

Minutes of the 2nd GWI Board 2022-25 Meeting held on 24th January 2023, 5pm Central European Time (CET) via Zoom.

ATTENDANCE: **President** Patrice Wellesley Cole (PWC); **VP Advocacy** Shaila Rao Mistry (SRM); **VP Education**, Shirley Gillett (SG); **VP Fundraising**, Nneka Chiedozi-Udeh (NCU); **VP Marketing**, Shruti Sonthalia (SS); **VP Membership**, Meera Bondre (MB); **VP Projects**, Mildred Asmah (MA); **Treasurer**, Sudha Srivastava (**Sudha**), **GWI Executive Director**, Stacy Dry Lara (SDL).

Apology: **VP Legal & Governance**, Ujwala Shinde (US)

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm CET

Motion to adopt Agenda by SRM, seconded by MB. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Conflict of Interest
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Adoption of Minutes of 30 November 2022 Board meeting
6. Convenors and Committees slate of names -Meera
7. CSW67-Shaila and Stacy
8. Treasurer's Report- Sudha
9. Concept note on virtual fundraiser and promotional video - Mildred and Nneka
10. Office matters, Renew and Rebuild Update - Stacy
11. AOB/Any Other Business – Young Member Network - Sudha

Welcome: President PWC welcomed Board members to the meeting.

Conflict of Interest: None.

Adoption of Minutes: Sudha raised a motion to adopt the minutes of the 30th November 2022 Board meeting and SS seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Business of the Day

Convenors and Committees list ratification: In a motion presented by MB and seconded by SS, the Board ratified the following names as convenors and members for some vacant committees.

Education committee (EduCom)

Member: Genvieve Etornam, Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)



Finance committee (FinCom)

1. **Assistant Treasurer/Convenor:** Karoline DORSCH-HÄSLER, Swiss Association of Graduate Women (SVA/ASFDU)
2. **Co-Convenor:** Susan LANE, Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW)

Governance committee

1. **Member:** Veen BATHE, Indian Federation of University Women (IFUWA)
2. **Member:** Katharina STURB, Swiss Association of Graduate Women (SVA/ASFDU)

Membership committee (MemCom)

1. **Member:** Shevata TALWAR, Indian Federation of University Women (IFUWA)

Project development committee

1. **Member:** Comfort ONIFADE, Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW)

Award of International Fellowships

1. **Member:** Momtaj KHALLI, Graduate Women New Zealand (GWNZ)
2. **Member:** Marite MEHR, Federación Española de Mujeres Universitarias (FEMU) - Spain

Hegg Hoffet Committee

1. **Convenor:** Cynthia Adinortey, Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW)
2. **Member:** Terry OUDRAAD, GWI-NL
3. **Member:** Ogechi ADIUKU, Nigerian Association of University Women (NAUW)

Resolution Committee

1. **Member:** Louise MCLEOD, Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA)

Vacant: Convenor for Legal and Governance Committee yet to be filled. Members to suggest a name for Board's ratification at the next meeting.

CSW67- SRM and SDL

SRM: The following plans are in place,

Hybrid participation (in-person, virtual).

2 Breakfast briefings, a Dinner outing (virtual or in person happy hour),

2-3 virtual briefing (before and after).

A small group to finalize on the agreed conclusion during the last week of February

Compiling and marketing of NFAs parallel events.

Follow up on legacy documents (Education Committee (EduCom))

Information page for attendees



SDL

Categorized the CSW events into pre-planning, participation, and implementation

Pre-planning

Breakfast: waiting for feedback from Maryella Hannum, GWI United Nations Representative, New York who will be assisting with the in-person activities.

Dinner: working to secure Alibaba dinner place

Will work with whoever is ready for the agreed conclusion because the time given is usually short.

Participation

Reported no unidentified registrants this year.

SDL developed a template for brief and precise participants' reports.

Follow-up

There is a need to align participation with implementation.

EduCom and MemCom to work on attendees' reports to forms advocacy documents to organizations and governments.

SS

Suggested creating a community of attendance using technology.

Treasurer's Report- Sudha

GW I 2023 Dues invoices to NFAs

48 invoices were sent to GWI National Federations Associations (NFAs) on 1st December 2022, for the year 2023.

Payments due from 1st January 2023. By 31st March all NFAs should have paid 50% of dues and 100% by June 2023.

Full Payments received from 14 NFAs: **Argentina, Austria, Egypt, Canada, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Japan, Lithuania, New Zealand, Panama, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, and USA.**

Partial payment received from **Israel.**

Arrears payment of 2022 dues received from **Rwanda** but 2023 dues still outstanding.

Egypt, India, and Thailand reported loss of members due to old age and death.

Pakistan requested 50% dues alleviation due to currency depreciation. FinCom recommended 20% at its meeting of 9th December 2022.

Turkey: Meeting was held to resolve dues matter with Turkey on 20th January.

Bulgaria: No communications received for 3years arrears, dissolve or revive?

Finance Committee (FinCom)

First meeting of Finance Committee was held on 9th December 2022 attended by GWI **Treasurer** Sudha Srivastava (UK), **Assistant Treasurer** Karoline Dorch (Switzerland), **Assistant Treasurer** Susan Lane (Canada), **members**—Nita Patwardhan (India), Rosa Maria Mendoza (El Salvador), Nuran Uzun Turan (Turkey).

Assistant Treasurer from Switzerland Karoline Dorsch was appointed FinCom Convenor.

Two recommendations from FinCom to Board.

