

Zontians Leave Their Mark on the World



2012–2014 Biennium Issue Four May 2014

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Welcome from the Staff

Zonta International Headquarters, located in Oak Brook, Illinois, is a staff of 14 full-time employees that manages the day-to-day operations of Zonta International and supports the Board of Directors in implementing policies and programs to further the objectives of Zonta International.

Our friendly, capable staff is ready to assist you!

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If you are visiting the Chicago area, we invite you to visit Headquarters. Enjoy a tour of our offices and see artifacts from Zonta's 94-year history. To schedule a visit, please call 1.630.928.1400 or stop by our offices during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CST.



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On the cover: Morgan Nunn Martinez, who received an Amelia Earhart Fellowship from Zonta International (USA, 2011 and 2013), waves her Zonta flag from atop a glacier while hunting for meteorites in Antarctica.

Zonta International would like to recognize the Public Relations and Communications Committee for their contributions to increasing Zonta's credibility and visibility throughout the biennium.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lynn McKenzie

Our Zonta countries have increased this biennium by three, to 66 countries in total. Recently formed clubs have started in Nepal Lebanon and Uganda.



Zontians Leave Their Mark

The Biennium in Review

I have been so honoured to be your President for the past two years and I would love to share with you what we have achieved since mid-2012. I hope you will be encouraged as a result.

I came from being a Wellington club member of District 16 to being President. Having been involved with Zonta for 25 years, I truly value Zonta's philanthropic nature. Now a 94-year-old organisation, Zonta has a solid history of being a valuable NGO. Our influence globally and locally should not be underestimated. Before this biennium began, however, we pinpointed a few concerns.

We felt we were not sufficiently visible to the outside world. In order to keep receiving donations to add to our investments and help more women and girls, we would have to raise our profile.

We were also concerned, to continue to attract young members and stem the outflow of members, we needed to be a vital, alive, relevant organisation with a bigger online presence. We conducted both entry and exit surveys and found that the vast majority of you were initially attracted by being able to make a difference internationally and positively affect the well-being of others. Relocation was a big reason cited for leaving Zonta as well as changes in life circumstances and available time.

So, during the biennium we have directed effort into our website and increased our visibility on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. There are now greatly increased visits to our sites, with more messaging, photos and tweets than ever before, demonstrating to our friends and communities the great works of Zontians worldwide.

Talking membership, our Zonta countries have increased this biennium by three, to 66 countries in total. Clubs were formed in Nepal (December 2012), Lebanon (September 2013) and Uganda (January 2014).

As an organisation, we needed to take a look at our governance to make sure it was perfect for achieving our aims—so we could keep making a real difference in the lives of women around the globe. For our own structure and governance, we have suggested simpler membership criteria to encourage greater diversity. We have placed more emphasis on online Zonta activism and philanthropy for those who would prefer to go online to participate and gain information, and we even see e-Club activity increasing through the use of platforms like Skype, Zoom and other means.

Regarding the Zonta International Foundation—the funding base that allows us adequate partnering with the United Nations and its agencies such as UN Women, UNICEF and UNFPA—a goal of raising up more individual donors was set. This appears to be happening. At the end of March this year the Foundation had received US\$3.98 million, compared with US\$3.79 million at the same time during the previous biennium. We have formalized an investment committee and continue with the custom that donations made during one biennium are not spent until the next. Club giving is in good heart, with 90 percent of clubs donating to the Foundation during this two-year period. We still encourage your clubs to give one-third of all funds raised to the International Foundation so that our exciting life-changing project and education work can continue.

Clubs were also asked to increase their own visibility within Zonta by submitting and posting at least one story a year of their activities on Zonta.org through the 'Share Your Story' program. They—you—have done this. This aids us when considering the Service Recognition Awards. We have to know about good service to reward it! We asked all districts to make submissions for these awards, and out of 32 districts and regions, 30 have done so.



2012-2014 International Board of
Directors—Center: Zonta International
President Lynn McKenzie; Seated (left to right):
Vice President Sonja Hönig Schough and
President Elect Maria Jose Landeira
Oestergaard; Standing (left to right):
International Directors Maria Stefanova,
Joy Orlich, Gabriella Samara Paphitis,
Denise Quarles, Laura Peters, Elizabeth
Woodgate, and Anita Schnetzer-Spranger; not
pictured Treasurer/Secretary Kathleen Hughes.

(Right page) President Lynn McKenzie presented Her Excellency Mrs. Jeanette Kagame, First Lady of Rwanda, with a certificate and membership pin recognizing her as an International Honorary Member of Zonta. Every creative idea you have in your clubs can generate visibility for Zonta and, ultimately, new members and extra funding via new donors for our Foundation. We applaud you for that. For instance, this biennium, some clubs and members supported us with the Raise for Women Challenge, sponsored by the *Huffington Post*. The efforts earned Zonta second place and we received increased visibility as a result. It was yet another way we achieved our aim of increasing collaborative, horiZONTAI work.

This biennium, Zonta has become increasingly visible as an advocate for women's rights in the UN's Millennium Development Goals. We have been present and active, having key advocacy stakeholders present at events run by the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), UN and the Council of Europe. And this work has been extended by you into the district and club levels.

We have also recently welcomed to Zonta two new International Honorary Members who have advocacy at the heart of their lives: Dr. Marilyn Waring and Her Excellency Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, First Lady of Rwanda.

With the money recently raised by the Zonta International Foundation—a substantial US\$4.938 million—around US\$2 million has been directed to the Rwandan anti-HIV-transmission and Liberian anti-fistula programs, US\$800,000 into Edutainment for social change projects, US\$108,000 into the anti-violence campaign in rural Samoa, and US\$250,000 to the Safe Cities in Honduras program.

During the biennium I have been privileged to travel to two of our sites featured in the biennial projects: first to Rwanda and most recently, to Nigeria. In all of these places we really are in the business of empowering women, working alongside UNICEF and UN Women's UN Trust Fund, to improve health, safety, expectations of life, and educational levels. We are part-funding these United Nations agencies' programs, advocating alongside them, and this continues to be an effective strategy.

Last year, we gave a face and a voice to ourselves through our effective 'Zonta Says NO' campaign. We think you enjoyed the fact that the campaign wasn't prescriptive. Your clubs had fun choosing what to do, and from all accounts you really enjoyed the profile and the activism in pursuit of such a worthwhile and understandable cause. The PR and Communications Committee and Headquarters did a great job of producing excellent resources early, which were readily available to clubs along with public relations advice.

52. Monaco (1994)

53. Lithuania (1994)

58 Benin (2000) 59. Macedonia (2004)

64. Nepal (2012)

63. British Virgin Islands (2010)

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As well as standing firmly and publicly against gender-based violence, we have continually reinforced women's rights to top educational opportunities. The Amelia Earhart Fellowship program, an incredibly positive legacy having provided scholarships for 75 years, allows us to annually assist 35 women who are pursuing doctoral studies in aerospace-related sciences and aerospace-related engineering with a fellowship grant of US\$10,000 each. During this biennium, the goal was to encourage all districts to annually submit a nominee for the Young Women in Public Affairs and Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Award, and it is superb to be able to report all districts

Every creative idea you have in your clubs can generate visibility for Zonta and, ultimately, new members and extra funding via new donors for our Foundation. We applaud you for that.

In conclusion, we are achieving our goals. I would like to acknowledge the help all Zontians receive from our excellent Zonta leadership — and the help and goodwill I have personally received from leaders throughout Zonta, whether club or district leaders, Headquarters staff, Board or international committee members. We are all working to improve the lives of women and the expectations of girls. Remember data proves that where there are at least three women at the board room table, savvier high-level, economic decisions are made. Let us continue our focus on basic human rights, education and gender-balance, and never give up!

Thank you. I have found being your President to be a complete privilege and a wonderfully life-changing experience.

Lynn McKenzie Zonta International President Zonta International Foundation President

Post-2015 Development Agenda: The Path Forward from CSW58



Almost 15 years after they were established, three of the eight Millennium Development Goals have been met ahead of the 2015 deadline; however, a lot of work remains to be done. In March 2014, 30 Zontians attended the 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58) in New York to engage with other NGOs and Governments in conversations on the "challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for Women and Girls."

Leading up to CSW58, Zonta International joined long-time partner UN Women and other NGOs working to advance women's rights around the globe in calling for a stand-alone goal on gender equality in the post-2015 development agenda, in addition to gender equality being mainstreamed into all other goals. After two weeks of intense debate and eventual compromise, the CSW58 Agreed Con-

clusions of UN Member States reflected those recommendations.

"The Commission urges States to build on the lessons from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals as the new post-2015 development agenda is being shaped. It urges States to tackle critical remaining challenges through a transformative and comprehensive approach and calls for gender equality, the empowerment of women and human rights of women and girls to be reflected as a stand-alone goal and to be integrated through targets and indicators into all the goals of any new development framework."

