

IFUW Young Members

Unity in our *diversity*



Newsletter of International Federation of University Women
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Editorial

Some of us were privileged to be at the 29th triennial IFUW conference held in Manchester. Indeed it was a great opportunity as expressed by different individuals valuing each other regardless of skin, intellect, talents or years.

The conference through the various sessions and activities, revealed how IFUW members around the world are using their expertise to help face the challenges that confront us and meet the ultimate goal of ensuring that all women throughout the world are able to enjoy their full rights and to reach their full potential.

Women: Agents for Change Building Sustainable Futures. The IFUW program for action 2007 -2010 will focus on education, environment and

economy as well as human rights. Let us continue in our hard work, patience and perseverance towards archiving our individual and corporate goals.

Evelyn Aremu



IFUW- International Federation of University Women, What it means to me

Jacqueline O. Odiadi

When the idea of becoming a member was proposed to me, I considered what impact it would have on my professional life as I was not in the academia. I was focused on the name “University Women”

which to me then, gave the impression that it is an association of Professors and Doctors or PhD holders, Librarians, University administrators and those engaged in esoteric research on such topics as

Darwin's theory of evolution, molecular theory, etc.

Getting to read and to learn more about the mission and vision of IFUW and in particular attend the 29th Triennial conference afforded me the opportunity to assess the organization – IFUW more closely on a global platform. It came as a pleasant surprise to see a good mix of women across generations from 77 countries who share the same mission to promote life long learning and girl child education. As a lawyer, women and youth oriented developmental activist, this travel and conference became for me, time and money well spent.

The highlights of what interested me the most was the effort being made by these bunch of studious women to match theory with practice; to apply their theoretical knowledge with the practical realities of life and influence their immediate communities positively.

A young member who delivered a paper on climate change and the environment was able to brake down scientific complexities to the understanding of minds like myself

not into such details. My Cameroonian friend whilst delivering a paper on Conflict assisted by photographic presentation was able to give a clearer insight and better appreciation of the conflict situation in her country Cameroon.

Being the Executive Director of Development Support Institute (DSI), an NGO focused on the economic empowerment and financial self-reliance of women, I was quite interested in the developmental projects of several affiliates including my national affiliate. Thus, it was encouraging to see so many women committed to making a change all over the world coming together to discuss generally and share experiences. I particularly want to commend organizations like **Virginia Gildersleeve Organization** and others who gave free lunch to young members and I got know about **Hogget Foundation** and what they do. I made useful contacts which I hope will impact on my local branch, national affiliate and other developmental organizations in my country, Nigeria.



I was tagged a young member then, being under 40 years, (I will not qualify to hold such a privileged position by the time we reconvene in Mexico in 2010). We were put to various tasks from sunrise to sunset. I appreciated the “process of initiation”, the attempt at mentoring and the importance of which the United Nations Representative reiterated again and again. Concern of members to assemble protégées that will ensure the longevity of IFUW.

I attended a session on CEDAW and the MDG, the intricate relationship between peace and development and corruption was drawn and emphasized upon, which must be addressed for the attainment of this objective. Various participants gave reports on the situation of CEDAW in their countries and the efforts to ensure the passage of CEDAW into local laws. Those who have challenges passing the bill into local law like Nigeria were advised to seek out and promote other laws which are already in force and promote the ideals of CEDAW. In Nigeria, a

Governor of one of the Moslem states in the northern part of the country openly declared that he is ready to support women empowerment and not gender equality as it is opposed to his faith, this should be seen as a lee way to achieve the ultimate goal in future. Dr. Emma Kruse Vaai again re-emphasized the involvement of men in our bid to achieve gender equality and women empowerment.

I also witnessed first hand the rich cultural mix of IFUW members at the Centennial Celebration of the British Affiliate, from Japan, Rwanda, Slovenia, Nigeria, the British cultural heritage, Fiji Island, India, The Netherlands and so many other countries.

Manchester 2007 also turned out to be an election year, the power change amongst women was quite impressive; coming from a developing country and having seen several flawed electoral processes I was quite impressed by the manner of subtle politicking, the campaign and the voting process was to me clearly free and fair.



Finally, I made friends from Ireland, Kenya, South Africa, The Netherlands, Cameroon and Britain, From Sudan, Egypt and Mexico, I pray for your good health and hope to see you all again in Mexico. Cheers and GOD bless you all.

