



Sarah Scriven

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Women's Studies major, Religion & African/African-American studies minor

- **Research:** *Young Adult Involvement in Social Justice – Local, National & Global*

NC Model: *WomenNC Student Fellowship Program*

My Interest

Passion for social justice



Overview of WomenNC Student Fellowship

Local-Global-Local Model

- An incredible, pragmatic, appealing opportunity!
- North Carolina, UN CSW (NYC), North Carolina



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NC Committee for CEDAW/CSW

Defining Youth

- People between the ages of 15-24
- Share experiences transitioning into adulthood
- 18 percent of global population
- 76 million in US



Social Impact on Youth

- Disproportionately affects youth
- Sexual Assault
- Unemployment
- Poverty
- Standard of Living



Voices of Youth

- Ad Hoc Working Groups of Youth Involvement
- International Youth Conferences Since 1985
- Youth authored declarations for human rights



Youth Proposed Solutions

- Funding Sources
- Adult Support
- Partnership with NGOs to give youth organizations legitimacy
- Recognition
- Transportation
- Topic-specific ways to organize around social justice
- Networks
- Skill Development



The WomenNC Student Fellowship

- WomenNC mission: lead North Carolina's young adults in the elimination of injustice against women and girls
- Developed as a call to action
- Student Fellowship with 24 fellows since 2009



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Local

- Recruitment in local North Carolina schools
- Mentorship
- Community Partnership
- Workshops
- Practice
- Preparation
- Building an expertise



Global

- Introducing the local organizations to global audience
- Sharing Best Practices Strategies
- Global Human Rights Network
- Audience of 6000-8000 participants
- 190+ Countries



Global-to-Local

- Students return as “Ambassadors of Knowledge”
- Introduce Global Solutions to Local Networks
- Present at community symposium, schools, television and radio networks



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Fellow Feedback- Alumni Association

- “Before being enrolled in WomenNC’s fellowship program, as science major I always thought of science for science, but now I am thinking science for human rights”*
- Kristen Brugh (2012 fellow)



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Alumni Association

- University Coordinator for Violence Prevention and Response
- Women's Campaign Fund
- Afghan Women's Writing Project
- Orange Country Rape Crisis Center
- Peace Corps. Indonesia
- Google Community Partnership Program in Education STEM



Fellowship Reflections- Alumni Association

Self-Efficacy and Leadership Skills Development

- Transformation in public speaking skills and comfort
- Stronger Understanding of Community Issues and Organizations within North Carolina
- Networking Skills
- Research Skills
- Advocacy Writing Skills



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Fellowship Reflections- Alumni Association

Commitment to Women's Rights Issues

- Continued work with Women's Right non-profit
- Returned to CSW after fellowship
- Transformed vision of later research and career goals
- Greater Participation and Advocacy on global scale
- Gaining the “feminist fabric” to life



Ways to Support Youth Involvement

- Share WomenNC Student Fellowship model
- Student recruiting
- Serve as community partner
- Dedicated mentor
- Donations
- University Partnership
- Foundation Funding
- Believe in Youth!



Youth Involvement in Human Rights Advocacy: WomenNC Student Fellowship

Sarah Scriven
WomenNC Fellow 2014

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