

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AWARENESS NETWORK (IHAN)
UNITED NATIONS CSW 2025

ACHIEVING HEALTH FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS TO ENABLE THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

EVENT PROGRAM

CO-SPONSORED WITH:

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, AUSTRALIA AND
FORDHAM INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, NEW YORK

**NEW YORK CITY USA
FRIDAY 14 MARCH
6.30-8.30 PM**

**SYDNEY AUSTRALIA
SATURDAY 15 MARCH
9.30-11.30AM**

WELCOME

Professor Gabrielle Casper BSc(Hons) MBBS FRANZCOG
President, IHAN. Head of Clinical Discipline Obstetrics and
Gynaecology, The School of Medicine, Sydney, UNDA

Dr Sorosh Roshan M.D. MPH Founder and Past President IHAN

Professor Lynne Madden BSc (Med)Hons1, MBBS, MPH, MSc,
FFPH (UK), FAFPHM, FPHAA, MAICD Professor of Population
and Planetary Health, School of Medicine, UNDA

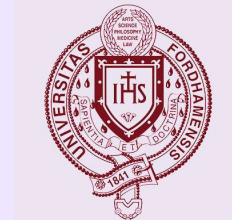
Professor Meagan Brennan BMed, FRACGP PhD Clinician,
Westmead Hospital and Medical Educator, The University of
Sydney

Professor Elaine Congress MSSW, MA, DSW, LCSW Associate
Dean and Professor Fordham University Graduate School of
Social Service, New York. Co-chair Fordham Institute for
Women and Girls

A/Professor Sandra Turner Ph.D., LCSW Associate Professor
Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service, New
York. Chair of the Fordham Institute for Women and Girls

COMMISSION *on the*
STATUS OF WOMEN





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1. BACKGROUND TO IHAN, CSW AND WOMEN AND GIRLS' HEALTH

International Health Awareness Network

Dr Vijaya Melnick Ph.D. FIMSA
 Prof. Emerita of Biological Sciences, Co-
 President IHAN

The Commission on the Status of Women

Professor Elaine Congress MSSW, MA,
 DSW, LCSW Associate Dean and
 Professor Fordham University

Progress on improving women and girls' health through addressing the social determinants of health in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states

Ms. Erica Carroll-Ogunka, BA MSc.
 Globalisation and Development, UN
 Office of the High Representative of
 Least Developed Countries,
 Landlocked Developing Countries and
 Small Island Developing States

UNICEF and adolescent girls' health

Ms Viv Harvey-Wong. BInSt BASS
 (Hons) GCert IPSI. International
 program manager, UNICEF Australia

Improving maternal health in Nigeria

Prof Rosemary Ogu, MBBS, MSc (RH),
 FWACS, FRCOG. Secretary of the World
 Health Organisation/Federal Ministry of
 Health Maternal-Newborn-Child-Health
 Implementation Research Team for the
 reduction of Maternal & Perinatal
 Mortality in Nigeria

The Beijing Platform and the Global Sepsis Agenda

Dr Mariam Jashi MD, MPH, MPA. CEO
 Global Sepsis Alliance. Past Deputy
 Minister of Health, Georgia

Creating more sustainable, liveable and equitable cities and preventing heatwave disasters; the essential role of NGOs like Sweltering Cities building community resilience

Ms Emma Bacon BIntS
 Founder and Executive Director
 Sweltering Cities, Australia

Questions for the panel

Leila Farshchian, MA BCBA Board-
 Certified Behaviour Analyst

2. INFORMING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION - MONITORING AND MEASURING WOMEN'S HEALTH

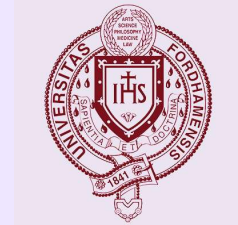
The Beijing Platform for Action

Bryan Omar Jimenez, BA (Psychology
 and Sociology)
 Hayley Cowart BS
 Sophia Lonardo BS

Global burden of disease for women - trends in the health of women

Lauren Clark BN, RN
 Charlotte May BE(Hons) ME





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Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and achieving the goals for women around the world

Claudia Harris BMedSc
 Romy Miller BSc

Investing in the health of women and girls - global and national strategies aligning with the Beijing Platform for Action

Madeleine Howe BMed, BMed Hons
 Madeleine Carman BSc

The social determinants of health and their role in trends in global maternal health

