

**Records of the
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY WOMEN
GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION**

N.U.W.G.A. 3

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Introduction

The records of the University College Dublin Branch of the National University Women Graduates' Association have been deposited in U.C.D. Archives Department in three instalments, in 1983, 1984 and 1991, by various members including Molly Hogan, Professor Eva Philbin, Mary Semple [former Deputy College Librarian] and Dr. Caroline Hussey [Registrar]. Each collection has been numbered respectively according to the order of its deposit: NUWGA1, NUWGA2, and NUWGA3. Such a punctuated transfer of records will usually result in gaps and anomalies in series. For example the strength of this collection lies in its administrative records, mainly its minute books, and the honorary secretaries' correspondence. But while the collection contains material from 1961 to 1986, the Honorary Secretaries' records date only from 1971 to 1977. Administrative records of this nature can be found in NUWGA1 and NUWGA2, yet there still seems to be material missing. Reference was made at a council meeting [NUWGA3/3; 12 March 1984] by Professor Philbin that some of the records of the association were either lost, or in Trinity, where someone was writing a history.¹

The University College Dublin Women Graduates' Association is a branch of the National University Women Graduates' Association which in 1925 was amalgamated into the Irish Federation of University Women, which in turn became affiliated to the International Federation of University Women. The Irish Federation was made up of representatives from branches of graduates from Limerick, University Colleges in Cork, Galway and Dublin, Trinity College [in this collection generally referred to as Dublin University] and Queen's University, Belfast. Although the Dublin branch did not acquire the name, or acronym UC DWGA until 1973, the term is used in the descriptive list, mainly to prevent confusion between it and its other branches, which so often come under the general term NUWGA.

NUWGA was originally set up with the aim of protecting and securing for women the right to a university education equal to that of men. Once this had gradually been obtained, it became semi-political, the crest of its political wave peaking between 1925 and 1937, where campaigns were waged in association with other women's groups against legislative measures discriminating against women. Such measures took the form of the marriage ban on female national teachers, the restrictions on the employment of women in the Civil Service, the Conditions of Employment Act, and certain articles of the 1937 Constitution¹. Its most prominent figures were Hanna Sheehy Skeffington and Professor Mary Hayden. During such campaigns the Association would take a united stand with other groups such as the Joint Committee for Women's Societies and Social Workers [established in 1935] 'to enable member societies to take joint action in matters of mutual interest, particularly social matters'.² Uniting with other women's groups was a trend which filtered through the Association, as will be seen in this collection.

¹ B. Finnegan *The Democratisation of Higher Education and the Participation of University Women in the Labour Force, 1920-50* (UCD MA thesis, 1985); see: NUWGA3/35.

² *ibid.* p.141

Although the series of records on charitable activities and social issues (NUWGA3/14 - 19) would seem to indicate that fundraising was one of the Association's main activities, this was not a view universally held. At a meeting in May 1982 the response of Cathleen O Ceallaigh to the possibility of the Association sending money to the women of Honduras was that 'we are not and never were a charitable institution - the basic idea was to help in every way other women graduates, therefore we should keep such profits for use [on].....scholarships or housing for the elderly'. [see: NUWGA3/3]. Despite O Ceallaigh's statement, much of the Association's activities were of a fundraising nature. Funds were raised for organisations such as the Women's Voluntary Emergency Services [see:NUWGA3/15] and the Homeless Girls Society [see:NUWGA3/19] to name but a few. The Association also organised many cultural visits for its members to institutions such as the National Gallery and the Genealogical Office. Lectures were also organised for members on a broad range of topics, from haute couture, needlework and antiques to architecture, theatre, adoption and the European Economic Community.

