

2016 Provost Cross-School “Bring Your Own Idea” Gatherings Proposal

TOPIC

Freshman Course “Girl Rising”: Gender, Poverty and Global Health

PROPOSING FACULTY

Peter Benson, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Anthropology
Washington University

William Powderly, MD

J. William Campbell Professor of Medicine
Larry J Shapiro Director, Institute for Public Health
Co-director, Division of Infectious Disease

DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC (1 paragraph)

We propose to develop a multidisciplinary global health course for freshman to expose them early in their careers to working in transdisciplinary teams to solve global health issues. The course will be taught through the eyes of a young girl. Whether she lives in Africa, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, or Latin America, her story will provide students with a meaningful insight into the interconnection between gender, poverty, and global health. Through in-depth case studies, as well as lectures given from experts in the fields of anthropology, public health, economics, and history, students will learn how social determinants, such as gender, race, and socioeconomic status, help shape vulnerability to disease and poor health outcomes. Furthermore, they will learn how local, national, and international politics and culture determine access to care, as well as the disparate consequences of illness and disease. We propose “Bring Your Own Idea” gatherings with faculty from different disciplines to plan and develop this course.

EXPLANATION OF IMPORTANCE/APPROPRIATENESS (1 paragraph)

Addressing global health challenges calls for the ability to adapt and implement solutions that take into account unique global health environments such as local conditions, settings, populations, belief systems, migration, etc. This requires a transdisciplinary approach. Training people to work with different disciplines can help fill this critical need for global health advancement and formulate high impact innovations, assess the potential viability and social impact, and ensure sustainability and scalability. In spring, 2016 The Global Health Center administered a global health student survey to all students at Washington University. The results showed that there is a strong interest in global health, 57% (n= 2734) and also in developing a transdisciplinary global health student group with mentorship from active global health professionals. This course will show the significant difference in life outcomes for girls versus boys growing up in different parts of the world and their exposures to varying environmental factors (diet, HIV/AIDS, malaria, syphilis, neglected tropical diseases). Our “Bring Your Own Idea” proposal will help to support a systematic approach of bringing together key faculty who can contribute to this important course that will help guide students in their decision-making on how to tailor their education to a career in global health.

STRUCTURE

We propose diverse gathering formats (breakfast, lunch, happy hour) to accommodate people’s schedules.

2016 Provost Cross-School “Bring Your Own Idea” Gatherings Proposal

CORE FACULTY LIST (to be initially invited)

Name	School	Department/Division	Area of Work
1. Bakhshi, Parul	Medicine	Program in Occupational Therapy	Education and Health (School-based programs), policy with regards to the new Sustainable Development Goals, disability
2. Benson, Peter	A&S	Anthropology	Ethnography, tobacco control, rural health, housing, migrant health, ethical and cultural issues in health, corporate/social responsibility
3. Budge, Phillip	Medicine	Medicine, Infectious Diseases	Public health epidemiology and surveillance, global health, lymphatic filariasis, loiasis, and other neglected tropical diseases
4. Iannotti, Lora	Brown		Young child nutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, infectious diseases and poverty pathways, evaluation research
5. Matter, Caline	Medicine	Medicine, Infectious Disease	Hospital epidemiology/infection prevention and global health, bloodstream and endovascular infections, policy
6. Levy, Jessica	Brown		Women’s and girls’ sexual and reproductive health and rights, family planning, gender-based violence, health equity, constructive male engagement, contraceptive security and logistics
7. Munar, Wolfgang	Brown		Global health, global development, philanthropy, official development assistance, scale-up, dissemination of innovations, knowledge transfer, international development, multilateral finance, collective impact
8. Parikh, Shanti	A&S	Anthropology	Intersection of local transformations, global processes, structures of inequalities surrounding issues of sexuality, particularly gender, sexual and reproductive health, regulation, courtship and romance, and marriage, ethnographic and historical methods and critical theory
9. Powderly, William	Medicine	Medicine, Infectious Disease	STD/STI risk reduction and prevention, HIV prevention, global health
10. Trani, Jean-Francois	Brown		Discrimination, global economic development, global health, poverty, mental health, participatory research, mixed method designs, disability studies, capability approach, disability measurement, social exclusion, vulnerability