



Minutes of the GWI Board 2022-25 Meeting held on 9th January 2025, 5pm Central European Time (CEST), zoom

Twenty Fifth Board Meeting

Attendees: President Patrice Wellesley Cole (PWC); VP Advocacy Shaila Rao Mistry (SRM); VP Education, Shirley Gillett (SG); VP Membership, Meera Bondre (MB); Treasurer, Karoline Dorsch (KD); GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara (SDL); VP Fund Raising Maria Fernanda (MF);

Apologies: VP Legal and Governance Ujwala Shinde (US)

Meeting called to an order at **5pm CEST**.

1. Welcome: PWC welcomed all to the twenty fourth Board Meeting.
2. Conflict of Interest: NONE
3. Adoption of Agenda: Agenda was adopted.
4. Congratulatory to Uganda Teachers was recorded by SDL. PWC, MB, KD, SG, SRM, MB recorded their wishes.
5. Legal and Governance and Fundraising updates- Ujwala and Fernanda

Fund Raising: MF updated that she and SDL are setting up all the necessary documentation to be able to have the application for the L'Oréal fund ready when the fund is open. SRM mentioned that GWI need funding for sustainability of the office and the organization. She further asked that if there are any sources for that or can we apply for that?

SG asked about the money involved in the project “teachers for rural futures” for making application to L'Oréal. MF informed that its 30% of the total annual budget. SRM recommend that GWI should apply to other organizations also at the same time

6. Action Points/APs after voting for Zambia for 35th Triennial GA-Shirley and Stacy

SG updated that she gave Zambia the 10th of January as the time to come up with some of the postings and revise their LAC because the two things crossed there. On the 14th of January @ 9am. Central African Time, the meeting with LAC Zambia scheduled. She further informed that as per her suggestion Zambia LAC revised their



positions, they submitted the CV, wherein all of them are professors, as well as one of them is an event manager.

SDL told that there were 404 attendees for the Geneva Conference. In 2016 in South Africa, about 250 registered and around 200 actually came. SDL mentioned about Grace Hollett's email. It was discussed about the 14th Jan 2025 LAC Zambia meeting that to meet each other in person is important. And Stacy, could brief about the little bit of history about Geneva. SDL informed that she has written a press note to announce Zambia, that will be released on 15th January 2025 and also run in GWI next update. KD treasurer agreed to send the budget of the Zambia Conference without putting the number, that is just the templet. SDL mentioned that it is necessary to ask and decide, how many workshops we will have at conference, because it increases the cost of the conference. And this will also decrease the cost as more rooms would not be needed. MA submitted that to determine the theme, which will influence sub themes as well as workshops. And she also mentioned for call for abstracts. It was also discussed to have deadlines for themes and abstracts. SG suggested to have toe to three thousand dollars' award from wall to attend the conference. MA asked that who would be providing the Key Note speaker, whether board or LAC. SDL mentioned that, the local arrangement committee is the one that should have the connections because Board don't pay the speakers. So they do need to have no travel time and be local.

7. Treasurer's Update- Karoline

KD informed about the dues recovery and about certain dues pending due to alleviation. She informed that the number of members have gone down. For instance, Switzerland, they lost 20 members again. And the number budgeted for the income, for the dues income is not going up. It's going down or has stayed more or less even since last year.

8. Advocacy and Membership updates- Shaila and Meera

Advocacy: SRM updated that the letter and the call for resolutions has gone out. She informed that she had sent the final version of proclamation for advocacy without borders and sent the request for the advocacy committee to US. She updated on CSW that advocacy submitted on 'Women in power and decision making'. She mentioned that the high level speakers have committed. She told



that she spoke with Theresa May and several other UN women. And informed that her Beijing Class 30 report and the review of what occurred in Geneva, the Civil Society review and the UNEC review, she attended in October 19th to the 22nd is ready. She requested SDL to help to send it to the whole membership. She further mentioned that she is working with Ngo CSW New York on preparing a report on four or five important areas of concern that is then going to be presented to the member states there, including the chair of the CSW. Her next part would be to encourage all of NFAs to work with their missions on this.

