



From the Chair

Nancy Valentine, *Ice Miller LLP, IWIRC Chair*

Dear IWIRC,

We just finished another successful IWIRC leadership summit with the Cayman Islands Network. I want to thank and congratulate the Cayman Islands Network on an amazing summit. Besides the stunning views, we were fortunate to have Cheryl-Dean Thompson of Shirlaws as our professional development speaker. We also were joined by local Cayman Island professionals who demystified bankruptcy and litigation in the Cayman Islands, and ensured that we understood the Cayman Island's importance in global finance. IWIRC thanks its moderator and panelists, **Rebecca Hume** (Kobre & Kim), **Alex Lawson** (KPMG Deal Advisory), Rachael Reynolds (Ogier), and **Jessica Williams** (Harneys). Finally, all of the attendees worked hard to continue to move forward IWIRC's strategic planning process and provide constructive feedback to allow IWIRC to navigate the changing landscape of the insolvency industry for the benefit of its members.

With respect to the strategic plan survey, I wanted to share a bit of the good news about IWIRC that came out of the survey. First, 93% of IWIRC members that responded (approximately 15% of the membership) believe IWIRC's mission of connecting women worldwide remains relevant. Second, 66% of respondents report that IWIRC is significant in their business and professional development. Finally, 71% of respondents said IWIRC was the most beneficial, or more beneficial, than other professional organizations in which they are involved. While IWIRC has challenges, the foundation is strong.

The IWIRC season is never over, and we are looking forward to continuing education, the Rising Star Awards, and relationship building at the IWIRC Fall Conference October 7-8, 2017 in Las Vegas. If you have not registered for the fall conference, be sure to make your plans soon.

I leave you with the following as we all meet our personal and professional endeavors:

"Grit is sticking with your future day in, day out and not just for the week, not just for the month, but for years." Angela Lee Duckworth (author of *Grit: the Power of Passion and Perseverance*).

I hope everyone has a great end to their summer and we look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nancy

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

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Nancy Valentine
IWIRC Chair
Ice Miller LLP



Alexandra CC Schnapp
IWIRC Newsletter Director
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IWIRC Leadership Summit

On July 19-21, 2017, the Cayman Islands Network hosted the 2017 IWIRC Leadership Summit at the Kimpton Seafire Resort and Spa in Grand Cayman.

The meeting opened with an opening reception and dinner at a beautiful, outdoor location. On Thursday and Friday, participants engaged in key strategic planning meetings to discuss IWIRC's role in our local chapters and on a national and international platform. Attendees discussed how IWIRC can improve communication and grow its membership. The meeting closed with a farewell lunch.

Although much work was accomplished, there was some downtime to enjoy the beautiful island, Stingray City and yoga on the beach. Attendees reported that the experience was magical and memorable – definitely one for the books! The Cayman Network was a wonderful host and the conference was a huge success with many great networking opportunities.



Mark Your Calendars: Leadership Summit 2018!

The Executive Board of IWIRC is pleased to announce that the 2018 IWIRC Leadership Summit will be hosted by the Greater Philadelphia Network in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on July 18-20, 2018. Steeped in history as the birthplace of American independence, freedom, and democracy, Philadelphia is the first world heritage city in the United States and has a rich cultural heritage and vibrant food scene. From the Liberty Bell to an Italian Market Food Tour, there will be plenty to explore. A special hotel conference rate will be available at the Ritz Carlton Philadelphia.

IWIRC's Annual Leadership Summit brings together the IWIRC Board of Directors and representatives from IWIRC's forty-nine North America, Europe, and Pac Rim Networks for an intensive three-day leadership and business development conference. All networks are encouraged to send the network chair (or other representative), and five additional Leadership Summit spots are awarded by the IWIRC Board based on an application process. More details about Leadership Summit and how to apply to attend will be available later this year.

A special thanks to the Greater Philadelphia Network for hosting us all next summer. We can't wait to meet you in Philly.



New Orleans Spa Weekend

By **Jan Hayden** (Baker Donelson; New Orleans)

The women of the Louisiana Network decided to expand their annual Spa Networking Event, inviting the Gulf Coast Network and the Florida Network to join them for the annual event July 27 – 29, 2017. If we thought it could not get better, we were proven wrong! Starting with an opening reception in the Davenport Lounge of the Ritz Carlton in New Orleans, ladies from as far away as New York and California joined the sponsoring networks and several guests from our Texas networks for a great weekend of networking and a wee bit of the education. Jones Walker acted as host in its beautiful rooftop conference area for the morning CLE presented by David Folds and Susan Mathews of Baker Donelson's Houston and DC offices respectively. They picked an appropriate topic for women headed to a weekend in New Orleans: retail bankruptcies!

