Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I think we would all agree it has been a memorable year — one that reminds us yet again of the interconnectedness, indivisibility and inalienability of human rights and their relationship to the global health agenda. At USC IIGH, as we cautiously approach the end of 2021, we are incredibly grateful to our friends, partners and colleagues in Los Angeles and around the world. In new and unexpected ways (often on Zoom) it seems that, amidst all we are doing, we are collaboratively redefining what it means to do global health. This means not only sharing and working together on incredible research in new ways, but also critically extending much needed words of encouragement and support to ground our shared ambitions for global health in a sense of shared humanity. It is likely that many of us are now asking ourselves, after two years of working in this new “normal,” whether digital communication deepens divides in global health, or perhaps, can offer a more democratic and reciprocal way of collaborating than expensive, restrictive, and often inaccessible international travel ever did. Even in the midst of the ongoing pandemic, and the accompanying exhaustion we are all feeling, the USC community, students, faculty and staff, and the broader global health and development community remain steadily and persistently engaged and connected.

One often hears the pandemic will not be over for anyone until it is over for everyone. That is not just a slogan. It is a public health reality and a moral expression of our interdependence and shared humanity. It is incumbent on us all to act to ensure vaccines are available and accessible to everyone, and without distinction. Addressing the inequalities of the COVID-19 pandemic within our countries and around the world is clearly at the forefront of all we must do. The ever-evolving realities of this pandemic continue to underscore the need for global solidarity. While some in the U.S. and other countries still hesitate to be vaccinated despite vaccines being freely available, we must not allow hesitancy to be used as an excuse for limiting supply and failing to create an enabling environment for all people to choose to be vaccinated. Across the African, South American and Asian continents, millions of people have yet to receive a single dose of the vaccine, and they have little guarantee of access in the foreseeable future. Equality in access to vaccines is not only right for moral and human rights reasons, it is necessary for clinical and public health reasons as well. To get there requires ongoing work from us all, and a willingness to rethink basic assumptions about the economics of health. The colonialist origins and tendencies of global health are something we must reckon with daily sitting in a U.S.-based research university, and the structural inequalities shown so clearly through the pandemic must be addressed head-on. There is no more time. Building a strong, global vaccine infrastructure, let alone sharing the vaccine recipes and know-how and financing its manufacture and delivery, is required to control the pandemic. It is good public health and a matter of justice.

What the last year has shown us time and again is the widespread and shared consequences of collective action (or inaction), as well as the limited ability of any individual, locality, state or nation to address these issues alone. Working together across disciplines and experience is how we develop best practices. And this is why the Institute on Inequalities in Global Health exists. It is what we have always sought to do. COVID-19 has only added attention and urgency to our mission. This, our third annual report, provides a snapshot of our recent activities with partners at USC and around the world — on COVID-19 of course, as well as across other key areas such as HIV, sexual and reproductive health, and climate change. We encourage you to visit our website to learn more about our ongoing projects and events, and most importantly, to connect with us. Please consider this an open invitation to work with us in embracing a more holistic and shared approach to global health, one which fosters a deep and meaningful integration of equity and rights approaches and that can help us to recover as a more just society — no matter who we are or where we live.

Warmly,

Sofia Gruskin, JD, MIA
Director
At the University of Southern California Institute on Inequalities in Global Health, leaders work across disciplines to address the disparities, inequalities and broad determinants of health that impact our world. University-wide and driven by excellence in research, education and action, the Institute aims to address those issues that are too complex to have a natural home with any single researcher, department or school.

The USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health fosters inclusive approaches to global health that engage a range of disciplines, including medicine, public health, law, social science, human rights, economics, policy, communications and social work.

To work with partners at USC and beyond to address health-related disparities and inequalities, take a multidisciplinary approach to advance the evidence base about what works, train the next generation of leaders, and inform public policy.

“People in the Institute identify and tackle troubling inequities — they don’t shy away. They draw on resources that come with being in a major research university with dedicated faculty, passionate students, and a binding commitment to multidisciplinary, impactful work.”

— Carol L. Folt, USC President
Students from four USC schools were chosen for a 10-week fellowship to support the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Los Angeles (SDGLA) and assess their impact on a #JustRecovery post-pandemic. The project, in collaboration with Carnegie Mellon University, utilized the SDGs as a mechanism to measure the impacts of COVID-19 relief and recovery funds on social justice and equity, as well as understand the impacts of policy and potential solutions.