Michalie Greenwell BSc(Nurs)
 Carri Welsby BHIthMedSc (Adv),
 BMedSc (Hons)

Maternal health – Beijing+30 – Achievements, gaps, challenges and solutions

Dr Orchideh Alexander MD OB/GYN at
 Morristown Medical Center, New Jersey

Women’s health in Georgia – Progress since Beijing and the role of medical education

Dr Dea Goderdzishvili, M.D, PhD-candidate

3. WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT – THE HEALTH CHALLENGES OF REFUGEE AND MIGRANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Trends in the health challenges of refugee and migrant women and children

Charlotte Wignall BN, RN
 Jasmin Juncal BPreMedSciHIth

4. WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT - CLIMATE CHANGE AS A DETERMINANT OF WOMEN’S HEALTH

The Right to a healthy environment-Air pollution, climate change and the effects on health, in particular the health of children and women

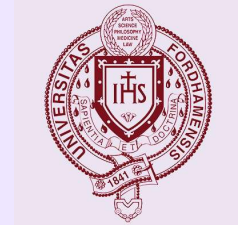
Emily McKinna BMedSci (Hons), PhD
 Alexandra Liu LLB, BMedSc, GDLP

5. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Addressing the health impacts of violence against women in Australia and internationally through addressing the social determinants of health

Maggie Sambuco BEd, MSc (Maths),
 BClinSc, GradDipHMedSc
 Cedar Smith BS(Biology), BS(Public Health), MPH, Certificate in Regulatory Affairs





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Climate change, natural hazards and
 disasters and violence against women and
 girls

A Prayer for the Girl Child

Alexandra Gray B. Health Science;
 Master Exercise Physiology
 Lisa Corbett BSc

Ms Maya Mensen 15yo Honors student
 Liceo Cientifico
 Dr. Miguel Canela Lazaro, Dominican
 Republic
 Professor Suzanne Stutman Professor
 Emeritus of English, Penn State
 University

6. ROLE OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Reducing inequalities in the education and
 training of women-improving women's
 health

SusQI – educating health professionals to
 achieve sustainable and resilient health
 systems

Suzanna Gooley B.AdvSc (Hons I)
 Ashley Walkes BSc (Criminal Justice)
 Maria Talloni-Perlett BA (Biology and
 Psychology)

Dr Aswan Tai MBBS MPH BSc (Hons) PG
 Dip (Clinical Derm)
 Kerry Sutcliffe Bsc(Hons), MPhil, PgCert
 APIMH, DipCouns, DipNLP, HPCE
 Professor Lynne Madden BSc
 (Med)Hons1, MBBS, MPH, MSc, FFPH
 (UK), FAFPHM, FPHAA, MAICD

7. QUESTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Questions

Highlights from the session

NGO's and the future

Dr. Golsa Zeiarati PharmD, BCPP,
 BCGP

Professor Lynne Madden UNDA

Professor Gabrielle Casper UNDA

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

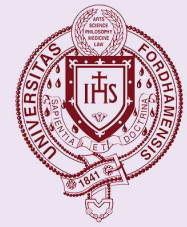
WELCOME



GABRIELLE CASPER BSC(HONS) MBBS FRANZCOG

Professor Gabrielle Casper is President of International Health Awareness Network, Head of Clinical Discipline Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Sydney Campus, School of Medicine, The University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA) and Past Chairman of the NSW State Committee of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG). She is Past President of Medical Women's International Association (MWIA). She has undertaken projects with the World Health Organisation and United Nations and cares for her patients with compassion and understanding while lobbying to improve women's health in Australia and overseas.





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DR SOROSH ROSHAN M.D. MPH

Dr. Sorosh Roshan is the founder and Past President of the International Health Awareness Network. She is a former Adjunct Associate Professor at New York University, Vice President of the International Council of Women, and President of the National Council of Women U.S.A. Dr. Roshan was also the Director of the Lehman College Foundation. She is one of the most salient voices on women's health and empowerment advocacy worldwide. IHAN's mission is to educate, empower and provide healthcare to socioeconomically underserved women and children. IHAN has advisory council members in Jordan, Kenya, India, Switzerland, Turkey, Dominican Republic USA, Australia, Bangladesh, South Africa, England.



