

# **Peanut Butter and Gender Women and Public Service Project Fall 2014**

**September 17 Peanut Butter and Gender**

***Voice and Agency: Empowering Women and Girls for Shared Prosperity***

Voice and Agency: Empowering Women and Girls for Shared Prosperity is a new publication that shines a spotlight on the value of empowerment, the patterns of constraints that limit their realization, and the associated costs, not only to individual women but to their families, communities, and societies. It highlights promising policies and interventions, and it identifies priority areas where further research and more and better data and evidence are needed.

**Jeni Klugman is the Director of Gender and Development at the World Bank Group** and author of the *2012 World Development Report on Gender Equality and Development*, discusses the current state of women's development around the world.

**October 1 Peanut Butter and Gender**

***The Beijing Platform for Action: Inspiration Then and Now***

An unprecedented 17,000 participants and 30,000 activists streamed into Beijing for the opening of the Fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995. They were remarkably diverse, coming from around the globe, but they had a single purpose in mind: gender equality and the empowerment of all women, everywhere. As a defining framework for change, the Platform made comprehensive commitments under 12 critical areas of concern. Even 20 years later, it remains a powerful source of guidance and inspiration.

**Lopa Banerjee, Chief of the Civil Society Section of UN Women.** She is based in New York and leads UN Women's work on strengthening civil society contribution, participation and influence in the global, intergovernmental policy discussion and decision processes.

A gender and human rights thematic expert with substantive experience in social policy and governance issues across Asia and Africa, Lopa has worked for over 3 decades in international development, policy advocacy, communication and partnership building, across the UN and in the private sector. In India she worked on gender-based violence and the representation of women in media. With the UN in South Africa, Lopa led the formation of a multi-stakeholder (UN/Government/Civil Society) task team to support the development of the joint gender programme for South Africa. She also led a multi stakeholder campaign with civil society, government and the private sector, on the MDGs during the Soccer World Cup in 2010. With UNICEF in Bangladesh, she worked with civil society and the government to develop a

community based advocacy programme to prevent early marriage of girls. She worked with the government, community groups and civil society in Iran on child rights issues including juvenile justice and corporal punishment. Lopa's areas of specialization include policy analysis and advocacy, partnership development and engagement, and Human Rights Based Based Programming and training.

**October 8      Peanut Butter and Gender**

***Women's Political Leadership: Challenges and Opportunities — An African Case Study***

**Monde Muyangwa currently serves as the Director of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center.** Monde has worked in many different aspects contributing to the welfare, politics, and social change of Africa. She has held titles such as; Academic Dean at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, Director of Research and then Vice President for Research and Policy at the National Summit on Africa, and Director of International Education Programs at New Mexico Highlands University. Monde has served on editorial review board of the Countering Terrorism Exchange Journal and the editorial board of African Security; as well as, working as a development and gender consultant. Monde has also worked on a wide range of development projects in Africa in the areas of education, housing, health, and nutrition; while also co-authoring *An Assessment of the Organization of African Unity's Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution*. Monde holds a Ph.D in International Relations and a B.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Oxford, as well as a B.A. in Public Administration and Economics from the University of Zambia. Monde was a Rhodes Scholar, a Wingate Scholar, and the University of Zambia Valedictory Speaker for her graduating class.

**October 22      Peanut Butter and Gender**

**The Transformative Power of Human Rights**

**Dr. Rangita de Silva de Alwis directs the Global Women's Leadership Initiative and the Women in Public Service Project launched by Secretary Hillary Clinton and the Seven Sisters Colleges at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.** Rangita is a women's human rights scholar and practitioner with over 25 years of experience working globally in over 25 countries with a vast network of academic institutions, government, and nongovernment entities on women's human rights law and policy making and institutional reform. She has convened several transnational networks including the Women's Leadership Network in Muslim Communities, the Asia Cause Lawyer Network in India, and the Gender and Law Expert Group and the Women's Watch in China. She has worked over 14 years with Chinese gender and law experts and academics and has testified twice before the Congressional Executive Commission on China on the status of women's rights in China. She has advised UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, and UNDP on state accountability under the relevant human

rights treaties and the intersections of the different treaties and treaty bodies. She has lectured at Harvard Law School, Yale Law School, Stanford Law School, Penn Law School and UCLA Law School. She has published widely with the World Bank, United Nations, and in various leading law journals including with Yale Journal of Law and Feminism; Texas Journal of Gender and the Law; University of Pennsylvania East Asia Law Journal; Duke Journal of Gender and the Law; UCLA Pacific Rim Journal; UCLA Journal of International Law and Foreign Relations. Most recently, she developed a Gender Supplement to the U.N. Secretary General's Guidelines on Disability and a report to the World Bank on Women's Voice and Agency.

Rangita has a Doctorate in Law (S.J.D.) from Harvard Law School and a Research Fellow with the Women and Public Policy Program at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University She was also a Fulbright Specialist with the Asian University of Women in Bangladesh.

