



Australian Graduate Women Inc.

The Catalyst

Newsletter 3 – 2020

Dear Members

As we complete one year as AGW, Shirley, Alison and I reflect on 2019-2020 and on our achievements and successes over the year.

- We successfully restructured from AFGW to AGW in April 2019, transitioning from a federation to a single national organization.
- Our constitution was revised, approved and accepted by NSW Fair Trading and the name and constitution change was registered with ASIC (Australian Securities and Investments Commission) and ACNC (Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission).
- Our membership has grown to nearly 101 members since AGW officially commenced.
- Our website has been revised with a new domain name <https://australiangradwomen.org.au/>;
- Updating the website continues to be a work in progress and we hope to have this completed by the end of August 2020.
- Prof Shirley Randell AO (our CIR) and I led a delegation of 18 members to the Centenary celebration of GWI (Graduate Women International) in Geneva in July 2019.
- Emily Lawson from Victoria and a young member won the GWI Centenary song contest.
- Shirley and I presented a workshop at the GWI Centenary Conference – ‘Peace through education’ on the Australian National Women’s Alliances and our membership of two of them.
- Two other members, Dr Miranda Mortlock and Dr Marion Myhill presented a poster and seminar paper respectively.
- At the AGM in November 2020, we appointed Dr Jocelyn Eskdale, Dr Kerry Ferguson and Carol Little to the AGW Council.
- Since AGW’s establishment in April 2019, our members continue to receive immense national recognition: Australian awards were received by Dalma Jacobs OAM (June 2020); Dr Mary Crawford AM (January 2020) and Doreen Todd OAM (June 2019), and Prof Cheryl Praeger, renowned UWA mathematician won the Prime Minister’s Prize for Science.
- In 2019 - Three outstanding young women undertaking their PhDs were offered AGW fellowships. (Caitlin Murphy, Faculty of Medicine (Psychiatry), University of New South Wales; Rhiannon Nielsen, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, UNSW (Canberra) & Joni Pini-Fitzsimmons, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Macquarie University.
- We are now on Twitter at @AusGradWomen – so those of you on social media do follow us.
- We have applied for ECOSOC status in June 2020. Consultative status provides NGOs with access to the many subsidiary bodies and the various mechanisms of the United

Nations, as well as special events organized by the President of the General Assembly. Currently, 4,045 NGOs around the world, enjoy consultative status with ECOSOC. It promotes common norms and develops policies, programmes and actions to facilitate the implementation of the Internationally Agreed Goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- We continued our membership of National Women's Alliances - Equality Rights Alliance (ERA represented by Dr Jane Baker and Dr Jennifer Strauss AM) & Economic Security for Women (ES4W represented by Dalma Jacobs OAM and Prof Shirley Randell AO) and contributed to over 12 National Submissions (a list is available on request).
- We have established a small group of young members who will assist with social media and increasing young membership in 2020 and will introduce them in our next newsletter.
- We have awarded the 2020 Fellowships and the awardees are listed below.

As most states except Victoria ease COVID-19 restrictions, we hope you all continue to keep safe and take care during these unprecedented and complex times. We reach out to our members in Victoria and are worried for them with the recent surge in Coronavirus cases.

We also attach our membership renewal form and hope you will not only renew but also get one more friend, colleague or family member to join AGW. We look forward to interacting with you over the course of the year.

Warm wishes

Jaya, Shirley and Alison

Professor Jaya Dantas – President
Professor Shirley Randell – CIR
Ms Alison Hayden - Treasurer

CONGRATULATIONS TO MEMBER EMERITA DALMA JACOBS OAM

Dalma Jacobs OAM a long standing AGW member received the award of a **MEMBER IN THE GENERAL DIVISION** for service to women in tertiary education in the Queens's Birthday Honors' List in June 2019



Dalma has a long membership of Graduate Women Queensland (GWQ), joining in 1965, and was also a member of the ACT chapter of the AFGW from 1990-2000. Dalma very generously has belonged to all the Branches in the Queensland organisation and her expertise and advice is sought by many of the branch members. Dalma was Vice-President of GWQ from 2003-2008 and had a strong leadership role. She was also Status of Women Convenor from 2004-2006 and remains committed to the education of women and girls. Her expertise was also recognised nationally. She was the National Coordinator for International Relations from 2006-2012 and again from 2015-2019-

With the arrival of the internet, Dalma has ensured this information is available to all members online. Dalma's expertise was recognised nationally and she has represented AFGW now AGW on the economic Security4Women (eS4W) National Women's Alliance since 2006. She has been invaluable in bringing governance and statistical considerations to the table. It has meant working with a wide range of organisations to seek consensus on ways to advance gender equity.

More importantly, Dalma is on the ABS Gender Statistics Advisory Group (GSAG), assisting in the initial establishment of GSAG. This has seen her at the forefront of policy formation, ensuring that women's voices and work are counted in the Australian Census and other official national surveys. Her expertise here is widely recognised. Currently Dalma is assisting ABS with the development of the 2020 -21 Time Use Survey as a member of the Time Use Reference Group (TURG) and both the Employment and Family & Relationships Working Groups.

Dalma's volunteer work beyond Graduate Women includes:

Alumni Association of the University of Queensland Inc/Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc (AFUQ) as Foundation Member - 1967; Executive (1970 to 1989 & 2006 to 2014); Treasurer – (1980's); Vice President (2006 – 2009); President (2009 – 2011); Immediate Past President (2011-2012); Membership Convener (2011 to 2014).

