GWI UPDATE – 15 May 2019

— GWI “Peace through Education” Triennial and Conference —

Early Bird registration for the GWI 33rd Triennial, Centenary Celebration and Conference has been extended until 31 May! Don’t miss out, REGISTER TODAY!

GWI 33rd Triennial, Centenary Celebration and Conference: already more than 300 registered!

By popular demand, GWI is extending the Early Bird Registration to 31 May 2019. More than 300 participants have already registered. If you or the members of your NFA have not registered yet, please do so by 31 May 2019 to take advantage of the Early Bird Discount. We invite you to read and share this letter from the Graduate Women International (GWI) Board of Directors and Executive Director to encourage all to register and make sure that none of your friends and fellow members miss the opportunity to join us for this momentous event!

GWI offers conference participants Local Tours of Geneva

Traveling to the 33rd Triennial, Centenary Celebration and Conference is also a great opportunity for participants to explore Geneva, Switzerland! GWI will be hosting four local sightseeing tours in which participants are welcome to register. These tours, to take place before and after conference programming, will guide visitors through historical areas of the city as well as neighbouring mountains and vineyards. The tours include a guided, walking tour through the Old Town of Geneva; a visit to CERN, the world’s
largest physics laboratory; a day trip to Chamonix and Mont Blanc in France; and a trip to the Swiss Riviera and Lavaux. To register for these local tours, please click here.

**Under 40? Then register for the GWI Young Member Workshop. Space is limited!**

As part of the Peace through Education conference, GWI will hold a Young Member Workshop for National Federations and Associations (NFAs) and independent members. The workshop, generously sponsored by VGIF, is open to GWI young members who are 40 years and younger and will examine future global trends in technology, jobs and employment, social and economic justice and human behaviour. Strategic Foresight Specialist and Futurist, Aarathi Krishnan, will guide participants to understand the impact that these trends have on young people. The workshop presents an opportunity for young women from around the world to connect, to recognize the power they hold as young people, and to act create an impactful GWI Young Member community. Sign up today because space is limited to 40 NFA and independent members on a first-come first-served basis and we are half full. For more information click here, or you can contact Eileen Focke-Bakker at E.G.A.Focke-Bakker@tudelft.nl. A travel subsidy will be offered to GWI young members coming from an official development assistance (ODA) recipient country, as established by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). To apply for the financial subsidiary all participants must first register for the workshop then apply for the subsidy click here.

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**Graduate Women International News**

63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63): GWI Summary
The excitement surrounding CSW63 may be over but GWI’s work continues on behalf of all women and girls. Beginning in 1947, the annual two week meeting in New-York City is a time for like-minded women to gather discuss learn from each other and coalesce around the rights of women and girls. This year was no different. GWI was represented by more than 60 determined delegates from GWI, the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), Women Graduates – USA (WG-USA) and other NFAs including Australia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal and Zimbabwe. An comprehensive summary of the GWI activities during CSW63, prepared by Hazel Bowen, GWI Vice-President Advocacy and Education, is available on the website here, along with delegates reports on topic ranging from social protection and empowerment, to public partnerships for sustainable development and from the empowerment through a holistic approach to education, to Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV). GWI encourages all members, followers and friends to read and share those reports.

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**GWI Member News**

JAUW celebrates the success of its scholarship project for orphans affected by natural disaster
The Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW) reports its 5-year-project of scholarship for aiding orphaned senior-high students terminated in March 2019, eight years after the dramatic earthquakes and Tsunami disaster in Japan. “The emergency project went on for 8 years until the last applicants finished...
“high schools or advanced education courses”, says Ms. Reiko Aoki, the then President of JAUW. “Twenty students in total were given the opportunity to pursue their education thanks to the project”, she adds. “All of them are now either pursuing their education or a professional career [...] this project would have never been achieved without the support of GWI members, both inside and outside of Japan. Their support was not only financial [...] They also tremendously helped us achieve our aim through continued moral encouragement and collaboration.” JAUW is delighted to announce that based on this valuable experience, a workshop on “Accessibility of Networks and the Mission of GWI in the Crisis” is to be held at the Triennial, “Peace through Education” Conference and Centenary Celebration in Geneva next July. The workshop is designed so that every participant in the workshop can learn how to become an organizer and a co-ordinator of an effective project for supporting the youth to survive and resolve a crisis increasing resilience, through making use of networking”.

**TAUW hosts its 12th Leader Women Awards**

On 6 April 2019, TAUW held its 12th Leader Women Awards ceremony. Awards are given to women whose profession and work represents and inspires Turkish women in the fields of honour, science, media, art and sport. Below is a list of the awardees of the ceremony:

- The Honour Award: Prof. Dr Yakın Ertürk, a sociologist, UN reporter of violence against women, and a member of UN research institute of social development.
- The Science Award: Prof. Dr Ayşe Akin, a public health doctor with numerous works of research and articles.
- The Media Award: Çiğdem Toker, an economics journalist who follows economic policies of government and criticizes bravely.
- The Art Award: Sumru Yavrucuk, an actress who has starred in many Turkish films and series and is a role model for many Turkish women.
- The Sport Award: Buse Tosun, a national team player who has won the World Championship and many medals in wrestling.

GWI congratulates all winners of the TAUW 12th Leader Women Awards!