### **Susan Bailey (on campus Wed/Thurs Oct 22-23)**

**Susan McGee Bailey served as the Executive Director of the Wellesley Centers for Women (WCW) and a Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Education at Wellesley College from 1985 until January, 2011.** A Wellesley graduate, Dr. Bailey earned an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and held a postdoctoral fellowship in public health from Johns Hopkins University for work in Latin America. Before coming to Wellesley, Dr. Bailey directed the Resource Center on Educational Equity at the Council of Chief State School Officers in Washington, DC, the Policy Research Office on Women's Education at Harvard University and held various posts at the Connecticut State Department of Education. She taught elementary and secondary school in the United States, Asia and Latin America and has worked in a variety of capacities with community organizations addressing the needs of disabled children. Dr. Bailey has written and lectured extensively on issues of gender equitable public policy in education and employment. She was the principal author of the 1992 Report: How Schools Shortchange Girls. Following the NGO Forum at the Fourth World Conference for Women in Beijing, China, she coauthored a guide for junior and senior high school teachers, *Shaping a Better World: Global Issues/Gender Issues* and in 2003, she coauthored *Unsafe Schools: A Literature Review of School-Related Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries*, a publication of USAID. In 2009 Dr. Bailey codirected the project, US-Saudi Women's Forum on Social Entrepreneurship with Rangita de Silva-de Alwis, WCW Director of International Human Rights Policy Programs.

### **Nov. 5 Peanut Butter and Gender**

#### ***Dare to Ask: Women Negotiating for Change***

**Cait Clarke**, co-author of *Dare to Ask: The Woman's Guidebook to Successful Negotiating*, is an experienced leadership and negotiation consultant whose clients have included Fortune 500 companies and distinguished international organizations. Cait has designed curriculum, managed

trainings, and trained hundreds of attorneys throughout the U.S. in a variety of programs, including the National Defender Leadership Institute at the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government's Executive Session on Public Defense, funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Harvard Law School, and Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans.

Her doctoral fieldwork took her to South Africa where she studied and published on plea negotiations. She has also completed the MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program and Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation for Senior Executives. An attorney by profession, she serves as Director of Strategic Initiatives at the National Legal Aid & Defender Association. Previously she was Director of Public Interest Law Opportunities at Equal Justice Works where she managed the country's largest legal fellowship program.

**November 12 No Peanut Butter and Gender; open class lecture at noon**

### ***Violence against Women: The Global Epidemic***

**Stephenie Foster**

***U. S. State Dept. Global Women's Initiative***

Stephenie Foster has over 25 years experience in domestic and international policy advocacy, government affairs, program development and training, and law, with a special focus on the critical role that women play in advancing public policy and development. Stephenie just completed a one year tour at the US Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, focusing on women and civil society, travelling extensively in Kabul and around the country to work with individuals and organizations. In addition to her work at the US Embassy in Kabul, Stephenie has broad governmental experience, having served as Chief of Staff to two United States Senators (Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Christopher Dodd (D-CT)) and was appointed by President Clinton as General Counsel of the U. S. General Services Administration. Stephenie is an attorney by training and was a litigation partner at Steefel, Levitt & Weiss (now Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP) in San Francisco, California. She received a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, an M.R.P. from Cornell University and a B.A. from the University of California. She is also a Professorial Lecturer at the Women & Politics Institute at American University in Washington, DC where she teaches courses on women and public policy.

Based on her experience in the design and evaluation of training programs, Stephenie has authored two manuals for Vital Voices, [Advocacy and Running for Office: A Training Manual for Women](#) and [Ending Violence Against Women and Human Trafficking: A Guide to New Strategies](#) (with Cindy Dyer), both published in March 2010. Her international work has taken her to more than 25 countries, covering every region of the world, and she has also trained numerous groups who have traveled to the US.

Stephenie is an attorney by training and was a litigation partner at Steefel, Levitt & Weiss (now Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP) in San Francisco, California. She received a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, an M.R.P. from Cornell University and a B.A. from the University

of California. She is also a Professorial Lecturer at the Women & Politics Institute at American University in Washington, DC where she teaches courses on women and public policy.

**Nov. 19 Peanut Butter and Gender**

***Legislating Gender Equality***

*Susan Farbstain, Co-Director, International Human Rights Clinic and Assistant Clinical Law Professor at Harvard Law School*

**Dec. 3 Peanut Butter and Gender**

***Empowering Women in Cambodia: the Next Generation of Leaders***

Alan Lightman, founder of the Harpswell Foundation, discusses the mission of Harpswell to empower a new generation of women leaders in Cambodia and the developing world.

Alan Lightman is a physicist, novelist, and essayist. Currently, Alan is Professor of Sciences and Humanities at M.I.T., and founder of Harpswell Foundation. He was educated at Princeton University and at the California Institute of Technology, where he received a Ph.D. in theoretical physics. Before coming to MIT, he was on the faculty of Harvard University. At MIT, Lightman was one of the first people to receive dual faculty appointments in science and in the humanities and was John Burchard Professor of Humanities before becoming an Adjunct Professor to allow more time for his writing. Lightman is the author of five novels, two collections of essays, a book-length narrative poem, and several books on science. His writing has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Granta*, *the New Yorker*, and *the New York Review of Books*, among other publications. His novel *Einstein's Dreams* was an international bestseller and has been translated into thirty languages. His novel *The Diagnosis* was a finalist for the 2000 National Book Award in fiction. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has won numerous other awards. Lightman is also the founding director of the Harpswell Foundation, which works to empower a new generation of women leaders in Cambodia.