The Science of Sustainable Motherhood

Jessica North

I am fast approaching motherhood for the first time: my baby is due at the beginning of February. To complicate matters, I am also an environmental scientist in the field of solid waste management. In other words, the choice of diapers – disposable or reusable (i.e. washable cloth) nappies – has taken on not only personal, but also professional significance!

A lot of my work involves life-cycle and cost-benefit analysis of waste systems, using scientific data to assess and compare different processes in terms of their economic, social, and environmental performance. So, I thought, I will simply look at the life-cycle assessment (LCA) of disposable versus reusable nappies, and the correct choice will present itself in a scientific, infallible manner – simple! Unfortunately, not so simple: although the results of LCA are often presented as firm and scientifically certain, in fact the various LCA methodologies available all contain a great degree of subjectivity. Anytime I hear the words ‘a life cycle study has found proof that..’, my inner warning lights start blinking!

By definition, a LCA is the assessment of the overall environmental impact of a given product or service throughout its lifespan. This requires an analysis of a range of potential environmental impacts for all aspects of the product or service under investigation. For example: the impact of energy required to manufacture plastic layers for disposable nappies; the impact of washing detergent, used to clean reusable nappies, on aquatic systems; the impact of fertilizers applied to cotton crops producing cloth for reusable nappies; etc.



Photo caption: ‘Mama-to-be on quest for sustainable motherhood’.

The first nappy LCA that I came across assured me that there was very little difference between the environmental performance of disposable and reusable nappies. But this LCA was based on North American data, and here I am living in the UK, which causes several problems. For instance, the environmental impacts associated with energy use in North America are based on a very different mix of energy sources than those available in the UK (i.e. coal-fired or gas-fired power plants, hydro or nuclear generators, or alternative sources such as solar and wind). Each country tends to use a different mix of energy sources, and each energy source is associated with different environmental impacts, which can have a huge influence on the conclusions of a study.

Another common assumption is that anyone using cloth nappies would dry them in a drier, which results in a huge impact from energy use. However, I don’t have a drier, and studies I have read suggest that sunlight (ultra violet light) is one of the best means for sanitizing cloth. A

further issue concerns the assumed final disposal of the disposable nappies: there are very different environmental impacts associated with incineration, landfill, or biological treatments (more common in European countries). Indeed, the assumptions underlying each nappy LCA needed to be carefully read, understood, and scrutinized in the context of where I lived, my lifestyle, my consumer choices, etc... not simple at all!

The message for me was clear: each LCA provides food for thought, but not a definite answer. The next time a well-meaning parent quotes 'scientific evidence' of the benefit of one nappy choice over another; I will just nod

politely and hope that they have also critically analyzed the evidence. Personally, having spent a lot of my working life in and around landfills and rubbish in general, I prefer to keep waste to a minimum, and plan to use reusable nappies whenever possible. I think I'm ready, with a low-energy rated washing machine, eco-friendly detergent, clothes racks for drying in the sun, and a growing pile of handed-down cloth nappies from friends. But I also haven't yet faced a mountain of dirty nappies after a week of sleepless nights, so maybe I will use the occasional 100% biodegradable, unbleached, disposable nappy!

"Don't compromise yourself. You are all you've got."

-- Betty Ford

Female foeticide and infanticide: a disgraceful social act

Saraswathy Achat



India is a country with rich cultural heritage and traditional values. It is a shame to note that in the same country where people still worship female gods; where women were treated equal to men, with respect and importance in a family and outside the family during the pre-Vedic period; in a country which hails the heroism of Rani Laxmi bai of Jhansi who fought the first war of independence against the mighty armed British, people stoop down so low to an act of cowardice (female foeticide/infanticide) against the female that they worship!! I used to wonder as you all must do by now, “why people behave the way they do”?

Around 50 million girls are missing from India's population as a result of this act of gender discrimination in India according to a report by UNICEF. In most countries in the world, there are more than 100 female births for every 100 males. In India, there are less than 93 women for every 100 men in the population.

The practice of female foeticide and infanticide leads to the act of sex selective abortions even with laws preventing it. More and more scientific methods of detecting the sex of a baby and of performing abortions are becoming available even in the rural areas of India, making abortions easier. Tamil Nadu (a developed

southern state in India) alone has 6,300,000 illegal abortions.

