



CENTRE FOR GENDER AND SEXUALITY

ARC-GS Annual Report 2018

By Robert Davidson & Liza Mügge, 10 January 2019

Introduction

The Amsterdam Research Centre for Gender and Sexuality (ARC-GS) is a central hub for the study of gender and sexuality. Founded in 2010 and embedded in the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR), it provides an interdisciplinary forum for research and teaching in Gender & Sexuality at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). ARC-GS taps into cutting edge research by its affiliated researchers and generates new local, national and international collaborations.

ARC-GS builds on the productive and innovative gender and sexuality studies tradition of interdisciplinarity in the social sciences, primarily sociology, anthropology, political science, social geography, international development studies and science and technology studies. The centre provides intellectual visibility to current research, attracts new students at all levels and organizes academic debates about timely public issues. ARC-GS firmly positions the UvA in a global academic context through a lively intellectual community of scholars and students.

The centre organizes monthly lectures with internationally renowned scholars as well as occasional seminars, public debates, roundtables, conferences, and workshops and ARC-GS awards an annual MA Thesis Prize awarded for the best MA thesis written on gender and/or sexuality in the social sciences at an academic institution in the Netherlands.

Organizational Structure

ARC-GS is governed by representatives of AISSR programme groups. The director and associate director rotate every three years to ensure the centre's interdisciplinarity. The Daily Board is responsible for the day-to-day management of ARC-GS. For 2018 the ARC-GS Daily Board was composed of:

- Dr. Liza Mügge (Political Science) - Director
- Dr. Stephanie Steinmetz (Sociology) - Associate Director
- Robert Davidson - Programme Manager
- Simone Schneider - PR Assistant

The Daily Board is accountable to the Advisory Board. The ARC-GS Advisory Board reflects the diversity of the AISSR and is composed of full-, associate-, and assistant professors and a PhD representative. The Advisory Board provides guidance and support to the Daily Board. In 2018 the Advisory Board was composed of:

- Prof. Niko Besnier (Anthropology)
- Dr. Saskia Bonjour (Political Science)
- Dr. Willem Boterman (Human Geography, Planning and International Development Studies)
- Dr. Sarah Bracke (Sociology)
- Dr. Mieke Lopes Cardozo (Human Geography, Planning and International Development Studies)
- Prof. Amade M'charek (Anthropology)
- Prof. Olav Velthuis (Sociology)
- Dr. Conny Roggeband (Political Science)
- Dr. Rachel Spronk (Anthropology)
- Natalie Welfens (PhD representative)
- Prof. Saskia Wieringa (Anthropology)

In 2018 ARC-GS was financially supported by the following seven AISSR Programme Groups:

- Challenges to Democratic Representation
- Cultural Sociology
- Globalizing Culture and the Quest for Belonging: Ethnographies of the Everyday
- Health, Care, and the Body
- Institutions, Inequalities, and Life Courses
- Political Economy and Transnational Governance
- Transnational Configurations, Conflict, and Governance

Additionally, ARC-GS received support in 2018 for specific activities (see details below) from the AISSR and the Conflict, Security, & Peacebuilding Speaker Series.

ARC-GS Activities in 2018

In 2018 the centre worked hard to further increase its online and offline visibility with the support of a PR-assistant. Next to a newsletter, the centre maintains a Facebook page (Amsterdam Research Centre for Gender & Sexuality), which has 1547 followers as of January 2019. ARC-GS has 347 followers on Twitter. The centre's presence on Facebook has led to an overwhelming increase of attendance at the events.

The ARC-GS website includes a full list of publications related to gender & sexuality produced by ARC-GS researchers in the past six months. To disseminate and share our knowledge and research as widely as possible, ARC-GS encourages visiting scholars, students, researchers and guests to share their research in blogs. 11 blogs were published on the ARC-GS website in 2018.

To introduce the centre and its researchers and lecturers to students and to stimulate a dialogue between teaching and research ARC-GS opened the academic year with a 'Nice to meet you' event in CREA (see details below). The fact that this event was attended by 75 students demonstrates the enormous interest of students in the centre's activities.

Visiting Scholars

ARC-GS hosts visiting scholars for 3-6 months, during which scholars pursue independent research and interact with ARC-GS faculty, students and staff. The centre hosted the following scholars in 2018:

- Bahar Sakızlıoğlu (December 2017-February 2018): University of Leicester
- Francesca Romana Ammaturo (February-April 2018): University of Roehampton, London
- Cirus Rinaldi (April 2018): Università degli Studi di Palermo
- Serena Cruz (September 2017-present): Florida International University
- Matthew Gichohi (September 2018-present): University of Bergen
- Lindsay Gezinski (September 2018-present): University of Utah
- Adnan Hossain (September 2018-present): University of Amsterdam