PROFESSOR DIANA LYNNE MADDEN BSC(MED)HONS1, MBBS, MPH, MSC, FFPH (UK), FAFPHM, FPHAA, MAICD

Professor Madden is Professor of Population and Planetary Health at the School of Medicine, The University of Notre Dame Australia and was Associate Dean, Learning and Teaching for the medical program 2012-2020. Lynne was President of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine and a member of the Board of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP), 2016-2018. She chairs the RACP Climate Change and Health Multi-College Advisory Committee and is a member of the Australian Government's Climate and Health Expert Advisory Group formed to support implementation of Australia's first National Health and Climate Strategy. She is a Trustee of the Lizard Island Reef Research Foundation of the Australian Museum which supports research into the Great Barrier Reef.

PROFESSOR MEAGAN BRENNAN BMED, FRACGP, PHD

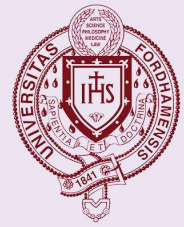
Meagan is a Breast Physician at Westmead Hospital in Sydney and Medical Educator/Researcher at The University of Sydney Australia. She has an interest in the impact of climate change on health. She is supporting efforts to prepare future doctors to manage the effects of climate change on the health of their patients. Meagan has clinical expertise in caring for women at high genetic risk of breast cancer and women recovering from breast cancer. She has a special interest in enhancing the patient experience in health care.



PROFESSOR ELAINE CONGRESS, MSSW, MA, DSW, LCSW

Dr. Elaine Congress is Associate Dean and Professor at Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service in New York City. She directs the Fordham Institute for Women and Girls an organization that focuses on advancing gender equality through research, education, and advocacy. Dr. Congress also co-directs the social work section of the New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM). At the United Nations she is a representative for the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) and the Institute of Multicultural Counselling and Education Services (IMCES). A prolific author Dr. Congress has written books, chapters, and journal articles on health, migration, social work ethics, and education. For many years she has partnered with IHAN in planning events at the United Nations for the annual NGO Committee on the Status of Women conference and recently IHAN leaders have contributed chapters to the UN book series she heads.





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A/PROFESSOR SANDRA TURNER PH.D., LCSW

A/Professor Sandra G. Turner is an Associate Professor and past Academic Associate Dean of Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service. She is co-chair of the Institute for Women and Girls at Fordham University. Her research interests are in the areas of feminism, empowerment, sexual abuse, and substance abuse. She is the Co-President of Affilia: Feminist Inquiry in Social Work. She has published over 30 articles and book chapters on these topics.



1. BACKGROUND TO IHAN, CSW AND WOMEN AND GIRLS' HEALTH



DR VIJAYA MELNICK PH.D. FIMSA

Dr Vijaya Melnick is Professor Emerita of Biological Sciences and the former Director of the Center for Applied Research and Urban Policy, University of the District of Columbia. She served as Associate Director, International Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Immunology, Georgetown University Medical Center. She is Co-President of the International Health Awareness Network. She served as Principal Investigator on research projects on the health of women & children, and on international biomedical and bioethics programs. She has authored research and policy papers and books, is listed in Who's Who publications and is the recipient of the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award.

PROFESSOR ELAINE CONGRESS, MSSW, MA, DSW, LCSW

Fordham University



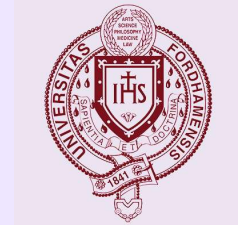
MS. ERICA CARROLL-OGUNKA, BA MSC. GLOBALISATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Carroll-Ogunka, is an Economic Affairs Officer in the UN Office of the High Representative of Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. She covers macro-economic issues and LDC graduation issues within the team and acts as the civil society focal point for the office. Until recently she served as the gender focal point in the office. Prior to joining OHRLLS, Ms. Carroll-Ogunka was the IMF senior liaison officer to the UN, a policy advisor with the UK Permanent Mission to the UN, and a policy analyst with a UK-based international development NGO. Ms. Carroll-Ogunka holds an MSc. in Globalisation and Development from SOAS, UK, a B.A. in Dance from Scripps College, USA, and was inspired to pursue a career in international development by the work of Dr. Paul Farmer and Partners in Health. She lives in NY with her daughter.

MS. VIV HARVEY-WONG. BINST BASS (HONS) GCERT IPSI.

