



BPW International

Federation of Business and Professional Women

BPW E-NEWS

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President's Message

It is with a "Very Heavy Heart" that I advise of the passing of a "True Legend" that inspired generations of BPWs. [Past International President, Professor Beryl Nashar](#) served as president at all levels of the organisation including as International President from 1974-77. She will be remembered for her specialist contributions in petrology and mineralogy and she was an accomplished professional woman that achieved many firsts. Not only did Professor Nashar become a scientist in an era when very few women did so, but she reached the very top of her profession. A true visionary, we all feel richer for having known Professor Beryl Nashar.

I recently returned from a most successful congress organised by Dr Amany Asfour, President BPW Egypt in Cairo where we signed 5 Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) at a Signing Ceremony to open new BPW clubs. These are in: United Emirates (Sharjah); Morocco; Ethiopia and Libya with a further 6 expressions of interest to open BPW clubs in: India, Liberia, Uganda, Rwanda, Senegal and Namibia. Vice President Jill, Michelle Miller, Director, Membership Services and our Regional Coordinators are busy with communications and we look forward to the further growth of our BPW family!

At the end of this month I will travel to Athens, Greece for a BPW Athens and Hellenic Commission for UNESCO meeting prior to the Global Summit of Women (GSW) on 31 May - 2 June. We have a strong delegation attending this year's GSW and I look forward to connecting with all of our members. On the 6th of June I hope to see BPW UK members at the Commonwealth Economic Forum in London where BPW is working for women across the 54 Commonwealth countries in co-leading Commonwealth Business Women. I then travel to be with members of BPW France at their National Meeting on the 8-9 June. In the middle of the month, I will be attending the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), joining world leaders, along with thousands of participants from governments, the private sector, NGOs and other groups, that will come together to shape how we can reduce poverty, advance social equity and

ensure sustainability. I will be in Brazil (13-23 June) and am currently working with Regional Co-ordinator Graciela De Oto to finalise meetings with BPW Brazil, BPW Argentina and BPW Sao Paulo. At the end of the month my travels bring me to the Balkan region where I will be on a Goodwill tour to Balkan countries to further our South East Europe Leadership Centre initiative - a collaboration with the UNESCO Centre for Peace and Women in the Balkan Countries and BPW International to raise above political differences and to develop activities in favor of peace, better understanding and women's advancement and explore the opportunity of starting new clubs in the Mediterranean and Black Sea countries.

As Empowered Women Leading Business next month, we will be bringing the voice of women to business from the top, at all levels and throughout the communities of the world!

I look forward to reading about your experiences.

Freda Miriklis

BPW International President

From the Executive

Young BPW: Don't miss your chance to take advantage of the Early Bird registration special to attend the Young BPW International Program, register by May 31st! [To learn more](#)

Anastasia Victoria Safarian

Young BPW International Representative

BPW Regional News

BPW Asia Pacific: The Chair of the BPW International Mentoring Task Force is looking for a member from the Asia Pacific region. Please encourage your members to apply, working on a BPW International committee is a wonderful experience and I would like to see the region represented on all committees and task force groups to ensure Asia Pacific has a voice. [more](#)

Susan M. Jones Asia Pacific Coordinator for BPW International 2011-2014

BPW International PR & Communications: Calling for Expressions of Interest for PR Manager Position. [more](#)

BPW News

BPW International: Hommage to Professor Beryl Nashar who throughout her lifetime gave outstanding service to BPW by Marilyn Forsythe, President BPW Australia. [more](#)

BPW Belgium: Equal Pay Day on March 26, 2012. [more](#)

BPW Cyprus: Women's Empowerment towards Equality Conference. BPW International President Mrs. Freda Mirkliis gave an inspiring and most informative speech on "BPW Moving forward: The Business of Empowering Women". The conference which was organized by BPW Cyprus with the support of the European Parliament Office in Cyprus was a great success with an attendance of over 230 participants! The event had wide coverage from the media and has also created a lot of interest and recognition for BPW Cyprus. [more](#)

BPW Sofia, Bulgaria: On 30th March 2012 BPW Sofia associated to BPW International held, at the Bulgarian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), "Equal Pay Day" event. [more](#)

BPW International will attend the 101st Session of the International Labour Conference on youth employment crisis and Social Security, May 30 to 15 June 2012, Geneva, Switzerland. [more](#)

BPW in the Media

BPW Coffs Harbour, Australia : 40 years in Coffs Coats Advocate. [more](#)

Modern Africa: Emerging Force of the African and Arabian Women Entrepreneurs in Empresas & Negocios, Brazil. [more](#)

BPW Events Worldwide

XIV BPW European Congress in Sorrento, September 28-30. [Register on www.bpw-italy.org](http://www.bpw-italy.org)

Worldwide News

Afghanistan: Qandi Amaki made history when she became the first woman elected to the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce Industries organization. [Forbes](#)

Australia: Exploring the use of quotas for women in leadership roles [The Conversation](#)

India: Sushma Swaraj calls for more women in Parliament: the percentage of women representatives goes up from the present 11%. [Times of India](#)

Saudi Arabia: Saudi king sacks adviser critical of easing rules for women [USA TODAY](#)

USA: Study shows how broad pay disparities are between sexes [USA TODAY](#)

United Nations News

UN Women's Michelle Bachelet: [An Effective Advocate for the World's Women](#)
[Huffington Post](#)

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