After the CLE, the group got down to the real business...the Spa! With over fifty registered attendees, the luncheon at the Ritz spa buffet never stopped buzzing with stories shared between old friends and new ones while munching on New Orleans style goodies and sipping champagne! Chrystal, the networking event's mascot, not only joined us at the luncheon, but followed us to the Spa relaxation room where the women continued to relax and compare notes not just about work but whose day was going well. The group headed off to dinner at Dickie Brennan's Steakhouse where they were serenaded by a duo of singers. **Cherie Nobles** then led a brave group off to Preservation Hall, while **Nellwyn Voorhies** headed out with friends in tow to the Carousel Bar. **Marguerite Kingsmill** and **Judge Elizabeth Magner** led the stragglers back to the Ritz to recuperate.



We topped off the weekend with brunch and bananas foster at Brennan's. It was a wonderful weekend. **Leanne Prendergast** taught us how to air drop pictures, **Carriane Basler** and **Nellwyn** led shopping brigades, and **Leyza Blanco** and **Jodi Cooke** introduced us to family members brave enough to tag along with the crowd. We bid each other farewell, while starting the planning for next year. Special thanks go to **Lacey Rochester**, **Laura Ashley**, **Victoria White**, along with **Cherie Nobles** for planning and pulling off the best yet Spa event!



UNCITRAL Update

Working Group V of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) held a ten-day session in New York from May 10th to 19th, 2017.

UNCITRAL is recognized as the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law; it is focused on modernizing and harmonizing rules on international business. The Commission has six working groups that perform substantive work on various topics, and Working Group V is dedicated to matters of insolvency law. The group is composed of state members and observers from various international organizations. IWIRC has participated in Working Group V as an international non-governmental organization.

IWIRC members **Ilana Volkov** (Cole Schotz P.C.; Hackensack, N.J.), **Debra Grassgreen** (Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP; San Francisco), **Judith Elkin**, **Tinamarie Feil** (BMC Group; New York), and **Carren Shulman** attended the expert working group sessions in New York. This year, the meetings covered the following topics: 1) the cross-border recognition and enforceability of insolvency-related judgments; and 2) facilitating the cross-border insolvency of multinational enterprise groups. A full report of Working Group V can be found online [here](#).



The working group will next meet in November in Vienna. If you are interested in learning more and attending future meetings on behalf of IWIRC, contact UNCITRAL Committee Directors **Tinamarie Feil** and **Carren Shulman**. For more on UNCITRAL, visit www.uncitral.org.



Want to Get to Know Your Fellow IWIRC Members? Sign Up for an Intermezzo Event at the Fall Conference!

Intermezzo events give conference attendees a chance to get away from the conference center and explore the host city, all while networking and building relationships with other restructuring professionals.

This year, attendees will have the opportunity to choose from four different activities - all are sure to offer conference attendees a thrilling taste of Las Vegas! Take advantage of these exciting options to make the most of your Sunday afternoon, whether you plan to attend NCBJ kick off events or head home on an evening flight.

1) **GI Jane at Battlefield Vegas:** Elevate your pulse and get your blood pressure going while trying various weapons on the range in this experience, created by females for females. Though milder in recoil, all of these weapons are used by US military and operators in conflicts around the world. Complimentary transport in military Humvees from the Paris Hotel to the range.

2) **Quick-fire Challenge at Border Grill:** Feel like a contestant on a cooking competition show! Put your culinary chops to the test and become part of the action. Attendees will divide into teams and compete in a series of quick-fire challenges: contestants will try to identify secret ingredients by taste while blindfolded, have five minutes to make the tastiest and most interesting guacamole, test their knowledge of cooking terms in this fast quiz, and race the clock to make margaritas and tortillas. Sangria and light appetizers will be served.

3) **Trapeze Las Vegas:** Ever wanted to join the circus? Now's your chance! Try your hand at various acrobatic stations such as lyra, silk, hammock, low wire, single trapeze, trampoline, and aerial sphere. Participants will spend 20 minutes at each station with a dedicated instructor, learning a few moves, and striking a pose like a Cirque du Soleil performer! The session begins with gentle stretching and warmup.

4) **Canyon Ranch Spa Club:** If you want an escape, opt for a relaxing afternoon at Canyon Ranch SpaClub® at the Venetian and Palazzo Hotels, a 134,000 square foot healthy haven in the heart of The Strip. You can choose from more than 150 spa, salon, and wellness experiences. Conference attendees can receive a 15% discount off any regular priced service and full use of SpaClub® facilities, including state of the art fitness center, fitness classes, and access to Aquavana® thermal environments, relaxation lounge, and graciously appointed locker rooms. Robes and sandals will be provided.

The Intermezzo Events have limited space and will fill up, so be sure to register early!

You can find out more about the events and register online [here](#).



Looking to get more involved with IWIRC? Join the Programming Committee!

If you are looking to get involved in IWIRC on an international level, come join the programming committee. Planning will begin soon for the 2018 Spring Meeting, and the Programming Committee welcomes new members and ideas. To either volunteer or find out more information, please email Margie Kaufman at mkaufman@getzlerhenrich.com.

