



Graduate Women WA

Graduate Women (WA) Inc.



Graduate Women WA assisted in supporting Dr Madeleine Laming for her trip to the 55th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women ... Story page 6.

Newsletter

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GRADUATE WOMEN WA - 2011

Committee

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| President | Margaret Giles |
| Vice-Presidents | Jenni Antulov, Felicity Farrelly |
| Honorary Treasurer | Alison Hayden |
| Committee Members | Wendy McCallum, Lalani Weddikkara, Evelyne Deplazes |
| Newsletter Editor | Susan Dunn |
| Immediate Past-President | Lynda Roberts-Hall |

Convenors

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Education (Bursary Coordinator) | Liz Flatters |
| Education Convenor (Advocacy) | Jennifer Antulov |
| International Relations | Kathy Mumford |
| Peace and Human Security | Lalani Weddikkara |
| Status of Women | Barbara Taylor |

Representatives, Coordinators & Other Roles

| | |
|---|--|
| Centenary Trust for Women Representative | Mary Dineen |
| Education Trust Chair | Robyn Carroll |
| Events' Organiser | Hilary Silbert |
| National Council of Women Graduate Women WA Representatives | Lesley Cala <i>and</i> Margaret Giles |
| St Catherine's College Council Graduate Women WA Representative | Hilary Silbert |

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Many thanks to our Executive Officer, Karen Bothwell, for taking the lead role with the gown hire for the recent graduation ceremonies at UWA, in the absence of Wendy McCallum our academic dress convenor who has been travelling. Karen was joined by Kate McCallum (yes, Kate is related to Wendy) who cheerfully and capably worked on both graduation and office matters for four weeks during our March busy season.

I attended the AFGW Council meeting in Sydney on 26 February. Most of the meeting was taken up with a workshop run by WA Convenor of International Relations, Kathy Mumford, together with Kathryn Semour (Qld) and Michelle Imison (NSW). The workshop discussed strategies to retain and attract membership in line with IFUW's commitment to growing the membership. At its conclusion the branches agreed to seek at least one new member each by the end of April. (In WA, we have already achieved this!) In addition to this interim action, all workshop participants nominated one challenge/action of nine agreed challenges/actions that they would pursue in the coming year. **Three of these challenges/actions** will be addressed as a matter of urgency with the remaining six tackled when time and expertise is available:

- Rework purpose, refine, update AFGW goals (education) and distinguish from other women's groups
- Targeting potential members
- More members involved in leadership and standing committee roles

Most recently I represented Graduate Women WA on the organising committee of the International Women's Day (IWD) breakfast which, this year, was held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on Friday 11 March. Graduate Women WA chooses to support this event, which is organised each year by UN Women (formerly UNIFEM), rather than have an event of our own due to the coincident timing of IWD and the UWA March graduations. The IWD breakfast was attended by 1,000 women and men and raised \$25,000 to support projects by women in developing countries. The guest speaker, Manal Omar, Director of Iraq Programs at the United States Institute for Peace, was inspirational in her talk about the challenges that face women involved in the peace process in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Graduate Women WA had a table at the IWD Breakfast. We also sponsored a table of school girls from Balga Senior High School. Geoff Harris, Principal of Balga SHS, invited me to tour his school which I did on 7 April. The highlight of this tour was a visit to the Teen Parenting Centre which Graduate Women WA supported during the Centre's early years. The May committee meeting will consider the school's request for future support.

I was also honoured during the IWD Centenary Celebrations by being nominated as one of 100 women celebrating with Business and Professional Women in Joondalup. The unveiling of the names of the 100 women occurred at a breakfast held in our honour on Tuesday 8 March at Joondalup TAFE.

The next event for Graduate Women WA is the bursary evening on Tuesday 17 May. This year we are hearing from recent scholarship winners as well as unveiling the Graduate Women WA – St Catherine's Honour Board. I hope to see you all there for this important occasion which is being organised by member and past President Hilary Silbert.

Dr Margaret Giles, President

THANK YOU...

...to all the following volunteers who helped with Academic Dress during the recent UWA Graduations:

Wendy McCallum, Robin Adamson, Joy Anderson, Elizabeth Bake, Felicity Bradshaw, Marcelle Brown, Rose Carter, Rhoda Chance, Evelyne Deplazes, Jenny Dunlop, Kerry Evans, Louise Ewing, Margaret Giles, Alison Hayden, Sharon Jayatilaka, Jenny Jones, Jasmine Lamb, Hilary Silbert, Lin Tunks, Shirley Watt, Lalani Weddikkara and Kay Wright. Special thanks to Kate McCallum for all her help during this very busy time. Kate was a pleasure to work with.

Karen Bothwell

GRADUATE WOMEN (WA) INC

IS CELEBRATING

25 YEARS OF AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS

TO THE STUDENTS OF ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE

INVITATION

The President of Graduate Women WA, Dr Margaret Giles, and the committee

have much pleasure

inviting you

to the unveiling of the St Catherine's College Scholarship Honour Board

acknowledging the long term relationship between the two organisations.

Date: Tuesday May 17th, 2011

Venue: M.E. Wood Room, St Catherine's College, Nedlands

Time: 7pm

Ceremony and supper

Please RSVP to Karen Bothwell

Phone: (08) 9386 3570 or Email: gwwa@westnet.com.au

By Friday 6th May, 2011

We look forward to seeing you at this milestone event!

