



Graduate Women International

*From Growth to
Sustainability*

34th Triennial
General Assembly and Conference
(to be held virtually)

11 November - 13 November 2022

Candidates for the Graduate Women International (GWI) Board of Officers

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President Candidate:



Name: **Patrice WELLESLEY-COLE**

Name of the NFA: **British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG)**

Qualifications: **B.A. Law, M.A. Law**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **Lawyer, retired Tribunal Judge**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

Academic achievements:

- I was a national finalist in a speaking competition on Human Rights. My topic was *“Equality and eradicating discrimination”*.
- I gained three Advanced Levels, all at Grade A.
- I was awarded a prestigious National Scholarship to read Law at Oxford University

Thus, from my early years I have honed my oral and written skills as a bicultural woman, and this has equipped me for my voluntary and professional career.

In the 1980s I held leadership roles in women’s organisations in Freetown, Sierra Leone. As Zonta President in 1984, I organised and chaired a West African regional conference in Freetown. Such service during my tenure was subsequently recognized by Zonta U.S.A. HQ with an award.

As a human rights protagonist in Freetown I initiated, developed then managed various women’s projects, including income generating ones, and drafted and amended constitutions. As a founder member of Women’s Association for National Development, I collaborated with others in the start-up of this NGO.

As Treasurer of the Sierra Leone Bar Association, I was responsible for the accounts, sitting on the Association’s Board and attending regular meetings.

As Secretary of Sierra Leone Association of University Women(SLAUW) which is affiliated to GWI (then IFUW), I oversaw the provision of scholarships and projects. I increased membership by travelling with Freetown members to Bo and other cities to inaugurate new local associations into SLAUW.

As SLAUW CIR,I was their Voting delegate at the IFUW Triennial Conferences in Vancouver, Groningen and then Helsinki. In 1989 I was elected IFUW Vice-President, the youngest and first African. I was nominated for the post by the Irish Association, in recognition of my leadership, communication and networking skills.

My previous GWI/IFUW V-P Board experience from 1989-1992 was in Geneva at HQ, working as a team under President Mary Purcell. This has given me the knowledge and insight into the workings of GWI, built on local Boards and included chairing Plenary and Business sessions as the IFUWV-P at the Stanford, California Triennial Conference in 1992.

2007-2011 Member IFUW Working group on Education and Advocacy; co-authored IFUW's 'The multi-faceted right to education-a guide to implementation and mentoring', 2011. ISBN-978-2-8399-860-320.

In 2009 I attended 6th Universal Periodic Review in Geneva representing IFUW.

Having practised in two jurisdictions as a lawyer for several years, I've gained experience as a practitioner and demonstrated my knowledge of the Law and Human rights instruments.The Sierra Leone Bar is different from the English Bar because it's a fused profession in Freetown where one is both Barrister and Solicitor. My practice was wide-ranging; crime, commercial and family work.

I had retainer for a bank, hotel and defended alleged murderers. Practising in West Africa has enabled me to understand the concerns of the global South as such lived experiences have sharpened my critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

As a Counsellor (Legal) at the Central London Immigration Advisory Service, I advised and represented migrants and asylum seekers in court and ran a walk-in surgery with colleagues where we dealt with some of the most vulnerable in society. I also trained and mentored colleagues. Here my interpersonal skills were key.

Continuing with practice in London Chambers, I was honoured when my professionalism and strong work ethic were recognised when appointed a Judge in London. Analytical skills are essential for Judge craft when giving judgements addressing difficult points of law.

If elected, I will endeavour to bring such judgment skills, my experience chairing meetings and management in the voluntary sector to contribute to the work of the Board as President.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

The current Board wants to build working relationships with UN agencies and national bodies that are implementing Sustainable Development Goal 4. It wants to ensure quality education in our NFAs. It wants to secure funding for GWI from global sources. If elected, with due caution, I would continue to consolidate this work.

Most NFAs are in favour of these ambitions. IPP Geeta Desai is working on renewing and rebuilding GWI through the GWI OD. As I represent BFWG on the committee, I am already part of this process.

Adopting GWI's 2020-2022 8 GWI Strategic plan goals:

I would concentrate on:

- Increasing a younger, more diverse membership
- Highlighting fundraising for projects for the most vulnerable
- Developing our Advocacy as the only female multi-disciplinary NGO, our unique selling point.

I would contribute:

- Strategic support, preparing ahead, and attending meetings
- Leading, being attentive, engaged and asking the right questions
- Commitment and dedication
- Representation and continued stability

Vice President Advocacy Candidates (2):



Name: **Shaila Rao MISTRY**

Name of the NFA: **Women Graduates USA (WG-USA)**

Qualifications: **M.A Law, MS Social Policy and Administration, MSW Social Work, Fellow Public Policy and Advocacy**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **CEO and Founder of STEM-Institute and Jayco MMI Global Advocate for Economic and Social Equity**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

I excel at solutions and implementing actions, functioning effectively with limited resources, and attracting new sources to rejuvenate the organization. Having faced, and solved, sink or swim challenges in private sector and public advocacy capacities, I am an effective transformational leader in multisectoral forums and partnerships, including UN and civil society. My experience from founding two global entities includes organizational growth, leadership development, foresight planning, advocacy, and governance. My skill set spans leading global marketing, technology, manufacturing, and procurement with prime contractors, and government. Additionally, I bring necessary essential knowledge of finance, talent, risk management, and diversity and inclusion.

Throughout my career I have advocated for women in a male dominated industry, creating pathways for future generations of female global leaders. I am experienced in authoring policy and oral and written interventions, both planned and impromptu, and have extensive knowledge of the UN systems. My ability to transfer skills learned in each sector to benefit another is a valued asset, particularly financial, technology, and diversity-inclusion with perspectives from intersectional, collaborative, cross-cultural leadership, and economic-social equity.

