

Roundtable Series with **MOVERS & SHAKERS** in Global Health



**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**

香港大學公共衛生學院

SPEAKER'S BIO

Dr Mellissa Withers, PhD, MHS



Dr Mellissa Withers is an associate professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California. She also directs the Global Health Programme for the Association of Pacific Rim Universities.

Dr Withers' research focuses on global reproductive health and women's empowerment, including human trafficking, HIV/AIDS prevention and family planning. Her other research interests include community participatory research, cultural competency, qualitative methodology, border health and medical anthropology. She has spent several years living and working in developing countries in Asia, Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to joining The University of Southern California, she taught at

University of California, Los Angeles in the department of anthropology and other universities including California State University, Los Angeles; Occidental College; and University of California, San Francisco. Dr Withers is the editor of two books: *Global Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health Across the Lifecourse*, and *Global Health Leadership: Case Studies from the Asia-Pacific* (in press).

Dr Withers received a doctorate in community health sciences from the University of California, Los Angeles Fielding School of Public Health in 2009. She also earned her Master of Health Sciences degree in the health systems management track from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Department of International Health. She graduated from University of California, Berkeley with a bachelor's degree in global development.