Process to a new post-2015 development agenda

As the UN and key stakeholders began discussions about a new global development agenda beyond 2015, the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development

in 2012 initiated a process to develop a set of sustainable development goals. Key stakeholders agree that the two processes should be closely linked and ultimately converge into one post-2015 development agenda with sustainable development at its core.

The process to reach an agreement on a new global development agenda will be led by UN Member States with participation from external stakeholders, including civil society organizations like Zonta International, the private sector and businesses, academic institutions and scientists. The United Nations is facilitating this global conversation and supporting Member States with evidence-based inputs, analytical thinking and field experience. The United Nations General Assembly will ultimately decide on the final post-2015 development agenda.

How can Zonta influence the post-2015 development agenda?

Conversations about the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals are taking place every day through meetings at the United Nations, in national, regional and global consultations, and in online forums. "Women's equality and empowerment are at stake, and Zonta cannot afford to let this opportunity to make our voices heard go by. We must challenge the powers that be to admit once and for all that women deserve their equal rights," said Mary Ann Tarantula, Chairman of the International United Nations Committee.

Zonta International can take actions that will help ensure that women's equality and women's empowerment are an integral part of the post-2015 development

agenda. At the UN, Zonta's International United Nations Committee members, who regularly attend open meetings on the post-2015 agenda and meet with representatives of Member States, can advocate for inclusion of a stand-alone goal on gender equality. In Europe, the Council of Europe Committee can influence the process through the Council of Europe and European Union strategies. Zonta International will also need to work with its UN partners in New York, especially UN Women, while Zonta districts and/or clubs may be able to engage with UN Women national committees in other parts of the world.

With information provided by the United Nations, Council of Europe and Advocacy Committees, Zonta clubs and individual members can also reach out to their national representatives to urge

about the issues in order to present compelling arguments that are supported by the facts. To get started, every club and member should familiarize themselves with the CSW Agreed Conclusions, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and CEDAW updates, which are available online. Examine how all these agreements and protocols interrelate to move cultures, communities, and nations forward.

The 1995 Beijing Platform has not been met but can and should be a starting point to build upon. The basic rights that women enumerated 20 years ago are still needed, but new and emerging issues like food and water security, trafficking, climate change, resolution 1325 (on women, peace and security) and social media must also be addressed. Zonta's districts can emphasize the Beijing Platform for Action at district confer-

















Millennium Development Goals

"Women's equality and empowerment are at stake, and Zonta cannot afford to let this opportunity to make our voices heard go by. We must challenge the powers that be to admit once and for all that women deserve their equal rights"

-Mary Ann Tarantula, Chairman of the International United Nations Committee

them to support a post-2015 development agenda that includes a stand-alone goal on gender equality, specific goals pertaining to women's reproductive health and reproductive rights, violence against women and girls, and women's rights to land and credit, and measures to support education, health and a reduction in poverty among women. In addition to influencing their government's position on the post-2015 goals, Zontians can and should explore what actions their clubs or districts will take to promote women's equality and empowerment at the local or national level in alignment with CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action.

To be effective advocates at any level, members must first educate themselves

ences or other meetings, and examine how action might be taken locally. Members who are interested in attending CSW59 should study the document as well. Engaging younger generations in the post-2015 development agenda by looking carefully at the Platform's 12 areas of concern in the context of 21st Century issues may also help mobilize and motivate people to advocate for gender equality.

There are a wealth of resources on these topics available online, and the Advocacy, Council of Europe and UN Committees are also available to provide information and assist you as you seek to advocate on issues affecting women's equality and empowerment in the post-2015 development agenda.



Debunking the Acronyms

CSW, Beijing+20, MDGs, SDGs—what you should know about the 'alphabet soup' of acronyms for events and initiatives in the world of women's issues.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)

http://www.unwomen.org/csw

The Commission on the Status of Women was established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1946 and is the principal, global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. In 1996, ECOSOC expanded the Commission's mandate to lead the monitoring and review of the implementation of the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and to mainstream a gender perspective into United Nations activities.

Representatives of UN Member States, civil society organizations and UN entities meet at UN Headquarters for the Commission's annual two-week session, where they discuss progress and gaps in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Member states agree on further actions to accelerate progress and promote women's rights. These recommended actions take the form of agreed conclusions on the priority theme of each session of the CSW.

BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION

http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, is a global agenda for women's empowerment. It has 12 areas of concern: women and poverty, education and training of women, women and health, violence against women, women and armed conflict, women and the economy, women in power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, human rights of women, women and the media, women and the environment, and the girl child. The Platform for Action offers a defined policy framework and roadmap for achieving gender equality and women's rights and has stimulated governments, civil society and others to take steps to end inequality and discrimination.

According to its mission statement, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:

- Aims to remove all obstacles to women's active participation in all spheres of public and private life through a full and equal share in economic, social, cultural and political decision-making.
- Reaffirms that the human rights of women and the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights and seeks to promote and protect the full enjoyment of all human rights and the fundamental freedoms of all women throughout their life cycle.
- Emphasized that women share common concerns that can only be addressed by working together and in partnership with men towards the common goal of gender equality around the world.
- Respects and values the diversity of women's situations and conditions, and recognizes that some women face particular barriers to their empowerment.
- Requires immediate and concerted action by all to create a peaceful, just and human world based on human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recognizes that broad and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice.

Zonta is affiliated with the United Nations as an NGO in the following ways:

- General Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC);
- Consultative Status with the International Labour Organization (ILO);
- Affiliation with the Department of Public Information (DPI);
- Member of the Conference of NGOs (CONGO) which has a Consultative Relationship with the UN (Zonta participates in a number of CONGO Standing Committees in New York, Geneva and Vienna);
- Consultative Status with UNESCO (Paris);
- Accredited Representative (on application) to Working Group Sessions of the Human Rights Council (now Commission) via consultative status with ECOSOC (Geneva).

Requires a strong commitment on the part of governments, international organizations and institutions at all levels, adequate mobilization of resources at national and international levels, and a commitment to equal rights, equal responsibilities, equal opportunities, and equal participation of women and men in all national, regional and international bodies and policy-making processes.

BEIJING+20

The year 2015 marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action. ECOSOC has initiated Beijing+20, a review by the Commission on the Status of Women, to assess how far Member States and other stakeholders have come in implementing the commitments laid out in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Beijing+20 will include:

- Comprehensive national-level reviews to be undertaken by all Member States to assess the progress made and challenges encountered;
- Regional reviews to be undertaken by the five UN regional commissions;
- A review and appraisal at the global level to be undertaken by the CSW at its 59th session in March 2015 (earlier reviews were conducted by the CSW in 2005 and 2010).

"The Beijing+20 review is not only an opportunity to critically assess progress as well as remaining gaps and challenges," said Deputy Executive Director of UN Women Lakshmi Puri. "Even more importantly, we must turn it into a galvanizing process for implementing the norms, policies and measures identified in the Platform for Action, for reaffirming and strengthening political commitment, mobilizing all stakeholders, and making the investments needed at all levels to achieve gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment. UN-Women will be a strong and committed partner to Member States, the UN system and civil society as we work towards this common goal."

Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;

Achieve universal primary education;

Promote gender equality and empower women;

Reduce child mortality;

Improve maternal health;

Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases:

Ensure environmental sustainability; and

Develop a global partnership for development

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/mdgoverview/
In 2000, the Millennium Summit of the United Nations brought together 149 Heads of State and Government and high-ranking officials from more than 40 other countries to the 55th session of the UN General Assembly. The leaders that gathered at that summit committed their countries to a global development agenda with eight targets to be achieved by 2015. Those targets became known as the Millennium Development Goals or MDGs. The UN annually reports on the status of the MDGs. You can find reports at www.un.org/millenniumgoals.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.html

One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference, the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, was an agreement to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the existing Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post-2015 development agenda into one global development agenda beyond 2015 with sustainable development at its core.



During the 2012-2014 Biennium, the Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women Programs (ZISVAW) and Zonta's International Service Programs (ISP) protected, educated and empowered the voices of women and girls in need.

Global Partnership on Edutainment for Social Change: US\$802,124

Edutainment, or the use of entertainment and community mobilization to challenge underlying attitudes, beliefs and norms across a target population, was a new concept for many of Zonta's members this biennium. However, using edutainment as a means to raise awareness of gender-based violence in countries and communities where violence against women is widespread and accepted as a private matter is not a new concept. Large scale edutainment campaigns have been very successful in India (Breakthrough), Nicaragua (Puntos de Encuentro) and South Africa (Soul City). Additionally, this approach is used as part of prevention.

For example, drama is used to explain how fistula can be avoided as part of the Liberia Fistula Project.

