INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
15TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Eric P. Newman Education Center
Wednesday, October 26, 2022
8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
8:30 a.m. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement
William Powderly, MD
Larry J. Shapiro Director, Institute for Public Health

8:35 a.m. University Remarks
Mary McKay, PhD
Vice Provost of Interdisciplinary Initiatives, Washington University in St.Louis

8:45 a.m. Institute for Public Health Update
William G. Powderly, MD

8:55 a.m. Center for Human Rights, Gender & Migration Remarks
Kim Thuy Seelinger, JD
Director, Center for Human Rights, Gender & Migration

9 a.m. Keynote presentation and Q&A: Health as a human right
Sofia Gruskin, JD, MIA
Q&A moderated by Mark Huffman, MD

9:45 a.m. Keynote Conversation and Q&A: Race, health & human rights
E. Tendayi Achiume, JD
Matifadza Hlatshwayo Davis, MD, MPH
Q&A moderated by Kim Thuy Seelinger, JD

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Panel I: The human right to health as a gateway to other human rights
Akila Radhakrishnan, JD
Diego Abente, MS, MBA
Jeremy Goldbach, PhD, LMSW
Sherrill Wayland, MSW
Moderated by Leila Nadya Sadat, JD, LLM, DEA

11:30 a.m. Panel II: Human rights violations affecting individual & community health
Jessica Mayo, JD, MSW
Evan Krauss, MSW
Pamela Begay, PhD
Hayelom Kebede Mekonen, PhD
Lindsay Stark, DrPH
Moderated by Kim Thuy Seelinger, JD

12:15 p.m. Closing Remarks

12:30 p.m. Poster Session & Networking

1:30 p.m. Conference close
Sofia Gruskin, JD, MIA
Director, Institute on Inequalities in Global Health; Chief of the Disease Prevention, Policy and Global Health Division, Keck School of Medicine
Professor of Law and Preventive Medicine, Gould School of Law
University of Southern California

Sofia Gruskin is a pioneer in bringing together multidisciplinary approaches to global health. Her work — which ranges from global policy to the grassroots level — has been instrumental in developing the conceptual, methodological and empirical links between health and human rights, with a focus on addressing the manifestations of inequalities in a range of areas including HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health, climate change, and the long-term impacts of COVID-19 and other emerging pandemics. Professor Gruskin currently sits on the PEPFAR Scientific Advisory Board, the Lancet Commission on Gender and Global Health, the IUSSP Steering Committee to Strengthen Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems, and the Lancet Commission on Health and Human Rights. She has published extensively, including several books, training manuals and edited journal volumes, and more than 200 articles and chapters covering a wide range of topics.

Matifadza Hlatshwayo Davis, MD, MPH
Director of Health for the City of St. Louis

Matifadza Hlatshwayo Davis has been a clinical instructor, associate program director of the Division of Infectious Diseases fellowship program and a leader in the Office of Inclusion and Diversity at the Washington University School of Medicine. She was an infectious diseases physician and lead HIV clinician at the John Cochran VA Medical Center, among other roles. Her passion for community engagement, health equity, and patients living with HIV, culminated in her becoming the co-chair of the Fast Track Cities initiative in St. Louis, and later, she was appointed to the City of St. Louis Board of Health. Hlatshwayo Davis is now a national and international medical contributor on COVID-19 with a particular focus on marginalized populations and has been featured on CNN, BBC, Al Jazeera, MSNBC, and in Newsweek.

E. Tendayi Achiume, JD
Professor of Law, Alicia Miñana Chair in Law, UCLA Law
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, United Nations Human Rights Council

In addition to being the inaugural Alicia Miñana Professor of Law at UCLA Law, E. Tendayi Achiume is a research associate with the African Centre for Migration and Society at the University of Witwatersrand, and a research associate with the Refugee Studies Center at the University of Oxford. The current focus of her work is the global governance of racism and xenophobia; and the legal and ethical implications of colonialism for contemporary international migration. More generally, her research and teaching interests lie in international human rights law, international refugee law, and, international migration.
Diego Abente, MS, MBA
President and CEO, Casa de Salud

Diego Abente has combined his immigrant story, passion for service, and 20 years of nonprofit management experience to set Casa de Salud’s vision for programmatic growth and financial sustainability, and for building a better regional safety net. The St. Louis non-profit is dedicated to delivering high-quality clinical and mental health care to the uninsured, with a special focus on the immigrant community. Previously, Abente was vice president of economic development for the International Institute of St. Louis and president of the International Institute Community Development Corporation (IISTL), where he assisted in the success of immigrant entrepreneurs.

Pamela L. Begay, PhD
Associate Professor of Practice, Social Work
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

Pamela Begay’s work focuses on American Indian tribes, and her research interests include cultural identity and issues surrounding Native women. Her long-term goal is to teach and mentor the next generation of social workers and maintain her private clinical practice. Begay chairs the American Indian/Alaska Native Concentration and serves as a faculty associate for the Buder Center for American Indian Studies. She has taught undergraduate and graduate-level social work courses and maintains a private practice focusing on treating trauma while infusing psychodynamic therapy. She is the senior editor for the Journal of Indigenous Research and an editorial board member of the Clinical Social Work Journal. Begay is enrolled in the Navajo tribe of Shiprock, New Mexico.

