

From the

NY Times

Clinic to *Congress*

Bridging Science, Healthcare, &
Policy

December 2nd, 2020

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Institute for Women's Leadership

The Leadership Scholars Certificate Program is a two-year selective, interdisciplinary certificate program that prepares Rutgers undergraduate women to be informed, innovative, and socially responsible leaders.

Leadership Scholars design and implement social action projects to expand their understanding of issues and problems and to develop leadership skills.

This project gives Scholars the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge they have gained about leadership, advocacy, and social change with the practical and experiential knowledge they have developed about a particular policy issue or problem through the field site placement. It also further develops leadership skills by giving undergraduates the opportunity to *practice* leadership *through* action.

To find out more please visit the Institute for Women's Leadership's website at <http://iwl.rutgers.edu>.

Mission:

“The work of a physician as a healer cannot stop at the door of an office, the threshold of an operating room, or the front gate of a hospital...”

(Berwick 2017)

- Educate and empower undergraduate students to advocate for health policy
- Connect science and healthcare to policy making

Background: Policy can define health

Disconnect between science, healthcare, and policy

- Lack of evidenced-based policymaking (Mishori 2019)
 - Climate change
 - Reproductive Health
 - COVID- 19 Pandemic
- Political determinants of health

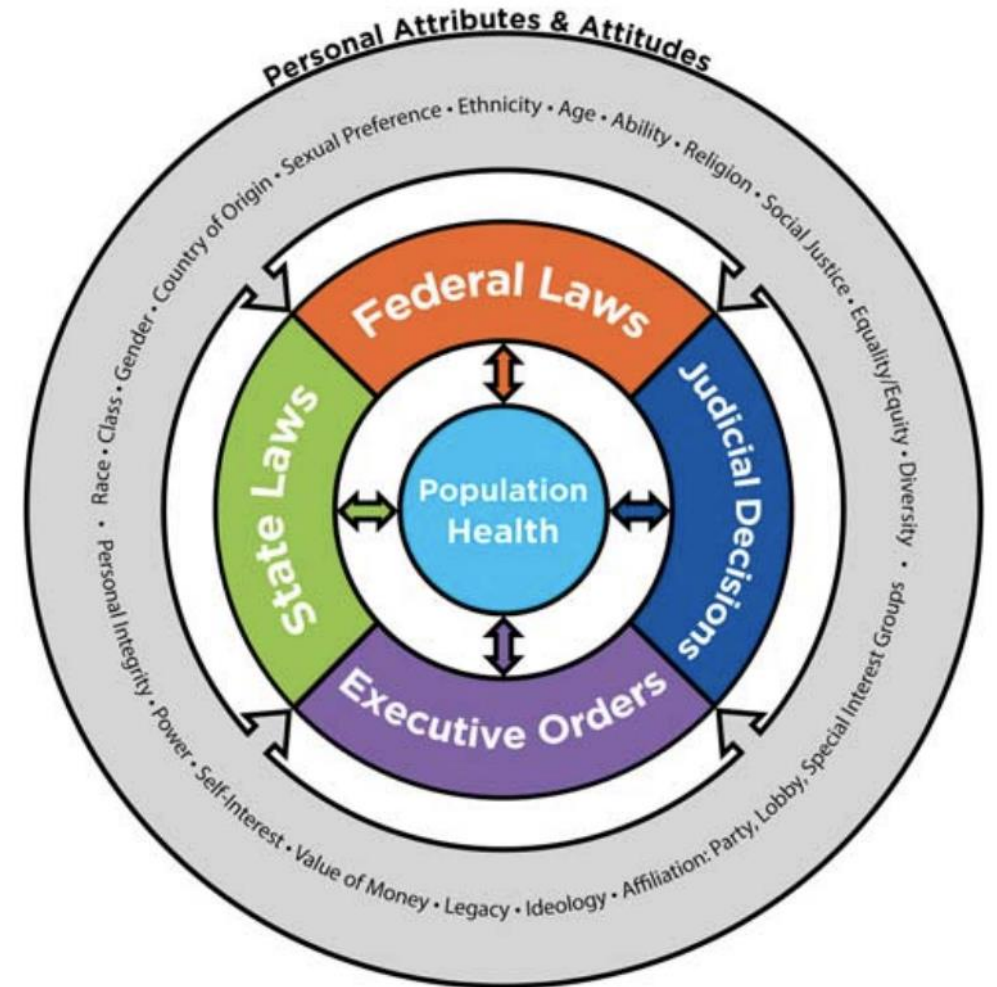
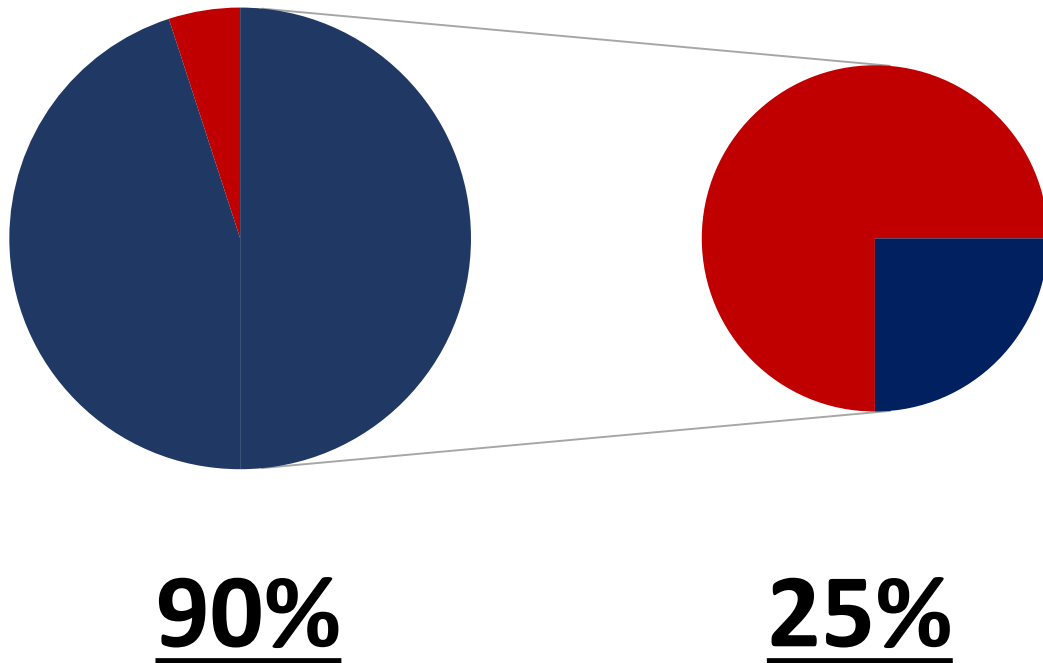


FIGURE 1. The key domains that make up the political determinants of health. (Mishori 2019)

