



## GW I UPDATE – 28 November 2018



*GW I's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence joins hands with the global movement to end Violence against Women*

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### — Graduate Women International News —

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#### **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Advocacy [Toolkit](#)**

Aligning with the call for action in the [joint statement](#) by the Heads of multiple United (UN) agencies, calling for solidarity with survivors and survivor advocates who are working to end violence against women and girls, Graduate Women International (GWI) once again takes an active role in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV) Campaign. The GWI office released on 25 November a comprehensive Advocacy Toolkit produced to increase awareness about and advocate for the elimination of all forms of GBV in the world of work and beyond, through a united, worldwide voice. The primary action towards eliminating GBV is to draw attention to the frequency of GBV incidents and spread awareness about the issue; to see yourself and your NFA as agents of change towards the elimination of GBV, locally and globally. Underscoring that GBV destabilizes the safety, dignity, overall health condition, and human rights of the millions of women and girls who experience it. Advocacy campaigns such as this aim to build on previous year's successes while highlighting the work that still needs to be done. Included in this toolkit are many powerful, easy-to-use resources to assist you with an advocacy campaign of your own. The resources can be widely shared as support vehicles to spread the word about the need to address GBV. Click [here](#) to download the toolkit and together we can eliminate Gender Based Violence!

#### **Run for Girls' Education**

For the third consecutive year, GWI is excited to be leading a team of girls' education champions to run as a group in the [41<sup>st</sup> Course de l'Escalade](#). This year we will be running with our largest team yet. Runners will represent GWI in a traditional sporting event that attracts more than 40,000 to Geneva annually. Our objective is to promote the importance of girls' education and raise awareness of barriers to girl's education. We sincerely appreciate the generous support of Geneva's [Corner Trader](#) online trading platform and the Picard and Wachter families whose contributions add to the support of GWI

programmes. We are looking forward to coming together as a GWI community here in Geneva and running for girls' education!

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## — GWI Member News —

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### **Meet the British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG) Management Team Video**

BFWG have made a video introducing themselves and giving some background on what they do. In their video, they describe their focus as an organization encouraging women and girls to fulfil their potential through quality education at the highest level. They then go on to introduce their management team consisting of Patrice Wellesley-Cole, BFWG President, Gloria Banner, BFWG Immediate Past-President, Jennifer Landsberg, BFWG Chair of Finance as well as Carrie de Silva, Gillian Hilton and Gail Sagar, BFWG Vice-Presidents. Each member speaks about what they do as part of BFWG and the benefits of becoming a member. [Click here](#) to watch their video.

### **FEMU holds an International Seminar on the Latin American female migration to the US**

From 29 to 30 November, the Federation of Mexican University Women (FEMU) is holding an international seminar titled “the Latin American Female Migration to the United States” in Mexico City. On this occasion, leaders and members of FEMU, Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA), as well as government officials and a variety of academics will gather around three different tables to discuss the key issues linked to this crucial theme. For more ample information about the programme of this significant event, please visit the FEMU [website](#).

### **Bina Roy Partners in Development: Girls' Enhanced Learning Project in Rwanda**

In 2017, the Rwanda Association of University Women (RAUW) ran the Girls' Enhanced Learning Project in Rwanda with the support of the GWI Bina Roy Partners in Development (BRPID) generously funded by [VGIF](#). The goal of the project was to increase girls' access to primary and secondary education. The program focused on improving inclusive participation of girls in school and teaching girls about sexual reproductive health and services. They also worked to empower girls to know their rights and stand up against violence and include parents and the community in a dialogue about girls' health. This project did not work exclusively to help girls gain access to educational opportunities but also through educational outreach teach the girls, their families and the communities about their rights and health. GWI is ever grateful to [VGIF](#) for its generous donations supporting the BRPID projects around the world.

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## — GWI “Peace through Education” Triennial and Conference —

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The GWI 33rd Triennial GA, Centenary Celebration and One - Day Conference will be held 25-28 July 2019 at the University of Geneva in Geneva, Switzerland. This major milestone event represents a new beginning for GWI, within a changing global landscape - one of strategic relationships with the UN, knowledge competencies in global policies that widen the social and economic divide and advocacy for global and national governance that protect women's and girls' rights. Our Theme “Peace through Education” reflects our deep-seated recognition of education, particularly education for women and girls as the cornerstone of peaceful, just and sustainable societies.

## Current Calls for Participation in the GWI 33<sup>rd</sup> Triennial and Centenary Celebration [Summary](#)

🦋 Applications are now being accepted for the Caroline Spurgeon Centenary Fellowship. Instructions and link to the form are [here](#). **Deadline the apply is 15 December 2018.** 🦋

The call for the Song Competition, 2019 Chitra Ghosh Award and 2019 Nazan Moroğlu Young Member Award all close in just two days, please submit your application as soon as possible.

