarene Rehabilitation Centre on Bougainville</i></p>
<p>Sr. Lorraine Garasu is a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Nazareth, the director of the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation in Chabai, Bougainville, and a former president of the Bougainville Inter-Church Women’s Forum. Sister Lorraine is a community development worker and a skilled facilitator and trainer in conflict management and women’s issues. She is also a long-standing and active contributor to the Bougainville peace process.</p>
<p>Nicole George, <i>Senior Lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies, The University of Queensland</i></p>
<p>Nicole George is a Senior Lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies and Australian Research Council DECRA Award Fellow (2013-2016) in the School of Politics and International Studies at the University of Queensland. Nicole's research projects are currently focused on the politics of gender, security and peacebuilding in the Pacific Islands. She is the author of <i>Situating Women: Gender Politics and Circumstance in Fiji</i> (ANU Press) and of scholarly articles appearing in the <i>Australian Journal of International Affairs</i>, <i>The Contemporary Pacific</i>, <i>Australian Feminist Law Review</i> and <i>Oceania</i>.</p>
<p>Jacqui True, <i>Professor of Politics and International Relations, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia</i></p>
<p>Jacqui True is Professor of Politics & International Relations and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow at Monash University, Australia. She received her PhD from York University, Toronto, Canada and has held academic positions at Michigan State University, the University of Southern California, and the University of Auckland. She is specialist in Gender and International Relations. Her articles on gender mainstreaming and global governance and feminist research methodologies rank among the most highly cited in the field. Her current research is focused on the prevention of mass sexual violence in Asia Pacific and the political economy of post-conflict violence against women. Her book, <i>The Political Economy of Violence Against Women</i> (Oxford, 2012) won the American Political Science Association’s 2012 biennial prize for the best book in human rights and the British International Studies Association International Political Economy book prize in 2013.</p>
<p>Sara Davies, <i>Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia</i></p>
<p>Sara E. Davies is an Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellow and QUT Vice-Chancellor Research Fellow at the Australian Centre for Health Law Research, Faculty of Law. Sara is also Program Director of the Prevention of Mass Atrocities Program in the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, University of Queensland. Sara is also co-founder and co-editor of quarterly issued journal <i>Global Responsibility to Protect</i>.</p>
<p>Dr. Ma. Lourdes Veneración-Rallonza, <i>Ateneo de Manila University and Consultation on the WPS National, Action Plan, The Philippines</i></p>
<p>Ma. Lourdes Veneracion-Rallonza is a feminist political scientist whose research interests and personal advocacy are in the areas of women in politics, women’s human rights in armed conflict situations, transnational women’s movements, international norms against wartime rape and sexual violence, and</p>

women's politics at the margins and everyday lives. 'Vene,' as she is more commonly known, is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Science at the Ateneo de Manila University teaching subjects on Gender and Women's Human Rights, The Politics of Everyday Life, Women's Movements and Women's Human Rights, Issues and Problems in International Law (focusing on international humanitarian law and international human rights law), Reconstructing World Politics through International Norms, and Women and Politics in Asia. She is also a mainstay lecturer for the Ateneo-United Nations University of Peace, Costa Rica (UPEACE).

Laura Shepherd, Associate Professor, University of New South Wales, Australia

Laura J. Shepherd is an Associate Professor of International Relations at the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW. Laura's research focuses on gender politics, international relations and critical security studies. Specific research interests include peace and security governance, the politics and practices of United Nations and the intertextuality of politics and popular culture. Laura is particularly interested in poststructural accounts of gender, International Relations and security and much of her work investigates concepts and performances of authority, legitimacy and power through these theoretical frameworks. She has a strong interest in pedagogy and pursues pedagogical research primarily with a focus on learning-oriented assessment.

Melissa Curley, Senior Lecturer in International Relations, The University of Queensland

Melissa Curley's work in International Relations has focused on non-traditional and human security discourse within security studies, state-civil society-community relations and East Asian regional security. Her research on non-traditional and human security discourse has focused on its application and relevance to the East Asian region. She has collaborated extensively with regional scholars on its application and relevance to the East Asian region, and has published on poverty as a non-traditional security issue (UNU Press 2004), implications of disease and pandemics (AJIA 2004), and the securitisation of illegal migration (RoutledgeCurzon 2007). Her research interest in state-civil society-community relations and the evolution of civil society in East Asia encompasses state-civil society relations in individual countries, political systems and their impact on the growth/retardation of civil society, the role of NGOs (Asian Perspective 2002), 'regional' civil society in East Asia, and comparative perspectives of state-civil society relations in market socialist economies of China, Vietnam and Laos.

Invited participants (in alphabetical order)

Karin Aggestam, Lund University

Carol Angir, Action Aid

Adriana Venny Aryani, N-Peace Network Indonesia

Sarah Boyd, The Gender Agency

Matt Davies, Australian National University

Michelle Dunn, University of Queensland

Jenny Hedstrom, Monash University and IDEA

Michelle Higelin, Action Aid

Vichuta Ly, *Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW), Cambodia*

Christina Muli, *Oxfam Australia*

Swati Parashar, *Monash University*

Laura Sjoberg, *University of Florida and Co-Editor, International Feminist Journal of Politics*

Maria Tanyag, *Monash University*

Sarah Teitt, *Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, The University of Queensland*

Professor J. Ann Tickner, *American University*

Barabara Trojanowska, *Monash University*

Yuyun Wahyuningrum, *Human Rights Working Group, Indonesia*