GWI UPDATE – 14 February 2024

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE
11 FEBRUARY 2024

2024 Theme: Women and Girls in Science Leadership, a New Era for Sustainability

GWI marks International Day of Women and Girls in Science with a comprehensive infographic.

— Graduate Women International (GWI) News —

GWI Young Member Network (YMN) to celebrate International Women’s Day 7 March 2024
submitted by Sudha Srivastava, President YMN and GWI Treasurer

With great pleasure and enthusiasm, GWI YMN is hosting inter-generational celebrations to mark International Women’s Day (IWD) 2024 on 7 March at 3 p.m. Central European Time (CET). The IWD theme for this year is “Inspire Inclusion”. All GWI members are invited to share their stories - how you have been inspiring inclusion in your community, workplace, family, country, globe. The event is an ‘open mic’ so bring your thoughts, stories, poetry, songs...everyone joining the celebrations will get to take the stage for a minute or two. If you have a story to share and would like to inform us ahead of the event please contact: sudha.bfwg@gmail.com, no later than 3 March. This will secure your place at the event, and we will call you to speak. We are excited to hear from you! Feel free to come wearing purple to mark the day! Register HERE. Find the flyer with more information below.

GWI marks International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2024 with infographic

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science, observed annually on 11 February, underscores the importance of achieving equal participation and inclusivity for women and girls in science. This day is pivotal in highlighting the pressing need to address gender disparities within the field. In alignment with this imperative, GWI released an infographic to highlight this occasion. This visual narrative portrays the challenges faced by women and girls, aiming to raise awareness and promote solidarity to rectify these disparities, and serves as a testament of GWI’s commitment in promoting gender inclusivity within the scientific community. Find our infographic HERE, to see the proactive efforts in advocacy and initiatives pursued by GWI for decades.

Now offered in Spanish: GWI International Day of Education Discussion on Green Education

To mark 2024 International Day of Education, observed annually on 24 January, GWI held an open member Discussions Network dialogue within its global community of graduate women.
The initiative fostered an exchange of insights from GWI members all around the world about green education. The Spanish-Speaking Culture Bridge has kindly translated this publication, enhancing the inclusivity of our work. **GWI expresses our sincerest gratitude to the Spanish-Speaking Culture Bridge for their invaluable contribution and continued commitment, read the Spanish translation HERE.** The Spanish-Speaking Culture Bridge, a notable initiative, has emerged as a product of our vibrant Membership Marketplace NFA-to-NFA program. This platform actively cultivates collaborations between GWI affiliates. **We encourage all GWI members to leverage the Membership Marketplace to foster further initiatives enriching our global discourse and strengthening our community bonds. Find it HERE.**

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**YMN celebrates International Women and Girls in Science**

The GWI YMN is celebrating International Day of Women and Girls in Science by spotlighting two GWI young members who work in in STEM fields in our 23 February (4 p.m. CET) conversation session under the ‘Growing Together’ conversation series launched last year. All young members from GWI NFAs and GWI Independent Members are invited to register and join the conversation. These monthly conversations also provide a platform for young members to get to know each other better and find ways to collaborate. GWI YMN is free for all GWI NFA and Independent young members. Any new young members who would like to join YMN, can sign up here: [https://graduatewomen.org/young-member-work/](https://graduatewomen.org/young-member-work/). Mark your diaries for 23 February at 4 p.m. CET and see you there! Stronger together!! - Sudha Srivastava, President YMN. **Please see the flyer at the end of the page for more information. Register Today HERE.**

**Applications now open for 2024 JAUW fellowships!**

The Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW) established the International Fellowship Program on 1 April 1987. The objective of the programme is to allow promising non-Japanese women researchers/graduate students to conduct research in Japan by providing them with a fellowship to spend 4-6 months in a research institute/university. Eligibility to apply for this fellowship is limited to those individuals who have received invitations from a Japanese host institution. **Click HERE to find out more about how to apply.**

