

Cyprus International University - Women Empowerment Center

NEWSLETTER 2022 OVERVIEW



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A YEAR IN REVIEW: OUR WINS AND MILESTONES



The journey to empower and impact women's lives has undoubtedly been difficult; however, despite these obstacles, we have celebrated numerous successes over the last two years. We'd like to take a moment to recognize and celebrate everyone involved's hard work and dedication. We have a lot to be proud of, and even more to look forward to in the coming years.

We ran four campaigns in 2022 and reached out to over 500 students on campus. We also had about 50 scholarship recipients with outstanding academic records. This semester, we are excited to welcome more young women.

We hope that this issue of our newsletter reminds you of the positive impact we have had in our community. We look forward to continuing our collaboration in the coming years.

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and dedication to our mission.

Newsletter Highlights

A YEAR IN REVIEW:
OUR WINS AND
MILESTONES

WEC WOMEN IN STEM
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Our progress with the women in STEM project



Women make up to 28% of the workforce in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The gender gaps are particularly high in some of the fastest-growing sectors, in view of this our STEM project continues to initiate different strategies and outreach plans around the world. We have successfully admitted over 25 women into STEM, who are currently accelerating academically, with over 8 women having a CGPA of above 3.50.

CIU WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CENTER MADE MY DREAM COME TRUE

By Delight T chirume

In secondary school, I developed an interest in technology. Without prior knowledge, I would analyze and repair electric appliances and electronic gadgets at home. I was always eager to try new things in the STEM field. With each successful experimental repair, I was overjoyed. I knew then that I wanted to work in the field of technology.

My favorite secondary school subject was computer science. My success in computer science landed me a spot on the Zimbabwe National Team for the First Global Challenge, which hosts annual international robotics competitions. We were a group of three female students and two male students.

Our primary goal as a STEM team was to encourage female enrollment in male-dominated STEM studies as part of our preparation for the 2020 First Global Competition in Dubai. In a simulation environment, we worked as a team. Our task was to design a robot that would remove pollutants from rivers and the sea.

I finished my A Levels at the end of 2020 and was looking forward to beginning university. Due to financial constraints, I had to postpone my university enrollment. During that time, I studied Chinese and obtained an elementary level certificate. I kept learning programming languages.

I also got a job as an office assistant for an electronic sales company that primarily sells laptop computers and mobile phones. The job taught me some office skills and fueled my interest in STEM.

I was fortunate to receive sponsorship from the Women Empowerment Centre to study for a degree in Computer Engineering at Cyprus International University beginning in May 2022. Moving to another country brought up a range of emotions. I was excited about the possibility of studying my dream course, but I was also concerned about being away from my home and family.



2022/2023 FALL SEMESTER TOP STEM SCHOLARSHIP BENEFICIARIES



SETAREH KOOHI

COURSE: COMPUTER ENGINEERING

CGPA: 4.0

COUNTRY: IRAN

"Learning computer engineering has been a lifelong dream of mine, and I am grateful for the opportunity provided by the Women Empowerment Center."



ELIANE MUVINGA KAVIRA

COURSE: COMPUTER ENGINEERING

CGPA: 3.87

COUNTRY: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

WEC scholarship exams recipient

"I come from a community where there aren't many women engineers; it's a male-dominated field." I want to be one of the women who changes this narrative, and the Women Empowerment Center has provided me with the opportunity to do so."



FARIHA NUR

COURSE: COMPUTER ENGINEERING

CGPA: 3.67

COUNTRY: BANGLADESH

"I appreciate the Women's Empowerment Center for helping me succeed academically in a field traditionally dominated by men."

2022/2023 FALL SEMESTER TOP WEC FRONT-RUNNERS

FARIHA QURAISHI



COURSE: BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CGPA: 3.80

COUNTRY: AFGHANISTAN

I have always had a strong interest in business, and given that I come from a culture in which it is taboo for girls to receive an education, I consider myself quite fortunate to be in a position where I can pursue that interest.

ISHAKU YUSUF FATE



COURSE: NURSING SCIENCE

CGPA: 3.51

COUNTRY: NIGERIA

**Sponsored by the Gombe State Women
Affairs, Nigeria**

My goal has always been to become a nurse so that I may assist others in regaining their health. The Women's Empowerment Center has provided me with a wonderful chance, and I couldn't be more thrilled about it.

AMNA RAHAT



COURSE: Molecular Biology and Genetics

CGPA: 3.67 graduated

COUNTRY: PAKISTAN

"Coming to Cyprus International University to study Molecular Biology and Genetics was both an exciting new adventure and a struggle that, at first, appeared to be incredibly difficult. Despite this, I am delighted to report that I was able to triumph over the challenges that accompanied the education of something so novel and challenging. It is my goal that I will have completed the requirements for my master's degree in biotechnology within the next two years.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS



Feminine Hygiene: Going Green with Dr. Merhnoush Radmehr

Being green with feminine hygiene is a priority on our campus, which operates under a sustainable model. Not only is this a key component of the health and safety of our own bodies, but it is also an important aspect of the health and safety of our world. Using greener methods of feminine hygiene is an important step toward decreasing our impact on the environment and creating greener overall lifestyle choices.