**Global (HEALTH+LAW)**

Supported by the USC Research Collaboration Fund, the Law & Global Health Collaboration advances scholarship and provides regular lectures and public discussions on significant global health topics that raise challenging legal issues. This year, IIGH worked with partners across USC on the law and health implications of COVID-19, and the use of self-care technologies, with a focus on better access and use by the most marginalized.

**Dornsife Dialogues: COVID’s Lessons on Inequality**

As part of the USC Dornsife Dialogues Series on May 27, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin shared research on the numerous societal inequalities the pandemic has exposed and discussed how we can move forward in building a better society from the lessons learned.

As part of Reckitt’s global health and social impact outreach, IIGH, in keeping with our concern to address inequalities at home and abroad, is leading the distribution of 6 million packs of Lysol Disinfecting Wipes (an in-kind donation valued at $24 million) to USC’s campuses, hospitals and community-based organizations throughout the greater Los Angeles community.
The USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health advances diverse and innovative multidisciplinary research projects that respond to global health knowledge gaps and help inform policy and programmatic action.

**Research on the Impact of Laws for Sexual and Reproductive Health on Access to and Uptake of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care, Information and Education**

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has collected data from governments around the world on laws and regulations that guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. IIGH researched the factors that influence the potential impact of these laws on sexual and reproductive health behaviors and outcomes. In addition to a global literature review, country case studies were carried out in Colombia, Malawi, Uruguay and Zambia. This analysis also contributed to UNFPA’s flagship publication: the State of World Population (2021).

**Evaluation of The Global Commission on HIV and the Law**

IIGH, with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), conducted a large-scale evaluation of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law on the health and lives of people living with, or affected by, HIV. Results highlighted the important contributions of this work at global, regional and national levels. IIGH has disseminated the findings in policy spaces, including a webinar for civil society and other partners organized by UNDP, and produced issue briefs on some of the main lessons learned.

**Developing an Inequalities Framework and Toolkit for HIV**

With a grant from the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and in partnership with the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), IIGH is developing an inequalities framework and toolkit to complement and support the United Nations Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026.

**Health and Human Rights in the Climate Crisis: Charting Challenges and Solutions**

IIGH, in partnership with the UNSW Australian Human Rights Institute and The George Institute for Global Health, co-organized a nine-day, large-scale global event leading up to COP26 (the Global Climate Change Conference). The conference served as a call to governments around the world to take urgent steps that recognize the links between rights violations, the increasing burden on under-resourced public health systems, and altered climatic conditions.
With funding from the INCLUDE Platform, in partnership with Amref Health Africa, IIGH conducted case studies to assess the equity of COVID-19 mitigation and policy responses in Kenya and Uganda. Findings were used to inform policy and program recommendations to mitigate the spread and impact of SARS-CoV-2, particularly among disadvantaged populations. The case study reports are available online and findings were recently presented at a webinar.

**Equity in COVID-19 Mitigation and Policy Responses: Kenya and Uganda Case Studies**

With funding from the INCLUDE Platform, in partnership with Amref Health Africa, IIGH conducted case studies to assess the equity of COVID-19 mitigation and policy responses in Kenya and Uganda. Findings were used to inform policy and program recommendations to mitigate the spread and impact of SARS-CoV-2, particularly among disadvantaged populations. The case study reports are available online and findings were recently presented at a webinar.

**Africa Hub**

Building on initial groundwork carried out in 2019 toward creating a hub in East Africa, the IIGH Program on Global Health & Human Rights is involved in a range of innovative projects with our locally-based partners. We have established partnerships and projects with Amref Health Africa, the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), and the Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN). Research and policy dialogues have been carried out in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia across a range of issues at the intersection of health and human rights. Our work at the Africa Hub continues to evolve, and future projects aim to further policy engagement and education alongside ongoing and expanding research.

**COVID-19 and the Continuity of Health Services in Kenya: A Multidisciplinary Exploration of the Potential Role of Self-Care Interventions and Community Health Workers**

With support from the USC Zumberge Research and Innovation Fund, IIGH carried out research, in partnership with Amref Health Africa, to identify ways to alleviate some of the burden COVID-19 is placing on Kenya’s health system. In-country dissemination events were attended by government, health worker, civil society and community representatives, and discussions are ongoing regarding how best the findings might inform future policies and interventions.