Jeremy Goldbach, PhD, LMSW
Masters & Johnson Distinguished Professor of Sexual Health and Education
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

Jeremy Goldbach’s work is primarily focused on measuring, understanding and intervening upon experiences of minority stress and discrimination among LGBTQ+ children and adolescents. Since 2012, Goldbach’s work has been continuously funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Department of Defense and through foundations.
**Mark Huffman, MD, MPH**  
*Co-Director, Global Health Center; Professor of Medicine, Cardiovascular Division, School of Medicine, Washington University in St. Louis*

Professor Huffman is a practicing cardiologist, researcher, and educator with more than a decade of experience in global cardiovascular epidemiology, clinical trials, implementation research, and health policy research and training. His research spans the spectrum of disease prevention. He is interested in improving global cardiovascular health and health care in low- and middle-income countries through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and policies and in bringing lessons learned back to the United States.

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**Hayelom Kebede Mekonen, PhD**  
*Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Medicine, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

Hayelom Kebede Mekonen is a postdoctoral research fellow at the School of Medicine at University of Maryland, Baltimore. Previously, at Mekelle University in Tigray, Ethiopia, she held positions as acting chief executive director of Ayder comprehensive specialized Hospital; chief academic and research director, and dean of the College of Health Sciences; and associate professor of embryology. Mekonen earned a PhD in developmental biology (embryology) from Maastricht University in The Netherlands.

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**Evan Krauss, MSW**  
*Executive Director, East Side Aligned*

Evan Krauss is a husband, father, and community organizer, who has provided systems leadership to several multi-sector partnerships, generated millions of dollars in new resources, facilitated statewide policy change, and cultivated youth leadership and power at East Side Aligned, an organization championing equity, justice and well-being with and for East St. Louis area young people. Previously, Krauss held various positions with United Way of Greater St. Louis, each focusing on strengthening community collaboration and volunteerism. He currently serves on the Illinois Youth Budget Commission, Illinois Reimagine Public Safety Act Local Advisory Board, Nine PBS Early Learning Advisory Board, and ThreadSTL Steering Committee.
Jessica Mayo, JD  
*Co-Director and Attorney*  
*Migrant and Immigrant Community Action (MICA) Project, St. Louis*  
Jessica Mayo has more than 10 years of experience at the MICA Project where, in addition to family-based cases, she works with international clients on defensive asylum proceedings and other humanitarian immigration relief. In collaboration with community partners, she coordinates legal services for Afghan parolees in the St. Louis area. Mayo is dedicated to developing the equitable practices of the MICA Project, particularly as they relate to staffing, fundraising and communications. She is a member of the St. Louis Immigrant Service Providers Network, the National Lawyers Guild, and the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

Akila Radhakrishnan, JD  
*President of the Global Justice Center*  
Akila Radhakrishnan leads the development of groundbreaking legal work on both abortion access in conflict and the role that gender plays in genocide. A globally-recognized voice on issues of reproductive rights, gender-based violence, and justice and accountability, Radhakrishnan's unique expertise as a feminist international lawyer has led to her briefing the United Nations Security Council and the United Kingdom and European Parliaments, and regularly advising governments and multilateral institutions on issues of gender equality and human rights. Her expert analysis can also be seen in The New York Times, The Washington Post, BBC, The Atlantic, Foreign Policy, CNN, and others.

Leila Nadya Sadat, JD, LLM, DEA  
*James Carr Professor of International Criminal Law, WashU School of Law*  
*Fellow at the Schell Center for Human Rights, Yale Law School*  
*Special Adviser on Crimes Against Humanity to the International Criminal Court Prosecutor*  
Leila Nadya Sadat is an authority in the fields of public international law, international criminal law, human rights, and foreign affairs, and has published more than 160 books and articles in leading journals, academic presses, and media outlets throughout the world. Sadat directs the Crimes Against Humanity Initiative, a ground-breaking project that launched in 2008 and produced the world’s first global treaty on crimes against humanity. Closer to home, she has been working on a gun violence and human rights project, recently publishing “Torture in our Schools?” with the Harvard Law Review, which addresses the crisis of mass shootings in U.S. Schools. She has served as the Special Adviser on Crimes Against Humanity to the International Court Prosecutor since 2012.
Kim Thuy Seelinger, JD
Director, Center for Human Rights, Gender & Migration
Research Associate Professor, Brown School; Visiting Professor, School of Law
Washington University in St. Louis

Professor Seelinger focuses on sexual violence related to armed conflict and forced displacement, specifically on systems of legal accountability in conflict-affected settings, as well as sexual violence survivors’ access to support and protection in humanitarian crises. Seelinger’s research looks across health and justice sectors to better understand the experience of survivors moving through them, and also to improve the services and support they receive across institutional systems. She also regularly contributes to global guidance regarding the gender-sensitive investigation of atrocity crimes, legal protection for refugees, and holistic care of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

Lindsay Stark, DrPH
Associate Dean of Global Programs
Professor of Public Health and Social Work
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

Lindsay Stark is an internationally-recognized expert on the protection and well-being of women and children in situations of extreme adversity, with more than two decades of experience leading applied research with operational agencies such as UNICEF, UNHCR, International Rescue Committee and the Women’s Refugee Commission. Professor Stark co-directs the Center on Violence and Injury Prevention, and holds affiliate appointments with the department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and the Institute for Public Health.

Sherrill Wayland, MSW
Director of Special Initiatives at SAGE

Sherrill Wayland directs the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging and supports other initiatives such as the SAGE/HRC Foundation Long-term Care Equality Index, SAGECare training and credentialing program and the Diverse Elders Coalition. She began work with SAGE in 2008, founding its affiliate in St. Louis, followed by a successful merger of SAGE in St. Louis with PROMO Fund. In 2015, she received the Harvey A. and Dorismae Hacker Friedman Award for Excellence in Service to Older Adults from the Friedman Center for Aging at the Institute for Public Health, and in 2016, she was awarded the Brown School Distinguished Alumni Award.
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