



## GW I UPDATE – 4 October 2017



*GW I honours teachers worldwide – thank you for all that you do!*

### – Graduate Women International news –

#### Dr. Hemal Kanvinde of IFUWA visits GW I headquarters



*Dr. Hemal Kanvinde, Scholarship Convener, IFUWA with Stacy Dry Lara, GW I Executive Director. Pictured with block printing material from the Chennai Bina Roy Partners in Development project.*

GW I was recently delighted recently to welcome Dr. Hemal Kanvinde, Scholarship Convener, IFUWA India, for a visit to the GW I office in Geneva. In her own words, here is a recap of her visit:

“Dr. Katarina Strub, GW I Treasurer, drove me to the GW I office in Geneva. Hidden from sight, a majestic old building houses the GW I office in Geneva. You fall in love with the ambience of the building right from its door. Climb a floor and you enter the open office with a beautiful fire place and patterned wood floor. An adjoining room is the file storage and pantry. Then I met Ms. Stacy Lara the Executive Director. A loving, effervescent and capable person. Three of us have a good afternoon exchanging information and plans. I made lifelong friends and hope to host them in Chennai when they come to India. Katharina and Stacy were happy to receive the gifts from my IFUWA President, Mrs Meena Muthaih, a statue of Radha and Krishna playing under a tree along with wild animals; and our local University Women's Association of Madras sent samples of block printing work done by girls we trained in Chennai under the BRPID project. I really appreciate Dr. Katharina's generosity during my stay at Geneva.”



*Dr. Katharina Strub and Stacy Dry Lara pictured with the Radha gift statue.*

## **GWI welcomes the new Vice President of Advocacy and Education**

GWI welcomes new board member, Hazel Bowen from the South African Association of Women Graduates as Vice President Advocacy and Education. Hazel has been a member of the South African Association of Women Graduates since 1993 and has served as both Branch President and National President. Hazel “considers advocacy, especially around education, to be a high priority for GWI and the NFAs and is looking forward to helping take this activity forward.” To learn more about her interesting work and achievements, please click [here](#).

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## **— GWI member news —**

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### **IrFUW’s 2017 Annual Conference**

Under the theme “*Women’s Movement: Stories of Migration*”, the Irish Federation of University Women (IrFUW) will discuss one of today’s most important topics at their 2017 Conference. Hosted at the Queen’s University in Belfast, this year’s program includes a Conference Dinner on Friday, 6 October and the Conference on Saturday 7 October. The keynote speakers will be Jane Talbot, Author and Founder of Women Aloud NI and Marie Anderson, NI Ombudsman, respectively. We wish our Irish members a very enjoyable and stimulating session. To learn more about IrFUW’s interesting activities, click [here](#) to read their latest newsletter.

### **CFUW highlights International Day of the Girl**

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) continues its series highlighting significant days of observation to facilitate the conversation about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). This latest publication celebrates the International Day of the Girl on 11 October. The CFUW SDG series provides a critical opportunity to discuss the interconnections between quality education and achieving gender equality to empower all women and girls. “We believe change begins with consciousness at all levels of understanding,” writes Cheryl Hayles, CFUW Vice President, International Relations.

For this significant day, CFUW intentionally makes connections to SDG #4, #5, #16 and #17 (However, connections to any other SDG may be implied). Click [here](#) to discover *Born in the Light* poem, a link to the video of *The Girls The Girls* sung by Egyptian actress, Soad Housny, and more.

### **The Bina Roy Partners in Development programme funds the Turkish Association of University Women’s project to prevent early school leaving of girls before secondary education**

The BRPID programme, named after GWI’s first Asian President Dr Bina Roy, supports locally-developed projects initiated by GWI’s NFAs from developing countries, on a competitive basis. The 2017 funding cycle has funded the Turkish Association of University Women’s initiative to empower parents and coach students to prevent girls dropping out of school before they progress to secondary education. In Turkey, 21% of young people aged 15-19 are not in formal or informal education, compared to 10.9% in Europe. Furthermore, most of the students who leave school are from families of a lower socio-economic and educational level. The project aims to tackle this problem. The project will take place in the Zeytinköy region in Antalya, a disadvantaged community with high illiteracy rates and a lack of social support for children to sustain their education after primary school. The purpose is to create a collaborative parent empowerment and student coaching program for 20 girl students from disadvantaged families, to change attitudes and strengthen the intention for girls to progress to secondary education.

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## — Advocacy —

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### **World Teachers' Day 5 October 2017**

On World Teachers' Day, GWI celebrates teachers, women teachers! To mark this important day, GWI wishes to draw worldwide attention, across developed and developing countries, that teachers are essential to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda; and female teachers are the key to empowering young girls to contribute to the Agenda. To this end, quality training, recruitment, retention and working conditions of all women teachers are the foundation of GWI's advocacy work. To read the full press release, click [here](#).

