

Workshop Series

Gender Research and Integrated Training Sessions



PennState
College of Agricultural Sciences

A photograph of two people in a lush, green forest. On the left, a woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, is looking towards the right. On the right, a man with grey hair, wearing a green and white plaid shirt, is looking down at something in his hands. The background is filled with various types of trees and dense foliage, creating a natural, outdoor setting.

Enhancing the Quality of CGIAR Gender Research

The CGIAR Gender and Agriculture Research Network will be partnering with the Pennsylvania State University to develop a multi-year Gender Research and Integrated Training series for CGIAR researchers and postdoctoral fellows.

Ensuring that agricultural innovation benefits poor women and men requires investments at different levels. Spurring a greater body of gender research expertise among young scientists to better integrate gender within research activities is a vital part of this process. The CGIAR Gender Action Plan commits the CGIAR Gender and Agriculture Research Network to accelerate the build-up of a critical mass of gender expertise where shortfalls currently hinder progress. One pillar of this commitment is capacity development through cross-program learning and collaborative research, which is what this partnership aims to do.

What can you expect from the Gender Research and Integrated Training sessions?

These sessions are designed to strengthen advanced research capacity of gender and social science researchers, enhance the quality of gender research in CGIAR, provide strategies for interdisciplinary collaboration, and increase publications in high quality journals. The ultimate goal is to provide benefits to poor rural women and men, and empower women and girls. The workshop series will be held over three weeks in the summer of 2016 and 2017 and supplementary pre- and post- session activities will ensure maximum benefits. The workshops will take place at the Pennsylvania State University, home of leaders in gender scholarship

and research and the newly founded Gender in Agriculture and Environment Initiative.

This training series will ensure competency in three key areas: *designing* research projects in the social sciences; *conducting* quantitative and qualitative data gathering and/or analysis projects; and *publishing* high-quality manuscripts in top-tier academic journals. First year topics covered include historical context of gender and agriculture science, strategies and tools for working on interdisciplinary teams, connecting gender theories of science to agricultural research, state-of the art data collection and analysis techniques, designing high-quality research collection and analysis plans, and tools for data analysis. Participants will be accepted to participate in both 2016 and 2017 sessions as



these are designed to be cumulative and lead to publication of research conducted in a two year period.

Why apply?

The program will begin with a Gender in Agriculture and Environment Symposium providing participants with an excellent opportunity to learn from gender researchers and practitioners who are leaders in gender scholarship and policies. Networking with speakers from across the globe and here at Penn State University will provide participants with the opportunity to make valuable connections and boost their professional development.

The gender workshop series presents the chance to learn advanced research methods and theories central to research on gender, agriculture, and the environment. Strategies for collecting and analyzing sex disaggregated data will be a focus throughout the series with the objective of enabling participants to combine qualitative and quantitative methods knowledgeably, including for example, state-of-the-art techniques and tools for analyzing qualitative data, survey design and sampling, multivariate analysis, spatial data analysis, network analysis, data from participatory research and advanced use of software such as NVivo.

Research collaboration is not limited to the face-to-face sessions. Workshop participants are paired with faculty mentors who will provide support to participants after the in-class portion ends. These relationships will continue over the multiple year series and are designed to maximize the participants' application of gender related tools and skills to their own research.

Strategies for successful publication are also an important focus of the series and participants will be encouraged and supported to produce one or more journal-quality papers. The faculty mentorship will support participants in publishing their research. Publications will be further developed in the second year of the workshop series where drafts will be reviewed by faculty and peers with the goal of journal submission. Well-trained and advanced graduate students from Penn State are also able to provide additional support by conducting literature reviews, data analysis, and co-authoring publications.

The workshop series brings together gender specialists and postdoctoral scholars who are interested in these topics. Fostering a cohort of global leaders dedicated to gender issues within the CGIAR system, the workshops will create an internal network of support and partnership.



What is the application process?

Application packets are to include a CV (no more than 2 pages), cover letter, and letter of support from the relevant CGIAR Research Program Director and Gender Research Coordinator. The cover letter should include reasons for applying, preliminary ideas about applying gender issues to your own research, and what skills or tools you can offer and share with the program. Applications should be submitted to Deanna Behring via email at dbehring@psu.edu by **February 15, 2016**. Applicants will be notified by **March 1**.

How are participants selected?

Preference will be given to CGIAR social scientists who are postdoctoral fellows in their first or second year of appointment at a CGIAR Center, especially (but not exclusively) those whose fellowship is supported by an award to a CGIAR Research Program from the Consortium Office. We are also interested in teamed-up applications from a CGIAR postdoctoral fellow and their supervising social scientist who are conducting research together and planning to co-author papers. A review board of key expert faculty will review all applications after the due date.

Application review packets will be evaluated based on their level of interest in and commitment to gender research. Previous experience conducting gender specific research is not required. Prior doctoral-level training in a social science with a foundation knowledge of qualitative or quantitative research methods is required as participants can expect to deepen knowledge of methods with which they are already familiar and to learn new methods. Previous specialization in gender-specific research is not essential but a thoughtful application of how newly acquired tools will be applied to the applicant's current research on gender issues will be critical.

What is included in participation?

Selected participants will have three weeks of intensive courses by expert faculty. There is no tuition fee for workshop participation. Lodging and meals at Penn State will be covered for participants as well as a bus pass for transportation around town. Additionally, participants will take a cultural trip to New York City at no extra fee. These costs are supported by the CGIAR Consortium's Gender Action Plan grant from the CGIAR Fund Council.

CGIAR Research Programs are expected to support their postdoctoral fellow's international travel to attend the workshops series at State College, PA, United States including visa fees, and meeting all visa requirements. Once accepted to attend the workshop series, a participant's CGIAR Research Program Director will be contacted by the Consortium Office's Senior Gender Advisor to recommend this travel support and to confirm that the fellow will be able to attend.

Course Schedule 2016

May 30 - June 5
June 6 - June 12
June 13 - June 19

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