Network News

IWIRC launches its India Network!

IWIRC recently launched its India Network under the Chairmanship of **Maneesha Dhir** (Dhir & Dhir Associates; New Delhi, India).

To celebrate the launch, the India Network held an event on May 31, 2017 at the India Habitat Center. The audience included Insolvency Professionals, lawyers, CAs, CS, and bankers. Speakers included **Mamta Binani** (Past President ICSI; Kolkata West Bengal, India), **Maneesha Dhir**, Amruta Nikam (Yes Bank), **Anjali Sharma** (Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), **Pooja Sinha** (GLS Law; Singapore), and **Upasana Rao** (Trilegal; New Delhi, India). The panel discussion focused on various aspects of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 (IBC 2016). In addition to an overview of the IBC 2016, the panel also focused on various challenges that will need to be addressed in order to successfully implement the code in its true sense. The panel provided a rare mix of perspectives cutting across the Indian restructuring and insolvency sector - including among other things, perspectives from academia, Indian bank creditors, corporate debtors, Indian lawyers, restructuring professionals and SE Asia-based international funds. It also happened to be the first ever all-female panel on the IBC 2016 in India!

"It is a pleasure to welcome you to the launch of IWIRC India Chapter in its new avatar, which is the exclusive network of IWIRC in India. India has taken a big leap with promulgation of the [IBC 2016], which is a comprehensive legislation on insolvency and bankruptcy of companies, LLPs, individuals, and partnership firms. The India Network joins IWIRC's network to further its mission," said Maneesha Dhir, Chairperson of the India Network, during the inaugural address.

As the first Asian network, Hong Kong (2005) led the way to what is now a strong IWIRC presence in the region with networks in China (November 2008), Singapore (April 2009), Japan (May 2012), India (April 2014), and most recently Malaysia (January 2017).

The India Network is committed to the promotion and growth of professionals in insolvency and restructuring practice in India and providing greater opportunities to its members, through a wide range of networking activities including seminars, workshops, retreats, and conferences. Members benefit immensely via access to the other network members globally, explore speaking and publishing opportunities, discounted INSOL membership, and other referral services.

Congratulations to the India Network on a very successful launch!



Western Canada and Northern California

On June 20, 2017, the Western Canada and Northern California Networks joined forces for a virtual event to discuss the article "Market Like a Girl," by Deirdre Wheatley-Liss of the New Jersey Network. The article encourages women to think outside the traditional models of business development and to embrace what makes them unique when they are building professional relationships.

IWIRC members in Vancouver, Edmonton, and San Francisco connected by video conference to share a wide-ranging discussion about their experiences as women developing business in what can often be a male-dominated area. Participants talked about everything from wine nights and spa events, to the challenges associated with turning friends into clients, to promoting the appointment of women to positions of influence within our firms and organizations. Even though we were spread across thousands of miles, the wonders of technology (and the generous help of the IT teams at PwC in Vancouver and Edmonton, and BDO in San Francisco) meant that the Networks were able to share a fun and productive morning.



For more on virtual events, read on – IWIRC Vice Director of Regional Programming **Tara Schellhorn** provides a “How to Guide for Regional Events” on [page 31](#).

Southern California

On June 12, 2017, the Southern California Network hosted a special professional development MCLE event entitled “Women in Insolvency: Inspirational Stories to Develop Your Own Path.” The diverse five-member panel discussed a wide range of topics, from responding to market changes throughout the years to identifying and building key relationships and expertise. Panelists discussed the invaluable dual roles of diversification and specialization in building your practice, member-governed organizations as great places for building leadership and management skills, and the importance of creativity and flexibility in meeting any challenge. The panelists were **Robbin L. Itkin** (Liner LLP; Los Angeles), **Elissa D. Miller** (SulmeyerKupetz, APC; Los Angeles), **Cynthia A. Nelson** (FTI Consulting, Inc.; Los Angeles), **Kimberly A. Posin** (Latham & Watkins LLP; Los Angeles), and **Michelle Salazar** (Tiger Capital Group, LLC). The panel was moderated by **Cathy Ta** (Best Best & Krieger LLP; Los Angeles).



Chicago

ABI Central States

On June 8, 2017, the Chicago Network helped kick off the ABI Central States conference with a cocktail reception at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa. Approximately thirty IWIRC members and guests enjoyed cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, and panoramic views of the lakes and surrounding forests while networking with fellow conference attendees. Thank you to the IWIRC regional events planning committee, especially **Evelyn Meltzer** (Pepper Hamilton LLP; Wilmington, Del.), **Bernadette Barron** (Barron Business Consulting; Chicago), **Anne Vanderkamp** (Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP; Chicago), and **Brigid Leahy** (Mayer Brown LLP; Chicago), for planning a wonderful event. And thank you to the Chicago Network for sponsoring the event.