Her other Awards are: Finalist Telstra Business Woman of the Year ACT – 1998; Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) Centenary of the Australian Public Service Medal – 2001; Community Service Award IGGS OGA – 2008; AFUQ Golden Jubilee Award – 2017.

Results of the 2020 AGW Fellowships

We congratulate the winners of the 2020 AGW Fellowships, **Jessica Hadlow, Tara-Lyn Camilleri-Carter and Lara Nicholls**. Our Association is proud to support the work of these early career researchers, whose work is characterised not only by its academic excellence but also by its relevance to such major contemporary issues.

Barbara Hale Fellowship



Jessica Hadlow is a doctoral candidate in the Centre for Evolutionary Biology at the University of Western Australia. She has a keen interest in sexual selection, sperm competition, and the evolution of sperm and egg cells (gametes), and is currently researching the dynamic factors that influence fertilisation success in a broadcast spawning marine invertebrate. The AGW Barbara Hale Fellowship will support a new research component which will innovatively integrate evolutionary biology and cutting-edge reproductive science.

Barbara Hale Fellowship



Tara-Lyn Camilleri-Carter is undertaking her PhD studies in the School of Biological Sciences at Monash University. The Barbara Hale Fellowship validates the determination with which she has pursued an interrupted academic career. Her research to date has involved subjecting female and male fruit flies and their offspring to diets that differ in sucrose content and monitoring the consequences for longevity, fertility, and body composition (whole-body fat and protein). In the new set of experiments

to be funded by the Fellowship, Tara-Lyn hopes not only to demonstrate more extensively the modification of inherited genetic characteristics by changes in environment, but also to unravel the unidentified causal molecular mechanisms at work.

Jennifer Strauss Fellowship in the Humanities



Lara Nicholls is a curator at the National Gallery of Australia and a researcher specialising in the work and status of women artists. The theme of her current PhD at the Australian National University is the professionalisation and the transnational experience of women artists in the late nineteenth - early twentieth century.

Her Fellowship project, *Impression Fever: Australian Women Impressionists and their Circle*, proposes a substantial extension, not only of the content of her research but also of its reach into the public sphere. Fellowship funds will be used to research and produce an

exhibition blueprint, draft catalogue essay and entries, checklist of works of art and budget for a travelling exhibition that could be displayed in State and regional galleries in 2022-23.

Some Special Global Milestones and Events

10 Anniversary of UN Women – 2 July 2020

10 years ago, on **2nd July 2010**, the UN General Assembly voted to establish UN Women to accelerate progress in meeting the needs of women and girls worldwide and to progress gender equality. UN Women was created to promote women's empowerment, women's rights and gender equality all over the world.



Refugee Week – 13 – 20 June 2020



This year Refugee week was celebrated amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the 216 countries and territories impacted, 134 countries host refugee populations and 71 million people globally continue to be forcibly displaced.

Today, 50 per cent of the world's refugees are women and girls. Yet, only less than 10 per cent of projects in UN inter-agency appeals are targeted at women and girls.

Reconciliation Week



May 27 to 3 June is National Reconciliation Week (NRW), a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. 2020 also marks the twentieth anniversary of the reconciliation walks of 2000, when people came together to walk on bridges and roads across the nation and show their support for a more reconciled Australia. Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We encourage you to listen to the Rob Riley lecture at Curtin University by **Professor Sandra Eades**, the first Indigenous medical dean in Australia and at Curtin Medical School who delivered this wonderful oration as a testament to the progress being made. She is an Indigenous medical doctor with a PhD who researches Indigenous health.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KkOizwC0d78>

International Day of the Nurse (11 May 2020)



The theme this year is **Nursing the World to Health** and this could not be more relevant. Nurses around the globe are providing vital healthcare on the frontlines to manage Covid19. The Covid-19 pandemic is a stark reminder of the vital role nurses play. Without nurses and other health workers, we will not win the battle against outbreaks, we will not achieve the SDGs nor universal health coverage. Nurses make up the largest segment of the healthcare

workforce around the world. On the occasion of the International Day of the Nurse and the **200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale**, the World Health Organization (WHO) joined hundreds of partners worldwide to highlight the importance of nurses in the healthcare continuum and thank nurses for what they do. In recognition of International Nurses Day, Australian musician **Delta Goodrem** has released a new video of her song 'Together We Are One' with nurses from St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney. You will enjoy this song!

<https://youtu.be/Ho7XPkukOml>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ho7XPkukOml&feature=youtu.be>

Black Lives Matter



BLM's #WhatMatters2020 focusses on issues concerning racial injustice, police brutality, criminal justice reform, Black immigration, economic injustice, LGBTQIA+ and human rights, environmental injustice, access to healthcare, access to quality education, and voting rights and suppression. The global BLM movement saw mass protests in May and June 2020 across the world

after the homicide of George Floyd in Minnesota.

In Australia, the BLM movement has in part highlighted the way students learn about Black history, and educators say more can be done here. For example, Gumbaynggir man Michael Donovan, the Director of Indigenous Strategy at Macquarie University, said while there is a policy to embed Aboriginal perspectives throughout the curriculum in New South Wales, teachers often do not have the resources to teach it.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.