



GW I UPDATE – 30 August



— Graduate Women International (GWI) News —

Register Today: GWI Town Hall 2023 to be held 13 September 2023 (Two Sessions)

The GWI Board of Officers has been diligently working on a strategic plan for the 2023-2025 triennium to guarantee the organization's growth and sustainability. The Renew and Rebuild initiative, accepted by the 2022 General Assembly, is a crucial part of this plan. At the Town Hall on 13 September, the GWI Board of Officers will present details about the initiative including their goals, timeline, and roadmap for implementation. GWI member input and feedback are vital to the success of GWI, and this Renew and Rebuild pivot towards a modern GWI. **The GWI Board of Officers invites GWI members to register for one of the two sessions.** For the first session (6-7:00 a.m. CEST) register [HERE](#). For the second session (6-7:00 P.m. CEST) register [HERE](#). ***Pre-questions are encouraged via the registration process.*** The PDF flyer can be downloaded [HERE](#).

— GWI Member News —

GWI welcomes new leadership of the Federation of University Women Africa

GWI offers congratulations and a warm welcome to the newly appointed leadership of the GWI regional group, the Federation of University Women Africa (FUWA). GWI offers its best wishes for their successful tenure contributing to the mission of GWI to ensure the safe access to quality education and lifelong learning for women and girls. GWI also expresses gratitude to the previous FUWA leadership for their exceptional commitment and dedication during their tenure. Among their many achievements were the successful celebration of Pan African Women's Day, the provision of virtual courses, the strengthening of communication channels, and the promotion of stronger bonds among members. **GWI invites you to click [here](#) to become familiar with the newly appointed FUWA Board of Officer.**

Writing workshops opportunity in Ghana sponsored by British Academy

The Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi, Ghana, in partnership with the University of East Anglia in the UK, is pleased to announce a programme of writing workshops sponsored by the British Academy, for sixteen (16) fully funded early career women based in the ECOWAS zone. Selected researchers will have the opportunity to travel to Ghana to participate in two writing workshops in a serene lodge surrounded by nature, where they will be mentored by eight leading scholars in the Humanities and Social Sciences to produce a cutting-edge peer-reviewed article. The mentoring will continue over the next 14 months of the programme to ensure that the participants publish an article in a high-quality academic journal and receive training in applying for funding. **Application deadline is 11 September 2023.** For general information and enquiries about submissions and future issues, kindly email them [here](#). To contact the Managing Editor of the programme, click [here](#).

Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA) and President Sally Chamberlain are pleased to invite GWI members to the 15th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting to be held October 20-22, 2023, at The Rose Hotel Chicago O'Hare, Tapestry Collection by Hilton and promises an extraordinary programme addressing the core issues of importance to WG-USA membership. Speakers include Amy Maglio, Executive Director of Women's Global Education Project, a Chicago-based NGO focusing on girls' education and gender equity; Dr. Shikha Jain, Renowned oncologist from the University of Illinois Cancer Center and advocate for gender parity in in healthcare; Megan Lundstrom, Director of the Resilience Fund at the Polaris Project, an NGO working to combat and prevent sex and labor trafficking; Special Guest, Rep. Lauren Underwood, US House of Representatives from the 14th district of Illinois (schedule permitting.)

This 3-day celebration of 15 years of WG-USA takes place in Chicago, a city famed for its architecture and impressive academic institutions and will offer "Celebration Games and Surprises." To attend this special celebration and the 2023 Annual General Meeting in October or if you have a question, please contact Kathleen Laurila, Coordinator of International Relations (CIR) at klaurila@mac.com. Note: The Conference will not be virtual, but all sessions will be video photographed. If you would like to be notified when this is available, contact the CIR above.

— GWI at the United Nations —

GWI commemorates 20th anniversary of deadly attack on United Nations Iraq headquarters

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the 19 August 2003 truck bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, which housed the UN headquarters in Iraq at the time and killed 22 UN staff including the head, Sergio Vieira de Mello, a rising UN leader. It was the deadliest terrorist attack against UN staff in its history. On 18 August 2023, GWI participated in two memorial ceremonies organised by Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Office in Geneva to honour UN humanitarian workers who lost their lives during the bomb attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq 20 years ago. Families and survivors came together to share their reflections on this occasion, in a moving commemoration. The event was a reminder of the profound impact humanitarian aid workers can have on people's lives and the dangers they face daily. Volker Turk, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights highlighted that "it is indeed shocking, that the data released just yesterday that 444 aid workers were victims of violence in 2022. This is a deliberate violation of international law, and it has to stop." **GWI pays respects to all humanitarian aid workers all around the world and supports their humanity, generosity, and courage.**

— Give the gift of Education —

Give the gift of education to women and girls worldwide by contributing to the Girls' Education for Brighter Futures Post- COVID-19 programme, which directly supports GWI's international advocacy work and projects held throughout the world to remove socio-cultural, gender-related and economic barriers girls face towards education endeavours. GWI's goal is for 500 supporters to commit to a moderate monthly donation. To learn more about the Girls Education for Brighter Futures project, click [here](#). Join the 500+Challenge today by clicking [here](#).

— Did you know? —

The first commencement speech given by a woman at Smith College was given by Virginia Gildersleeve, the co-founder of GWI (previously, International Federation of University Women) in 1919. The inspirational commencement speech, "Ordeal" by Fire, can be read in Lapham's Quarterly [here](#).

— Dates and events —

8 September	International Literacy Day
11 Sept – 13 Oct	54 th Session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva
18-19 September	SDG Summit, New York
21 September	International Day of Peace
5 October	World's Teachers Day
11 October	International Day of the Girl

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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.

Graduate Women International

7-9, Chemin de Balexert, CH-1291, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
E-mail: gwi@graduatewomen.org Website: www.graduatewomen.org



1. Click [HERE](#) to register for Session 1 of the Town Hall to be held 6-7:00 a.m. CEST.
2. Click [HERE](#) to register for Session 2 of the Town Hall to be held 6-7:00 p.m. CEST.



Graduate Women International (GWI)

Save the Date

(Open to all GWI Members)

GWI Virtual Town Hall 13 September 2023

 Session 1
6-7:00 a.m. CEST

 Session 2
6-7:00 p.m. CEST

 Registration links
below flyer.

Transforming GWI's Future Through Member Conversation



Patrice Wellesley-Cole, President



Nneka Chiedozie-Udeh, VP Fundraising



Ujwala Shinde, VP Governance



Mildred Asmoh, VP Projects



Shirley Gillett, VP Education



Shruti Sonthalia, VP Marketing



Meera Bondre, VP Membership



Shaila Rao Mistry, VP Advocacy



Sudha Srivastava, Treasurer

Registration links found separately above or below, and in the Update write up, and also in the PDF flyer.