



GWI UPDATE – 8 January 2020



GWI is celebrating the end of a successful year. View and share our 2019 Year at Glance [HERE](#).

— Graduate Women International News —

Connecting IFUW to the United Nations: Tribute to Esther Caukin Brunauer (1901-1959)



Esther Caukin Brunauer (source: www.aauw.org).

On the occasion of [2019 United Nations](#) Day, Graduate Women International (GWI), previously the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), recalled contributions by founding mother, Virginia Gildersleeve, to the beginnings of the United Nations. In this respect, it is important to note that the members of the delegation to the [San Francisco Conference](#) (Conference) in 1945 worked on all the United Nations bodies, not just the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Furthermore, Virginia Gildersleeve was not the only extraordinary woman to leave her stamp on the United Nations. Kathy Horvat, member of Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA), rightly reminded us of her mother's, Esther Caukin Brunauer, important work towards establishing the United Nations (UN). Ms. Brunauer was employed within the United States (US) State Department unit responsible for developing the UN. To that effect, Ms. Brunauer prepared a list of women fit for assignment as delegates to the Conference by the US President. Among others, Virginia Gildersleeve and Aurelia Henry Reinhardt, President of Mills College, figured on that list. The US State Department also organised a group of representatives of 42 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to meet during the Conference to discuss and advise on the issues. Ms. Brunauer participated herself in the Conference as a technical advisor to the group discussing the part of the UN Charter dealing with the General Assembly. In 1946, Ms. Brunauer became the US Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Planning Commission with the rank of Minister. She was the third US woman to ever receive this title. Her many achievements are documented at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris and the IFUW files archived at Atria in Amsterdam. GWI recognises Ms. Brunauer's achievements in this first GWI Newsletter write-up of the year 2020. More information on this remarkable woman is available [HERE](#). GWI thanks Kathy Horvat for reminding us of her mother's accomplishments.

Introducing the 2019-2020 Bina Roy Partners in Development projects

The Bina Roy Partners in Development (BRPID) programme supports locally developed and operated projects initiated by GWI National Federations and Associations (NFAs) that will galvanise and empower women and girls through education and leadership development. Through the 2018-2019 cycle of the BRPID projects, the lives of more than 2,000 women and school-aged children, a majority of them young women and girls, were positively impacted. GWI is now pleased to present the selected projects for the 2019-2020 round of funding, located in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), El Salvador, India, Ghana, Mexico and Turkey. All projects align with GWI's mission towards lifelong education, advancement and participation in leadership and decision-making for women and girls. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the 2019-2020 BRPID projects and read their application summaries. The application summaries, mid-term report summaries and final report summaries for the 2018-2019 BRPID cycle are also available [HERE](#). A long-running and successful GWI programme, BRPID began in 1978 and was later renamed in honour of Dr. Bina Roy, educator and former GWI President from India. GWI thanks its donors for their generous contribution to these lifechanging projects.

— GWI Member News —

AGW member Prof. Cheryl Praeger wins Australian Prime Minister's Prize for Science



Mathematician Emeritus and member of Australian Graduate Women Inc. (AGW), Professor Cheryl Praeger of the University of Western Australia has received the 2019 Australian Prime Minister's Prize for Science of \$250,000 for her contributions to pure mathematics. She studied at Oxford University, for which she had won a scholarship, and in 1983, she became one of the first female professors of mathematics in Australia. This led her to partake in many different programmes and committees, such as the curriculum development council of the Australian government. According to Shirley Randell, fellow member of AGW and contributor to this write-up, Prof. Praeger was very touched by the award, because receiving it showed the importance of mathematics in general, but also of the achievements of her, her colleagues and her students. Prof. Praeger's work spans decades and more than 400 journal publications. GWI wholeheartedly congratulates Prof. Praeger to this well-deserved recognition of her life's work. She sets a brilliant example of what women can achieve in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). To access the full write-up by Shirley Randell on behalf of Prof. Praeger, click [HERE](#).