**LAST CALL:** Call for Song Competition is [here](#). **Closes 30 November 2018.**

**LAST CALL:** Call for 2019 Chitra Ghosh Award is [here](#). **Closes 30 November 2018.**

**LAST CALL:** Call for 2019 Nazan Moroğlu Young Member Award is [here](#). **Closes 30 November 2018.**

**EXTENDED:** Call for GWI Centenary Project – NFA Outstanding women is [here](#). **EXTENDED until 2 January 2019)**

Call for 2019 Workshops is [here](#). **Deadline to apply is 11 January 2019.**

Call for Resolutions for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Triennial is [here](#). **Deadline to apply is 2 February 2019.**

**CLOSED:** Call for Nominations Committee is [here](#). **CLOSED.**

**CLOSED:** Interdisciplinary Seminar Papers and Posters [here](#). **CLOSED**

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## — Advocacy —

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### GWI Gender Equity/Equality Workshop Toolkit



Hazel Bowen, GWI Vice-President Advocacy and Education, along with the GWI Education Committee recently released a comprehensive [Gender Equity/Equality Workshop Toolkit](#). The toolkit aims to provide substantial resources to approach, discuss and offer solutions to gender-based dilemmas. The toolkit can be used by GWI NFA members and shared

with non-members to gain support, knowledge, resource material and lesson plans to advance individually and collectively the realization of rights for women and girls. This impactful, ready-to-use toolkit includes resources describing the concept of gender equity for a better understanding of the issue so that violations can be identified and gender-based problems tackled. The support materials include related information around topics such as human rights and gender rights, government policy, community, laws and protocols relevant to gender issues and topics. To view and download the toolkit, click [here](#).

## **European Parliament on Widowhood Seminar Report**

Paralleling with the GWI 39<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) [written statement](#) on widowhood, European Parliament, on 7 November, held a Seminar on the theme of Widowhood, titled “Widows of All Ages: Discrimination and Abuse. What Can the EU do?”. During this seminar, a variety of prominent stakeholders from the governmental and non-governmental sector gathered to share findings, good practices and recommendations in order to address the deeply detrimental breach of human rights that widows of all ages around the world suffer from. GWI warmly welcomes the tenure of such a crucial seminar underlining widowhood as being not only a human rights and gender issue but also a concerning development issue. This seminar provided a timely and necessary space to raise awareness of the multifaceted abuse, discrimination and trauma inflicted on widows of all ages around the world and thus of the immediate need for action towards the protection and promotion of the fundamental rights of widows. Having raised this issue previously in 2008 (Women’s Worlds Madrid) and 2011 (Women’s Worlds Ottawa), GWI reemphasized concerns again in 2018 over social, economic and cultural hardships widows’ lives are tainted with, often indefinitely. GWI knows widowhood to be one of the most neglected gender and human rights issues, condemning millions of widows and their children, whose lives are determined, not by modern laws but by discriminatory interpretations of customary law.

## **Nepal under review of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women**

The 71<sup>st</sup> Session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) took place from 22 October to 8 November at the UN’s Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. CEDAW is a body of 23 independent human rights experts that monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. One hundred and eighty-nine States have ratified the Convention and are reviewed regularly on how they are implementing it in their countries. Among the countries under review at the 71<sup>st</sup> session was Nepal, an important and active NFA of GWI. During the session Nepali Minister for Women, Children and Senior Citizens Tham Maya Thapa issued a statement. Thapa informed CEDAW that the Nepalese Government has enacted 16 laws in support of safeguarding women’s rights, ending discrimination against women, and implementing measures for women’s empowerment. She went on to explain that “women’s representation through election has reached over 40 percent. This level of participation of women at the political and policy making level has set a milestone in the history of women representation in Nepal.”

## **GWI Resolution Highlight: Resolution 10 – Young Members**

Young Members of GWI are an indispensable group within the organization. Young people bring new ideas and perspectives and are the future of both GWI and the world. GWI believes it is of the utmost importance that we support both young members and young people in all opportunities. Both within GWI and around the globe through empowerment, advocacy, and guidance, young people can be supported to surpass their potential and contribute to creating a better and more sustainable world. This belief is why GWI renewed their 2004 Resolution at their 32<sup>nd</sup> GWI General Assembly to in the support of Young Members. In Resolution 10, GWI resolves to establish a permanent structure for communication and interaction with Young Members and their project, as well as promote all opportunities and trainings that may be beneficial to the Young Members. By supporting Young Members in GWI and young people around the world, we are setting them up with the opportunities and knowhow to contribute to creating a more peaceful and sustainable world for everyone. Read the Resolution 10 on Young Members [here](#).