Problem: Science doesn't define policy

The Role of HCP in Policy-Making



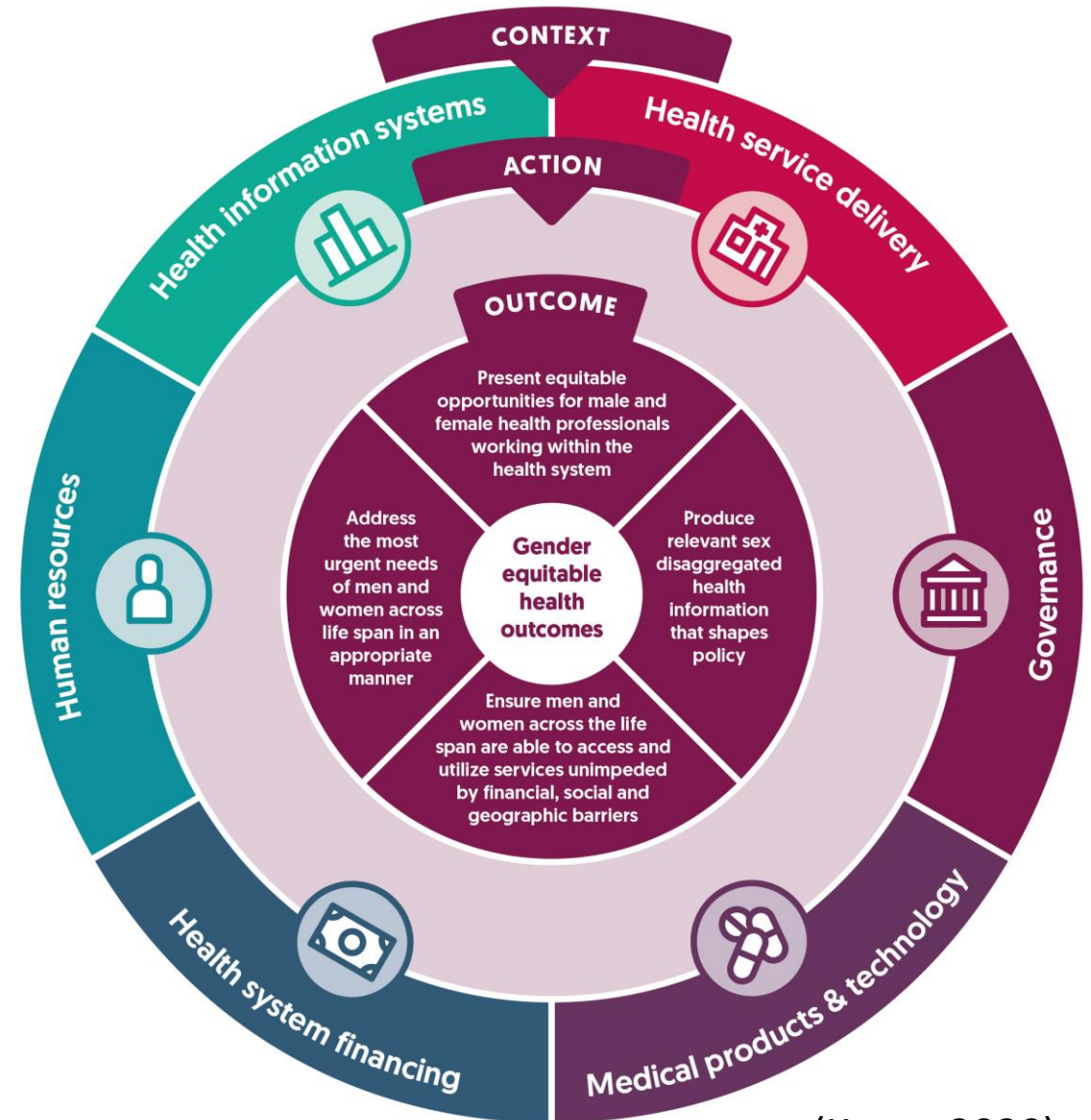
(Blumenthal & Campbell 2006)

- Discouragement of health professionals from politics
 - Repercussions (Blumenthal & Campbell 2006)
- STEM majors among the least likely to vote
(Bergom & Kyoung Ro, 2018)
- Women underrepresented in both STEM and policy (Meyer et al 2015)

Health Policy & Gender

- Women make up ~80% of healthcare force, but 19% of leadership roles (Kacik 2019)
- 79% of health care providers diagnosed with COVID-19 are female (CDC)
- Disparities in diagnosis, research funding and data
- Affordable Care Act
 - Health insurance parity

(Arrons 2012))



(Keeru 2020)

SAP Methodology:

Health in All Policies



(ASTHO)

