



## MESSAGE FROM THE IFUW PRESIDENT

Last week the New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women held its Conference in Auckland, with the theme of *Taking Effective Action*. We heard a series of splendid speakers who shared their own journeys into creating effective careers and lives after graduation. I wish you could have all been there to hear for yourselves, as it was a privilege to share the special moments and challenges in their lives. Dorothy Meyer (Convener, IFUW Status of Women Committee) and Jenny Strauss (President, Australian Federation) gave a joint presentation on translating IFUW policy into local action. The information they shared included good practical examples of work being done in Australia and New Zealand. It is great to be able to report that the incoming NZFGW National Executive includes four Young Members and the local Otago Branch Executive will be run by YM's during the period that the national body is hosted in Otago. Exchanges during the Conference with participants from the Pacific were emotional, as some were just about to travel home to devastation. A special collection was made for people affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Samoa and Tonga. Our thoughts are with members there and in Indonesia, Bolivia, and Vanuatu, also touched since then by natural disasters. I am pleased to report that a special effort was also made for IFUW's Hegg Hoffet Fund for Displaced Women Graduates. Joy Dunsheath and her team of helpers raised over NZ \$2,250 for the Fund. Thank you to all New Zealand members for their hospitality and continuing support for IFUW. For the full message:

<http://www.ifuw.org/memcorner/2009messagepresident0810.shtml>.

## CALL FOR WORKSHOPS FOR THE 2010 IFUW CONFERENCE - DEADLINE 31 DECEMBER 2009

IFUW members are invited to propose interactive workshops for the 30th IFUW Conference to be held in Mexico City from 5 to 9 August 2010. Workshop proposals must be submitted through your national federation or association (NFA) using the [Workshop Submission Form](#). Each NFA may propose up to **four (4)** workshops for consideration. The deadline is **31 December 2009**. Workshops may focus on any aspect of the following themes: *Advancing Women through Lifelong Learning*; *Challenges to Women's Empowerment in the 21st Century*; *New Challenges for Sustainable Development*; or *Towards A Just Society*. Details can be found in the [Call for Workshops](#). Useful tips for those organizing a workshop can be found in the [Guidelines for Preparing a Workshop](#).

Clara Ikekeonwu, Workshops Coordinator

Call For Workshops: <http://www.ifuw.org/ifuw2010/workshops/workshops-call.pdf>

Preparing a Workshop: <http://www.ifuw.org/ifuw2010/workshops/guidelines.pdf>

Workshop Submission Form: <http://www.ifuw.org/ifuw2010/workshops/workshops-form.doc>

The 2010 Conference website will launch at the end of this week.

## IFUW PROGRAMME CONSULTATION: PHASE 2

Thank you to the NFAs and individual members who participated in Phase 1 of the Pre-Conference Consultation on Programme Planning. Your input was very valuable. In Phase 2, we'll look more closely at some of the issues you raised. A special email discussion will offer members of NFAs and independent members an opportunity to share their knowledge and experience about actions they, their branch, or NFA have taken in the areas of Education, Financial Independence, and the Empowerment of Women. National leaders are asked to advertise the discussion and to encourage their members to take part. The dates and topics are as follows:

- \* Part 1: 15-26 October: Education
- \* Part 2: 26 October-5 November: Financial Independence
- \* Part 3: 5 -16 November: The Empowerment of Women

*Dorothy Meyer, Convener, IFUW Status of Women Committee*

If you are not already a member of the [discussions@ifuw.org](mailto:discussions@ifuw.org) group, you can sign up for the discussion by sending an email with the subject "Subscribe" and your name, city, country, NFA and branch (or Independent Member number) to [discussions-sub@ifuw.org](mailto:discussions-sub@ifuw.org).

Summary of input from Phase 1: [http://www.ifuw.org/consultation/phase1summary\\_results.doc](http://www.ifuw.org/consultation/phase1summary_results.doc)

Background paper for the discussion on education: <http://www.ifuw.org/consultation/phase2part1.doc>

## **SUMMARIES OF THE MULTIGENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND WOMEN IN WEALTH DISCUSSIONS**

For those of you who missed the last two e-mail discussions on the *Challenges of Multigenerational Leadership* and on *Women and Wealth*, you can read the summaries prepared by the moderators:

Multigenerational Leadership Discussion Summary :

[http://www.ifuw.org/docs/2009\\_multigenerational\\_leadership\\_summary.pdf](http://www.ifuw.org/docs/2009_multigenerational_leadership_summary.pdf)