**Featured Partnership**

The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) is a Nairobi-based research institution and think tank that focuses on generating evidence to drive policy action to improve the health and well-being of people in Africa. IIGH and APHRC are currently working closely together to assist UNAIDS in identifying and addressing intersecting inequalities that continue to hinder global and local efforts to end AIDS.

**African Population and Health Research Center**

**Featured Partnership**

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**Historical Perspectives on Health Inequality in Africa: Is There Light at the End of the Tunnel?**

IIGH, in partnership with the USC Gehr Family Center for Health Systems Science and Innovation, hosted a virtual lecture featuring Professor Joachim Osur, Vice Chancellor at Amref International University. Professor Osur explored historical perspectives of health inequality in Africa and what it will take to achieve health equality in the African context.

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“Addressing COVID-19 and achieving universal health coverage are inseparable, intertwined goals. Both are essential, ambitious goals that require partnerships that draw support from a broad spectrum of institutions’ strengths and resources to improve health outcomes. As an illustration, Amref Health Africa and the Institute on Inequalities in Global Health at the U.S.-based University of Southern California have collaborated to leverage their strengths in community development and research to tackle the drivers of systemic inequalities, working toward targeted outcomes that will address health disparities and benefit communities.”

Global Systematic Evidence Review: Getting to the Heart of Stigma

IIGH, in collaboration with the USC Southern California Evidence Review Center, is carrying out a systematic review of tools, measures and interventions designed to address and mitigate against the harmful impacts of HIV-related stigma and discrimination around the world. This will provide a solid evidence base to inform action to address stigma and discrimination, and support people’s health and well-being. This work is supported with funding from the International AIDS Society. Initial findings were shared at the International AIDS Society Conference in July 2021.

Assessing the Impact of Maternity Protection Policies on Women’s Status and Infant Feeding Practices

With funding from FHI Solutions, IIGH is conducting research to assess how their Alive and Thrive program has effectively advocated for policy changes related to maternity protection, including maternity leave and breastfeeding-friendly workplaces. This evaluation is capturing the lessons learned from work in Bangladesh, Côte d’Ivoire, Indonesia, Nigeria, the Philippines and Vietnam to inform future programming and advocacy work.

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV and Human Rights Among Young People in Brazil

IIGH is examining access and delivery of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV to young transgender women and men who have sex with men in three cities in Brazil. With support from FIOTEC, IIGH is working with a range of academic partners in Brazil to inform training materials for health workers throughout Brazil on providing rights-friendly PrEP to adolescents.

Conducting Narrative Synthesis of Literature Around ‘Sex Normalization’ Surgeries on Intersex Infants and Children

Increasingly, human rights challenges are being made to the practice of early “sex normalization” procedures on intersex persons, which often take place in infancy, childhood or early adolescence because of pervasive practices that suggest early “correction” is necessary to help the person have a better life. With funding from the World Health Organization, and in partnership with GATE and Intersex Australia, IIGH is seeking to understand and address the causes of these beliefs and the rights-violating practices in question.

SRHM South Asia Regional Initiative

With funding from The Gates Foundation, India, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters (SRHM) convened a consortium, of which IIGH is a key partner, with the aim of creating a South Asia regional hub to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights, and generate relevant evidence-based knowledge from the region. In partnership with a range of stakeholders, IIGH is helping build initiatives to prioritize regional perspectives and needs relating to sexual and reproductive health and rights. IIGH has been supporting a mentorship program for aspiring researchers from marginalized populations in the region, and a series of discussions on how to articulate and carry out rights-based research on sexual and reproductive health with both regional and global implications.

17 Rooms Initiative

The 17 Rooms Initiative, co-hosted by the Center for Sustainable Development at The Brookings Institution and The Rockefeller Foundation, aims to advance economic, social and environmental priorities in accordance with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin served on the International Working Group on Room 16: #JustRecovery — Toward the Universal Advancement of Accountable, Inclusive, People-Centered Social and Justice Policies in the Post-COVID-19 Era. Co-chaired by Ambassador Sarah Mendelson and Elizabeth Andersen, The World Justice Project, the working group met several times over the last year to coordinate global, regional, national and local research and action to assess and foster accountable COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts that reduce inequalities and increase access to justice.
SDG Leadership Academy

The United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) address a broad range of social, political, and economic obstacles to more equitable and sustainable development. Los Angeles stands at the forefront of this movement in its city-wide effort to align its plans and goals with the SDGs. The SDG Leadership Academy (SDGLA), hosted by IIGH, gives select students the opportunity to integrate global norms into the work of the city of Los Angeles across a broad range of critical policy issues.

