

Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.

Preparations are underway for the AFGW Annual General Meeting in Adelaide on the weekend of 8th and 9th November. The AGM will coincide with the celebrations of

The national voice of graduate women

2014 No 2 Sept

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NEWSLETTER

www.afgw.org.au

Affiliated with

PREPARING FOR THE 2014 AGM

GWSA's 100th anniversary. We urge all members to attend this historic event.

International Federation of University

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STATE AFFILIATES













Highlights of the July Council Meeting

The Federal Council met via teleconference in July. Highlights of the

Graduate Women magazine to cease publication

discussion are as follow.

It is with great regret that we announce that the 2014 edition of *Graduate Women* will be the last. The cost of production has increased to the point where it can no longer be justified. Members will now receive an expanded version of the newsletter at more frequent intervals. The last edition of *Graduate Women* will be a retrospective look at our history. If you have any stories about AFGW events, or photographs of AFGW members past and present, the editorial committee would be very pleased to have your contributions. **The closing date for contributions to the final edition of** *Graduate Women* **is 30th October 2014. If you have an item for inclusion please email it to Madeleine Laming at afgwpresident@gmail.com or post to AFGW, PO Box 90, Nedlands, WA, 6009**

Marion Jones resigns as AFGW Fellowships Officer

After many years of dedicated service as the AFGW Fellowships Officer, Marion Jones has announced that she will not be continuing in this position next year. Marion's outstanding contribution to AFGW was recognised by a formal vote of thanks by Council members. The vote was passed with acclamation.

Pacific Graduate Women's Network

Joining AFGW confers automatic membership of the Pacific Graduate Women's Network as well as membership of IFUW. The next PGWNet meeting will be held on 26th September 2014, coinciding with the NZFGW Conference. Usually the CIR and President attend PGWNet meetings as members of the PGWNet Council, but this year neither Madeleine Laming nor Lynda Roberts-Hall are in a position to attend. AFGW will be represented by Merle Thompson, the Hon. Business Manager, and Jenny Jones, the Hon. Secretary, as Executive Members of the Council.

For your diary in 2014

September: NZ Federation of Graduate Women Conference, Wellington

November: Australian Federation of Graduate Women AGM & Council meeting, Adelaide.

Graduate Women to be published

Call for Expressions of Interest

Each year, the national body of AFGW offers one of **Fellowships** three women for postgraduate Georgina research; the Fellowship, Sweet AFGW Fellowship and the Barbara Hale Fellowship. Fellowships Officer administers these awards in consultation with the Council.

If you are interested in this important position, please contact me at

afgwpresident@gmail.com

Madeleine Laming

Follow us on Twitter

IFUW, NZFGW, the British Federation of Women Graduates already use social media to, attract new members, stay in touch with current ones and make contact with like minded organisations. AFGW is now joining them by Tweeting news and opinions to the world.

If you have a Twitter account, please follow us @AFGWsecretary.

Highlights of the March Council Meeting cont.d

President's Report

The first half of 2014 was a busy one in terms of advocacy, and it appears the second half will be no less busy thanks to the efforts of the Standing Committee on Education. In February and March AFGW made a submissions to the Productivity Commission on childcare and the Senate Education and Employment References Committee Inquiry into TAFE. In April, Dr Madeleine Laming was invited to attend the Committee hearings in Perth. Next came the Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group inquiry into preservice teacher education, which was a particularly frustrating exercise, as the recommendations made by the previous inquiry have not been implemented. AFGW has now been invited to make a submission to the inquiry into the proposed higher education reforms.

CIR's Report

Lynda Roberts-Hall announced that Capetown, South Africa has won the bid for the next IFUW conference to be held in 2016 in the new format. The event will take place over five days: two days for internal meetings (now called the General Assembly) and three days for external speakers, workshops and interventions. More information will be forthcoming over the next few months.

STA Reports

Graduate Women Victoria: GWV has had an indigenous undergraduate scholarship for many years, but President Jenny Strauss was proud to announce that an indigenous scholar has won a post-graduate scholarship for the first time. GWV has also held a series of Campus Lunches at Monash and Melbourne Universities.

Graduate Women Western Australia: following the loss of the gown hire contract with University of Western Australia which has been used to fund bursaries for more than forty years, GWWA has been in negotiation with the university over transition arrangements. The university has agreed to fund GWWA scholarships to UWA scholars only for a further five years.

Graduate Women Queensland: connections with UQ have been strengthened by the Darling Downs Branch offering a bursary on the Gatton Campus and the Fellowship Fund's decision to support a Post Doctoral Fellowship. GWQ held the annual Dr Del Doherty Lecture. The guest speaker, Neroli Holmes, Deputy Commissioner, Anti-Discrimination spoke about unconscious bias. There is a bursary for a refugee woman attached to this event.

Graduate Women New South Wales: Prof. Marian Baird delivered the Sophia Holland Lecture. Drawing on more than 40 years of data, she spoke women in the workforce and the ways in which they have responded to government policies and to changes in society. This event was held in conjunction with IFUW Day. The AFGW Convenor for Peace and Human Security, Dr Caroline Jones made a speech to IFUW and highlighted the IFUW themes along with her work in relation to the education of girls and women in detention.

Alliance Reports

Economic security 4 women: the project investigating ways to encourage secondary school girls to study STEM subjects and take up non-traditional careers was completed and the report was launched on Equal Pay Day (August 19) at an event held by Business and Professional Women in Perth. Dr Madeleine Laming represented AFGW.

Equality rights alliance: AFGW contributed to and endorsed the ERA report on the housing needs of older women.

Beijing+20 Survey

JERA International is currently undertaking the Australian NGO 20 year review of the Beijing Platform for Action on Women. Information will be gathered from civil society groups and individuals until 22nd September 2014. You can contribute by completing the online survey which can be found at: http://esurv.org/?u=Beijing20.

CSW59

Applications to join the IFUW delegation to the 59th meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, 9-20 March 2015 are now open. Application forms can be found on the IFUW website www.ifuw.org. And should be emailed no later no later than 1st October 2014 to csw2015@ifuw.org

Please note that neither IFUW, nor AFGW provide funding for applicants.