GWJ passes on condolences to JAUW regarding the passing of Dr. Sadako Ogata



Sadako Ogata as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1990-2000).
Photo: UNHCR

Respectfully, GWI writes of the passing of Dr. Sadako Ogata, first female United Nations Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). *"The news on October 22, 2019 of the death of Sadako Ogata at the age of 92, [...] has already been spread all over the world"*, says Chizuko Suzuki, Convenor of International Relations (CIR) of the Japanese Association of Graduate Women (JAUW). *"She was a respected Japanese public administrator who worked as part of UNHCR to protect people displaced by conflicts. Her keynote speech at the 25th IFUW Conference held in Yokohama in 1995 remains in all of our memories as a precious legacy"*, she adds. Dr. Ogata left a unique imprint on the UNHCR and the

world, and her many achievements continue to live on through the people who enjoy better lives and opportunities thanks to her. May she rest in peace.

— Advocacy —

GWI to host parallel event on women and corruption at CSW64 session

As a follow-up to the 9 December [press release](#) for Anti-Corruption Day, GWI announces to hold a parallel event during the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64). The event will take place on 11 March at 2.30 pm at the Church Center (10th Floor) across from the UN in New York. The parallel event is co-sponsored by the [Women’s UN Report Network \(WUNRN\)](#) and [NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva](#). Seizing the CSW64 theme, this Women and Corruption parallel event is unique in that it will address corruption through a GENDER LENS. Women are targeted disproportionately as victims of corruption, and yet rarely in the discourse of corruption are women considered. Women experience corruption in specific ways, which greatly impact gender inequality. Panellists will assess the impact of gendered corruption, root causes and plausible recommendations. The parallel event will also examine how corruption impedes the implementation of the [12 Critical Areas of Concern](#) formulated within the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) (1995). Further information about the parallel event will be published in future Updates and on the [GWI website](#).

2019 highlight: GWI celebrates its 100th anniversary in Geneva



This major milestone event held in Geneva, Switzerland, represented a new beginning for GWI within a changing global landscape - one of strategic relationships with the United Nations, 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. The conference theme “Peace through Education” reflected GWI’s deep-seated recognition of education, particularly education for women and girls as the cornerstone of peaceful, just and sustainable societies. The Centenary Celebration itself delighted with a runway presentation of “GWI Through the Decades”, musical performances, the presentation of three awards as well as competition winners, and of course, the buffet dinner and cake celebration. More than 400 people participated, and 63 workshops and seminars were held. According to the satisfaction survey, 85% of these participants were overall satisfied with the conference. Furthermore, the General Assembly adopted eight policy resolutions, three constitutional resolutions as well as five internal resolutions. In anticipation of this event, more than [30 NFAs submitted reports](#). A particular highlight of the conference was keynote speaker, Zamaswazi Dlamini Mandela, who spoke about the achievements of her grandfather and grandmother, Nelson and Winnie Mandela, and her own projects to promote education in South Africa. This unforgettable event propelled GWI into this new 2020 decade and the next 100 years with commitment and solidarity.

— GWI at the United Nations —

The 75th session of CEDAW reviews Bulgaria, Pakistan and Zimbabwe

From 10-28 February 2020, the 75th session of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. CEDAW is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The CEDAW Committee consists of 23 experts on women's rights from around the world. During this session, the Committee will review and address concerns and recommendations, among others, regarding the submission of the CEDAW reports by GWI affiliates in Bulgaria, Pakistan and Zimbabwe. Please come back in March for a summary of the CEDAW reports from GWI affiliates. For further information about CEDAW and the upcoming session, click [HERE](#).