The existence of a dowry system which requires the family to pay out a great deal of money when a female child is married is one of the main reasons followed by cultural beliefs and social norms. These norms themselves must be challenged if this practice is to stop.

People are swayed by the thought that by saving themselves from bringing a girl child into the world now, they are saving lot of money to be spent on it later.

It is a shame that India though technologically advanced is greatly demeaning its traditional values by disrespecting women especially in an age where women are no less achievers than men. I read an article recently in the newspaper which mentions that men from various parts of India (Haryana/Himachal Pradesh/Bihar etc) are coming down South (Kerala) in search of brides to marry. One reason could be that women are very less in these states. If this situation continues, men will have to go east and west to our neighboring countries in search of brides.

India will be losing its beautiful women if this situation prevails. I strongly believe that if we concentrate on eliminating the root cause of this

discrimination we can succeed in our mission to save missing girls from our population.

Despite government's effort (cradle baby scheme, free education for girls, government sponsored free marriage schemes for poor girls and many more, etc..) to eliminate this problem, the situation has not improved (the 2001 census shows that sex ratio in India have declined!). This shows that

governmental effort alone will not suffice. Individuals should have a sense not to kill their own girl child and look forward to a future healthy trend of respecting their women. Information and education is the key for behavioral change. Behavioral change will take a long time to take place but it is the only sustainable solution to overcome this disgraceful social act.

Jest a smile.....

When a couple caught an intruder in their bedroom, he pulled a gun and announced:

“Now that you have seen me, I have to shoot you”.

Pointing his weapon at the woman he said, “I like to know the names of my victims”. What is your name?

“Elizabeth” the woman replied.

The intruder said, “I can't go through with this. My mother's name was Elizabeth.

The intruder then aimed his pistol at the husband, “what is your name?”

“Joe” the terrified man said, but all my friends call me “Elizabeth”....

How Lucky You Are If You Were an Indonesian Career Woman

Sri Rahayu Hijrah Hati

Managing the time in nurturing the children, doing house chores and serving the family while you are working is not really easy. But for us as the Indonesian career woman, we have a very helpful cultural and social support to balance both of our domestic and professional duties.

In Indonesia, if you were working woman and married with children, it is very common to ask your relatives to take care of your children. Your mother, mother in law, sister or sister in law usually try at their best to take care your children without any objection.



Source:
<http://osinaga.files.wordpress.com/2007/07/bs.jpg>

However if the relatives are also working, you can easily go to the maid agency to look for the suitable person to do all the house chores in your house and to take care of your children. The fee for their services is very low. For cleaning the house, doing the laundry, cooking, ironing including gardening, you only have to spend around IDR200.000 up to IDR 500.000 or around USD22 up to USD 52 per month.

If you are afraid of the inadequate skills of the maid you hire for taking

care of your baby or children, you can also hire a professional baby sitters/nanny. She will fulfill every single need of your baby or children for 24 hours, including showering, feeding, and sleeping with them. The rate that you have to pay is also low, starting from IDR600.000 (USD 65) per month for the non-experienced baby-sitter/nanny and IDR 750.000 (USD 81) up to IDR900.000 (USD 97) per month for the experienced baby-sitter/nanny.

Day care has become an alternative for the Indonesian working mothers. The cost is also quite competitive. You only have to spend around IDR 725.000 or USD 78 per month to use day care services. But usually the working mothers turn to this alternative during the Idul Fitri holiday, when most of the maids and servants go to their hometown.

Of course all the strategy that I mentioned above is not without weaknesses. Asking someone else to nurture your children will lessened the attachment or bonding between mother and children. But from the economic calculation, you are still very lucky to be a working woman who live in Indonesia, because the expense for hiring the servant and baby sitter in Indonesia is very low compare to the benefit that you get.

The best career advice to the young is: Find out what you like doing best and get someone to pay you for doing it. –Katherine Whitehorn

Teaching and Research in Electrical Engineering

Hasina F Huq

I am really happy to have the opportunity to share my experience with everyone especially with the young members of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) and hope that some of my experiences will help young women to pursue higher studies.



