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Tricenary Session: Looking Back to Look Ahead-An Agenda for Gender and Feminist Geographies

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The IGU Commission for Gender and Geography marks its 30th year as a full-fledged Commission of the International Geographical Union in 2022. Early efforts to carve out the subfield of geographies of gender involved several struggles. A task force was initially instituted in 1988 and finally granted the status of a Commission in 1992. In the course of these last decades, the Commission on Gender and Geography has marked itself out as a vibrant, inclusive body. Membership to the Commission has grown exponentially, its reach now indeed worldwide. As many as four IGU laureates have connections with the Commission on Gender and Geography. At the IGU annual meeting at Krakow in 2014, the Commission also received the award for Best Commission. The Tricenary of the Commission is an occasion to reflect upon the journey of incorporating gender as an analytical lens within the discipline of geography, the trajectory of charting recognition as a subfield, the challenges faced and the ways forward.

In this special Tricenary session, we are inspired by early essays that marked the initial concerns of the subdiscipline- the invisibility of women as subjects and practitioners of geography, debates about methods and calls for more inclusive geographies (see for example Monk and Hanson 1982, Rose 1992, Kobayashi and Peake 1994, Mattingly and Falconer Al Hindi 1995, WGSG 2014 among others). We invite feminist geographers of different generations and diverse contexts to share their reflections and revisit the challenges that doing feminist geographies has posed. Questions may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- (i) How have the questions of doing gender in geography been addressed in specific contexts? What new questions emerge?
- (ii) Has marking out an academic field compromised the activist edge of doing gender and feminist geographies?
- (iii) How effectively have feminist geographers been able to talk across difference and challenge knowledge asymmetries?

Our session acknowledges the seminal contributions the community of feminist geographers has made in the last three decades. This tricenary session is positioned simultaneously as a space for reflection, inspiration and discussion in moving the agenda of gender and feminist geographies forward.