

Notes taken by students

International Symposium

Education and Gender Equality

Wellesley College, October 20 & 21, 2017

Plenary Session – Saturday, 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Conclusions

Speakers:

- Valéry Freland, Consul General of France in Boston
- Anjali Prabhu, Director of the Newhouse Center for the Humanities and Professor of French at Wellesley College

Main points:

- Put notes, PowerPoints, speeches, etc. on symposium website
- Lisa Goldman is going to create a website for the participants on the symposium on gender equality. To get on her mailing list, write to lisagconsults@gmail.com and put “Gender Equality” in the subject line
- Create a training document for politicians to let them know about the symposium and the major conclusions
- Continue to reinforce the link between North and South by providing forums for individuals, including students, to mix and exchange ideas
- Ease the visa requirements for foreigners
- Guarantee full and free access to education in all forms for girls and women throughout their lives. This requires international reaffirmation of this principle, as well as action to be taken upon it by states.
 - Provide safe transportation to/from school
 - Include women in leisure activities
- Start educating ALL children from an early age about gender/inequality, both in school and in informal education settings
 - Encourage schools to offer “women’s and gender studies” departments
 - Ensure mentorship access and career networks
 - Ensure that families and larger communities also promote gender equality and strive to eliminate stereotypes
- Enable all girls and women to have economic and social autonomy, to stand by their sexual and reproductive rights, and to protect themselves against all forms of sexual and gender-based violence
 - Provide financial services to women to help them become financially independent
 - Increase financial literacy in girls and women
- Promote free and equal access for women to the job market, especially in sectors where women are underrepresented
 - Expose girls to STEM early on
 - Encourage women to get jobs in STEM, become STEM professors, serve as role models, mentors, sponsors, etc.

Best practices evoked regarding public policies, corporate actions, civil society or academic initiatives:

- To bring more people from the global South into the conversation on gender equality
- Involve international organizations that may be interested in this subject