

# ATGENDER

European Association for Gender Research,  
Education and Documentation



BARCELONA 25-27 JUNE / JUNY

**ATGENDER**



**Newsletter #19**

June 2014

**Conference Special**

**Barcelona 2014**

1. General Assembly & Elections 2014
2. Presidents report
3. Yearly accounts
4. First Call: The 9th European Feminist Research Conference - Sex & Capital, 3-6 June, 2015, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi
5. AGETA - European Teaching Academy for Gender Studies
6. Gender Equality and EIGE
7. **ATGENDER** in Women's Worlds in Hyderabad
8. Tuning Gender Studies or: what should gender studies graduates be able to do?
9. General information about **ATGENDER**
10. Announcements
11. Board members April 2013 - June 2014
12. Membership benefits

Dear **ATGENDER** members,

*It is a great pleasure to present this Conference Special of the **ATGENDER** Newsletter at the occasion of the **ATGENDER** Spring Conference in Barcelona, June 2014. A great opportunity to meet, to network and to participate in an exciting program. We are very grateful to the Barcelona Organizing Committee for organizing and hosting this conference. They did a great job!*

*In this Newsletter you'll find information on the **ATGENDER** General Assembly (GA) & Elections. The GA will take place at the Francesca Bonnemaison Centre, Barcelona, on June 26 from 17.00 to 20.00. We kindly invite all **ATGENDER** members to attend this meeting and use their right to vote to elect a new **ATGENDER** board. This is your chance to be involved in the future of **ATGENDER** policy.*

*The elections mark a special moment in the history of **ATGENDER**. The last board members who in 2009 have been founding board members and who were (re-)elected in 2011 will now leave the board: Barbara Bagilhole, Mia Liinason, and Berteke Waaldijk conclude a period of five years working for **ATGENDER**. Other board members who joined the board later and were elected in 2011 will leave as well: Andrea Pető, Nadya Alexandrova, Tilly Vriend and Pat Treusch take leave. Anna Cabo was elected in 2013, but had to decide to step down for personal reasons. They are sad to go, but happy that their commitment to **ATGENDER** has turned our association into a full and blooming membership (no subsidies) based organization: yearly conferences, a book series, active*

students, activities (Tuning) that support gender programmes all over Europe. This is no small achievement.

The departing board members want to thank those who stay, Aino-Maija Hiltunen, Sveva Magaraggia and Edyta Just for a great time together and for their willingness (in case of Sveva and Aino-Maija: only if re-elected) to continue serving **ATGENDER** in the exciting years ahead, just think of the 9<sup>th</sup> EFRC in 2015. Profiles and personal statements of board members standing for re-election and the new candidate board members can be found in a separate booklet.



This newsletter contains an overview of **ATGENDER** activities and of the finances over the last year: the Presidents Report and a summary of yearly accounts. It also contains announcements of plans and new initiatives. It shows the great variety of activities **ATGENDER** and its members are involved in. However, there is always space for more and new things, we look forward to discuss & plan with you in the General Assembly ways in which **being ATGENDER** member can be turned into **doing ATGENDER** - things that you as an **ATGENDER** member find important. Stay active, be connected and

do **ATGENDER!**

We are looking forward to meeting and working with you in Barcelona.  
Wishing you a very inspiring conference,

On behalf of the **ATGENDER** board  
Tilly Vriend, co-president

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## 1. General Assembly & Elections 2014

During the AtGender Spring Conference June 25-27 in Barcelona, we organize the General Assembly with elections. We have 10 vacant seats and 11 candidates. Among the candidates, there are 2 who stand for re-election to the board and the remaining 9 are new candidates, willing to take place in the board. Candidates who stand for re-election and election are presented in a separate booklet attached to this newsletter.

The association will strive for a balanced representation of the different European regions on the board as well as a balanced representation of disciplines and professional interests.

We remind you that, in order to vote in these elections, you need to pay your membership fee for 2014, as stated in our statutes; otherwise, we

won't be able to consider your vote valid.

**Preliminary Agenda for the General Assembly**  
**(Francesca Bonnemaison Centre, Barcelona, June 26 from 17.00 to 20.00)**

**1. Opening**

- 1.1. Election of chair for the General Assembly
- 1.2. Appointment of Secretary for the General Assembly
- 1.3. Appointment of the voting committee (3 persons)

**2. Report of activities in 2012 (Co-President)**

**3. Presentation of financial report 2012 (Treasurers)**

- 3.1. Approval of annual accounts Year 2012 incl. 8EFRC
- 3.2. Budget plans until next General Assembly in 2014 and for 9EFRC in 2015

**4. Election**

- 4.1. Presentation of nominees
- 4.2. Elections

**5. Brainstorm and suggestions for stimulating membership involvement in ATGENDER activities**

Members of ATGENDER are invited to think of ways in which more active participation can be organized. For possible follow up meetings, there will be rooms available for working groups or other groups of member willing to plot & plan.

**6. Closing of the General Assembly**

**Election procedures**

**Nomination Committee**

The nomination committee for the ATGENDER elections in 2014 consists of Sabine Grenz, Kerstin Alnebratt, Adelina Sanchez, Mia Liinason and Lara Hager. Sabine Grenz is the chair of the nomination committee. Mia Liinason represents the board and Lara Hager represents the secretariat in the nomination committee.

**Voting**

Members can cast their vote for the Board either in person at the General Assembly or via the on-line voting form. On-line voting is accepted until one day before the General Assembly. Votes may not be cast by proxies, neither concerning elections, nor concerning other ATGENDER matters. The ten members who receive the most votes will be elected. In case of a tie between the two candidates that have got the lowest amount of votes, a second nominal ballot will be devoted on the General Assembly in order to determine which of those candidates will be elected to the Board.

