MEDICAL WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION AWARDS
HONORARY MEMBERS OF MWIA

Northern European Region – Professor Cisca Griffioen
Cisca Griffioen was born in 1943 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. She graduated in Medicine in 1968 at the University of Amsterdam. In 1981, she received her PhD on the Growth of Preschool Children on Marken. From 1988 -2005, Dr. Griffioen was Associate Professor in Human Anatomy and Embryology at the Academic Medical Centre of the University in Amsterdam. From 1990 – 1996, she was president of the Dutch Association of Medical Women (VNVA) and also chair of the 23rd Congress of MWIA in The Hague. In the period 2010-2013, she was Vice-President for the Northern European Region of MWIA.

Central European Region – Professor Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer
Dr. Bettina Pfleiderer is Professor in the medical faculty of the University of Münster in Germany. She works in the department of Clinical Radiology and is head of the research groups “Cognition and Gender” and “gender sensitive medicine.” Another research focus is on violence against women and children and gender mainstreaming in medicine. Dr. Pfleiderer has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Federal Merit Cross on a band of the Government of Germany for her work. She has served MWIA in various roles over the past 10 years. Since 2016, she has been president of the Medical Women’s International Association.

Southern European Region – Dr. Christiane Pouliart
Christiane Pouliart was born in 1943 in Antwerp, Belgium. She graduated with her medical degree in 1969 having studied in Ghent, Liège, and the Free University Brussels. From 1974 to 2008, she was the Head of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at St. Elisabeth General Hospital in Antwerp. From 1984-1993, Dr. Pouliart was the President of the National Council of Women of Belgium, and 1989-1991 saw her as the founder and first president of the Medical Women’s Association of Belgium. She served two terms as MWIA Vice President for Southern Europe (1995-1998 and 2013-2016). She was also the Founder and President of the Belgian Society of Osteoporotic Patients and a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the International Osteoporosis Foundation.

North American Region – Dr. Satty Gill Keswani
Satty Gill Keswani graduated from New Delhi’s Lady Hardinge Medical College. Originally intending a career in Plastic Surgery, she arrived in the United States in the late 1950s to find that no surgical residencies were available and that women were not welcome in the field. Instead, she chose Obstetrics and Gynecology as a specialty and in 1967 she established a practice in Livingston, NJ specializing in treating infertility. She has been the main representative for MWIA to the United Nations in New York since the 1980’s. Dr. Keswani is Past President of the New Jersey Medical Women’s Association. In 1986, she was chosen Woman of the Year in Essex County, New Jersey by the John I. Crecco Foundation. She was nominated by Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ-6) as a Local Legend of Medicine, who wrote in praise of her, “aside from her groundbreaking role in women’s health, she is a beloved mentor and role model to her patients and to junior women physicians.”

Latin American Region – Dra. Rebeca Kuniyoshi
Rebeca Kuniyoshi graduated from San Marcos University with a MD and PhD and has worked as a pediatrician in Miraflores, Lima, Peru. She has worked in the Peruvian Air Force Hospital and the Peruvian Japanese Policlinic. She has been a dedicated member of the Pan American Medical Women’s Alliance (PAMWA) and has been responsible for their affiliation with MWIA. She served as MWIA Vice President for Latin America. Honorary awards include the Colegio Médico del Perú, Sociedad Peruana de Pediatría, and Alianza de Médicas en Bolivia.

Central Asia Region – Dr. Usha Saraiya
Dr. (Mrs.) Usha Saraiya, MD, DGO, FIAC, FICOG, FRCOG, currently holds the appointment of Hon. Obstetrician & Gynaecologist at Breach Candy, Saifee & St. Elizabeth Hospital in Mumbai. She has held several important positions during her career spanning over 50 years. She was VP for Central Asia for the Medical Women’s International Association 2013-16. She has made significant contributions to the region in promoting preventive oncology in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. She was awarded the Outstanding Woman Obstetrician Gynaecologists Award of FIGO (2003) and the Colposcopy Recognition Award by American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology in 1993. She was awarded Hon. Membership of Polish Society of Colposcopy & Cervical Pathology. She has given over 30 Orations and received 26 prestigious awards. She has edited 7 books and published over 150 scientific papers.