Building off the lessons learned from these successful edutainment campaigns, Zonta International partnered with the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and Oxfam Novib this biennium to support pilot edutainment programs in Bangladesh and Nigeria and training and plans for edutainment campaigns in nine additional countries in Africa and Asia. Through the use of radio, television and mobile messaging, these campaigns target a number of issues, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, gender inequality, early marriage, women's rights and political participation, rape and female genital mutilation.

In April 2014, Zonta International President Lynn McKenzie had the opportunity to visit the edutainment project in Nigeria, where domestic violence is a major issue. There, with the support of Zonta International and the UN Trust Fund, local NGO Girls' Power Initiative, is utilizing a popular South African TV series produced by Edutainment's Soul City in Nigeria. The series addresses a range of health and development issues, including genderbased violence and gender inequality with the goal of empowering individuals and communities to make healthy choices. The series is scheduled to run weekly for three months beginning in May. A talk show, which was filmed during President Lynn's visit, will air ahead of the series to discuss the issues of domestic violence raised in each episode with a wider audience, and another talk show will air at the conclusion of the series. Pictured left, women from Leader of the Market Association in Benin City, Nigeria, watch the pilot of the TV Soul City Series.

With Zonta's support, the project in Nigeria will raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence and start to challenge cultural norms and attitudes, which will, over time, result in a reduction in the incidence of domestic violence. It will provoke the community to discuss domestic violence, an issue that is seen as private and something to be dealt with within the family and therefore tolerated as a result. It will also help build the capacity of local NGOs working in this space to develop and support future campaigns.

For more information about President Lynn's visit to Nigeria and the edutainment campaigns in the other countries supported by this project, please visit www.zonta.org.

Safe Cities for Women in Honduras: US\$250,000

From 2008 to 2012, Zonta International supported "Safe Cities for Women in Guatemala City, Guatemala and San Salvador, El Salvador." The project was part of a larger, regional Safe Cities program, which is connected to the global "Safe and Sustainable Cities for All" initiative,



a joint program of UN Women and UNI-CEF. This biennium, Zonta International is directed its support to UN Women for Safe Cities for Women in Honduras, a country where the rate of violence against women increased more than 20 percent from 2010 to 2011.

To assess the scope of violence against women in the project's two target neighborhoods of Nueva Suyapa and Villanueva, The Center for Research, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation to Victims of Torture and Their Families (CPTRT) launched a study, the results of which are being used to enhance the advocacy capabilities of women in these neighborhoods as they formulate security agendas to present to local and national authorities that focus on violence prevention rather than weapons or increased militarization.

In September 2013, UN Women and CPTRT officially launched Safe City—Tegucigalpa. At the launch, women expressed their interest and commitment to the initiative, with some women choosing to enhance their capacities to become women's rights defenders, others choosing to lead self-help groups to support women survivors of violence, and still others wanting to increase their economic independence by starting urban orchards and participating in community savings banks.

To assist those women who expressed an interest in becoming women's rights defenders, the project conducted trainings for women leaders in the communities. These trainings assisted women in deepening their knowledge about gender inequality and gender roles, national and international legislation on human security and women's rights, and mechanisms, procedures, and techniques to provide quality legal and psychological support to women survivors of violence.

Most recently, women of 13 neighborhoods in Tegucigalpa with high incidence of violence have been working on the expansion of the Citizen Security Agenda of Women in the Central District, a key advocacy instrument. The document initially reflected the interests, problems and proposals of women in Nueva Suyapa and Villanueva, but more and more women have now joined the initiative. In 2013, candidates running for Mayor engaged to implement the agenda's proposals. This year, contacts with them have been remade to follow up their commitments, since some of the ex-candidates are now part of the city council.

The Safe Cities for Women in Honduras program will continue through March 2015. Please watch for future updates on the Zonta International website.

Empowering Women in Rural Samoa to Combat Violence: US\$109,876

Violence against women is a pervasive problem in rural Samoa, and more than 50 percent of women who experience violence there see it as normal or not serious and do not report it. These victims of violence lack support networks, access



Empowering Women in Rural Samoa to Combat Violence

The project is also addressing the need for resources and services for women survivors of violence. To that end, the project conducted 30 livelihood workshops for more than 1,000 women to develop their livelihood skills and increase their self-esteem.

to resources and services, and opportunities to earn income if they do choose to leave. As a result, many women feel obligated to stay with their perpetrators. To assist the women in overcoming these challenges, Zonta International partnered with the UN Trust Fund and the Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) to address the issue of violence against women within the traditional village structure in rural Samoa.

At the village level, the project engaged and empowered village representatives in rural areas with the skills, strategies and resources to proactively take steps to prevent violence against women in their communities. These trained leaders have demonstrated an increased willingness to pursue justice for women survivors of violence, and many leaders have made public statements via television and radio on the need to end violence within their communities.

On a national level, SVSG established a strong partnership with the police to support women threatened by violence and assist them in navigating the formal justice system. More than 65,000 "Police in your Community" brochures were distributed by village representatives to raise awareness in the community of how to report incidences of violence. Of the 117 domestic violence cases lodged by SVSG, all were referred to the Police. Eighty-three cases progressed through the courts with 37 guilty verdicts with sentences ranging from 12 months to 17 years.

SVSG also played a leading role in the development of landmark legislation to address gender-based violence. In April 2013, the Samoan Parliament passed the Crimes Act 2013, incorporating many of the recommendations put forth by SVSG, including harsher penalties for sexual crimes against children. Another major legislative achievement was the passage of the Family Safety Act in July 2013, which SVSG strongly advocated for. The Act provides greater protection from domestic violence and detailed procedures for handling of domestic violence cases. SVSG is now part of a working

group that is spearheading the establishment of a new Family Court, which will allow SVSG to apply for protection orders for women and children at risk of violence.

The project is also addressing the need for resources and services for women survivors of violence. To that end, the project conducted 30 livelihood workshops for more than 1,000 women to develop their livelihood skills and increase their self-esteem.

SVSG secured the commitment of the Samoan Government to sustain these efforts beyond the duration of the project by securing financial support and/or resources from the Law and Justice Secthe necessary skills and training to make a living for themselves and their families. Fistula is a highly preventable condition resulting in a hole in the vagina or rectum caused by labor that is prolonged—often for days—without treatment. Because the fistula leaves women leaking urine or feces, or both, it typically results in social isolation, depression and deepening poverty. Left untreated, fistula can lead to chronic medical problems.

The Liberia Fistula Project experienced some changes in the number and types of fistula cases being referred to the project for treatment. Although the project team originally set a target of 175 women



tor, Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Attorney General's Office, Ministry of Police, and Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration.

Liberia Fistula Project: US\$1 million

Zonta International has contributed US\$1.9 million to the Liberia Fistula Project since 2008 with a record US\$1 million donated this biennium alone. Over the last six years, more than 1,000 women have received surgical treatment as a result of Zonta's support, and 246 fistula survivors have been rehabilitated and reintegrated into their communities, empowered with

to be surgically treated in 2013, only 60 women underwent surgical treatment last year. The lower number of patients being referred for surgery is predominantly due to a large decrease in newly occurring cases of fistula, which illustrates that the project's prevention strategies are working. However, this decrease does not mean that fistula is no longer an issue in Liberia. While the project has effectively addressed new and recent cases within close proximity to the treatment centers, women continue to suffer in hard-toreach rural areas, where women have no knowledge that treatment exists. To reach these women, UNFPA will reframe its outreach strategies to identify and transport

women who are not directly in reach of public infrastructure or health tracking.

Of the women that were referred to the project, more than 91 percent of the patients were girls, ages 15 to 19, and 90 percent of the cases presented were recurrent or inoperable cases. The inoperable cases were not surgically treated but were counselled on how to live with the condition and were encouraged to take advantage of a new livelihood program specifically for women with inoperable fistulae, which began in January 2014.

Zonta International Vice President Sonja Hönig Schough visited Liberia in February 2014 to see the progress the project has made. During her visit, she learned that although all patients are informed about the rehabilitation program and encouraged to enroll, many of the women require more than one surgery, which can make the treatment process quite lengthy. As a result, many women choose to forego the four to six month rehabilitation program to return home to their families and communities immediately after surgery.

To learn more about the successes of the Liberia Fistula Project and Vice President Sonja's visit to Liberia earlier this year, please visit www.zonta.org.

Elimination of New Pediatric HIV Infection and Prevention and Response to Survivors of Domestic and Gender Based Violence in Rwanda: US\$1 million

Zonta International has partnered with the U.S. Fund for UNICEF to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) since 2008 and gender-based violence since 2010. This biennium, Zonta committed a record US\$1 million to the project, bringing its total support to US\$2.1 million. This project is a true success story. With the support of Zonta International and the U.S. Fund for UNICEF, Rwanda is on track to achieve its first HIV-free generation in 2015, setting a 2 percent transmission target, lower than the 5 percent UN benchmark. Already they have reached their target and are at 1.6 percent.



