



GWI UPDATE 07 Sept 2016



The Young Leaders workshop at the 32nd Triennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa

— Graduate Women International news —

GWI welcomes Stacy Dry Lara as incoming Executive Director

[Graduate Women International](#) (GWI) is proud to announce that Stacy Dry Lara took over as the Executive Director on 1 September 2016. Stacy embodies the values, principles and practices that are at the heart of GWI and brings with her experience in high-level fundraising, project management and communications. For the past four years Stacy has worked as a United Nations representative in Geneva, Switzerland, for FAWCO, the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas. Prior to moving to Switzerland in 2010, she owned and operated a marketing communications agency for 10 years in The Woodlands, Texas. GWI bids farewell to departing Executive Director Danièle Castle, who has gone on to pursue other business interests after dedicating over three years to furthering the cause of GWI.

— GWI member news —

GWI young members attend Young Leaders workshop at the GWI Conference

Young members of GWI's [National Federations and Associations](#) (NFAs) attended an all-day Young Leaders' workshop at the GWI 32nd Triennial Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, 21-23 August 2016. Generously sponsored by the [Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund](#) (VGIF), the workshop aimed to develop young members' leadership skills and nurture inspirational ideas. The workshop brought together enthusiastic and motivated young women from all over the world who will put into action in their home countries some of the impressive ideas generated from the workshop. These 20 young women now have an international network of contacts and friends to help support the empowerment of girls and women through education up to the highest levels.

— Advocacy —

International Literacy Day 8 September

Despite growing internet coverage, digital divides still exist worldwide, with women commonly less able to benefit from access to devices or the internet. In South Asia, for instance, women are [38% less likely to](#)

[own a mobile phone than men](#) for a variety of reasons, including lack of control over finances and decision-making. On [International Literacy Day](#), GWI calls for digital literacy for girls and women to be recognised as integral to modern literacy. With digital connectivity expanding, it is essential that literacy comprises knowledge of digital devices such as smartphones, tablets and computers, in addition to reading, writing and numeracy skills. The advantages of literacy, combined with mobile connectivity, can empower women economically and socially. Read our press release [here](#).

— Opportunities —

The Varkey Foundation 2017 Global Teacher Prize

The [Varkey Foundation](#) annual [Global Teacher Prize](#) was created to honour one outstanding educator who has made a significant contribution to their profession as well as their communities. The prestigious prize, first awarded in 2015, brings awareness and recognition to the world's best educators. Educators across the globe can apply or be nominated. Applicants are judged on a variety of criteria, including impact in the classroom, contributions to the community, use of innovative teaching methods, and work with mentoring and coaching fellow educators. Prize: One educator receives a \$1 million award; finalists also receive prizes and recognition. To nominate someone or apply, please go [here](#). The closing date for applications is 14 October 2016.

— Membership —

[Give the gift of membership!](#) Do you know a graduate woman who would like to join the leading women's international organisation that works to empower girls and women through access to lifelong, quality education and training? [Give the gift of membership](#) to join a global community of some 20,000 members in 80 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of our National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

— Other information and events —

September	13 - 16	European Association for International Education Liverpool, UK
September	19 - 20	Preventing Violent Extremism through Education New Delhi, India
October	22	IrFUW Annual Conference Dublin, Ireland
October	25 - 26	International Universities Networking Conference Istanbul, Turkey
November	22	Boosting Youth Employment: Growth & Quality Jobs Brussels, Belgium
November	27 - 30	Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
November	28 - 30	5th International Conference of Women's Museums Mexico City

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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.

Graduate Women International

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