The Association also spent a lot of time organising joint events with other branches; in particular the women graduates of Trinity, and the Irish Federation of University Women. The latter organisation was particularly concerned with the education of women, women's employment opportunities, and the experiences and treatment of women in the sphere of work. The IRFUW held study weekends on an annual basis which acted as a forum for such issues. The IRFUW also organised a fellowship for a selected female graduate willing to do research on some aspect of women in society. The masters thesis of a U.C.D. fellowship holder, Belinda Finnegan, is in this collection [NUWGA3/35]. The Committee for International Relations, a subsidiary of the IRFUW dealt with its international concerns, and reported on the meetings and agendas of the International FUW. UCDWGA had representatives on the Ad Hoc Committee responsible for establishing the Commission for the Status of Women, which was set up to investigate cases of discrimination against women, and also on the Joint Committee.

The collection is basically divided into two sections. The first section reflects UCDWGA as a distinct entity, containing records of administration, charitable involvement, some financial records, and two somewhat anomalous sections. The first is entitled Governing Body Elections, containing material relating to two candidates supported by UCDWGA. The second, Literary Figures, contains material relating to Maire Cruise O' Brien, also known as Maire Mac an tSaoi, a well known Irish writer. Honorary Secretaries frequently wrote to speakers requesting a copy of their speeches, and that of Maire Cruise O' Brien was particularly controversial, memorable enough for it to be allocated a distinct file. Also included are records relating to Christine Countess of Longford, a member of the Irish Academy of Letters. It is recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on May 12th 1980, that 'a vote of thanks was passed by the Committee to Mrs. O Ceallaigh and to Mrs. Olive Mc Nally for their efforts in procuring the Honorary degree for Christine Lady Longford RIP'.

The second section contains records illustrating UCDWGA's close involvement with other associations and organisations; the other branches of the National University of Ireland Women Graduates' Association, the Irish Federation of University Women and the Council for the Status of Women. All of these are rather incomplete series, in particular the latter. Records relating to UCDWGA's involvement with other branches can also be found in Section I, A, in files containing letters sent to and from the Honorary Secretaries, who appear to have played a very important role in organising the activities and events hosted by UCDWGA.. Records containing material relating to the IRFUW, in particular the newsletters (NUWGA3/34) will shed some light on the connections between the various branches, as well as their activities.

Sections B to E, again in a somewhat incomplete fashion, reflect the international concerns of UCDWGA. Such concerns are also seen in the Irish Federation of University Women, as it took up many issues promoted on the international level, such as the Decade for Women and the Year of the Child. The two most useful sources are probably the International Federation newsletters (NUWGA3/36) and the file containing material relating to the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (NUWGA3/41).

Susan O'Loughlin
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Abbreviations

C.I.R	Committee for International Relations, is a subsidiary branch , dealing with the international agenda of the Irish Federation of University Women .
Ir.F.U.W.	Irish Federation of University Women
INT.F.U.W.	International Federation of University Women
N.U.W.G.A.	National University Women Graduates' Association
U.C.D.W.G.A.	University College Dublin Women Graduates' Association
U.N.	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation

