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## From the Vice-Chair

*Jennifer Meyerowitz, Epiq Systems*

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is my absolute pleasure to write this month's letter, which is dedicated to the **Rising Stars** of our organization. We are often inundated with news of promotions, prestige and accolades of those further along in their careers, but it is less often that we honor and appreciate those that are "on their way up." The younger, less experience professionals among us work hard, long hours, engage in new experiences every day, and are constantly being pulled in a thousand directions. Yet, sometimes, it is these same dedicated young professionals that spend the most time promoting, guiding and leading us. In this newsletter, it is my pleasure to showcase our first annual 2011 IWIRC Rising Star finalists – all of whom have figured out how to "do it all."

According to Webster's dictionary, a Rising Star is someone "who is starting to do very well and who people think will soon be very successful." IWIRC had sixteen total nominees for the Rising Star Awards. It is amazing to read all the wonderful things our members are doing to strengthen and improve IWIRC. Thank you for sending us such incredible nominations for very worthy candidates. All of our nominees are not only "starting" do well as the definition implies, but "are" doing very well and are already very successful.

After much consideration, IWIRC has chosen the following individuals to be our 2011 IWIRC Rising Star finalists:

**Megan Adeyemo** is an associate with the Denver office of Gordon & Rees, LLP, specializing in bankruptcy, restructuring, and creditors' rights. She graduated from law school in 2005, and was an extern for Judge Brooks of the Colorado Bankruptcy Court prior to joining Gordon & Rees. Megan has been an active member of the Mountain-Desert Network for several years. She has helped coordinate the annual Network program held in conjunction with the ABI Rocky Mountain conference in January of each year. In 2011, Megan assumed the role of Treasurer of the Mountain-Desert Network. She is also the co-chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Colorado Bar Association, and has been named an Up and Coming Star by Law Week Colorado. "Megan fulfills her commitments with no muss, no fuss, and no nagging," according to those who nominated Megan for this award.

**Alison Elko** is an associate at the law firm of McKenna Long & Aldridge and Co-Chair of the IWIRC-Georgia Network. Alison joined the Georgia Network in 2004 while serving as a law clerk. From 2007 through 2009, her aggressive recruitment efforts as Membership Chair significantly increased the membership from approximately 30 to more than 70 women. She also focused on diversifying the membership to include consumer attorneys, trustees, bankers and other industry professionals. In addition to fulfilling her official

*(continued)*

connecting women worldwide

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The International Women's  
Insolvency and Restructuring  
Confederation E-Newsletter

Volume 14, Number 8  
September 2011

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## EVENTS

**Wednesday, Oct. 05, 2011**

Canadian Network  
[The IWIRC Canadian Network  
Presents an Evening of Wine and  
Fashion](#)

**Thursday, Oct. 06, 2011**

Michigan Network  
[Joint Event With TMA and ACG  
Featuring Robert Bobb](#)

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Florida Network  
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**Thursday, Nov. 03, 2011**

New Jersey Network  
[IWIRC New Jersey Network - 4th  
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It is not too early to  
start thinking about 2012  
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information see page Z

duties, she has worked to compile an annual records binder for the Board, submit an application for The Ryan Award, increase social networking opportunities and establish a mentoring program. According to the Honorable Judge C. Ray Mullins, "Alison has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the legal profession and the bankruptcy community through leadership and extensive involvement in professional activities, pro bono work and community service."

**Monique Hayes** is an associate at the law firm of Genovese Joblove & Battista, P.A. and Co-Chair of the Florida Network. Since joining IWIRC four years ago, she has been involved in the growth and development of the Florida Network. As a member of the Board of Directors, Monique assisted in organizing and producing several IWIRC programs and events. In 2010, she was appointed to the ABA Business Law Bankruptcy Section Committee's liaison to IWIRC. In that capacity, Monique is tasked with identifying and developing areas and opportunities for collaborating between the Business Bankruptcy Committee and IWIRC. Monique has been appointed as the South Florida Co-Chair for the Network. She has updated the Florida Network website, established a monthly Talk-of-the-Town report to tout the accomplishments of members, drafted revised Network rules of operation and is planning several events for the coming year. According to the words of one of the nominators, "She is IWIRC."