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## 2. Presidents' report

### Introduction

The following director's report of **ATGENDER** serves the purpose to provide information about the activities of the organization during the last year and to project ideas and plans for the future. The report is in accordance with our mission to constitute a permanent structure that consolidates and expands established connections between academic educators, researchers, employers of Gender Studies graduates and to connect them with policy oriented institutions, libraries, documentation centres and other organizations that work on gender equality in Europe.

### Background

**ATGENDER**: the European association for gender research, education and documentation was established on September 30, 2009. **ATGENDER** brought together the three earlier main organizations in the field of women's and gender studies, feminist research, education and documentation in Europe: AOIFE, ATHENA and Wise. **ATGENDER**'s main purpose is to:

provide a professional association for academics in the interdisciplinary field of women's and gender studies, feminist research and professionals that promote women's rights, gender equality and diversity in Europe;

advance and disseminate the knowledge and experience from the above-mentioned groups;

support and sustain the institutionalization of women's, gender and feminist studies;

support the development of education and training programs in women's and gender studies, feminist research, women's rights, gender equality, and diversity.

To effect the purposes of the association, **ATGENDER** employs a wide range of activities and has been since its inauguration engaged in establishing a sustainable European platform for multidirectional academic exchange, research collaboration, dissemination and information within and between the areas in focus for the association, i.e. women's and gender studies, feminist research and professionals that promote women's rights, gender equality and diversity in Europe.

### Organisation

#### The Board of Directors

The current **ATGENDER** Board consists of eleven members. The Board is chaired by two presidents, and has appointed two co-treasurers and three co-secretaries, in order for the management of the association to gain from each other's knowledge and to run as smoothly as possible. The Board meets four times per year via Skype and initiates board meetings IRL during the annual Spring

conferences. According to the statutes of the organization the members of the Board are appointed for three years and can be re-elected for another three year term.

At the beginning of 2013, the board consisted of nine members. At the General Assembly during the spring conference in April 2013 in Gothenburg **ATGENDER** arranged elections to fill the two vacant seats in the Board. The association strives for a balanced representation of the different European regions on the Board as well as a balanced representation of disciplines and professional interests. The two appointed members in 2013 came from policy making sector and academy, respectively from Spain and Poland. From April 2013 and until June 2014, the board consisted of 11 members.

During the General Assembly in Barcelona on 28 June 2014, 7 members will be replaced as their first, respectively second, mandate in the organization is coming to an end. One board member will resign from her post before the ending of her mandate period, due to health reasons. During the spring 2014, an election committee of three persons, including one representative of the board and one representative of the **ATGENDER** office, have prepared the suggestions of candidates for the new board, based on nominations from individual and institutional members. The result of their work will be presented at the **ATGENDER** website June 12, 2014, and in the conference newsletter for the **ATGENDER** Spring conference in Barcelona June 25-27, 2014.

#### The Central office

The Central office is the visible contact point of the association and carries out Board decisions and other tasks delegated to it by the Board. Delegated tasks may include tasks of the Secretary and the Treasurer. The Board supervises and is responsible for the activities of the Central office. The central office is a precondition for further growth of membership and activities. The Central office is run by one part time employee (office manager), one to two interns and nine volunteers.

Under the responsibility of the Board, the Central office carries out the following tasks:

- Organization of meetings of the Board and General Assembly;
- Coordination and facilitation of Board activities and decisions;
- Membership recruiting, registering, cancellations, membership database;
- Creating and spreading of information materials (newsletter, website);
- Promoting and representing the association at important meetings and activities.

The location of the Secretariat may rotate every 3 years to any location in Europe. The Board decides on the location one year before the mandate of the acting Secretariat is ending. The Board chooses from the institutions that bid for hosting the Secretariat. From 2013 until the General Assembly in 2014, the **ATGENDER** Secretariat was located at Utrecht University, Faculty of Humanities,

the Netherlands.

During the budget year 2013, **ATGENDER** has taken several measures to improve the communication between the secretariat and the board as well as between the secretariat and **ATGENDER** members.

For the sake of efficiency the office hours for processing members' requests and for project management were increased from 4/week to 12/week.

The PayPal service for membership payment also proved to be effective and it reduced the paper work of the office.

Several working documents were written in order to regulate the mode and rhythm of communication between the board members and the office.

From September 2013 a newly appointed office manager came to the Utrecht office. Lara Hager energetically undertook the management of the office and took part in the preparation of the latest board meetings, application proposals and the communication with the members.

During the budget year 2013, we have also increased the number of internships. After the successful initiative in 2012, during this report period 5 interns were affiliated to **ATGENDER** board and office. (28 January 2013 – 5 April, 2013: Ms. Lisa de la Rie; 29 April 2013 – 30 June 2013: Anne Eilert; 18 Dec 2013 – 28 Feb 2014 Alexandra Woelfle; 22 February – 1 May 2014: Zina Olshanska; 29 April – 1 July 2014 Adriano Habed) A fair regional spread of interns (North-South, East-West) is part of the goals of **ATGENDER** and this recruitment process has made it possible for students from outside the Netherlands to work for **ATGENDER**. Their personal skills benefited from their work at the office thus preparing them for future employment, and it makes sure that their mobility increases.

