



GWJ Update – 04 November 2015



Participants from the GWJ, FAWG and FNU workshop Communities for Action

Graduate Women International news

Graduate Women International (GWJ) hosts Pacific Workshop, Communities for Action

On 29-31 October 2015, Graduate Women International (GWJ) held a workshop with members from the Pacific region, the Fiji Association of Women Graduates (FAWG), and Fiji National University (FNU) to work on building and engaging membership and increase their impact on girls' and women's education in their country. Members engaged actively in the three days, taking part in interactive sessions on membership, communications, partnerships, and [GWJ's Girls' Choices project](#). The workshop culminated in an action-planning session, which members will implement over the year ahead. A GWJ member from Fiji commented, "I've been so inspired by the workshop and learnt a lot, particularly how to motivate members and be more active".

GWJ member news

The Federation of Graduate Women of Russia co-hosts conference with Herzen State Pedagogical University

The theme of the conference which GWJ's Russian federation is co-hosting, in St Petersburg, Russia from 24-26 November 2015, is *Management of the 21st Century, Anti-Crisis Strategies and Risk Management*. The [Federation of Graduate Women of Russia](#), currently celebrating its 25-year anniversary, will host a round table discussion on *Gender Aspects in Effective Management and Civil Society Development*. Scientists, teachers, managers and post-graduate students are invited to participate, for details contact: conference@manage21.ru.

Advocacy

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 23rd Session 2-23 November 2015

Every four and a half years, each of the 193 UN member states must undertake a national human rights examination - the [Universal Periodic Review](#) (UPR). As part of the review process, the state must compile a national report highlighting the country's human rights situation to make sure that it is fulfilling its international human rights obligations. It is at this stage, while the national report is drafted, that civil society (including NFAs) can give input into the process, to highlight specific issues that can be integrated into the

written NGO submission to the Office of the High Commission of Human Rights (OHCHR). More information is available [here](#).

Grants and Proposals

Graduate Women International and the Hegg-Hoffet Fund

The Hegg-Hoffet Fund helps registered refugee graduate women to continue their professional work by paying for upgrade or language courses in their new country. Members of the National Federations and Associations can help this work in two ways, one of which is by directly contributing to the funds. The second way is by identifying women who are eligible to apply. This might be by contacting women in their own area or by informing refugee agencies in their country of the possibility of funding. It is vital that those who could benefit from our funds do apply and receive our support and encouragement as well as finance. [Details are on the GWI website](#).

Legacies in favour of GWI

As a non-profit, non-governmental organisation, GWI is sincerely grateful for all [donations](#) received from the wills of members and [patrons](#), which make a significant difference in enabling advocacy activities and projects. By leaving a gift in your will to GWI, you are supporting the organisation to continue its mission to increase access to lifelong education for girls and women globally.

Other information and events

November 02 - 23	Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 23rd Session, Geneva, Switzerland
November 02 - 13	Finnish Academic Women's Association (SANL) AGM , Kaunianien, Finland
November 23 - 26	GWI Board Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland
November 25	Tackling Youth Unemployment in Europe , Brussels, Belgium
November 25 - Dec 10	Center for Women's Global Leadership 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2015 Campaign
November 26 - 27	Feminism and Sustainable Development , Postgraduate University, Mexico
June 28 – July 1 (2016)	12th International Conference, ISTR, Stockholm, Sweden
August 21 – 23 (2016)	GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)
August 24 – 26 (2016)	GWI Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)

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Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. GWI, formerly IFUW, is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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