STEM Institute, Founder-CEO

STEM is a global consulting entity that develops and trains leaders to influence change for organizational growth and advocates equity from the classroom to the board room. It is a strategic planning and foresight institute serving all sectors-public, private, and non-profit, to cross-pollinate ideas and resources to create economic sustainability and women's empowerment. Accomplishments include development, advocating policy, governance, legislation, and creating systemic change for growing new markets, accessible procurement, and development of inclusive policies. Trained leaders for corporate social responsibility and pivoted through pandemic through extensive advocacy with governments and the UN.

Jayco MMI, Founder-President

Designer, innovator, and manufacturer for aerospace and medical device industries serving global Fortune 500 companies. Accomplishments include growing company to global presence, organizational development strategic planning, infrastructure, marketing, and public relations, talent retention, risk management, compliance, leadership, diversity, developing international markets and trade initiatives, finance and funding, and technology conversions. Steered company through economic downturns and pivoted through pandemic to remote operations.

National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO)

Board Director, State and National. Accomplishments include leading Trade delegations to Europe, Australia, Japan, and India, planning summits for 15 years, presenting numerous

workshops on diversity and inclusion, global trade, and advocating for economic development, employment laws, and compliance. Opened doors for contracts and funding for women entrepreneurs.

University of California

Board Advisor to lead governance and policy for Equity and Diversity, Data and Transparency over eleven campuses and to oversee education access and practices and procurement access to contracts. Accomplishments include building vision, mission, and strategy to advance diversity in education equity, economic development, compliance and regulation, finance and funding targets, and meeting target goals for equity.

United Nations and Agencies

Served in leadership capacities including Nominating and Arbitration Committees, Caucuses, and Advocacy. Moderated and presented at UN Summits in Tunisia, Geneva, India, and Japan, bringing experience of building consensus amongst disparate multi-stakeholders specifically under conflicting perspectives.

- GWI serve on Education Committee, attended numerous triennials, presented webinars
- WG-USA serve as Advocacy Convener and Global Women's Health Convener
- Participated in all CSW since Beijing 1995, including GEAR campaign to establish UN Women
- Participant at UN Global Compact on SDGs on Education, Health, Gender-Equity, and Decent Work. Presented webinars and workshops at Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPIs)
- UN IGF World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) serving Governance Forum and Internet Rights and Principles Committee and authored Charter on Human Rights
- United Nations Delegate participation, leadership, presentations include Generation Equality Forum, Global Summit of Women, Global Entrepreneurship Women.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

My primary goal is to invigorate our stature and re-establish GWI as the flagship leader of positive transformation in education, equity, and social and economic justice for women and girls. This will entail developing partnerships with all sectors, attracting financial support to facilitate our growth and advancement, and marketing GWI to new sectors to grow millennial and younger membership. This will require training and developing our leaders to advance advocacy in our priority areas of education and policy and developing programs to gain traction amongst young professionals.

I bring expertise to fulfil each of the following actionable sub goals

- Develop global collaborative leadership and consensus to resolve GWI challenges and gaps
- Re-brand our organizational profile to create competitive advantage
- Re-frame SDG 4 value proposition to attract and retain Millennials
- Train NFA leadership to navigate through global platforms

- Rejuvenate program to re-engage NFAs and Millennials
- Use real time technology to advance our services and delivery
- Update NFA leadership technology skills
- Build a pipeline of younger leaders for future leadership roles
- Develop partnerships in all sectors
- Attract new sources of support for funding and financing
- Participate as discipline experts in policy-decision making in key sectors
- Speak as field experts at key global events



Name: **Shevata Rai TALWAR**

Name of the NFA: **Indian Federation of University Women (IFUWA)**

Qualifications: **B.A Language, B.A Education, Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **Volunteer social work**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

Key Skills: Gender Empowerment and development, Research Skill& Analytical Ability. Project coordination and development. Creating and implementing strategies for upliftment of the marginalize communities and the disabled through generating public opinion, policy making, fund raising and direct pitching at the grass root level.

Experience:

- I have researched for the International Labour Organization (ILO) with the HIV/AIDS project and written a paper on gender discrimination, sexual health and other facets of this killer disease (in the world of work) which requires not only education and prevention to control but also support and compassion to deal with. In a broader prospective my extensive travel all over the world and deep interest in women related matters have helped throw light on this sensitive and important matter of AIDS and its impact on women. It was a challenging topic for me to study.
- I have also worked as a monitor for the World Health Organization (WHO, U.N.) and the National Polio Surveillance project for the state of Uttrakhand during many rounds of activity

and almost two years.