Golfing at Play 18

On June 15, 2017, the Chicago network hosted an event at Play 18, Chicago's year-round indoor golf experience in the Loop. Attendees were able to brush up on their golf games prior to the official start to summer and enjoy team rounds of golf on PGA Tour Simulators. The simulators allowed golfers to virtually play on some of the best courses from around the globe! In between swings, attendees tried their luck at one of the facility's many arcade games and networked over beverages and extensive appetizers. It was a unique and interesting event worthy of being repeated!



China

On June 6, 2017, the IWIRC China Network hosted a lunch and learn event in Shanghai, China. The event comprised two presentations by Tiana Zhang (Kirkland & Ellis LLP) and IWIRC China co-chair **Evangeline Quek** (Stephenson Harwood; Hong Kong). The session was chaired by China Network co-chair **Aruni Weerasekera** (Alvarez & Marsal Asia Ltd.; Hong Kong). Tiana presented on China's new Cybersecurity & Privacy Law, while Evangeline provided an update on Hong Kong's move to lend off-shore liquidators a helping hand. Both topics are very topical and timely and generated good discussion and thought provoking questions. The event was jointly sponsored by Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations Limited.

Notwithstanding the very poor weather on the day, the event was attended by close to twenty professionals from banks, law firms, and consulting firms. Attendees praised the high quality of the presentations and expressed interest in attending future events.

Delaware

On May 23, 2017, the IWIRC Delaware Network hosted a guest bartending event benefiting Duffy's Hope. Duffy's Hope is a service provider for at-risk and hard to reach youth ages twelve to seventeen. Located in the heart of Wilmington, Delaware, Duffy's Hope has changed lives for the better for over 4,500 youth with documented proof of success.

The Duffy's Hope Event featured twenty-one guest bartenders from across the IWIRC Delaware Network, the Delaware bankruptcy bar, the Clerk's Office for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, the Office of the United States Trustee, Duffy's Hope, and the local Wilmington government. Over 160 people attended the Duffy's Hope Event. In just three short hours, the IWIRC Delaware Network raised more than \$2,500 for Duffy's Hope!

A special thanks goes out to the incredible women responsible for organizing and hosting the Duffy's Hope Event, the members of the IWIRC Delaware Network's Community Service Initiative Committee (all of Wilmington, Del.): **Brenna Dolphin** (Morris James LLP), **Leslie Heilman** (Ballard Spahr LLP), **Shanti Katona** (Polsinelli PC), **Kerri Mumford** (Landis Rath & Cobb LLP), **Una O'Boyle** (U.S. Bankruptcy Court Delaware), **Natasha Songonuga** (Gibbons P.C.), and **Kate Stickles** (Cole Schotz P.C.). The IWIRC Delaware Network's Community Service Initiative Committee is co-chaired by **Meg Manning** (Donlin Recano) and **Kathy Miller** (Smith, Katzenstein & Jenkins LLP).

For more information regarding Duffy's Hope please visit <http://duffyshopeinc.org/about-duffys-hope/>.



Georgia

Community Service Networking Lunch

The Georgia Network came together for a networking lunch and community service project on May 23, 2017. Members gathered at McGuireWoods LLP in Midtown Atlanta to network over a casual lunch and to create boxes of toiletries for the United Way of Greater Atlanta's Shoebox Project. In all, twelve attendees assembled thirty-six boxes for the United Way. It was the perfect activity for a raining spring day.



Summer Happy Hour

The Georgia Network hosted a casual summer happy hour on June 29, 2017 at Front Page News, a popular bar in Midtown, Atlanta. Despite the near torrential rain (sensing a theme here!?), the turnout was great. The event was open to members and prospective members alike, and several bright new faces joined seasoned members for bites and beers at the restaurant. Attendees enjoyed chatting over drinks and favorite bar snacks. All in all, it was a great evening out!





ABI Southeast Luncheon

On July 28, 2017, the IWIRC Georgia and Carolinas Networks joined forces to host a luncheon at the 22nd Annual American Bankruptcy Institute Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop. Fifty attendees, including five judges, enjoyed lunch at the Grand Ocean Terrace at The Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa, immediately following the panels at the conference. While the location was new this year, the event is a long-running regional event and was a success once again this year. Thanks to all who came from near and far!



Upcoming Events

The Georgia Network is busy planning an exciting slate of events for the fall calendar.

- **First up, candle making!** Are you interested in learning the art of candle-making? Or do you just want a fun night out at Ponce City Market? Then join the IWIRC Georgia Network for a candle-making workshop on August 24, 2017 from 7-9 p.m. at Candlefish, the destination for an amazing array of candles and gifts with a fragrance library of 100 fragrances at Atlanta's hottest meeting place, Ponce City Market. A light dinner and drinks will be provided for refreshment as we get crafty with candles.

