



Board President's Reflections - February 2024



by Danielle Heard, President of the ICGS Governing Board and Head of [Nashoba Brooks School](#)

“We’re going to be the internet.”

“I’m sorry, what?” was the best response I could muster when the oldest students in our school explained their plans to utilize their “senior prank” to transform our school into a physical representation of the internet. I will confess that my brain (analog by default) struggled to make sense of the vision created by our students who have grown up in our increasingly digital world.

These students exercised great patience as they explained to me that they would position themselves throughout the school as interactive stations within the invisible network of connections. Individual students would become hubs for interactive engagement on their internet—search engines, email addresses, social media platforms, advertisements, etc.—and younger students could connect with them to conduct research, communicate, and amplify ideas. This “prank” was a brilliant representation of what our students are capable of when we equip them with the skills and space they need to foster curiosity, seek creative solutions, build connections, and lead. **As the ICGS Governing Board of Directors gathered earlier this month to conduct our fiduciary, strategic, and generative work on behalf of our member schools, this memory of the students at my school surfaced as a small, but significant, metaphor for the work of our Coalition.**

During our meetings, the ICGS Board focused on the skills, attributes and learning outcomes that our students need to become ethical, globally-minded changemakers, and what leadership of girls requires at this time in our global society. Through these discussions, I was struck both by the exceptional wisdom in the room, and the invaluable strength and reach of our ICGS network.

[read more](#)

Don't Miss the 2024 ICGS Conference

Join more than 600 girls' school educators, advocates, and allies in Baltimore June 24-26 for this unparalleled professional development and networking opportunity. Follow the links below to learn about the dynamic lineup of opportunities, including a special Opening Reception to take place at the iconic [National Aquarium](#).

- [Schedule of Programming](#)
- [Networking Opportunities](#)
- [Keynote Speakers](#)
- [Pre-Conference Workshops](#)
- [Post-Conference School Visits](#)
- [Hotel Accommodations](#)
- [While You're in Baltimore](#)
- [Registration](#)



2024 Ransome and H. William Christ Educator Prizes Announced



ICGS is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the [Ransome Prize](#) and [H. William Christ Educator Prize](#).

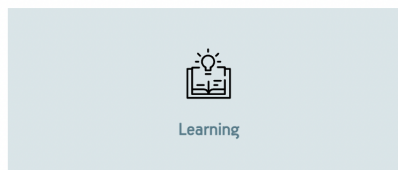
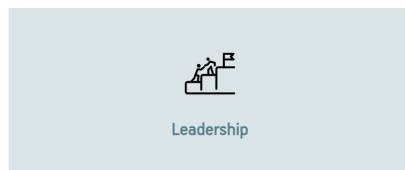
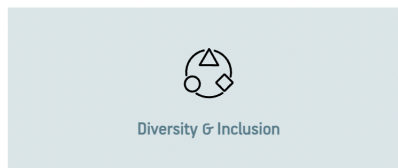
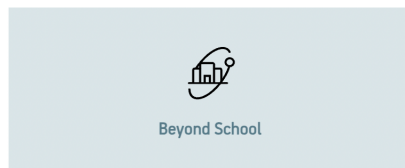
Alice Phillips, Headmistress of St Catherine's, Bramley (UK), has been awarded the Ransome Prize, which is presented each year in honor of Coalition co-founder Whitty Ransome. You can read Alice's biography [here](#). **Carolyn Mak**, Director of Well-Being and School Counseling at Branksome Hall (Canada), has been given the H. William Christ Educator Prize, created to honor the former member of the Coalition's Board of Directors and long-time visionary Head of Hathaway Brown School. You can read Carolyn's biography [here](#).

Both Alice and Carolyn were selected for their tireless devotion to educating, empowering, and inspiring girls to achieve their utmost potential and live healthy and fulfilling lives. They will be honored at the [2024 ICGS Conference](#) this June.

Please join us in congratulating Alice and Carolyn on this well-deserved recognition.



Explore the Enhanced ICGS Research Library



The International Coalition of Girls' Schools is proud to unveil a robust, user-friendly Research Library of scholarly articles, white papers, Coalition-commissioned studies, videos, research guides, and other materials related to girls' schools and the education and growth and development of girls.

With 650 resources cataloged, the ICGS Research Library is the premier collection of its type related to girls. This information is available exclusively to ICGS members, and it has been curated by the Coalition and our newly merged partner, the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia, over the course of many years. Please check back often, as the Research Library is continuously updated.