An International Programs Manager and gender specialist at UNICEF Australia, Viv leads the gender strategy for international programs which involves supporting partner country offices on technical assistance. Viv has strong knowledge of participatory development practice, gender, transitional justice mechanisms and practices, conflict resolution, negotiation and diplomacy and climate justice. She works on adolescent education and child protection programming in the Asia Pacific, and has experience in working on diversity, equity and inclusion. She was a speaker at the 'Women Deliver' conference in Rwanda in 202 on addressing child marriage in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Previously she has worked on global research in the Women, Peace and Security agenda.





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PROF ROSEMARY OGU, MBBS, MSC (RH), FWACS, FMCOG.

Prof Rosemary Ogu Consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist, University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Port Harcourt, Nigeria and is a Maternal Health Advocate with interest in Sexual/Reproductive Health & Gestational Diabetes. She is the Secretary of the World Health Organization/Federal Ministry of Health Maternal-Newborn-Child-Health Implementation Research Team for the reduction of Maternal & Perinatal Mortality in Nigeria. She is the principal investigator of the UPTH WHO Safe Childbirth Checklist Collaboration. As a dedicated Medical Woman & President of the Medical Women’s Association of Nigeria; she collaborates with relevant Government Agencies and NGOs to advocate and offer sensitization, awareness, screening, preventive and care services for Women’s Health.

DR MARIAM JASHI MD, MPH, MPA. CEO

Dr Mariam Jashi, CEO of the Global Sepsis Alliance brings 26 years of experience in Global Health from Europe, Central Asia, Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and North America. She served as a Member of Georgian Parliament, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee, Deputy Health Minister, and President of the Innovative Financing Secretariat hosted by French Government. She is the Global Board Member of UNITE Parliamentarians’ Network, Secretary General of the Medical Women’s International Association (MWIA) and Member of UHC2030 Political Panel at WHO. Her earlier experience includes 12 years of humanitarian and development work with UNICEF and UNAIDS, and technical expertise to the GAVI, The World Bank, and other UN agencies. Dr. Jashi is Mason Fellow of Harvard Kennedy School and recipient of WHO Award for contribution to Polio Eradication in Europe



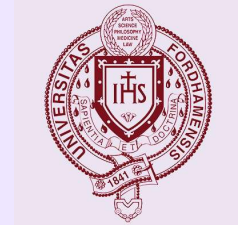
MS. EMMA BACON BINTS

Emma Bacon- is the founder and executive director of Sweltering Cities. Sweltering Cities works directly with people impacted by extreme heat on advocacy to put community voices at the heart of better policies and infrastructure for climate resilience. Emma has worked across movements for social and environmental justice for over 12 years on campaigns including an international asbestos ban. She has run successful political campaigns and been part of winning significant outcomes for progressive change at local to international levels. She is committed to building a broad movement for climate justice. Emma lives and works on the land of the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung people.

MS. LEILA FARSHCHIAN MA BCBA

Leila Farshchian is a Board-Certified Behaviour Analyst with extensive experience with autism and special needs interventions. In 2007, she established award winning ABA programs in schools. She founded ABA Toolbox in 2019, an international practice management software system for providers that service individuals with disabilities. In 2020, she founded the Global School House Project, a nonprofit with the mission to build schools in impoverished regions. Leila received her Master and Board Certification from Columbia University, Teachers College. Her Memberships include Learners’ Compass LLC, Global School house, The International Association for Behaviour Analysis, Autism NJ, Autism Speaks, the NJ Association for Behaviour Analysis, and International Health Awareness Network.





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2. INFORMING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION - MONITORING AND MEASURING WOMEN'S HEALTH



BRYAN OMAR JIMENEZ, BA (PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY)

Bryan Jimenez is a passionate student social worker pursuing his Master of Social Work (MSW) degree. With a focus on advocacy, policy reform, and legislative change, Bryan is committed to improving the lives of marginalized communities. As a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ community, he strives to inspire others by breaking barriers and creating visibility in spaces where representation matters. Bryan's dedication to social justice drives his efforts to address systemic inequities and empower individuals through inclusive policies and community-driven solutions. His ultimate goal is to be a catalyst for meaningful change and a role model for future advocates.