Using Drones to Prevent Pandemics and Epidemics

This past summer, IIGH offered “Using Drones to Prevent Pandemics and Epidemics,” an online short-course in collaboration with GLOBHE. The course provides an overview of how drones are being used in public health, with a focus on environmental monitoring and data collection to prevent future pandemics and epidemics, and how drones can reduce and/or exacerbate inequalities in global health. The course was taught by Dr. Shubha Kumar, IIGH Director of Education, and Helena Samsioe, the CEO and Founder of GLOBHE, a global drone service company on a mission to create a better future with drones through the world’s first Crowddroning Platform.

Health and Sustainable Development: Perspectives from Costa Rica

This summer course, led by IIGH faculty, explores how climate change, biodiversity loss, migration, sustainable development and human rights relate to health among populations in Costa Rica. Students travel to three different locations in Costa Rica and visit local health clinics, public health research institutes, governmental public health agencies, indigenous communities, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Ministry of Health and more to learn about health and sustainable development. (Course not offered in 2021)

Global Health Governance and Diplomacy in Practice in Geneva

This summer course provides select students the opportunity to witness diplomacy and governance in action on the global stage under the guidance of IIGH faculty. The course investigates the way health is organized and administered at the global level by exposing students to the inner workings of key global health organizations and allowing them to participate directly in the World Health Assembly (WHA), the governmental decision-making body of the World Health Organization. (Course not offered in 2021)

IIGH Fellowships

Breman Global Health Fellowship

The Breman Global Health Fellowship supports students from across USC schools interested in global health and public service careers outside of the United States.

Anderson Family Global Health Fellowship

The Anderson Family Grant supports the recruitment of diverse students to engage in global health research and practice.

JSI Research Immersion Fellowship

The JSI Fellowship builds on a longstanding relationship between IIGH and JSI, and offers students support to engage in global public health work.
Students mentored by IIGH faculty

The annual USC Global Health Case Competition brings together teams of students from all disciplines and across USC schools to tackle a critical global health challenge. Fourteen days after receiving the case, students must propose realistic, innovative solutions to a panel of expert judges composed of faculty and leading global health practitioners. This past year, 50 students competed, representing 11 schools at USC, with a case challenge focused on the impacts of climate change on disasters and public health.

IIGH Student Advisory Council

Since January 2019, the IIGH Student Advisory Council (SAC) — comprising student voices from across the university — has served as valued advisors to the Institute. Led this year by student co-chairs Gaea Morales and Jessica Santos, SAC members are responsible for actively informing, shaping and improving student engagement and programming, and gain valuable experience as well as access to a network of researchers, policymakers and advocates addressing inequalities in global health worldwide. This past year, SAC led exciting new initiatives, including a Lunch and Learn series and a global health book club.

USC Global Health Case Competition

The annual USC Global Health Case Competition brings together teams of students from all disciplines and across USC schools to tackle a critical global health challenge. Fourteen days after receiving the case, students must propose realistic, innovative solutions to a panel of expert judges composed of faculty and leading global health practitioners. This past year, 50 students competed, representing 11 schools at USC, with a case challenge focused on the impacts of climate change on disasters and public health.

Student Travel Symposium

IIGH offers students an array of fellowships, internships, courses and research opportunities abroad. Each year IIGH holds a Travel Symposium where students in different degree programs share the content of their experiences, the work they did to prepare, and how they see these opportunities shaping their career paths in global health and beyond. This past year, this widely appreciated event featured students involved in various IIGH programs, and an alum currently leading multi-million dollar projects in global health.

United Nations University International Institute for Global Health

IIGH works closely with the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), the designated UN think tank on global health. In translating evidence to policy, generating policy-relevant analysis and strengthening capacity for local decision making, this collaboration advances evidence-based policy on a range of key issues related to sustainable development and global health.