**University Women’s Club Vancouver (UWCV): the 3 Minute Thesis: The Power of Future Minds**

On 13 April 2019, for the fourth consecutive year, the UWCV Education Committee in partnership with the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies from UBC and SFU, hosted The 3 Minute Thesis: The Power of Future Minds. The event was well attended and there was much excitement in the Drawing Room. At the event, eight very accomplished graduate students presented their research and findings in only 3 minutes and in accordance to strictly prescribed rules. Thesis subjects were varied, stimulating, and often humorous. Each presentation was followed by a vigorous question and answer session. Following all presentations, members of the audience were tasked with the difficult challenge of voting for a “People’s Choice” award winner and runner-up. Adam Ramsey whose thesis title was “Gene and Cell Therapies for Diabetes”, was the winner; and Hanna Watkins, who presented on “Vitamin Pee for a Healthy Sea”, was the runner-up. Presenters were impressive and inspiring. There was no doubt that all students were winners!
GWI Vice President Marketing participates in CFUW-Ottawa Seminar on Women’s Education

On 13 April, Louise McLeod, GWI Vice President Marketing travelled to Ottawa, Canada, to meet members of the CFUW-Ottawa and participated in the “No Woman Left Behind” seminar on International Education of Women, co-organized by CFUW-Ottawa Branch and the World University Service of Canada (WUSC). McLeod’s presentation focused on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly those goals that pertain to education (SDG 4) and gender equality (SDG 5). “The CFUW-Ottawa “No Women Left Behind” seminar was exceptional in many ways. The session was an excellent opportunity to interact with members and to share the impact the Sustainable Development Goals will have on education and gender issues. CFUW-Ottawa hospitality was wonderful and greatly appreciated and I congratulate them on an excellent seminar”, said McLeod. After presenting the history and origins of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and goals of the SDGs, she examined the targets of the goals and their implementation mechanisms. She concluded with an in-depth presentation of SDG 4, on universal quality education and SDG5, on gender equality. A full transcript of the presentation is available for sharing and downloading here. GWI warmly thanks CFUW-Ottawa for inviting GWI to participate in this event and for their continued work toward the promotion of women’s and girls’ empowerment through education.

Call for applications

OWSD PhD Fellowships

The Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World is offering a fellowship to women scientists from Science and Technology Lagging Countries with funds provided by the Swedish International Development Agency. The fellowship aims to contribute to a new generation of emerging women leaders in science and technology and promote effective participation in science and technological developments in their countries. Fellowships are available as two study themes 1) full-time (maximum 4-years) research conducted in another developing country or 2) the ‘sandwich’ theme which allows PhD students to conduct studies in another country while simultaneously completing their degree at home. Deadline for applicants: 30 May 2019. For a full list of eligibility requirements and information about the fellowship, please click here.

Cora Weiss Fellowship for Young Women Peacebuilders

The Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP) is pleased to announce its fourth annual Cora Weiss Fellowship for Young Women Peacebuilders. Launched in 2015, the Fellowship aims to support the development of young women peacebuilders and ensure that more young people share Cora’s vision for sustainable peace and gender equality as strong and integral parts of our global culture. For further information about eligibility criteria and the application process, please click here. The deadline for application is 31 May 2019.
**GWIs at the United Nations**

**GWI represented at the 57th session Commission for Social Development in New-York**

Maryella Hannum, GWI UN Representative in New-York, attended the 57th session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD57), that took place at the UN Headquarters in New-York City, from 11 February to 21 February. The Commission is the advisory body responsible for the social development pillar of global development; it is made up of 46 members elected by ECOSOC for four-year terms and based on equitable geographical distribution. This year’s priority theme is “Addressing Inequalities and Challenges to Social inclusion through Fiscal, Wage and Social Protection Policies”. The CSocD57 consisted of high-level panel discussion, ministerial session on social protection, interactive dialogue and panel discussions and side-events on the priority theme and emerging issues including the Civil Society Forum. The CSocD57 emphasized inequality as a central defining issue in sustainable development and stressed the link between social protections and inequalities, and that fiscal wage and social policies are key to reducing inequalities. It was also emphasized that the priority of the international community is to deliver on achieving the 2030 Agenda for Social Development of eradicating poverty and of leaving non one behind and with a focus of placing people at the center of development. To read a full report of the event, please click [here](#). The official documents and draft resolutions are available [here](#).

**Give the gift of empowerment**

The Bina Roy Partners in Development Programme (BRPID) is a grants mechanism of GWI. BRPID began in 1978 and was later named in honour of Dr. Bina Roy, educator and former GWI President from India. To date, over half of the GWI NFAs have participated in BRPID, either as project sponsors or donor partners. For the 2018 round of funding, applications were received from Egypt, Ghana, Nepal, Sierra Leone and Turkey. These BRPID project applications focus on entrepreneurial knowledge and skills for disadvantaged women (citrus production in Turkey; horticultural and artisan skills in Egypt; STEM involvement for young female students in Ghana; gender-based violence education and prevention in schools in Sierra Leone; and the advancement of children’s learning methods through technology in Nepal.) The Bina Roy projects are supported by donations from impact investors, personal contributions and our own member affiliates around the world. GWI needs further support for this years’ upcoming BRPID projects. Please consider [contributing](#) or recommending an organization or institution that would consider [funding](#) a project.
Did you know that, every three years, to celebrate its triennium, GWI offers a fellowships programme that makes it possible for women graduates to complete exciting research in many important fields? For example, they are exploring new frontiers in medicine, analysing the impact of global trends on women and children and assessing conservation efforts. Many are working in areas directly related to GWI priority interests. Their studies will have far-reaching benefits, for their own careers, and for the communities and countries from which they come. The GWI 2019 fellowships programme is now closed and the full list of winners is available here. The next GWI fellowships programme will open in the spring of 2021 ahead of the 2022 GWI Triennium.

Other information and events

- 17-18 May 2019 Women Graduates Scotland, Meet and Greet, Dundee, Scotland
- 28 May 2019 Menstrual Hygiene Day
- 12 June 2019 World Day against Child Labour
- 20 June 2019 World Refugee Day
- 23 June 2019 International Widow’s Day
- 10-21 June 2019 International Labour Organisation Conference, Geneva

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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