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## — Call for applications —

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### **GWI International Awards**

GWI is offering the [Caroline Spurgeon Centenary Fellowship](#) (deadline extension to 15 December) to be awarded at the GWI Peace through Education Centenary Conference to be held 25-28 July 2019. Other fellowships and grants are available for the year 2018, such as the BFWG [Ida Smedley Maclean Fellowship](#) and the Funds for Women Graduates (FfWG) [Crosby Hall Fellowship](#). Please note that deadlines for applications vary and we kindly ask that you inquire with the National Federation who is managing the grant. For further information about those international fellowships, please visit the International Awards page of the GWI website by clicking [here](#).

### **Wenner-Gren Foundation Fully funded PhD Fellowships for African Students, 2019**

The Wenner-Gren Foundation has announced fully-funded fellowships for PhD studies to study at South African University. African students are eligible to apply for this fellowship. The Wadsworth African Fellowships are intended to provide support for African students undertaking study leading to a PhD at a South African university that can provide them with international-level training in anthropology (including biological anthropology and archaeology). The deadline is **15 December 2018**. Please click [here](#) for the application form and more information.

### **TechWomen 2019 Programme**

TechWomen is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State that brings emerging women leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) from Africa, South and Central Asia, and the Middle East together with their professional counterparts in the United States for a mentorship and exchange program based in San Francisco. During the five-week program, participants engage in project-based mentorships at leading companies in the San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley. The 2019 program will include 108 women from Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestinian Territories, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe. TechWomen is looking for women who have demonstrated themselves as emerging leaders in their chosen profession, through their work experience, volunteer experience, community activities and education. The deadline is **16 January 2019**. A full list of the eligibility requirements is available [here](#).

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## — GWI at the United Nations —

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### **UNICEF Evaluation Learning Day**

On 13 November, Dr. Maureen Byrne, GWI UN Representative, New-York attended the UNICEF Evaluation Learning Day at the UNICEF Headquarters in New-York in her quality of member of the UNICEF NGO Committee. In her [advocacy report](#), Dr. Byrne provides ample information about the highlights of the panel discussion that took place during the event, while a supplementary [report report](#) on the event provides a summary of information provided by the International Institute for Environment and Development.

## UN Global Citizenship Education Forum

On 13 November, Maryella Hannum, GWI UN Representative, New York attended the UN Global Citizenship Education Forum at the UN Headquarters in New-York. The event was followed by a lunch at the Korean Permanent Mission to the UN. Discussion included principles and approaches for formal education, informal education, non-formal education as well as youth and adults. Progress was reviewed in implementing Global Citizenship Education in preparation for next year's HLPF where SDG 4 will be reviewed. Education policymakers, GCED experts, and educators shared experiences and perspectives. According to the concept note, in attendance were officials of ministries of education, national research and development institutes, Ambassadors of Permanent Missions to the UN, delegates from international organizations, and civil society from concerned fields.

## Women Ambassadors' Luncheon

On 20 November, a Women Ambassadors' Luncheon was held in the Armenian Cultural Ballroom in New York City, to honour and thank women ambassadors who work at the UN. Maryella Hannum, GWI UN Representative, New York, attended the event which was sponsored by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women. During the luncheon 25 ambassadors were recognized and received awards. These ambassadors are from all over the world, and in their speeches, they thanked their fellow ambassadors for their work toward gender equality and reaffirmed their commitment to advocating for women's rights. To read Maryella's report on the event and see the full list of honourees click [here](#).



*The well attended annual ambassador luncheon was enjoyed by all.*

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## — Give the gift of education —

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It's not too late! GWI's *3rd Annual Course de l'Escalade Fundraiser* is taking place 1 December 2018. We have gathered a team of 15 girl's education champions to run in this traditional Geneva sporting event and represent GWI in races varying 2km to 8km. With your support, we can continue to fund and advocate for quality education for all women and girls. If you are not in Geneva but would like to support our running for girls' education, please click [here to contribute](#).



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## — Did you know? —

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Did you know that over the course of 2018, GWI hosted eight interns and two work-study programs participants at the head office here in Geneva? As a current intern, I have enjoyed participating in the GWI small but highly dedicated team who advocate for advancing the status of women and girls through access to quality education. All our interns this year have been undergraduate or graduate students with a passion for human rights and advocacy. Although my internship that ends 7 December is for only eight



short weeks, I feel like I have gained invaluable work experience from GWI that I will take with me in the future. - Liza Cahiz GWI Intern 2018.

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## — Other information and events —

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25 Nov-10 Dec	16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, Global
3 December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Global
9 December	International Anti-Corruption Day
10 December	Human Rights Day, Global
18 December	International Migrants Day, Global
6 February	International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation, Global
11 February	International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Global
18 Feb-8 Mar 2019	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 72 <sup>nd</sup> session, United Nations, Geneva
11-22 March 2019	Commission on the Status of Women 63 <sup>rd</sup> session, New York
10-21 June 2019	International Labour Organisation Conference, Geneva
25-28 July 2019	Peace through Education General Assembly, Centenary and Public Conference, Geneva

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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.

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