

**SUMMARY OF VGIF ANNUAL MEETING  
SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2005  
PRESIDENT BARBARA CAREY, PRESIDING**

The annual Meeting of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, Inc., was held on Saturday, April 16, 2005 at the offices of the organization, 3 West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York. Presiding was the President, Barbara Carey, who called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

The Secretary, Claire Stein, read the proxy report - total proxies received were 144. There were 41 members present. **A quorum was declared present.**

The minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting were read, corrected and approved by the Reading Committee consisting of Mary Gibson, Camille Macdonald Polski and Hope S. Miller. The Reading Committee for the 2005 Annual Meeting will be Pat Oberg and Betty Bayless.

President Barbara Carey announced the resignation of Wes Cady as parliamentarian and the disbanding of the Bina Roy Committee, which had completed its work at the IFUW Triennial Conference in Perth in August 2004. The following appointments were announced:

Claire Stein, Parliamentarian; Fay Weber, Membership Convener; Leslie Wright, UN Representative Convener and main representative as of January 2006;

First Term Committee members - Judy Whitlock and Sophie Godward to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Florine Swanson to the Development Committee; Terry Oudraad to the Finance and Investment Committee; Dorothy Abeywickrama and Winy Clemens to the Global Network Committee; Rita Skillman, Marta Groisman, Leslie Wright and Rebecca Fairchild to the Membership Committee; Eileen Menton, Marian Kilson, Claire Stein, Camille Macdonald Polski and Dana Wright to the Project Grants Committee; Marta Groisman to Public Relations Committee; Heather and Jayme Cousins to the Website Committee.

Second Term Committee members - Anita Miller to Development Committee; Joan Chatfield (Convener), Michiko Nakamura and Pat Oberg to Global Network Committee; Beatrice Ramsay to Membership Committee.

The following Special Appointments were reconfirmed: Katherine Eaton, Archival Historian; Nancy Vang, Financial Advisor; Kathleen Magill, Theater Evening; Jack Young, Marketing Advisor; Louise McLeod, Media and Communications; Marilyn Zook, Offsite Domestic Storage; Mary Ellen Kane, Offsite Foreign Storage; Heather and Jayme Cousins, Website Backup. Public Relations, Project Grants Previewers and UN Representatives were made Special Committees.

The President announced that the report on the Long Range Plan will be given at the Mid-Year meeting in October 2005.

The internship program with Barnard College is going well with two interns working with the Executive Secretary, Fay Kittelson.

Treasurer Eileen Menton and Finance and Investment Convener Karen McKee reported that VGIF is on target to meet its goal in contributions this year and that Project Grant allocations were given out in record amounts.

Constitution and Bylaws Convener Kathleen Magill presented the proposed bylaws amendments for adoption that were presented to the membership in the Call to Annual Meeting. All three bylaws amendments were adopted, with one amendment, which was to increase the proposed number of members on the Project Grants Committee from no more than twelve (12) to no more than fourteen (14) members.

Development Convener Maggie Ford reported on the Pilot Project, which solicited 112 people, with a 25% response rate. Donors were thanked as their contributions came in, but they will receive a second thank you letting them know that their contributions really did make a difference. Pictures of the children in the project will also be sent. The Development Committee is considering another regional endowment. The preference has been expressed for South America.

Joan Chatfield, Global Network Convener, reported the Committee had reviewed the analysis of the project grants awards by number, location and extent. It attempted to develop, from the material available, a sense of the distribution of the projects around the world in anticipation of a similar analysis of membership of VGIF. The report showed some imbalance in awards disfavoring Central and South America.

Membership Convener, Jeanie Page Randall, announced that VGIF has a total membership of 1290. She asked for volunteers to help with the VGIF sessions being planned for the AAUW Convention to be held in June 2005 in Washington, DC.

Mary Gibson, Nominating Committee Convener, presented that Committee's report. The President asked for any nominations from the floor. Being none, the following people were elected:

For First Term on Board of Directors - Lois Abromitis, Evelyn Cumming, Susannah Pinckney Dhamdhere, Dr. Marta Groisman, Marian Hamilton, Margery Sullivan, Florine Swanson.

For Second Term on Board of Directors - Maggie Ford, Kathleen Magill, Hope S. Miller, Virginia Palmer, Pat Oberg. For Third Term on Board of Directors - Barbara Carey.

Officers elected were: Barbara Carey, President; Virginia Palmer, First Vice President; Hope S. Miller, Third Vice President; Mary Ellen Kane, Fourth Vice President; Secretary, Catherine Moore; Treasurer, Margery Sullivan.

The 2005 - 2006 Nominating Committee: Convener Anita Miller; members are Kappy Eaton, Karen McKee, Marian Nauta, Susan Russell, and alternate Fay Weber.

Carrie Gallagher Sussman, Convener of the Project Grants Committee, announced that the Board

of Directors had approved the awarding of twenty-seven (27) project grants for 2005. One grant for the IFUW Triennial Conference in 2007 was also given.

Connection Committee Convener, Jackie Shahzadi, reported that the Committee is developing a list of resources, other than VGIF, for projects that have been received by the Project Grants Committee, but were not accepted for awards from VGIF. Jackie moved that VGIF allocate \$200 per year to join the Council of Organizations of the United Nations Association of the USA. Motion was adopted.

Crisis Management Convener, Louise McLeod, reported that the Committee had studied the organization over the last two and one-half years and created backup policies, job descriptions and office procedures. All this material was placed in a manual with a month to month calendar. Each officer and Convener has a copy and also their designated emergency backup person.

Jean Colburn, in the absence of Evelyn Cumming, Convener, gave the report of the On-Site Committee. On January 9, 2005 an on-site visit was conducted of Project Grant #1639 - Social Non-Profit Organization Women of Crimea, Ukraine. The visit was made by Marina Nazarenko, an aunt of VGIF intern, Mila Gorokhovich. Marina's visit resulted in a complete report, which is available upon request from the Executive Secretary, Fay Kittelson. Dr. Joyce Lockhard, a VGIF member, visited Project Grant #1892 - Uganda Gender Rights Foundation and her report is also available.

Media and Communications Convener, Louise McLeod, announced that a new slide show was developed and presented by Fay Kittelson, Virginia Maynard and Johanna Sterbin March 8, 2005 during the Council on the Status of Women at the United Nations. Copies of the slide show (Power Point presentation) are available for the asking.

Betty Bayless, Public Relations Committee Convener, announced that 1,000 copies of the Spanish language edition of the VGIF brochure will be printed. The new VGIF publication, the *VG Flash*, comes out on the website between issues of *Update*. Betty will work with the Development and Marketing Committees to develop a VGIF style guide, proof sheet and glossary.

Virginia Maynard, UN Representative, announced that VGIF's first workshop at the United Nations, which was held in partnership with the International Federation of Women Lawyers, on March 8, 2005 during Beijing+10, was highly successful. Entitled "Advancing the Millennium Development Goals through Funding and Advocacy for Women", it attracted an overflow crowd. The Committee is considering presenting another workshop at some future UN event in the near future.

Sema Faigen, Past President, presented certificates of appreciation to those Board of Directors members and Committee members whose terms of office had been completed.

The President adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Claire R. Stein, Secretary

