



## IFUW Update – 4 February 2015



The historic IFUW quilt, beautifully hand-embroidered by several branches of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The quilt represents the rich and diverse culture of IFUW member countries.

### International Federation of University Women news

#### IFUW Board Meeting

The next IFUW Board meeting will take place in Geneva, Switzerland on 19 – 23 April 2015. Unless otherwise specified, Board meetings are open to all IFUW members as observers. For anyone wishing to attend, please contact [IFUW](#) to register your participation.

#### The IFUW Fellowships and Grants for 2014/2015

IFUW is pleased to announce the completion of the 2014/2015 round of IFUW Fellowships and Grants.

The following awards were decided:

**Funds for Women Graduates Fellowship:** Yovitha Sedekia of Tanzania, *Family planning services for women who want to delay their first pregnancy in Southern Tanzania; a mixed methods study of perceptions, demand and service provision* (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK).

**CFUW A. Vibert Douglas Fellowship:** Laura Jan Obermuller of Guyana, *My Guyana El Dorado, alluring to all: Lokono Arawaks and Akawaios perspectives on RDD+ initiatives* (University of St Andrews, UK).

**Ida Smedley MacLean Fellowship:** Maria Elvira Alvarez of Bolivia, *Women in the public sphere in Bolivia from the Chaco War to the National Revolution (1935-1952)* (Université Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne).

**Winifred Cullis Grant:** Bindu Sunny of India, *Understanding schooling and sexual behavior trajectories and their influences on school dropout* (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK).

**Winifred Cullis Grant:** Darja Groselj of Slovenia, *Rethinking the role of material and cultural factors in digital inequalities: A qualitative examination* (University of Oxford, UK).

**Dorothy Leet Grant:** Arti Ghopal Bhatti of India, *Influence of globalization on challenges faced by ethnic women students of higher education in London* (University of London, UK).

**Daphne Purvis Grant:** Anne Kaagestein of Sweden, *Assessing gender norms contextualized by relationships among young adolescents in poor urban settings* (John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA).

**Daphne Purvis Grant:** Logiswari Ponnusamy of India, *Role of gene-environmental interaction (epigenetics) in acquired chemotherapeutic drug resistance in breast cancer and reversal of resistance using epigenetic drugs* (Texas Tech University USA).

**Fumi Takano Award:** Josephine Iacarella of the USA, *Understanding variation in the impacts of invasive species in aquatic ecosystems* (McGill University, Canada).

**IFUW Recognition Award:** Pon Souvannaseng of Thailand, *Going for broke: the political economy of development in contemporary Lao PDR (2000-2013)* (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK).

More detailed information on the Fellowship winners will be available shortly on the IFUW website.

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## National Federation and Association (NFA) news

### Ireland and Northern Ireland

Dr. Marion Gibson, President of the Irish Federation of University Women (IrFUW), has published a submission as part of the public consultation process on Ireland's Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. Read the submission in full [here](#). Former Secretary of Queen's Women Graduate Association in Northern Ireland (a branch of IrFUW), Irene Miskimmon, is also closely involved in drafting the Second National Action Plan, as she was invited by the Irish Government to sit on the Consultative Group.

### India

The Women Graduates Union Mumbai (a branch of the Indian Federation of University Women's Associations [IFUWA]) held a panel discussion on domestic violence on 19 January 2014. The event addressed numerous issues related to domestic violence including: "education as empowerment to prevent or deal with domestic violence", "dealing with domestic violence behind closed doors" and "legal recourse to domestic violence". More information on the Women Graduates Union is available [here](#).

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## Advocacy

### International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation

6 February marks the annual United Nations (UN)-sponsored International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). FGM "[reflects](#) deep-rooted inequality between the sexes, and constitutes an extreme form of discrimination against women. The practice also violates a person's rights to health, security and physical integrity, the right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and the right to life when the procedure results in [death](#)." Learn more about FGM including the international efforts to combat the practice by visiting the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) [here](#) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) [here](#).

### CEDAW

The 62<sup>nd</sup> Pre-Sessional Working Group of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) will meet in Geneva, Switzerland on 9 - 13 March 2015 to hear state party reports for the following [IFUW NFA member countries](#): **Lebanon, Russia and Slovenia**. NFA member states can find further information including state party and civil society reports [here](#).

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## Grants and Proposals

**The International Research Foundation (TIRF)** is pleased to announce its 2015 Doctoral Dissertation Grants (DDG) competition. Grants of up to US \$5,000 will be made to successful applicants investigating any of the following topics: Bilingualism or Plurilingualism in Business, Industry, and the Professions; Language Assessment; Optimal Uses of Technology in the Delivery of English Language Instruction; Language Teacher Education; Students' Age and Effective English Language Education in Schools; and Language Policy and Planning. Deadline for applications: **22 April 2015**. For further information, read more [here](#).

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## Did you know?

In the recent report “[Fixing the Broken Promise of Education for All](#)” produced by UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and UNICEF, there are five main barriers hindering access to education for children; conflict; gender bias; child labour; linguistic inaccessibility; and the marginalisation of children with disabilities. The report sets out policies and strategies to help tackle the plight of the 58 million children, roughly between the ages of 6 and 11, who are still out of school globally. Read in full [here](#).

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### Other information and events

February 6	<a href="#">International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation</a> , global
February 24	<a href="#">Geneva Summit for Human Rights and Democracy</a> , Geneva, Switzerland
February 25	<a href="#">Eliminating Domestic Violence in Europe</a> , Brussels, Belgium
March 1	<a href="#">Zero Discrimination Day</a> , global
March 2 – 15	<a href="#">Trek Mt. Kilimanjaro for International Women’s Day</a> , Kilimanjaro, Tanzania
March 8	<a href="#">International Women’s Day</a> , global
March 9 – 20	<a href="#">Commission on the Status of Women</a> , UN Headquarters, New York, USA
April 23	<a href="#">International Girls in Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) Day</a> , global
May 14 – 16	<a href="#">2015 Global Summit of Women</a> , Sao Paulo, Brazil
August 20 -26 (2016)	IFUW Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa

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Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. IFUW is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO.

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