Feminist Theory and Gender Studies (FTGS) Section Report
2014/15
Submitted by Annick Wibben, Section Chair

Membership
FTGS Membership in November 2014 stood at 457 (2014:401). This continues the trend of a steadily rising membership since 2005, when the section had 101 members.

Finances
The FTGS financial balance on November 1, 2014 was $4,249.44 (as compared to $6,300.42 in December 2013). However, this did not include reception fundraising, our major annual expense (which is detailed below). In addition to the reception, the other major expense of the section is the graduate student paper award ($500).

Fundraising for the 2015 joint FTGS/ WCIS/ LGBTQA reception has generated $3800 through the generosity of the following sponsors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynne Rienner Publishers</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Feminist Journal of Politics (IFJP)</td>
<td>$1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISA – NE</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of San Francisco</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
<td>$500</td>
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Sponsor Total: $3800

Co-sponsoring Section Allocation (after a review of their budgets both WCIS and LGBTQA Caucus increased their allocation this year)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FTGS</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<tr>
<td>WCIS</td>
<td>$750</td>
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<tr>
<td>LGBTQA</td>
<td>$500</td>
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Section Total: $1850

Total 2015 Reception funds: $5650 (2014: 4800)
[Actual 2015 Reception cost: $5521.55]

Graduate Student Paper Award
The 2014 FTGS Graduate Student Paper Award panel comprised of Maya Eichler, Denise Horn, Heidi Hudson, Natalie Hudson, and Laura Shepherd (chair). The committee issued a call for nominations in the summer of 2014, following the ISA
conference. It received five nominations and ranked these using the criteria of originality, rigor and significance. The committee decided that the award should go to Rochelle Terman, UC Berkeley, for her paper 'The Teleology of Anti-Imperialism: Islamophobia, Feminism, and Muslim Women's Rights'. Rochelle will be awarded with the prize, $500 at the joint FTGS/ WCIS/ LGBTQA reception in Toronto and her paper will undergo review at IJFP. The committee also made honorable mention of 'Women’s Rights Activism in Muslim-Majority Countries: Traversing, Negotiating and Transcending Religious-Secular Divides', a paper written by Sheherazade Jafari, American University (DC), as this was a close runner-up.

**Eminent Scholar Award Committee**
The committee selecting the 2015 Eminent Scholar, Catia Confortini, Caron Gentry, Natalie Hudson, Annica Kronsell, Laura Parisi, Annick Wibben (chair), sent out a call for nominations in April 2014 and received four complete nominations. After careful consideration, the committee selected Shirin Rai, University of Warwick, as the 2015 FTGS Eminent Scholar Honoree. Marysia Zalewski and Annick Wibben will chair a panel honoring Shirin’s work at the 2015 ISA conference in New Orleans with Lily Ling, Sumi Madhok, Spike Peterson, Carole Sparry, and Georgina Waylen.

**Conference Program for ISA 2015**
Our program chair, Annica Kronsell, reports that for first choice submissions we had a total of 144 papers, 17 panels, and 9 roundtables. 90 papers, 15 panels and 8 roundtables were accommodated in the program. At finalization we have 61 panels/roundtables, including the Eminent Scholar panel. 18 FTGS original panels were put together from individual paper submissions. Of the regular panels/roundtables, 28 are sponsored by two sections/caucuses; 19 are sponsored by three sections/caucuses; and four or more sections/ caucuses sponsor 5 of them. Only 9 panels are entirely sponsored by FTGS. Special thanks go to Catia Confortini, outgoing program chair, for stepping in as needed and helping to keep the process going.