We educated and sensitized young ladies about the need of utilizing sustainable hygiene products within a 7-day campaign, skincare session, and practical interaction sessions with medical professionals at the university thanks to the go green feminine hygiene on-campus campaign that we ran.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

In October of 2022, the WEC held a campaign to raise awareness of breast cancer. We publicized the significance of self-examination and the identification of warning signs and symptoms of breast cancer.

In addition, by signing our heart wall, we demonstrated our support for women who had already received a diagnosis.



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

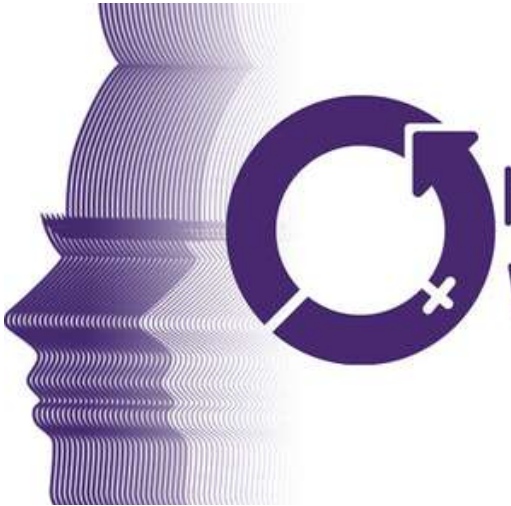
Every year, beginning on November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and concluding on December 10, Human Rights Day, is the 16 Days of Action against Gender-Based Violence.

We promoted this activity with a campus-wide silent march. We also conducted social media advocacy and culminated the campaign with a conference on campus and outside that addressed issues of gender-based violence and students' rights and privileges.



◆ UPCOMING EVENTS ◆

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 8TH MARCH



International Women's Day is a celebration of women that takes place all over the world, and our center honors this day by holding a series of events to commemorate it. These events include a spoken word performance, an online exhibition, a booth campaign, and a workshop.

THE WEC BOOK CLUB

We recognize the challenges faced by those whose first language is not English. As a result, we formed a book club to provide our students with an opportunity to read and discuss books while interacting in English.

Young women of the WEC Book Club come together to discuss books they've read and discuss topics of interest to them. The group meets on a regular basis to debate a book, engage in intellectual discourse, and learn from and grow with one another.

The group encourages its members to learn more about literature, enhance their English skills, and connect with others who share their interests in order to foster a more cosmopolitan community.



◆ UPCOMING EVENTS ◆

THE WEC SAFE SPACE



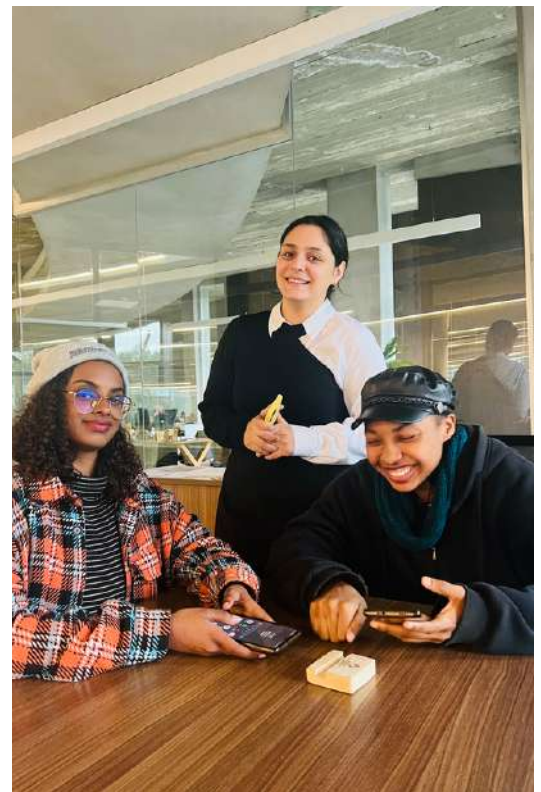
The WEC safe space is a welcoming community where women can share their experiences and perspectives without fear of reprisal.

The safety and comfort of the women who frequent here are paramount, and they are encouraged to take good care of their emotional, mental, and physical health.

THE WEC TECH PROJECT

CIU International women center's WEC DigiHub teaches young women (aged 18 to 35) in-demand digital skills so that they can stand out in today's competitive job market.

Our goal is to equip one thousand young women with the technological know-how and business know-how they need to make a life doing what they love.



GALLERY

