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## Panel: Women in Science

**Date:** Thursday 27th October 2022

**Time:** 17:05-18:15 (London time), 11:05-12:15 (Peru time)

**Mode:** 100% online

**Language:** English, Spanish

**Chair:** Magaly Blas, Associate Professor, [Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia](#), Peru and [University of Washington](#), USA @MagalyBlasB

**Panelists:**

- Ritsuko Kakuma
- Alizon Rodriguez
- Yanet Valdivia
- Michele Barry

**Structure of webinar:** 1h of presentations (**10 min each maximum**), followed by 15-18 minutes of Q&A.

**Audience:** Aiming for a mix of academia, policy, NGOs, and Public

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## Panelists

### Ritsuko Kakuma



Ritsuko Kakuma is an Associate Professor in Global Mental Health and Programme Director for the Joint MSc in Global Mental Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and King's College London. She also holds an honorary position at the Centre for Mental Health at the University of Melbourne. She has a background in epidemiology and biostatistics, public health and mental health systems, and policy research. Her research and development activities are primarily based in low- and middle-income settings and include mental health policy and system strengthening, health system evaluation, mental health workforce development, mental health stigma, and discrimination research, health policy analysis, policy and community engagement, and health research capacity development.

Twitter [@RitzKakuma](#) [@GMentalHealth](#)

## Alizon Rodriguez



Sociologist and feminist. Doctor in Logic and Philosophy of Science from the University of Salamanca (USAL). Master in Sociology from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP) and in Social Studies of Science and Technology (USAL). Expert in science, technology, knowledge, and gender issues, with several academic publications in that area. She is a Professor and researcher at the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos in the Department of Law and Political Science. Undergraduate and graduate lecturer at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru. Affiliated with the Research Group on Gender Studies of the PUCP, the Peruvian Educational Research Society, the Ibero-American and Mexican Network of Science, Technology, and Gender, and the founder of the Peruvian Network of Science, Technology, and Gender.

Twitter [@navia\\_alizon](#)

## Yanet Valdez



Born in Perú Dr. Valdez began her research leading a research team at UPCH investigating the molecular epidemiology of *Helicobacter pylori*. She then completed her MSc at UBC studying fundamental questions on how T and B cells communicate to produce an effective immune response. She did her doctoral studies on novel concepts of innate responses to the pathogen *Salmonella*. After 5 years of post-doctoral work, she joined StemCell Technologies Inc. leading a team in Innate Immunology, and afterward managed the Research Office at the UBC Faculty of Medicine. Currently, she is an invited lecturer in South American Universities and leads the EDI committee of the Canadian Society of Immunologists. She volunteers for Covid19 Resources Canada, BC Lead, and Science up First. She is a champion of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Women in STEM initiatives in Canada and globally. She recently has been recognized

for her advocacy as a "Women Leader of the Americas" and serves as an advisor for the Centre of Innovation and Leadership for Women (2021-2022). She is the co-founder of [@ImmunoLatinXs](#) and Hispanic in Stem Canada and a proud mother of two.

Twitter [@YaneValdezT](#) [@ImmunoLatinXs](#)

## Michele Barry



Michele is the Director of the Stanford Center for Innovation in Global Health and Senior Associate Dean for Global Health. She is the founder of the Stanford/Yale Global Health Scholars Program, which has sent more than 2,000 physicians and students around the world to help strengthen health and educational capacities and to partner with innovative global health programs. She is a past president of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH), and an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine of the US and sits on its global health board. Michele is a recipient of both the Elizabeth Blackwell Medal for outstanding contributions to women in the field of medicine and the Ben Kean Medal for dedication to clinical tropical medicine and impact on the training of students,

fellows, and practitioners. She is the past Chair of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) and is the Founder of WomenLift Health, a unique leadership program that aims to expand the power and influence of talented women in global health and catalyze systemic change to achieve gender equality in leadership.

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