**Joyce Lau Ka Yee** is a manager with the Hong Kong PricewaterhouseCoopers Business Recovery Services Group and Communications Chair of the Hong Kong Network. Joyce has practiced full time in the insolvency and corporate reorganization field in Hong Kong since 2003, and has experience in different types of appointments including liquidations, scheme of arrangements, receiverships and financial review matters. In 2010, she was nominated to the Board of the Hong Kong Network. Joyce has continued to grow the local network by organizing events and securing sponsors. She has helped to expand the Network by attracting younger and local Chinese insolvency practitioners. She also promoted IWIRC China Network to insolvency practitioners and maintains regular dialogue with the China Network. According to Joyce's nominators, Joyce is "an energetic and committed member, who is a good ambassador for IWIRC."

**Jennifer Kimble** is an associate with the law firm of Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC and the co-Founder and co-Chair of the Alabama Network. Jennifer was one of the co-founders of the Alabama Network. Through Jennifer's leadership, the Alabama Network has hosted various events. In addition, Jennifer has attended International IWIRC events, conferences and has served on IWIRC International's committees such as the membership services committee, among others. As stated by those that nominated Jennifer, "Jennifer is exactly the type of leader that we want to encourage, promote and recognize with this Rising Star Award. She is part of the future leadership of IWIRC."

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors of IWIRC, I want to congratulate our 2011 Rising Star nominees and semi-finalists. Your hard work, dedication, commitment and enthusiasm for IWIRC is the lifeblood of this organization and we thank you wholeheartedly.

Thank you also to our Awards Committee, **Leslie Berkoff**, **Evelyn Meltzer**, and **Carol Felicetta**, for all the time and effort that you put in to launch these Rising Star Awards. Thank you also to **Sejal Kelly**, as these awards were your brainchild.

I look forward to joining all of you as we recognize the accomplishments and commitments of our nominees and finalists at the IWIRC luncheon in Tampa on October 12 during our 2011 Annual Meeting.

Regards, Jennifer

## Now Taking Applications for Woman of the Year in Restructuring Award

Know someone who embodies great achievement or has made outstanding contributions to the insolvency and restructuring profession? Nominate her or yourself! 2011 Nominations due on October 21, 2011, visit [www.iwirc.com/news/473/2011-woman-of-the-year-in-restructuring](http://www.iwirc.com/news/473/2011-woman-of-the-year-in-restructuring), for additional details.

Click here to see prior recipients of the award [www.iwirc.com/about-us/recognition-awards/woyr](http://www.iwirc.com/about-us/recognition-awards/woyr)

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## Top 5 Reasons to Attend the IWIRC Fall Conference

By: *Natasha Labovitz, Partner, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP*

It is that “back to school” time of year again, when August gives way to September and it seems that the pace of the world gets busier. In my case, this fall is a particularly busy time because I am integrating into a new law firm and going through all of the transition that goes along with that: figuring out how to work my new computer systems; reminding everyone (including myself!) that I have a new phone number; finding that new perfect spot to grab my morning coffee.

How does this relate to IWIRC, you ask? Well, yesterday, it seemed like it took hours to figure out how to make a travel reservation to attend the IWIRC fall meeting and take care of all of the necessary details that go along with that, because this is the first business trip I am planning at the new firm. And, human nature being what it is, I asked myself “Why am I going through all of this? Why do I really need to go to the IWIRC conference?” And almost as soon as I thought the questions, the top 5 answers seemed clear:

**5. Florida. Art. Bowling. Boat Cruises. Cocktail Parties.** A quick look at the schedule of events for the IWIRC program is enough to remind me that being in Tampa next month may be a lot more enjoyable than being in my office. We all want to be focused on and invested in our careers . . . but if that investment happens to include some time in the sun and a cocktail or two, I am all for it.

**4. Ethics CLE. Need I say more?** Any lawyer admitted to the New York bar (and those of many other states) will likely agree with me that obtaining 1.5 hours of Ethics CLE credit is an attractive thing in and of itself. But, over and above the compliance benefits, the opportunity to hear a meaningful and focused discussion from experienced restructuring professionals about the kinds of ethics issues we all face, in an actual case-study situation, is a valuable and rare opportunity.

**3. Building a strong network is important, and IWIRC can help.** One of the things I enjoy most about IWIRC is that it brings together a cross-section of women from the legal, financial advisory, banking, investing and other communities related to restructuring. We all need to work together to effectuate successful restructuring transactions - and we can help each other identify and secure new business opportunities. Meeting in person is a wonderful way to solidify these relationships.