What does Zonta's continued support mean for the women and children of Rwanda?

It means more than 90 percent of all health facilities in Rwanda now provide new methods of rapid HIV testing. Zonta International's support enabled UNICEF to produce training manuals and job aids for healthcare workers on the finger prick method, which has translated into increased testing capacity, resulting in more pregnant women and new mothers accessing the testing and the resulting care they need.

Zonta International's contributions to the U.S. Fund for UNICEF also support two health centers in Rwanda, Mayangiro and Matyazo, to improve the quality of PMTCT services available for pregnant women in need of antiretroviral therapy. An additional gift from District 20 went to building a new maternity wing at the Matyazo Health Center, which has proven to increase access and provide better quality of care for maternal and newborn health. Last year, 160 women delivered in the new facility, and an additional 397 women received antenatal care and HIV testing. All 16 babies born to HIV-positive mothers tested negative for HIV at 18

months. At Mayangiro, Zonta's support provided nutritional support, follow-up of HIV-exposed infants, home-based care and promotion of adherence to treatment for 36 HIV-positive mothers and their families.

In addition to HIV prevention and care, Zonta International also supported the piloting of the One Stop Center (OSC) model to address violence in Rwanda, where unfortunately most of the victims are women and children. A network of awareness forums to support victims was established in Kigali, and the 24-hour hotline continues to receive calls at both the Kacyiru Police Hospital OSC and Gihyndwe OSC. Between July and December 2013, the Kacyiru OSC received and treated 890 victims of violence, including 518 children and 372 adults (338 females and 34 males). The Gihundwe OSC received and treated 175 victims, including 87 children and 88 adults (79 females and 9 males). The success of the hotlines supported by Zonta has led the government of Rwanda to support an expansion of the One Stop Centers with the goal of establishing 40 new OSCs in province and district hospitals this year.

Advocating Equality:

Meet Zonta's Newest International Honorary Members

Zonta welcomed two amazing women as International Honorary Members in the 2012-2014 biennium: **Dr. Marilyn Waring** and **Her Excellency Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, First Lady of Rwanda**. Dr. Waring is currently a Professor of Public Policy at the Institute of Public Policy at Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand and one of Zonta's newest International Honorary Members. Mrs. Kagame has also made a significant impact on women through her work as First Lady and The Imbuto Foundation.

Dr. Waring, who served as a member of Parliament and is credited with the founding of feminist economics, shares her take on gender equality. Mrs. Kagame, who devotes much of her time to philanthropic work, particularly with widows and orphans of the Rwanda genocide and the global HIV/AIDS epidemic, provides an introduction and details about her work to advance the status of women.



What is your dream for the future regarding gender equality?

That gender equality is recognized as a celebration of difference and not of any desire to be like men. That gender-based differences in experience, language and analysis are recognized as critical for the health of our planet. That those women who 'make it' are not then 'in a man's world,' because we no longer live in a world where the ideology and practice are dominated by patriarchal ways of knowing and being.

What are the biggest barriers to obtaining this dream?

Men who think that women want to be like them are a significant barrier to gender equality. This group thinks women are after their power, little realizing that 'power over', or dominance, is not what we seek at all. We seek 'power with' and 'power to' and those of us with access and privilege use this as 'power for' those without access and voice.

What would you like the MDGs to look like post-2015 and Beijing +20?

Reproductive freedom would be a key goal for all women. Violence against women would be a core concern and resourced in terms of women's strategies. The focus on diseases would be a family or household focus, especially in terms of the unpaid careers of those with HIV and NCDs, most of whom are women and children.

The number of women in parliaments would be acknowledged as a very poor indicator of freedom. While we need women in parliament, this number is a shallow, lowest common denominator and a limited proxy for anything except a measurement some men find important.

What advice do you have for young girls on how they can make their mark in achieving gender equality?

Research broadly and assemble your evidence—then speak truth to power. Those of us who do not fear a knock at the door have no excuses not to do this. Let me quote the wonderful New Zealand writer Katherine Mansfield: "Risk! Risk anything! Care no more for the opinion of others, for those voices. Do the hardest thing on earth for you. Act for yourself. Face the truth."

What role can Zonta take in achieving gender equality?

Become great listeners to those who do not have the access Zontians have—listen and act as the bridge to power for the silenced.





Her Excellency Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, First Lady of Rwanda

What is your dream for the future regarding gender equality?

Women who strive toward the highest levels of personal and professional accomplishment often astonish us. I look forward to a time when women's equal participation in the highest offices of politics, leadership positions of large businesses, renowned academic or scientific institutions are no longer a pleasant surprise or a subject of legal requirements. In Rwanda we have seen how the positive contributions women have made, to different aspects of society have won them the confidence of Rwandan men and society at large, who now view women as true partners in nation building.

What are the biggest barriers to obtaining this dream?

Beyond the particulars of every society, I will say that in many instances, the remnants of patriarchal cultures continue to be the biggest barriers to gender equality. In Rwanda, we learned that without deliberate efforts, it would be an uphill task to reverse centuries of gender imbalance. Twenty years ago, our society was purely patriarchal, with little regard for women. They were considered movable assets, with the primary purpose of bearing children. Today, our government has established a favorable environment for women to thrive. Gender-related laws have set minimum requirements for women's representation in different offices, granted equal rights to women and men with regard to property inheritance, made gender-based violence a legally punishable crime and promoted gender parity in schools.

What would you like the MDGs to look like post-2015 and Beijing +20?

The integration of early childhood development and a greater focus on needs of adolescent girls would be a substantial contribution to a post-2015 development agenda. Early childhood development impacts the future lives of children and consequently, of societies. With respect to gender equality, the main issues of women's economic empowerment and access to productive resources should be given more weight and bold targets.

What advice do you have for young girls on how they can make their mark in achieving gender equality?

I like to remind young Rwandan girls, that as nation, we have not spared any efforts to create the right conditions for them to blossom. We will continue to do so, but it is now upon them to step up and embrace the opportunities that have been laid forth for them. I encourage them to excel in school, to clearly identify their life goals and determinedly work towards achieving them, and to cultivate a sense of self-worth and dignity, the Agaciro, as we call it in Rwanda.

What role can Zonta take in achieving gender equality?

Through its wide presence and programs addressing gender barriers in education, health and economic sectors, Zonta is already firmly active on many fronts of the fight for gender equality. Zonta should continue to leverage the path it is embarked on, by expanding its advocacy role on women issues and recognizing female pioneers in all fields. By continuing to raise the profile of *all things women*, Zonta will effectively push the envelope in gender equality for the benefit of women the world over.

Breaking Barriers

ZONTA'S EDUCATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

A continuing source of pride for the organization, Zonta's educational award recipients are changing the world. Though they are from different corners of the world and work in varying fields, these three inspirational women have one thing in common: a strong connection to Zonta International.



Sheila Tobing

2012 Amelia Earhart Fellow - Indonesia

How has the Amelia Earhart Fellowship helped you reach your goals?

Far beyond the financial benefits, the Amelia Earhart Fellowship has provided me access to a network of brilliant women who are working in Aerospace Engineering and other related fields. Having been awarded the Amelia Earhart Fellowship has opened many job and networking/collaboration opportunities around the world. I had gotten a job at a reputable university even before my thesis submission.

Can you describe your current field of research in laymen's terms?

I am performing a numerical/computational analysis of two insects, bumblebees and hoverflies, for possible applications in the design and development of Micro Air Vehicles (small unmanned aircraft). Bumblebees are good in carrying heavy load with such small wings, while hoverflies are excellent in hover flight; both are desirable characteristics for Micro Aerial Vehicle (MAV) applications. I seek to understand how these two insects fly and why they are so good at it by modeling the insect and its surrounding fluid (air) computationally, and then analyze the flow phenomena around the insect's wings and body.

What real world implications does your research have?

My research provides information to designers/engineers in designing and developing MAV.

What personal accomplishments are you most proud of and why?

I am proud to be one of the very few Indonesians to receive the Amelia Earhart Fellowship, and to be the first among my extended family to obtain a doctorate degree.

What advice do you have for young women considering pursuing an education and career in a Science Technology Engineering and the STEM field?

Passion is the main driving force. Put passion first, and success will follow.

What is your dream for gender equality?

In every profession, performance must be the main indicator in measuring/reviewing someone's achievements. The double standard of salary/benefits/privileges between men and women must disappear from all professions/fields.

continued ...

Simina Roata

2013 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Recipient District 30—Romania

How has the JMK Scholarship helped you reach your goals?