A. Administrative Records

i. Minutes

- 1 January 1961-April 1980 **Minute book** of committee meetings of the University College Dublin Women Graduates Association (UCDWGA), usually held monthly, with details of attendance, positions held by committee members, and a record of the election of members to new posts. Includes discussion of correspondence; votes of sympathy passed for deceased members and associates; and reports from representatives on affiliated associations, such as the Irish Federation of University Women (IRFUW) and the Joint Committee of Women's Societies and Social Workers. Contains resolutions passed relating to the organization of association activities and events, such as the selection of speakers and lecture topics for association meetings, and fundraising projects such as the Adult Literacy and Centre City Project. There is occasional discussion of finances and the investment of Branch funds (p26, p208). Enclosed (p147) are changes in the constitution for the Irish Federation of University Women.
- 265pp
- 2 June 1965-March 1975 **Minute book enclosures:** contains minutes from committee meetings, a summary of a letter from the Department of Labour relating to its possible contribution to the IRFUW Fellowship Fund and a newspaper cutting concerning the new association president Mary Ena Walsh. Includes an exchange of correspondence in the letters column of the *Irish Times* between representatives on the Ad Hoc Committee of the Council for the Status of Women and the Joint Committee of Women's Societies and Social Workers relating to the issue of the former duplicating the work of the latter. In the minutes of a Committee meeting (27 October 1976) the UCDWGA representative on the Joint Committee, Mairead Meenan, criticizes the Ad Hoc Committee for performing the functions of the Joint Committee in ensuring the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission for the Status of Women investigating cases of discrimination against women. [Removed from NUWGA3/1 for conservation reasons].
- 8 items
- 3 May 1980-September 1986 **Minute book** of monthly committee meetings of UCDWGA with details of attendance; discussions relating to correspondence; the organization of events; themes for IFUW study groups; reports from representatives on other organizations; and the IFUW fellowship. Includes occasional financial reports. The January meetings of 1984 and 1985 relate to the joining of the umbrella association of UCD graduates. Having attended the first graduates' association meeting it is recorded 'if possible, those who joined from our association should try pressing for a special status for members of the UCDWGA'. Some correspondence with the Council for the Status of Women deals with the proposed government legislation on divorce; and the question of holding a referendum on abortion is also considered. There is much deliberating from 1980-84 on the transfer of records to UCD Archives at the request of Prof. Dudley Edwards. Enclosed are two agendas for council meetings.
- 188pp

ii. Circulars and Reports

- 4 1971-1981 File containing material relating to Association meetings and activities. Includes many typescript drafts of circular letters sent by the Honorary Secretaries of UCDWGA to members announcing annual general meetings, general meetings, fundraising events, activities and membership fees. The circular for the 1973 agm asks members to ratify the Association's first written Constitution. Circulars inconsistently include the names and positions of the office bearers and members on the committee. Includes two printed tickets for events and printed membership cards for seasons between 1971 and 1973, which include the programme of speakers, topics and dates of lectures for each season and the addresses of international clubhouses.
- 17 items
- 5 1972-1973 Typescript draft of **Annual Report** of UCDWGA by the Honorary Secretary, Peig Roche. Includes the names and positions of Committee officers and members, with details of the AGM, the joint meeting with the Dublin University WGA, and general meetings. Contains summaries of talks given by various speakers at such meetings. Three significant events are highlighted in the Association's 'red-letter year': its acquisition of a new name, UCDWGA, its autonomy as a unit of the Irish Federation of University Women, and its drafting of a written constitution 'In all its history the association functioned without the guidelines of its own constitution'. The association president, Sheila Mc Donagh, and Maureen O' Mahony are congratulated for their involvement in this project. The report also covers membership and representatives involved in other associations.
- 5pp

iii. Business conducted by UCDWGA Honorary Secretaries

- 6 June 1971-December 1972 File of mainly copy letters from UCDWGA Honorary Secretary Peig Roche. The letters cover requests made to various figures to speak on given topics at meetings. Following acceptance by speakers, there are letters of confirmation and thanks. On Dr. Hogan's reception of the Association at Belfield, she writes: 'we feel this was our most popular and successful outing to date.... Great interest was shown in the new buildings and newly landscaped environ'. Includes letters organising fundraising events, letters of thanks to those providing services at events and letters of sympathy for the deceased. Contains the copy typescript letter written to the Minister for Post and Telegraphs (8 December 1972) in which the association expressed their criticism relating to 'the absence of any woman member on the new RTE Authoritythe omission is to be deplored'.
- 44 items