**2. This is a great opportunity to think about restructuring on an international scale.** The breakfast program at the fall meeting features well-respected speakers from five different countries, who will discuss hot topics in international insolvency - what a great way to stay up to speed on these important issues.

**1. IWIRC is a wonderful group of smart and supportive women, many of whom have become my friends.** I am looking forward to seeing everyone in just a few short weeks at the conference!

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## Network Happenings

### IWIRC Chicago Sets Sail

*Note from the editor: Apologies to the Chicago Network for the omission of their update from the previous newsletter.*

*By Melissa Hinds, Partner, Jenner & Block, Ex Officio Chair of the Chicago Network*

Ahoy! On July 26, the IWIRC Chicago Network took to the high seas of Lake Michigan for a sail aboard the 148-foot Tall Ship Windy. A group of 60+ IWIRC members and guests enjoyed perfect weather, beautiful skyline views, and appetizers and cocktails during the cruise, which departed from Chicago’s historic Navy Pier. Attendees were also treated to a crash course in sailing jargon from the Windy’s excellent crew; all quickly learned that the Windy’s “bow” and “aft” provided perfect gathering spots for attendees to mingle and network. Upon the Windy’s return to port, several IWIRC members gathered informally — joined by a few land lubbers — for dinner and more conversation. The summer sail received rave reviews from attendees, and the Chicago Network looks forward to making it a repeat event.

On September 12, IWIRC Chicago they also held an educational seminar, "Effective Business Development Techniques: What Works? What Doesn't?" at which several esteemed practitioners and restructuring professionals, including **Catherine Steege**, **James H.M. Sprayregen, P.C.**, **Linda K. Myers, P.C.**, **Bettina Whyte**, **Melissa Kibler Knoll**, and **Janet Baer** addressed the attendees.

What's next for this adventuresome bunch of IWIRC enthusiasts, you ask? (To recap 2011, we've sailed, cooked, may-garita-ed, and educated!) Stay tuned for more fun – it may feel like the dog days of summer now, but October-fest and the annual holiday High Tea are just around the corner!



## Georgia

*Submitted by: Alisa H. Aczel, Esq., Senior Consultant, Garden City Group*

The Georgia Network ushered out summer with a nod to the spring. On August 30, 2011, our members gathered in Wargo French's wonderful new offices for wine, appetizers, and a viewing of clips from the live panel presented during IWIRC's Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. in March, 2011. The panel, "A Conversation with Trailblazing Women in the Insolvency Field," was moderated by the **Hon. Marjorie Rendell** of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and included insight from: **Normo Corio**, Treasurer, JP Morgan; **Marcia Goldstein**, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; **Hon. Barbara Houser**, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, Northern District of Texas; **Hon. Mary Walrath**, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, Delaware; and **Bettina Whyte**, Alvarez and Marsal. As described by **Carolyn Richter**, a partner with Troutman Sanders, the panel participants engaged in "discussion about how to maneuver as a woman in a large law firm or corporation, including how to choose your mentors, and issues that come up such as discrimination and the effect that starting a family has on your career." The panel's attention to pivotal concerns faced by female attorneys spawned open and honest discourse among the Georgia Network members, offering an ideal opportunity for our more "seasoned" members to guide and share insights with our members just beginning their journeys in a predominantly male field. This August event allowed us to connect with the very purpose of our IWIRC networks! We look forward to future events and encourage further discussion on these topics from any and all IWIRC members.

Georgia Network members benefited from excellent advice earlier this summer as well. On

July 26, Alston & Bird graciously hosted the Georgia Network Judges Panel, “*Perspectives from the Bench: If I Knew then What I Know Now.*” **Karen Fagin White** displayed ease and expertise in moderating the panel, comprised of three of our region’s wonderful judges: **Hon. Wendy L. Hagenau**, the **Hon. James R. Sacca**, and the **Hon. James P. Smith**. It is always a pleasure to hear our bench informally opine!! Special thanks to our program committee members for orchestrating this event and to Alston & Bird for hosting the evening.



The excitement attendant with the matriculation of new judges to the bench, as we’ve enjoyed the past two years, is tempered by the impending retirement of one of our most beloved judges. Too soon, **Chief Judge Bihary**, genius and speed-reader extraordinaire, will retire from her post. While we cannot imagine a bar without Chief Judge Bihary presiding, the 11th Circuit is facing reality and accepting applications from highly qualified candidates to join the bench. Interested applicants should contact James P. Gerstenlauer, Circuit Executive, 56 Forsyth Street, NW, Atlanta 30303 (404-335-6535) or download an application from the Court’s Website: [www.ca11.uscourts.gov](http://www.ca11.uscourts.gov). Applications must be received by October 18, 2011.