Gauging Interest

Curriculum Design

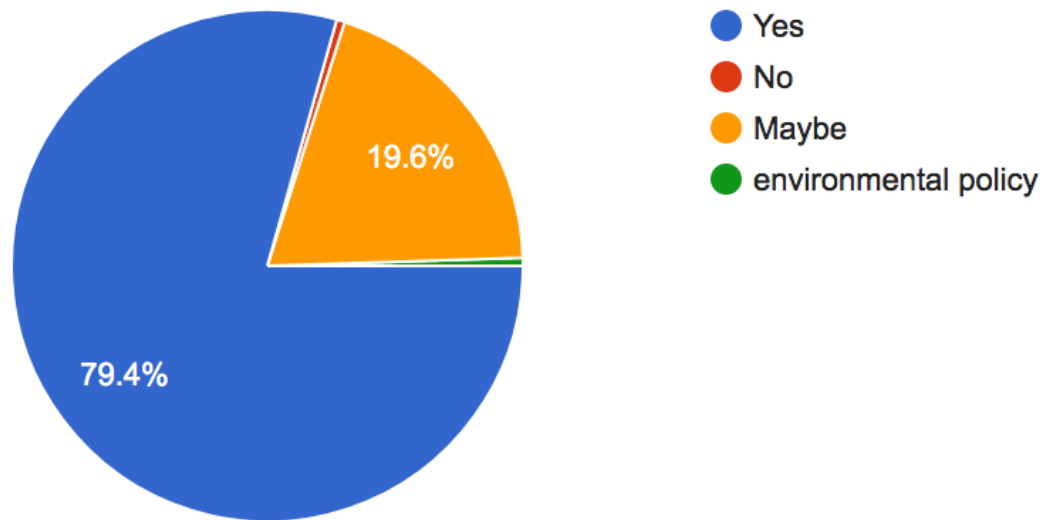
Recruitment

Workshop Series

Initial Interest Survey of 200 STEM Students at RU:

Are you interested in science/health/technology policy?
(such as new legislation and political decision-making)

194 responses



50% of initial respondents agreed:
Engaging in policy experiences as a STEM major
would be beneficial for me

90% of respondents agreed:
There should be more opportunities at Rutgers
for students interested in STEM/health policy

3.6% had participated in a policy-related
opportunity at Rutgers

5.2% had done so outside of RU

Recruitment & Curriculum Design

Sign Up for the 2020-2021 Healthcare Policy Program! [Click to Register](#)

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HealthcarePol
FROM THE CLINIC TO CAPITOL HILL

Bridging Science, Healthcare, & Policy

Join the Health Policy Seminar Series! Learn more about health equity!

Stream Classwork People Grades

HealthcarePol 2020-2021

Class code o5mtca2 []
Meet link Generate Meet link []

Select theme
Upload photo

Upcoming
Due Thursday
8:00 PM – Session 1: Heal...
[View all](#)

Share something with your class...

Wamia Siddiqui posted a new material: READ FIRST: Welcome to HealthcarePol! (Curriculum ...

Posted Oct 11 (Edited Oct 12)