- **Save the date for our annual holiday party!** The Georgia Network will be holding its annual holiday party on Thursday, December, 7, 2017 at Local Three Kitchen & Bar. Members will be invited to mix and mingle over fresh, seasonal food and drinks. The restaurant is dedicated to making people feel good and the community a better place – a purpose that IWIRC can certainly get behind! We will once again hold a year-end community service drive. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details!

Florida

In May, the Florida Network hosted a Table of 8 with the Honorable Jerry A. Funk. Attendees enjoyed dinner in a private dining room at Wine Cellar, a Jacksonville favorite restaurant. The dinner included a prix-fixe menu with several excellent choices.

The night was full of delicious food, many laughs, and great conversation. Those in attendance found that keeping the number to eight was perfect, as it allowed everyone to participate in the discussions and to connect with each other. All of the attendees remarked on how special the evening was, and Judge Funk was very complimentary of IWIRC.



Pictured (left): **Angela Scott** (The Law Office of Jason A. Burgess; Atlantic Beach, Fla.), Adina Pollan, Judge Jerry A. Funk (U.S. Bankruptcy Court M.D. Fla.), **Leanne Prendergast** (FisherBroyles; Jacksonville, Fla.), and **Courtney McCormick** (McGuireWoods LLP; Jacksonville, Fla.); 2nd row: Jodie Hollingsworth (Law Clerk to the Honorable Jerry A. Funk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court M.D. Fla.), Anna Haugan (McGuireWoods LLP; Jacksonville, Fla.), and **Snow Wallace** (Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLP; Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.).

Save the dates for these upcoming Florida events:

- **IWIRC Luncheon** – August 25, 2017 – AcquaGrill in Jacksonville. Enjoy lunch and catch up with fellow JBBA and IWIRC members and other insolvency professionals during the JBBA Annual Seminar. Registration includes a choice of entrée, non-alcoholic beverage, gratuity, and tax. Buy a ticket online now to save time at the restaurant and make it back to the seminar for the afternoon panels.

- **Tax issues** – September 12, 2017 – KapilaMukamal in Miami. Join the Florida Network for a panel on tax issues in receiverships and bankruptcies. Panelists include **Leyza Blanco** (Gray Robinson; Miami), **Jacqui Calderin** (Ehrenstein Charbonneau Calderin; Miami), **Lesley Johnson** (KapilaMukamal; Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.), and **Megan Murray** (Trenam Law; Tampa, Fla.). The event will be held over lunch, and CLA/CPA is pending approval.

- **Painting chocolates** – September 20, 2017 – Peterbrooke Chocolatier in Winter Park. Co-hosted by the Honorable Karen S. Jennemann and Correy Karbiener and sponsored by Burr & Forman. Space is limited to 15, so be sure to register online to secure your spot for this fun – and tasty! – event.

- **Yoga** – September 27, 2017 – at Trenam Law in Tampa. More details forthcoming!

- **Table of 8** – September, 28, 2017 – at the Wine Cellar in Jacksonville. Jealous of all the fun described above? Sign up for the next Table of 8! Join the Honorable Paul M. Glenn and fellow IWIRC members for great company, conversation, and connection over a delicious meal.

Hong Kong

Wine and Cheese Pairing Workshop

On May 24, 2017, the IWIRC Hong Kong Network hosted a Wine and Cheese Pairing Workshop conducted in Cantonese (a Chinese dialect spoken in Hong Kong). The event was held at PwC Hong Kong's office. Thirty participants from various law and accounting firms came together to enjoy a lovely Wednesday evening. A speaker from a wine academy shared some tips and tricks for matching wines and cheeses, and the participants were invited to try out on their own - we never knew that blue cheese could go so well with Sauternes! Participants also enjoyed refreshments and networking before and after the workshop. This is the second Cantonese language event hosted by the Hong Kong Network and we have received great feedback from local professionals in this regard. Thanks to our sponsor, PwC Hong Kong, and all those who attended the workshop!



To view more pictures, please [click here](#).

Black Tie Dinner

The Hong Kong network hosted its third annual Black Tie Dinner at the Hong Kong Banker's Club on June 14, 2017, and it proved to be the most successful yet! With all sixteen tables selling out within half an hour of going on sale, it was a wonderful evening that provided a perfect opportunity for 160 members of our industry to join together, catch-up, and make new acquaintances.

Through the tremendous support of the vendors who donated prizes and attendees who bought tickets, the evening raised HK\$30,100 for the local charity, Bethune House, which is a shelter providing for the basic needs of displaced and often distressed migrant women workers in Hong Kong.



Check out more photos of the glitz and glamor on the [IWIRC site](#).

IWIRC Out Series Launch

Members of the Hong Kong network took to the spin studio as IWIRC Hong Kong launched the first event in its IWIRC Out Series. XYZ, one of Hong Kong's trendiest indoor spin studios with the hippest play list in town, kindly hosted a class for our members, who in turn were free to invite a companion to join in the cycle. For a class of relative beginners, we were apparently very quick learners with an awesome sense of rhythm!