With the help of the interns the central office initiated **ATGENDER** Survey Chart to inquire of the members expectations and problems and their motivation to continue their support for **ATGENDER**. The survey got 57 responses to thirteen questions. A brief analysis of the results of the survey show that the members continue to support the feeling that the work of **ATGENDER** members fulfils the association's mission. 58% of the participants of the survey state that **ATGENDER** provides them with sufficient resources and support and among its activities the members are mostly satisfied with the capacity of the association to sustain alive and stable the network of gender academics, especially by organizing conferences and spreading newsletters and weekly news to inform the members about new job, conference or publication opportunities and to sustain the connection between **ATGENDER** and its supporters.

The survey indicates that the members or those willing to become members (25%) have used various means to learn about the association, such as its website, its conferences, and its presence in the social media. The membership fee is considered "normal" by 44% of the pool for the activities offered.

Yet, a very valuable result of the survey is that members express an interest in being more actively engaged with the decision making process in **ATGENDER**. The question "Do you feel that, as a member, you are sufficiently engaged in important decision making processes within **ATGENDER**" has received 47% negative answers. As a consequence of this, the board has discussed several

measures. Among these is the idea to encourage a more active communication in the separate working groups within **ATGENDER** and to send more regular calls to members, to ask for their opinion on, for example, certain policy initiatives. In addition, plans to increase the engagement of **ATGENDER**'s members with teaching and experts networks have been launched with the new proposal for teaching academy of excellence AGETA in the spring 2014 (see a closer description of AGETA below in this document).

#### **Activities April 2013-June 2014**

During this time frame, **ATGENDER** has been involved in a wide variety of activities, encompassing participation, publication and policy oriented work that will provide visibility of the organization among the European gender academic community and also on EU level. From April 2013 until June 2014, **ATGENDER** has:

Developed and streamlined the internal organization, membership- and financial administration.

Increased the participation of students and young scholars as interns and staff at the Central office.

Co-organized together with the Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research at the University of Gothenburg the 2013 **ATGENDER** spring conference, Gothenburg, Sweden, April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> 2013.

Held the yearly General Assembly for all our members on 28 April 2013 in Gothenburg, Sweden and preparing the next General Assembly in Barcelona, June 26, 2014.

Published two volumes of the Teaching with Gender series in cooperation with the Central European University Press - "Teaching Gender with Libraries and Archives. The power of information" (2013) and "Teaching against Violence. Reassessing the toolbox" (2014).

Started the preparation for the co-organised 9<sup>th</sup> European Feminist Research Conference in Rovaniemi, Lapland 3-6.6.2015.

Offered grants for student members to attend the conferences co-organized by **ATGENDER**.

Produced and distributed 42 weekly news updates and 3 newsletters.

Offered discounts to members on the subscription of a number of key journals in the field, as well as the Routledge 'Advances in Feminist Studies' and 'Intersectionality' book series.

Sustained the research level of impact of the organization by encouraging the work of and deepening the activities within the 9 working groups within **ATGENDER**.

Promoted the further institutionalization of gender studies, through developing and disseminating the Tuning Gender Studies brochure.

The **ATGENDER** student network arranged a panel during the spring conference in Göteborg 2013, titled: "Knowledge Affected: Reflecting Topics and Formats of Current Knowledge Transfers in Gender and Queer Studies", with four invited speakers and two chairs.

Maintained the strategic partnerships with other European Gender Studies organizations (Amongst others EIGE, WINE, ALLEA).



Arranged book launch of the volume "Teaching Gender with Libraries and Archives. The power of information" at the Gothenburg spring conference 24-28 April 2013.

Promoted and represented the association at important meetings and conferences.

Co-organized with the **Diputació de Barcelona** the 2014 **ATGENDER** spring conference, Barcelona, Spain, June 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2014.

Publications: Teaching with gender-series.

The book "Teaching Gender with Libraries and Archives: The Power of Information" was available in the Teaching with Gender book series from September 2013, published by **ATGENDER** and CEU press. Teaching Gender with Libraries and Archives is a pedagogical tool, aimed at stimulating gender studies teachers to critically reflect, together with their students, on libraries and archives as profoundly gendered knowledge spaces. The book collect contributions from Iceland, Cyprus, the Netherlands, France, Belgium, Italy, the UK, Italy and Germany and the book has been presented in Leipzig, Berlin, Nottingham, Leeds, Amsterdam and in Newcastle.

The book "Teaching against Violence. Reassessing the toolbox" was published in 2014. The volume's editors are Ines Testoni, Michael Wieser, Angelika Groterath and Maria Silvia Guglielmin. The book is the result of a European Daphne project and has a special emphasis not only in the phenomenon of gender based violence and multiple discrimination but on the teaching against those social phenomena. The volume presents some active techniques to promote women's empowerment, and in particular discuss the results obtained to test the effectiveness of the techniques.

Conferences

**ATGENDER** has established a tradition of organizing „Spring Conferences“ dedicated to learning and teaching in women's, gender and feminist studies. Between June 25-27 2014, the next **ATGENDER** spring conference, co-organized with **Diputació de Barcelona**, will take place in Barcelona, Spain. During the year 2013/2014, **ATGENDER** organized the following conference:

**ATGENDER** Spring Conference 26-28 April 2013, Gothenburg, Sweden.

In Brussels 2010 Spring conference the *Tuning Brochure Gender Studies (reference points for design & delivery of degree programs in gender studies)* was launched.

In Utrecht, April 2011, at the Conference „Feminist Pasts-Feminist Futures“ teaching, research and documentation were discussed in new ATGENDER working groups.



On 26-28 April 2013 the Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research hosted the **ATGENDER** spring conference for its members on learning and teaching in gender-, women's and feminist studies. The conference combined the following different formats:

Panels & workshops with papers and cases on pedagogical practices & innovations of feminist pedagogy; learning and teaching in women's/gender/feminist studies (a call for papers & cases invited **ATGENDER** members to present and discuss their experiences, research or plans for learning & teaching and feminist pedagogies)

Workshops dedicated to preparing new volumes in the **ATGENDER** book series „Teaching with Gender“.

