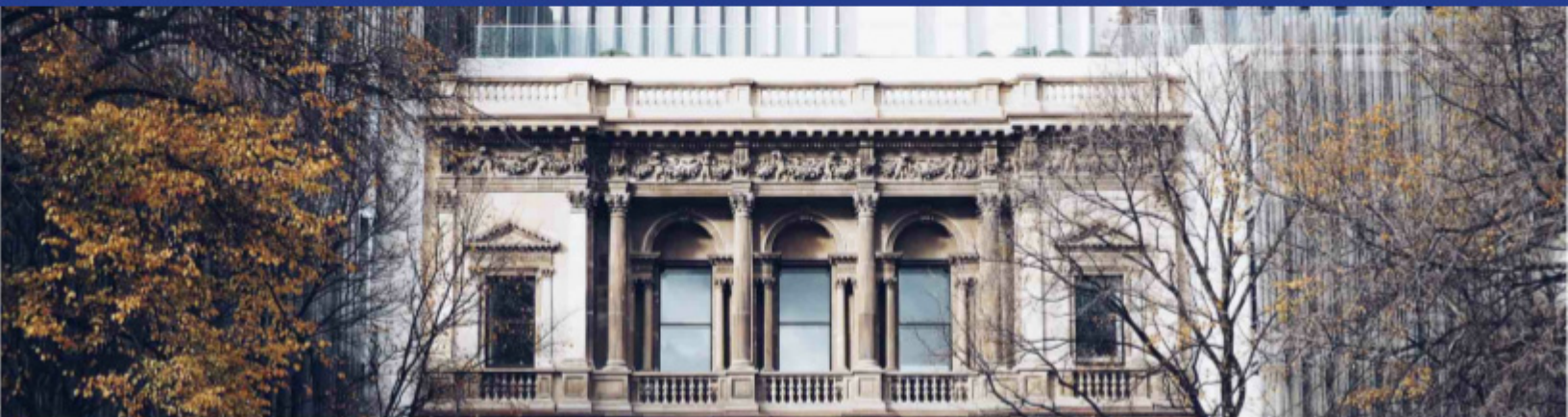




The Caroline Spurgeon

Centenary Fellowship



The Fellowship Committee of GWI plans to celebrate its 100th birthday with a special Fellowship in honour of one of its founding mothers, Caroline Spurgeon, first President of the then International Federation of University Women – IFUW (1920-24).

Caroline Frances Eleanor Spurgeon

Caroline Frances Eleanor Spurgeon was a leader in education for women. A child of the Raj, born in India in 1869, she was educated at Cheltenham Ladies College, Kings College London and University College London. Her ground-breaking scholarly criticism of English literature led to her appointment in 1913 as the first woman Professor in that field and the second woman professor anywhere in the United Kingdom. This was followed by other distinctions, such as election to the Royal Society of Literature (1916) and in 1912 she became the first ever recipient of the British Federation of University Women's Fellowship award.

Caroline Spurgeon constantly used her own academic prestige to advocate strenuously for women's access to all academic degrees. In 1918, she was a member of the British Educational Mission to America. There she met Virginia Gildersleeve, Dean of Barnard College, Columbia University, New York. The friendship and common aspiration for women's education shared by these two formidable women would be a major inspiration to create IFUW, an international body that could, through access to education, make a difference in the lives of women.

From that time Caroline Spurgeon lived between England and America, settling finally in Tucson, Arizona, where she died in 1942.

Who is Eligible?

The Fellowship will be open to established PhD and postdoctoral students in any country engaged in research relevant to GWI. Thus research in education, gender issues or sustainable development would be looked upon favourably. Members of GWI can apply without charge: non-members will be charged an administration fee.

To realise its plans for a Caroline Spurgeon Centenary Fellowship worth 12, 000 CHF, to be announced at the triennial conference in 2019, the Fellowship Committee needs to raise funds urgently, so that the Fellowship can be opened for applications in 2018/9.

We appeal to past Presidents, past Board members and Committee Members, NFAs and all members to donate generously to this exciting project, which has been kick-started by a donation of 600 CHF.

**Donations can be made to a dedicated fund. See GWI website for details:
www.graduatewomen.org.**

Having a doctorate can change a woman's life and open doors that were previously closed to her. A title is a powerful tool in today's world. It can help with funding, provide research opportunities, and provide an important network facility. This scholarship has the potential to provide all this for a woman and allow her to reach her full potential. By doing so she has the ability to provide a real positive change for the future.