

Minutes
CSWAC General Meeting – Fall 2023
Friday, October 27, 2023
12:00 – 1:30 pm

Location: CSW|Streisand Center Office
1500 Public Affairs (across from [Jimmy's Coffeehouse](#))

**Lunch will be provided. Catered by sweetgreen. Room will be open at 11:45 am.*

12:00 pm – Welcome by CSW|Streisand Director Grace Hong

- A) Welcome to the office
 - a. Open office hours, Mon-Thurs, 1 – 4:30 pm. This is a quiet community space for work. Meetings in the morning are OK, but these are not private. Private meetings are OK on Fridays as staff are not in that day. Contact Rosa Chung at rosa@women.ucla.edu to learn more. Invite your students to use the space.
 - b. Pick up your swag bag while supplies last
- B) Inaugural Streisand Public Lecture
 - a. The public lecture went very well. This was planned by Development. Barbra Streisand was in attendance and was very happy with the event.
- C) Upcoming deadlines:
 - a. Thinking Gender 2024: “Dystopian Realities, Feminist Utopias”. This year’s conference theme considers what it means to live in the cataclysmic wake of racial capitalism, settler colonialism, and neoliberalism. At the same time, the theme celebrates how feminist, queer, and BIPOC scholarship, activism, and art enact utopias by imagining alternatives to hegemonic structures. Call for proposals submission deadline is Sunday, 10/29/23.
 - b. Activist-in-Residence Program: We are partnering with the [UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy](#), the [UCLA Asian American Studies Center](#), [cityLAB-UCLA](#) to offer the 2024 UCLA Activist-in-Residence program this year. The UCLA Activist-in-Residence program seeks to strengthen the infrastructure of social transformation by supporting local movement leaders, community organizers, and artists with university resources. Conceptualized as a sabbatical, the residency allows for time and space to reflect upon complex challenges, envision new campaigns and projects, and connect with university faculty, students, and staff. Deadline to apply is Thursday, 11/2 @ 5 pm.
- D) Fri, 11/17: Oral Histories of Environmental Illness Symposium: “Canary Knowledge: Chronic Fatigue, Chemical Sensitivities, and the Limits of Medicine”. This conference bridges the immediate before and after of Co-V2’s effects on this growing population of the chronically ill, and often medically abandoned, to ask how they—like the proverbial

canaries in the coal mine—have defined and laid the groundwork for disability justice, art, and activism. This event is led by Professor Rachel Lee and is part of a three-year multi-campus research grant at the University of California focusing on “Abolition Medicine and Disability Justice: Mapping Inequity and Renewing the Social Project.”

12:15 pm – Updates by CSW|Streisand Center Associate Director Nina Eidsheim: supporting faculty development

- A) Friday, 11/3/23: CSW|Streisand Center is hosting an all-day faculty writing retreat. In-person capacity is full, but a virtual option is still available. Please email Rosa Chung at rosa@women.ucla.edu for the Zoom link. We hope to continue these writing retreats once per quarter in AY23-24.
- B) Wednesday and Thursday, 4/10/24 - 4/11/24: CSW|Streisand Center is hosting a Duke University Press event with Courtney Berger. There will be a public component and an opportunity for individual meetings with Berger. More information is coming soon about the public event and how to apply to meet with Berger. Open to faculty and advanced graduate students. If you're interested in reading applications, please contact Nina Eidsheim at neidsheim@ucla.edu.

12:30 pm – Faculty mini-presentation by:

Alesia Montgomery, Assistant Professor

Institute of Environment and Sustainability

Presentation: "Overwhelming" Heat: Black and Latina Mothers in South LA as Climate Warriors"

1:30 pm - End

****Bio & abstract below****



Bio: Alesia Montgomery is an Assistant Professor at UCLA's Institute of Environment and Sustainability (IoES). An ethnographer, Montgomery studies the social and environmental justice concerns of low-income, racialized communities. Her book, *Greening the Black Urban Regime: The Culture and Commerce of Sustainability in Detroit*, focuses on battles over the aims and strategies of green redevelopment. Her publications also include articles in the *International Journal of Urban & Regional Research*, *City & Community*, *Ethnography*, *Antipode*, *Sociological Perspectives*, and *Global Networks*.

Talk title: "Overwhelming" Heat: Black and Latina Mothers in South LA as Climate Warriors"

Abstract: How do we study climate injustices in racialized communities without reinforcing narratives about abject dark bodies in need of saviors--tales that limit the possibilities for imagining climate futures? In my brief talk, I will explore findings from my study, *Healthy Spaces for Black and Latina Mothers and Children in South LA During Summer Heat*, using a theme from the interviews--"overwhelming"--as a sign that points (at once) to the vulnerability and power of these mothers, their families, and their communities in the face of climate change.