It was a real fun event for the 30 spin demons who attended and swapped a glass of wine for a coconut water as we combined exercise with professional networking. They say that the people in Hong Kong work hard and play hard, but this event proves that they also work out hard! Thanks to our hosts XYZ, @youarexyz, and watch this space for future IWIRC Out events.



Upcoming Events

Looking forward, it will be another busy couple of months after the summer for IWIRC Hong Kong, starting with a "Breakfast Bite" session with the founder of Racing The Planet, a speed networking lunch, our annual Mid-Autumn Festival Dim Sum Lunch, the Charity Quiz, the Annual Mixer, another Cantonese language event, and the inaugural IWIRC PacRim Regional Conference, which will be held in Singapore on August 23, 2017. More information available on the IWIRC site at iwirc.com.

India

The newly relaunched network has had a very busy summer with a couple great events.

Study Circle

The India Network hosted a study circle meeting on July 4, 2017 to discuss the recent developments in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (the "IBC"). Considered one of the biggest economic reforms, the IBC consolidates and amends the laws relating to reorganization and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms, and individuals. The event was held at Trilegal in New Delhi and drew a great crowd.



Inaugural Mumbai Event

The India hosted its first event in Mumbai on July 20, 2017. The event was an invitation-only roundtable table discussion on "Restructuring Plans under the new IBC- Scope, Opportunities and Challenges" and was attended by a cross-section of senior representatives from across the restructuring and insolvency industry in India- participating organizations.

The event was supported by Alvarez & Marsal, who hosted the event at their offices. Nikhil Shah, Managing Director at Alvarez & Marsal, delivered the opening address at the event.

The event was organized by several current/former board members of IWIRC India and IWIRC Singapore including **Upasana Rao**, Ms. **Kosturi Ghosh** (Trilegal), Ms. **Riddhi Dalal** (JMF ARC), Ms. **Khushboo Vaish**, **Kayva Ramanathan** (Alvarez & Marsal), and **Pooja Sinha** (GLS Law, Singapore).

The participants engaged in an interactive and lively discussion on the topic- key discussion points included whether the RBI would continue to flex its regulatory muscle going forward, the role of promoters in debt restructurings, practical issues involved in achieving “turnarounds” of companies, and opportunities and challenges in relation to distressed debt M&A and for providers of interim financing. A full list of takeaways from the roundtable discussion are available on the India Network’s [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

This is the first of many thought leadership events on the IBC that the IWIRC India network intends to organize. IWIRC India will also be a key participant in the first ever IWIRC Pac Rim Regional Conference hosted by IWIRC Singapore on August 23, 2017.

Ontario

The Ontario Network recently hosted a cruising day on Lake Ontario. On June 22, 2017, we enjoyed the beautiful views of downtown Toronto from a cruise ship, The Rosemary, which sailed on Lake Ontario and through the Toronto islands. We enjoyed crackers and cheese, wine, and dinner on board. We had excellent feedback from this event and it was greatly enjoyed by all!



More photos can be found on the IWIRC site [here](#).

Maryland

Service at the Maryland Food Bank

On July 26, 2017, Greater Maryland Network members participated in an evening of community service at the Maryland Food Bank. As always, our members enjoyed helping their fellow Marylanders by donating their time.

The Maryland Food Bank is a nonprofit hunger-relief organization, leading the movement to end hunger throughout Maryland. For more than 35 years, the Maryland Food Bank has partnered with communities across the state to distribute food to individuals and families in need. It is the leading anti-hunger organization in the state and currently distributes more than 112,000 meals per day – and more than 41 million meals annually. For more information, visit <https://www.mdfoodbank.org/>.

Greater Maryland Network's Annual Spa Event

On July 27, 2017, Greater Maryland Network members gathered at About Faces in Canton for a mini-spa treatment and networking event. While enjoying their spa time, members munched on sandwiches and dessert, sipped on wine, and chatted with their fellow IWIRC-Greater Maryland members.

This year, we collected diapers and donations for Sharebaby. Sharebaby is a Baltimore-based charitable organization that collects and distributes diapers, clothing, and other basic goods to families in need through community-based organizations. More information about Sharebaby can be found at <http://www.sharebaby.org/>.



Back Row (all of Baltimore unless otherwise noted): **Eunice Min** (Protiviti), **Cate Hopkin** (Tydings & Rosenberg), **Angela Shortall** (Protiviti), and **Maria Chavez-Ruark** (Saul Ewing).

Front Row: **Corinne Donohue Adams** (Yumkas, Vidmar, Sweeney & Mulrenin; Columbia, Md.), **Krystyn Myers** (Protiviti), **Catherine Guastello Allen** (Venable), **Lisa Stevens** (Yumkas, Vidmar, Sweeney & Mulrenin; Columbia, Md.), **Joyce Kuhns** (Offit Kurman), and **Jessica Dillon** (Venable).

