



GW I UPDATE 01 June 2016



GW I President Catherine Bell with outgoing IrFUW President Marion Gibson and incoming President Mary Morrissey

— Graduate Women International news —

GW I President Catherine Bell is visiting Ireland, hosted by the [Irish Federation of University Women \(IrFUW\)](#). During her stay she has visited the four Irish Associations and took part in their events, in addition to visits to universities and institutions that are about to join IrFUW. Her first engagement was to speak at the IrFUW International Day event at the Kildare St and University Club in Dublin on 21 May, and she was present for the handover of the IrFUW presidency from Dr Marion Gibson to Mary Morrissey. According to newsletter editor Ms Martina Mulrine, Irish members were impressed by how the GW I President and her team in Geneva have modernised GW I and strengthened its profile. On 25 May she spoke at the Galway Association of Women Graduates Annual Lunch. She has also been hosted by University College Dublin Women Graduates Association, Dublin University Women Graduates' Association and Queen's Women Graduates.

— GW I member news —

GW I's national federations and associations help to integrate graduate women refugees

The GW I national member in Sweden, [Swedish University Women \(KAF\)](#) have a new initiative to integrate graduate women called the Professional Key Project. Members of KAF bring together women newly arrived in Sweden to share professional contacts, skills upgrading opportunities and culturally relevant advice for job searching. GW I has a long history of assisting graduate women who have been displaced as a result of war, political upheaval or other serious emergencies. A fund was established as the [IFUW Emergency Fund](#) in 1936, to help women who had been deprived of the right to work or to live in their own countries. Now named the Hegg Hoffet Fund after a particularly active Swiss fundraiser and activist for the Fund, GW I's member associations continue this tradition of helping women to integrate into their host nations. Please [see here for more information and to donate to the Hegg Hoffet Fund](#).

— Advocacy —

GW I submits written statement to the 32nd Human Rights Council

The [Human Rights Council \(HRC\)](#) in Geneva is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe. It addresses situations of human rights violations and makes recommendations on them. The Council is made up of 47 United Nations Member States which are elected by the UN General Assembly. The Council has the ability to discuss all thematic human rights issues and situations that require its attention throughout the year. The annual June session has a special focus on women. Read the GWI written statement for the [32nd HRC session](#) [here](#).

— Call for applications —

Call for papers: The gender dimension of ‘Displacement’

[Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society](#) invites submissions for a special issue titled “Displacement,” slated for publication in spring 2018. The current refugee crisis gives new urgency to questions of gendered displacement; the United Nations’ [most recent statistics](#) place the number of registered Syrian refugees at 4.7 million, 50.7 percent of whom are women and over half of whom are children under eighteen. The deadline for submissions is 15 September 2016. Manuscripts may be submitted electronically through Signs’ Editorial Manager system at <http://signs.edmgr.com>.

— Give the gift of education —

[Join our GlobalGiving](#) campaign and help us raise \$50,000 to support 50 women student teachers in 2016. GWI provides scholarships and mentoring support to young women from rural areas of Uganda to become qualified teachers and ambassadors for girls’ education. Donate now and help us train women teachers to train 1000s of students. You can read more about GWI’s project Teachers for Rural Futures [here](#).

— Other information and events —

June	22 - 25	Empowerment for Personal and Professional Leadership	Panama City, Panama
June	24 - 25	Canadian Federation of University Women AGM	Ontario, Canada
June	24 - 27	University Women of Europe AGM and Conference	Winchester, UK
July	14 - 15	Australian Higher Education Summit	Melbourne, Australia
July	21 - 23	3rd Network Gender and STEM Conference 2016	Newcastle, UK
August	08 - 19	Women’s Human Rights Education Institute Intensive	Toronto, Canada
Nov	28 - 30	5th International Conference of Women’s Museums ,	Mexico City

August 21 – 23

[GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa \(members only\)](#)

August 24 – 26

[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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