To begin, without the financial support provided by Zonta, I acknowledge that I would not have been able to pursue my studies at King's College in the UK and fulfill my dream of studying a master's degree in one of the financial hubs of the world and foster my career development. When receiving the scholarship, I realized the honour and immense satisfaction to be among such successful young ladies from all over the world. Thus, I daresay that one of my objectives, meeting inspiring people worldwide, was reached when joining this amazing network. And now, thinking that I could represent a source of inspiration for my peers, it's even more rewarding: to be inspired is great, to inspire is incredible. True words of wisdom!

What personal accomplishment(s) are you most proud of and why?

Personally, I feel an immense satisfaction when coming to my small Romanian hometown for holidays and being able to talk to my neighbours' young daughters about what I managed to accomplish and encourage them. To make them realize that it is not odd to pursue your career dreams, to read a lot and do whatever fulfils you instead of graduating from high school and following what others are doing. I am not saying it is wrong to start a family early, but I do notice a lot of young females, even among my relatives, that get married, have kids, become stay-at-home supportive mothers and wives not out of their choice, but simply following what is allegedly deemed as social norm. Even if they did not trust me when I left for Bucharest and thought I would come back and eventually follow the traditional path, now I feel a great pride, not necessarily because of my volunteering accomplishments, but because they can see it is truly possible to do anything as long as you are ambitious and perseverant.

What are your future career plans?

In the mid-term I intend to join the investments world in London, whether it is portfolio analysis, mergers and acquisitions or hedging, aiming to focus on clients in the clean technology industry in order to foster development in the green industry. In the long run, I do wish to return to Romania, after building a thriving career profile, with the required expertise to have a positive impact in the Romanian society at a governmental level.

Who do you most admire, personally and professionally, and why?

It is a very difficult choice to make, as I have my deepest gratitude and admiration for my mother—a genuinely simple, caring woman who does not hold a university degree but has provided me with a tremendous moral support and shaped my beliefs about equality. Furthermore, I look up to Jacqueline Novogratz, the founder of Acumen fund, a remarkable social entrepreneur who takes a business-like approach to improving the lives of the poor. She represents a superb combination of a market-minded individual with a socially aware and responsible, caring woman. I wish more people would know more about her; I wish among the top 10 most powerful women in the world would also be ladies that do not reach out to the world due to their status, but also due to their lifechanging, groundbreaking input.

What is your dream for gender equality?

I am looking forward, in the next decades, to seeing gender inequality only as a social phenomenon of the past studied by students, left in the pages of a book. I aspire to gender equality as a state of normality—not only accepted but truly followed.



Efua Kumea Asibon

2012 Young Women in Public Affairs Awardee District 18—Ghana

What does the YWPA Award mean for you personally?

The YWPA Award is a great enabler for young girls who are willing to launch their projects or further expand them. Winning the award gave me the start-up funding for Dislabelled (www.dislabelled.tumblr.com). Dislabelled is an initiative aimed at reforming Special Education in Ghana. It also focuses on educating the Ghanaian community on the causes of disabilities and how to support those with disabilities. The award has encouraged me to chase my dreams and to help others chase theirs too.

When and why did you first become interested in public service and civic causes?

I first became interested in public service and civic causes when I was about 10 years old. My sister was involved in a lot of public health service projects. During the summer evenings, I used to listen to the stories she and her friends told of their adventures and the fulfillment they gained. Their chronicles made me actively aware that there were people I could use my skills and talents to help. They sparked a strong desire in me to give whatever I had boundlessly and to be engaged in public and civic causes.

Who do you most admire and why?

I admire my mother the most (I don't think she knows though). My mother is always knowledge thirsty and she is forever willing to learn. That just motivates me all the time. I also admire how she is able to juggle her numerous responsibilities so well. Regardless of how busy she is, she is always able to make time for people and she loves people too.

What are your future educational and career goals?

I am hoping to go to law school and go into human rights activism and advocacy. None of these goals are crystallized. I am still going through the process of self-discovery. Sometimes it gets scary because I constantly go through those periods where my dreams have this weather-like character. One thing I know for sure is that I will be doing something public/civic service-oriented. Also, I am certain that everything will unfold beautifully. It is only a matter of time.

What is your dream for gender equality?

Males and females should be given equal access, equal rights and equal opportunities to succeed. More females need to be empowered and given opportunities to rub shoulders with their male counterparts. We should also not forget that in certain aspects of our lives, males are the victims of gender inequality. Thus, our quest for gender equality should be focused on both parties. Our efforts should be skewed more towards females because they are the main victims of gender inequality.















ZONTASNO

If you ask a Zontian to name the top three highlights of the biennium, there's a which began in November 2012 to raise awareness of — and take actions to end violence against women and girls, was met with levels of enthusiasm and participation beyond what anyone could have anticipated.

Since its start a year and a half ago, Zonta Says NO has become so much more than a simple awareness campaign. It has grown to become a rallying cry that allows clubs to raise their voices locally while being part of a larger, global effort. The campaign has drawn a great deal of attention internally and externally. Most importantly, it has energized Zontians, obliterating the goal of 40 percent club participation with an impressive 60 percent participation.









Here are some highlights:

- 1. The Zonta Club of Santa Clarita
 (District 9) created a tower of more
 than 150 pairs of women's shoes at a
 local shopping mall. Each shoe represented a victim of domestic violence
 and red shoes represented a woman
 who died as the result of that violence.
- 2. In Hong Kong, District 17 took Zonta Says NO on the road, taking over the side of a bus and marching through town to spread the word about Zonta Says NO.
- 3. In District 18, the Zonta Club of lbadan II rented space on the back of a public bus to educate people in the community about different forms of violence against women.

- 4. The Zonta Club of Kungälv (District 21) set up shop in a local supermarket and sold Zonta Says NO merchandise to shoppers.
- **5.** The Zonta Club Münster (District 29) led a public demonstration, donning masks to represent the victims of violence who are often silenced.
- 6. The Zonta Club of Bonn (District 29) spread the message via the sky, releasing orange balloons throughout the city.
- 7. District 30, Area 3, organized "Hands Off Women" advocacy action rugby matches at a prison, demonstrating to inmates how to channel aggression in healthy ways.
- 8. The Zonta Club of Lagos 1 (District 18) organized an Interactive Forum: SAY NO! TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: CALL TO ACTION in collaboration with Women Arise for Change Initiative. Participants included members of the media, diplomatic corps, public sectors, academia, creative industries, civil society organizations and development partners.
- In District 16, the Zonta Club of Wellington marched through the city to spread the word about Zonta Says NO.



Zonta International Foundation Update

Thanks to the Zonta International Foundation, we are able to fund the International Service Programs (ISP) and Zonta International Strategies to End Violence Against Women (ZISVAW) projects, as well as the educational awards that are the heart of our mission of advancing the status of women worldwide. The more we give, the more we can help women who are less fortunate than us.

At the beginning of the biennium, we challenged members to exceed the Foundation's fundraising goal of US\$4.9 million. Another goal was to increase the number of individual and club gifts to the Foundation.

We are making great strides toward meeting these goals. We are tracking **5** percent ahead of where we were exactly two years ago in March 2012, with total contributions of **US\$3.9 million** between 1 June 2012-31 March 2014. There has also been a tremendous increase in individual and club donations to the Foundation; as of 31 March, 2014, there were **1,062 more individual donors, an increase of 21.74 percent**, and **58 more club donors, an increase of 5.65 percent**, than there were at 31 March 2012.

Thank you to the individuals and clubs who made a donation to the Zonta International Foundation this biennium. Your donations mean a world where women and girls are safe, healthy, educated, empowered and full of opportunities. We as Zontians working with others can make it happen.





It was inspiring to see Zontians band together for the Raise for Women Challenge, organized by the *Huffington Post*, in June 2013. Through the Raise for Women Challenge, the Zonta International Foundation raised upwards of US\$128,000 from more than 600 donors. Zonta also placed second in the fundraising competition and received a prize of US\$20,000 from The Skoll Foundation as well as a \$US6,000 bonus grant from Half the Sky Movement. The

fundraising success also paved the way for an ongoing relationship with the Huffington Post, and we look forward to increasing our visibility through this partnership.



Jane Adams **Convention Committee**



Nominating Committee



Karin Nordmeyer Council of Europe Committee



Jaqueline Beaudry **Development Committee**



Janine Gould Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Committee

Beth Minear-Rex ZI & ZIF Investment Committee

Val Sarah Centennial Anniversary



Ragna Karlsdóttir Membership Committee

Sharon Langenbeck **Amelia Earhart Committee**

Lori Robinson

Z and Golden Z

Club Committee



Margit Webjörn **Bylaws and Resolutions** Committee



United Nations Committee



Susanne von Bassewitz PR and Communications Committee



Ute Scholz Young Women in Public **Affairs Committee**



Souella Cumming **ZI Finance** Committee



Kay Meyer **Advocacy Committee**

Biennium in Review: International Committee Highlights

The following are notable accomplishments of the 2012-2014 Zonta International and Zonta International Foundation committees. In addition to listed committee members, please note that President Lynn McKenzie and Presiden-Elect Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard are ex officio members of each committee with the exception of the Nominating Committee.