Near East and Africa Region – Professor Shafika Nasser
Prof. Shafika Nasser is Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Nutrition, Faculty of Medicine Cairo University. She has served on the board of the Egyptian Medical Women’s Association for 40 years & was MWIA VP for the Near East and Africa from 2013-2016. Dr. Nasser was elected Mother of Public Health by the Egyptian Society of Community Medicine. She was elected to the Egyptian Upper Parliament House for three successive terms. She has consulted for international organizations including WHO, UNFPPS, European Union, UNDP, UNEP, the League of Arab States & USAID. She has more than 35 years experience in the fields of health management, policy development, health planning, strategy formulation, program/project planning and
evaluation, health reform and quality management in the fields of population, reproductive health & family planning, maternal/child health, primary health care, women’s health, nutrition and environmental health.

Western Pacific Region – Prof. Bong Ok Kim
Bong Ok Kim, MD, PhD, is immediate past president of Korean Medical Women’s Association, a chairwoman of the organizing committee of the 29th International Congress of MWIA in Seoul, Korea in 2013, and a chairwoman of the scientific and research committee of MWIA 2013-2016. She is past president of the Korean Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine and the first and only female president of the 14 national university hospitals in Korea. Dr. Kim earned her PhD from the Yonsei University Medical School in Seoul. She is currently the President of the Daegu Workers’ Compensation Hospital in Korea and President-elect of the Korean district of the Civitan International.

DR. ESTHER POHL LOVEJOY AWARD

Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy – Dr. Dabota Yvonne Buowari
Dr. Buowari is a Nigerian anesthesiologist and emergency physician. She hales from Grand Bonny Kingdom, an island in southern Nigeria. Dr. Buowari is a member of the Medical Women’s Association of Nigeria, Rivers State Branch and a member of the outreach and school health committees. Her activities in MWIA include revision of MWIA manuals, member of the Scientific and Research and Centennial Committees, contribution of cases to the MWIA training module on violence, co-researcher in the MWIA survey on sexual harassment at the workplace, authored posters for the MWIA Centennial Book and contributed recipes to the AMWA cookbook. Dr. Buowari won third place in the Lifebox poetry and Nigerian Medical Association 2017/2018 national essay contest. She is a member of the Research Collaboration Network of the National Association of Resident doctors of Nigeria, conducting the CHAllenges of Residency Training and early career Doctors in NiGeria Study (CHARTING Study).

MEMBER OF HONOR

The DAK Foundation
Dave and Kerry Rickards founded DAK Foundation in 2010 with a goal to provide the maximum humanitarian benefit to people in need in the developing world, in the most effective way possible. Today DAK focuses exclusively on global health in three key areas: Women’s Health, High Volume Cataract Surgery in Asia, and Essential Medical Equipment. DAK partners with accredited organizations in Australia to support projects in these three areas. We are a small dynamic team that looks to utilize and enhance existing capacity rather than build anything new from the ground up. We are thrilled to have collaborated with MWIA members to distribute ultrasounds to both high-volume urban facilities as well as last-mile service providers.

JHIRAD ORATION AWARDEES

Professor Gabrielle Casper, BSc(Hons), MBBS, FRANZCOG
Professor Gabrielle Casper is a Sydney Gynaecologist with a special interest in women’s health and human rights including violence against women. She is Past President of the Australian Federation of Medical Women and Past President of Medical Women’s International Association (MWIA) and has undertaken advocacy work with the Australian Federal Government, World Health Organization and the United Nations. She is Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, School of Medicine, Sydney, The University of Notre Dame Australia and Past Chairman of the NSW State Committee of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG). She received the 2004 Australian Medical Association (AMA) Women’s Health Award and the 2004 AMA Women in Medicine Award. Prof Casper enjoys working as a gynaecologist and cares for her patients with compassion and understanding while lobbying to improve women’s health in Australia and overseas.

Professor Afua Hesse
Dr. Afua Hesse was born on the 11th of September several decades ago in the garden city of Kumasi in Ghana. She was educated in Ghana, France, and the UK. She graduated as a doctor from the University of Ghana Medical School in December 1976 with a gold medal as the best overall student in the year. She completed postgraduate training as a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1981 and Paediatric surgery training in 1983. Dr. Hesse is Full Professor of Surgery at the University of Ghana School of Medicine and Surgery and President of the Accra College of Medicine, one of 2 private medical Schools in Ghana, which she co-founded with her husband in 2014. Accra College of Medicine is currently in its 5th year of operations. Dr. Hesse has served as Chair of the Ethics and Resolutions Committee, Finance Committee, Scientific Committee and Vice-President for the Near East and Africa regions of MWIA. She was then elected as President-Elect of MWIA at the Triennial conference, the first in Accra in 2007. She served as President of MWIA from 2010-2013.