**Communications Committee**
Communications Committee activities so far this year have focused on maintenance and updating of the FTGS list-serve (https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/feministtheory) and liaison with ISA to circulate notices to the membership (Cai Wilkinson and Annick Wibben), maintenance of the FTGS Twitter account: https://twitter.com/ftgs_isa (Carrie Reiling and Annick Wibben) and updating of the FTGS Research blog: http://ftgsresearch.blogspot.com/ (Nikki Detraz). Other members of the committee, Béatrice Châteauvert-Gagnon and Juanita Elias (former committee chair) offer their support as needed. In preparation for the next FTGS business meeting the Communications Committee is reviewing the FTGS Twitter account with a view to developing a preliminary set of guidelines for its utilization and also a roster of FTGS members for ensuring the account maintains an appropriate level of regular activity.
**Book Prize Committee**

After the FTGS membership voted to institute a book prize at the 2014 FTGS Business Meeting, the task of the Book Prize Committee included hammering out the nomination and book selection process, as well as to draft the call for nominations. The committee, Caron Gentry (chair), Juanita Elias, and Elina Penttinen, achieved these tasks and is currently in the process of constituting the Book Prize Selection Committee. This committee will reside within FTGS, and be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee, but is open to the general membership. Nominations for the book prize will be sought in the spring of each year, books published by an FTGS member in the last two years will be eligible to be nominated. A list of all nominated books will be published (with the finalists noted) when the award is announced in December each year. The prize will be given out at the annual FTGS Reception at the ISA conference.

**Exploratory Committees**

While the FTGS Book Prize Committee moved forward with its plans to institute the new prize (to be awarded for the first time in 2015-16), the Junior Scholar/Early Career Award Committee (with Laura Parisi as chair) and the Ethics/Professional Conduct Committee (chaired by Caron Gentry), did not make significant progress toward identifying specific next steps and a decision will have to be made whether the work of these committees will be prioritized in the coming year.

**Nominations Committee**

The FTGS nominations committee, Catia Confortini, Maya Eichler (chair), Elina Penttinen and Sonalini Sapra, sent out a call for nominations in early November for the following positions: Section Chair (one position), Program Chair (one position), Member-at-Large (three positions), and Graduate Student Member (two positions). The deadline for nominations was January 1, 2015. The call was sent out over the ISA FTGS-member e-mail list and the FTGS list-serve as well as posted on the FTGS facebook page. Nominations were received for all positions and (partly) competitive elections will be held by electronic ballot. The candidates are:

*Section Chair 2016-2017* [three year term/one position]
Meghan H. Mackenzie, University of Sydney (Australia)

*Program Chair 2016-2017* [three year term/one position]
Laura J. Shepherd, University of New South Wales (Australia)

*Member-At-Large 2015-2017* [two year term/three positions, six candidates]
Annika Bergman Rosamond, Lund University (Sweden)
Tom Gregory, University of Auckland (New Zealand)
Helen M. Kinsella, University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA)
Shiera S. Malik, DePaul University (USA)
Saara Särmä, University of Tampere (Finland)
Saskia Stachowitsch, University of Vienna (Austria)

**Graduate Student Member 2015-2016 [on year term/ two positions]**
Stephanie Szitanyi, Rutgers University (USA)
Akanksha Mehta, SOAS/ University of London (UK)

**Leadership**

The FTGS Executive Committee for 2014/15 consisted of the following members (with terms served in brackets):

**Section Chair** (three year term):
Laura Parisi, University of Victoria, Canada (2013-14)
**Annick Wibben, University of San Francisco, USA (2014-15)**
Caron Gentry, University of St Andrews, UK (2015-16)

**Program Chair** (three year term):
Catia Cecilia Confortini, Wellesley College, USA (2013-14)
**Annica Kronsell, Lund University, Sweden (2014-15)**
Natalie Hudson, University of Dayton, USA (2015-16)

**Member-at-Large** (two year term):
Maya Eichler, University of Toronto and Concordia University, Canada (2014-2016)
Heidi Hudson, University of the Free State, South Africa (2014-2016)
Denise M Horn, Northeastern University, USA (2013-15)
Elina Penttinen, University of Helsinki, Finland (2013-15)
Sonalini Sapra, St Mary's College, USA (2013-15)
Cai Wilkinson, Deakin University, Australia (2014-2016)

**Graduate Student Member** (one year terms):
Béatrice Châteauvert-Gagnon, University of Sussex, UK (2014-2015)

**Volunteers:**
Juanita Elias, Warwick University, UK
Sharain Naylor, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, USA
Carrie Reiling, UC Irvine, USA
Laura Shepherd, UNSW, Australia