



## **DIRECTOR'S CORNER**

### **Celebrate with GWLN**

Global Women's Leadership Network is 5 years old! Some of our core team members got together recently to enjoy lunch and a birthday cake (see photo).

GWLN appreciates all of you who have worked so hard to make our programs successful. Here are some highlights -

- June 2004 - the GWLN launch event with 235 people listening to Nancy Hafkin (our featured leader for this month's newsletter) and Margaret Snyder of the United Nations as they regaled us with the stories of women of courage from around the world
- The Global Innovation Dialogue series at Santa Clara University, Cisco Systems, and EMC where hundreds of people enjoyed presentations by people such as Anne Firth Murray, Nancy Hafkin (yes, the same!) and Judy Estrin (upcoming on February 9)
- The wonderful small-group discussions of At the Well events at ITP led by interesting local celebrities
- The life-changing experiences of our Global Fellows last summer
- The 2008 Voices of Global Leaders conference featuring Supriya Banavalikar of the Hunger Project that was broadcast over Webex
- Four summers with more than 80 women leaders from around the globe who share so many hopes and visions for transforming their communities, organizations, and the world

### **So, what is next for GWLN in 2009?**

- We will continue our popular At the Well and Global Innovation Dialogue programs.
- We are postponing the 2009 Women Leaders for the World program until the late fall in order to complete an in-depth assessment of the results of prior years' WLW and to determine the most pressing leadership development needs of women in the developing world.
- We are placing more than 50 SCU undergraduate students in Global Fellowships.

We hope that you will continue to read our newsletter, participate in our programs, and invest your time, money, and talent to help us create a new future for humanity.



## Featured Women Leader

### **Bridges from the U.S. to Africa and Back Again**

By Ellen Boneparth, GWLN Advisory Board Member

On a rare occasion, a GWLN profile writes itself. That was the case with GWLN Advisory Board Member Nancy Hafkin who answered my questions so fully that it was better to have her speak to you directly than to describe her myself.

I will provide a little background. Nancy started out as an academic with a Ph.D. from Boston University in History with an emphasis on African Studies. She served as a professor of History and African Studies at Boston State College for seven years where she taught, among other courses, Women in Cross-Cultural Perspective.

I asked Nancy how her interest in women and development started and she replied:

*"I have had a pattern in my life of getting involved with something at the local level, then coming to think (and act) about it at a larger level. In about 1968, as a graduate student at Boston University in African History, I went to the annual meeting of the African Studies Association and joined the Women's Caucus. Within the year, my close friend Edna Bay, now a professor at Emory University, and I became co-chairs of the group.*

*That professional association led me to think more broadly about the issues and history of women in Africa, an area on which little had been written at the time with the perspective of women as economic, social and political actors, as agents of change. Edna and I put together a special issue of the African Studies Journal on Women in Africa and edited Women in Africa: Studies in Social and Economic Change (Stanford: 1975)."*

Nancy became an expert on information technology at the UN Economic Commission for Africa, becoming first the Chief of the Pan African Development Information System (1986-1995) and then the Chief of Development Information (1995-2000). She continued to emphasize women's concerns in her

new roles by focusing on women's needs and opportunities in information technology.

I wondered how Nancy got involved with GWLN. She was there from the beginning, having met Linda Alepin back in 2003 when GWLN was just the germ of an idea in Linda's mind. Nancy returned to the U.S. in 2000 when her husband became ill and needed kidney dialysis. With treatment in Boston, he lived another three years. Nancy began a consulting firm which specializes in ICT4D - which stands for information technology for development.

Nancy's tie to Ethiopia remains strong. She returns to her house in Addis Ababa nearly every year and continues to do projects in the technology and development field. She is a woman who bridges many worlds and advocates for women in all of them.



## Unlock Value to Benefit Charity

With the tough economic climate, you may be less able to fulfill your philanthropic giving goals. Wouldn't it be "magic" if you could reduce your total out-of-pocket expenses while increasing your donations to your favorite charity? (Of course, we hope that is GWLN!) Because of changes in actuarial tables and interest rates in the last few years, there is just such an opportunity with existing whole life insurance policies.

Here is an example: A couple (ages 72 and 70) with an existing policy implemented 13 years ago with an *original \$250,000 death benefit* are paying *\$5,500 per year* in premiums. They might update their existing policy to a new policy with a *\$300,000 death benefit* and reduce the annual premiums from *\$5,500* to *\$2,650*, **saving \$2,850 per year**. The couple could then allocate some of the *\$2,850 per year* savings as an annual gifting program to GWLN and allocate the remainder to other financial goals such as retirement income, funding the college education of grandchildren, or even a family vacation.

If you have existing life insurance policies, this might be a way to continue to give back while satisfying other financial goals. Contact your insurance broker or Linda Alepin at [lalepin@scu.edu](mailto:lalepin@scu.edu) for more information.



## New Global Citizens**lobal**

Jennifer Vollmann, a graduate of Santa Clara University who, as a student intern, helped GWLN with the 2006 WLW program, has recently joined New Global Citizens as Director of Partnerships. NGC, a nonprofit organization based in Phoenix, Arizona, was recently cited by the Obama administration as a force for social change around the world.

New Global Citizens (NGC) works through student-led teams on high school campuses and partners with grassroots organizations that are working on solutions to local problems. NGC trains, equips, and mobilizes young people to "help solve the greatest challenges faced by communities around the world."

To learn more about the NGC teams and their projects, please visit [www.newglobalcitizens.org](http://www.newglobalcitizens.org).  
Congratulations, Jennifer!