Expert meetings of faculty and staff involved in design, quality assurance, accreditation and ranking of academic programmes (BA, MA or PhD) in gender studies. In such meetings the use of EU-tools, such as the Tuning Brochure Gender Studies were discussed.

Roundtables on the interaction between learning & teaching and documentation, and between learning & teaching and gender equality policies, and between learning & teaching and women's activism

Book launch for new publications in the **ATGENDER** book series Teaching with Gender

#### Other events

##### Book launches

In order to bring a selection of the recent production of feminist teaching tools to the attention of the local feminist academic community and to introduce recent published books, **ATGENDER** has organized the following book launch:

Thursday April 24, 2013: The launch of the volume "Teaching Gender with Libraries and Archives. The power of information" within the Gothenburg spring conference. Book launch within the **ATGENDER** spring conference in Gothenburg. **ATGENDER** representatives have continued to promote the activity (the publishing opportunity and its published results) in the academic and civil society circles utilizing their professional networks and through a PR-video published at You Tube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUrP22WBK-k>).

#### **Libraries/documentation centres**

With the ambition to create, develop and sustain effective forms for communication and collaboration between its different target groups, **ATGENDER** has taken part in and supported discussions around various ideas to create efficient infra-structures for communication between libraries/documentation centres across Europe.

The idea to write a book on teaching libraries and archives was conceived at the 2011 annual **ATGENDER** Spring Conference in Utrecht when librarians, archivists, information specialists and researchers met within the context of the working group Information and dissemination: infrastructures and networks in

Europe and beyond. The co-president of **ATGENDER** was also member of the organizing committee of 'Writing Women's lives' conference in Istanbul, 19-20 April 2014, a great opportunity to network and contact people from around the world / to promote the **ATGENDER** spring conference in Barcelona and advertise the 10<sup>th</sup> volume of the teaching series.

### **Grants**

Following the monitoring visit from EACA in the end of November 2012 about the Jean Monnet Grant, the **ATGENDER** board decided to make a reservation of 14.000 Euro for the coming budget year in order to be able to deal with the possibility of non-eligibility." This amount has been repaid in 2013.

### **General Assembly**

The yearly General Assembly for all our members will be held on June 28, 17.00-19.00, at Francesca Bonnemaison Centre, Sant Pere més Baix 7, Barcelona, Spain.

### **Membership numbers**

2010: 87 individual and student members, 31 institutional members;  
2011: 202 individual and student members, 54 institutional members;  
2012: 347 individual and student members, 56 institutional members  
2013: 85 individual and student members, 44 institutional members  
2014: (by 9<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014) 80 individual and students, 26 institutional members

### **Plans for the future**

#### **10<sup>th</sup> European Feminist Research Conference in Lapland 3-6.06.2015**

**ATGENDER** has started to organize the 9<sup>th</sup> European Feminist Research Conference, which will take place in 2015. The topic is "Sex and Capital". Co-organizers with **ATGENDER** and the

University of Lapland are at least other Finnish universities with gender studies programmes, Gender Studies Network Hilma and Association for Gender Studies in Finland. Chairperson of organizing committee is professor Päivi Naskali.

#### **WWC will be organized in Hyderabad, India**

**ATGENDER** supports the three-yearly organized Women's Worlds Congress. A huge meeting of women's activists, gender scholars, policy makers, grass roots organizations and students. In 2014 the WWC will be organized in Hyderabad, India: <http://womensworld2014india.com/ws/index.php/message>.

**ATGENDER** has made a financial reservation for partial travel and registration grants (500-2000 Euro), that would allow 3-4 active **ATGENDER** members to attend this conference. The money for this reservation come from a 'founding donation' offered by WISE, the first European network for women's studies in Europe - co-founder of **ATGENDER**. The board invited **ATGENDER** members to send a proposal for offering an ATGENDER panel or workshop at this conference

in India. Four members will participate in the congress to meet with local organizers and Asian gender studies networks. They will give a workshop titled "Women's Studies and Equal Opportunities Associations: New Challenges, New Obstacles".

### **AGETA**

An Erasmus-plus application for AGETA - European Teaching Academy for Gender Studies, was submitted by the board in the spring 2014. In this application, **ATGENDER** and 10 institutional partners applied 400 000 Euro to establish a teaching network, to organize workshops and meetings, aiming to improve the quality of learning and teaching in gender and women's studies in Europe. Partners in this application are: **ATGENDER**, Utrecht University, Helsinki University, University of Gent, Centar za zenske Studije, University of Vienna, Univerzitet u Beogradu, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, University of Warwick, Tampere University, Linköping University. Decision will be taken by ERASMUS+ in the summer 2014.

Signed on behalf of the Board of directors by

Andrea Petö, co-president, **ATGENDER**

Tilly Vriend, co-president, **ATGENDER**

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### **3. Yearly accounts**

**ATGENDER** finances in 2013 (based on draft yearly accounts) the accounts approved by the accountant will be available on website and at General Assembly.

By Berteke Waaldijk on behalf of **ATGENDER** treasurers.