Pia Sjostrand **ZIF Finance Committee**

Pictured: International Committee Chairmen

NOMINATING

Chairman: Past International President

(PIP) Dianne Curtis

Vice Chairman: Annette Binder Committee: Dilruba Ahmed, Regula Dannecker, Anne McMurtrie, A.O. Omotayo Morgan, Virma Vergel de Dios and Kathleen Yip

The Nominating Committee worked as a solid unit. They presented a slate in which every nominee was evaluated beyond the minimum requirements of the Bylaws and the candidates were selected by secret ballot. Reports were issued on time to members and included in the pre-convention club presidents' mailing.

BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS

Chairman: PIP Margit Webjörn Committee: Renee Coppock, Beryl McMillan, Vivienne Shen

The Bylaws and Resolutions Committee followed Zonta Bylaws and guidelines in the International Manual, to accomplish many advances. The committee advised Zonta leaders on the interpretation of ZI Governing Documents, thereby promoting good governance and time efficiency. They considered all proposed Bylaws amendments and Resolutions, and proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure. Following this, a report was submitted to the ZI Board, including the committee's recommendations on proposals. This final report was distributed with the pre-convention club presidents' mailing.

FINANCE

Chairman: Souella Cumming
Vice Chairman: Pia Sjostrand
Committee: Gabriele Bruebach, Ellen
Karo and Treasurer/Secretary Kathleen
Hughes and Vice President Sonja
Hönig Schough

The Finance Committee is proud to confirm that the ZI audits of the past two years were granted an 'unqualified' letter of opinion, which is the best possible outcome for this process in the US. Overall, finances were managed so that the 2012-

2014 Biennium is planned to conclude in a positive position for Zonta. Working collaboratively, the leadership team produced a balanced budget for 2014-2016 with no dues increase. The committee also focused on risk mitigation, creating a risk management plan. It also reviewed policies and manuals to ensure Zonta is optimally working under its US registered 501(c)(4) tax status.

ADVOCACY

Chairman: Kay Meyer

Committee: Jenny Brash, Graciela Duce, Sigrid Duden, Segilola Guobadia, Diane Lindsley, Yoshiko Misumi, Pauline Ng and Terttu Utriainen

The Advocacy Committee was vigilant about elevating visibility. Within the first half of the biennium, they nearly doubled advocacy information on district websites, distributed quarterly newsletters and created numerous resource tools. They worked on strategic issues by regularly communicating with other ZI committees and key advocacy stakeholders (e.g., UN, CoE). They focused on being a leading advocate on status of women issues per CEDAW Articles 1-16 as evidence in district committee chairmen reports. And, they encouraged careful collaboration with like minded organizations through an updated ZI Affiliation Policy.

AMELIA EARHART (AE) FELLOWSHIP

Chairman: Sharon Langenbeck Vice Chairman: Holly Anderson Committee: Monika Auweter-Kurtz, Candace Kohl and Susan Riding

The AE Committee honored 75 years of the program in 2013. They captured history and produced the 75th anniversary presentation and video, which were delivered at several district conferences. The first AE Fellows Alumnae Reunion was held with 21 Fellows in attendance. The Committee also told their story in new ways with a presence at CSW58 and one of the world's largest youth STEM festivals. But the greatest highlight was the

Zonta International Committees



To celebrate Amelia Earhart month, District 9 held a luncheon that was attended by 19 Amelia Earhart Fellows in the Southern California area.

total number of applications received for 2014:168, which far exceeds the number of applicants in many years. They also achieved their goal of having five former AE Fellows join Zonta this biennium.

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Chairman: PIP Val Sarah Vice Chairman: Ronda Walker

Archivist: Bodil Ulate

Committee: Nickie Bonner. Vivian Codv.

Amy Lai, Omotayo Morgan and

Eva Nielsen

Consultants: Joan Hull, Beryl McMillan

and Dame Claudia Orange

Focused on a centennial date in 2019, the highlight for the committee was drafting the Zonta International Archives, Art and Artifacts and Library Collection Policy that will provide ongoing assessment and maintenance of archival materials with indications to responsibility and compliance with accepted standards. Through the support of the governors, there was an appointment of an historian/ archivist to every district. The committee made significant headway sorting the ZI archives, updating the asset register of artifacts, planning a program of preservation, engaging in discussions with a publisher/potential authors and considered opportunities for the centennial celebrations and exhibitions.

CONVENTION 2014

Chairman: Jane Adams Vice Chairman: Alice Chick PR Chairman: Vladia Jurcova

Registration Chairman: Nancy Thompson

Consultant: PIP Ruth Walker

Note: expanded committee members listed in Convention program.

As you read this, the committee is pleased to have completed the planning for an effective, inspiring, informational and fun convention. In their words, "We expect members attending convention to enjoy the camaraderie of Zonta friends while enjoying productive sessions." Workshops, a trade show and themed luncheons were added to bring another dimension, providing useful information to members and severing as opportunities to exchange ideas. Additionally, the goal of rapid turnaround in answering the questions coming from members and clubs within 24 to 48 hours was met with efficiency.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Chairman: Karin Nordmeyer Vice Chairman: Irma Ertman Committee: Frieda Demey and

Gabriele Raab

The Council of Europe (CoE) Committee is promoting the groundbreaking "Council of Europe Convention No. 210 (Istanbul Convention) on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence" in several activities such as lectures and speeches to inform Zontians as well as the public, as well as inspiring Zontians to urge their governments to ratify the Convention. They are also participating in special international forums, organized by the Council of Europe, to give visibility to Zonta's mission in that context. They have also been informing Zontians about GRETA (the monitoring group of Experts of the Council of Europe

20 $\overline{12}$ $\overline{14}$

antitrafficking convention—which is to date ratified and in force by 40 member states of the CoE). GRETA visits states and reports openly on the situation of the implementation. Governments fully accept the procedure.

JANE M KLAUSMAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP (JMK)

Chairman: Janine Gould

Committee: Akiko Kinoshita, Regina

Smit and Janis Wood

The JMK Committee carried on the commitment to overcome gender barriers in business through scholarships for women. In the Committee's words, "The highlight of the biennium was the wonderful women who participated in the award and the recipients of Zonta International JMK Scholarships. They are our future leaders!" The Committee worked hard to raise awareness and ensure a fair process. Almost 100 percent of districts participated, and more districts participated in this biennium than in recent times.

Zonta International Committees

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Ragna Karlsdóttir Committee: Kerry Dixon,

Anne-Marie French-Cudjoe, Heddy Tangen Steffensen, Tokue Ueda and Jane Wilson O'Brien

A focus of this biennium was listening to members opinions and understanding needs. With the support from district and club leaders, momentum was achieved. Insights were gained through the Membership Dialogues survey, and entry and exit surveys with a retention survey released towards the end of the biennium. The Build a Better Club webinar series was implemented to support leaders with training and information. When compared to previous biennia, there was a decrease in resignations and fewer clubs disbanded. In growth, 30 clubs chartered, one club reinstated, three new countries chartered, the first e-clubs launched, and a steady increase in membership in the last five months of the biennium, and at this report, numbers were on track to equal June 2012 levels.

PR & COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman: Susanne von Bassewitz Committee: Megan Ashcroft, Christine Gerberding, Tsemaye Hambraeus, Tuija Heikkila, Therese Marie and Mary Ann Rubis

Zonta maintained high visibility this biennium. The leading accomplishment was conceiving and building the Zonta Says NO campaign. The campaign idea ignited the enthusiasm necessary to fuel the creativity in clubs. Governors' reports and club feedback confirmed the usefulness of the tools and advice. Numerous media reports provided evidence that Zonta successfully raised its voice. A considerable percentage of clubs directed attention to facts and promising strategies to prevent violence against women, and Zonta succeeded in addressing the issue through channels like the Huffington Post. Additionally, Zonta increased its presence and conversations in the digital space.

SERVICE

Chairman: Elba Pereyra de Gomensoro Vice Chairman: Ma. Imelda "Dandy"

Gomez

Committee: Deborah Arney, Alison Martin and Kalpana Shanmugham

The Committee has been impressed and inspired by the diversity of club and district service projects that focused on education, health issues, income generating activities, advocacy actions, promotion of women's rights, support for laws that protect women against domestic violence and initiatives to assist and rehabilitate victims of violence. They encouraged districts and clubs to feature those good works through the Zonta Service Recognition Awards and shared them through many avenues of communication. Additionally, the committee worked to ensure that clubs had milestone reports on the Zonta International Service and ZISVAW projects throughout the biennium.



A record 30 Zontians attended this year's Commission on the Status of Women, planned with help from members of the United Nations Committee.

