

AUSTRALIAN GRADUATE WOMEN



SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Dear Members,

I would like to share with you all some reflections from Professor Shirley Randell and my attendance at the 67th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March this year. The priority theme of 'Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls' was explored. A range of Australian government delegates such as the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy and the Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins were also present.



Secretary General Antonio Guterres opened the event by outlining that, if we take account of women from all over the world, gender equality is still 300 years away. This opening set the scene for the rest of the conference by emphasising the work still required to achieve gender equality globally. A number of global presidents also made some key speeches, and the discussions continued to focus on gender equality in the digital age.



I have also attached some slides below containing our full reflections from this event. To leave you with an inspiring message from this conference, in the words of Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.



"Now more than ever, we need a healthier world.

Now more than ever, we need a safer world.

Now more than ever, we need a fairer world.

And now more than ever, we need stronger global agencies.

There is no other way forward but together."

[@DrTedros](#) [#WHA73](#)

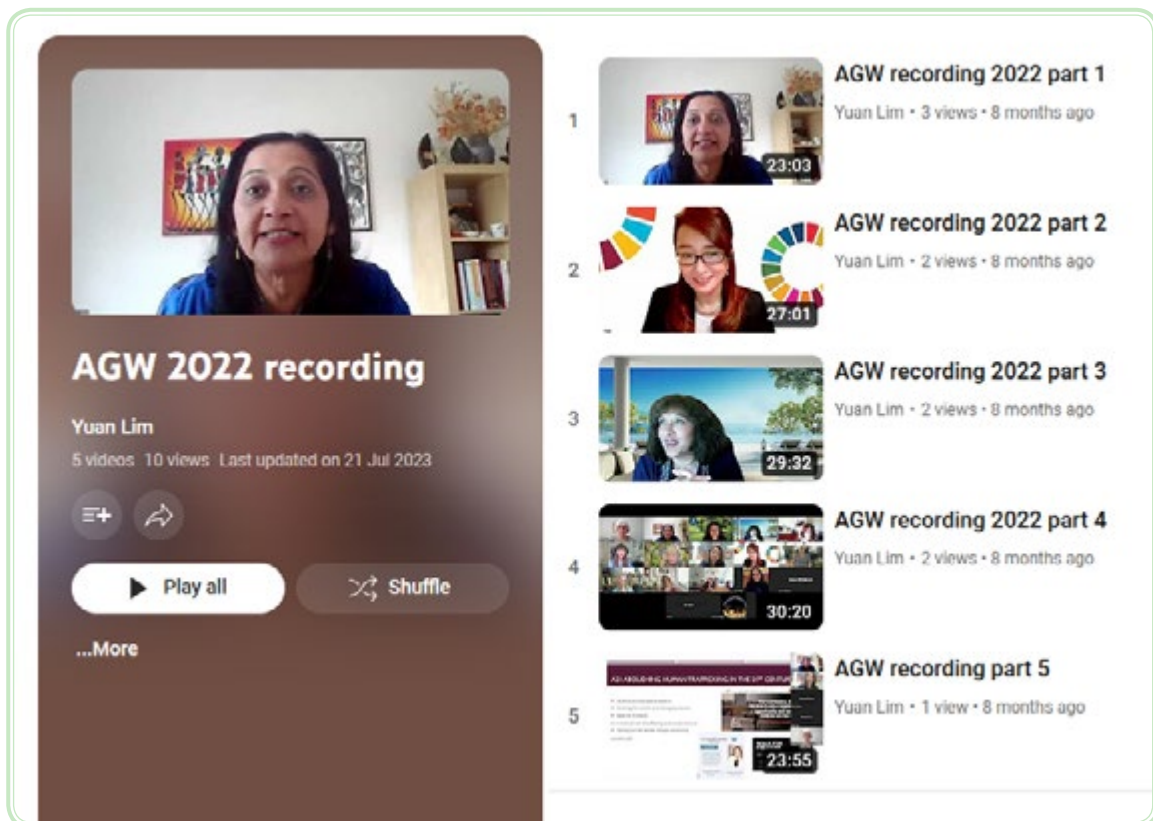


Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
WHO Director General

In 2022, the AGW held a centenary webinar in celebration of AGW's formal establishment in 1922. I chaired this webinar and started with a brief overview of AGW's history. A panel of distinguished academics and researchers who have all contributed to higher education in Australia and globally were also present including Professor Debbie Terry, Professor Sandra Eades, Professor Raina Macintyre, Dr Sandy Chong, and Dr Morley Muse. Two Ukrainian academics Dr Tetiana Bogachenko and Dr Iryna Khodos also shared some insightful information regarding the impact that the conflict in Ukraine is having on the higher education of women.

You can view the recording of the AGW centenary webinar at the link below.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoLA59_PkFqvZY3ixfn6oSQbPaabEpbde



Graduate Women International (GWI) are celebrating 104 years since the first group of university women met in London to establish the International Federation of University Women. GWI outline this as “a historic moment that marked the beginning of a movement to empower women in higher education.”



Graduate Women International
Empowering women & girls through lifelong education

GWI UPDATE – Special Edition

11 July 2023

Graduate Women International celebrates 104 years.



— Graduate Women International (GWI) News —

International Federation of Women, now Graduate Women International, celebrates 104 years.

In 1919, Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, Professor Rose Sidgwick and Caroline Spurgeon came together in London with university women from Great Britain, Canada, and the United States of America to establish the International Federation of University Women (IFUW, now Graduate Women International (GWI)). They were convinced that by fostering friendship and understanding, women graduates could help prevent another catastrophe such as the World War that had just ended. It was a historic moment that marked the beginning of a movement to empower women in higher education.

Today, we celebrate the 104th anniversary of GWI and honor the visionaries who founded this organization. Their legacy lives on, inspiring generations of women to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals. More than a century later, and under the new name of Graduate Women International (GWI), thousands of women graduates throughout the world share the same principles and vision that inspired those early leaders. GWI continues to advocate in favour of secondary, higher, and continuing education for women all over the world.

I have also attached a save the date flyer for the annual Graduate Women International Virtual Town Hall meeting. The event will be held online over two sessions on the 13th of September. The theme for the meeting is 'Transforming GWI's Future Through Member Conversation'.

Click on the below links to register.

- Session 1 - 6am to 7am CEST: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdOmpqzMvEtbd0r2aW5rQDyUK51hfu4A#/registration>
- Session 2 - 6pm to 7pm CEST: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsdeCvqjgoEtCqMINIDjNfpuTcsBFtgNKy#/registration>



Save the Date
(Open to all GWI Members)

GWV Virtual Town Hall
13 September 2023

Session 1
6-7:00 a.m. CEST
[Click HERE to register.](#)

Session 2
6-7:00 p.m. CEST
[Click HERE to register.](#)

**Transforming GWI's Future
Through Member Conversation**

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|--|---|---|
|  Patrice Wellesley-Cole, President |  Nneka Chiedozie-Udeh, VP Fundraising |  Ujwala Shinde, VP Governance |
|  Midred Asmah, VP Projects |  Shirley Gillett, VP Education |  Shruti Sonthalia, VP Marketing |
|  Meera Bondre, VP Membership |  Shaila Rao Mistry, VP Advocacy |  Sudha Srivastava, Treasurer |

Session 1 (6-7:00 a.m. CEST) - [click HERE to register.](#)
Session 2 (6-7:00 p.m. CEST) - [click HERE to register.](#)

Warm wishes,

Professor Jaya Dantas

President - Australian Graduate Women

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AGW acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and we pay our respects to their elders past and present.