



Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.

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www.afgw.org.au

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Professor Michelle Simmons
Scientia Professor of Quantum Physics
Faculty of Science
University of NSW

Dear Professor Simmons

Many congratulations on being chosen as Australian of the Year from all of us in the Australian Federation of Graduate Women. An academic - a scientist - a woman - FANTASTIC! Thank you too for all you are saying about girls in science, about accepting challenging endeavours and for all girls fulfilling their potential. We wish you well in what will undoubtedly be a very busy year and we will be among the many following your course with great interest and hoping to learn and understand more about quantum physics.

The Australian Federation of Graduate Women (AFGW) is a non-government organisation of women graduates whose purpose is to advocate for and support the right of girls and women to access and enjoy affordable quality education up to the highest possible level of their capacity.

It is the national voice of graduate women, working since 1922 through initiatives in Education for the advancement and wellbeing of women and girls. We view education as essential for empowering women; reducing poverty; improving health; understanding human rights, maintaining human security and building peace.

AFGW aims to unite graduate women in Australia to work together and with the Graduate Women International's network of sister graduates worldwide to:

- Promote equitable educational opportunities and lifelong learning.
- Improve the status and well-being of women and girls.
- Encourage women and girls to be active leaders and decision-makers in public and private life.
- Inspire and support women graduates to put their education and professional training to the service of the local, national and international community.
- Promote the Vision of AFGW amongst all people, irrespective of their gender, age, race, nationality, religion, political opinion, gender, sexual orientation or other status.

Each year AFGW, its affiliated state bodies and branches, give over \$500,000 in scholarships to woman and girls to further their education particularly at tertiary level. We also support a number of education projects for girls in the developing countries.

Warmest congratulations and very best wishes from us all.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jane Baker
President AFGW Inc