Dr. Hasina Huq in her laboratory

I was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh on March 1 1974. A second child of parents, who emphasized that education, co-curricular activities, humanity, and honesty helps in building one's future. I had my primary education at Udayan School in Dhaka and secondary education at Mymensingh Girls' Cadet College, Bangladesh during the period of 1986-1992. I have received Bangladesh Government scholarship from 1984-1986. I received star mark in the year of 1992. I graduated with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in 1999. BUET is the top most engineering university in Bangladesh. I was then offered an assistantship to pursue graduate degree and obtained my MS degree in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Poly Technique Institute and

State University (VTech) in 2002. I received PhD degree from the Electrical Engineering Department form The University of Tennessee in 2006. I hold an Assistant Professorship position in the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Texas Pan American (UTPA) USA. This is a very special advantage, as I am the first and currently the only female faculty member at the electrical engineering department at UTPA. This combination of facts has attracted the attention of the current students, especially females at UTPA.

During the first 6 months after graduation, I worked in Queens University in Bangladesh. Specifically, I was involved in teaching and conducting projects in laboratory for the undergraduates. I gained a lot of

experiences in teaching methodologies that helped me to develop my career in teaching profession.

I came to the United States with my husband in 2000 and my daughter was born in 2001. We spent our university vacations to travel all over the USA and could meet different people in different cultures. But it was very difficult for me to maintain the family and profession career. Work-life balance becomes an important issue to my effort to be effective in my work life as well as in the personal life. Being a woman in engineering field is not worse but different from being a man in engineering field. During my graduate study in USA, I was also enough fortunate to gain many experiences about the society and could familiar with the different kind of problems since I had many friends, colleagues and students who came from all over the world and different family backgrounds and culture. Those things greatly influenced me to see the world more clearly and understand difficulties which they are struggling with.

Currently, I am conducting teaching and research at UTPA for high-performance electronics for high frequency and high temperature applications that combine lower costs with improved performance and manufacturability. Researchers all over the world have focused their attention on new semiconductor materials for use in device technology to address system improvements. Of the contenders, carbon nano tube (CNT) silicon carbide (SiC), gallium nitride (GaN), and diamond are emerging as the front-runners. Temperature dependent analytical modeling, simulation and characterizations of devices are being investigated. The models developed in

this research will not only help the engineers/researchers but also have the potential to attract K-12 students to pursue their careers in science and engineering fields. The research could serve as a channel to connect the students and faculties with the latest technology by integrating research, education, and diversity.

In my country, I realized the importance of the development of advanced technology in order to optimize quality of life. The main problem facing developing countries like Bangladesh is the unavailability of resources. As a result it leads to poor/moderate quality electronics systems under relatively high unit production cost.

In Bangladesh, a large number of female students lack a college diploma in science and engineering. I am also working to find out the key issues behind the low number of women in engineering discipline and explain the necessity of more women in this technology related field. To meet the needs of the trained personnel necessary in the developing country like Bangladesh, women should be attracted to science, technology and engineering. Science and technology can make a difference in the lives of young women and thus show the opportunities available to them. The major challenges for women in engineering professions are direct discouragement and discrimination.

I always exchange, share research work and sharpen my teaching and research skills with other faculties in Bangladesh. I have presented my research findings in various international conferences. I make presentations at the local minority school and attend college night meetings at the local high school to

recruit students on behalf of the Electrical Engineering department in order to disseminate the information to other students and community. I always try to involve students in the course development to increase attentiveness to classroom activities and to create a closer tie between research and course work. I observed that the students at UTPA really love to work with faculties.

Having published more than 15 referee review journal/conference articles and presented more than 12 either invited talks or conference, I like to show my research findings to others especially female students. I convert the symposium/ tutorial activity into a multimedia format that are available to all undergraduate students as well as other institutions and can be used to introduce students

of all back ground; thus motivating the students to pursue careers in science and engineering.

I have four primary objectives: (1) to enhance my skill in teaching and scholarly activities in the area of electronics (2) to collaborate with the other electronics research groups in USA as well as in Bangladesh (3) to disseminate the information to other students from all background (4) to work for children and women to increase the opportunities for them in scientific research whenever possible. Thus, it will increase the opportunities for the students to participate in scientific research. I am available via email and more than willing to answer questions or share personal experiences as people seek knowledge to make decisions.