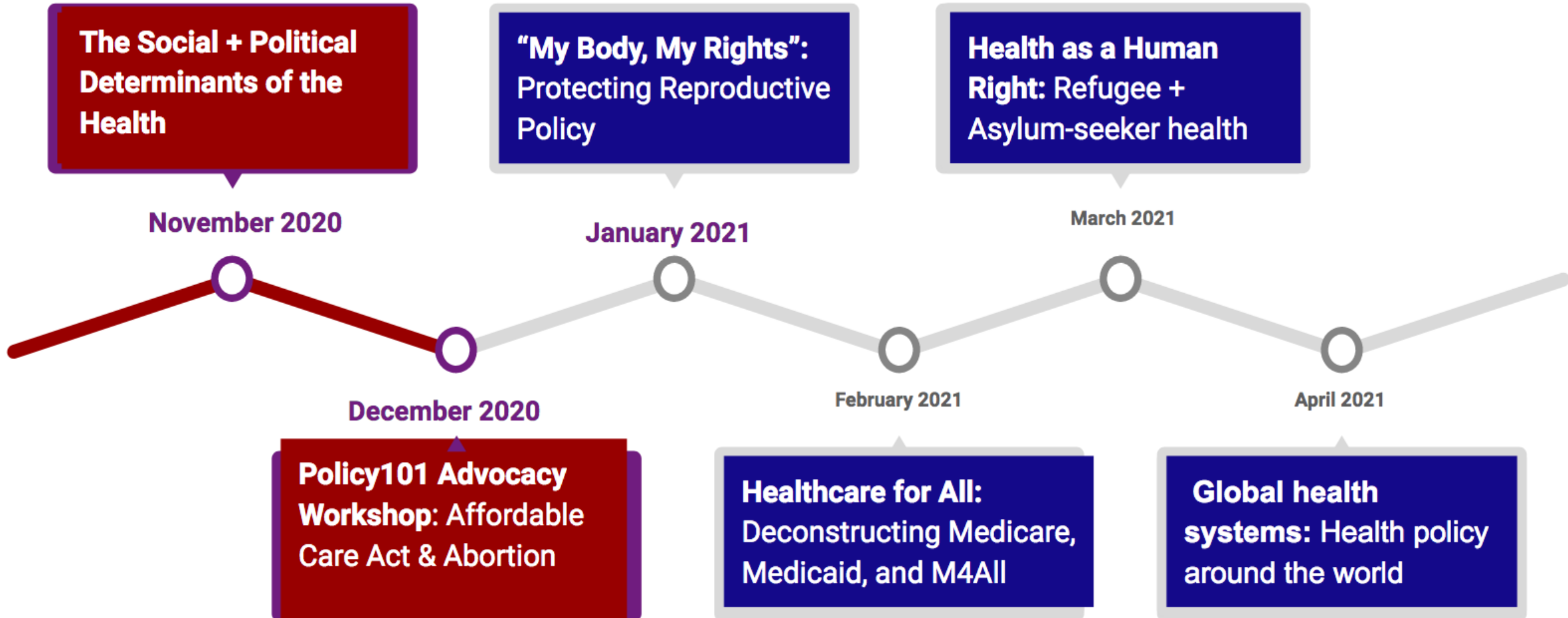
Welcome everyone to our inaugural cohort! HealthcarePol strives to bridge the disconnect between science, health, and policy, which in the midst of the COVID-19 epidemic, has clear repercussions. Our mission is to empower anyone with the right to vote, to effect change through education and advocacy. The 2020 – 2021 Healthcare Policy Program is designed to provide pre-health, pre-law and other undergraduate students with the opportunity to hear from interdisciplinary professionals, ranging from physicians to policy analysts, to other students, while simultaneously developing and applying tangible health policy skills via a final Capstone project.

This program was conceptualized in March of 2020, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and has since developed into a grant-funded initiative, generously supported by Rutgers University's Institute for Women's Leadership. While program is non-partisan and open to anyone with interests in learning more about health policy, it will center around speakers, programming, and topics that are driven by supporting policies and outcomes that promote health equity, and combatting health disparities using a political framework. The first half of the course will feature an overview of the healthcare policy systems in the United States, with an emphasis on reform and evidence-based advocacy, while the second will revolve around thematic programming about specific realms of health policy (immigration policy, social welfare policy, reproductive justice, and global health).

HealthcarePol Program O...
PDF

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Healthcare Policy Workshop Series



Workshops in Review:

Overview of the political determinants of health

“even when *policies* are explicitly and intentionally designed to target racial and socioeconomic disparities, *politics* often intercedes to undermine and reverse progress.” (Michener 2020)

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What comprises health?

- Housing/Environment
- Medical care
- Food
- Transportation
- Social and emotional support systems
- Wealth/Income

Structural Oppression's Role in Health Care + Intersectionality

- RACE: unconscious bias, lesser access to care
- GENDER: sexism, not being believed, women's health
- SE STATUS: lack of access to insurance
- IMMIGRATION STATUS: public charge
- SEXUALITY: fear of discrimination, lack of insurance coverage for hormone therapy