HAYLEY COWART BS

Hayley is a specialist year MSW student at Fordham University. She received her Bachelors of Science from the State University of New York at Cortland in Kinesiology. Hayley works as a Crisis Call Center Counselor for the Mental Health Association of Orange County, as well as an intern with the United Nations, serving as a member of the Psychology Coalition at the UN, NGO Committee on Migration, and the NGO committee on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. She is also involved with the Social Media committee for the Fordham Institute for Women and Girls.



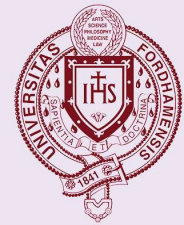
SOPHIA LONARDO BS

Sophia is a specialist-year MSW student at Fordham University from Shelton, Connecticut, USA. She received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a minor in Biology from Southern Connecticut State University in December 2021. She is set to receive her MSW in May 2025 with a Health Specialized Practice Certificate. She is interested in research and policy practice, with past psychiatric research experience from Yale University and now interning for the United Nations. Currently, within her internship at the UN, she is involved in several committees, including Fordham Institute for Women and Girls and the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations.

LAUREN CLARK BN, RN

Lauren is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Nursing and has over 3 years experience working as both an Assistant in Nursing and Registered Nurse. Having worked in critical care environments, Lauren is passionate about the importance of early detection of family, domestic and sexual violence (FDSV) in female patients presenting to ED. She is interested in working with NSW Health to expand their FDSV emergency department opportunistic detection programs (currently active at Royal North Shore Hospital) to all hospitals in NSW and Australia at large.





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CHARLOTTE MAY BE(HONS) ME

Charlotte is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and a Masters of Biomedical Engineering. She has worked as a water treatment engineer for two years before making the switch to study medicine. Charlotte is very passionate about women's health and equitable access to healthcare. She hopes to one day have a career in obstetrics and gynaecology and be able to make a difference in women's lives going through one of the most difficult and universal experiences of pregnancy and childbirth.

CLAUDIA HARRIS BMEDSC

Claudia is a third year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Science (Medical Science) at the University of Sydney and currently works across medical research, emergency services and medical administration alongside her studies. One of Claudia's primary goals in her future practice of medicine is to destigmatize women and children's health issues and encourage open dialogue of traditionally taboo topics in the community to improve diagnostic timeframes, patient-doctor relationships and treatment outcomes - a practice she already employs within her personal and professional relationships.



ROMY MILLER BSC

Romy is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has completed a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Neuroscience. Romy has experience working in medical clinics and has mentored high-school students from low-socioeconomic, regional backgrounds. She is passionate about improving health literacy to enable early intervention and empower individuals to manage their health. Of particular interest is the advancement of women's health, to provide equitable access to education and care that supports informed decision-making and improved quality of life. She hopes her career in medicine will be a springboard to drive meaningful change.

MADELEINE HOWE BBMED, BBMED HONS

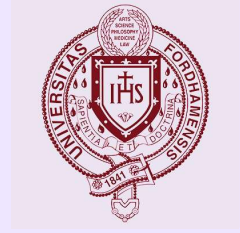
Madeleine is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia completing clinical placements in Werribee, Melbourne. She previously studied a Bachelor of Biomedicine and an Honours year at the University of Melbourne. She was a Year1 representative for the women's health association at Notre Dame (WANDA), participated in a rural antenatal care placement, and gained hands-on experience with midwives at the Ruben Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. These experiences have contributed to her interest and passion in providing safe, culturally conscience, and effective healthcare for women and people with a uterus.



MADELEINE CARMAN BSC

Maddie is a third year medical student at UNDA. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Science (major - anatomy and physiology) at the University of Melbourne with a High Distinction, also completing a student exchange at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. Maddie has worked at Austin Hospital in admin and research support, at the North Richmond Community Health Centre and was redeployed across several healthcare roles during Melbourne's COVID-19 pandemic. She is passionate about public health and making a difference for and within vulnerable communities - working with people cross these spaces to improve access and equitable health outcomes.





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MICHALIE GREENWELL BSC(NURS)

Michalie is a third year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Science (Nursing) and has worked as a peri-operative nurse in metro and rural settings for five years. Michalie's rural nursing experience sparked an interest in Indigenous and rural health, with a focus on access inequality, which is a passion she hopes to take into her future medical career as well. Experience volunteering in Cambodia as a student nurse also highlighted and encouraged her love of advocacy, social justice, and a desire to address injustices among disadvantaged groups.



