



GWI UPDATE 17 February 2016



Participants from the Ghana Girls' Choices workshop

— Graduate Women International news —

Good news for US taxpayers! GWI announces partnership with the New Spring Fund

Graduate Women International (GWI) is delighted to embark on a new partnership with the New Spring Fund, a US 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organisation that aims to support projects which involve the participation of individuals and communities in building resilience. GWI is working in partnership with the New Spring Fund on the [Teachers for Rural Futures](#) project. If you are a US taxpayer and would like to support the training of women teachers in Uganda, you can make a tax-deductible [donation here](#).

— GWI member news —

Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW) runs successful Girls' Choices workshops in Ghana

As part of the GWI [Girls' Choices Project](#) in Ghana, the GWI national member, the [Ghana Association of University Women \(GAUW\)](#), organised a 'Gender Education and Leadership for Girls' workshop. Twenty-five girls from St. Anthony's Junior High School, Akotokyir, participated enthusiastically, accompanied by two of their women school teachers and the head teacher of the school. The girls engaged in sessions designed to inspire confidence in themselves to make positive life choices in their education and future career choices. The main aim of the project is to empower girls with critical knowledge and skills to address the barriers that confront them, so that they will be able to complete their secondary education. For more details about Girls' Choices and other GWI projects see [here](#).

— Advocacy —

Child marriage on the rise in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region

Families who are most vulnerable often resort to marrying their daughters off earlier to 'protect' them from abuse – especially in areas where authorities are reluctant to do so. In other cases, families living in extreme poverty may give their daughters away to simply relieve themselves from having another mouth

to feed. The consequences for the child are often irreparable. [Childbirth complications remain one of the leading causes of death in the world among 15- to 19-year-old girls](#). GWI advocates for access to lifelong quality of education for girls and women, which [means addressing barriers to education such as early or forced marriage](#). Read the full news report [here](#).

— Call for nominations —

Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) invites nominations for the Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life'

The Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) invites participation in the 2016 nomination process for the annual 'Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life'. The award aims to continue honour rural women leaders and groups for their creativity, courage and compassion to improve the quality of life in rural areas. Please note that the deadline is 30 April 2016 and that nominations must be sent via post. Email nominations are not accepted. For the nominations address and further details please see [here](#).

— Give the gift of membership —

Do you know a graduate woman who would like to join the leading women's international organisation that works to empower girls and women through access to lifelong, quality education and training? Give the gift of membership to join a global community of over 23,000 members in more than 100 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of over 60 National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

— Other information and events —

March	01	International Higher Education Forum 2016 London, UK
March	09 - 11	Future Sense- Universities Shaping the New Era Canberra, Australia
April	07 - 08	Bricks and Clicks for Europe Galway, Ireland
June	24 - 25	Canadian Federation of University Women AGM Ontario, Canada
June	24 - 27	University Women of Europe AGM and Conference Winchester, UK
July	21 - 23	3rd Network Gender and STEM Conference 2016 Newcastle, UK
Nov	28 - 30	5th International Conference of Women's Museums , Mexico City



August 21 – 23 **GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)**
August 24 – 26 **GWI Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)**

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

Graduate Women International

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