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Distinguished Professor Genevieve Bell AO
ANU School of Cybernetics
Australian National University
ACT 2601

Dear Professor Bell,

I am writing to congratulate you on your recent appointment as 13th Vice Chancellor and President of ANU and to acquaint you with the work of Graduate Women-NSW.

GW-NSW has worked for over 125 years to empower women through education. We view Education as essential for Empowering Women; Reducing Poverty Improving Health; Understanding Human Rights; and, Maintaining Human Security and Building Peace. We work to achieve this chiefly through a range of scholarships across all levels of education, through donations and sponsorships to education bodies both in Australia and overseas, and through advocacy for the advancement of women and girls in education. We aim to

- Promote equitable educational opportunities and lifelong learning
- Improve the status and well-being of women and girls
- Encourage women and girls to be active leaders and decision-makers in public and private life.
- Inspire and support women graduates to put their education and professional training to the service of the local, national and international community.

Two recent initiatives relate directly to you at ANU:

For scholarships our Canberra branch has set up three awards at ANU. The Australian National University Foundation has confirmed that the prizes established as the following titles will be awarded for 2023:

- Graduate Women NSW (Canberra Branch) Prize in Chemistry
- Graduate Women NSW (Canberra Branch) Prize in Climate Science, and
- Graduate Women NSW (Canberra Branch) Prize in Computing and Engineering.

For Advocacy our Education Convenor, Dr Hilary Yerbury, has made several submissions most recently to the Australian Universities Accord. She focused specifically on a key challenge for us **real equity for women**, especially those from vulnerable groups. And **Pathways programs** which allow women without formal school leaving qualifications to develop skills and knowledge.

We wish you well and are proud and excited to have a woman of your outstanding calibre in such a significant position in the Australian Education system.

Tricia Blombery
President Graduate Women - NSW