NUWGA3/

- 7 August 1971-November 1972 **Letters to Peig Roche, Hon. Sec.**, mainly letters of thanks for events, and receptions organized by the Association, from branch members, members of other branches and members of affiliated groups, such as the Council for the Status of Women. Its chairman, Thekla Beere writes (7 November 1972) 'the evening fully confirmed my previous impression that the UCD Women Graduates are the hostesses par excellence'. Includes invitations from other branches such as Queen's University, Belfast 'though we realise Belfast is not very inviting at present' (7 June 1972). Contains a letter from Mairead Meenan [representative on the Joint Committee of Women's Societies and Social Workers] relating to the problematic position of the Joint Committee in relation to the Ad Hoc Co-ordinating Committee. Having made three attempts to arrange discussions 'the new Ad Hoc ...Committee don't seem to want formally to meet us...we have suggested two ways out of the dilemma but they have not agreed to either'.
- 24 items
- 8 October 1972-December 1972 **Correspondence of Peig Roche Hon. Sec.**, with Mona Macauley, Acting Secretary of the Joint Committee of Women's Societies and Social Workers who inquires whether the Association want to join the new co-ordinating body of Women's Societies or stay with the Joint Committee. Roche replies stating that their representative informs them of the activities of the Joint Committee and 'we wish this arrangement to stand'. File also contains letters between Roche and Dr. Anthony Hughes, Department of Music, relating to the organisation of a musical evening.
- 5 items
- 9 March 1971-June 1974 **Letters to Sheila Mc Donagh, Hon. Sec.**, relating to subscriptions, amended accounts and letters of thanks. Includes a letter from the Honorary Secretary of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs of the Republic of Ireland, Louie Somerville, inviting Mc Donagh to discuss a 'Talent Bank' where files will be kept on 'suitably qualified women who are willing to have their name put forward to the Government as opportunity arises', stressing the need to make the Government aware of the 'vast untapped potential of the women of this country' (22 Feb. 1972). Also contains a letter from Mairead Meenan about the impasse surrounding the acceptance of the Joint Committee onto the new co-ordinating council for the status of women. 'I am anxious to improve our image following the Geraldine Roche episode, my denial of our association with the Ad hoc'. (27 November 1972, 6pp), [Geraldine Roche is the UCDWGA representative on the Ad Hoc, and later became their representative on the Council for the Status of Women].
- 7 items

NUWGA3/

- 10 March-November 1973 **Letters to Hon.Sec. Mary Ena Walsh** relating to association activities, including letters of acceptance to attend events or to give lectures, as well as letters of apology for an inability to do so. Includes a letter written on behalf of Mrs. Childers from the Office of the Secretary to the President, as she is unable to attend the UCDWGA Annual Dinner, and two letters from Senator Mary Robinson in response to requests to give a lecture. (21 August 1973).

5 items

- 11 January 1976-January 1977 **Letters to Hon. Sec. Olive Mc Nally** including a letter from John Bourke, Registrar, National University of Ireland, informing Mc Nally that the Chancellor is governed by the Charter, and that the Senate cannot ask the Government to amend it even if there was agreement with the terms of her proposal (Jan. 1976).

3 items

iv. Finances

- 12 31 December 1970-
31 March 1983 Cash account statements. Records income from investments and events, as well as outgoing payments for the use of venues, entertainment, captitation fees, subscriptions to the Council for the Status of Women, and charitable donations such as the education of an African girl. These are mainly copies of accounts with gaps in the series for years; 1971-2, 1976-7 and 1981-2 .

13 items

- 13 1982 Record of lodgements made of income from tours, subscriptions, services and from Mary Hogan's book *History of UCDWGA 1902-1985*. Includes a record of all cheques, of secretarial expenses, and profit and loss calculation sheets for the December dinner.