Women and Wealth Discussion Summary:

[http://www.ifuw.org/docs/2009\\_women\\_wealth\\_summary\\_discussion.pdf](http://www.ifuw.org/docs/2009_women_wealth_summary_discussion.pdf)

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2009 WORLD CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION (WCHE)**

Ten years after the first World Conference on Higher Education, organized by UNESCO, over 1,200 participants representing a broad range of actors with a vested interest in higher education came together in Paris to assess the progress made and the remaining challenges. The 2009 WCHE Conference, held in Paris from 5-8 July 2009, had as its theme *New Dynamics in Higher Education Research for Societal Change and Development*. The need to ensure an end to all discrimination in higher education was stressed throughout the conference. Delegates called for existing social inequalities to be reversed and for equal terms of acceptance into higher education institutions to be applied. The development of African higher education and research area was a main focus. With a four member delegation, IFUW was one of the few NGOs advocating women's empowerment. IFUW delegates were especially involved in the session on *Women in Higher Education, Research, and Innovation (HERI): Gains and Further Challenges for a Research Agenda*. NGOs stressed that equal access does not happen on its own; innovative steps must be taken. Some of the strategies suggested included affirmative action for women, research to support changing attitudes towards women, review of curriculum and a stronger role for NGOs and civil society. IFUW representatives also took part in two of the regional preparatory meetings. The UNESCO Forum on Higher Education held in Bucharest in May focused on accession, values, quality, competitiveness and challenges for higher education in a globalizing world. The Arab Regional Conference on Higher Education (ARCHE+10) held in Cairo in June, assessed regional progress and was the first step toward creating an "Arab Space for Higher Education", similar to one established by European countries in the Bologna Declaration of 1999. For reports from the four meetings, see:

WCHE 2009 Report: <http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009-UNESCO-WCHE.pdf>

WCHE NGO Meeting Report: <http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009-UNESCO-WCHE-ngomtg.pdf>

UNESCO Forum on Higher Education, Bucharest: <http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009-UNESCO-WCHE-Bucharest.pdf>

UNESCO ARCHE+10, Cairo: <http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/reports/2009-UNESCO-WCHE-Cairo.pdf>

## **UN SECURITY COUNCIL PASSES NEW RESOLUTION 1888 TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED COUNTRIES**

On 30 September 2009, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution that addresses the need to end sexual violence against women in conflict-affected countries. The resolution calls for the immediate appointment of a Special Representative to provide leadership, work effectively to strengthen existing UN coordination mechanisms and advocate with governments, military, judicial representatives and parties to armed conflict. It calls for the deployment of teams of experts in situations of particular concern and for the appointment of women's protection advisors in all peacekeeping missions. Other provisions seek to strengthen monitoring and reporting on sexual violence; the retraining of peacekeepers, national forces and police; and an increase in the participation of women in peacebuilding and other post-conflict processes. The new resolution builds on UN Security Council 1820 adopted in 2008 to end sexual violence against women in conflict.

UN Press Release and text of UN Security Council Resolution 1888:

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/sc9753.doc.htm>

UN Security Council Resolution 1820: [http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/docs/UN\\_SC\\_Resolution1820.pdf](http://www.ifuw.org/advocacy/docs/UN_SC_Resolution1820.pdf)

## **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S TRIBUNE CENTRE BLOG ON WOMEN IN CONFLICT**

The International Women's Tribune recently brought together women from Ghana, Burma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone and Liberia together in Finland in a Strategy Session on UN Security Council Resolution 1820, to share their experiences on working with women in conflict-affected countries, the challenges and strategies on working with international and regional instruments in their countries, and suggestions for the way forward. Contributions from five of the participants and other human rights activists can be viewed in the IWTC's 1820 blog on Women in Conflict.

To view the blog or comment: <http://www.iwtc.org/1820blog/>

## **PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN NIGERIA SEEKS NEW PRESIDENT**

The American University in Nigeria (AUN) is seeking qualified candidates for the position of university president. IFUW has been asked by the consultants assisting the search committee to circulate this announcement to our members. The University, chartered in 2004, is western in character but distinctively Nigerian. IFUW members with extensive university leadership experience are encouraged to apply. The deadline is 2 November 2009. For more details, please see <http://www.academic-search.com/uploads/profiles/AUNPresidentProfile.pdf> or write to Maya Ranchod Kirkhope - [Maya.kirkhope@academic-search.com](mailto:Maya.kirkhope@academic-search.com).