- Worked as Project Coordinator in WISE (Women initiative for Self-employment).
- Counselling adolescents on their unique problems and aspects including anger management, homosexuality and drug abuse in the Doon Youth Centre.
- Director of Ocean data-a company dealing with computers and IT. Holding discussions and courses to enable the masses and also the illiterates to grasp and comprehend the ever changing world of technology (especially women).
- CEO of Ocean Enterprises - manufacturer of Plastics and related raw material - where I tried to employ women mainly and create self-help groups and impart knowledge about micro credit -bending towards positive discrimination and helping solve the unique problems of young working mothers and their babies. Educating them of their rights, investments (Micro credit) and health issues.
- I have collected, analyzed and compiled field data in the labour sector in various households and income groups and worked on a project of child labour.
- Environment is another one of the issues which I have taken up, I spent some time at the BijaVidya peeth with Dr Vandana Shiva-Alternate Noble Laureate winner, Somdhong Rimpoché (prime minister of Tibet in Exile), Satish Kumar director of Schumacher college and the winner of Jamanlal Bajaj award for the spread of peace and Gandhian Principles abroad. Working on community issues sustainability and bio diversity. Uttarakhand has been declared organic andGMO free. Courses done by me at the vidyapeeth are Patents, Biodiversity, Bio piracy, Gandhi and Globalization-which is primarily directed towards achieving world peace. Worked untiringly on the ban of polythene which had taken place in the state of Uttarakhand under the Umbrella of the Doon Residents welfare front which has more than seventy five resident associations under it .
- I have a social work background for almost thirty five years and I have utilized the knowledge gained from various diploma courses to give vocational Training. One such vocational training center being the 'Sharmada Tyagi' vocational training center at Tyagi Rd offering courses in Block printing, tailoring, beauty culture etc., being run by University Women's Association Dehradun, affiliated to the International Federation of University Women-an international body with members from all over the world. I have been the Association Representative, PRO for the said organization. We have adopted many schools where we distributed uniforms, books ,furniture, stationary etc. and have given financial aid for various activities such as construction of boundary ,toilets, and other amenities for the students. UWA gives scholarships at the local, national and international levels to needy and meritorious students. We also hold health camps with the Indian Medical Association and provide free consultation and guidance. Tree plantation drives are held regularly at Public places.

* Currently Secretary UWAsia.

- The Doon Residents welfare front and I worked untiring for the formation of a State Human Rights Commission which has been formed and is fully functional. Yoga camps, herbal gardens, composting, conservation of energy are some more activities.

I am the National assistant secretary (earlier member in charge Networking and publicity, youth Affairs) and on the executive body of All India Women's Conference which has 500 branches and a membership in India of over a Lakh and a half .It has consultative status with ECOSOC, UNICEF and affiliations with International Alliance of Women, Pan Pacific and S.E.A Women's Association Congo ,G.W.P, WREN.AIWC is working to free women from oppression and discrimination in all spheres and all levels of society with a freedom of informed decisions and choice along with the power to control their own lives, which comes only with education and financial independence. Many projects on women's rights, women's health, adult literacy, vocational training, computer education, food processing etc. are going on and we have rural branches too. I have also been involved with Prisons, "Cheshire Home", Bajaj Institute of Learning" (for the hearing impaired)other institutes like " The Missionaries of Charity", "Bethel Home". I am a member, office bearer and on the executive body of various charities and organizations – Primarily these being the Doon Citizen Council, Prestigious DOON Club of Dehradun. "Art of Living", "University Women Association"(Association Representative and Publicity convener) " All India Women Conference", "Institute for World Congress on Human Rights" and "Center for Human Rights and Research" and USINPAC, Chinmaya Mission, Kanya Jeevan Dahini Samiti (fighting against female feticide), Uttrakhand Mahila association (it has been nominated as the best NGO fighting against HIV, AIDS by the State Aids control society) Senior Citizens society (where I am associate member and advisor) Intellectuals and technocrats guild of India (vice president and director violence against women) affiliated to UNESCO, Doon Sikh welfare society (non-religious and nonpolitical) Crime prevention society (dealing with human rights of convicts), Bharat Vikas Parishad (Mahila Sayojika and secretary), Women Intracultural Network in United States etc. I am the President Women's Cell Guru Nanak Mission International Chairperson social work All Ladies League, Women's Economic Forum, State Coordinator Rashtriya Sainik Sansthan. I am on the State Committees Dehradun (headed by the district Magistrate) for celebration of National Days, Waste and Traffic.

Learning never stops till we breathe .I wish to be a part of the newer initiatives and training programmes that are going to be started by GWI that will polish uncut gems and add the required sheen of expertise ,knowledge, as mentoring for freshers.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

'Be the change that you want to see ' Mahatma Gandhi.

"When we unleash the power of women we can secure the future for all " Eleanor Roosevelt.

To call women the weaker sex is a libel ,for it is she herself who is the creator and nurturer. The ultimate goal is to secure economic and political equality and safety for each and every women in the world .Education is a strong tool toward Empowerment and financial independence which eventually leads to global sustainability and development.

Traditions have a place in society as far as they do not subjugate ,oppress and impinge on Women’s Human Rights.

Practices like ‘Sati’ burning of the bride on her husband’s funeral pyre faded away in India. So is also female Foeticide on the decline .Female genital mutation, Honour Killings still practiced in many cultures have to be totally abolished.

Free and fair Education, access to higher education ,reduction of school drop outs ,(due to many reasons, lacks of toilet facilities ,menstrual products etc) narrowing the digital divide are primary concerns.

With repeated advocacy and education many battles of social oppression can be fought .The youth of today, have to be nurtured and brought forward to enhanced value based actions, initiatives, leadership with the key skills as equality and mutual respect between the genders and nation building. This process starts young. Peace or unrest begins from any stakeholder feeling marganalised or abused. Poverty, racism, castism, discrimination and division of culture and belief add to this.

Giving voice to the voiceless .Grass root to policymaking - a paradigm shift in the social structures is the need of the hour

Vice President Education Candidates (2):



Name: **Shirelly GILLET**

Name of the NFA: **Graduate Women New Zealand (GWNZ)**

Qualifications: **B.Sc Psychology and Maths, Dip Teaching(hons), M.A Education, Ph.D Education**

Professional field and/or present occupation:

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

When I first joined the branch of graduate Women Otago approximately twelve years ago the committee made me CIR and when I asked what my role entailed the outgoing CIR said the main job was to promote the Millenium goals, in particular-SDG 4–Quality, Equal and Inclusive Education for All.

Hence I have been working at this since in my current roles as president of GWO, CIR of GWNZ and in particular as Convenor of the Education Committee for GWI for the past 3 years.