UNITED NATIONS

Chairman: Mary Ann Tarantula
NY Committee: Staci Alziebler-Perkins,
Patricia Latona and Susan Westerberg
Vice Chairman Geneva: Simone Ovart
Geneva Committee: Regula Dannecker
Vice Chairman Paris: Janine N'Diaye
Paris Committee: Jacqueline Besnard
and Monique Vernet

Vice Chairman Vienna: Eva-Maria Kodek-Werba

Vienna Committee: Ingeborg Geyer, Eveline Hejlek, Monika Klenovec and Nadja Kvasnicka-Fleischer

We are at a turning point in the history of the women's movement for full equity and Zontians know we must grasp the opportunity. This biennium, we have forged greater visibility for Zonta in New York, Geneva, Paris and Vienna. Various committee members took important positions in the NGO CSW committees, including our UN Chairman taking on the role of Treasurer of NGO CSW/New York in the planning and implementation of plans for CSW58 (where Zonta sponsored three parallel events) and the Geneva Vice Chairman becoming Chair of the organizing committee for the Geneva NGO Forum, Beijing+20. The Committee also worked with the Advocacy Committee, educating Zontians on topics like the Millennium Development Goals, CEDAW, Beijing+20 and more.

YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS (YWPA) AWARD

Chairman: Ute Scholz

Vice Chairman: Stella Bentsi-Enchill

Committee: Lily Chien and

Monica Uddenfeldt

The YWPA Award exists to honor young women who demonstrate leadership skills and commitment to public service and civic causes as well as to promote gender equality in public and political spaces. To encourage greater participation, the Committee refreshed the look of the promotional material for the program. In 2013, there was 100 percent participation by districts, ensuring that the program would have a positive effect throughout the Zonta world.

Z CLUBS AND GOLDEN Z CLUBS

Chairman: Lori Robinson
Vice Chairman: Maxelyn Tudman
Committee: Sally Rankin, Lourdes
Almeda Sese and Chandrika Witeraine

Zonta's student clubs are thriving and at the close of March 2014, there were a record 196 Z clubs and 78 Golden Z clubs. Students participated in the Zonta Says NO campaign and other service projects. Efforts were made by ZI to increase visibility to these activities by featuring them on Zonta.org, Facebook and in the Z-letter. Students were invited to participate in the 'Refresh' contest, an opportunity to refresh the identity of the student clubs, and to attend the first Golden Z Club Convention, running parallel to the ZI Convention. To close the biennium, club sponsors have been surveyed to measure the level of student member engagement and gain more knowledge on core interests and activities.

 $\frac{20}{12}$ $\frac{20}{20}$ $\frac{14}{14}$

ZIF FINANCE

Chairman: Pia Sjostrand

Committee: Souella Cumming, Gabriele Bruebach, Ellen Karo and Treasurer/ Secretary Kathleen Hughes and Vice President Sonja Hönig Schough

Similar to the Zonta Finance Committee, the Foundation Finance Committee is proud to confirm that the audits of the past two years were granted an 'unqualified' letter of opinion, which is the best possible outcome for this process in the US. During the biennium, the committee reviewed the financial development on an ongoing basis, paying close attention to trends in giving. They supported the preparation of next biennium's budget and recommended funding and fundraising goals to the Zonta International Board. It also reviewed policies and manuals to ensure the Foundation is optimally working under its US registered 501(c)(3) charity tax status.

Zonta International Foundation Committees

INVESTMENT

Chairman: Beth Minear-Rex Committee: Pirjo Bjork, PIP Ruth Walker and Vice President Sonja Hönig Schough and Treasurer/Secretary Kathleen Hughes

The Investment Committee is pleased to report that through February 2014, the return on long-term investment funds has been 21.76 percent (or 11.34 percent annualized) and that the medium and long-term invested funds have returned 13.8 percent annually over the past five years. For the biennium through February 2014 investment has been income US\$1,330,459 (including brokerage fees and gains and losses. As of March 2014, the committee was able to allocate US\$1.5 million from the short-term portfolio to the long-term portfolio. Additionally, this committee has also reviewed the investment policies and strategies to ensure that the Foundation's funds are managed with due diligence and integrity.

DEVELOPMENT

Chairman: Jackie Beaudry
Vice Chairman: Karen Macier
Committee: Lois Bauccio,
Beryl McMillan, Ana Requesens,
Naomi Reschke, Dietland Stuerz

and Dorothy Suther

As of March 2014, overall contributions tracked ahead of last biennium by 5 percent, which was made possible by the tremendous efforts of the foundation ambassadors, district leaders and Zontians. During the biennium, various fundraising initiatives included campaigns like Rose Day, Raise for Women Challenge, Amelia Earhart month, think horiZONTAlly and the Rose 5k Fun Walk/Run to be held at Convention. Donors were honored by the distribution of hundreds of ZIF pins and the publication of two annual reports. Counsel was provided to clubs who set up their own local foundations and work was done to maintain positive status with organizations like Guidestar and Charity Navigator. Exploratory work was carried out on a special centennial anniversary program, which will carry into the next biennium.





2012–2014 Membership by the Numbers

As of May 2014

- \blacksquare 1,197 clubs
- 29,856 members
- 30 new clubs
- 1 reinstated club
- 3 countries added to our club presence
- 3 e-clubs formed
- 4 membership webinars held
- nearly 500 exit surveys completed
- 160 new member surveys completed

Hearing You

Our membership is the heart of our organization. We know that our credibility and visibility helps us attract new members, and when it comes to retaining them, we are always asking ourselves: How can we improve the member experience for Zontians around the world? To find this out, we have employed a number of new initiatives this biennium and the feedback we have received has provided fantastic insights into what works, what doesn't and how we can continue to grow our membership.

Membership Dialogues

To start, we wanted to hear from our membership. Anecdotally, members often tell us that we need to look more closely at our membership eligibility and the recruitment process. To put these suggestions into action, we invited members to share their thoughts on invitation to membership, membership requirements, classifications and young professionals.

The feedback we received sparked a great deal of conversation. As a result, we followed up with a second Membership Dialogues survey, which invited Zontians to dive a bit deeper into some of the trends from the first survey. Based on feedback from the two surveys, our Board was able to recommend a number of proposed adjustments to our bylaws for consideration at convention.

Entry, Exit and Retention Surveys

To take our exploration one step further, in January 2014, we approached all former Zontians who resigned their membership in the past year to investigate any common trends or patterns. Results from this survey were shared with governors so they could take it into consideration when helping clubs make decisions. This survey will be issued on a regular basis as a touch point with former Zontians and a source of continuing insight.

Similarly, we have begun surveying new members to learn why they joined Zonta and what they hope to gain from their membership so we can align our services with their expectations. A retention survey will also be issued to Zontians throughout the course of their membership to keep up with how we are delivering on our membership promises.

New Member Initiatives

To make the issue of membership fun and to encourage Zontians to recruit new members, we set up a "New Membership Opportunity" campaign for new and charter members in April and May of 2014. Additionally the Build a Better Club webinar series offered a special focus on holding membership recruitment events. We continue to urge Zontians to introduce a friend or colleague to Zonta and through the member incentive program we will continue to recognize individuals who have recruited two or more members in this biennium.



Growing Leaders: Zonta Student Clubs Grow in Biennium

Great things are happening with Z and Golden Z clubs around the world. Between May 2012 and February 2014, the number of Z clubs has increased from 173 clubs to 195 clubs and the number of Golden Z clubs has increased from 31 clubs to 75 clubs—that is a remarkable 140 percent increase! We are so proud of this accomplishment, and we hope to see continued increase in membership. We also have our first Golden Z club in District 27 with the chartering of the Les Louisettes Golden Z Club, France, sponsored by the Zonta Club of Metz.



"As part of the Z Club of Laguna, Philippines, I entered a world where women are seen as co-existent of men. Z club is a platform that helps raise awareness of women's rights. In that place, women spoke and the world listened. Being part of the Z Club of Laguna, I learn how to envision change and turn that vision into action"



Highlights from Z and Golden Z Clubs Around the World

-Jamela Dabuet, Vice President, Z Club of Laguna, Philippines

The Z Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka supplies water filters to schools

The Z Club of Colombo and their parent club the Zonta Club of Colombo II in Sri Lanka are working to combat chronic kidney disease caused by contaminated water by supplying water filters to schools in North-Central and Eastern provinces in Sri Lanka. The water filter machine can purify up to 250 liters of water which can cater to 250 children. Members recently collected funds for one water filter, and hope to raise more.



Batavia High Z Club, NY, USA taps into Ugandan Water Project by walking five miles

Members of the Batavia High Z Club, NY, USA participated in a five-mile walk to sponsor the Ugandan Water Project, pushing them past their goal of US\$3,500, the price of one water tower. One water tower is a stable source of drinking water for about 400 people. Participants walked carrying water containers to experience what children in Uganda do every day to bring clean water to their families.

