



Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.
PO Box 345 Concord West NSW 2138
www.afgw.org.au

The Hon Susan Kiefel AC
Chief Justice of the High Court
PO Box 6309
KINGSTON ACT 2604
Australia

21 February 2017

Dear Chief Justice Kiefel,

We write on behalf of the Council and members of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women (AFGW Inc) to offer our warmest congratulations on your appointment as Chief Justice of the High Court, and as the first woman to hold this position—certainly fulfilling the aim of AFGW of “Inspiring and supporting women graduates to put their education and professional training to the service of the local, national and international community.”

AFGW is the national voice of graduate women, working since 1922 through initiatives in Education for the advancement and wellbeing of women and girls. We view Education as essential for Empowering Women; Reducing Poverty Improving Health; Understanding Human Rights; and, Maintaining Human Security and Building Peace.

AFGW aims to unite graduate women in Australia to work together and with the Graduate Women International’s network of sister graduates worldwide to:

- Promote equitable educational opportunities and lifelong learning.
- Improve the status and well-being of women and girls.
- Encourage women and girls to be active leaders and decision-makers in public and private life.
- Inspire and support women graduates to put their education and professional training to the service of the local, national and international community.
- Promote the Vision of AFGW amongst all people, irrespective of their gender, age, race, nationality, religion, political opinion, gender, sexual orientation or other status.

Each year AFGW, its affiliated state bodies and branches, give over \$500,000 in scholarships to woman and girls to further their education particularly at tertiary level. We also support a number of education projects for girls in the developing countries.

Since its inception, AFGW has been an advocate for women’s education in the belief that education enables women to take their rightful place in public life. We are a non-partisan organisation; we mark all occasions in which women are appointed to significant roles in the community and extend our congratulations.

Congratulations again, and thank you for inspiring girls and women throughout Australia by showing what they can achieve even in the still very macho world of law. We wish you all the very best in your new role.

Yours sincerely

Jane E. Baker
President AFGW Inc

Dr Madeleine Mattarozzi Laming
Convenor AFGW Standing Committee on the Status of Women