Some specific examples are:

- Building an early childhood classroom in Kayima a village in Sierra Leone
- Establishing two scholarships for women in male dominated areas for students in the Pacific as part of the GWNZ centenary
- Designing an Education Resource kit for GWI
- Writing the resolution for GWNZ for the 2019 conference: Diversity in Teacher Education
- As Convenor of Education leading the EDUCOM to present a webinar for GWI: Education in a post COVID world(2021)
- Writing the “gender equity” resource with Hazel Bowen(2019)

With a PhD in education and as a lecturer and more recently back teaching in the primary school classroom and tutoring students through disability I am directly at the coal face in promoting quality Equal and Inclusive Education for All.

For five years I was on the board of a national philanthropic group called New Horizons for Women which provides scholarships for second chance education. I have been fortunate to attend CSW four times as part of the GWI delegation and there I have seen and heard wonderful presentations around parallel events advancing education and projects and political advocacy for education for girls’ countries and subject areas. and listened to women from a wide diversity of ages, cultures, ethnicities. As president of the local branch currently I am part of organizing awards and scholarships for women travel, community and research funding. All of these experiences would contribute to the Education GWI board position.

Eight or so years ago I became chair of the GWI education resource kit group and in this became friends with several women from Sierra Leone ...this led to the entrepreneurial idea of twinning between New Zealand and Sierra Leone with the project of funding the building of an early childhood classroom in the small remote village of Kayima. This year as convenor of education I headed up a parallel event for CSW on the topic of climate change and education assembling six female presenters from around the world. I am still in touch with them and finding them used my international network. Current board members were amazed I had these contacts. Such international “friends” would be valuable in the Education role. Other contacts personally I have are in the UN international law, ethics and the

humanities. In New Zealand I am an invited member of the ministry for women international caucus.

As one of the tasks for the OD I researched and compiled a spread sheet around the relevant and connected possible needs and projects from the UN handbook and New Zealand society currently. This taught me a lot and I have this experience in hand as a board member.

In summary skills and experience:

Academic and report Writing

Committee work

Presenting

International collaborating/networking

Initiative

Organising groups

Motivator

Experience in twinning between countries

Design of resources

Member of 3 boards 2 national-skills gained from this

Teaching and knowledge of teaching and curriculum

Designing and carrying out projects

Copyediting

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

In a general sense I want to contribute to the ongoing health and growth of the organization, encourage academic excellence in young women and make use of my years in Graduate Women locally nationally and internationally to contribute to implementing SDG 4. My personal goal is to support the spirit and workings of the developments and new direction. Initially I have the goal of establishing a relationship with the board members to listen and reflect.

A possible specific goal would be to work more with GW Fiji and other pacific groups with whom I and NZ have strong relationships and a specific goal is for myself to mentor several YMs in the education role.

The contribution I would like to make is a multifaceted. It includes to establish one or two projects done in collaboration between the education committee and the projects committee. I would hope to contribute to a positive co-operative atmosphere and working place for the board.

I am keen to contribute in writing and interpreting material from the UN that is relevant following in the steps of Louise McLeod.

I feel there will be more goals that develop organically.



Name: **Lucía GUZMAN**

Name of the NFA: **Mexican Federation of University Women (FEMU)**

Qualifications: **Bachelor of Modern Arts and Literature, Masters in Humanities**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **Professor of Modern Arts and Literature at the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

Besides being a member of GWI Resolutions Committee for the past 3 years, I have occupied the position of Secretary General in my NFA, the Mexican Federation of University Women (FEMU).

As President of the first Women's Rotary Club in Mexico (Club Jardines del Pedregal, District 4170) I founded a "Midway Home" for 175 pregnant girls (11 to 17 years old). These girls not only received health care until their babies were 6 months old, but I took care of enrolling all of them in either primary or secondary school. Two of them even went to, and finished, university.

I have been teaching at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, my alma mater, for more than 30 years, where I occupied the position of Under Secretary for Administration as well as the position of Under Secretary for International Relations.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

As Vice President, Education, I can contribute in bringing into sharper focus GWI's vision that all girls and women should have access to education, regardless of their religion, ethnicity, social status, or in which country or religion of the world they live.

As well as helping the other 8 Board members to spread among all NFAs that education is at the core of GWI.

Vice President Fundraising Candidate (1):



Name: **Nneka CHIEDOZIE-UDEH**

Name of the NFA: **Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW)**

Qualifications: B.Sc Estate Management, Masters in Geographic Information System, MSc Land Administration, Post Graduate Diploma in Education, PhD in view

Professional field and/or present occupation: **PhD Student in Instructional Management and Leadership. Student worker, in Research & Grant Administration office**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

In terms of skills and experiences, I have volunteered and participated in the leadership positions of several committees and organizations in the past 20 years. Working in such capacities has enabled me garner necessary experiences to achieve organizational goals. Specifically, I took secretary positions in most committees that I worked with and that helped shape my ability to record and disseminate information about the courses that I am endeared to.

Further, as a member of Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW), I marketed GWI and brought in many active members to the Association. Likewise, being the Vice President of the Federation of University Women Africa (FUWA) in the last triennial (2019-2022) and with the cooperation of the Board, we were able to market GWI and keep the Association vibrant in the continent for the period of our tenure. Of great experience is anchoring the Pan African Women's Day on July, 31st 2022. That event was held to market achievements of

African women and to encourage all others interested in girl child development. Rising from that, I exhibited and learned various other skills in marketing brands that I believe in.

I have participated in CSW and other GWI organized events which I did not hesitate to broadcast on my social media handles. Such transmission has invited comments, created knowledge, and even drawn membership to GWI.

Another important skill that I acquired recently which I know will come very handy for me in this position is the GWI Young Member Network SDG Ambassador. Not only did I acquire the certification, but the knowledge to operate and impart on others the import and practicability of Sustainable Development Goals specifically, Goals 4 and 5 among others.

