



IFUW Update – 03 September 2014



International Federation of University Women news

Join us in Mexico City on 19 September 2014, when IFUW and the Mexican Federation of University Women (FEMU) will hold a seminar on “Quality Education: Transforming the Lives of Girls & Women in Latin America”. The region has seen substantial progress in education over recent decades, reaching a net enrolment rate of 95% in primary school and 77% in secondary school. While research also shows a favourable trend in female education, there are still several gender equality issues which act as barriers of access to education for girls and women in Latin America. Outdated teaching curricula and education practices affect the quality of education available in schools and universities, while cultural prejudices and socio-economic considerations also hinder vulnerable girls and women in their ability to access learning. The seminar aims to address these barriers with a view to identifying solutions and best practices going forward. For further information please visit IFUW’s [seminar page](#).

National Federation and Association (NFA) news

New Zealand

The New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women (NZFGW) will host its 30th conference in Wellington, New Zealand, on 26 - 28 September. The theme of the conference will be “Women Empowering Women as Leaders” and will include a panel discussion on the topic with women representatives from business, local government and international organisations. The event will also host several different workshops including: “the value of CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action” and “Financial Literacy”. Further information on the conference is available [here](#).

Switzerland film screening: Women, War & Peace

IFUW in partnership with Association Genevoise de Femmes Diplômées des Universités (AGFDU) will host an open film screening of “[Women, War & Peace](#)” at the University of Geneva (Uni-Mail) on 9 and 16 October 2014. The film series from the creators [Peace is Loud](#) follows the resilience and courage of women in different conflict zones, including the fight for women’s rights in post-Taliban Afghanistan (“Peace Unveiled”) and the bravery of the Liberian women who took on the warlords and regime of dictator Charles Taylor. The films will be followed by a panel discussion with guest speakers on both dates. Please note that the screening on 16 October will be in French. Further information is available on IFUW’s [events page](#).

Advocacy

Child, Early and Forced Marriage Worldwide, including the Elaboration of the Post-2015 Development Agenda

In its resolution 68/148, the United Nations General Assembly decided to convene a panel discussion on child, early and forced marriage worldwide, including the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda. The [panel discussion](#) on 5 September 2014, will build on the report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage. The report was prepared pursuant to the UN Human Rights Council's resolution 24/23, and the related summary report of the panel discussion convened by the Council on 23 June 2014 during its twenty-sixth session. Read more [here](#).

Proposals & Workshops

Schlumberger Foundation Faculty for the Future

The Schlumberger Faculty for the Future programme, launched in 2004, awards fellowships to women from developing and emerging economies to pursue PhD or Post-doctorate studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines at leading universities worldwide. Applications can be submitted from **10 September to 14 November 2014**. Read more on the eligibility criteria [here](#).

Did you know?

The first ever user-friendly computer programming language was invented by a woman? During the 1950s, Rear Admiral Dr. Grace Murray Hopper, a female US navy officer, overhauled the previously complex and inaccessible computer code, which had only been usable by mathematicians and computer experts. [Read more](#).

Other information and events

September 4 - 7	University Women Europe AGM, Bucharest, Romania
September 5-7	UNITAR-Yale Conference , USA
September 12 - 14	Women Graduates USA AGM , Salt Lake City, USA
September 17 - 19	Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) Fifth International Conference , Mexico
September 19 - 20	IFUW workshop on "Building membership & visibility" , Mexico
September 26	Pacific Graduate Women's Network (PGWNet) Council Meeting
September 26-28	New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women (NZFGW) Conference 'Women Empowering Women as Leaders'
September 28- 30	Third Forum on NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO , Bulgaria
November 17-22	Global Education Conference , Virtual Forum

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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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