



2012 Winter Newsletter

Message from the International Chair of IWIRC



As the Chair of IWIRC International, I am so excited to see the renewed excitement and growth that is coming out of the IWIRC – NY Network. The new IWIRC – NY Network Board has fun, creative and unique social and educational programs planned for the coming year. It is exciting to see one of our biggest networks truly come alive again. As Alicia Keys so eloquently said in her song about New York, “The streets will make you feel brand new, These lights will inspire you, Hear it for New York.” Clearly, the NY – Network has been inspired and the International Board of IWIRC is excited to see all the wonderful things coming in 2013 from this Network. [Let's hear it for New York!](#)

Happy Holidays,
[Jennifer Meyerowitz, Esq.](#),
IWIRC Chair

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Message from the IWIRC NY Chapter Chairs

Dear Friends of IWIRC NY,

Welcome to IWIRC NY 2013! We are thrilled to be introducing the new board to all of you. With 10 impressive ladies at the helm, the enthusiasm to make our chapter a success is tangible! The board has been hard at work over the last two months developing thoughtful networking events, substantive programming and community awareness initiatives. We are firm believers in the powerful IWIRC platform and look forward to bringing these unique opportunities to the women of the New York market.

We have a robust calendar planned for 2013 including substantive, social and out-of-the-box opportunities geared to facilitate networking as well as professional and personal growth. Our goal is to provide engaging programming that gets you thinking and leaves you with a new skill or tool. The implementation is fluid and we hope to change and improve in response to member needs, so please speak up with any ideas. Come experience the new IWIRC NY with our kick-off Poker event where we will learn how the skills of reading your opponent translate from the poker table to the negotiating table. Not a member? Join now and try out the poker event for free!

IWIRC NY is as much about our community as it is our members. As demonstrated with our response to the recent Super Storm Sandy (you can read more about this later in the newsletter), we plan to stay involved with our community throughout the year by participating in volunteer efforts and neighborhood projects within our communities.

We think you will enjoy getting a look into what we have planned in the coming months, learning a bit more about the NY network and meeting our board. Click along where you find underlined blue text throughout the newsletter for a more interactive experience. Finally, please feel free to reach out to either of us with any questions. We look forward to seeing you at an IWIRC event soon!

-[Sarah Frankel](#) and [Carren Shulman](#)

Events



Ladies Night: Bringing Poker Skills to the Negotiating Table **Thursday, January 17th, 2013 – 7:00-10:00pm** [SL Night Club](#)

Join us on Thursday, January 17, 2013 as IWIRC NY introduces “Ladies' Night,” an instructional poker event where rising female professional poker stars will teach you the skills of poker, the art of reading your opponents and how those skills translate to the negotiating table. Invite to follow.

Step up to the table! [Become a member](#) of IWIRC before January 14th and attend this event for free!

Pitch Perfect: A Mock Pitch Event **March 2013**

Coming Soon! IWIRC NY is excited to preview our first substantive event – Pitch Perfect: A Mock Pitch Event! Using a case study of a fictional distressed company, industry-leading professionals from a variety of restructuring disciplines will present pitches to the distressed company, represented by a client panel. This client panel will consist of high level executives who will hear the various pitches and offer invaluable insight and feedback as to what makes a business pitch successful. Pitch Perfect provides a unique opportunity to learn from the best in the business, develop pitch skills and gather best practices tips on winning business. We look forward to bringing this event and other valuable substantive programming to you in the coming year!

Industry Events

[New York Institute of Credit/Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors Joint Bankruptcy and Restructuring Event](#)

January 31, 2013, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
 Arno's Ristorante, New York New York

[2013 TMA Distressed Investing Conference](#)

February 6-8, Bellagio, Las Vegas, Nevada

[IWIRC at the Shore](#)

February 7-8, The Borgata, Atlantic City, NJ

[American Bankruptcy Institute VALCON2013](#)

[Contested Valuation Issues In Bankruptcy](#)

February 20-22, Four Seasons Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

[New York Institute of Credit, Women's Division Women in Achievement Awards](#)

February 28, 2013, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Union League Club, New York, New York

Sponsorship & Community Watch

Sponsorship Initiative

IWIRC NY is seeking corporate sponsors to support its membership and events for 2013. For almost 20 years, IWIRC has been connecting women in the restructuring and insolvency field worldwide. Through a global membership of more than 1,000 attorneys, bankers, corporate-turnaround professionals, financial advisors and other restructuring practitioners, members develop a powerful network of contacts, resources, mentors and friends. Because of its breadth and size, IWIRC is the premier organization for women in the restructuring and insolvency professions.

