



Graduate Women International  
Empowering women & girls through lifelong education

## GWI UPDATE – 18 October 2017

### RUN WITH US TO SUPPORT GIRLS' EDUCATION



*GWI launches the 2017 Escalade Campaign in Geneva – Join our team!*

*GWI greatly appreciates the contribution of professional cartoonist, [Laurence Rassat](#), for the above groovy cartoon.*

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## — Graduate Women International news —

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### GWI marks the International Day of the Girl with Radio 74



*GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara and Radio 74 Ron Meyers discuss the importance of girls' education.*

On 11 October 2017, GWI marked International Day of the Girl with a Radio 74 interview in Geneva, Switzerland. Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara, discussed GWI's My Two Cents for Girls' Education campaign that brings awareness to the importance of girls' secondary education. She spoke about grassroots efforts by GWI National Federations and Associations (NFAs) that aim to improve girls access to quality education and the need for funding to enhance GWI advocacy programs.

Stacy also recognized the GWI Teachers for Rural Futures program and celebrated the five student teachers GWI sponsors at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda as positive Buyende, Uganda

community role models. During the interview she point out the excellent work of GWI NFAs on community projects that aim to eliminate cultural norms such as FGM and early child and forced marriage that reduce girls' attendance in school. Stacy also told listeners about other GWI NFA community programs that strive to empower women and improve livelihoods of women such as financial literacy classes, handcraft skills teachings, and language classes as means to increase social inclusion.

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## — GWI member news —

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### **TUKD celebrates International Day of the Girl with My Two Cents for Girls' Education presentations**



*GWI Vice President, Fundraising, Basak Ovacik, presents to attendees on the value education.*

The Turkish Association of University Women, Istanbul branch, held a scholarships award ceremony in Istanbul on 11 October 2017 to mark the International Day of the Girl. Speakers at the event discussed the importance of the rights of girls and women. GWI Vice President, Fundraising, Basak Ovacik, gave a presentation about the GWI My Two Cents for Girls' Education project that draws attention to the potential and vitality of girls everywhere. GWI congratulates TAUW for its well-attended and powerful event.

### **AFGW NSW TAFE TPC 2017 Awards**

The Australian Federation of Graduate Women New South Wales (AFGW-NSW) through the Friends of City Branch presented awards at a recent ceremony that marked achievement in alternative ways of entering university. The four accomplished awardees completed the Tertiary Preparation Courses (TPC) at Technical and Further Education centres (TAFE) and Tertiary Entrance Score (TES). The Friends of the City Branch and other members and friends attended the prize ceremony and afternoon tea.



*From left to right: Award recipient Summer Keen, Jane Maughan-Cheney TAFE teacher and TPC coordinator, award recipient Leah Wang, Elizabeth Fisher and Professor Shirley Randell AO at the ceremony, both are also TAFE teachers and TPC coordinators*

With the successful achievement of the TPC or the TAFE these four deserving women are now able to achieve their dreams. Born in China, Leah Wang, will study a Bachelor of Education combined with a Bachelor of Science at Macquarie University. Elizabeth Fisher accepted the award for Nadida Makanisi, who has gained a place in the highly competitive midwifery program at the University of Technology Sydney.



*AFGW Secretary, 'Tricia Blombery, AFGW President Jane Baker, and Professor Shirley Randell AO, member of the GWI Projects Committee are pictured with award winner Summer Keen*

Summer Keen is now studying a Bachelor of Medical Science/Bachelor Arts at the Australian National University. "I regained confidence in my academic ability and met a lot of wonderful and supportive people. I received an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank equivalence of 99.95 and have gone on to study a Bachelor of Medical Science at the ANU," said summer. After successfully completing the TES, Shirley Xi-Lin is now studying Law.

GWI congratulates these four aspiring young women and the AFGW-NSW for their dedication to the advancement of young women.