IWIRC Networking Cocktail Party at the ABI Mid-Atlantic

On August 3, 2017, IWIRC hosted a cocktail party before the opening reception at the ABI Mid-Atlantic conference at Hotel Hershey in Hersey, Pennsylvania

Upcoming Events

• **IWIRC September Article Club:** Millennials in the Workplace - September 20, 2017 – For the third year, the Greater Maryland Network is busy planning an “article” club event, this year with the Ontario Network! Please join us for lunch and a live videoconference discussion on “Millennials in the Workplace” and the change in our corporate work environment and culture as the Baby Boomers retire and the Millennials enter the work force. Lunch starts at noon, and the discussion will begin at 12:30 p.m., at Tydings & Rosenberg L.L.P. in Baltimore.

• **Tina’s Wish Regional Event** – early 2018 – Please join the Greater Maryland, New York, Delaware, and Virginia Networks for a regional event supporting Tina’s Wish. The Honorable Tina Brozman Foundation for Ovarian Cancer Research (Tina’s Wish) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to funding groundbreaking scientific research for the prevention and early detection of ovarian cancer. Tina’s Wish was founded in 2008 in memory of the Honorable Tina Brozman, former chief judge of the SDNY Bankruptcy Court. Dr. Melissa Frye from Weill Cornell will be the keynote medical speaker, and the time and location will be announced closer to the event.

New England

Wine Tasting with TMA Northeast

On June 8, 2017, the IWIRC New England Network co-hosted a wine tasting with the TMA Northeast Network of Women at Brix in Boston. The members of IWIRC New England the TMA Northeast NOW enjoyed a selection of wine from women-owned wineries while networking!

The Art of Mixology and Marketing with IWIRC New England

On June 21, 2017, IWIRC New England member **Sheila Smith** shared marketing advice. Until her retirement in 2015, Sheila worked with Deloitte in multiple leadership roles during her fifteen-year tenure. She is a seasoned restructuring and bankruptcy professional, and a networking guru. She gave everyone some great advice on marketing yourself at a networking event. A sampling of her advice:

- Be brief and lead with what you are there to say or convey—humor helps;
- Dress above the rest;
- Never hold a drink in the hand you shake with—or it will be cold and wet;
- Eat before or after the event—eating and talking is not attractive;
- Put your name tag on the side of your lapel that you shake hands with so people can easily see it;
- Listen more than you talk;
- Be approachable;
- Exit the conversation gracefully by introducing them to a colleague; and
- Most important—follow up!

The event was well attended and a lot of fun. Thanks to Sheila and all that participated!



Guest speaker and IWIRC New England member **Sheila Smith** in action as she gives her presentation.



Amanda Darwin (Nixon Peabody), IWIRC New England board member **Elisa Sartori** (Greenridge Financial Services, LLC; Winchester, Mass.), and Morgan Nighan (Nixon Peabody, LLP).



The women of IWIRC New England



Event host and IWIRC New England board member, **Kathleen Cruickshank** (Murphy & King, P.C.; Boston) with IWIRC New England Co-Chair **Bodie Colwell** (Preti, Flaherty, Beliveau & Pachios, LLP; Portland, Maine).



IWIRC New England Joins Forces with Boston Bar Association to Serve the Greater Boston Food Bank

On the evening of June 28, 2017, members of IWIRC New England and the Boston Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section came out and donated their time to package grocery deliveries for Eastern Massachusetts families and individuals who receive assistance from the Greater Boston Food Bank.

IWIRC New England also made a monetary donation to the Greater Boston Food Bank in the amount of \$700, which will provide 2,100 nutritious meals to individuals located across Eastern Massachusetts.



ABI Northeast

IWIRC New England and IWIRC Connecticut gathered together for lunch at the ABI Northeast conference in Newport, RI on July 21, 2017. Organized and led by IWIRC New England co-chairs, **Bodie Colwell** (PretiFlaherty; Portland, Maine) and **Keri Wintle** (Duane Morris; Boston), over thirty-five women attended.



Judge Elizabeth D. Katz Settling In As the Newest Massachusetts Bankruptcy Judge

By Lynne B. Xerras (Holland & Knight; Boston)

The IWIRC New England and Connecticut Networks are excited to share that **Judge Elizabeth D. Katz**, formerly a partner at Rescia, Katz & Shear, LLP in Enfield, Connecticut and Northampton, Massachusetts, was appointed by the First Circuit Court of Appeals to the Massachusetts Bankruptcy Court. Judge Katz's fourteen year appointment started on March 13, 2017, and her session is now in full swing.