CARRI WELSBY BHLTHMEDSC (ADV), BMEDSC (HONS)

Carri is a third-year postgraduate medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has completed a Bachelor of Health Science, majoring in human reproductive health, and a Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours). She wrote a systematic review as a component of her honours thesis, 'A systematic review of the views of healthcare professionals on the provision of long-acting reversible contraception', which was published in 2020. Her passion and advocacy, particularly for women's reproductive autonomy and access to quality reproductive and sexual health services, regardless of geographical location, is only growing as she continues with her medical studies.

DR ORCHIDEH ALEXANDER MD

Orchideh Alexander was born and raised in New Jersey, USA after her parents immigrated there from Iran a few years prior. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Global Health and Environmental Studies from Washington University in St. Louis, MO in 2016. She graduated medical school from Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA in 2020. She completed her residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Abington Jefferson Health Hospital in 2024. She is now practicing general OB/GYN at Morristown Medical Center back home in New Jersey. Orchid has a strong passion for women's health and advancement. She strives to be a strong advocate for gender equality.

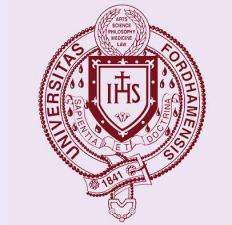


DEA GODERDZISHVILI, M.D, PHD-CANDIDATE

Dr Goderdzishvili, Medical Education and Research Specialist at Tbilisi Medical Academy, focuses on advancing the intersection of medical education and public health, along with academic innovations for achieving health-related Sustainable Development Goals. As a PhD candidate in Public Health at the University of Georgia, her doctoral research explores the transformative role of medical education in pandemic preparedness and response. Dea holds an MD degree from David Tvildiani Medical University (Georgia) and a Certificate in Medical Education from the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE). She has presented at AMEE, Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE), BI Global Network and other scientific conferences

**3. WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT - THE HEALTH CHALLENGES OF
 REFUGEE AND MIGRANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN**





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CHARLOTTE WIGNALL BN, RN

Charlotte is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia, with a background in paediatric nursing. Charlotte spent most of her life living rurally, seeing first-hand the health inequalities of women and children-specific health issues due to lack of access to health resources. Along with her nursing experience and working with an emergency centre for women and children affected by violence, she has developed a passion for improving access to health and eradicating gender-based violence. She is interested in a career in advancing women's and children's health, with a particular focus on primary healthcare and disease burden prevention, advocating for equitable healthcare access and driving impactful change in maternal and child health on global scales.



JASMIN JUNCAL BPREMEDSCIHLTH

Jasmin is a 3rd year medical student at UNDA. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Pre-medicine, science and health, as well as a Certificate III in aged care, and has worked as an Assistant in Nursing for 5 years. Jasmin strives to advocate for her patients in residential aged care, and aims to use this lived experience to become an avid advocate for women's health literacy to facilitate empowered involvement in their own care. She wishes to build on this through her medical studies and future career.



4. WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT - CLIMATE CHANGE AS A DETERMINANT OF WOMEN'S HEALTH

DR EMILY MCKINNA BMEDSCI (HONS), PHD

Emily is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Medical Science with Honours and a PhD in Medicine researching novel therapies for heart failure. Emily is a passionate advocate for increasing and improving medical research carried out specifically for women, to help close the gender gap in health outcomes. She strives to achieve this through her work as a medical researcher but hopes her studies in medicine will provide more opportunities to translate this research into clinical practice and improve the healthcare for women.



ALEXANDRA LIU LLB, BMEDSC, GDLP

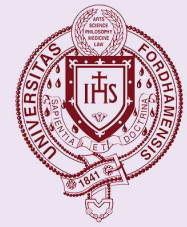
Alexandra is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Sydney, Australia. She has previously completed a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Medical Science at the University of Technology Sydney. Her legal and advocacy work in the area of forced labour and forced marriage made her passionate about social justice, particularly as it relates to health. She now hopes to use her previous studies and experiences to take on advocacy roles in the future, in addition to clinician work.



