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## **ATGENDER Board Members' report October 2018 – May 2019**

### **Introduction**

The **ATGENDER** Board members' report serves the purpose of providing information about the activities of the organization during the last year. 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, information centers 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, Gender, Transgender, Sexuality, and Queer studies, feminist research and professionals that promote women's, sexual and LGBTQI rights, 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, Transgender, Sexuality, Queer Studies and feminist research;
- support the development of education and training programs in Women's, Gender, Transgender, Sexuality, and Queer Studies, feminist research, women's, sexual and LGBTQI rights, equality, and diversity.

### **Organization**

#### **Board Members**

The current **ATGENDER** Board consists of eleven members. There were no elections in 2018.

*Current Board Members include:*

Stefanie Boulila, Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Göttingen, Germany

Sara de Jong, Lecturer, University of York, United Kingdom

Edyta Just, Associate Professor at Linköping University, Sweden

Kateřina Kolářov, Assistant Professor at Charles University Prague, Czech Republic

Katarina Lončarević, Assistant Professor at the University of Belgrade, Serbia

Sabrina Marchetti, Associate Professor at Ca'Foscari University of Venice, Italy

Christine Quinan, Assistant Professor at Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Marianne Schmidbaur, Scientific Coordinator at Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

Aggeliki Sifaki, Affiliate of Graduate Gender Programme at Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Giovanna Vingelli, Assistant Professor at the University of Calabria, Italy

Sibel Yardımcı, Professor at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey

The Board is managed by two chairs (Giovanna Vingelli and Christine Quinan), and has appointed three co-treasurers (Marianne Schmidbaur, Sabrina Marchetti, and Christine Quinan) and two co-secretaries (Kateřina Kolářov and Sibel Yardımcı). The Board currently functions in working groups that are listed in Annex 1. It meets bi-monthly via Skype and in person during the annual conference, or at other events. In 2018, the Board met in person on September 12 and September 15, the first and last days of the EFRC conference in Göttingen, Germany. In 2019, the Board will meet on May 8 and May 10, the first and last days of the Spring Conference in Gijón, Spain.

### **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 Secretaries and the Treasurers. The Board supervises and is responsible for the activities of the Central Office. The Office is a precondition for further growth of membership and activities. It is run by one employee (Office Manager, Svenja Engels, who has held the position since January 2019; the position was previously held by Adriano José Habed), who contributes 8 hours/week, and 1 to 4 interns per year. The current office intern (starting end of April 2019) is Steph Lee. Providing internships is one of **ATGENDER's** goals and this recruitment process has made it possible for students from outside the Netherlands to work for **ATGENDER**.

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

- Organization of meetings of the Board and of the General Assembly

- Coordination and facilitation of Board activities and decisions
- Management of Membership and maintenance of membership database
- Maintenance of the financial sheet, recording of transactions
- Supervision of intern(s)
- Coordination of the organization of the annual **ATGENDER** Conference
- Production and dissemination of information materials (newsletter, website, social media)
- Promotion and representation of the association at important meetings and activities.

The **ATGENDER** office is based in the Department of Media and Culture Studies (Faculty of Humanities), Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

In the period from October 2018 to May 2019, **ATGENDER** has continued to carry out activities facilitating good communication between the secretariat and the Board, as well as between the secretariat and ATGENDER members.

- **ATGENDER** has maintained a Listserv since 2015. The **Listserv** allows **ATGENDER** to share information about conferences, workshops, funding, jobs, political actions, and publications related Women's, Gender, Transgender, Sexuality, and Queer studies, feminist research, women's, sexual and LGBTQI rights, equality, and diversity. As of August 2018, the Listserv has 1285 subscribers.
- In addition to the website and Listserv, **ATGENDER's** Mailchimp mailing list continues to function on a bi-weekly basis (2383 subscribers). A newsletter dedicated for members only is also circulated, with relevant membership information and news. Finally, **ATGENDER** has a consistent social media presence, both on Facebook (3723 "likes" to the page and 3894 "followers") and on Twitter (1156 followers). **ATGENDER** news regularly features newsfeed and external platforms, such as the Feminist and Women's Studies Association (FWSA) UK newsletter.