8 items

B. Charitable Activities and Social Issues

- 14 January 1968-November 1972 **R.U.K.B.A.** [The Royal United Kingdom Beneficent Association]. The file contains a typescript letter from the association secretary relating to donations sent by Sheila Mc Donagh [Hon. Sec.] and how it entitles UCDWGA to ten votes at elections for the selection of needy candidates to be granted annuities. Includes a note asking for votes for particular candidates and a list of candidates and their particulars for the next election.
4 items
- 15 September 1971-May 1972 **W.V.E.S.** [Women's Voluntary Emergency Services] Material relating to W.V.E.S. includes a questionnaire for potential UCDWGA volunteers, a copy of a report, a list of affiliated associations and an information circular on the organization 'formed last August during the national emergency refugee situation'. Includes letters to Sheila Mc Donagh and the honorary secretary relating to UCDWGA representatives and donations, and copy addresses from Lady Eleanor Wicklow [W.V.E.S. acting chairman] 'Once again all 32 counties face a situation of common peril which is more than political and military power can resolve without the help of ordinary men and women....It is the power of us women, in every walk of life, to ensure that this peace will be satisfying and creative'.
13 items
- 16 January 1972 **War on Want** File contains an information sheet on the organization, letters and circulars requesting an UCDWGA representative and support at meetings.
4 items
- 17 No date **A New Deal for our Deprived Children: An Appeal to Women Graduates.** Printed leaflet containing the text of an appeal by Jo Burke of the Galway Branch, outlining the recommendations of the Kennedy Report (1970) on Industrial and Reformatory Schools, calling on women graduates to demand the report be implemented, for the establishment of a family assessment system to assist families at risk, and for adequate financial support for the children of widows and deserted wives.
4pp

- 18 February 1973-March 1974 **Education of African girls.**
letters of thanks from sisters of the Holy Rosary
Convent in Raheny, and Kenya to Bridget
Cotter, UCDWGA's treasurer, thanking the association for sponsoring a Kenyan girl
named Chemuron, in which one sister, Sister Bernardine relates her progress,
'doing well in school, finds it difficult to concentrate as she has known a lot famine
and poor food in her home' (11 March 1973). In another letter is a request for more
money. 'Recently school fees as well as almost everything else have almost doubled
so perhaps for next year you could suggest a little increase'.
6 items
- 19 September 1975-October 1975 **Homeless Girls' Society.** Receipt for
two hundred pounds received from UCDWGA,
and a letter of thanks to Maighread Mc Parland,
treasurer from D.Stephens, treasurer, Homeless
Girls' Society.
2 items

C. Publicity for U.C.D.W.G.A.

- 20 December 1970 -
February 1980 **UCD News** containing an article on Norah
Greene [an active UCDWGA
committee member until 1972], relating to her
heavy involvement in UCD activities and organisations, such as her appointment
as officer of residence for Women Students, president of the Ladies Hockey Club
and senior treasurer of the Camogie club. Relates her opinion of the new campus
'Belfield is something of which we can all feel very proud, with its magnificent
buildings set in such beautiful surroundings. However, I still have a great affection
for The Terrace'. **Noticeboard:** printed newsheet containing a profile on
UCDWGA, with a brief history of the Association, its connection
with the Irish Federation of University Women and the Committee of the Council
for the Status of Women.
2 items

D. Governing Body Elections

- 21 1981-1982 **Candidates** Canvassing leaflet for Anne Toner McKenna [once a UCDWGA committee member], lecturer in Psychology, UCD. Includes a profile of her and a typescript summary of a talk given to UCDWGA relating to International Year of the Child, canvassing leaflets for other candidates and a curriculum vitae for Maeve Carroll, the candidate endorsed by UCDWGA.
- 8 items

E. Literary Figures

- 22 June 1971-December 1971 **Maire Cruise O'Brien:** material relating to Mrs Cruise O'Brien's lecture to UCDWGA, includes correspondence between her and Peig Roche. In one letter she writes about her speech 'I am afraid I bit off more than I could chew and left myself open to some misunderstandings because of trying to compress much of my arguments'(6 December 1971).Encloses two typescript copies of her speech (6 pp) where reference is made to her association membership. 'I may have even felt that an organization for academics confined to women was only an anachronism and an anomaly, of course I was entirely wrong'. In reference to the Women's Liberation movement she states 'Its extreme manifestations may be ludicrous and distressing....Women's Lib. with all its nonsense constitutes the most formidable attack on this entire system of exploitation that this generation has witnessed'. The essence of her speech focuses on the extent and expense for which the homemaking qualities of women are to be encouraged, and 'to what extent her other qualities are to be regarded as expendable'.
- 9 items
- 23 24 April - 19 May 1980 **Christine Countess of Longford.** Material relating to the conferring of an honorary degree, D. Litt., on the Countess.
- Includes a copy of the typescript address (2pp) given by Michael Olden (Pro-Vice Chancellor of the NUI, who describes her as a 'dedicated servant of theatre in Ireland...frail in physique but gigantic in mind and spirit', praises her efforts towards the reconstruction of the Gate theatre in 1957; 'she and her husband raised practically every penny that was needed', and compliments her fiction 'so painstaking and successful in grappling with the complexity of Irish history'. Concludes by stating that in the conferring of the honorary degree 'the National University is saying "thanks" and "well done" on behalf of the Irish people to a great and noble lady'. File also contains an invitation to the ceremony to Kathleen O Ceallaigh [President of UCDWGA] and the order of service for the Countesse's funeral.
- 3 items