1. Dues alleviation for Pakistan NFA

Pakistan states that their federation is in crisis as their currency is being devalued. In addition, their annual dues went from CHF 4 to CHF 11, because Pakistan was placed in a different dues bracket due to the new dues structure of GWI in place since 2023. Pakistan is asking for a 50% discount or alleviation. But the bylaws only allow a 40% alleviation of the dues.

Recommendation from FinCom: **Pakistan** is given a 20% alleviation for 2023 and FinCom will share the payment plan process with them.

Motion moved by Sudha

Seconded: MB

Motion carried unanimously

2. Changing of Signatures at the UBS Bank account

At a meeting with UBS in December 22, the Executive Director SDL discovered that the account signatories were outdated and incorrect, despite the personal meeting in October 2016 by former Treasurer, Katharina Strub and SDL with UBS, and a subsequent meeting with UBS in spring 2017 to update the signatories.

FinCom Motion:

After a thorough review of the current Graduate Women International UBS bank signatories, the Finance Committee recommends to the Board of Officers that the UBS signatories be updated immediately as recommended.

Motion moved by: Sudha

Seconded by: SRM

Motion carried unanimously.

Quarterly Report: Fourth Quarter 2022

Treasurer organised first financial meeting of 2023 with Executive Director and Accountant, held on 19th January. Report to be discussed in FinCom meeting 27th January.

Annual Budget 2023

Financial meeting for draft budget to be held on 26th January with Treasurer, Accountant, Executive Director, FinCom Convenor. Discussion with FinCom on 27th January.

Triennial Conference Budget 2022

There was a separate budget for virtual Triennial Conference 2022. A deficit of CHF 10,640 is recorded due to lower registration than expected. Matter to be discussed with FinCom in the next meeting.

Matters for Action:

Membership: Some NFAs have trend giving less numbers to GWI than they have. GWI does not have any system in place that can check their numbers.

Action: Board members to make suggestions for solutions at the next meeting.

Concept note on virtual fundraiser and promotional video - MA and NC

MA presented the Concept note (as attached) with the title

Title: Virtual Fundraising for Graduate Women International (GWI) Project

Theme: GWI Renew and Rebuild 'pivot' videos

Sub-themes: Empowering women and girls through quality education – Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
Partnering donors and funders for the SDG goals 4 & 5, and SDG 17
Raise funds for projects that localize the SDGs

Aim: Fundraise for GWI international advocacy projects that will put a sharper focus on SDG 4 and 5, align all projects to the mission of GWI, and increase its involvement in projects that make a measurable difference in GWI National Federations and Associations (NFAs) while localizing the SDGs.

Provide more access to education for girls and women at all levels for the advancement of the status of girls/ women and their enablement to apply the knowledge in all forms of public and private life.

Relate fundraising to the four cornerstones of the Renew and Rebuild pivot:

Outline of activities



1. Identify video presenters, write scripts, and record messages for internal and external video release.
2. Identify external fundraising sources for video distribution.
3. Provide a three minute promotional video on various ongoing projects (in various languages).
4. Social media fundraising campaigns using videos among other activities.

Expected outcomes

- Increase in GWI funds, diversify of GWI revenue streams.
- Donor agencies will be persuaded to continue to support projects through regular reporting.
- NFAs will be significantly sensitised on the effects of quality education.
- NFAs will learn how to overcome barriers in project fundraising.
- NFAs will ensure project sustainability.

Target group

- Global Funders
- Regional Funders
- NFAs
- Women First
- Gender Related local and International NGOs
- Partnerships
- Local and international NGOs
- NFAs
- UN agencies
- Multi-stakeholder partners
- Media networks (Television, Radio)
- Government Agencies
- Gender Ministries
- Academia
- Philanthropists

Action: MA, NC, SS and SRM to work on promotional infographics and videos for projects that will localize the SDGs in NFAs and appeal to different audiences.

Office matters, Renew and Rebuild Update - SDL

Office matters

New intern to start on 31st January 2023 for a period of 6 months.

Alexa's (former intern) Swiss compulsory Work Certificate letter was finalized.



Attended the Fellowship Committee's meeting—The committees work is usually during the second year of the triennial.

There is an immediate need for a budget that will form the required workflow.

Canadian NFA has organized 2 upcoming webinars. Some board members (PWC, Mildred, SRM and SDL) would be speakers at the programme. Members were advised to register and attend.

February 11 would be International Day of Girls in Science.

Renew and Rebuild (RR) update

There will be a recorded podcast session with Geeta (GWI's Consultant on RR) for a further clarification.

After shared podcast member can have a Q&A session with Geeta during the next Board meeting.

SRM suggested a need to connect GWI advocacies with NFAs and the RR initiative.

AOB/Any Other Business

MB Revived UWASIA to host a 3-day program in February 2024 supported by GWI in India. Date will be communicated when available.

MB announced that she would be handing over the leadership of NFA to NFA to the convener of MemCom—Eloisa Sanchez-Amillategui.

Sudha proposed that **Young Member Network** be integrated as a committee in GWI to include 6 members from different regions and a convener. Members were advised to think about it for further discussion during the next Board meeting.

SG briefly shared her report of EDUCOM's activities, in particular that they had met twice and their possible involvement in and attendance at CSW 67.

Closing: PWC thanked all the Board members for a fruitful meeting.

Next Board Meeting: 23rd February 2023. 5pm CET

Meeting was adjourned: 6.30 pm CET

Minutes drafted by NC



Graduate Women International

Empowering women & girls through lifelong education