This month’s report would not be complete without a special “We’re Proud of You!” to **Alison Elko**, our Georgia Network co-chair, for her spot among the 5 finalists for IWIRC’s Rising Star Award. The final recipient of the Award will be announced this October at IWIRC’s Annual Fall International Conference in Tampa, Florida prior to the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges of 2011. Congratulations, Alison!

We have many great fall events in the works. Check out Georgia Network’s Events’ Page, check us out on Facebook, or contact any of our board members for details of our upcoming events, which include a cooking demonstration, a painting class, a holiday party, and other fun gatherings. See you soon!

## Michigan Network

On August 17th, MIWIRC hosted a free event reception for members and prospective members on the beautiful patio of Assaggi Bistro in Ferndale. The turnout was tremendous as attendees enjoyed an evening of fantastic networking, food and drinks. **Deb Kuptz**, IWIRC

Immediate Past Chair, spoke to attendees briefly about the benefits of joining IWIRC and upcoming national events. Special thanks to IWIRC for providing MIWIRC with a grant which allowed us to raffle off two apple iPads at this event focused on new membership growth. Congratulations to the lucky winners, **Julie Teicher** of Erman, Teicher, Miller, Zucker, and Freedman and **Frank Mamat** of Foster Swift!

## Member News

**M. Natasha Labovitz** has joined Debevoise & Plimpton LLP as a partner in its New York office and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group. Ms. Labovitz is a seasoned corporate restructuring practitioner and brings significant financial restructuring experience and legal skills to Debevoise, further strengthening the firm's highly ranked practice. She has particular expertise as debtor's counsel, having acted as lead debtor counsel in several of the largest chapter 11 cases filed in recent years, including Chemtura Corporation and TOUSA, Inc.

Ms. Labovitz joins Debevoise from the New York office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where she was a partner in its Restructuring Group. She has extensive experience advising a range of clients, including private equity firms and portfolio companies, in complex corporate restructurings, representing debtors and creditors in and out of bankruptcy in cross-border insolvencies across multiple jurisdictions. Among other recognitions, in 2010 Ms. Labovitz was selected as one of Law360's "Rising Stars," a list of ten bankruptcy attorneys to watch under the age of 40.

Ms. Labovitz received her J.D., magna cum laude, (1996) from New York University of Law, and her B.A., magna cum laude, (1992) from Columbia College, Columbia University.

**Barbara George Barton** is pleased to announce that she has been chosen by the American Registry as one of America's Most Honored Professionals which is a group consisting of 5% of the most recognized professionals in all fields. It is a selection based upon acknowledgement and honors received by professional groups, peers and clients.

In addition, Ms. Barton has been selected for inclusion in the 2012 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the practice areas of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation – Bankruptcy. She has been certified as a specialist in Bankruptcy and Debtor - Creditor Law since 1993 by the S.C. Supreme Court and by the American Bankruptcy Institute since 1996.

**Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker**, of E. Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker, LLC, was recently elected to serve on the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession Committee. She has her own law practice servicing Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York, in the areas of corporate and bankruptcy law with a focus on the commercial and consumer areas of chapters 7, 11 and 13.



Natasha Labovitz



Barbara Barton



Carolyn Hochstadter Dicker

## Upcoming Network Activities

**Friday, September 30, 2011**

Virginia Network

[Breakfast with IWIRC - Virginia Network](#)

**Friday, September 30, 2011**

Cayman Islands Network

[Hot Topics in International Insolvency](#)

**Wednesday, October 05, 2011**

Canadian Network

[The IWIRC Canadian Network Presents an Evening of Wine and Fashion](#)

**Thursday, October 06, 2011**

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[Joint Event With TMA and ACG Featuring Robert Bobb](#)

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[Cooking With IWIRC!](#)

**Sunday, October 23, 2011**

Delaware Network  
[IWIRC Annual Charity Event - Join Team Donna](#)

**Thursday, November 03, 2011**

New Jersey Network  
[IWIRC New Jersey Network - 4th Annual Shop with a Purpose](#)

**Friday, November 04, 2011**

Northern California Network  
[Cross-Disciplinary Dialogue: White Collar Crime and Business Bankruptcy](#)