### **Bina Roy Partners in Development programme funds the Rwandan Association of University Women's project to prevent unwanted pregnancy among adolescent girls**

[The Bina Roy Partners in Development Programme](#), BRPID, funds local initiatives operated by GWI's NFAs that empower women and girls through education and leadership development. Through the 2017 funding cycle, BRPID has provided funding for a project organised by the Rwandan NFA, RAUW, to increase girl's access to and participation in primary and secondary education. Adolescent pregnancy has been identified as one of the reasons that influence girl's drop-out rates, with 47 percent of pregnancies in Rwanda being unintended. The project aims to improve access and participation of girls

in school, improve learning for girls on sexual reproductive health and care services, empower girls to claim their rights to fight violence both in and out of school, and promote an effective schools/community dialogue on girl's health. This is an important project that will increase awareness of unwanted pregnancies and the impact it has on girl's education, and draw attention and aim to resolve gender disparities at transitioning from primary to secondary or tertiary levels.

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## — Advocacy —

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### **WWSF honours rural women creativity**

GWJ United Nations representative Helen Lom attended on 16 October, the Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) awards ceremony. Annually, WWSF grants ten USD 1'000 grants to women for their creativity in rural life. Additionally, this year was the First Rural Women Movements Award for USD \$10'000. The first recipient of this prestigious grant was Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) India. Moderated by Elly Pradervand (WWSF Founder/President and Executive Director), speakers included Secretary General of SEWA – India; Ambassador of India, and Representatives of UN Women, UNFPA, IFAD, NGO-CSW Geneva. GWJ congratulates WWSF on their tireless work for rural women and for granting these well-deserved awards.

### **28<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Universal Periodic Review**

The [Universal Periodic Review](#) is an important advocacy mechanism and opportunity for NGOs to view gender components of individual countries. Forty-Two States are reviewed each year during three Working Group sessions dedicated to 14 States each. These three sessions are usually held in January/February, May/June and October/November. In November the 28<sup>th</sup> session will be held where 14 States will be reviewed. GWJ will be attending to cover the review for our NFA's countries, which are: [Argentina](#), [Ghana](#), [Japan](#), [Republic of Korea](#), [Switzerland](#) and [Zambia](#).

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## — Call for applications —

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### **African Women's Public Service Fellowship**

The African Women's Public Service Fellowship, made possible by a donation from the Oprah Winfrey Foundation, expands the opportunity for African women to impact for public service in their home countries. The Fellowship provides full tuition, fees, housing or a housing stipend (if enrolling in the Global EMPA program), travel to and from the United States, and a small stipend to cover books and miscellaneous expenses. Fellowship recipients commit to return to their respective home countries at the conclusion of the program with the goal of assuming a leadership position on the continent where they can meaningfully contribute to the challenges currently confronting Africa. Please note that this fellowship is only available to degree-seeking students. Advanced professional certificate and non-degree programs are not applicable for this fellowship. You can find more information and start the application process [here](#). **Deadline is 1 December 2017.**

### **Teach for India Fellowship Program 2018**

[Applications](#) are open for the 2018 Teach for India Fellowship Program, an opportunity for India's brightest and most promising youth, from the nation's best universities and workplaces, to serve as full-time teachers to children from low-income communities in some of the nation's most under-resourced schools. Through this experience of teaching in classrooms and working with key education



stakeholders like students, principals, and parents, the Fellows get exposed to the grassroots realities of India's education system and begin to cultivate the knowledge, skills, and mindsets necessary to attain positions of leadership in education and identify their role in building a wider movement for educational equity in the country. Teach for India offers fellows the chance to make a real difference in tackling one of India's most pressing challenges — educational inequity. The Fellowship will help fellows to develop leadership skills that are critical in today's dynamic global work environment. The Fellowship Program gives fellows an opportunity to become a part of the solution and a change agent in the society. You can find more information [here](#). The last **deadline to apply is 4 February 2018**.

### **Knight Visiting Nieman Fellowships Program**

The Nieman Foundation is accepting applications for its Knight Visiting Nieman Fellowships Program. These Fellowships at Harvard offer short-term research opportunities to individuals interested in working on special projects designed to advance journalism in some new way. Candidates need not be practicing journalists, but must demonstrate the ways in which their work at Harvard and the Nieman Foundation may improve the prospects for journalism's future. This may be related to research, programming, design, financial strategies or another topic. In addition to working journalists, those who should consider applying include publishers, programmers, designers, media analysts, academics and others interested in enhancing quality, building new business models or designing programs to improve journalism. All visiting fellows are expected to be in residence in Cambridge during their study and present their findings to the Nieman community at the end of their research period. Application for international candidates is 1 December 2017. More information can be found [here](#).