**Elisabeth Francis, United Nations Representative, Vienna elected 2nd Vice Chair**

GWI is honored to announce that Elisabeth Francis, GWI United Nations Representative, Vienna, has been elected 2nd Vice Chair of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Vienna. This role, spanning a two-year term, is indicative of her dedication to women and girls’ issues and her leadership qualities. “Elisabeth’s election reflects well on GWI’s standing amongst the many NGOs active in Vienna and we are proud of her representation,” says Stacy Dry Lara, GWI Executive Director. **GWI extends congratulations to her and wishes her a successful term ahead.**

Elizabeth Francis, GWI’s United Nations Representative, Vienna, elected 2nd Vice Chair
--- GWI at the United Nations ---

Advancing Green Education: Graduate Women International Urges States to Embrace Green Education for Sustainable Future of Women and Girls

In the written statement submitted to the 55th session of the Human Right Council being held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva from 26 February to 5 April, GWI is optimistic that “Green Education” can serve as an overarching global concept under which different and context-sensitive approaches to the future of education can be integrated. GWI expressly urges States to reaffirm their commitment to SDG 4, noting that Green Education emphasizes the inclusion of environmental principles, sustainable practices, and climate change education within formal and informal learning environments. GWI encourages readers to read and widely distribute the full statement that can be downloaded HERE.

--- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 68th Session ---

GWI to hold CSW68 delegate and membership briefing on 22 February 2024

In anticipation of the 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), taking place 11 - 22 March 2024 in New York, GWI is hosting an information session for all GWI delegates and members that will be participating. This information session will be held on 22 February 2024 at 8 p.m. CET to brief attendees and provide a platform for questions on the methods of work of the CSW. The agenda for this session encompasses crucial topics, such as guidelines on participation, GWI’s parallel events (which you can learn more about below), an overview of GWI’s advocacy plan, and an exploration of GWI’s written statements. In the last few years, the CSW has offered a virtual environment that allows everyone to participate in the various sessions. There are two ways to participate in the CSW68: the CSW68 Forum offers civil society the opportunity to explore hundreds of events and connect with thousands of participants, in-person and virtually; and through the UN Women CSW, the principal global intergovernmental body dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, the sessions can be watched via the UN Web TV. We urge all GWI members participating in CSW68 either in person or virtually to join us for this information session by registering HERE. See the information session flyer below. Stay up to date on GWI at CSW on our webpage HERE.

GWI host three parallel events during CSW68, find more information HERE:

Educating Outside the Classroom: Woman’s Museums Empowering Girls and Women

Developed by GWI VP Education, Shirley Gillett, and GWI Education Committee Convenor, Lucia Guzman, with support from GWI Education Committee, this event will highlight newly established women’s museums or sections within existing ones as a means to showcase that museums are vital for empowering women. GWI will demonstrate how museums challenge norms and promote women’s rights. Date and time: 12 March 2024, 7:30 p.m. CET/2:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). Register for this event HERE.
Financial Institutions and Infrastructure Perpetuating Poverty – Gender Bias in Economic Policy
Developed by GWI VP Advocacy, Shaila Rao Mistry, with support from GWI Membership Committee, this parallel event will consider financial institutions and infrastructures intended to promote economic growth and alleviate poverty, systematically contributing to perpetuating and widening gender bias. We identify effective policies for inclusion of women, particularly the unbanked women and diversity, as critical steps redress these exclusionary, gender biased differentiating practices and predatory individuals.
Date and time: 18 March 2024, 7:30 p.m. CET/2:30 p.m. EST. Register for this event HERE.

Sustainable Financing for Gender Equality: Young Women’s Perspective
This parallel event is developed by GWI YMN President, Sudha Srivastava, and the GWI YMN. As the world is moving towards a sustainable future, we cannot imagine gender equality without sustainable financing specially for young women. This interactive event will explore gender disparities due to financial factors with examples from various regions of the world.
Date and time: 19 March 2024, 1:30 p.m. CET)/ 8:30 a.m. EST. Register for this event HERE.

— Give the Gift of Membership —

The GWI Independent Member network is growing, with many new members joining from around the world over the past few months. A thoughtful gift for the graduate woman in your life is GWI membership. There are many benefits of being a member of GWI including belonging to an influential international NGO composed of graduate women influencing policy and legislation on women’s issues at the international level and gaining an international perspective of women’s issues through networking activities. Click HERE to find out how to join GWI a GWI NFA or as an Independent Member.