**Wednesday, November 16, 2011**

Chicago Network  
[IWIRC Chicago: Champagne and Chocolates](#)

**Thursday, November 17, 2011**

Michigan Network  
[Holiday High Tea and Toddies](#)

**Friday, December 16, 2011**

Chicago Network  
[IWIRC Chicago: Annual High Tea](#)

**Wednesday, January 18, 2012**

Michigan Network  
[MIWIRC Spa Night](#)

**Wednesday, March 14, 2012**

Michigan Network  
[MIWIRC Spring Luncheon](#)

**Wednesday, August 01, 2012**

Georgia Network  
[IWIRC's 6th Annual Leadership Summit for Board of Directors and Network Chairs](#)



**Shari Bedker**  
IWIRC Administrative Director

**Did You Know...**

*Submitted by Shari Bedker, IWIRC Administrative Director*

Did you know that each network can post their own news, so be sure and check out your network's page when you go to the website for the latest news AND be sure to pass on to your network chairs any information you would like to share with your network members.

**2012-2014 Bankruptcy & Insolvency Events Now Available Online**

As a resource for all IWIRC Members, you will find the 2012-2014 Bankruptcy & Insolvency Events Calendar compiled by Armstrong & Associates International, Inc. on our website (need to insert link once it is ready) The calendar is a compilation of bankruptcy and insolvency events from around the world and includes major international events and holidays. We hope the calendar will be a useful reference to you and your firm.

**Social Media Giveaway**

How would you like to get a free one year membership to IWIRC? We will be randomly drawing a name from all the followers to the IWIRC LinkedIn Group, Facebook page, and Twitter account followers as of 11/30/2011. If you are chosen you will receive a year of membership for free! If you join like and follow you will triple your chances!

For a great article on how to sign up and use these social media forums see <http://www.iwirc.com/file.cfm/178/content/social-media-primer.pdf>

**2012 Sponsorships Now Being Accepted!**

2012 sponsorships are now being accepted. Send in your firm's commitment by October 12, 2011 at the Gold Level or above to be entered into a drawing for an iPad 2 at IWIRC's Fall Luncheon in Tampa. For details on the levels, benefits and the sponsorship form, please visit [www.iwirc.com/about-us/sponsors/benefits](http://www.iwirc.com/about-us/sponsors/benefits).

## IWIRC Contacts

If you would like to:

- send an article for inclusion in one of our forthcoming issues;
- introduce a new member to IWIRC;
- join IWIRC; or
- volunteer to take on a leadership role within one of our committees

Please contact our administrative assistant, Marcy Gravatt, at [info@iwirc.com](mailto:info@iwirc.com).

## Welcome IWIRC New Members!

*August 1 through August 31, 2011*

### **Mingfen Tan**

Clifford Chance  
Singapore Singapore

### **Greta Brouphy**

Heller, Draper, Hayden,  
Patrick & Horn, L.L.C.  
New Orleans Louisiana U.S.

### **Angela Ee**

Ernst & Young  
Singapore Singapore

### **Kendra Goodman**

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Patrick & Horn, L.L.C.  
New Orleans Louisiana U.S.

### **May Kee Ho**

Ernst & Young Solutions LLP  
Singapore Singapore

### **Eleanor Fisher**

Zolfo Cooper  
Georgetown Grand Cayman  
Cayman Islands

### **Gaye Frederic**

Republic Business Credit, LLC  
New Orleans Louisiana U.S.

### **Tammy Fu**

Zolfo Cooper  
Georgetown Grand Cayman  
Cayman Islands

### **Lauren Silver**

U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Philadelphia PA U.S.

### **Tammy Kemp**

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### **Rachel Koch**

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New York New York U.S.

### **Kelly Bourassa**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP  
Calgary Alberta Canada

### **Mei Yen Tan**

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### **Jill Corraini**

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Beaudin & Lang LLP  
Vancouver BC Canada

### **Julie Hertzberg**

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### **Marisa Thames**

Campbell Law Firm/  
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### **Piya Mukherjee**

Horten Hellerup  
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Atlanta GA U.S.

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Woking Surrey UK

### **Carey Menasco**

Liskow & Lewis  
New Orleans Louisiana U.S.

### **Kerriann Mills**

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Chicago IL U.S.

### **Andrea Momnie**

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Springfield MA U.S.

### **Dena Olivier**

Liskow & Lewis  
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and Pease LLP**

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**NHB Advisors**

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## Individual

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