



GWl Update – 23 September 2015



The New Managing Committee of University Women's Association Pune (UWAP)

Graduate Women International news

GWl at International Entrepreneurship Conference, South Africa

GWl Executive Director Danièle Castle participated in the 14th International Entrepreneurship Conference (IEF) 16-18 September 2015, as part of the partnership GWl has established with Essex University Business School and its Venture Academy. The conference was held in Cape Town, South Africa. The theme was *Entrepreneurial Institutions and the Entrepreneurial Society: Creating an Inclusive Agenda for Opportunity Creation*. The event provided a platform for the generation of new ideas, insights and practices related to an agenda for inclusive opportunity creation for researchers, policy makers and practitioners. Danièle Castle participated in two panel discussions on Growth, Social inclusion and Social Impact, and Education, Training and Inclusive Entrepreneurial Learning.

GWl member news

UWA Pune and the Indian Federation

Elections were held at GWl member the [University Women's Association Pune \(UWAP\)](#), and the new Managing Committee under the leadership of Shabnum Poonawalla has taken charge for 2015-17. The Membership Development Committee held an Open House networking opportunity for members, with Dr Prabha Deodhar, past President and past Trustee of UWAP, delivering a presentation on the history of UWAP, which is now 66 years old. Members were informed on activities past and present of UWAP including the establishment of a Working Women's Hostel. The outcome of this Open House was most encouraging; 15 new members enrolled that day and about the same number are completing membership procedures. The Association has planned four such Open House programmes during the year as part of their membership drive, and hopes to get equally positive results.

Advocacy

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 70) and Sustainable Development Goals

Member states at the United Nations General Assembly (15 September-06 October) will formally adopt the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\) for 2030](#). These aim to go much further than the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality and the universal need for development that works for all people. Through ongoing advocacy and policy influence locally, internationally,

forging partnerships with institutions and through the work of its NFAs, GWI seeks to ensure that state commitments to the SDGs on gender equality and lifelong education for women and girls that were included in the agreed text will be turned into actions. Catherine Bell, GWI President, and Caroline Staffell, International Development Manager, will be attending meetings related to gender and education during the UNGA.

Grants and Proposals

GWI's Hegg Hoffet Fund for Displaced Women Graduates

The Fund was established in 1936 as the International Federation of University of Women Emergency Fund (later called the Relief Fund) to help university women who had been deprived of the right to work, and in many cases, the right to live in their native countries. In honour of many years of service given by long-term Convener Mme Blanche Hegg Hoffet of Switzerland, who was particularly responsible for raising money and distributing assistance during and after the Second World War, the Fund adopted her name in 1968. For more information and to donate see [here](#).

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 over 23,000 members in more than 100 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of over 60 National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

Other information and events

Sept 24 – Oct 02	Human Rights Council Session 30 , Geneva, Switzerland
September 25 – 27	Women Graduates USA (WG-USA) AGM , Baltimore, USA
September 29 - 30	3rd UIA Associations Round Table Asia-Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand
October 16 – 18	Irish Federation of University Women, Annual Conference , Dublin, Ireland
October 22-26	VAÖ DACH Meeting, Graz Austria
October 29 – 31	GWI Capacity Building Workshop: Communities for Action , Suva, Fiji
November 14 – 15	Finnish Academic Women's Association (SANL) AGM , Kaunianien, Finland
November 23 – 26	GWI Board Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland
Nov 25 - Dec 10	Center for Women's Global Leadership 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2015 Campaign
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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