

**UN Women Australia Board Nominations 2012**  
**Candidate Statements**

The Board of UN Women Australia identified five key skill areas which are currently needed on the Board. Each candidate was asked to submit a 350 statement against these criteria.

- Experience in managing growth and change within small-medium organisations
- Understanding of governance in small non-profit organisations
- Understanding of gender equality and the importance of women’s empowerment to achieving development
- Experience in fundraising and resource mobilization
- Experience developing Strategic Communications Plans

Nominations have been received from four candidates and they are listed below in alphabetical order by surname. *Candidates were asked to provide a maximum of 350 word statements. Where they were over the limit, we have had to end them at the full-stop after the 350 word cut off.*

<b>Lauren Bourke</b>	
ACT	
Proposed By: Fran Raymond	
Seconded By: Jacqueline Joudo Larsen	<p>I have been honoured to be closely involved with UN Women Australia through my role as Youth Representative to the Commission in the Status of Women, and am seeking a position on the Board in order to continue my close engagement and contribute further to this wonderful organisation.</p> <p>Through my position as Youth Representative, I met and liaised with a wide range of UN Women Australia members at a number of events, and particularly engaged with young women, learning about their views and experiences. Throughout my consultations and attendance at the Commission in the Status of Women and follow-up events I have also gained significant knowledge about issues facing young women in Australia and the importance of women’s empowerment in development.</p> <p>I was involved in the establishment of Young UN Women Australia Canberra Committee in 2009 and served on the executive as Membership and Engagement Manager in 2010 and 2011. This was both an exciting and challenging time establishing and building a membership base and managing the beginning stages for the committee. I gained strong experience through my role on the executive and working to mobilise volunteers, sponsors and supporters for a range of events, focused primarily on fundraising and awareness raising.</p> <p>In 2010 I undertook a board traineeship with the Women’s Centre for Health Matters (ACT), and I have been a board member since 2011. I am also a member of the Finance Subcommittee. This has given me good experience and a string understanding of the important role for, and accountability of a board of a not-for-profit organisation.</p> <p>Through each of these experiences I have been involved in the preparation, approval and dissemination of communications and advertising material, and have particularly developed a very good understanding of gender equality and the empowerment of women.</p> <p>I am seeking the opportunity to use and build on these experiences and ensure that the views and interested of young women are represented on the UN Women Australia Board.</p>

<b>Jennifer Dalitz</b>	<p>I would like to nominate as a Director of UN Women. My passion for the empowerment of women and gender equality is well known and regarded, as over the past six years I have been writing and speaking about this internationally. My blog <a href="http://www.TheSheEOBlog.com">www.TheSheEOBlog.com</a> has developed a strong following of readers with over 50,000 page views per month, and my commentary regularly features across mainstream media. In 2010 I was invited by the Minister for Women to deliver a keynote presentation at the Women’s Summit in Malaysia and I represented Australia in a BBC global debate on the advancement of women and the Millennium Goals. In 2011, I co-founded the childcare lobby group, Make Care Fair to raise awareness of the challenges Australian families face in securing quality, affordable childcare; and in 2012 my expertise was recognised with selection on CPA Australia’s 40 Young Business Leaders list.</p> <p>I am an experienced company director and a graduate of the AICD Company Directors Course. I currently chair an educational foundation, Peer Support Australia (<a href="http://www.peersupport.edu.au">www.peersupport.edu.au</a>), and hence am fully versed in the governance obligations of non-profit organizations.</p> <p>I am a Certified Practising Accountant with strong business acumen, and throughout my 20 year career in management consulting and finance I have developed deep expertise in setting and implementing business strategy. I have personally led teams and organizations through the processes and steps involved to manage growth and change effectively, and in communicating the impacts effectively with all stakeholders.</p> <p>I have worked with organizations from broad industry sectors and geographies, and have personally led two start up businesses so fully appreciate the machinations of small organizations as well as large.</p> <p>My broad experiences will bring skills and capability to the UN Women board, along with an energy, commitment and passion for driving change and giving women and girls every opportunity to lead safe, fulfilling and rewarding lives.</p>
NSW	
Proposed By: Dimity Hodge	
Seconded By: Kathy Hirschfeld	

<b>Virginia Haussegger</b>	<p>It’s been my great privilege to serve on the National Board for the last two years during the historic transition from UNIFEM to UN Women Australia. The 2011 change ushered in wonderful opportunities as well as some tough challenges for our organization. One of the most pressing of these – to my mind – has been the need to develop a long term strategic communications strategy, as well as get Board approval to reallocate staff resources to our communications. This has been the prime focus of my Board contribution to date and I’m pleased to say I believe we’ve made good progress. We now have a full-time Communications Manager and a part-time Comms Officer, with a new and energetic focus on our social media engagement. But the job is far from done and our Comms strategic planning is still a work in progress, which is why I am nominating for a second term on the Board.</p> <p>As a journalist with more than 20 years experience in television news and current affairs, working for ABC TV, Channel 9 and the Network 7, I bring a keen media eye to Board discussions and our public engagement programs. As a columnist and writer I have long expressed both my passion – and occasional frustration – about gender equity and women’s empowerment. I am a proud feminist who remains eternally grateful to our feminist foremothers for their tireless work and achievements. But again I say – the job is far from done.</p>
ACT	
Proposed By: Donelle Wheeler	
Seconded By: Fran Raymond	

	<p>In addition to the media and communications experience I bring to the Board of UN Women, I also have broad experience working with a range of NGO's and government departments in advisory and facilitation roles. My 3 year term as President of the Canberra International Film Festival saw a 100 percent increase in sponsorship and nearly 300 percent increase in audience reach. I am an Adjunct Professor at the ANZSOG Institute for Governance at the University of Canberra, and a proud Patron of Save the Children ACT. I would be honoured to again serve UN Women Australia.</p>
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<b>Elizabeth Shaw</b>	<p>At a time when a significant majority of board members and staff of UN Women Australia are new to the organisation, it is essential to maintain as much organisational knowledge and experience on the Board as possible, which is why I seek a second term.</p> <p>After working on gender and development issues at the UN General Assembly, I returned to Perth and worked to establish Young UN Women Australia's Perth Committee which I Chaired from 2009-2010.</p> <p>In 2010, I worked as a Consultant to the UN Women Australia National Office in Canberra, developing programs such as the Youth Delegate to CSW role and infrastructure to support the Sub Committees around Australia.</p> <p>I currently Chair the HR and Governance Committee of the Board, and have also served on the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and the Policy Committee, led a review of the organisation's membership and self-funded travel to attend the National Committees Meetings in Bangkok and Sydney, and CSW in New York. I have degrees in Arts, Law and a Masters of Public Policy where I studied International Development and Poverty Reduction, with a strong focus on gender issues.</p> <p>I worked at the State Solicitor's Office in Perth for 3.5 years and understand the board's legal environment and compliance role. I have undertaken the AICD Company Directors' Course and other AICD courses on Strategy and Risk and The Non-Profit Board, which have given me great insight into best practice governance of a growing NFP.</p> <p>Since 2010, I have been working as the Executive Director of the UN Association of Australia, which has quadrupled its income since I began. This remarkable period of growth and change for the organisation has led to extensive reviews of our constitution and governance structure.</p> <p>UN Women Australia's next steps must be around developing communication and fundraising strategies that capitalise on our new DGR status, learning to engage those who are not like-minded and challenging their views on gender equality, and advocating for AusAID to lead the world in core funding for UN Women internationally. I would be delighted to continue to contribute to these efforts.</p>
VIC	
Proposed By: Donelle Wheeler	
Seconded By: Fran Raymond	