APRU Global Health Program

The Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) is a nonprofit network of 60 universities in the Asia-Pacific. Hosted by IIGH and led by Dr. Mellissa Withers, the APRU Global Health Program aims to expand existing collaborative education and research efforts among Pacific Rim universities to address regional and global health challenges. Key highlights of this year included the APRU Annual Virtual Global Health Case Competition, a new Student Global Climate Change Simulation, and a new Mini Certificate Program in Health Research and Ethics.
Following the 2019 publication of the WHO Consolidated Guideline on Self-Care Interventions for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, several additional priority topics have been identified by the WHO Steering Group for expanding the evidence base and supporting countries in timely introduction and scale-up of evidence-based self-care interventions. As a member of the Guideline Development Group, IIGH Director of Research Laura Ferguson worked across the year to ensure appropriate attention to human rights, gender and law throughout all phases of the new WHO Guideline.

Envisioning Appropriate Attention to Human Rights, Gender and Law in the WHO Guideline on Self-Care Interventions for Health and Well-Being

The Lancet Commission on Gender and Global Health aims to catalyze action to address the gender inequalities that drive inequalities in health and well-being. As part of her work as a member of the Commission, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin led a seminar on the opportunities and challenges in using human rights to conceptualize and strengthen attention to gender in global health in “Addressing Gender in Global Health: Can Human Rights Play a Useful Role Moving Forward?” The work of the Commission is ongoing and includes research and programmatic interventions, as well as publication and information dissemination.

The Program on Global Health & Human Rights (GHHR), an integral component of IIGH, is at the forefront of expanding research in the field of health and human rights, including developing tools for analysis, programmatic intervention, monitoring and evaluation. Led by IIGH Director of Research Dr. Laura Ferguson, GHHR works to identify how human rights-based approaches to health make a greater positive difference to the lives of individuals and populations in a variety of areas, including HIV, sexual and reproductive health, child and adolescent health, and health systems strengthening. GHHR emphasizes the conceptual, methodological, policy and practice implications of linking health to human rights, with particular attention to women, children, gender issues and vulnerable populations.

11th IAS Conference on HIV Science

Hosted by the International AIDS Society, IAS 2021 brought together scientists, policy makers, healthcare professionals and more to strengthen policies and programs that ensure an evidence-based response to HIV and related epidemics. IIGH faculty played several roles in organizing and supporting conference preparations and deliberations. On July 20, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin presented on radicalizing commitment to HIV and human rights within the current moment. On July 21, IIGH Research Director Laura Ferguson presented on measuring HIV-related self-stigma and its influence on HIV acquisition.

Lancet Commission on Health and Human Rights

The Lancet Commission on Health and Human Rights seeks to interrogate the key questions at the intersection of global health and human rights in a world of complex transnational threats and challenges, from climate change to COVID-19, equity in access to healthcare, to the ways to address the many communities excluded from current health and development debates. In a recent publication of The Lancet, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin and fellow commissioners brought to light the challenges and concerns of vaccine distribution across the world that are posing threats to success against COVID-19, as well as other key issues.

USC leans into addressing health inequalities with the hire of global health and human rights leader Jonathan Cohen

In November 2021, Jonathan Cohen, JD, MPhil, was appointed as IIGH’s Director of Policy Engagement. Cohen brings more than 20 years of experience advancing health and human rights for the most marginalized around the world. Most recently he served in a senior leadership position at the Open Society Foundations, where he directed the foundation’s $39M public health portfolio and chaired its leadership committee advancing diversity, equity and inclusion.
Removing Legal and Structural Barriers to Ending AIDS by 2030: Lessons from the Global Commission on HIV and the Law

IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin and Research Director Laura Ferguson presented the results of their evaluation on the effectiveness of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, published in partnership with UNDP, as part of a large event to determine strategies to remove legal and structural barriers to end AIDS by 2030. The event brought together representatives from government and civil society, as well as United Nations agencies and other development partners.


With a grant from the University of Essex and building on regional workshops held in Mexico and the Philippines, IIGH developed guidance on creating human rights-based laws and policies relating to drug cultivation, supply and use. This document is designed to help support follow-up work to the Global Commission on HIV and the Law. It features case studies of work relevant to these aims and serves as a roadmap for use by governments and civil society actors.

Sustainability and Climate Change

IIGH has always included in its work a focus on sustainable development and climate change, including addressing the economic, social and political factors that fuel the relationships between power and poverty. Building on strong relationships with local and global partners — including researchers, civil society, policymakers, governments and UN agencies — in the lead-up to COP26, IIGH put its work on climate change, health and human rights front and center.