II. Related and affiliated organisations, 1970-85

A. Other N.U.W.G.A. Branches

- 24 1973 - 1978 File contains a circular from Queen's University Belfast announcing details of the Association's 50th Anniversary regional meeting, and lists of office bearers for the Womens Graduates' Associations of Queen's Belfast, Trinity College Dublin and Limerick. Also includes a copy of the minutes of the Limerick Branch annual general meeting.
- 5 items
- 25 no date Amended typescript letter from [Sheila Mc Donagh] to Queen's branch members, in which she sends a 'special message of friendship in these dark days to our sister members of Queen's university' conveying sympathy to those 'bereaved or injured or rendered hopeless'.
- 1p

B. Council for the Status of Women

- 26 no date **Printed information leaflet** for the Council for the Status of Women 'the voice of the women's movement in Ireland...works with the social partners on the Employment Equality Agency to promote equal opportunities between the sexes', with an outline of its aims and objectives: to provide liaison between government departments and women's organisations, to demand the implementation of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women, to provide educational and development programmes for men and women, to consider legislative proposals of concern to women, and to examine and fight cases of discrimination against women.
- 3pp
- 27 19 October 1978 Newspaper cutting from the *Irish Times* with a photograph of Gerry Collins, Minister for Justice and Anne Kavanagh [Chairwoman of the Council for the Status of Women], and an article relating to a document submitted by the Council on rape, for which they demand new laws governing the crime.
- 1 item

C. Irish Federation of University Women

- 28 April 1970-March 1978 Letters from members of the IRFUW to UCDWGA relating to capitation fees, and the possibility of exchanging information with a visiting member of the American association.
6 items
- 29 October 1977- October 1983 Agendas for IRFUW and CIR [Committee of International Relations] Council meetings, programmes for IRFUW Study weekends with outlines on themes , such as Architecture and Sectarianism and The Dignity and Worth of the Human Person, and information on speakers. Includes lists of participating members and their affiliated branches, and a copy circular listing IRFUW representatives, chronologically from 1926 requesting more information about them for a history of the IrFUW. Also contains a four page list of names and addresses of [IRFUW members], and a copy of the typescript address by Dr. Kate Bertram, President of Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge, on the role of the educated woman. Her college she states was set up in response to a 'special concern...for the problems of able women who wish to combine a career with the rearing of a family or to return to such a career when the family is grown'.
- 25 items
- 30 October 1977-April 1978 Minutes of IRFUW Council Meetings. Contain lists of those present and absent, Include reflections on the Triennial Conference resolutions made with respect to conferences, treasurer's and secretary's reports. (October 1977). IFUW president, Diane Mc Lean expresses her gratitude to the Council. 'I can remember being at several council meetings in the past when no one really knew (nor cared) what was going on the service that you as a council have given the Irish Federation is really immeasurable'.
- 2 items
- 31 CLOSED
- 32 April 1978 - January 1979 Committee for International Relations (CIR). Copy typescript minutes in which Council members are listed with their associated university. Include reports on conferences relating to Women's Affairs in the Common Market, the Responsibility of Women for Europe, resolutions from the Vancouver Conference, and discussions on the IFUW fellowship programme, and the International Year of the Child.
- 3 items