Women's Sexuality and the AIDS Epidemic

Lenias Hwenda

The debate regarding women's role in society has been raging for centuries and many prominent women such as Mary Wollstonecraft and Virginia Wolf amongst others have advocated and campaigned for the recognition of women's contribution to society. Whilst the 21st century has seen a relative increase in female leaders and heads of states such as Ellen Johnson-Sirleef of Liberia, Tarja Halonen of Finland, Angela Merkel of Germany, and Louisa Dias Diogo of Mozambique, only 10 % of women assume leadership positions despite constituting 50 % of humanity <http://www.guide2womenleaders.com/>. It is thus a sad fact that globally, only minorities of women are socially and economically empowered and

receives similar respect for their contributions as men. In the dawn of HIV/AIDS, such empowerment or lack thereof has become a determinant of the destinies of many women's lives. With ~60 % of HIV-infected people in Africa being women (http://www.unaids.org/epi2005/doc/report_pdf.html) the issue of women's sexuality and their inability to accept or decline sex has become a matter of life or death.

The alarming HIV/AIDS statistics highlight the need to take gender disparities which remain rampant in many societies, such as my own African society, very seriously. The requirement to declare women's rights as human rights in Beijing also serves

to underscore society's negative attitudes towards women. These attitudes have proven detrimental to women's health, the enormous rates of HIV infection amongst women being a stark reminder of women's disenfranchisement in society.



With gender determining whether a child gets educated or not, many women and girls are locked into a vicious cycle of poverty in which their survival is dependent upon men, a situation that leaves them extremely vulnerable to exploitation. Women's sexuality has always been exploited for centuries. The enormous consequences of such exploitation have in fact become one of the tragic stories of the 21st century. It has generated a multimillion dollar global trade of women's sexuality that transcends local borders and has permeated many societies as the demand for global sex trade continues to expand. This growing demand is created by men who buy and sell women's sexuality as a commodity for profit. Hundreds of thousands of women are sold into marriage, prostitution and slavery whilst many young girls in patriarchal societies such as Africa, Asia and the Middle East are regularly forced into polygamous marriages http://www.unicef.org/protection/index_earlymarriage.html. These

events leave millions of women extremely vulnerable to HIV/AIDS and the current statistics of HIV-infected women speaks volumes. These appalling trends demonstrate the detrimental effects of the fundamentally flawed perceptions of women, their sexuality and their role in many societies, including my very own African society. I am convinced that until new solutions to protect women are discovered or implemented, the trends we are currently witnessing in the rates of HIV infection amongst women will continue to rise.

Implementing policy changes that strengthen the protection of vulnerable women internationally, thus preventing gross violations of women's rights and their sexuality forms one part of the solution to the problem of HIV/AIDS. In fact, the devastation and the massive socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS should prompt governments to make protecting women's sexual and reproductive rights as well as protecting women from sexual violence and sexual exploitation a priority in global politics and international law. Reinforcing and strengthening the legal framework with supportive legislation would most certainly make a great difference. However, without concrete changes in societal values relating to male behavior and attitudes towards women and girls, efforts to limit HIV infection and control of the AIDS epidemic are most likely futile.

Whilst a change towards healthier and positive attitudes towards women would be one of the most effective ways to reduce the AIDS calamity, the current rates of HIV infection amongst women have created a pressing need for preventive treatments that

specifically protect women against HIV infection. With the prospect of preventative or therapeutic vaccines currently so distant, and the use of condoms being out of the question for many, vaginal microbicides present our best hope for protecting women from HIV infection. These can be in various formulations such as pessaries or gels that can be inserted or applied vaginally prior to sexual intercourse in order to protect a woman from HIV infection. They have various modes of action such as reinforcing natural barriers to incoming virus to prevent its entry. Some have antiviral activity or can compromise the integrity of the virus rendering it non-infectious. Others are chemical barriers that have broad activity that reduce HIV infectivity. As the majority of these microbicides have not had success in clinical trials, there still remains a desperate need for conceptually sound microbicide candidates with strong proof of concept data in animal models.

The large numbers of products entering clinical trials with such a low success rate raises important questions regarding the rigour of

ethics reviews by ethical review committees. Whilst it is of the utmost importance to find effective products that protect women in particular from HIV infection, it is equally important that scientific integrity be preserved and that the conduct of these trials remain consistent with accepted norms and standards of conducting research with human subjects. Socio-political and economic empowerment of women will enable women to participate more in such ethical reviews of products developed for their own use.