To access the Research Library, please click [here](#). You'll also find the link at www.girlsschools.org, under the Research menu. Member login is required.



A Dynamic Research Partnership to Catalyze Change in Pursuit of Girls' Well-Being, Engagement, and Belonging

Learn More About the ICGS-Challenge Success Research Study

All ICGS member schools are invited to take part in the [ICGS/Stanford University Challenge Success Research Study](#) on Girls' Well-Being, Engagement, and Belonging. Participating schools will have the opportunity to leverage this data to communicate the unique and powerful benefits of girls' schools in general, as well as the differentiating factors that exist within their own school communities. **A special Information Session will take place online on March 11 at 2 p.m. ET / 6 p.m. GMT / 5 a.m. AEDT March 12. The session recording will be shared with all registrants.**

[register now](#)

**Celebrating the Power of Girls and Girls' Schools
April 26 at Melbourne Girls Grammar School**

Join us at the [April 26, 2024 Educating Girls Symposium in Melbourne](#) for a transformative experience.

Discover best practice strategies, connect with like-minded professionals, and delve into empowering sessions tailored to girls' school educators.

From innovative pedagogy to fostering leadership skills, our line-up of renowned speakers will equip you with tools to shape confident, resilient, and empowered students.

educating
girls
symposium

Celebrating the Power
of Girls and Girls' Schools

26 April 2024
Melbourne Girls Grammar School | Melbourne, Australia

Early Bird registration is open through March 24 - [register today!](#)

ABOUT THE EDUCATING GIRLS SYMPOSIUM AT MELBOURNE GIRLS GRAMMAR:

[Overview](#) | [Registration](#) | [Accommodation](#) | [Keynote Speakers](#) | [Workshops](#) | [While You're in Melbourne](#)

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING ICGS EDUCATING GIRLS SYMPOSIUMS:

- September 6, 2024 - [Westlake Girls High School](#), Auckland, NZ
- November 8, 2024 - [Wimbledon High School GDST](#), London, England, UK



All-School Listening Opportunity: The Connected Girl Podcast Series

In Episode 5 of *The Connected Girl: Navigating Life Online*, host Trudy Hall invites Laura Tierney, the Founder and CEO of [The Social Institute](#), to share proactive strategies for negotiating this tricky terrain. The Social Institute has designed a unique approach to help students navigate the possibilities of social media so that it can fuel wellness and future success, showcasing role models and leaning into character strengths such as empathy, integrity and teamwork to inspire students to make good choices with their social media use. She reminds us that we are—and need to be—critical partners with girls in this arena, keeping them connected to their real selves even as they stay connected to their smartphones. **BONUS FEATURE:** Read this ICGS guest blog post from The Social Institute, [Fueling Girls' Success: Top insights from the largest survey on social media and tech's impact on student well-being and learning](#).

tune in now

Items of Interest

ICGS RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

[2024 Girls and Social Media Survey](#)

Research Partnership with ICGS and Marymount
School of New York Tech + Social Media Club

[We're all in this together, with girls' schools leading the way](#)

Blog post by ICGS Global Executive Director Megan
Murphy

[Upcoming ICGS Webinar Opportunities](#)

Advising Pupils on the US Admissions Process;
Research Webinar Series; Getting Real on Leadership:
Empower Your Students with Lean In Girls (all
sessions recorded)

[ICGS Events Calendar](#)

See an Array of Member School Events, and Submit
Your Own for Inclusion

NEWS & USEFUL LINKS

[Women's leadership is vital in the evolving landscape of higher education](#)

Times Higher Education

[Breaking barriers: Girls' schools excel in preparing students for competitive degree courses](#)

Cambridge Independent

[Launch of the second report on G7 Global Objectives on Girls' Education](#)

UNESCO

**550 schools. 22 countries. One mission:
Advancing Girls' Education Globally.**



International Women's Day 2024

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In honor of International Women's Day on March 8, we've created a [vibrant downloadable Proud ICGS Member graphic](#) for member schools to share on your school's social channels.

Post this image and tag @girlsschools to joyfully proclaim your commitment to celebrating and uplifting women through the power of girls' education.

On International Women's Day and every day, let it be known that your school is at the forefront of a strong and transformational movement dedicated to an urgent and enduring cause: Giving girls the tools, resources, support, and encouragement to be the ethical, globally minded changemakers the world needs.

Discover **Career Opportunities** at Girls' Schools

www.girlsschools.org

