GWI UPDATE – 11 December 2019

Graduate Women International
2019 YEAR AT A GLANCE

BOARD
President: Terry Oudraad (GWI-NL), VP Legal & Governance: Veena Bathé (IFUWA), VP Membership: Eileen Focke-Bakker (GWI-NL), VP Marketing: Glenda Heckshers (FEMU), VP Education & Advocacy: Louise McLeod (WG-USA), VP Fundraising: Basak Ovacl (TUKE), Treasurer: Katharina Strub (ASFDU)

Graduate Women International celebrates 100 years

85% overall satisfaction rate (Survey Monkey results)

- More than 400 participants
- New Board and Committee members elected and appointed
- 8 Policy Resolutions, 3 Constitutional Resolution and 5 Internal Resolutions adopted
- 63 workshops and seminars
- 30 NFA triennial reports submitted

The 33rd Triennial, Centenary Celebration and Peace through Education Conference in Geneva in July was the year’s highlight!

Keynote speaker: Zamaswazi Dlamini Mandela

Graduate Women International at the United Nations


- Submitted five HRC written and oral statements.
- 60+ GWI and NFA delegates participated in CSW63 and submitted 17 reports.
- Hosted a successful side event on Women & Corruption at HRC41 in June.

Membership

GWI has more than 15,000 members from around the world. Our members work nationally and internationally to promote safe, access to quality, lifelong education for women and girls everywhere.

- GWI supports 55 National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

The GWI Office referred 103 applications to their local NFAs.

GWI also comprises 23 independent Members from 15 countries.
COMMUNICATION
Through a comprehensive communication plan of daily social media posts, the Update Newsletter and press releases, GWI advances its mission locally, nationally and internationally.

- More than 2000 posts on four different social media platforms.
- GWI gained more than 900 new social media followers.
- Published 24 Update Newsletters and five Special Editions, totalling to 232 write-ups.
- Issued 22 press releases & NFA templates

ADVOCACY
GWI created four impactful advocacy campaign toolkits offering gripping information, advocacy ideas and comprehensive social media campaigns.

- International Menstrual Hygiene Day.
- International Day of the Girl, published by WUNRN.
- International Day of Rural Women, published by WUNRN.
- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, published by WUNRN.

INTERNERSHIPS & VOLUNTEERING
GWI mentored eight interns from the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, USA, South Korea and Indonesia.

- 35 volunteers participated in the 33rd Triennial, Centenary Celebration and Peace through Education Conference. Their help was key to the event’s success!

COLLABORATION IN GENEVA
GWI is an active participant in the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva, Vienna and New York, a strategic body for women’s rights advocacy.

- Active participation with the NGO Committee on Human Rights, NGO Committee on Ageing and gender networks to promote the protection of education and women’s rights.

PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES
More than 2000 women and girls directly benefited from the 2018-2019 Bina Roy Partners in Development projects in Egypt, Ghana, Nepal, Sierra Leone and Turkey.

- GWI awarded a total of CHF 15’300 in the form of fellowships and grants, of which CHF 12’000 went to the Caroline Spurgeon Centenary Fellowship.

- GWI is currently reviewing new applicants from Syria and Iraq for the Hegg Hoffet fund for displaced women.

- The five participants supported by GWI through the Teachers for Rural Futures programme in Uganda are expected to graduate in January 2020.

GWI thanks all its members, volunteers and donors for their tireless contributions!
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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