The new IWIRC NY board is very excited to kick off a terrific 2013 and is looking forward to energizing the IWIRC NY member base, boosting membership and further connecting the New York Chapter with IWIRC sister chapters both here in the U.S. and abroad. Corporate sponsorship is critical to the success of IWIRC NY. It is through the generosity of our corporate sponsors that we are able to host professional, educational and social events to connect our members and solidify our community in the restructuring industry.

The benefits of corporate sponsorship to our benefactors are twofold. In addition to supporting the largest women's restructuring organization worldwide, corporate sponsors are provided with significant exposure to a large community of restructuring professionals in New York of all ages and types. The broad reach of IWIRC will give our benefactors a terrific opportunity to be represented among a diverse and thriving part of the restructuring community.

If you have any questions, or are interested in sponsoring, please email [Alexandra Kelly](#) or visit our [website](#) for more information.

Community Watch

Super Storm Sandy devastated much of the Northeast and affected many of IWIRC NY's members, friends and neighbors. In early November, the IWIRC NY board initiated several recovery efforts to help our friends in need. Through donation centers and hands-on volunteer efforts, members of IWIRC NY were able to contribute in helping our hardest hit areas get back on their feet.

Through these efforts, over the last six weeks IWIRC NY has gathered much needed supplies and generous donations from the IWIRC NY community. The incredible amount of in-kind donations were taken to New York's hardest hit communities and the monetary donations were contributed to the financial assistance offered by the national and international organizations handling the intimidating distribution logistics. Additionally, we offered opportunities to get out and get your hands dirty cleaning up parks that sustained damage in the storm. With a community still very much in need, we will continue to offer volunteer opportunities going forward. Please email [Michelle Repko](#) if you would like to be added to the volunteer list.

A big thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered and worked to make these relief efforts possible.

Member News

Getting to Know You

Tell us who you are and what you want from IWIRC NY! [Click here](#) to complete our current survey and for your chance to win free attendance to an IWIRC NY event of your choosing!

Welcome IWIRC NY New Members October 1, 2012-December 15, 2012

[Eve Chloe Binder](#)

Joele Frank, Wilkinson Brimmer Katcher

[Melissa Crespo](#)

Morrison & Foerster LLP

[Karen B. Dine](#)

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

[Kizzy L. Jarashow](#)

Stutman, Treister & Glatt, P.C.

[Mahtab Khalil](#)

Deloitte Corporate Restructuring

[Jennifer Marines](#)

Morrison & Foerster LLP

[Samantha Martin](#)

Morrison & Foerster LLP

[Ariadne Montare](#)

Ahmad Zavitsanos Anaipakos Alavi & Mensing PC

[Naomi Moss](#)

Morrison & Foerster LLP

Want to see your name in newsletter lights? Join before January 14, 2013 and receive complimentary attendance to IWIRC NY's premier Ladies Night poker event! Email [Melissa Hager](#) or [click here](#) for more information.

Meet Our Board



Co-Chair

Marlene Rabinowitz is a partner at BDO with over 18 years of experience in matters relating to bankruptcy and insolvency, business disputes, accounting and auditing, and forensic investigations. Marlene has worked with troubled and insolvent companies involving both reorganizations and out-of-court work outs representing debtors, unsecured creditors and secured lenders. Marlene looks forward to joining this newly formed Board of Directors with the opportunity to work with a group of truly extraordinary women collaborating to provide various educational and networking opportunities to well-respected and diverse women in the industry.

Jennifer O'Neil is an attorney in the Business Restructuring & Reorganization group at Jones Day. Jennifer's experience includes representation of various major constituencies in both out-of-court and in-court restructurings and reorganizations, including debtors, lenders and bank groups, bondholder committees, unsecured creditors, and other debt and equity investors. Jennifer believes that IWIRC presents a unique platform to focus on strengthening the network of women in the industry and that the New York chapter has an incredible untapped potential to be a synergistic forum for professional networking and development, industry education and ongoing dialogue on pertinent industry topics.