ISABELLA TAN YEAR 3 BCOM STUDENT UNSW

Isabella Tan, a third-year Bachelor of Commerce student at UNSW Sydney, has completed internships at Macquarie, PEP, and Goldman Sachs, and worked as an equity research cadet at Barrenjoey. She won the Macquarie Boardroom Pitch, BusinessOne National Consulting Competition, and placed runner-up in the Allegro Private Equity Competition and Challenger LBO Case. Awarded the Dean's Award for academic excellence and a 2024 Westpac Future Leaders finalist, she is passionate about studying Japanese and competing in sports events like the Pink Triathlon and Mother's Day Classic. Isabella is also a Youth Leader for climate change action among the younger generation.





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CHARLOTTE TAN YEAR 1 BPSYCH (HONS) STUDENT UNSW

Charlotte Tan is studying a Bachelor of Psychology Honours at University of New South Wales. She has interests in assisting younger school aged children from diverse underprivileged backgrounds displayed through her participation for the UTS 2030 Resilience Program. Charlotte has undertaken volunteering in many capacities for nonprofit charities including cooking for homeless shelters. She has a background in coaching younger children in netball and was a nominee for the Young Writers Showcase 2023 displaying her English Extension 2 Major Work. Charlotte has interests in advocacy for adequate healthcare, mental health and rights of younger less fortunate girls from diverse and challenging backgrounds.

INDIGO KITE YEAR 3 BGENETICS STUDENT ANU

Indigo is in her final year of tertiary education studying Bachelor of Science at the Australian National University, where she hopes to major in human biology and minor in psychology. Indigo is aiming to pursue a career in Genetic Counselling after university, as she looks forward to providing clarity, guidance and emotional support to families impacted by genetic disorders. Passionate about the environment, she enjoys beekeeping with her mum as they provide honeybee habitats through their at-home hives, doing their part to slow the decline of Australian bee populations.



5. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



MAGGIE SAMBUKO BED, MSC (MATHS), BCLINSC, GRADDIPHMEDSC

Maggie is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. Previously she completed a Bachelor of Art Education and a Master's in Mathematics, where she relieved as a Principal and Deputy Principal at various schools. Maggie also studied a Bachelor of Clinical Science and completed a Graduate Diploma in Health and Medical Sciences to further extend her health and clinical knowledge. She is a passionate and strong advocate for improving health and education access of women and young adults, to further extend their ability to reach their life-long goals. She strives to achieve this through research, volunteering and working in the health field.

CEDAR SMITH BS IN BIOLOGY, BS IN PUBLIC HEALTH, MPH, CERTIFICATE IN REGULATORY AFFAIRS

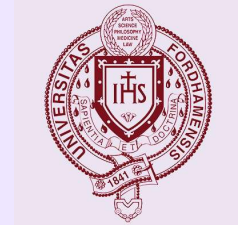
Cedar is a third year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She has completed a Bachelors degree in Biology and Public Health, a certificate in Regulatory Affairs, and a Masters degree in Public Health. She has over seven years experience in global drug development strategy, three years experience in data quality and analytics, and three years in violence prevention.



ALEXANDRA GRAY B. HEALTH SCIENCE; MASTER EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY

Alexandra is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame - Sydney Australia. She has previously completed a Masters of Clinical Exercise Physiology and assisted injured soldiers return to work. Alexandra is passionate about education to both men and women regarding sexual consent and changing attitudes relating to consent. She strives to empower women to report sexual abuse and leave abusive relationships. She hopes her studies in medicine will provide a greater platform to facilitate this change.





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LISA CORBETT BSC

Lisa is a female identifying third year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She previously completed a Bachelor of Science, majoring in chemistry and human biology. Lisa has lived and shared experience in the issues and complexities facing women in the healthcare system. Lisa is dedicated to improving the healthcare experience of all women, with a particular focus on ensuring informed and empowered decision-making. Inspired by recent advancements in consent practices and patient autonomy, she hopes to advocate for greater equity and understanding in women's health.



MS MAYA MENSEN 15YO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Maya Mensen is an honors student at the International Schooling, a virtual program from Singapore designed for high performance athletes. She has participated in several UN Model Events throughout grade school and was one of our participants at this very conference two years ago. Maya practices triathlon and has earned the title of provincial and national champion both in her native Canada, and Dominican Republic, where she resides. Maya has competed internationally since 2019 and hopes to one day become an Olympic medallist.