Cities and Universities for a Sustainable Future: The Importance of Community-Focused Partnerships

On April 1, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin was a panelist for a virtual event sponsored by The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), the University of Southern California, and the Office of the Mayor of Los Angeles, highlighting how educational institutions and local governments can partner to achieve communities that are more innovative, equitable and sustainable.

When Climate Change is Everything, How Do We Manage the World and Leave No One Behind?

On Oct. 19, IIGH hosted Rachel Kyte, Dean of The Fletcher School at Tufts University. Dr. Kyte, named by Time magazine as one of the 15 most influential women leading the fight against climate change, has played a key role leading the UN Secretary General’s push for nations and companies to commit to expediting the energy transition. Her visit included meetings with senior leadership and students across USC, and her hybrid lecture highlighted the importance of inclusion and combating climate inequities through economic recovery and global governance restructuring.
At the invitation of the USC Cinema School, on Oct. 1, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin was a panelist for this seminar, which brought together a range of experts to dialogue with the next generation of filmmakers about the future of pandemics.

### Equity in COVID-19 Mitigation and Policy Responses: Kenya and Uganda Case Studies
IIGH is conducting case studies with our partners in Kenya and Uganda to assess the equity of COVID-19 mitigation and policy responses in these countries, in particular the laws, regulations and policies in operation that successfully mitigate the spread and impact of SARS-CoV-2, particularly among disadvantaged populations.

### PrEP and Human Rights Among Young People in Brazil
IIGH is working with partners in Brazil to research the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on stigma, discrimination, and the sexual and mental health of Brazilian adolescents, adult gay men and other men who have sex with men, and transgender women.

### (Un)Just Recovery: Addressing COVID-Related Inequalities in Los Angeles
IIGH, in partnership with the USC Dornsife Equity Research Institute, USC Sol Price Center for Social Innovation, USC-Keck Human Rights Clinic, USC Keck Division of Global Emergency Medicine and 2021 USC SDG Leadership Academy, hosted a virtual panel to highlight the range of work happening across USC to address COVID-related inequalities in Los Angeles.

### The COVID-19 Pandemic is Not Only a Viral Event
This conference brought together USC and Universidade de São Paulo colleagues to dialogue and debate on Brazilian and U.S. responses to addressing the human rights, social and political determinants of SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 illness, including vaccine and vaccine hesitancy, and issues in addressing long COVID.

### USC Zumberge Special Solicitation — Epidemic & Virus Related Research
IIGH is conducting research in Kenya that seeks to understand how best community health workers and self-care interventions can help alleviate the burden that COVID-19 has placed on local health systems to ensure that people can continue to access the health services they need.

### Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Science Seminar: Pandemics, Health and Human Rights
At the invitation of the USC Cinema School, on Oct. 1, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin was a panelist for this seminar, which brought together a range of experts to dialogue with the next generation of filmmakers about the future of pandemics.
IIGH held many events addressing critical issues in global health, from the inequalities of vaccine access and distribution, to the disproportionate effects of climate change on the health of the most marginalized communities around the world. A number of these events were co-hosted with key partners, both within USC and outside, expanding on our collaborative reach to best address the most challenging global health issues we face today.

**IIGH EVENTS**

- IIGH Student Symposium
- Conflicts Between Law and Public Trust in the Name of Public Health: COVID Experiences from Around the World — Mandeep Dhaliwal, United Nations Development Programme; Allan Maleche, Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS; Gerson Sorto, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County
- USC Global Health Case Competition
- Power Privilege, and Reproductive Justice in Global Health
- State of Asylum 2021: How Immigration Policies Oppress Immigrant Communities
- Planetary Health: Environmental Health 4.0?
- IIGH and Law and Global Health Collaboration Self-Care and Health: The Interplay of Technologies, Ethics and Human Rights
- Happiness, Health and the Bicycle
- Emotional Contagion in Times of COVID: From Fear to Hope — Heidi Larson, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
- (Un)Just Recovery: Addressing COVID-Related Inequalities in Los Angeles
- The Role of Technology Policy in Improving Public Health
- Historical Perspectives on Health Inequality in Africa: Is There Light at the End of the Tunnel? — Joachim Osur, Amref International University
- Climate Change from the Streets: How Conflict and Collaboration Strengthen the Environmental Justice Movement
- USC Visions and Voices: Infecting Rights
- USC Women’s Conference 2021: Thrive Together
- When Climate is Everything, How Do We Manage the World and Leave No One Behind? — Rachel Kate, Tufts University
- Health and Human Rights in the Climate Crisis: Charting Challenges and Solutions
- The COVID-19 Pandemic is Not Only a Viral Event
- Threats of Climate Change to Children’s Health and Equity: Solutions Now

Dr. Senait Fisseha, Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation Director of International Programmes and Chief Advisor to the Director General of the World Health Organization, joined IIGH to shed light on the inequities and asymmetrical power structures ingrained within global health and what we can do to address them.