In conclusion, the development of the female condom is one step towards giving women more choice over their sexuality, but unfortunately, they are not widely available. Thus, research into microbicides remains the most feasible alternative to giving women more choice in protecting themselves from HIV infection. However, until a breakthrough in HIV preventive therapies is made, strengthening the legal framework for protecting women's sexuality and changing attitudes towards women in society will help protect many women around the world from HIV infection.

"There are some things you learn
best in calm, and some in storm."

-- Willa Cather

An Unforgettable Day

Ivy Shiue

I will never ever forget this day, September 27, 2007. It was my third month as TA in National Taiwan University. I finally made the mistake. Remember many US children were trained by their parents or school teachers to sell the lemonade in the neighborhood? During that practice, they learnt a lot from selling goods. It also had great influence on them for later development. When I thought carefully about why it was such a big deal, I decided that perhaps I can offer the learning opportunity to my future kids whenever appropriate.



My mistake was made by ordering lunch for freshmen on the wrong day! Lunch was to be delivered on Friday, not Thursday. I mixed up the date. After hanging up the phone which announced the arrival of one hundred and four (104) lunches, all my colleagues were silent and looked at each other surprised.

“One hundred and four lunches? It’s not for today. It should be for tomorrow.”
“Tomorrow? Not today?” “No, I am sorry.”

OH.....Jeeeeeee!!! How can I deal with the 104 lunches now? Bless me!

Worried.....Prof. Lien asked kindly what had happened. Coincidentally, I bumped into some nice guys who seemed to be EMBA students or teachers giving me the idea of selling at the plaza on the ground floor, he said.

What? Selling the lunches? Me? It’s too crazy!!

Figuring out the possibility, I decided to take the chance. Mrs. Wang rushed to the same idea and got approval. We moved a long table outside of the classroom to the middle of the plaza and settled down to get the lunches sold. We began by selling to few passersby.It was a very hot day.

After a while, Mrs. Wang took 15 and tried to sell them in each floor to all the department offices. Mrs. Yao helped call to our dean to buy one. Mrs. Tsai tried to find some graduate students she was familiar with. Ms. Yang started shouting to attract people to come. Mrs. Shu and Mrs. Chou also helped in the department office. After a while, classes were over. Flocks of students came and went, passing us by. I prayed for a quick solution while actually was crying in heart.

Guess what? This was also the famous but cheap lunch! After a while, we started giving out discounts for the lunches. It’s only NT60! And it’s hot! “You want 2?”

OK!" "Well, maybe 3." "Sure! Thank you so much!" "What about, Miss?" "One each for my friend and me." "Right away!" "Give me one, TA!" "Why are you selling the lunch?" "This is a big secret."

After 25 minutes, "TA, do we have more to sell?" "TA, can I buy one for my classmate?" "TA, will we have another chance to buy from you?" "TA, is drink included?" "Come on, it's cheap enough for students!" "Then, call me again next time when drink is included, will you, please?"

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That's called "the strength of team work"!!!

My dear colleagues, my lovely students, I LOVE YOU!!!

Study opportunity

Ivy Shiue (TA at NTU)

Study at National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan - International Degree Program for Academic Year 2008/09.

*The application must arrive by personal delivery or post (remote areas are recommended to use DHL or Fedex service) to the following address by **March 14, 2008**. Applications received after the deadline will not be processed. Plus, scholarships are offered. Please see the website: <http://www.oia.ntu.edu.tw/english.asp> for more information.*

New US-based Organization Forms

Ronni Nivala

As some of you may know, the affiliation between AAUW (American Association of University Women) and IFUW ended this year. At this time, a group of women with a passion for international relations and global issues is in the process of forming a new organization in the United States. The new organization, called Women Graduates USA, will focus on issues such as life long education for women and girls, international cooperation, friendship, peace and respect for human rights; advocating for the advancement of the status of women and girls and encouraging and enabling women and girls to apply their knowledge and skills in leadership decision making in public and private life.

Its formation began at the Triennial Conference of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) in August 2007. Plans are underway to affiliate with the International Federation of University Women beginning in 2008.

Detailed information about the organization and the meetings held in Manchester, England, can be accessed at www.wg-usa.org. Membership requirements include a degree from a four-year college or university. Women interested in potential membership are asked to contact, Barbara Carey, interim membership chair, at membership@wg-usa.org