Co-Chair



**Secretary/
Treasurer**

Alexandra Kelly is an attorney with Vinson & Elkins in New York and has nearly 10 years of experience representing debtors, creditors, lenders, acquirors and other parties in interest in both in court and out of court reorganizations and restructurings. These representations have spanned numerous industries, including energy, manufacturing, automobile, airline, retail and shipping. Prior to her tenure at Vinson & Elkins, she spent several years in the New York office of Kirkland & Ellis. Ali is excited to re-energize the NYC base for women in the restructuring business through IWIRC. As the largest restructuring market in the nation (and arguably the world), New York provides a truly vast opportunity to meet, network with and support other women who share professional interests and aspirations. IWIRC provides a terrific means to take advantage of that opportunity."

Melissa Hager is of counsel in the Bankruptcy & Restructuring Group at Morrison & Foerster with over 20 years of experience in matters relating to bankruptcy and insolvency. Melissa regularly represents debtors, creditors' committees and secured creditors in a broad range of complex business reorganizations, debt restructurings and insolvency matters throughout the country. Melissa is a long standing member of IWIRC and is excited about working with the IWIRC NY board to effectuate its plans for the New York chapter in the upcoming year. As Membership/Sponsorship Director, she anticipates that the diversity and cutting edge content of the events will aid her in achieving her goal of doubling the New York network's membership in 2013.



Membership

Meet Our Board (con't)



**Co-Chair
Substantive
Programming**

[Janice Grubin](#) is a member of the Corporate Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Creditors Rights Group at Todtman, Nachamie, Spizz & Johns and has almost twenty-five years of experience in a wide range of insolvency litigation and transactional matters. Janice's practice spans the middle and mega markets and encompasses the representation of debtors, creditors, panel, indenture and operating trustees, official and ad hoc committees, secured and unsecured creditors, landlords, banks and defendants and plaintiffs in adversary proceedings in voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy proceedings, corporate restructurings and workouts in a wide variety of industries, including the non-profit sector. As Co-Chair of Substantive Programming, Janice looks forward to seeing this chapter harness the passion that female New York restructuring professionals have for their work and colleagues, and she believes that IWIRC empowers us all to forge long lasting bonds of friendship, both in the professional and personal spheres of our lives.

[Michelle Repko](#) is a Director in AlixPartners' Information Management Services group. In seven years of service at the firm, Michelle has gained significant consulting experience combined with hands-on management in the areas of bankruptcy case administration and information management. Michelle has been a member of IWIRC since 2010 and values the platform the organization provides in building relationships with like-minded women in the industry. As Co-Chair of Substantive Programming, she looks forward bringing unique opportunities for business and professional development to our existing and future membership base.



**Co-Chair
Substantive
Programming**



**Co-Chair
Social Programming**

[Saima Majid](#) is Director of Corporate Restructuring Services at Kurtzman Carson Consultants ("KCC"), a leading claims administrator and noticing agent. In this role, Saima promotes and facilitates KCC's growth initiatives within the restructuring sector, manages key relationships with clients and other industry players, and leverages her prior legal expertise by overseeing the administration of client engagements. Prior to joining KCC, Saima was an associate in the Business Finance and Restructuring department of Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP from 2005 to 2012. As Social Programs Co-Chair, Saima looks forward to creating meaningful networking opportunities for women in the restructuring industry for 2013.

[Jill Bienstock](#) is a bankruptcy associate with the law firm of Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A. and is resident in their New York office. Jill focuses her practice on both individual and corporate reorganizations, creditors' rights and avoidance actions and represents a variety of clients in different industries, a sample of which includes real estate developers, casinos, restaurants, telecommunications providers, as well as committees and trustees. Jill has been a member of IWIRC since 2009 and is ecstatic to serve as Social Programming Co-Chair for the IWIRC NY network. From this position, Jill is looking forward to creating innovative and dynamic social events that broaden the reach of the New York network and provide the New York members with even more opportunities to further their personal and professional development.



**Co-Chair
Social Programming**

Member Profiles – Carren Shulman



[Carren Shulman](#), Sheppard Mullin

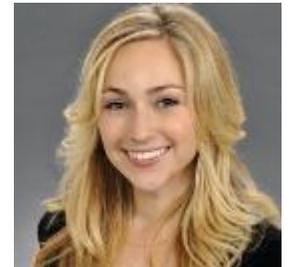
Carren Shulman is a partner in the NY Office of Sheppard Mullin and a member of the Firm's Executive Committee. Carren is trusted outside counsel to her Fortune 500 clients, representing them in refinancings, restructurings, receiverships, asset sales and purchases, workouts and litigation domestically as well as globally, with significant industry expertise in hospitality, asset backed securities and aerospace. Carren is also a longstanding IWIRC member. She is currently the co-chair of IWIRC's New York Chapter and for her fifth year is a delegate for IWIRC to the UN Trade Commission's working group on insolvency and restructuring, developing changes to the international bankruptcy code adopted by over twenty member countries. She has a teenage daughter and a teenage son, and believes helping all kids create goals and achieve them must be our highest priority.