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## — GWI United Nations Representative Reports —

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GWI's United Nations Representative in New York, Maureen Byrne, Ph.D. attended the Financing the Future: Education for All session on 20 September 2017 was hosted by France, Norway, Senegal and Malawi at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters, New York City. The aim of the meeting was to secure leader-level political commitment to investing in early childhood, primary and secondary education, with emphasis on girls and other marginalized populations.

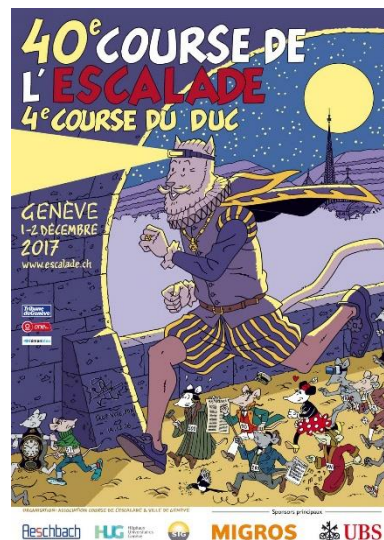
Dr. Byrne's advocacy report indicates that the world is facing an alarming education crisis. Without immediate action, over half the upcoming youth population – 825 million of the 1.6 billion young people in 2030 – will be left behind and shut out of opportunities that education could provide, failing on the promise of SDG4. The cost of this crisis will have serious social, economic, and political ramifications. You can read her full report [here](#).

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## —Give the gift of Education —

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GWI will be leading a team of runners at the 40<sup>th</sup> *Course de l'Escalade* to be held on 2 December 2017. Our objective is to promote the importance of girls' education and to raise funds for our programs such as *Teachers for Rural Futures*, the *Girls' Choices Mentoring Program*, the *Girls' Choices App*. We are rallying support from staff, interns, GWI UN Representatives and volunteers, as well as family and friends, to run the 5km route as a team on this very special Geneva day event. If you are in Geneva and want to join the GWI team, click [here](#) to sign up, **deadline is 2 November**. If you are not in Geneva but would like to support our running for girls' education, please can click [here](#) to contribute, for more information, please contact Stacy Dry Lara at: [sdl@graduatewomen.org](mailto:sdl@graduatewomen.org).



Each year, on the first Saturday in December, the most popular sporting event in Geneva takes place in the old town - [The Escalade Race](#). Last year nearly 45,000 runners participated. This event is for everyone - famous international runners to beginners, children and adults alike. Distances run vary from 2km to 8 km depending on the category. All the races take place in the narrow streets of the old town and finish in the Bastion Park.

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## —Did you know? —

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Did you know that the first IFUW Conference to be held outside of Europe was the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of the IFUW, held in Toronto, Canada, from 11 to 16 August 1947? It was also the first gathering to be held after the end of World War II. Given the difficult circumstances for the delegates travelling from Europe, who were subject to restrictions of currency change and other regulations, a great collective effort of cooperation was put in place. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of the Canadian Federation who hosted the event, with the invaluable assistance of the American and British federations, all European delegates could be present at this important meeting.

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## — Other information and events —

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Oct 30-Nov 14	<a href="#">General Conference, 39<sup>th</sup> Session</a> , UNESCO, Paris, France
Nov 6 – Nov 17	<a href="#">Universal Periodic Review, 28<sup>th</sup> Session</a> , UN, Geneva, Switzerland
Nov 8	<a href="#">Girls' Education Research and Policy Symposium: Reaching the Most Marginalized</a> , Center for Universal Education at Brookings, Washington DC, USA
Nov 14-16	<a href="#">IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour</a> , Buenos Aires, Argentina
Nov 24-25	<a href="#">“Atrevete a Cambiar”</a> , Federación Mexicana de Universitarias (FEMU-GWI), Mazatlán, Mexico
Dec 1-2	<a href="#">Course de l'Escalade</a> , Geneva, Switzerland
Dec 1-10	<a href="#">60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</a> , Hong Kong Association of University Women (HKAUW-GWI), Hong Kong

March 14-15, 2018

[ZurichEduCaExpo 2018 - 2nd International Education & Career Exhibition](#),  
Zurich, Switzerland

July 31-Aug 2, 2018

[4th Gender & STEM Network Conference](#), Oregon, USA

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## Follow us on social media!



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.

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