### **General Assembly**

The General Assembly will be held **on May 10, 2019**, at Oviedo University (Spain) from **13:30 to 15:30** during the 2019 Spring Conference in Gijón, Spain ("Feminist Teaching Through Emotions, Feelings and Affects").

### **Activities September 2018 – May 2019**

**ATGENDER** partnered with the German Gender Studies Association to organise this conference for **The 10<sup>th</sup> European Feminist Research Conference** titled "Difference, Diversity, Diffraction: Confronting Hegemonies and Dispossessions" (September 12-15, 2018; Göttingen, Germany). 780 participants attended the conference.

Since this conference, **ATGENDER** has been involved in a wide variety of activities, encompassing participation, publication and policy-oriented work that provides

visibility of the organization among the European gender academic community and also on the EU level. From October 2018 to May 2019, **ATGENDER** has:

- Maintained communication with members, friends and followers through our mailing lists on Listserv and Mailchimp, our Facebook page, and our Twitter account. As for Mailchimp, we produced and distributed 5 newsletter updates for subscribers and 4 newsletters for members. Both mailing lists have been updated in order to comply with the new EU regulation on data protection.
- Partnered with the University of Oviedo, AUDEM, and Espora Gender Consulting, for the 2019 ATGENDER Spring Conference to be held in Gijón, Spain (May 8-10, 2019). The title of the conference is 'Feminist Teaching (through) Emotions, Feelings and Affects'.
- Offered 6 grants for students, junior and/or precarious faculty and unemployed members to attend the Spring Conference in Gijón (five of 400 and one of 100 EUR, 2100 EUR in total).
- Circulated a new Call for Bids for the 2021 11th EFRC.
- Circulated a call for two new board members.
- Developed concrete actions to support Early Career Scholars. Based on the survey results about the situation of Early Career Scholars in European Gender Studies, and a workshop at the 10th EFRC in Göttingen, the working group is piloting two actions at the Spring Conference in Gijón: a speed networking event, and a conference buddy group. A report with the survey results, a summary of the workshop discussion and an evaluation of the piloted actions is currently being prepared for publication.
- Finalised the publication of the 15th volume of the **ATGENDER** "Teaching with Gender" book series titled *Feminist Perspectives on Teaching Masculinities. Learning Beyond Stereotypes* (Edited by [Sveva Magaraggia](#), [Gerlinde Mauerer](#), [Marianne Schmidbaur](#)). The volume addresses the question of fostering non-hegemonic forms of masculinities, highlighting their diversity. It also foregrounds concepts of 'positive', 'caring' and 'inclusive' masculinities and thus offers a timely and much-needed counterpoint to discussions of "toxic masculinity". The book will be launched during the 2019 Spring Conference in Gijón, Spain. This volume is the third published in partnership with Routledge.
- The 14th volume of the **ATGENDER** "Teaching with Gender" book series titled *Decolonization and Feminisms in Global Teaching and Learning* (eds. Sara de Jong, Rosalba Icaza and Olivia U. Rutazibwa, Routledge) was launched at the 10th

European Feminist Research Conference. It was reviewed on the LSE Review of Books by Fawzia Mazanderani, who calls it a: "a highly relevant resource for both educators and learners seeking change within the academy".

