



THE
GRADUATE
INSTITUTE
GENEVA

GLOBAL
HEALTH
CENTRE

**THE DATA WAVE IN GLOBAL HEALTH: WHAT ARE THE
IMPLICATIONS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS?**

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

SPEAKERS

MEG DAVIS

Special Advisor, Strategy and Partnerships, Global Health Centre



Meg Davis, PhD, is Special Advisor at the Global Health Centre of the Graduate Institute. She is also coordinator of courses on sexual violence in conflicts and emergencies at the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies. Meg was the first senior human rights advisor at the Global Fund; the founder and executive director of Asia Catalyst, a health and human rights NGO; and a researcher on China at Human Rights Watch. She earned her PhD from University of Pennsylvania. She recently published her second book “The Uncounted: Politics of Data in Global Health”.

CARMEL WILLIAMS

Executive Editor, Health and Human Rights Journal



Carmel Williams has been the Executive Editor of Health and Human Rights, a Harvard FXB Centre’s flagship publication since 2011. Carmel holds a PhD in community health. Her thesis, which arose from her work in development, was on operationalising the right to health in aid-funded programmes. She is also a researcher on the University of Essex project, “Human Rights, Big Data and Technology”.

SHARIFAH SEKALALA

Associate Professor, University of Warwick



Sharifah Sekalala is an Associate Professor at the University of Warwick. She is an interdisciplinary researcher whose work is at the intersection of international law, public policy, and global health. She is particularly focused on the role of human rights frameworks in addressing global health inequalities. Her work has been published in leading legal, international relations and public health journals. Her research has been funded by the GCRF, ESRC, Wellcome Trust and international organisations including the International Labour Organisation and the WHO. Sharifah has consulted on human rights and health in several developing countries and worked for international organisations such as UNAIDS, WHO and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Sharifah is currently Principal Investigator on a Wellcome Trust Funded project on the migration of data through health apps in Africa.

SHIRIN HEIDARI

Senior Researcher, Global Health Centre; Founding President, GENDRO



Shirin Heidari is Founding President of GENDRO, an association with the mission to advance gender-sensitive research and data analysis. She is also Senior Researcher at the Global Health Centre and principal investigator of a multi-country research project on sexual and reproductive health and rights in forced displacement. Shirin is Senior Technical Consultant on Gender at WHO, Gender, Equity and Human Rights unit. She was the Executive Director of Reproductive Health Matters and Editor-in-Chief of its peer-reviewed journal, and prior to that she oversaw the Research Promotion Department of the International AIDS Society and was the editor of Journal of the International AIDS Society. She received her doctorate degree from Karolinska

Institute in 2001, where she continued as an HIV researcher until she moved to Geneva in 2007. She has been a board member of Amnesty International Sweden and is the founding chair of the Gender Policy Committee of the European Association of Science Editors. She is the lead author of the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and has given a TEDx Talk encouraging gender sensitive research and scholarly communication.

MODERATOR

RYAN WHITACRE

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Global Health Centre



Ryan Whitacre is a medical anthropologist, and postdoctoral research fellow. He holds positions at the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute, and the Center for Social Medicine at UC Berkeley. Through multidisciplinary inquiry and collaborative research, he aims to sharpen theory in critical medical anthropology and improve practice in global health. His research is principally concerned with the ways political and economic processes overdetermine socioeconomic inequality and drive health disparities around the world. His current research examines financialisation as a problem in contemporary life, with broad implications for global health. He also examines emergent

trends in the science and economics of global health, which aim to improve health outcomes, but struggle to address underlying causes. In past work he evaluated initiatives to develop and implement novel biomedical technologies, including oral HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and CRISPR-Cas9 gene-edited therapies, with interdisciplinary teams at UCSF, UC Berkeley, and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.