#### **2013 - income – expenses – reservations**

##### ***Income***

24.800 - Income membership (18.000 from institutional members, 6.500 individual members)

27.000 - from ATHENA budget, designated reservation for 3 or 4 books in teaching series

2.688 - surplus from 8th EFRC, Budapest, designated reservation for 9th EFRC

##### ***Expenses***

14.256 - Activities (Gothenburg 10.000, representation)

7.551 - Library Volume 2013 in teaching with gender series

12.189 - Staff - organizational costs (board meeting, board members attending Gothenburg, interns)

16.392 - Costs of Staff (salary costs office manager, interns)

##### ***Reservations after 2013***

6.600 - WOWS founding grant - designated for participation in Women's Worlds Congress 2015

22.688 - reservation (in total) for 9th EFRC (20.000 original reservation + CEU surplus 8EFRC)

19.000 - reservation for Teaching series (2-3 books)

12.000 - Remaining from AOIFE founding grant (this was meant to cover negative results in first years)

#### **Budget 2014**

##### **Income**

24.000 - membership (expected, not yet received)

##### **Expenses (from regular income)**

10.000 - Activities (Barcelona spring conference)

9.000 - Staff - organizational costs (board meeting, board members attending Barcelona)

12.000 - Costs of Staff (salary costs office manager, interns)

*Expected negative result for 2014: 6.000*

##### **Payments from designated reservations**

? teaching series Violence Volume

10.000 for 9<sup>th</sup> EFRC

4.500 for WWCongress

6.000 covering negative results 2014

##### **Proposals from treasurers for 2014 and 2015**

Keep same level of membership fees

Stick to limited hours for office manager (budget 8.000)

Work with Interns (budget 4000) who receive travel costs and grant for an **ATGENDER** conference

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#### **4. First Call: The 9th European Feminist Research Conference - Sex & Capital, 3-6 June, 2015, University of Lapland, Rovaniemi**

Recent economic crises and their worldwide impacts have highlighted the relationship between global politics and the economy. Indeed, economic discourses reign supreme and it looks like capitalism has won, which raises feminist concern. The power of economics has become



palpable: the scramble for natural resources has put the multi-ethnic Arctic on centre stage; new sectors – education and care among them – are being commercialized; and trafficking in women and the consumption and commodification of sexed bodies appear in new, intensified forms. Then again, issues that feminist research and politics have promoted are now realities for a large number of women: multicultural life, diversification of family forms and sexual identities, and the women's economy. Despite this progress, the need for equality politics and feminist activism has not diminished.

*Sex & Capital* invites scholars, students, policy makers and activists to gather and discuss and reflect upon these themes. Confirmed keynote speakers are Begüm Basdas (Amnesty International, Turkey), Naila Kabeer (LSE), Rauna Kuokkanen (University of Toronto) and Suvi Ronkainen (University of Lapland). Call for papers will be sent out September 1, 2014. For more information, see: [www.ulapland.fi/EFRC2015](http://www.ulapland.fi/EFRC2015)

Advisory board: Anna Cabo, Aino-Maija Hiltunen, Edyta Just, Kirsti Lempiäinen, Mia Liinason, Päivi Naskali, Andrea Peto & Sveva Magaraggia.



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## 5. AGETA - European Teaching Academy for Gender Studies

A new Erasmus-plus application for AGETA, the European Teaching Academy for Gender Studies, has been submitted in April as a Strategic Partnership between Universities of Utrecht and Helsinki in co-operation with **ATGENDER** and Universities of Gent, Vienna, Tampere, Linköping, Warwick, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and Centar za zenske Studije, Univerzitet u Beogradu. This is part of cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices, in the field of strategic Partnerships for higher education.

### What?

In this three year project, 10 organizations that offer gender studies programmes at HE level organize together with **ATGENDER** a Gender European Teaching Academy (AGETA). First year is reserved for planning & programming. In the European Teaching Academy for Gender Studies, sustainable contributions to excellence in teaching Gender Studies will be constructed: publications reflecting on teaching practices, teaching tools, materials and methodologies will be developed by two cohorts of 'teaching fellows'. The outcomes focus on working life relevance, course and curriculum design, input from students and blended learning that increases effectiveness of with educational mobility and internships. The two groups meet four times for intensive sessions over a period of one year. They work on outcomes with each other, with experts in learning and teaching from Utrecht University and Helsinki University and they benefit from expertise of experienced **ATGENDER** members, scholars and teachers who have been crucial in the development of this international and interdisciplinary field in European

Higher Education. All intellectual output will be available via open access. This experiment with a European Teaching Academy for teachers in European HE will contribute to the development of best practices in teacher training for universities. It will show that a teaching fellowship matters as much as a research fellowship. AGETA will train reflective practitioners who are ready and prepared to train the next generation of HE teachers. They will be leaders in educational innovation.

### **Why?**

Within Europe Gender Studies has been a pioneer in internationalizing learning and teaching. IP's Thematic Network ATHENA (research on education, strengthening academy-civil society bonds 1999-2009) Erasmus Mundus, and Erasmus student and staff mobility have resulted in wealth of expertise, good practices and a Tuning Brochure for Gender Studies (2010). The AGETA project constitutes a teaching academy for European Gender Studies in order to transfer & disseminate, consolidate & implement this expertise. The partners see a pressing need to use and re-adjust this international teaching expertise to meet the challenges of HE in 21C Europe: preparing new generations of students for an increasingly transnational labour market, effective use of blended learning, protecting and rejuvenating the rich and inclusive European tradition of learning and teaching in times of economic pressure.