Carren has been an active member of IWIRC at the local, national and international levels for more than eight years. She first became involved as an attendee at events, and eventually joined IWIRC committees aligned with her personal and professional interests, like the Fall Conference Committee and the delegation to UNCITRAL, Working Group V (the Insolvency Group). Through IWIRC event attendance and small group planning, Carren has made both excellent business contacts and lifelong friendships. Carren knows that her experience is not unique and highlights the tremendous value of IWIRC.

Carren is highly regarded in the restructuring community and her election to co-chair of IWIRC NY has been noted with excitement and enthusiasm throughout the IWIRC community. [Beth Hansen](#), in-house counsel at UTC Aerospace Systems and IWIRC Vice Chair said, "Where to even start? Carren has been a critical component in IWIRC's robust national substantive programming for years. She is quick on her feet, flawlessly handling even the most complex professional situations to negotiate a best case scenario for everyone involved. Carren's great charisma and natural inclination to connect and promote people underlie her notable success in the restructuring industry. The New York chapter couldn't be luckier - Carren and Sarah complement each other very well and I am incredibly excited to see what tremendous things this new board will accomplish with those two at the helm."

Carren is excited by the possibilities for IWIRC NY in 2013. She believes in the strength of the New York community and wants to provide what she has experienced first-hand – the incredible career enhancing opportunities IWIRC offers. Carren explained that “professional women are keenly aware that other professional women want work, and there’s a comfortable directness in this networking organization that allows our members to ask for and offer help.” Additionally Carren shared that “the new board is an outstanding cross section of the restructuring market in New York and I look forward to expanding IWIRC NY’s membership and connecting women worldwide in the year to come.”

Member Profiles – Sarah Frankel



[Sarah Frankel](#), GCG, Inc.

Sarah Frankel serves as Business Development Specialist for The Garden City Group, Inc. (“GCG”). Sarah began her career in 2004 as a consultant at KCC, quickly finding her niche in the business development department. After helping building the west coast business development department, Sarah moved to New York in 2007 to help invigorate their east coast operations and presence. Sarah has been responsible for numerous large engagements including several of the largest chapter 11 filings in recent memory. In January of 2012, Sarah was brought on to drive GCG’s national business development strategy. [Karen Shaer](#), Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel for GCG, commented on the move, “GCG was thrilled when Sarah Frankel decided to join our bankruptcy business development team less than a year ago. In that short time, we have seen Sarah bring vibrancy to her many creative ideas. She is tenacious in pursuing her goals. From the beginning, Sarah displayed leadership qualities and fit right in to GCG’s team spirit of growth and excellence. Her leadership role at IWIRC will give her another outlet to display these qualities and should inure to the benefit of that organization.”

Sarah has been a member of IWIRC since the beginning of her career. Through the years Sarah has been involved with numerous IWIRC initiatives across the country, including in Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York. Originally a member of the Los Angeles chapter, Sarah found that her IWIRC connections played a critical role in building the foundation of her now-extensive professional network. Now thriving in New York, Sarah sees tremendous opportunity and could not be more excited for the opportunity at hand. Sarah commented that “the New York restructuring community is unsurpassed in its depth of talent, which is particularly true of New York’s female professionals. IWIRC provides a unique and powerful platform for women to further develop their professional networks and capitalize on the breadth of opportunity the New York market offers.”

Sarah’s election as co-chair of IWIRC NY has injected renewed energy into the New York membership base. “Sarah’s exuberance and can-do attitude are infectious, and have earned her a real following in the restructuring industry. I’m thrilled to see her taking a leadership role with the IWIRC New York chapter, and I think we will all benefit from the results over the years to come,” commented [Natasha Labovitz](#), partner in the Business Restructuring & Workouts group at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP and an IWIRC NY member. Sarah’s focus on building out the IWIRC NY network has already returned tangible results. Sarah welcomes the challenge, stating “We have a lot of work ahead of us, but I’m determined we are going to be a success!”

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