About the MC - Women and Gender Institute (WAGI)
**The Women and Gender Institute**

**OUR STORY**

Maryknoll College, now Miriam College, is a pioneer of women’s studies in the Philippines, having introduced a course on women and society as early as 1970. In 1987, MC established the Women’s Resource Research Center (WRRC) to respond to the integrative needs of women towards social transformation. The WRRC was later replaced with the Women and Gender Institute (WAGI), which was established in 1998, by former Miriam College President Patricia Licuanan.

Since its establishment, WAGI has been a strong voice for gender equality and women’s empowerment. WAGI actively networks with strategic organizations and institutions at the national, regional and international levels to bring gender issues to the forefront—the center runs training sessions, women’s leadership programs and fora on gender in education, human rights, peace and security, economic development, public service, and more.

**OUR VISION**

‘WAGI’ is a Filipino term which means ‘to win’. The term represents the long-term objective of the Women and Gender Institute, which is to achieve women’s empowerment and gender equality in all areas of society and build a society where all genders win.

**OUR MISSION**

The Women and Gender Institute charts the direction for the school’s women and gender programs through initiatives in gender-fair education, feminist research, and advocacy on women’s empowerment and gender equality. WAGI offers cross-disciplinary perspectives on human rights, and its intersection with democracy, social justice, and values formation.
GENDER-FAIR EDUCATION (GFE) PROGRAM

Building a culture of gender fairness in our schools is one of WAGI's top priorities. The GFE program develops the capacity of educators and school administrators in gender-fair learning, non-sexist language, feminist research methodologies, among other gender-fair pedagogical approaches. By integrating perspectives, values and strategies related to the mainstreaming of women's rights, and gender equality and inclusion in all aspects of education, WAGI works with schools to create pillars for a gender-fair society.

YOUNG WOMEN’S LEadership (YWl) PROGRAM

To prepare today's young women to become tomorrow's leaders, the YWLD program conducts leadership seminars and workshops for young women, by young women. The program traverses class, ethnic, political and religious boundaries to bring young women together. Collectively they envision, create, and collaborate as social change agents, encouraged to build their own feminist paradigms that uphold gender equality, diversity, and inclusion.

GENDER AND Development (GAD) PROGRAM

In helping to build a democratic and equitable society for women and people of all genders, the GAD program collaborates with government agencies, private institutions, civil society organizations, and academic institutions to hold interactive gender training activities. Through these collaborations WAGI promotes critical gender awareness, equal opportunity policies, and socially inclusive practices be it in the workplace, school campuses, or household.
Gender, Peace And Security (GPS) Program

Recognizing the voices of women in conflict and post-conflict situations is essential to building just and lasting peace. The GPS program seeks to do exactly this by highlighting the gender dimensions in war, militarism, conflict, peace and security. The program articulates an alternative security paradigm that is gender-responsive and inclusive of women's initiatives to end war and contributions to peace building.

Feminist Research Program

When advocating for women's empowerment, gender equality, and social inclusion, WAGI understands that the barriers to a gender equal society are constantly evolving. Through the Feminist Research Program, WAGI features new thinking and feminist research studies on a wide array of topics. With a focus on local, national, and regional issues, this program aims to contribute to the enrichment of a feminist global south perspectives, that engage and challenge traditional frameworks and western notions of feminism.

Mid-Year Training Institute

The Midyear Training Institute is WAGI's commitment to teaching and life-long learning of gender related theories and practices. The WAGI Training Institute targets schools, government agencies, civil society organizations, and the private sector, offering week-long intensive courses on topics such as Gender-Fair Education (GFE), International Women’s Human Rights (IWRH), Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPBB), Migration and Development (MD), and Gender, Sexuality and Student Youth Well-Being (GSSYW).
GAD 2019

International Women’s Human Rights and Governance

Running on its 20th year, International Women’s Human Rights and Governance (IWHRG) is among the longest standing academic-based women’s human rights courses offered in the Philippines. The course critically discusses the use of international human rights instruments from a gender and rights perspectives. It focuses on analyzing complex issues of discrimination, inequality and oppression brought about by the intersection of structural and identity factors, such as class, gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, and gender identity among others. Participants are exposed to a diverse and interdisciplinary set of resource-speakers with years of engagement in national and international advocacy work on gender, human rights and governance.

Gender Fair Education

Gender Fair Education (GFE) is a foundational course that introduces basic concepts in Gender and Development (GAD). It is designed for educators and development practitioners (i.e. facilitators, trainers, module writers, etc.) in formal and non-formal education. It highlights human rights and gender-based other teaching-learning settings. Gender fair language, gender mainstreaming, and effective implementation of GAD development organizations. The hands-on approaches to enhance understanding are provided.

Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting

Gender and Development (GAD) budgeting process ensures financial support for activities promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment. Financial support, while necessary, must be complemented by strengthened organizational capacity for successful planning and implementation. The course will introduce the theories and practice of GAD budgeting in the Philippines, in line with PCW-NEDA-DBM Joint Circular No. 2012-01 and PCW-DILG-DBM-NEDA Joint Circular No. 2016-01 on GAD Plans and Budgets and Accomplishments in Implementing the Magna Carta of Women. The training approach will use case studies and in-depth sharing of participants’ experiences to enhance learning.

In Full Bloom

Telling Stories, Breaking Boundaries

MARCH 25, 2019 | 4PM | LITTLE THEATER, MIRIAM COLLEGE

FREE ADMISSION | MOCKTAILS AFTERWARDS

Produced by the Miriam College Drama Society in association with Mirror House Productions and the Office of Student Affairs and Athletics. Presented in association with the Quezon City LGU.

lifelong learning

youth advocacy

action research

youth advocacy
WAGI’s Identity as its Strategy
WAGI's Leadership Practice
WAGI'S FOUNDATIONAL FRAMES

MC Core Values
Truth, Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation

Developing Women Leaders in Service

Academic in Character, Activist by Nature

Transformative Leadership over Transactional Leadership
WAGI as... Filipino Faithful Feminist
gender reform feminism - gender-as-a-variable perspective

Feminist Perspectives of Transformative Leadership

gender rebellion feminism – expose unfounded underlying assumptions

gender resistance feminism – the female advantage perspective

Possible Insights for AWE

• Importance of anchoring AWE program design on shared values
• Directed by desired outcome
• Oriented by feminist practice
Feminist Practice

**Repoliticization**
- Transformative agenda
- Expanded and dynamic power analysis
- Critical use of language

**Feminist Leadership**
- Challenges masculinist notions of leadership
- Promotes the practice of reflexivity, care, and ethics

**Intersectionality**
- An appreciation of historical context
- Sensitivity to cultural specificities
- Critical intersections of salient identities, structures & contexts

**Intergenerational Movements**
- Knowing & building on different waves of feminism
- Learning from generational strengths, biases, & visions
- An intergenerational way of knowing & being

**Intermovement Solidarity**
- Women's movements working with other social movements
- Social movements to know, carry, and engage the feminist agenda
- Provide & create spaces for feminist practice across movements

**Inclusivity/Grassroots**
- Bias for the poor across sectors & issues
- Mindful of actors organic to an issue
- Sensitive to the voiceless, unheard, invisible

**Communications**
- Content and form is appropriate, familiar, and accessible
- Simple but not simplistic to capture complexities & facilitate exchange
- Strive for authenticity guided by sincerity
RE-POLITICIZATION

- Transformative Agenda
- Expanded and Dynamic Power Analysis
- Critical Use of Language.
FEMINIST LEADERSHIP

• Challenges masculinist notions of leadership
• Promotes the practice of reflexivity, care and ethics
COMMUNICATIONS

• Content and form is appropriate, familiar, and accessible
• Simple but not simplistic to capture complexities & facilitate exchange
• Strive for authenticity guided by sincerity
INCLUSIVITY/GRASSROOTS

- Bias for the poor across sectors and issues
- Mindful of actors organic to an issue
- Sensitive to the voiceless, unheard, invisible
INTERMOVEMENT SOLIDARITY

- Women’s movements working with other social movements
- Social movements to know, carry, and engage the feminist agenda
- Provide & create spaces for feminist practice across movements
INTERGENERATIONAL MOVEMENTS

• Knowing and building on different waves of feminism
• Learning from generational strengths, biases, and visions
• An intergenerational way of knowing and being
INTERSECTIONALITY

• An appreciation of historical context
• Sensitivity to cultural specificities
• Critical intersections of salient identities, structures, and contexts
Parting shots...

“...the study of gender and transformational leadership has pointed to possible future directions for exploration. ...to establish a new field of study – gendered organizations – there is a need to “strike out”, to step away from the traditional field of organizational studies, risking the chance of becoming marginalized. “Striking out” they suggest would entail entering “uncharted territory, forge into the unknown, and take chances and risks”.

Parting shots...

“...to dare think what has not yet been thought...”

*The transformational leader: Who is (s)he? A feminist perspective*

*Ronit Kark, 2004*
thank you

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