### **How and who?**

In AGETA 11 partners constitute a 'Gender Studies European Teaching Academy'. During the project, two groups of teaching fellows from 9 different countries will meet over a period of one year. These AGETA fellows are all outstanding teachers in respected (HE) institutions offering gender studies. They will work together on projects that will expand effectiveness of educational mobility in Gender Studies in Europe: publications, on-line tools, workshops at conferences, and modules & teaching tools. In setting up a 'teaching academy' AGETA follows best practices of two top universities in educational innovation. AGETA explores how excellence in university training can be stimulated in a transnational teaching academy: focusing on one subject area (Gender Studies) and bringing academic teachers aiming for leadership and excellence in teaching. Excellence in teaching depends on four pillars: excellent teaching methods (applying learning outcomes, competencies, constructive alignment, blended learning), excellent curriculum design (quality assessment, using student input, accreditation); effective dialogues with civil society (employability, transferable skills, working-live relevance, validation, teaching tuned to employability) and finally highly motivated reflective teachers. In AGETA the teaching fellows work intensely and together on 10 projects related to teaching methods, curriculum design and employability in order to become the motivated reflective teacher excellent teaching in HE demands.

### **To achieve:**

In addition to the 10 projects and three presentations/workshops during 3 **ATGENDER** conferences that will multiply the effect of AGETA the following results are expected:

- An evaluated and monitored trial run of a European Teaching Academy focused on one subject (Gender Studies), but fit for adjustment to other subjects or

disciplines.

- The use of Tuning Brochure for Gender Studies (2010) will be more intense and part of curriculum design and assessment procedures for Gender Studies Programmes.
- Increase of structured teacher mobility between partners of AGETA and other institutional members of **ATGENDER**.
- All partners will profit from presence of two academically trained teachers who participated in AGETA teaching academy and who are now familiar with providing support, guidance, pedagogical training and stimulation to junior colleagues (and young researchers) starting their teaching career.
- Via dissemination and impact of projects international dimensions and labour market orientation of gender studies programmes will increase.

We want to thank Marlise Mensink and Lara Hager for their huge amount of work for this and all partners for their enthusiasm and commitment. We are crossing our fingers and hoping the best for this initiative.

Stay tuned,  
Berteke Waaldijk and Aino-Maija Hiltunen  
(as initiators and managers of AGETA)

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## 6. Gender Equality and EIGE

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is an autonomous body of the European Union, established to contribute to and strengthen the promotion of gender equality, including gender mainstreaming in all EU policies and the resulting national policies, to fight against discrimination based on sex, as well as to raise EU citizens' awareness of gender equality.



Its vision is 'Making equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans and beyond' marking it as a fundamental right, common principle and core value of the European Union. To make this vision a reality, EIGE was created to become the knowledge centre and the front-runner in developing reliable evidence, collecting knowledge, sharing useful experiences and expertise on gender equality. It started operating in 2010.

EIGE seeks to establish an easy-to-access centralised source of information on gender equality through its Resource and Documentation Centre (RDC). Its long-term objective is to gather the institutional memory of gender equality work at the EU and Member State level and to make it accessible to all, actively fostering cooperation between gender equality actors across the EU.

EIGE's Resource and Documentation Centre is built around three main functions:

- compiling, organising and making available, through a single access point, a trove of gender equality-related resources that were, until now, scattered across a multitude of sources;
- disseminating the new knowledge and resources produced by EIGE itself;



- providing an online collaborative platform where decision-makers, experts and other stakeholders in the field can debate on gender equality and share their expertise and resources in this field.

The online library provides access, via a single, uniform interface, to a host of resources related to gender equality. To date, more than 250,000 resources are available on EIGE's Resource and Documentation Centre online.

In 2012, a special collection of information was produced on gender-based violence with more than 26,000 resources. In 2013, special collections of resources were produced on gender and media; gender and climate change; work-life balance; men and gender equality; and institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, with a specific focus on gender mainstreaming. In 2014, special collections of resources are being put in place on: gender and sports; gender and research, technology and innovation (ICT included); women and decision-making: political and economic; women and the economy.

### **EIGE's partnership with leading women- and gender libraries and documentation centres in Europe**

EIGE's resources are available through an expanding network of partnerships between EIGE and leading documentation and information centres in the EU Member States. To date, EIGE has established partnerships with *Atria – institute for gender equality and women's history* in Amsterdam, *Amazone – Resource Centre for Equality between Women and Men* in Brussels, *Cid-femmes et genre – Information and Documentation Centre for Women and Gender Issues* in Luxembourg, *Gender Library of the Centre for Transdisciplinary Gender Studies* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, *KvinnSam – National Resource Library for Gender Studies* at Gothenburg University, *Kvinno – the Danish Centre for Research and Information on Gender, Equality and Diversity*, *Library on Gender and Equality and Historical Archive* of the Greek General Secretariat for Gender Equality, *ETUI - European Trade Union Institute* (EU Social Partner) and the *Italian Women's Library* in Bologna. The collections of those libraries and information centres are harvested by EIGE into their RDC and thus made available via EIGE's portal.

Preservation and production of new knowledge is intertwined: without collecting it is not possible to ensure it will be possible to build on what already exists.

Within the focus of production of knowledge, other examples of EIGE's work include:

#### **1) The monitoring of the implementation of the BPfA ( Beijing Platform for Action)**

#### **2) The development of the Gender Equality Index**

The Gender Equality Index is a user-friendly tool that supports evidence-based

decision-making. Using high quality comparable EU data, it measures gender gaps adjusted by levels of achievement. It shows how far each country is from achieving gender equality. It will be updated every 2 years and is due to be released with further analysis in 2015.

### **3) Methods, Tools and Good practices for gender equality and gender mainstreaming.**

#### **4) Benefits of gender equality**

EIGE launched a study on the benefits of gender equality.

#### **5) Gender-based violence**

Since 2010, EIGE has carried out several ground-breaking studies and collected data and resources related to gender-based violence.