IIGH partnered with the Keck School of Medicine’s HEAL Program and the USC Pacific Center for Health Policy and Ethics for a featured event with Kate Gilmore, former United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, examining how the COVID-19 global health crisis has undermined human rights, and what can be done.

This year’s annual USC Women’s Conference marked the first time IIGH was engaged in the event. “Building Towards a Healthy and Just Global Future: It Takes a Village” showcased IIGH’s work and impact, both in the community and around the world.

**EVENTS**

- **Power Privilege, and Reproductive Justice in Global Health**
- **USC Visions and Voices: Infecting Rights**
- **USC Women’s Conference 2021: Thrive Together**

**IIGH event attendees**

- 1,700+
- 62K
- 2,700+

**YouTube views**

**Website visits**

**1,700+**

**62K**

**2,700+**
Available on our YouTube channel, this series offers the perspectives of diverse thought leaders. Our goal is to help facilitate a conversation from local to global, learning from policy experts, researchers, activists and academics from communities the world over, sharing their perspectives and research, highlighting new developments, and emphasizing best practices.

- Ajeng Larasati, Research and Program Coordinator, LBHM Community Legal Aid Institute, Indonesia
- Allan Maleche, Executive Director, Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN)
- Eszter Kismodi, Chief Executive, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters
- Gerson Sorto, Associate Supervising Attorney, Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County
- Gregg Gonsalves, Professor, Yale School of Medicine and Yale Law School
- Joseph Amon, Professor and Director, Office of Global Health, Drexel University
- Jonathan Cohen, Director, Public Health Program, Open Society Foundations
- Kenechukwu Esom, Policy Specialist, Human Rights, Law and Gender, United Nations Development Programme
- Lianne Gonsalves, Technical Officer, World Health Organization
- Mauro Grinspan, Executive Director, Trans, Gender Diverse and Intersex Advocacy in Action (GATE)
- Morgan Carpenter, Executive Director, Intersex Human Rights Australia
- Nancy Krieger, Professor and Director, Interdisciplinary Concentration on Women, Gender, and Health, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- Naomi Burke Shyne, Executive Director, Harm Reduction International
- Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Professor, BRAC James P. Grant School of Public Health
- Sharon Fonn, Professor, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Susana Soto Tirado, Physician, Colombia
- Vera Paiva, Professor, University of São Paulo

**SELECT EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS**

- HIV Research for Prevention (HIVr4p) Conference, "Getting to the Heart of Stigma: Removing Stigma as Barrier and Enhancing HIV Prevention Efforts"
- Monash University Malaysia, "Palliative Care in Poor Resource Settings: Ethical Questions and Challenges Faced During a Global Pandemic"
- USC Women’s Conference 2021, "Building Towards a Healthy and Just Global Future: It Takes a Village"
- UNU-IIGH, What Works in Gender and Health, "Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Health"
- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, University of Southern California, Office of the Mayor of Los Angeles, "Cities and Universities for a Sustainable Future: The Importance of Community-Focused Partnerships"
- UNFPA, "Laws that Empower, Laws that Control: The Role of Law in Promoting Bodily Autonomy"
- Dornsife Dialogues Virtual Series, "COVID’s Lessons on Inequality"
- Lancet Commission on Gender and Global Health, "Addressing Gender in Global Health: Can Human Rights Play a Useful Role Moving Forward?"
- UNDP, “Removing Legal and Structural Barriers to Ending AIDS by 2030: Lessons from the Global Commission on HIV and the Law”
- Public Health Agency of Sweden, Department of Sexual Health and HIV Prevention, “Assessing Internalized HIV-Related Stigma”
- USC School of Cinematic Arts Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Science Seminar, “Pandemics, Health and Human Rights”
- Universidade de São Paulo, “A Human Rights Perspective in Response to COVID-19”
- Aspen Institute, Invisible No More: A Festival of Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice for All


Cohen J, Gruskin S. “‘This Human Rights Day, the need to affirm the indivisibility of rights has never been greater,” Open Global Rights (2021). https://www.openglobalrights.org/this-human-rights-day-the-need-to-affirm-the-indivisibility-of-rights-has-never-been-greater/.