- The 13<sup>th</sup> volume of the **ATGENDER** book series titled *Teaching with Feminist Politics of Resistance in Times of Crisis* (eds. Beatriz Revelles Benavente and Ana M. González Ramos) was translated into Spanish by the prestigious publishing house Morata. This book will also be launched during the Spring Conference in Gijón, Spain.
- As a result of our continuing partnership with Routledge, we now can extend a number of benefits for **ATGENDER** members provided by the publisher. These benefits include a 20% discount across the whole catalogue of Routledge Gender Studies books, free access to thematic chapter sampler, and 14-days free access to over 2,500 journals.
- Circulated an open call for proposals for the upcoming volumes of the Teaching with Gender series. The incoming volume addresses the issue of homonationalism in the European context.
- Maintained strategic partnerships with other European Gender Studies, Research organizations and European institutions (amongst others EIGE, WINE, ALLEA).
- Following the vote by its membership, **ATGENDER** updated the mission on its website and proposed to amend the **ATGENDER** Statutes to reflect the evolving landscape of feminist thought and praxis, as well as the significance of Sexuality, Queer, Transgender, LGBTQI studies and issues for the association. The proposed changes will be discussed during the General Assembly at the Spring Conference in Gijón, and voted on by the members.
- Recruited a new office manager (Svenja Engels) and two new interns who will support both office manager and working groups in the second quarter of 2019.
- Introduced a lifetime honorary membership during the last General Assembly (10th EFRC). Berteke Waaldijk was the first member to be awarded this honorable affiliation in recognition of her service to **ATGENDER**.
- Provided a letter of support for the organisers of the IV International Conference of Young Researchers with Gender Perspective, which helped them to secure funding from the Government. The Conference is organised by the Institute of Gender Studies at the University Carlos III of Madrid and will

take place 24th-26th June 2019 in Getafe (Madrid, Spain).

- Signed a public statement against Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's decision to cut funding for sociology and philosophy programs.

## **Membership**

**ATGENDER** has carried out several membership campaigns in this timeframe. The campaigns have been successful and **ATGENDER** is broadening his membership base well beyond the traditional borders of 'Western' Europe.

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: 93 individual and student members, 44 institutional members;  
2015: 80 individual and student members, 22 institutional members;  
2016: 190 individual and student members, 40 institutional members;  
2017: 174 individual and student members, 46 institutional members;  
2018: 217 individual and student members, 49 institutional members  
2019: 76 individual and student members, 3 institutional members\* (as of May 1, 2019;

\*Due to a problem with our system online, membership renewals have been delayed.

Because **ATGENDER** relies on membership fees, we hope all current and former members will renew their membership and bring new active members with them. We have also been discussing new formats to encourage different types of memberships.

## **Plans for the future**

- **ATGENDER** has begun planning for the 2020 policy - and activism- focused Spring conference entitled "Caring in Uncaring Times", which will be organized with Middlesex University (London). The CfP will be available from September 2019. Watch this space!
- **ATGENDER is preparing** the 16<sup>th</sup> volume of the "Teaching with Gender" book series. **ATGENDER** is also preparing another open call for proposals for the edited volumes.
- **ATGENDER** is continuing negotiations with Routledge for the Teaching with Gender Series contract renewal. We attempt to make sure that the future volumes will be accessible to readers with disabilities.

Signed on behalf of the Board of directors by

Giovanna Vingelli, co-chair, **ATGENDER**  
Christine Quinan , co-chair, **ATGENDER**



## Annex 1

### Division of tasks among the Board members as of April 29, 2019.

ATGENDER task division																
Board members	Chairs	Treasurers	Secretaries	Teaching Series	Spring conf. 2019	Communication	Memberships	Interns	External Relations	Funding	Early career scholars	Nomination committee	Number of tasks p/p			
Edyta Just, <i>Sweden</i>					x				x		x		4			
Sara de Jong, <i>United Kingdom</i>						x			x				4			
Sibel Yardimci, <i>Turkey</i>			x	x	x						x	x	5			
Stefanie Boulila, <i>Germany</i>								x	x	x	x		4			
Aggeliki Sifaki, <i>The Netherlands</i>				x	x		x		x	x			5			
Christine Quinan, <i>The Netherlands</i>	x	x				x							3			
Giovanna Vingelli, <i>Italy</i>	x					x		x		x			4			
Kateřina Kolářová, <i>Czech Republic</i>			x	x	x								4			
Sabrina Marchetti, <i>Italy</i>		x			x		x			x			4			
Marianne Schmidbaur, <i>Germany</i>		x		x								x	4			
Katarina Loncarevic, <i>Serbia</i>				x		x	x				x		4			
<b>Task group size</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>				