For more information about all activities of EIGE, please consult their website at: [eige.europa.eu/](http://eige.europa.eu/)



## **7. ATGENDER at Women's Worlds Conference in Hyderabad, India**

The first Women's Worlds Congress was held at Haifa University in December of 1981. It was the first world-wide interdisciplinary gathering to focus on research pertaining to women's issues and to be open to all interested researchers and activists. Since then, WW has taken place every three years in different parts of the world. It has so far been held in Israel, Netherlands, Ireland, USA, Costa Rica, Australia, Norway, Uganda, Korea, Spain and Canada.

**Women's World Conference** will be organized in **Hyderabad, India**, August 2014. Hosted by the University of Hyderabad and is headed by Prof Rekha Pande, the brain behind bringing this conference to India. Theme for this conference is "**Gender in a changing world**". Organizers in India hope to achieve a lot with the varied views, experiences and sharing of women from around the globe and invite you to come and be part of the change we define in our world.

As **ATGENDER**-activity and continuation of WISE, and supported by WISE-founding grant for **ATGENDER**, Sveva Magaraggia (University of Rome), Aino-Maija Hiltunen (University of Helsinki), Sara de Jong (University of Vienna) and Gisela Carrasco Miro (Utrecht University) are participating in Women's Worlds Conference in Hyderabad, India, 17-23.8. 2014 and organizing there the following workshop:

**"ATGENDER**, the European Association for Gender Research, Education and Documentation is a professional organization in the field of international Gender Studies. Built on the history of co-operation of European women's studies (Athena-network, WISE etc.) and having good connections between feminist activism, equality policy and academic research, it wants to be a meeting point of different feminisms and generations.

**ATGENDER** is bringing together different age groups, nationalities, agents of various fields. Doing Gender, either by teaching or researching on the multidisciplinary gender studies, implementing it to working life or focusing on political activism on gender issues, is equally valuable. **ATGENDER** is young as an organization, but it is growing, and has already established many things: Teaching Gender-book series, yearly Spring Conferences and every 4 years the European Feminist Research Conference, continued Tuning-project in Gender studies, weekly Newsletter, Student activities, created praxis of international Internships, connections to national associations etc.

Context of doing gender studies, equality policy and feminist activism are changing rapidly. Europe is changing, the world is changing. Gender Studies is a dynamic and relatively new academic field with lots of possibilities to contribute positive development of equality and human rights, it can also provide the students with competencies that are useful in labour market in the future.

In this workshop we want to introduce European **ATGENDER** to global audience and bring up the questions, which are our threads and possibilities at the moment. We want also to learn from similar networks of other continents and hopefully establish some co-operation. What is on the agenda right now? How the relationship between gender research and society is developing? All, who are interested in gender studies, in theory or in praxis, are most welcome to discuss and share."

The conference will move from Hyderabad, India to Brazil for the 13th Woman's World (WW) in 2017.

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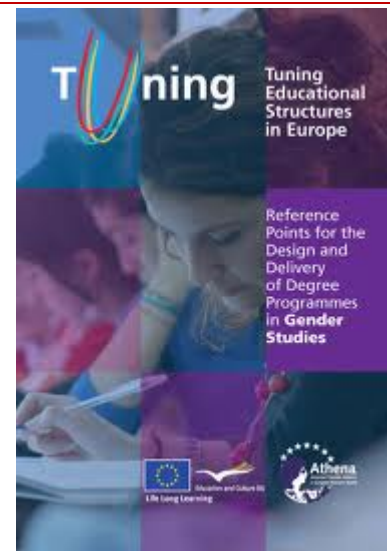
## **8. Tuning Gender Studies or: what should gender studies graduates be able to do?**

Consider the following list:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the uses of the concept of gender in research
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the historical and contemporary social and economic status of women
3. Demonstrate knowledge of historical and contemporary cultural representations by and of women
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of national and international women's movements and their connections to other movements
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of Gender Studies as an interdisciplinary field
6. Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to create dialogues between different

branches of feminist theorizing (queer feminist theories, sexual difference feminist theories, feminist Marxism, cyberfeminism, cyborg feminism etc.)

7. Demonstrate understanding of the interaction between gender and other forms of inequality, such as class, ethnicity, sexual orientation and age
8. Demonstrate understanding of other scholarship that addresses the status of historically disadvantaged groups and power differentials between these and dominant groups (intersectional, postcolonial, queer, men's studies and theories)
9. Demonstrate understanding of the transnational and cross-cultural dimensions of gender relations
10. Demonstrate understanding of the role gender plays in power and politics
11. Demonstrate understanding of the way gender scholarship has formulated critiques of traditions of knowledge production and epistemologies
12. Demonstrate the ability for independent interdisciplinary research on gender both in academic and non-academic contexts (feminist organizations, gender equality activism, equal opportunities policy-making etc.)
13. Demonstrate the ability for the application of quantitative research methods in research on women and gender
14. Demonstrate the ability for the application of qualitative research methods in research on women and gender
15. Demonstrate the ability for the application of critical and independent thinking on gender in different professional and political contexts
16. Demonstrate the ability to contribute to the formulation and management of gender equality activism and policy making, and gender mainstreaming



The sixteen competencies defined above are the so-called subject-specific competencies that have been published in the "Tuning Educational Structures in Europe. Reference Points for the Design and Delivery of Degree Programs in Gender Studies" (Tuning Educational Structures in Europe, University of Deusto, Spain, 2010). (Download available on [www.ATGENDER.EU](http://www.ATGENDER.EU) >initiatives>Tuning brochure). The list has been composed within a working group in ATHENA. This list has been submitted by ATHENA-network to 1000s of teachers, graduates, students and possible 'employers' for gender studies graduates all over Europe. These referents were asked to rank and rate these learning outcomes for different types of gender studies programmes: BA, MA or PhD (third cycle). How important did they think these competencies were in themselves, in relation to other competencies? How happy were they about the level of achievement at that moment (in 2009).

