



IFUW Update - 5 January 2012

2012 – Looking forward to an exciting IFUW year ahead

I am writing to you from the IFUW Office in Geneva.

At the end of December we said goodbye to our Secretary-General, Leigh Bradford Ratteree, who retired after nearly 30 years of work with the Federation. We all appreciate greatly her hard work on our behalf over the years and wish her well for a very happy retirement. We look forward to honouring her at a special dinner at the time of the Board and Committee meetings, which will be held in February in Geneva.

Turning to the future, the staff is looking forward to an exciting year for IFUW. In addition to ongoing projects such as our Colloquia Project (see below), we are planning our first IFUW Day on 1 June, which promises to be a wonderful opportunity to highlight the achievements of IFUW.

*Marianne Haslegrave
IFUW President*

IFUW Day

The Board has decided to make 1 June each year IFUW Day and invites NFAs to also mark this Day.

This year we are planning to use our first IFUW Day to highlight the amount that IFUW and NFAs give for Fellowships and Scholarships, using the figures that have been reported to Dr Cynthia Burek, the Convener of the Fellowships Committee, for 2009 and 2010. We are still waiting for the final amounts to come in, but the total amount is amazing!

Why not take this opportunity to plan a national or local event on IFUW Day to highlight the support your NFA and others give to post-graduate women students? This is something that is unique to IFUW and its NFAs; no other international women's organization helps women in higher education in this way...

Perhaps you could have a reception or a tea-party to honour a woman who has received a scholarship and has become well-known nationally or in her field of academic study, or someone else who has succeeded as a result of support she has received.

Your NFA might celebrate IFUW Day by sending a press release to a local or national newspaper, or giving an interview on radio or TV. Of course, you will have other ideas as well. Please share these with us at update@ifuw.org. We will be providing more information during the coming weeks.

Let's all plan to celebrate our first IFUW Day!

IFUW International Colloquia Project

EXTENDED DEADLINE - 31 MARCH 2012

NFAs continue to respond enthusiastically to the IFUW International Colloquia Project on Breaking Down Barriers to Female Leadership in Higher Education. However, in order to give as many NFAs as possible the opportunity to participate in this important initiative, the deadline for the submission of project forms has been extended to **31 March 2012** with Colloquia to be held between January and the end of November 2012. This will give NFA members more time to study the guidelines, submit their project form and plan their event.



[Read the full announcement on the extended deadline for additional information.](#)

Empress of Japan attends JAUW concert in aid of tsunami victims

On 17 December 2011, the Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW) held a charity concert to support the scholarship project for high school students who lost their parents to the disaster of 11 March 2011. This concert was attended by the Empress of Japan, in support of the motives and spirit of the charity concert. At the concert, thanks were expressed for the goodwill and donations that had been sent from IFUW members around the world.

[Read a full account of the charity concert on the IFUW website.](#)

Join the RAUW - IFUW Friendship Tour

23 June to 2 July 2012

The Rwanda Association of University Women (RAUW) invites you to Rwanda for a 10-day friendship tour. Take this great opportunity to:



- meet with government and NGO representatives promoting education and women's empowerment in Rwanda
- explore the country's history and culture
- participate in various excursions around the country

This is a great opportunity for a first-hand look at education at work in Rwanda. Visit <http://www.ifuw.org/rwanda/friendship-tour/index.shtml> for full information on this trip.

UN Corner

We know how interested you are in what is happening at the UN, so we are asking our UN Reps to contribute to this, our UN Corner to keep you informed on what is happening at the UN centres in New York, Geneva and Vienna and at UNESCO in Paris.

International Day of the Girl Child

The UN has declared October 11 as International Day of the Girl Child, following an extensive campaign by civil society organisations working on girls' rights. Why not plan a celebration involving other women's organizations to highlight the education needs of girl children in developing countries?