

Dear UWE-members,

In this newsletter, you will find information on the following topics:

1. UWE event and General Assembly 2008
2. New and enlarged UWE executive
3. UWE Working parties
4. Renée Gérard received the third Jans Gremmée Award
5. UWE 2009 event in Vienna
6. Upcoming Events and Special Days

### 1. UWE event and General Assembly 2008

From September 11 until 15, about 180 women from 20 different NFA's have enjoyed themselves during the UWE 2008 event in Northern Cyprus.

The Turkish Cypriot Association of University Women was our host. They organised a variety of activities for us. We started with a cocktail around the largest outdoor pool of Cyprus. The second day we heard interesting speeches amongst others on the history of the Island with beautiful paintings. In the afternoon we had a lively Open Space session where several UWE working parties were formed.

In the evening, we had a dinner on the mountains in the historical Bellapais Abbey.

The whole Saturday was reserved for the General Assembly and in the evening, we had a gala dinner along the pool with a Folkloric group as surprise.

The last day was spent outside Kyrenia with a visit to the famous city of Famagusta and an interesting excavation.

Ferdiye, Güliden and the rest of the team, thank you very much for the great organisation and the kind hospitality.

### 2. New and enlarged UWE executive

I am very happy to announce that we have an executive of five members.

**Marie-José Jonczy**, French, Lawyer, during her business life she was active in the fight against inequality between men and women, especially doing legislation at Community level to assure in the Member States equal pay, equality of chance and any form of discrimination.

She is one of the UWE Vice-presidents with i.e. the EWL, European Women's Lobby in her portfolio.

**Vera John-Mikolajewki** from Germany. Radiologist, she served under the presidency of Dr. Joppe for about two years as head of a national working group on "University and Scientific Careers of Women" and is member of the directing board of the interdisciplinary Institute of Gender Research at the University of Duisburg-Essen.

The other UWE Vice-President with i.e. the CoE, the Council of Europe, as key interest point.

**Elsbeth von Navarini**, Switzerland, sociologist, has her own consultancy firm in site and location analysis. She did site and location consulting and other economic research in many countries. She is the new UWE treasurer.

**Gerda Leushuis**, Dutch, UWE Secretary, is nominated as official executive member till the next General Assembly.

### 3. UWE Working Parties

During the UWE 2008 event several working parties were formed.

a. **The UWE Think Tank**. Under the leadership of Eileen Focke, this group will create new ideas of how UWE can contribute to parity for Women in all fields within Europe. They will write proposals for the annual update for the UWE road map. The group is reporting to the UWE President.

**b. European Women's Lobby 50/50 Campaign** "No Modern European Democracy without Gender Equality ([www.5050democracy.eu](http://www.5050democracy.eu)).

This working party is lead by Renée Gérard. Each NFA in an EU Country hopefully will send her the name of a contact person, so that we can use our collective power to get as many women as possible elected during the election of the European Parliament in June 2009. This group is reporting to Marie-José Jonczy.

**c. CEDAW** and if and how it is incorporated in the legislation in our countries. Anne Nègre is the head of this working party that will start with a questionnaire for each country. She has already done this questionnaire in France. This group will report to Vera John.

**d. UWE Constitution and By-laws.** Griselda and her team will once again work on the revised Constitution and By-laws to bring them in line with the current legislation and the UWE phase of life.

This party reports to Marie-José Jonczy.

#### 4. Renée Gérard received the third Jans Gremmée Award

The beginning of her speech: "It is a **privilege** and **an honour** to receive this prestigious award. I feel it is also a **link**, a tie with our forerunners in UWE, these great ladies who struggled to bring official recognition for University women on the European scene.

*"A last note*

*When I left Korea, the UN appointed two men to take my post.*

*In AFFDU, I held the posts of CIR and CER*

*Now that I am quitting the Executive of UWE, we talk about two vice presidents*

*There is food for thought. Is it my Karma to be worth double or is it my karma to create so much work that it should be divided when I leave.....it."*

#### 5. UWE 2009 event in Vienna

From September 4 until 6 the Austrian Federation of University Women will host the UWE 2009 event in Vienna. The theme of the event will be:

"EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR LEADERSHIP AND DECISIONMAKING" "The Consequences of Project- and Flex-jobs on the Lives and Careers of Women"

#### 6. Upcoming Events and Special Days

10-12 October Annual Conference and Study Weekend *hosted by Queen's Women*

*Graduates in Queen's University Belfast during Queen's University's*

*Centenary year.* The conference will focus on the IFUW theme of Human

Rights. For more information: <http://www.ifuw.org/ireland/2008conf.htm>

17-19 October Friendship meeting of the German Speaking NFA's; Germany, Switzerland and Austria in Solothurn, Switzerland

Warm regards,

Willemijn van der Meer

President UWE/GEFUD

+31622508567

Fax: +31 847366707

[uwepresident@ifuw.org](mailto:uwepresident@ifuw.org)

[www.ifuw.org/uwe](http://www.ifuw.org/uwe)