



GWI UPDATE – 22 February 2017



Deputy Vice Chancellor Griffith University: Professor Martin Betts, 2016 Isobel Taylor Awardee for Excellence in Teaching: Merima Celahmetovic and AFGW Gold Coast Branch President: Rosemary Power

— Graduate Women International news —

GWI written statement to CSW61 published

Graduate Women International's (GWI) written statement addressing the 61st session of the United Nations (UN) Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) theme of "Women's Economic Empowerment in the Changing World of Work" is now published on the [UN website](#). The statement, submitted by GWI and undersigned by international and national non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, makes strong recommendations regarding labour rights for refugee women; education skills and language training for the country of settlement; gender disaggregation of data; cultural integration programmes; protection against gender-based violence in the workplace, trafficking and exploitation; and financing. We invite you to read our [statement](#). More than 20 GWI delegates will attend CSW61 beginning 13 March 2017 in New York City, NY.

— GWI member news —

Australia

GWI member Graduate Women Queensland Gold Coast Branch presents Scholarship Awards

The [Australian Federation of Graduate Women \(AFGW\)](#) has provided fellowships, scholarships and bursaries for over 50 years for women to undertake university studies; this is a main focus of action within AFGW, its States and Territories and their Branches. [AFGW Gold Coast Branch](#) President Rosemary Power, presented the Isobel Taylor Award (one of the founders of the Gold Coast Branch in 1976) for academic excellence in teaching at the Griffith University (Gold Coast) Awards Night held in 2016. The recipient was Merima Celahmetovic.

Merima's story

"I came to Australia as a 4-year-old in 1986 with Mum and Dad from Bosnia. I attended school in Brisbane and completed a Bachelor of International Business at Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. I moved to the Gold Coast, got married and started a Masters in Business Administration at Griffith University Gold Coast Campus but stopped to have my family and 11 years later started a Bachelor of Education at Griffith University Gold Coast Campus. I will be commencing my teaching career at Beenleigh State High School (half way between Gold Coast and Brisbane) teaching Junior High School students".

These bursaries are examples of the many scholarships offered annually in all AFGW branches to assist women and girls to undertake further study and research. See the AFGW scholarships page [here](#).

— Advocacy —

GWI Geneva United Nations representatives advocate with NGO CSW Geneva

As a long-standing member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva (NGO CSW, Geneva), GWI UN representatives regularly collaborate with NGO CSW Geneva's consortium of NGOs to advocate for gender equality in secondary education, through removing the barriers to girls' education. GWI Geneva UN representatives participate in various activities, including the bimonthly NGO CSW members' meetings, which provides GWI the opportunity to network, exchange ideas and information, and collaborate on joint projects and events, such the 2016 Women Economic Forum held at the UN in Geneva, as well as on respective statements submitted to the UN Human Rights Council each June, March and September and the CSW held annually in New York, NY.

International Women's Day, 8 March 2017

GWI encourages all members, partners and friends to celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March 2017. This event represents an opportunity to celebrate the economic, political and social achievements of women around the world. The 2017 theme for International Women's Day is "Be Bold for Change". Find out more about the activities taking place across the world [here](#).

— Call for applications —

The Anita Borg Institute Pass-it-On Awards Programme

The Anita Borg Institute's Pass-It-On (PIO) Awards is open for applications, honouring Anita Borg's desire to create a network of women technologists helping one another. The cash awards, funded by donations from the Systems Online Community and others, are intended as means for women established in technological fields to support women seeking their place in the fields of technology. Pass-it-on Award applications are open to any woman over 18 years old in or aspiring to be in the fields of computing. Awards are open to women in all countries. Deadline for applications: **22 March 2017**. For more information, please visit [Pass-it-On Awards](#).

Call for Female Prospective MBA Candidates to Participate in the GROW FAST Initiative

The LUISS Business School, Johnson & Johnson and Korn Ferry International are seeking applications for its [GROW FAST initiative](#). GROW (Generating Real Opportunities for Women) is a programme initiated in LUISS Business to promote, support and improve personal and professional growth for its

female students. The GROW Fast initiative is offering up to three outstanding candidates an opportunity to have a 3-month paid internship at Johnson & Johnson starting in July 2017, take a full-time MBA course at LUISS Business School starting in October 2017 and start an international career at Johnson & Johnson after the studies. The deadline for applications is **15 April 2017**. Eligibility requirements and further details are available [here](#).

— Give the gift of education —

GWI is directly addressing the lack of women teachers as a barrier to girls' secondary education by sponsoring girls from rural areas in Uganda to qualify as teachers through the [Teachers for Rural Futures project](#). Please support our GlobalGiving campaign and help young women to achieve their potential, inspire girls to go to school and build more prosperous communities. [Give today](#).

— Other information and events —

February 23	Policy Conference on Women in the Workplace , London, United Kingdom
Feb 27–March 24	Human Rights Council 34th Session , Geneva, Switzerland
March 1	Zero Discrimination Day , Global
March 8	International Women's Day , Global
March 13– 24	Commission on the Status of Women , UN Headquarters, New York, USA
April 27	International Girls in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Day , Global
May 11-13	2017 Global Summit of Women , Tokyo, Japan
June 5-17	106th Session of the International Labour Conference , Geneva, Switzerland
July 14–16	The IAFOR International Conference on Global Studies 2017 , Barcelona, Spain
Sept 29–Oct 1	Lithuanian University Women's Association Conference , Kaunas, Lithuania

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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 since 1947 and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

Graduate Women International

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