NUWGA3/

- 33 November 1974 - 1979 IFUW finances. Mainly copies of accounts covering expenses incurred by office bearers; fellowship payments; the printing of newsletters; and income generated from events, subscriptions and capitation fees. Also includes accounts determining the profits from IRFUW events such as raffles, monthly draws, and musical evenings.
- 7 items
- 34 Spring 1973 - Spring 1984 IFUW *Newsletters*. Printed and typescript annual newsletters. Contents include detailed coverage of conferences and study weekends with synopses of lectures and topics for discussion, with lists of those in attendance. Also contains reports on conferences such as those of the International Federation, and the Council for the Status of Women, coverage of fellowships and branch association activities.
- 12 items
- 35 1985 IRFUW Fellowship. Master of Arts thesis by fellowship student, Belinda Finnegan of UCD, entitled *The Democratisation of Higher Education and the Participation of University Women in the Labour Force, 1920 - 1950*. The thesis analyses the emergence of professional women in terms of accessibility to professional training, labour force participation and leadership roles. Chapter five (p 125) outlines the aims and objectives of the NUWGA, their history and activities. Appendix 4 and 5 contain material relating to NUWGA's campaign against the 1937 Constitution.
- 225 pp

D. International Federation of University Women

- 36 December 1971 - July 1982 *Newsletters* of the INTFUW. Printed newsletters written in English and French, the contents of which include outlines of study and action programmes; details and articles on international affiliates' activities, such as the Kenya Association of University Women; reports on conferences, colloquia, workshops, and fellowships; with occasional articles by fellowship holders on their research projects. In issue no. 40, July 1980, Daphne Purves, president of the INTFUW, refers to her visit to Ireland: 'My impression was of friendship and loyalty, friendship between members of Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic, the loyalty of all of them to the INTFUW'. The collection does not contain issues from 1972-4, 1978 or 1981.
- 7 items

- 37 16 January 1981 Copy of circular from[Alice Popines], Executive Secretary, INTFUW Headquarters, Geneva, relating to the availability of UNESCO technical and financial assistance to promote equal educational opportunities for women, especially in technical and scientific areas, and outlining the guidelines and requirements for proposals.

1p

- 38 no date Copy of typescript of part of the resolutions of the Vancouver Conference 'which are of interest to teachers', recommending federations and associations to be active in education for economic independence; literacy and retraining; in development opportunities for lifelong learning; and the promotion of education equally to both sexes.

1p

E. United Nations

- 39 1975 United Nations *Report of the World Conference of the International Women's Year* held in Mexico, 19 June - 2 July 1975, the contents of which include, plans of action, resolutions and decisions adopted, by the Conference, the Constitution and proceedings of the Conference.

200 pp

- 40 1980 United Nations *Report of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace* held in Copenhagen, July 1980, the contents of which include the programme of action on international, regional and national levels, and the resolutions and decisions on a variety of social, economic and political issues adopted by the Conference. Includes a summary of the general debate and reports by subsidiary bodies.

285 pp

- 41 1980 Corrected typescript report relating to the *U.N. Decade for Women*, summarizing the resolutions of the World Conference of International Women's Year, and objectives of the mid-decade conference at Copenhagen, focusing on education, communication and the advancement of women.

1pp

NUWGA3/

- 41 July 1980 Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. File containing material relating to why Ireland cannot ratify the convention, outlining the obstacles in the Departments of Justice, Education, Health and Social Welfare. For example, the Department of Health's Family Planning Act has 'no provision for education, information, nor to access to all methods of contraceptives; in Ireland the decision is not wholly the decision of the couple, but depends on the doctor and chemist'. As a general policy, Ireland is anxious to ratify U.N. social conventions 'but will do so only where Irish legislation is in strict harmony with the provisions of the conventions'. Includes a copy of the Convention, an account of the World Conference of the U.N. Decade for Women and the mid-decade forum, the study and action programme for 1980-83 and a summary of the programme of action for the second half of the U.N. Decade for women.

5 items