

KATHLEEN MUMFORD



Kathy Mumford has been a member of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women since 1990. At branch level she worked initially as Treasurer to get to know members and activities; at state level she served as Secretary then as President; at national level as Young Member in 1995, Coordinator of International Relations and WomenSpeak representative from 2000-2003. At the international level she has presented a workshop on women in university leadership, served as the Australian Young Member delegate at the International Federation of University Women Conference Yokohama in 1995, liaised with the Australian government for approximately 200 IFUW members to gain entry visas to attend the 2004 IFUW Conference in Perth WA, coordinated seminar sessions at the 2007 IFUW Conference in Manchester and 2010 IFUW Conference in Mexico City, and was elected Convener of the IFUW Membership Committee in 2013. Kathy has been a GW member in Tasmania, West Australia and currently in Victoria. She was also a member of Graduate Women – USA while living there in 2005-2010.

Kathy (b 1951) was raised on a farm in rural California, USA, and was the first in her extended family to attend university studying a Bachelor of Science. She migrated to Australia in 1984 with her husband, two sons and her mother. Kathy was able to attend university through scholarships, employment and family contributions enabling completion of a Diploma of Teaching, Bachelor of Science, Graduate Diploma in Applied Computing and a Graduate Diploma in Professional Management.

Kathy's professional career included teaching at the primary and secondary level, and women in adult education, neighbourhood houses and for refugee services; university and middle school administration and senior management support; and state-licensed child care and foster parenting. Kathy has also been active in her community with patchwork and quilting, scouting, church, community food co-op, home hosting and music.

Kathy is passionate about women's educational disadvantage. From 1st grade where she was not allowed to interact with a migrant labourer's non-English speaking daughter; choosing to study Home Economics teacher education at a time when the home economics' school curriculum included nutrition, family and life cycle sociology and home management; seeking the temporary position of the equal employment opportunity officer (and subsequent appointment) at the University of Tasmania; to providing highly developed equity, management and educational administration skills to a public international middle school of primarily East African migrant and refugee students, Kathy has focused her education, skills and energies to join with others in pursuing the advancement of women and girls (and subsequently their families) through education.