Representatives of the water plan to visit Uganda this summer and help erect the clubs' tower. There will be a plaque there to recognize the Batavia High Z Club for their efforts and donations.

Hong Kong Student Union (HKSU), Hong Kong, Golden Z Club launch Gender Equality Awareness campaign

Members of the Golden Z Club, HKSU, Hong Kong launched a five-day Gender Equality Awareness campaign, encouraging people to take part in mini activities planned by the members of the Golden Z club. Members encouraged people to take photos with personalized messages and creative slogans inspiring others to say NO to gender based violence; cast their vote on a controversial issue; and watch the film "Girl Rising".

Beak the Silface NIDLENCE OF NO MORE

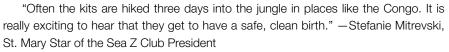
Avonside Girls High School Z Club, New Zealand donates funds to children's home

Members of the Avonside Girls High School Z Club in New Zealand donate a majority of their yearly funds to the Cholmondeley Children's Home, a home that provides short-term and emergency care for children with the aim of alleviating immediate family pressures. In 2013, the Avonside Girls High School Z Club raised US\$2,366.



St. Mary Star of the Sea Z Club, Australia, members assemble birthing kits

St. Mary Star of the Sea Z Club members in Wollongong, Australia assembled birthing kits that were sent overseas to help assist safe births for mothers and babies in developing countries. The kits included a plastic sheet, soap, gloves, gauze, cord ties, clamps and a sterile scalpel blade.







"The Z Club of Colombo Says NO to violence against women. We say NO because violence against women is a cowardly, demeaning and criminal act. The determination to end violence against women is in our hands and our hearts. We have the power to end violence against women and girls!" —Z Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Z and Golden Z Clubs embrace Zonta Says NO



Z club of St. Mary Star of the Sea College, Australia



Z club of ACLC Pampanga, Philippines

IN MEMORIAM: Remembering Zonta's Leaders Who Passed This Biennium



Harriette Yeckel Zonta International President 1972-1974

Harriette Yeckel was introduced to Zonta as the recipient of a scholarship from the Zonta Club of Denver and was subsequently invited to join Zonta, an organization she served for more than 50 years. The theme of her presidency was "My Home is the World: My Family is Mankind" and in this spirit, she initiated such global projects as Open House and Operation Friendship.

As International President, Harriette was responsible for tremendous growth in the organization. She gave up her professional career as a child and family psychologist to travel all over the world, speaking to other organizations and meeting Zontians everywhere she went. She proposed that 25 percent of Zonta's funds be directed to international service projects, a substantial increase from the traditional 6 to 7 percent. By the end of her biennium, more than US\$260,000 had been raised for international service, compared to only US\$50,000 in 1972. She also initiated the first Zontasupported UNICEF project to provide mobile medical units in Ghana, a project that continued and thrived in subsequent biennia.

Past International President (PIP) Harriette Yeckel will be remembered for her clarity of vision, her dedication to people in all walks of life, her humor, honesty and unstoppable energy.



Dr. Shirley Schneider Zonta International President 1980-1982

"Share with Others and Serve with Love" was the biennium theme for Dr. Shirley Schneider, who was a member of the Zonta Club of Springfield, Ohio, USA for 50 years.

During Shirley's biennium, Zonta raised US \$500,000 to support UNICEF's Colombia Health Project in South America, contributing to the opening of 10 health care centers. In November 1980, she attended the Region II Conference in Bogota, Colombia—the first Conference ever for this Region, whose governments do not always see eye-to-eye, and was excited to witness Zontians working together, noting, "though governments cannot cooperate, Zontians can."

As committed as she was to the work in South America, Shirley did not neglect work in other regions of the world, and was instrumental in raising US\$30,000 to replace vehicles for a previous Zonta health project in Ghana, West Africa. Shirley also attended the final session of the committee in charge of the International Year of the Child at the United Nations in New York, and realized that its impact would be felt for many years to come. In stressing her belief that the family unit is a vital part of life, she asked, "If we as women are not concerned, who will be?"

PIP Shirley's contributions to Zonta are immeasurable and will be remembered forever.



Rosaland Crandell Zonta International Foundation President 1985-1988

Rosaland Crandell, the first President of the Zonta International Foundation and a longstanding member of the Zonta Club of Evanston, practiced civil law for 23 years. She also was appointed to serve as a judge from 1982 to 1998. Building off her legal experience, Rosaland, a member of the Zonta Club of Evanston, used her knowledge of the judicial system to assist in the establishment of the Zonta International Foundation. She was a key figure in legally preparing Zonta for the establishment of the Foundation before serving as its first Foundation president in 1985.

As President of the Zonta International Foundation Board, Rosaland paved the way for the Foundation to serve as the instrument by which Zonta receives funds for international service projects around the world. While she found numerous ways to impact Zonta International, Rosaland will be remembered for her abilities to uphold the attributes desired for members of the organization.

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN WORLDWIDE



To ensure credit for your contribution, please complete and return this document, along with your payment, according to the instructions for the payment option you select.

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This contribution is made by (please of	check one):			
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Please note: If there is more than one donor	, please attach a list of donors and	d the amount contributed by ea	ach, or sub	mit a separate form for each donor.
2. Designation				
CURRENT BIENNIUM FUNDS				
Education Programs				
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Fund				US\$
Jane M. Klausman Women In Business Sch	olarship Fund			US\$
Young Women in Public Affairs Award Fund				US\$
Unrestricted				
Rose Fund (Funds are applied where needed mo	ost)			US\$
Projects				
International Service Fund				US\$
ZISVAW Fund (Zonta International Strategies to	End Violence Against Women)			US\$
LONG-TERM FUNDS				
Endowment Fund				US\$
Amelia Earhart Fellowship Endowment Fund	ť			US\$
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OVER

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State	Province	Postal Code	Country	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



62nd Zonta International Convention 27 June to 1 July 2014

THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE 2014 CONVENTION IN ORLANDO!

Even if you are unable to attend Convention in Orlando, you can still stay up to date.

Stay connected Convention virtually at orlando2014.zonta.org. You will find:

- Daily newsletters with all the day's proceedings
- Photos and video clips from the event
- Social media engagement, and more

#zonta2014

Welcome to the Zonta International family!

The Zonta International Community extends a warm welcome to our new Zonta clubs and Z and Golden Z clubs, chartered since October 2013.

ZONTA CLUBS

9 new clubs

- Zonta Club of the Villages, Florida, District 11, Area 4
- Zonta Club of La Trinidad, Philippines, District 17, Area 4
- Zonta Club of Quezon Province, Philippines, District 17, Area 5
- Zonta Club of Kampala,Uganda, District 18, Area 1
- Zonta Club of Mt. Barker, Australia, D-istrict 23, Area 2
- Zonta Club of Hunter Newcastle, Australia, District 24, Area 3
- Zonta Club of Diksmuide,
 Belgium, District 27, Area 5
- Zonta Club of Chierese RLM, Italy, District 30, Area 3
- Zonta Club of Daejeon VII, South Korea, District 32, Area 3

Z CLUBS

13 new Z clubs

- Z Club of Ogdensburg Area,NY, USA District 2, Area 4
- Western Reserve Academy, Hudson, OH, USA, District 5, Area 3
- Team Z, Beloit, WI, USA District 6, Area 2
- Lansing Everett Z Club, MI, USA, District 15, Area 2
- Southfield High School, Troy,
 MI, USA, District 15, Area 4
- Z Club of J.E. Mondejar, Philippines, District 17, Area 3
- Division of Deped Makati,Philippines, District 17, Area 5
- Fort Bonifacio High School, Philippines, District 17, Area 5
- Lead City Z Club, Nigeria, District 18, Area 3
- Seed of Life College Z Club, Nigeria, District 18, Area 3
- Mackay Northern Beaches Z Club, Australia, District 22, Area 5
- Mackellar Z Club, Australia, District 24, Area 1
- Z Club of Tainan Charming, Republic of China (Taiwan), District 31, Area 2

GOLDEN Z CLUBS

8 new Golden Z clubs

- Golden Z Club McMaster
 University, Hamilton, ON, Canada,
 District 4, Area 2
- Truckee Meadows Com. College, Reno, NV, USA, District 9, Area 2
- Northwood University, Midland, MI, USA, District 15, Area 4
- Xavier International College,
 Philippines, District 17, Area 1
- Golden Z Club of J.E. Mondejar, Philippines, District 17, Area 3
- Golden Z Club of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, District 25, Area 1
- Les Louisettes Golden Z Club, France, District 27, Area 2
- Golden Z Club of Hamburg Hanse, Germany, District 27, Area 3





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Zonta International Official Group



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