Equally, I have contributed to the field of academic writing in promoting girl child education. The latest is my chapter contribution on “Gender Disparity and Equal Access to Basic Education Opportunities in Nigeria: A Case for the Girl-Child.” This is book project on Emerging Perspectives on Universal Basic Education in Nigeria edited by A. Oni, 2022.

Lastly, as a people person, I possess the soft skill of endearing people to my brand—the social media world calls it ‘Influencer’. This is evident in the various committees that I have worked with especially in my leadership capacities.

Thus, I believe that I have that skill to influence people through various means (Advertisements, one-on-one contact, social media, programmes etc.) to identify with the GWI Brand and its vision and goals.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

First, as an individual I believe that we live in this world to market our brands and or our belief to others. Hence life and its essence are transactions with others, be it within the family or with the larger world. Therefore, we need to sell our vision to all until we achieve our aim, and anything short of this will amount to dormancy and eventually moribund.

My main goal for the position of VP Fundraising is to Publicize GWI—Its Vision, goals, and activities to desired audience within the GWI Constitution.

I will also create a feedback mechanism which will give us data on where and how to effectively promote our agenda. Most importantly, I will channel a robust marketing strategy towards the young professionals to sustain the existence and the business of our great Association.

Vice President Legal & Governance Candidate (1):



Name: **Ujwala SHINDE**

Name of the NFA: **Indian Federation Of University Women (IFUWA)**

Qualifications: **B.Com, LL.B Law, LL.M Law, Ph.D Law**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **PRINCIPAL/ ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD at LAW INSTITUTE**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

I am a Law graduate and advocate by profession. I have been awarded Ph.D. in 2007. My Ph.D. research topic is A Critique of Alternative Dispute Resolution Systems in India: Problems & Prospects I am Empaneled as a Mediator with Main Mediation Centre of Bombay High Court. 2020. I am Empaneled as an Arbitrator/Conciliator with Main Mediation Centre of Bombay High Court. March 2021. I am Empaneled as an Arbitrator@ IIAM (Indian Institute of Arbitration and Mediation) I am an OD Steering Committee member of GWI. I possess advocacy skills that are to convince people for the cause. I am aware of the human rights issues related to women in developing countries. As an administrative head of a Law Institution we have worked for SDG4 that is to create awareness amongst the vulnerable group about education and also equal educational rights to girls. I am able to connect with the people understanding their issues. I have organized various Legal Awareness programmes, Legal Literacy camps specifically for women. I am confident that I would be able to coordinate and collaborate with NFAs and also with UN agencies as I have experience to deal with different groups of students and parents. I am ready to learn and implement.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

As having legal background, I would be able to understand all administrative, legal and organizational documents of GWI. I would like to understand the socio-economic condition of the country where NFA is situated and to help them with suggestions to overcome the issues they are facing. My goal would be to work towards achievement of SDG4 and SDG5 with the help of NFAs. To bridge the gap between NFAs, its members and GWI, to work as a team. To

achieve the Sustainable Development Goals SDG4 and SDG5 with team work by connecting NFAs as a team in Global Village. Frequent discussions and understanding socio-economic condition of each country/NFA, UN agencies can be influenced as well as policy makers can be influenced to design the policies to achieve the actual development. By involving NFAs to bridge a gap between policymaking and implementation. I would like to emphasize on to motivate NFAs to implement the policies and utilize the resources. It would be easier for me to understand different governance system and laws. Though I am not aware of Swiss Law now, it would be easy for me to learn and understand it.

Vice President Marketing Candidate (1):



Name: **Shruti SONTHALIA**

Name of the NFA: **Indian Federation Of University Women (IFUWA)**

Qualifications: **B.Sc Sociology, Diploma Economics**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **Executive Leadership Coach, Coach Educator and Organisational Development Consultant**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

As the Vice President of the Women's Indian Chamber Of Commerce & Industry Gujarat State Coaching Council, I have worked closely with the President to develop the council, instilling shared understanding of coaching, related standards, benefits and approach. I have also mentored council members to create coaching awareness in organisations. I intended to bring my experience and skills acquired from it, to work with the President to deepen our understanding of our target audience internally and externally and develop a strategy accordingly. Being part of the Governing Council of a Coach Training School, I have worked to develop a strategy to scale the business and make it more profitable and hope to bring a similar strategic mindset for the outcomes of GWI.

As the Co-founder of the Corona Quilt Project, I have recruited a high-ownership team in India that engaged more than 50 organisations. During the commencement of the Covid-19 pandemic, in a short period of 18 months, the project accumulated squares from 50,000+ people with contributions from diverse sections of Indian and global society (from refugees in Syria to Bollywood Celebrities) that culminated into six public art installations across four different Indian cities to enable authentic expression, belonging and connection. My learnings from this experience of creating community across socio-economic, language and environment differences will enable me to work with the President as well as other VPs to create a strategy and approach to effectively communicate and connect with our members.

I am deeply passionate and committed to SDG4. Being part of International Coaching Federation Foundation Council of Ambassadors, I along with a colleague spearheaded the establishment of three ignite Coaching Initiatives for (1) Shoolini University-600 students, 35 faculty members, (2) Parivartan School Leadership & Faculty, (3) Brindavan Education Trust to make coaching accessible to special needs educators. We strived to make professional coaching accessible to the education sector and through our findings build a case for the Social Return on Investment that such programs can have in education in emerging economies. With GWI, I hope to do similar pioneering work to help our NFAs and members-graduate women-see the unique vantage point they have in the implementation of SDG 4 around the world. I hope to inspire them by a similar 'call to action' campaign'

My professional experience provides me with a solid foundation to understand diverse cultures and to market GWI in a culturally sensitive manner. I have mentored numerous coaches from Omega Institute, Los Angeles, New York Open Centre, Distance Learning and India cohorts to meet oral competency requirements for coaching accreditation. Mentees included University professors, deans, NGO executives, consultants, facilitators, journalists, social justice activists and business leaders. I have also Led, designed & implemented coaching interventions for country heads and core team of Peace Corps Fiji & Madagascar resulting in notable increase in vitality, communication & stakeholder management. These experiences have taught me to build deep trust and safety virtually that I hope to draw upon in my work with GWI.

