



Graduate Women International (GWI) Mock Trial

Commission on the Status of Women 65th session Parallel Event

During Commission on the Status of Women 65th session (CSW65), GWI will host an interactive Mock Trial, similar to the judicial system complete with judges, debaters and onlookers who will have the opportunity register opinions via interactive polls. Mock trials are an engaging way to raise awareness about critical issues, in this case, challenges and inequalities in distance learning. Analysis and sound reasoning combined with effective communication to the judges will be critical to success of the Mock Trial.

Statements derived from GWI experienced knowledge base about the challenges and inequalities stemming from the emerging distance learning culture will be presented for debate by invited subject expert panelists. A panel of judges will then deliberate to decide the validity or non-validity of each statement. The goal is for attendees to, thereafter, engender discussion within their organisations on how to address current critical issues of digital learning and schooling.

Beforehand, all participants will be supplied with written statements related to digital learning. Solid arguments “pro and contra” will be formulated to address two statements. Participants will present convincing arguments to the judges who, after careful deliberation, will determine the “validity” or “non-validity” of the proposed statements. The “valid” statements with its underlying arguments will be communicated to the GWI membership and to civil society at large. The trial will not only serve as an interactive learning experiences but will also be fun.

All GWI participants are encouraged to read/study the pre-written statement and supporting document that will be provided beforehand to gain the necessary insight and knowledge necessary to “defend/support/endorse” or to “oppose/attack” the statement.

Statement of debate will be presented then timed discussion will commence - defenders with arguments for the defense of the statement and the offenders against the statement will introduce viewpoints.

Then Both parties make their case for 10 minutes each in the arena and following which the judges will have 10 minutes to come to reach a decision and 5 minutes to announce their verdict: valid or non-valid.

Two statements will be debated during the 1.5-hour event.