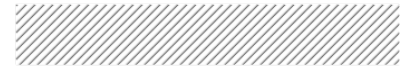




the latest for women in **STEM**



POWERED BY WOMENS AGENDA

## From the editor

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Welcome to the **April 8 issue** of The STEM Wrap, our weekly wrap of top reads for women in STEM .

But first, a few thoughts from our editor:

Australia is gradually adapting to a new kind of normal as we adjust to life in the pandemic.

For many people in STEM, it is business as usual. Especially for scientists, virologists, people working in technology and mathematicians – all of whom have a critical role in keeping us safe throughout the crisis. Many of these professionals, with families of their own at home, in isolation, are working extremely hard to track, understand, treat and hopefully, in time, find a vaccine for COVID-19.

The United Nations is calling for more women to pursue careers in science, [saying on Twitter](#): “Not all heroes wear capes. Some wear lab coats. We need more #womeninscience to beat pandemics and solve the most challenging problems we face today.”

Scientists, more than anyone, understand that nobody – irrespective of their class, education or wealth – is immune to this virus. High profile people such as Prince Charles, British PM Boris Johnson and singer Pink have all contracted coronavirus.

But lesser known, and potentially more influential people are also catching the virus.

Last week we mourned world-renowned HIV scientist, **Professor Gita Ramjee**, who died of

COVID-19 complications. Professor Ramjee was the chief scientific officer at the Aurum Institute, a leading authority in the field of HIV and TB. A winner of the prestigious European Outstanding Female Scientist Award, she was a critical player in the field of HIV prevention clinical trials, particularly for women.

Women's Agenda's **Madeline Hislop** has written a piece about Ramjee and her work [here](#)

Please stay safe everyone. Until next week....

**Jane Lindhe**

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## **LATEST HEADLINES ON WOMEN'S AGENDA**

### **The key stats that show the gendered response of the pandemic**

The consequences of measures taken to address the health and economic crisis are likely to be felt more by women, on several fronts. Emma Dawson, the Executive Director of Per Capita, shares a number of facts and issues that must be considered.

[Read more here +](#)

### **World renowned HIV scientist, Professor Gita Ramjee dies of COVID-19 complications**

Professor Gita Ramjee, a world-renowned scientist from South Africa, has died from COVID-19 related complications. She was 64. Professor Ramjee was the chief scientific officer at the Aurum Institute, a leading authority in the field of HIV and TB. She was a critical player in the field of HIV prevention clinical trials, and worked tirelessly throughout her career to find HIV prevention solutions, particularly for women.

[Read more here +](#)

### **A lack of discipline is not the only thing holding people back during the pandemic**

Women's Agenda's Georgie Dent looks at the Tweets suggesting that if you don't come out of quarantine with either: 1) a new skill, 2) starting what you've been putting off like a new business, 3) more knowledge, you "never lacked the time, you lack the discipline". "If you were looking to wave a red rag to a bull in these strange times, you'd be hard pressed to find words as affecting as these," Dent writes.

[Read more here +](#)

**Women's Ambassador for STEM, Professor Lisa Harvey-Smith shares tips on getting kids engaged with STEM from home**

Last week we spoke with Professor Harvey-Smith about how we can utilise this period of isolation to engage with kids on STEM. Gender messaging starts at a very young age, and the aspiring children's author says the pandemic might present a good opportunity to inspire our next generation of female STEM superstars.

[Read more here +](#)