Mendelson S, Gruskin S. “The SDGs and #JustRecovery in Pittsburgh, Atlanta and Los Angeles: What impact are COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts having on social justice and equity gaps in local communities?” 2021 NASPAA Annual Conference, Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration.


Published 20 years ago in 2001, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin was a key author of the WHO training curriculum “Transforming Health Systems: Gender and Rights in Reproductive Health,” which equips participants with the analytical tools and skills to use rights to operationalize reproductive health policies and programs. Still widely used, it was downloaded more than 4,570 times in the last year alone.

**SELECT PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (CONT.)**


**MEDIA & PODCASTS**


**Transforming Health Systems: Gender and Rights in Reproductive Health**

Published 20 years ago in 2001, IIGH Director Sofia Gruskin was a key author of the WHO training curriculum “Transforming Health Systems: Gender and Rights in Reproductive Health,” which equips participants with the analytical tools and skills to use rights to operationalize reproductive health policies and programs. Still widely used, it was downloaded more than 4,570 times in the last year alone.
OUR VISION:
A MORE JUST AND HEALTHIER WORLD

OUR MISSION:
TO WORK WITH PARTNERS ACROSS USC AND AROUND THE WORLD TO ADDRESS HEALTH-RELATED DISPARITIES AND INEQUALITIES THROUGH RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND POLICY ENGAGEMENT

FOCUS AREAS:
(1) Sexuality, gender and rights
(2) Sustainability, power, poverty and mobility
(3) Urban health in the 21st century
(4) Communication, technology and innovation

RESEARCH
Expanding the evidence base about what works to advance global health

EDUCATION
Training the next generation of global health leaders

POLICY ENGAGEMENT
Informing public policy to more effectively contribute to global health outcomes

CROSS-CUTTING PRACTICES
• Multidisciplinary approaches to research, education and policy engagement
• Long-term partnerships with academic institutions, civil society organizations, governments and United Nations agencies

KEY OBJECTIVE
Conducting relevant global health research and disseminating research results across the four focus areas

KEY ACTIVITIES
• Conducting research and reviews
• Disseminating research findings, publications and scholarship
• Hosting conferences, workshops and events
• Hosting visiting researchers and scholars
• Expanding the Program on Global Health and Human Rights
• Establishing research and learning hubs

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
• # of USC faculty involved in IIGH research activities by school and type of engagement
• # and diversity of active research and funding partnerships each year (for IIGH itself and for faculty and students associated with IIGH)
• # of books, peer-reviewed publications, and abstracts per year by faculty and students associated with IIGH in each of the four focus areas
• Citation counts and downloads for products/publications associated with IIGH

KEY OBJECTIVE
Developing and providing hands-on interdisciplinary education and training programs

KEY ACTIVITIES
• Providing global health courses at undergraduate and graduate levels
• Organizing international immersion courses
• Offering Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) courses
• Teaching online certificates and short courses
• Spearheading case competition
• Expanding fellowship programs
• Providing student practice and internships
• Arranging speaker series
• Establishing research and learning hubs

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
• # of students benefiting from IIGH teaching and training each year, differentiated by country of origin, geographic location, and type of program and/or course, with attention to qualitative measures including student satisfaction and success stories
• # of USC faculty involved in IIGH education activities by school and type of engagement
• # and diversity of active educational and funding partnerships each year (for IIGH itself and for faculty and students associated with IIGH)
• # of international visiting scholars working with IIGH each year

KEY OBJECTIVE
Contributing expertise and research findings to scientific advisory panels, commissions and multilateral organizations

KEY ACTIVITIES
• Conducting evaluations of regional and global health initiatives undertaken by major multilateral organizations
• Establishing policy-oriented documents, tools and technical reports
• Participating in high-level working groups, meetings, committees, conferences, workshops, advisory boards and panels
• Disseminating findings and key messages through social media, print media and television
• Establishing research and learning hubs

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
• # of IIGH-associated reports, tools, evaluations and other outputs integrated into global policy and programs
• Participation of IIGH faculty and staff on scientific committees, policy advisory panels, evaluations and similar processes
• # and diversity of active policy and funding partnerships each year (for IIGH itself and for faculty and staff associated with IIGH)