Membership: MB updated that they have meeting next week, all the Indian members who are participating in the NFA to NFA programs, both India Egypt, on women's safety and the other one, India Canada, which is working on plastic pollution. These both the programs are at closure and if in case it is decided to be continued, then again, a new resolution will have to be made because both these programs are based on the resolutions which were passed in the last year, in the year 2022. She further mentioned that MemCom will meet on 25th Jan 2025. All the work that has been done by sending those forms and analysis that has been done, more discussion would be there and they will discuss about the action plans.

9. Projects and Education updates - Mildred and Shirley

Projects: MA updated that in Bina Roy project, Turkey has finished the 2024-2025 projects. With the others, their report is awaited. Member wanting to apply for Dr. Mehta's funds. She suggested that very few applications are received, so even though the deadline is expired, it should be extended to give a chance to apply. Otherwise, the grants will be redundant. She told about Hegg Hoffet Fund, that is becoming little difficult. But it is ongoing and new applicants are coming.

PWC referred an email sent by member of BFWG, Aisha, mentioning 31st Jan is the date for Dr. Mehta Seed Fund, and asked MA, whether all know regarding the date. SDL mentioned that 3000 Swiss francs are there. And the application is open to all in a phase. The deadline has been extended until whenever there are some applications. There is no official sent out which indicates extended deadline. PWC mentioned that every member NFA should know the changed date.

Education: SG updated about parallel event. She read about anti-feminism and education. SG told that the topic is Child Bride, but it is broader than that.



10. Office matters- Stacy: Executive Director Report 10 December 2024 to 9 January 2025

As I have mentioned before over the past many several months, my laptop has been crashing multiple times per day. Unfortunately, it has become a significant obstacle. Despite troubleshooting on my own, being on top of updates, and other attempts to resolve the issue, it remains unreliable. The frequent crashes interrupt my workflow, forcing me to redo work and prolonging the completion of tasks.

To address this, I am going to have to replace the laptop to ensure productivity in the way GWI requires. Considering the processing power, memory, storage, display quality, battery life, and security features I will find the most economical laptop that also ensures it meets the specific demands of GWI.

Over the holiday period, the workflow in the office continued as planned, ensuring steady progress during this time.

Membership Letter Performance:

- The membership letter was well-received, achieving a 36.3% open rate (1,140 opens).
- A click rate of 1.2% (37 clicks) was recorded.
- The most clicked link was the document containing the English questionnaire results.

End-of-Year Communication:

- Patrice's end-of-year letter, distributed alongside the holiday card, achieved a 35.8% open rate (1,121 opens).
- A click rate of 1.1% (33 clicks) was recorded.
- The payment page link was the most clicked in this communication.

The comprehensive 2024 Year-at-a-Glance was finalized over the holiday and will release on 15 January in both English and Spanish.

In terms of projects, I distributed the 2024-2025 BRPID mid term report templates. The reports are rolling in. After the reports are reviewed and accepted by the PDC, I will make the second installment transfer of 40% so the projects can continue to completion.



The Call for Policy Resolutions went out this morning; this is a good step towards the GA; we need to open registration asap so we can get cash flow.

Communications for the CSW69 are in full swing. Yesterday I sent the delegate reminder to register in Indico; the Let's Go Virtual flyer and information about the training webinar will go out in the coming weeks. I am working on the handbook too.

Working with Fernanda on gathering all of the necessary information so we can submit the Loreal funding application.

Over the holiday, I dedicated time to planning for 2025 to ensure GWI operates as efficiently as possible, especially given our current staffing situation. I have developed a structured schedule that designates Fridays for administrative responsibilities related to committee and board matters. This will streamline operations, allowing focused attention on administrative tasks on Fridays while dedicating other days to important initiatives such as local meetings, fundraising, and partnership development to enhance GWI's visibility and resources.

I look forward to a very productive 2025, including preparations for the General Assembly. Thank you for your continued support as we work together toward our shared goals.

Wrap Up: PWC thanked to all the Board members

Next 26th Board Meeting is fixed on Tuesday 11th February 2025 @ 6pm CEST

Meeting adjourned: 06:01:12pm CEST

Minutes drafted by US