Kenya, Spain and Turkey under review at the 35th session of the Universal Periodic Review

The Human Rights Council's (HRC) Universal Periodic Review (UPR) will hold its 35th session from 20-31 January 2020. During the session, three GWI NFA countries are under review: Kenya, Spain and Turkey. The UPR is a unique process which involves a periodic review of the human rights records of all 193 United Nations Member States. The UPR, based on equal treatment for all countries, is a significant innovation of the HRC. The UPR provides an opportunity for all States to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights. The UPR also includes a sharing of best human rights practices around the globe. Currently, no other mechanism of this kind exists. Please come back in February for a summary of the UPR reports from GWI affiliates. To learn more about the UPR process and the upcoming UPR session, click [HERE](#).

— Calls for applications —

AfricaLics Short-Term Fellowship for Mentorship in Innovation Studies

With support from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), the African Network of Learning, Innovation and Competence Building Systems (AfricaLics)'s research capacity building programme includes activities that provide a holistic guidance to post-graduate students and early-career researchers towards the acquisition of skills that enable the analysis of innovation activities related to their research irrespective of the field. Consequently, this would enhance research outputs that are socially and economically relevant as well as transformative. The proposed short-term mentorship activity is part of a long-term mentorship endeavour to build a critical mass of innovation scholars to enhance inclusive and innovation-driven transformation of the African continent. To this end, AfricaLics will be offering six competitive fellowships to qualified post-graduate students and early-career scholars (mainly women from low-income countries (LICs) and low middle-income countries (LMICs); and applicants from LICs only). Find more information on eligibility and the application process [HERE](#). Applications close on **15 January 2020**.

Australian Graduate Women Inc. Barbara Hale Fellowships 2020

Every year in January, applications open for the Australian Graduate Women Inc. Barbara Hale Fellowships. These fellowships, amounting to \$7,500 and \$6,000, are awarded to Australian women graduates enrolled for a research PhD at an Australian University in their second or third year of PhD research. For more information, visit [AGW's website](#).

— Give the gift of education —



GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara, with the GWI sponsored students from Teachers for Rural Futures in 2017.

What better way to start the year than by giving the gift of education to rural women and girls in Uganda? GWI directly addresses the lack of women teachers as a barrier to girls' secondary education by sponsoring girls from rural areas in Uganda to qualify as teachers through the [Teachers for Rural Futures project](#). An increase in qualified women teachers in rural Uganda will have a huge impact on girls' education in the country. The project aims to enable some 2500 more girls to attend school over ten years. Educated girls and women are better equipped to participate effectively in society, to protect themselves from harm and to care

for their children. Children of educated women are healthier and far more likely to go to school, hence the project creates long-term positive effects for generations. We invite you to contribute to our Global Giving campaign that enables young women to achieve their potential, inspire girls to go to school and build more prosperous communities. [Give today](#).

— Did you know? —

Unfortunately, GWI can only send 20 delegates to the session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held in March every year at the UN in New York. This year is no exception. However, not being able to attend this year's CSW session does not mean that you have to miss out! In our modern times, everything is available online, which means you can follow the CSW sessions thanks to the UN Web TV live and uninterrupted! GWI proposes that you gather together with your fellow NFA members, your colleagues, friends and family, and make this an unforgettable moment within your community! Access the UN Web TV page [HERE](#). All further information on CSW64 can be found [HERE](#).

— Other information and events —

20-31 January	Universal Periodic Review Working Group, 35 th session, United Nations, Geneva
24 January	International Day of Education, Global
6 February	International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation, Global
10-28 February	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 75 th session, United Nations, Geneva
11 February	International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Global
24 Feb-20 March	Human Rights Council, 43 rd session, United Nations, Geneva
1 March	Zero Discrimination Day, Global
8 March	International Women's Day, Global
9-20 March	Commission on the Status of Women 64 th session, New York
7-8 May	Generation Equality Forum Mexico
25 May-5 June	International Labour Organisation Conference, Geneva
7-10 July	Generation Equality Forum Paris
18-20 September	Centenary of the French Association of University Women (AFFDU)

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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 since 1947 and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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