— Did you know? —

Teachers for Rural Futures (TFRF) GlobalGiving Report, 7 January 2024
GWI is excited to share its latest GlobalGiving report for the TFRF program. GlobalGiving is a platform that connects donors to grassroot projects worldwide. In this most recent report, GWI shares the exciting progress made by TFRF scholarship students. GWI’s TFRF program aims to increase the number of qualified female student teachers in Uganda by providing scholarships and mentoring to young women from rural areas for them to become qualified teachers and ambassadors for girls’ education. Notably, GWI celebrates the recent graduation of one of the students. This achievement is a testament to the importance and effectiveness of your donations, showcasing the positive ripple effect on the lives of those benefiting from this initiative and their surroundings. By continuing to support GWI initiatives, such as TFRF, donors contribute to promoting education and empowering women. GWI invites you to learn more HERE, and keep donating HERE.
### Dates and events

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<td>20 February</td>
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<td>22 February</td>
<td>GWI Delegate and Membership Briefing - CSW68</td>
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<td>01-02 March</td>
<td>IFUWA’s International Conference, Pune</td>
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<td>08 March</td>
<td>International Women’s Day</td>
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<td>10 March</td>
<td>DEADLINE - Call for inputs for the EMRTD</td>
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<td>10 March</td>
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<td>11-22 March</td>
<td>Commission for the Status of Women 68 (CSW68), New York</td>
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<td>12 March</td>
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<td>18 March</td>
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<td>19 March</td>
<td>Parallel Event on Sustainable Financing for Gender Equality</td>
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<td>21 March</td>
<td>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</td>
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<td>31 August</td>
<td>GWI Swiss NFA Centenary, Berne, Switzerland</td>
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**GWI Delegate and Membership Briefing:**

**Commission on the Status of Women 68th Session**

Questions about the GWI CSW68 programme?

- How to Participate in CSW68
- GWI Parallel Events
- GWI Advocacy

Join the GWI briefing on 22 February 2023, 8-9 p.m. CET for details.

**Briefing Agenda**
- Let’s Go Virtual!
- GWI Written Statements
- And more!

**Register Today Here**

[Graduate Women International (GWI)]
GWl Young Members Network (YMN) invites you to...

YMN Monthly Conversation Series
“GROWING TOGETHER”

Spotlight Speakers
GWl Young Women in STEM

Cultivating Solutions: Exploring Plant Biotechnology for Enhanced Food Security
Alkhanyo Xonti
Young Member from South Africa

Alkhanyo Xonti recently completed her Master of Science (MSc) in Plant Biotechnology from Stellenbosch University. Her research focused on nutritionally enhancing salad greens. She will be officially embarking on the commencement of her PhD journey soon. She is highly interested in MSQZ and MSQ3, with particular focus on food security and the welfare of children.

Bridging fields: Understanding Myotonic dystrophy type 1 and its social implications
Sokhnne M S Yakhine Diop
Young Member from Spain

Sokhnne M S Yakhine Diop is originally from Senegal and currently residing in Spain. Sokhnne completed her PhD at the university of Extremadura, where her research was centered on Parkinson’s disease. Her work now extends to exploring therapeutic strategies for neuromuscular diseases. She considers herself a woman of the world.

GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL YOUNG MEMBERS NETWORK
INVITES YOU TO....

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY
GWI INTER-GENERATIONAL CELEBRATIONS
7 MARCH 2024, 3PM CET (CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME)

All GWI members are invited to share their stories - how you have been inspiring inclusion in your community, workplace, family, country, globe...
The event is an ‘open mike’ so bring your thoughts, story, poetry, song... if you have a story to share and would like to inform ahead of the event please contact: sudha.bfwg@gmail.com, latest by 3rd March.
We are excited to hear!
(Feel free to come wearing purple to mark the day)

Inspire Inclusion!

#IWD2024
#InspireInclusion

WELCOME REMARKS/MODERATOR
SUDHA SRIVASTAVA FRSA
PRESIDENT, GWl YOUNG MEMBERS NETWORK

SPECIAL REMARKS
PATRICE WELLESLEY-COLE
PRESIDENT, GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL
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
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