### **International Day of the Girl 11 October 2017**

International Day of the Girl is celebrated annually on 11 October to highlight issues concerning gender inequalities faced by girls worldwide. This year's theme is EmPOWER Girls: Emergency response and resilience planning.

On this occasion, GWI draws attention to the inaugural My Two Cents for Girls' Education: Girls are Worth It campaign. The campaign aims to draw attention to the strength, vitality and potential of girls and to emphasize that the education of girls is frequently overlooked and ignored, particularly in the second decade of life, when girls are too old to be protected as children and too young to assume the full rights of adults.

To read our press release, click [here](#).

### **GWI student teachers serve as community role models during the summer**

GWI continues the quest to train 50 women teachers in Uganda through our Teachers for Rural Futures programme. Our five girls took a well-deserved break from classes over the summer. This break gave them time to return to their villages where they shared with family, friends and the community their university experience and achievements. By doing this, they become an inspiration for younger girls in rural Uganda to continue pursuing their studies. Please read the full project update report on GlobalGiving [here](#).

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## — Call for applications —

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### **The Women Deliver Young Leaders Program**

As a leading global advocate for the health, rights and wellbeing of girls and women, Women Deliver brings together diverse voices and interests to drive progress for gender equality, with a particular focus on maternal, sexual, and reproductive health and rights. They build capacity, share solutions, and forge partnerships, together creating coalitions, communication, and action that spark political commitment and investment in girls and women.

Women Deliver's Young Leaders Program trains, elevates and empowers youth advocates to catalyse action for gender equality, including the sexual and reproductive health and rights of girls, women and young people. Starting in 2010, the award-winning Women Deliver Young Leaders Program is comprised of 400 youth advocates from more than 100 countries, with 300 more scheduled to join in early 2018.

The [deadline to apply is 13 October 2017](#) at 11:59pm EST. You can find more information and apply [here](#).

### **Asian Women in Business Scholarship**

The Asian Women in Business Scholarship encourages and promotes exceptional Asian female undergrads who have demonstrated scholarship, leadership, community service and/ or entrepreneurship. The AWIB Scholarship Fund awards scholarships to students who have the attributes to be our next generation of leaders. [Deadline for applications is 25 October 2017](#). Please click [here](#) for more information and to apply.

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## — GWI at the United Nations —

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### **GWI attends the NGO CSW, Geneva meeting**



*NGO CSW participants hear about private partnership fundraising ideas*

On 3 October, GWI participated in the NGO Commission on the Status of Women, Geneva meeting held at LDS Charities. Attendees welcomed guest speakers, Mr. Ricardo Espinosa, former Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, and Mr. Marteen de Winter of Cabinet OSC. The speakers addressed fundraising issues and how NGOs could improve their sources of funding and achieve a higher success rate for their applications. Participants also discussed refreshing the NGO CSW Geneva's Working Groups to include critical subjects related to women. GWI looks forward to working further with the Commission.

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## — Give the gift of teaching —

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GWI is directly addressing the lack of women teachers as a barrier to girls' secondary education by sponsoring girls from rural areas in Uganda to qualify as teachers through the [Teachers for Rural Futures](#) project. Please support our GlobalGiving campaign and help young women to achieve their potential, inspire girls to go to school and build more prosperous communities. [Give today](#).

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## — Did you know? —

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Did you know that the 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting was held in July 1946, in Chelsea, UK, by invitation of the British Federation of University Women. Quoting from the Council Bulletin n°25, "after the break of seven years, the gathering was a real homecoming. Its key note was one of thankfulness at being able

to meet once more and finding again old friends who had come through strenuous years of danger and suffering.” GWI is proud of our nearly one hundred years of history.

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## — Other information and events —

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Oct 7	<a href="#">Open Day at UN Geneva</a> , Geneva, Switzerland
Oct 6-7	<a href="#">Annual Conference</a> , Irish Federation of University Women (IrFUW), Belfast, Northern Ireland
Oct 13-15	<a href="#">Women-Graduates USA AGM</a> , Wisconsin, USA
Oct 30-Nov 14	<a href="#">General Conference, 39<sup>th</sup> Session</a> , UNESCO, Paris, France
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 1-10	<a href="#">60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</a> , Hong Kong Association of University Women (HKAUW-GWI), Hong Kong
March 14-15, 2018	<a href="#">ZurichEduCaExpo 2018 - 2nd International Education &amp; Career Exhibition</a> , Zurich, Switzerland
July 31-Aug 2, 2018	<a href="#">4th Gender &amp; STEM Network Conference</a> , 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.

### **Graduate Women International**

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