My work as an organizational development consultant has developed in me the ability to articulate organizational strategy effectively to internal and external stakeholders. I have as a consultant adopted a futuristic approach for the top-level management of a third generation family chemical business to create a vision for the company, streamlined the organizational hierarchy with the goals and provided coaching, resulting in a fivefold increase in revenues for the next six years. I hope to do something similar with GWI.

I am invited to speak often at national and international conferences such International Coaching Federation Foundation Global Converge, India Coaching Conclave, Women of Colour in Consulting at London School of Economics, Indian Society of Applied Behavioural

Sciences Applied Summit 'Emergence', demonstrating my comfort and skills to communicate impactfully and effectively

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

GWJ is the only global organization that is composed entirely of graduate women. I hope to begin by creating awareness about this uniqueness with internal stakeholders (our members, NFA) and external stakeholders like UN agencies. I hope that by the end of my term GWJ has a clear brand entity that our members and partnerships clearly associate with and proudly own. There is clarity and deep understanding of the distinct combination of capabilities, diversity and strength we offer as a global graduate women organization. I hope to collaborate with the VP for Advocacy, Projects, Fundraising and Membership to develop a strategy that can attract and engage all categories of membership. I hope to use the many facets of technology available to us today, including social media, podcasts, influencer marketing to facilitate this for GWJ with our members and our global funders. I also hope with the other VPs to build sustainable partnerships with organizations that align with our vision and values, especially social media partnerships, to expand our visibility and reach

Vice President Membership Candidate (1):



Name: **Meera BONDRE**

Name of the NFA: **Indian Federation Of University Women (IFUWA)**

Qualifications: **B.Sc Botany (Major) Zoology & Geology (General), M.Sc Botany (Algae & Hydrobiology), Ph.D Botany (Ecology & Hydrobiology)**

Professional field and/or present occupation:

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

Currently, I am working as Convener, GWI Membership Committee, and also as Convener NFA-to-FA stream of GWI Membership Marketplace. I have the experience of working on different projects at the international, national, and local levels, and so can contribute towards GWI's bright future. As working as a team is one of my strong points, I will naturally collaborate with the other Board members for smooth working.

In 2020, I prepared a one-page version retains all the salient features of the original document, more and more members can get a gist of it at a glance. I can create more such useful material for GWI.

IFUW requested me to represent it at the Women's Worlds Congress in August 2014 at Hyderabad, India, by making a presentation on education. I presented an innovative Panel-Workshop Combo, involving members from New Zealand and Sierra Leone. For image-building and increasing the membership I distributed the brochures, and informed the audience about IFUW and IFUWA.

As CIR, I represented my NFA at the Asia Regional Membership Development Workshop, organized by IFUW in June 2014 in Singapore. I chaired an informal meeting there, to discuss how we could revive the Asia unit of NFAs. Since then I have been working systematically to revive UWAsia. These efforts soon bore fruit and the Board announced that from 1st January 2021, UWAsia headquarters would be in India. The first meeting of its Executive Committee was held on July 5, 2021. It was attended by the GWI VP Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan and Singapore. Later, we could also motivate Thai members, and now Thailand has rejoined GWI as the 8th NFA in the UWAsia family. UWAsia is active now and running full swing. I am also trying to strengthen bonds between Asian NFAs further by encouraging them to use the GWI NFA-to-NFA platform of the Membership Marketplace, of which I am the Convener.

I initiated the first NFA-to-NFA project which was between India and Egypt on "Sexual Harassment at Workplace" which has been successfully completed. More importantly, it is in line with one of the GWI Resolutions, proposed by India and supported by the Netherlands in the past triennium.

As the President of UWA (2009-2013), and also the CIR (2011-2014), I successfully conducted, with my team, a Colloquium on higher education, and a Twinning Workshop at a Central Committee meeting in Pune, which was attended also by the then IFUW President. I also conducted Membership Development Workshops, using a game prepared by me to make the programme interesting. At our Central Committee meetings where Indian UWAs were present.

Using my creative ideas, I conducted a workshop, at the Centenary Conference in Geneva, under the title "Increasing the Base for Influencing the Global Society". I will be replicating such innovative ideas for the growth of GWI.

I participated at the Parallel Event CSW66 (2022) in the EduCom programme titled “Climate Crisis and Education: A Woman’s Voice Included”, as a speaker representing India.

I also contributed in the preparation of, a parallel event at the CSW 65, “Mock Trial”, organized by the Membership Committee and the Board.

I was the Convener of an IFUW Interdisciplinary Seminar, at the IFUW triennial in Istanbul, 2013, and also contributed in the formation of the CIR’s Forum. I will reactivate it.

Thus, I am confident that my long experience combined with the necessary skills, will come in handy while working effectively on the GWI Board.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

As VP Membership, my primary goal is to consolidate the membership-base of GWI by offering to the NFAs opportunities and support to meet new challenges. Naturally, my focus will be to encourage active membership in every NFA. I will make all efforts to retain existing members, and also recruit new members, with an emphasis on the young members.

In fact, I have already done this successfully in UWA Pune. As its Managing Trustee (Current post), Vice-President and President, I have been working towards retention of members and the growth of the Association.