In addition to this gender studies- specific list of competencies, there was also list

of 31 generic competencies defined by the EU-Tuning project. They range from the ability for abstract thinking, analysis and synthesis, the ability to plan and manage time and the ability to make reasoned decisions, to the ability to evaluate and maintain the quality of work produced, and even to be able to 'to show awareness of equal opportunities and gender issues'. These competencies have also been 'ranked' and 'rated' by Gender Studies (teachers, students, graduates, employers). For more background on the history of Tuning Gender Studies, see 17<sup>th</sup> **ATGENDER** Newsletter:

<http://www.atgender.eu/uploads/files/17th%20Newsletter.pdf>

The results of these surveys have been **ATGENDER** has taken the responsibility to disseminate this brochure. NOT to homogenize all gender programmes in Europe, but as a *list of possible reference points* that Gender Studies programmes can refer to when they are evaluated, or when they initiate a new programme that requires accreditation, or to use in processes of course or curriculum design. **ATGENDER** has used it in the AGETA-application. We think that this tool may help gender studies programmes and modules all over Europe. But we know that it will only remain a useful tool when, adopted, updated and changed.

*Berteke Waaldijk (m.l.waaldijk@uu.nl)*



## **9. General information about **ATGENDER****

**ATGENDER**, The European Association for Gender Research, Education and Documentation is a broad association for academics, practitioners, activists and institutions in the field of Women's and Gender Studies, Feminist Research, women's rights, gender equality and diversity. The association constitutes a permanent structure for the growing field of knowledge and practice in Europe.

**ATGENDER** was founded in 2009 by three key players in the field of gender, feminist and women's studies in Europe:

### **WISE**

WISE has been the pioneer in organizing the practitioners in women's studies. WISE was founded in 1990 in Driebergen, The Netherlands. Its accomplishments are: individual membership in many European countries; a successful connection with a major A-status journal (*The European Journal of Women's Studies*); and a very successful online discussion list: WISE-L (both in French and in English).

### **AOIFE**

AOIFE was founded in 1996 at an international women's studies conference in Limerick, Ireland. Over 100 Women's Studies representatives from institutions of higher education throughout Europe met to form AOIFE. AOIFE had 82 members

from 29 European countries. AOIFE has been instrumental in the creation of the ATHENA network. Under the auspices of AOIFE, the triennial European Feminist Research Conferences have been organised. AOIFE has successfully supported and facilitated major research applications, such as Marie Curie EST, and projects in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme.

### **ATHENA**

ATHENA, the Socrates thematic network, coordinated by Utrecht University, for 10 years of EU funded activities has played a crucial role in the construction of an academic infrastructure of programmes, centres and departments in gender studies. ATHENA had over 100 institutional partners and involved active participation of 150 gender studies specialists in almost every European country. The results and achievements of the ATHENA network consist of a successful publication series *The Making of European Women's Studies* (eight volumes published so far), a website, a range of educational innovations and quality assurance projects and the established international reputation that has been built up over the years within the field of European gender studies. **ATGENDER** will continue many of ATHENA's activities.

**If you want to become **ATGENDER** member, visit the website: [www.atgender.eu](http://www.atgender.eu)**

Following rates apply:

Institutional Full: €500

Institutional Reduced: €250

Individual Full: €75

Individual Reduced: €45

Student: €25

**ATGENDER membership fees are yearly - your membership will be valid from January until December.**

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## **10. Announcements**

Please visit our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) to access all of the Weekly News, special Announcements and Newsletters. Do not forget to subscribe to our mailing list (on the homepage of our website) in order to receive all of the abovementioned forms of communication.

We want to invite all of the **ATGENDER** members to actively participate in the creation of our Newsletter and Weekly News. If you would like to tackle certain topics in the Newsletter, launch a discussion or make an announcement, please send us your suggestions via email (with 'Newsletter' in the subject line).

We look forward to hearing from you!

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## 11. Board Members April 2013 - June 2014

Co-chairs: Andrea Pető, Tilly Vriend

Co-secretaries: Edyta Just, Nadya Alexandrova, Mia Liinason

Co-treasurers: Berteke Waaldijk, Aino-Maija Hiltunen, Anna Cabo, Barbara Bagilhole

Pat Treusch, Sveva Magaraggia



## 12. Membership Benefits

INSTITUTIONAL Members	INDIVIDUAL and STUDENT Members
are entitled to:	
<p>Three votes at the <b>ATGENDER</b> Annual General Assembly;</p> <p>Application to host the European Feminist Research Conference;</p> <p>Three reduced registration fees for the European Feminist Research Conferences;</p> <p>Publication in Teaching with Gender Series and a free copy of the volume;</p> <p>One reduced subscription rate to the partner academic journals;</p> <p>Regular information about the association's activities through the <b>ATGENDER</b> member newsletter;</p> <p>Advertisement of programmes, summer schools, activities through <b>ATGENDER</b> network (website, newsletter, and weekly news).</p>	<p>One vote at the <b>ATGENDER</b> Annual General Meeting;</p> <p>One reduced registration fee for the European Feminist Research Conferences;</p> <p>Publication in Teaching with Gender Series and a free copy of the volume;</p> <p>One reduced subscription rate to the partner academic journals;</p> <p>Regular information about the association's activities through the <b>ATGENDER</b> member newsletter;</p> <p>Advertisement of programmes, summer schools, activities through <b>ATGENDER</b> network (website, newsletter, and weekly news).</p>

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