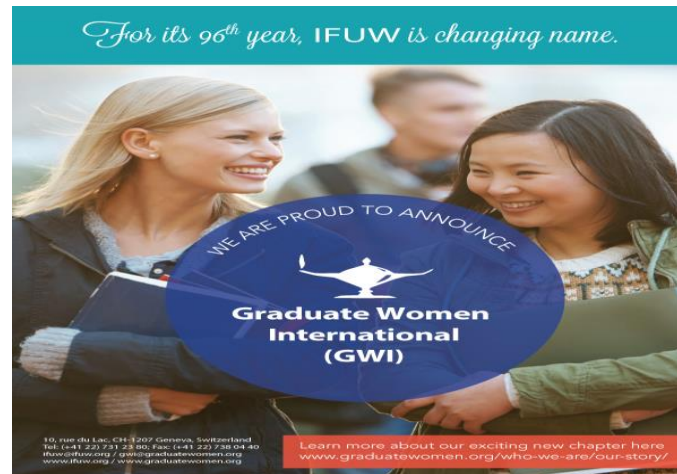




GWI Update – 6 May 2015



Graduate Women International news

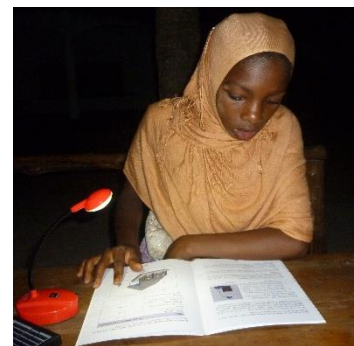
Federation Name Change

In its 96th year of championing education, women's rights and gender empowerment worldwide, IFUW is delighted to publish its first weekly Update under its new name *Graduate Women International* (GWI). GWI more accurately reflects the dynamism and inclusiveness of the organisation, which is active in [advocacy](#), [projects](#) and [fellowships & grants](#). New national affiliates from all over the world continue to join the ranks of GWI. With its global mission and the commitment of tens of thousands of members, GWI aims to become the household name synonymous internationally with girls' and women's education. Learn more about the history and transition of IFUW to GWI here: <http://www.graduatewomen.org/who-we-are/our-story/>. Read the press release on the name change [here](#).

National Federation and Association (NFA) news

Germany

Barbara Leyendecker, member of the German Federation of Women Graduates (*Deutscher Akademikerinnenbund – DAB*), is supporting a German-Tanzanian project "One Child –One Light". The Project provides students with clean and affordable solar-powered LED lights, developed by the Indian non-governmental organisation THRIVE Energy. Since February 2012, the same project has been carried out in Zanzibar in cooperation with the Zanzibar Solar Energy Association (ZASEA) and the German-Tanzanian Partnership Association. Local women have been trained to assemble the lamps providing them with a source of income, while also bringing significant benefits to students and teachers. For more information on the project, visit the [German-Tanzanian Partnership website](#)



Advocacy

GWI guest panel speaker at Girls in ICT Day

On 23 April 2015, GWI participated in an expert panel for [Girls in ICT Day](#), an annual event promoting girls and women to pursue academic and professional paths in Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs). Girls in ICT Day, a global initiative organised by the [International Telecommunications Union](#) (ITU), encourages girls to become leaders in technology, seeking to bridge the gender gap that has traditionally seen a significant over-representation of boys and men in ICT fields. During her panel presentation, GWI

Executive Director, Danièle Castle, emphasised that girls must be encouraged and supported from a young age to study technology-related subjects at school. Access to education and careers in ICT, as well as the broader science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) sectors are priority areas in GWI's manifesto on [non-traditional education](#).

World Book Day 2015

On [World Book and Copyright Day](#), marked on 23 April 2015, GWI highlighted the stark reality that 781 million people worldwide today cannot read or write, almost two thirds of whom are girls and women. GWI, recognising that literacy is the cornerstone of personal autonomy, social inclusion and economic empowerment, strongly urged policy makers to immediately adopt and implement targeted local and national plans of action, as well as supplement and reinforce international political commitments for education in the post-2015 development agenda. Cognisant of modern-day technological advancements and necessities, GWI also called for literacy to include financial and digital literacy, as well as functional competencies of reading, writing and numeracy. Read the press release [in full here](#).

Grants and Proposals

SAWF call for applications 2015 – 2016

South Asia [Women's](#) Fund (SAWF) has issued a [call for applications](#) for 2015-2016 to provide funding for women-led interventions in the South Asian countries of [Bangladesh](#), [Nepal](#), [India](#), [Pakistan](#) and [Sri Lanka](#). SAWF accepts applications under the following themes: Strengthening Feminist Voices; Right to Safe and Secure Mobility; and Right to Physical Integrity and Decision-making. Deadline for application: **1 May 2015**. For more information [click here](#).

Legacies in favour of GWI

As a non-profit, non-governmental organisation, GWI is sincerely grateful for all donations received from the wills of members and patrons, which make a significant difference in enabling advocacy activities and projects. By leaving a gift in your will to GWI, you are supporting the organisation to continue its mission to increase access to lifelong education for girls and women globally.

Other information and events

May 14 – 16	2015 Global Summit of Women , Sao Paulo, Brazil
May 19 – 22	World Education Forum , Incheon, South Korea
May 23 – 25	International Conference on ICTs and Post-2015 Education , Qingdao, China
May 29	University Women of Europe (UWE) Meet and Greet , London, United Kingdom
June 4 – 5	GWI "Communities for Action" Capacity building Workshop, Sofia, Bulgaria
28 August – 1 September	UWE Conference "Networking as a Quality" , the Netherlands
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)

Follow us on social media!



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

Graduate Women International

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