



## GWI Update – 3 June 2015



GWI's Executive Director, Danièle Castle, visiting Quindao Experimental Primary School in Quindao, China

## Graduate Women International news

### GWI represented at World Education Forum 2015

The seminal [World Education Forum](#) (WEF) took place on 18 – 22 May 2015 in Incheon, South Korea. GWI's Executive Director, Danièle Castle, represented the organisation throughout the Forum. Many high-level speakers took to the floor throughout the Forum, affirming the key message of the universal nature of the right to education. United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon emphasised that the right to education enabled many other rights including health and employment. Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2014 Kailash Satyarthi shared the timely and sobering sentiment that “nobody can kill books, pens and education – not even the extremists”. The WEF 2015 NGO Forum culminated in a [Declaration](#), to which GWI contributed. The high-level segment of WEF 2015 also produced an outcome document in the form of the [Incheon Declaration](#), which is fully aligned with the education goal and targets of the global development agenda to be adopted at the [UN High Level Summit in September 2015](#). Highlights and summaries of each day of the Forum are available [to view here](#).



## National Federation and Association (NFA) news

### Canada

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) will convene its annual general meeting (AGM) in Québec City on 18-21 June 2015. The event will be hosted in conjunction with the CFUW branch in Québec (*Association des femmes diplômées des universités de Québec – AFDU Québec*) and the Québec Regional Council. Full information, including the AGM guide, registration procedures, accommodation, and the provisional programme is available on the [CFUW website here](#). The final date for registration is **9 June 2015**.

# Advocacy

## GWJ official delegate at international ICT conference

GWJ Executive Director, Danièle Castle, participated at the international conference on information and communications technologies (ICTs) and Post-2015 Education in Qingdao, China on 23-25 May 2015. The two-day event brought together representation from 50 Ministries of Education and other high-level speakers and attendees to discuss how ICTs can be leveraged at scale to support the achievement of post-2015 education goals and targets. GWJ was an invited speaker on the session on *Empowering Women through ICTs*, sharing the panel with the Ministers of Education for Ghana and Nepal. GWJ's position was very much in keeping with its manifesto on [non-traditional education](#), emphasising that new technologies, including access to distance learning online, are an effective way of bringing education to isolated communities, especially to rural and indigenous girls and women. GWJ also advocates for contemporary definitions of literacy to take into consideration modern-day skill necessities, which include digital literacy. As part of the delegation's visit, Danièle had the opportunity to visit the Qingdao Experimental Primary School, where children as young as 4 and 5 years old were showcasing how they were using technology in the classroom. The conference concluded with the adoption of the Qingdao Declaration on ICTs in education, which [can be viewed here](#).

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## Grants and Proposals

### UNESCO prize in microbiology

Nominations are now open for the Carlos J. Finlay UNESCO Prize for Microbiology. Funded by the Government of Cuba, the Prize aims to reward the efforts of an individual, or of an institution, non-governmental organisation (NGO) or other entity which, through research and development, has made an outstanding contribution to the field of microbiology. Candidates shall be designated by the governments of Member States, in consultation with their National Commissions for UNESCO, science institutions and associations, and NGOs in official partnerships with UNESCO and active in relevant fields covered by the Prize. Deadline for nominations: 15 July 2015. Further information [is available here](#).

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## Donations in favour of GWJ

Think of GWJ each month: set up a regular monthly donation to support our projects to increase access to lifelong education for girls and women globally. A small sum every month counts less for you and adds up to more for GWJ.

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## Other information and events

June 4 – 5	GWJ "Communities for Action" workshop, Sofia, Bulgaria
June 18 – 21	CFUW Annual General Meeting, Québec, Canada
28 August – 1 September	<a href="#">UWE Conference "Networking as a Quality"</a> , the Netherlands
August 21 – 23 (2016)	GWJ General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)
August 24 – 26 (2016)	GWJ Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)

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## Follow us on social media!



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

### Graduate Women International

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