ARC-GS lectures, lunch seminars and ad hoc events in 2018

February	Prof. Phil Hubbard (Kings College London)	Monthly lecture: "The Repression of Sex Work in the Context of Urban Mega-Events" (21 attendees)
	Bahar Sakızlıoğlu (ARC-GS visiting scholar and Marie Curie Post-Doctoral Researcher)	Lunch lecture: "Renegotiating Class, Gender and Ethnicity in a Gentrifying Neighbourhood" (27 attendees)
March	Paul Reynolds (Reader in Sociology and Social Philosophy, Edge Hill University, UK)	Lunch lecture: "The Limits to Sexual Consent and Their Implications" (26 attendees)
	With a welcome by UvA Diversity Officer Anne de Graaf; Co-sponsored by the AISSR	ARC-GS International Women's Day Speed-Mentoring Breakfast for AISSR Women Post-docs and Assistant Professors (30 attendees)
	Prof. Nikita Dhawan (University of Innsbruck)	Monthly lecture: "Transnational Justice and Gendered Vulnerability: Feminist Politics and (Im)possible Solidarities" (52 attendees)
	Francesca Ammaturo (ARC-GS Visiting Scholar)	Lunch lecture: "Gestational Surrogacy: Collaboration and Tensions between the Italian Feminist Movement and the LGBT Movement" (20 attendees)
	Prof. Saskia Wieringa (University of Amsterdam)	Lunch lecture: "Constructing Gender Indexes: Applied Feminist Anthropology in Experiences in Africa (UN-ECA) and Indonesia" (16 attendees)
April	Prof. Eleonore Kofman (Middlesex University, London)	Monthly lecture: "Gender, class and family migration in Europe" (30 attendees)
May	Andrew DJ Shield (Roskilde University)	Lunch lecture: "Immigrants in the Sexual Revolution" (17 attendees)
	Prof. Jacqui True (Monash University, Melbourne)	Monthly lecture: "Inclusive Economies and Enduring Peace: What Difference Could Feminist Political Economy Make?" (22 attendees)
June	Prof. Laura J. Shepherd (University of Sydney); Organised by ARC-GS and the Conflict, Security, & Peacebuilding Speaker Series	Extra lecture: "The 'Women, Peace and Security' Agenda in Service of Countering Violent Extremism: Prevention at the Limits of Security" (16 attendees)
	Prof. Barbara Risman (University of Illinois at Chicago)	Lunch lecture: "Where the Millennials Will Take Us: A New Generation Wrestles with the Gender Structure" (23 attendees)

September	Afsoun Afsahi (Lecturer gender & sexuality), Saskia Bonjour (Political Science), Willem Boterman (GPIO), Sarah Bracke (Sociology), Liberty Chee (Lecturer gender & sexuality), Lindsay Gezinski (ARC-GS visiting scholar), Matthew Gichohi (ARC-GS visiting scholar), Julie McBrien (Anthropology), Liza Mügge (Political Science), and Natalie Welfens (PhD representative)	Student event: “Nice to meet you: An introduction to gender and sexuality at the FMG” (75 attendees)
	Prof. Andrew Reynolds (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)	Opening event: “The Children of Harvey Milk: How LGBTQ Politicians Changed the World” (51 attendees)
October	Prof. Fatima Sadiqi (University of Fez)	Monthly lecture: “Impact of Daesh Ideology on Women’s Rights in North Africa” (27 attendees)
November	Prof. Doris Weichselbaumer (Johannes Kepler University of Linz, Austria)	Monthly lecture: “Discrimination Against Female Migrants Wearing Headscarves” (15 attendees)
December	Ruba Salih (Reader, SOAS, University of London)	Monthly lecture: “Desiring Palestine. Gender, Refugees and The Politics of Home” (37 attendees)

In addition to the public activities organised by ARC-GS, the centre also organises a number of activities for AISSR PhD candidates.

ARC-GS PhD Club, Master Classes, and Short Intensive Course (SIC)

The interdisciplinary ARC-GS PhD Club for AISSR PhD candidates working on gender and/or sexuality met in January, February, April, October, November, and December 2018. In addition to the presenter, the meetings were attended by between 5 and 10 PhD candidates.

ARC-GS organised the following three Master Classes for PhD candidates in 2018:

- Feedback on individual projects by Prof. Anna Korteweg (University of Toronto) (7 attendees)
- Academic Publishing by Prof. Laura Shepherd (University of Sydney) (9 attendees)
- Sexuality Research by Prof. Andrew Reynolds (UNC Chapel Hill) (5 attendees)

Together with the AISSR, ARC-GS organised the SIC “Feminist Methodologies in the Social Sciences” (15 attendees).

MA Thesis Prize

ARC-GS awards an annual prize for the best social science master thesis in gender and sexuality. In 2018 Loes Oudenhuijsen was awarded the prize for the thesis “‘You Have to Know How to Play, Otherwise They Will Catch You’. Young Women and the Navigation of Same-Sex Intimacies in Contemporary Urban Senegal”. The thesis is published on the ARC-GS website.

Teaching

ARC-GS aims to ensure that high quality, diverse courses are offered that are grounded in the social sciences and teach students about various aspects of gender and sexuality. ARC-GS actively invites students and lecturers from courses focused on gender and sexuality to attend its events. This creates an opportunity for the diverse lecturers to exchange experiences and knowledge and celebrate the successes of the teaching on MA and BA levels and provides opportunities for students to extend their knowledge beyond the classroom.

2018 Budget

ARC-GS was financially supported in 2018 by seven programme groups from the AISSR. The programme groups Challenges to Democratic Representation; Cultural Sociology; Globalizing Culture and the Quest for Belonging: Ethnographies of the Everyday; Health, Care, and the Body; Institutions, Inequalities, and Life Courses; Political Economy and Transnational Governance; and Transnational Configurations, Conflict, and Governance all made financial contributions to ARC-GS resulting in a total 2018 budget of €17,031.49.

Activities	Costs
Monthly Lectures	€ 7,971.00
Opening Event	€ 3,319.75
Lunch Lectures	€ 551.24
Extra Events	€ 1,998.50
Visiting Scholars	€ 391.00
PR Assistant	€ 1,800.00
Thesis Prize	€ 1,000.00
Total 2018 Expenses	€ 17,031.49