As a Treasurer, for example, I removed the procedural obstacles regarding funds for projects undertaken by our newly formed Youth Wing, thereby encouraging the young members to continue their membership and work with enthusiasm.

Recently, I enriched the Youth Wing by involving UWAP’s Scholarship holders in it. I have always believed that they are our potential members and by getting involved in our activities they would get information about GWI and its work, and would eventually become members. On another level, I have brought in several new members to our association, by keeping some programmes open to the public, and by organizing joint programmes with other women’s organizations in the city.

Vice President Projects Candidates (2):



Name: **Mildred ASMAH**

Name of the NFA: **Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)**

Qualifications: **B.Ed Education, Economics, DMS Management Studies, M.Sc Social Development Planning and Management, Post Graduate Diploma in Leadership Studies, Licentiate Administration and Management**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **Administration Administrator(RTD)**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

Having served on the Projects Grants committee for several years and also as Board of Directors for the Virginia Gildersleeve for a term of office. I have led a team in my NFA to access four grants from BINAROY Development partners since I initiated action on the establishment of the Ghana NFA in May 2016 after having been an independent member since 2004. I saw the need to get an NFA in Ghana and was assisted by a few women, I have since provided leadership for the group. I have volunteered in many instances not just in my administrative work as a professional but also in other non-Governmental agencies as Board of Director of an Orphanage, leader of my church Women's Ministry, Treasurer of my Professional Association, the Ghana Association of University Administrators for 11 years, a mentor and life coach for my junior colleagues. I have good presentation skills as I have presented papers at IFUW/GWI conferences in Perth, Manchester, Mexico, Cape Town and a round table conference in Madrid. I have attended VGIF (Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund) Board meetings in both New York and Seattle where strategic workshops were held for Board Members. I have been assigned to do 2 project site visits in Ghana of which I provided a report, and one project won a three year cycle grant. The out of country project site visit to East Africa which I was nominated to go to, was cancelled. I am a woman of Integrity and a visioneer, who can bring my varied skills such as, management and supervision skills, good communication skills, teamwork, multi-tasking, critical analytical and problem-solving skills, proactive indication of purposeful events, time management and continuous improvement skills to bear in the position I have applied for.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

My goals for this position is to expand the SDG implementation/localization by NFAs. If elected I will sensitize by digitalized information all NFAs to buy into this SDG idea and liaise with various country agencies to implement them. Furthermore, I will provide problem-solving support and oversight for the implementation and evaluation of all projects, and to have a sustainability element. If elected I will ensure that all budgets submitted are in support of project applications and in line with GWI guidelines and SDG framework. I will provide guidance on project conceptualization and development of grant and funding proposals and articulate organizational Strategy of GWI and its value to UN Agencies and other external Stakeholders in addition with my understanding of the global socio-economic terrain of GWIs operations. I will be able to communicate to external stakeholders in particular, provide reports to funders, collaborate with Projects committee to adapt Bina Roys Projects to the SDGs framework, and support GWI Young members projects more than we are doing currently, as well as effectively do administrative work related to the portfolio especially having done effective administration for the past 28 years.



Name: **Marité MEHR**

Name of the NFA: **Spanish Federation of University Women**

Qualifications: **Graduate in Physics -Theoretical physics in the area of elementary particle physics; Ph.D. -Theoretical physics in the area of nuclear physics**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **Retired**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

My professional experience ranges from many years as a nuclear physics researcher at the Atomic Energy Commission in Buenos Aires (Argentina) and at the Heavy Ion Research Institute in Darmstadt (Germany), to a broad experience within BASF, a German

multinational chemical company. At BASF I started working in Ludwigshafen, where I had the opportunity to create and lead a team dedicated to the empirical modelling of chemical processes in order to find the optimal operating conditions and to carry out the corresponding optimization projects. Later, I was delegated to São Paulo (Brazil), as Quality Manager for South America and during more than ten years was responsible for:

- the strategical implementation and maintenance of a unique quality management system (ISO 9001) for all the BASF companies in South America
- the Operational Excellence Projects in the region

For the first task, I worked out together with the South American Board the strategy to coordinate and direct the organization's activities to meet customer and regulatory requirements and improve its effectiveness and efficiency on a continuous basis. At the local level, we worked together with the management of each BASF company in the region to document processes, procedures, and responsibilities for achieving quality policies and objectives.

For the second task, we trained a team of internal consultants in a methodology called Site Process Optimization that the BASF in USA had developed and successfully applied. We studied, together with the site managers, the potential and readiness for conducting an optimisation project in each location. These two parameters allowed us to prioritise the projects, which were carried out in a participative way that is unusual in the sector, with the involvement of all employees. This involvement enabled smooth change management and ensured the sustainability of the results, through a clear benefits tracking procedure.

During my professional career I was able to acquire, develop and apply following skills:

- Leadership and managerial skills
- Ability to work in high diverse multinational and multicultural environments
- Understanding of complex processes and the ways and methods to optimise not only its quality performance, but also the use of resources in line with the strategic direction and the values and principles of the organization having its sustainability in view
- Experience in planning, designing, and implementing projects aligned to the overall goals of the organization and monitoring its results

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

My goal for this position is to contribute to GWI's sustainable growth and, in doing so, to give back to society a little of what I have received from it. I am sure that I can bring critical leadership qualities to the board room for a meaningful service. As a physicist, my analytical capacities and ability to understand complex problems and situations, and to detect cause-effect relationships and patterns, may help foster the board's insight and ability to think critically and contribute to open the way for more accurate understanding of people, opportunities, and threats. If elected, I would like to assist in setting the strategy for the achievement of the SDGs that are priorities for GWI, by defining the portfolio of projects that

are most relevant to its scope and best aligned with the culture of the organisation. I would also put emphasis in the establishment of a clear procedure for monitoring and tracking project benefits, based on performance indicators defined and agreed a priori with the parties. Another area where I could contribute is in strengthening GWI's internal processes and governance principles and practices to improve performance, engagement, and well-being in the organisation.