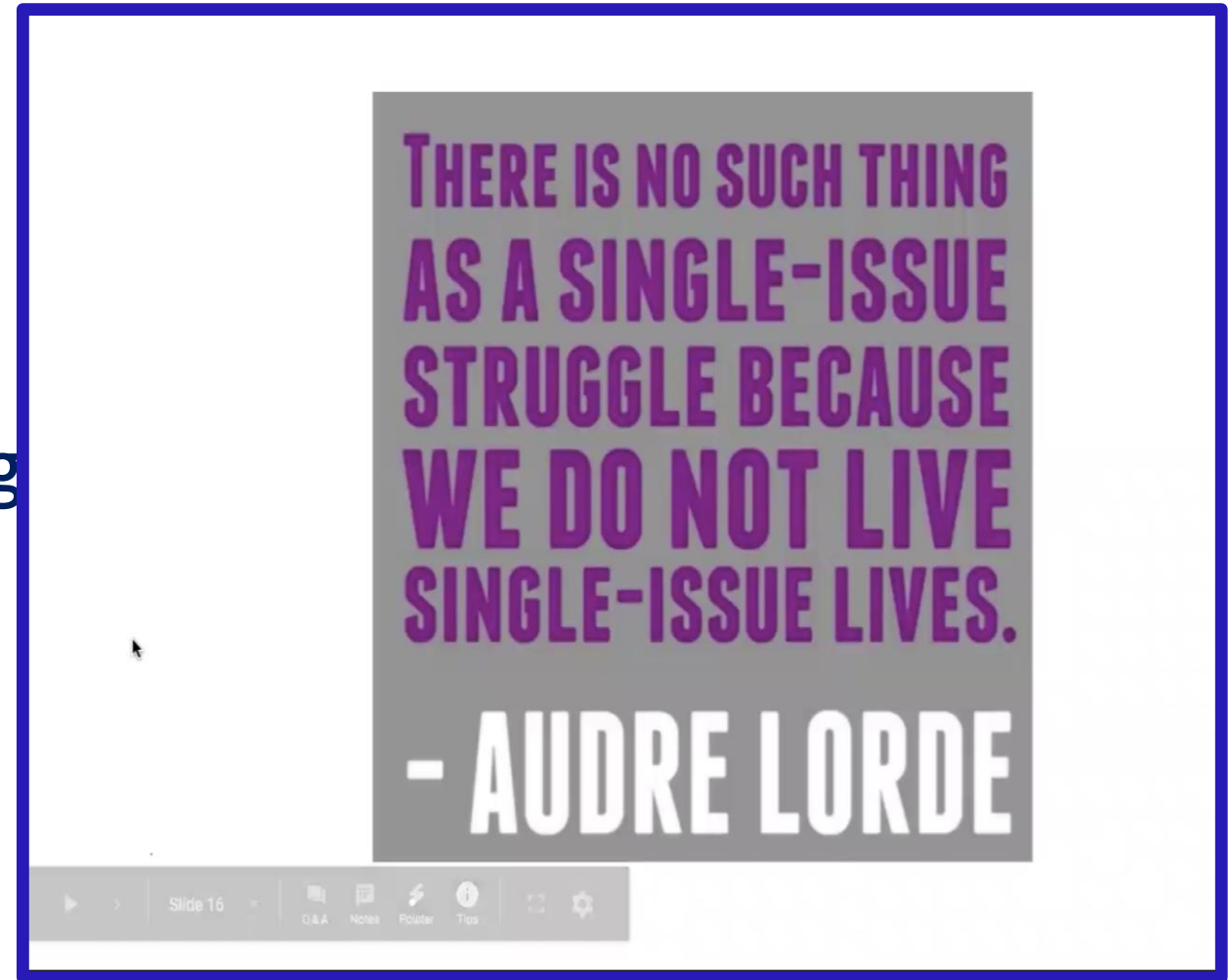
Impact & Partnerships

- **81** live attendees
 - Across the USA
- **108+** views
- **400** email sign ups
- Future Directions
 - Adapted Workshops
 - Further involvement
 - More interactive
 - Speakers



Key Reflections

- Astonished by the interest
- Gaining confidence
- Helping others learn but learning from them as well
- Importance of intersectionality
- Creation of a Community
- Optimistic for the future generation of health care providers



Thank you to my advisor, Dr. Dawn Mouzon, and all of professors, IWL staff & community members, mentors, and friends that made this project possible!

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