PROFESSOR SUZANNE STUTMAN

Suzanne Stutman is Emeritus Professor of English, American Studies, and Women's Studies at Penn State University. She is Past President of the National Council of Women of the United States. She is a Board member of IHAN and has served for over twenty years. Dr. Stutman is also the author of five scholarly texts and three books of poetry, among them All the Power Rests with You, which was launched by Heartbeat South Africa in 2005 Her poetry has been featured by UNICEF, NCW, INCW, UNIFEM and Women Organized Against Rape. Her Take Back the Night speech is published in the anthology Women in American History.



6. ROLE OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

SUZANNA GOOLEY B.ADVSC (HONS I)

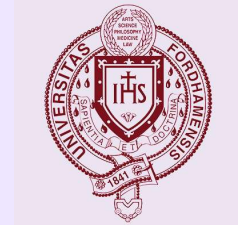
Suzanna is a third-year medical student at the University of Notre Dame Australia. She holds a Bachelor of Advanced Science with a major in Biological Sciences and has four years of experience in medical research. Suzanna is a passionate advocate for addressing poverty among older women, recognizing its significant impact on health outcomes and quality of life. She is also deeply committed to understanding the intersection of climate change and health, particularly how environmental changes disproportionately affect vulnerable populations. Through her studies and future practice, Suzanna aims to champion women's rights and adopt a holistic approach to healthcare, considering the socio-economic factors that influence patient well-being.



ASHLEY WALKES ASHLEY WALKES BSC (CRIMINAL JUSTICE)

Ashley Walkes is a Master's in Social Work Candidate at Fordham University, New York, graduating in May 2025 with a Crisis and Resilience Specialized Practice Certificate. She began her social work journey as a Child Protective Specialist with the NYC Administration for Children's Services, where she saw the impact of disproportionality on marginalized groups. Currently interning at the United Nations, Ashley works with the Fordham Institute for Women & Girls, the NGO Committee on Migration's subcommittee for Children in Migration, and the NASW Immigration and Global Social Work Committee. She also holds a Bachelor's in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology.





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MARIA TALLONI-PERLETT BA (BIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY)

Maria T. Talloni-Perlett has received a dual bachelor's degree in biology and psychology with a minor in evolutionary studies from SUNY New Paltz, where she received research awards in both academic fields of study. Currently Maria is pursuing her master's degree in social work at Fordham University. Maria has a passion for helping others and is dedicated to advocating for systemic change and promoting social justice. Maria is currently an intern at WJCS-Center Lane and works with LGBTQ+ youth, providing affirming, supportive, educational assistance to youth and their guardians.



ASWAN TAI MBBS MPH BSC (HONS) PG DIP (CLINICAL DERM)

Aswan is a public health trainee at the University of Notre Dame in Sydney, Australia. Before joining the University, she worked at the Victorian Department of Health responding to COVID-19 pandemic. She joined South East Public Health Unit, Melbourne in 2023 as a public health registrar to manage cases, contacts, and outbreaks of notifiable communicable conditions. She provided medical services to vulnerable and marginalised populations, including refugees and asylum seekers in detention. She is involved in various education and advocacy initiatives on local and international platforms. She is currently working on projects supporting environmental sustainability in health and healthcare.

KERRY SUTCLIFFE, BSC(HONS), MPHIL, PGCERT APIMH, DIPCOUNS, DIPNLP, HPCE

Kerry Sutcliffe is a research associate in the School of Medicine at the University of Notre Dame. She is a current PhD candidate who has been awarded an RTP scholarship to undertake her study on "Antenatal Education: A family systems based approach to the use and application of an evidence based program". Her research focuses primarily on pregnancy and childbirth where Kerry incorporates her background training in Psychology and Counselling to consider the psychological and wider system issues that impact these. More recently, her interests have included the impact of climate change on healthcare systems.



7. QUESTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS



DR GOLSA ZEIRATI PHARMD, BCPP, BCGP

Dr Zeiarati is a consultant clinical pharmacist practicing in New York with Board certification in Psychiatric and Geriatric Pharmacy and is also an Adjunct Professor of Chemistry at Pace University. She migrated twice, once at a young age from Iran to Canada and once in her thirties from Canada to the USA. These two major events shaped her mindset and character. It is her hope to be a positive voice for diversity, equal opportunity, child poverty, building resilience and embracing change. She believes we are all one and we can succeed as a species by embracing this one profound realization.

**PROFESSOR LYNNE MADDEN UNDA
PROFESSOR GABRIELLE CASPER UNDA**

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