Treasurer Candidate:



Name: **Sudha SRIVASTAVA**

Name of the NFA: **British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG)**

Qualifications: **University of London, Master of Science, Public Policy; University of Delhi, Master of Philosophy, Politics and International Relations**

Professional field and/or present occupation: **International Relations/Public Policy Professional (Expertise on Gender, Education and Sustainable Development), Director Multi Academy in London**

Skills and experience (volunteer and professional) that will enable you to contribute to the work of the Board in the role for which you have applied:

By studying Economics as one of the streams during my Bachelors' degree and MSc in Public Policy, equips me with essential financial understating, budgeting, risk assessments and forecasting.

My work as a Director of a Multi Academy requires substantial engagement with leadership team on strategies, timely deliveries and review of termly goals for the Federation. Setting out, discussing and approving Annual Budgets for the Federation. Ensuring the budget allocation in various activities presented has been used efficiently and worth approving further allocations. Work on proposals to secure additional funding and prepare vision. Have gained proficient financial skills to interpret profit/loss and balance sheet.

I provide independent consultancy on Public Policy work. Twenty years of experience working in Education sector - academia and NGOs/CSOs. Experienced leader with a demonstrated history of working in the non-profit organisation management industry. Skilled in Sustainable Development, Monitoring and Evaluations, Lecturing, International Relations. Gold Medallist for Academic Excellence. SDGs Ambassador and GDPR trained professional.

GWI is in the process of renew and rebuild and my quality time, energy and commitment towards the work as Treasurer will play a vital role in addition to my skills and experience.

I believe in continued professional development and ready to invest time for further understanding Swiss Accounting Principles as well as Audit and Tax law.

GWI Experience:

Member of GWI for 15 years and I have good understanding of the global socio-economic, environmental space within which GWI operates. In the past two years as President of GWI Young Members Network, my close work experience with GWI Board/key members from other Committees/NFAs as well as overall active involvement will be instrumental in my role as Treasurer and maximising the GWI's financial strategy.

I am an active contributor in the GWI's 'Renew and Rebuild' process. As part of the OD process, had been proactively involved in creating an OD specific Young Members group, SDGs research work and meetings throughout the two stages since October 2021. As a result, one of the successful works was organising (with other team members) and leading the four-week workshop series in May 2022 – GWI YMN SDGs Ambassadors. The training provided members an overall understanding of SDGs and highlighted the role graduate women can play in the localization of SDGs and implementation in their respective countries. As the next steps, proposed and organising a Young Members workshop on SDGs localisation during the GWI Triennial in November 2022.

I have been closely working with GWI Executive Director and GWI Board.

At GWI, I have been actively involved during the last two UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Sessions – Speaker and one of the organisers at CSW65 and CSW66 parallel events. Speaking delegate engagements outside GWI – Stroud High UK and UN Women UK.

Eloquent public speaking proven at international platforms including GWI. Regularly produce written material for GWI Update newsletter as well as create thoughtful artwork to celebrate special days posted on various social media platforms. Conceptualising and producing videos on UN special as one of the engagement strategies.

In September 2022, organised International Peace Day Intergenerational event engaging NFA Leadership and Young Members. Organised and led GWI's 'Connecting Across Generations' webinar series by YMN in 2021 which was well received by GWI membership. Organised and

led 'Meet & Greet' Sessions with YMN and GWI NFAs including CFUW. Leading video projects, monthly conversation series and various international conference presentations. Needless to say, that YMN has tripled in members since I started leading and initiated new activities to engage various interests of members. Have established a regular channel of communication – formal and informal including monthly YMN President's letter with organised info for members. Doing administrative work as and when required – producing meeting agendas, minutes, reports etc. Had initiated monthly team meetings for focused work as well as engaging team members with monthly review of work and further strategies. It is rewarding to see the Network is sometimes mentioned as a 'mini GWI NFA' now.

With all the above experience in GWI, I have established good relations with many of the GWI NFAs and will be expanding my work further as Treasurer. Will continue engaging young professionals to enhance GWI's finances for sustained growth.

British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG) Experience:

Currently, Alternate Coordinator of International Relations and European Relations. BFWG Representative at National Council of Women of Great Britain (NCWGB). Editor of BFWG News and served on BFWG Executive Committee for 9 years (2012-2021). Founder member of new Greater London Association of Women Graduates.

Please describe your goals for this position and the contribution you believe you can make if elected or appointed:

First and foremost, the quality time, willingness and commitment which I have demonstrated with positive outcomes as President of YMN and will be doing this sustainably as Treasurer.

I have already established communication with current Treasurer to fill any gaps in my detailed understanding of GWI's financial status, dues structure, invoicing, quarterly reports, annual and triennial budgets, co-working with Executive Director and Finance Committee.

Closely organise information and discussion sessions leading to specific workshops for members as well as engagement strategies with UN Agencies

With my vision and experience engaging young members of the GWI, I will work towards establishing good relations with NFA to achieve GWI's goals.

Identify collaboration opportunities with other organisations and work with Board Members to establish a proper channel of communication

Identify gaps and challenges to attract funds with innovative decentralised approach as one of the engagement strategies while catering the interests of intergenerational membership.

Support and work with GWI Committees for the benefit of overall performance

I have been a firm follower and believer in – ‘GWI Goals, My Goals’

Additionally, I believe and can tell with experience that strengthening cultural/professional friendship helps achieving both - organisational and personal goals.

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