2011 ALSO CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF GRADUATE WOMEN WA

AWARDING BURSARIES TO POSTGRADUATE WOMEN

IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOLARSHIP WINNER 2011

Rebecca Adamson, winner of the 2011 St Catherine's Scholarship writes:



2011 will be my second year of living at St Catherine's College, while studying a Bachelor of Physiotherapy at The University of Notre Dame. I have really enjoyed living in the college community, which has provided me with not only a place to live, but an education and experience that will prepare me for my future. While growing up in Kalgoorlie-Boulder, I participated in many sports and enjoyed learning and teaching many types of dance. I have been a member of the Western Australian State Highland Dance team for the past 3 years and have had the pleasure of representing Australia at many international events. These have included performing with the Ozscot Australia Highland Dance Company at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 2009. Growing up in a small country town has taught me the values of sportsmanship and community spirit, which has continued as a student of St Catherine's College. I

have volunteered for many organizations, including Ronald McDonald House, the RSPCA and Rocky Bay. I look forward to continuing this work in 2011 and building on this experience throughout my career in the health profession. Being awarded this scholarship means a lot to me, as I will be able to focus on my study while putting more time into community service and organizing college events, without the worry of a part-time job.

SRI LANKAN LUNCHEON

Date: SATURDAY 14TH MAY 2011

Donation: \$35

Proceeds go to the Pre-School in Galle which Graduate Women WA supports
Food cooked by Lalani Weddikkara and her family.



*Limited places
Bookings essential
Will sell out!*

Time: 12.30pm



Venue: Graduate Women WA Headquarters on the terrace, 4 Park Road, Nedlands.

RSVP to Karen 9386 3570 or Email: gwwa@westnet.com.au

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION
22 FEBRUARY- 4 MARCH 2011**

Graduate Women WA assisted in supporting Dr Madeleine Laming for her recent, largely self-funded trip to the 55th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York. Dr Laming represented GRADUATE WOMEN WA, AFGW and IFUW.

It's cold on the streets of New York City in February; colder than many Australians could imagine possible, but inside the United Nations building there were warm hearts and warm smiles all around at the launch of UN Women under the leadership of Ms Michelle Bachelet, former president of Chile. Dr Madeleine Laming from Graduate Women Victoria was among the IFUW delegates who attended the launch during the 55th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, 22nd February to 4th March. UN Women brings together the resources and mandates of four existing agencies to give women's issues greater prominence and increase the capacity for action.

The IFUW delegation, which included President Marianne Haslegrave and Vice President Anne Negre as well as representatives from national affiliates in Turkey, Sierra Leone, Finland, the UK, Mexico, Bangladesh, Georgia, Albania and Australia took part in the consultations on UN policy relating to women's education and right to decent work and participated in the many seminars and discussions held each day. The IFUW delegation also attended the release of the UNESCO 2011 Global Monitoring Report at Columbia University, but the highlight of the session was the seminar jointly hosted by UNESCO and IFUW. This seminar, "Advancing girls' secondary education: obstacles and opportunities", was very successful in raising awareness of IFUW's role as an advocate for women's rights. Ms Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO gave the opening address; other speakers were Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, Ambassador of Bangladesh to the UN; Dr. Gill Greer, Director General, International Planned Parenthood Federation and Ms. Rebecca Winthrop, Director, Centre for Universal Education, Brookings Institute. Delegates also took part in private discussions with Gülser Corat, UNESCO's deputy Director for Gender Equality about ways in which the two organisations might work together in future.

GRADUATE WOMEN WA COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2011

| | | | | | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| May | Tuesday | 3 rd |  <p>4 Park Rd, Nedlands.</p> <p>6:00 pm for 6:15 pm start</p> | September | Wednesday | 7 th |
| June | Wednesday | 1 st | | October | Wednesday | 5 th |
| July | Wednesday | 6 th | | November | Wednesday | 2 nd |
| August | Wednesday | 3 rd | | | | |

GRADUATE WOMEN WA BOOK CLUBS 2011

(Each Book Club meets once a month)

Meetings are held at Graduate Women WA House, 4 Park Rd, Nedlands.


New members are always welcome!

| | |
|---|--|
| May Thursday 19th and Saturday 28th | September Thursday 15th and Saturday 24th |
| June Thursday 16th and Saturday 25th | October Thursday 20th and Saturday 22nd |
| July Thursday 22nd and Saturday 24th | November Thursday 17th and Saturday 26th |
| August Thursday 18th and Saturday 27th | |


GRADUATE WOMEN WA POETRY CLUB MEETINGS 2011

(Second Tuesday of each month)

Meetings are held at the GW(WA) House, 4 Park Rd, Nedlands.

| | | | | | | |
|--------|------|---------|---|-----------|------|---------|
| May | 10th | 10.30am |  <p style="color: blue; text-align: center;"><i>New members always welcome!</i></p> | September | 13th | 10.30am |
| June | 14th | 10.30am | | October | 11th | 10.30am |
| July | 12th | 10.30am | | November | 8th | 10.30am |
| August | 9th | 10.30am | | | | |

GRADUATE WOMEN WA EVENTS and MEETINGS 2011

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| MAY | Saturday May 14 th | Sri Lankan Luncheon |
| | Tuesday May 17 th | Bursary Presentations by 2010 winners and St Catherine's Honour Board unveiling. |
| JULY | Wednesday 27 th July | Graduate Women WA Annual Dinner and Celebration of 40 th year of awarding bursaries |
| AUGUST | August 5 th -19th | Trip to Sri Lanka (Details - February newsletter) |
| DECEMBER | Wednesday, 7 th December, 2011 | Sundowner-BBQ |
|  | | |