Judge Katz received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Vermont, and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1994. Judge Katz's first legal job was at a small Boston law firm working on animal rights and personal injury law. She was also a Special Assistant Attorney General at the Office of the Attorney General, where she focused on narcotics and special investigations, and later an assistant district attorney in Northampton, Massachusetts. In 2007, she entered private practice and represented clients in a wide-range of matters including bankruptcy cases, criminal cases, civil litigation, family law matters, and landlord-tenant disputes. She then represented chapter 7 trustees, consumers, and businesses in bankruptcies and adversary proceedings. Ultimately, she opened her own firm based in Northampton, Massachusetts and concentrated her practice on all aspects of bankruptcy law and criminal defense matters. She began a partnership with attorney **Kara Rescia**, and soon thereafter attorney **Denise Shear** joined the firm (both are bankruptcy practitioners and active IWIRC members). While practicing, Judge Katz served as president of the Hampshire County Bar Association from 2012-2014 and, in that capacity, she was responsible for supporting the charitable efforts of the bar association. In 2016, she received the Massachusetts Bar Association's community service award in recognition of her efforts. There is no doubt that her extensive consumer bankruptcy expertise and trial background, combined with the knowledge of the issues facing the Western Massachusetts community, will transfer well to her role as bankruptcy judge.

We "interviewed" Judge Katz to some insight into her new role on the bench, and asked her to get a little more personal, for the IWIRC community.

What has been the hardest aspect of transitioning to a career as federal judge?

I can't advocate. I have strong opinions of what I believe is the best way to represent a client's interests, but that's not my job. So when I see a lawyer doing something I wouldn't do, I want to correct it and usually, I can't correct it.

What do you miss most about private practice?

Helping people in their bankruptcy cases and in their criminal cases. I also miss talking about the cases with my law partners.

Is there a particular Bankruptcy Code section that you wish could be amended?

Probably § 523(a)(8), the undue hardship requirement to discharging student loan debt.

Now that you are on the bench, do you have any advice for the practitioners appearing in your courtroom?

Don't miss deadlines and be on time. More importantly, be cordial to your adversary.



Hon. Elizabeth D. Katz

Do you have children? What do they think about their mom's cool job?

I have two daughters and they think it's very cool.

What is your favorite activity, outside of your professional life?

Dancing and cheering on my daughters when they are playing their various sports.

Any advice for female attorneys that may someday seek an appointment to the bankruptcy bench?

"Network, network, network...and your reputation is everything never forget that."

The IWIRC New England Chapter is planning an event on November 2, 2017 to celebrate Judge Katz's appointment. It promises to be a great night for local practitioners to say hello to Judge Katz in person. Stay tuned for more news about the event!

New Jersey

On June 27, 2017, the New Jersey Network gathered at the Morristown office of Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C. for a complimentary lunch and discussion of the ideas presented by Deirdre Wheatley-Liss in her article "Market Like a Girl," which was published in the *New Jersey Law Journal* in November 2016. The discussion was led by Deirdre in the Morristown location and live-streamed to the United States Bankruptcy Court in Trenton, New Jersey, where others joined in the discussion and shared ideas, including the Honorable Christine M. Garvelle. Attendees enjoyed a lively discussion about the challenges facing women in marketing and how learning to be authentic, and looking within your own existing network of contacts, can lead to meaningful opportunities.

Many thanks to Deirdre Wheatley-Liss and Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C. for hosting this event, and to the staff of the Clerk's Office of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey in Trenton, especially Chief Deputy Clerk Mohung Wong, for indulging our request and helping to facilitate the program.

New York

Breakfast with the UNCITRAL Secretariat & UN Delegates

Working Group V of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) held its most recent session in New York from May 10-19, 2017, and IWIRC NY kicked off the meetings with a breakfast at Debevoise & Plimpton on May 10, 2017. Members were joined by the UNCITRAL Secretariat and several distinguished delegates, and topics included the enforceability of insolvency judgments and cross border insolvencies of multinational enterprise groups. Each year, IWIRC, as an authorized NGO, sends one or more members to attend the expert working group sessions to discuss practical and legal issues.



Pictured from left to right: Blanka Wolfe (moderator), **Carren Shulman**, Riz Mokal, Ira Mevorach, Chris Redmond, Jenny Clift (UNCITRAL Secretariat), and Mahesh Uttamchandani.

For more information, visit UNCITRAL's website, www.uncitral.org, and read about Working Group V's most recent session above on [page 5](#).

Fifth Annual Golf Camp

On May 12, 2017, sunny skies welcomed the ladies of IWIRC NY during the 5th Annual IWIRC NY Golf Camp at Harbor Links. Pros teed off on the executive course while beginners and intermediates participated in a brief golf clinic before hitting the links. Golfers were able to squeeze in some time on the course, before ending the day with a delightful networking barbecue.



Emotional Intelligence – June

IWIRC NY hosted a cocktail reception and 90-minute interactive discussion on emotional intelligence on June 13, 2017. The event was held at Foley & Lardner LLP, and Dr. Sharon Meit Abrahams, Director of Professional Development/ Diversity & Inclusion at Foley & Lardner, led a group discussion focusing on emotional intelligence in team dynamics. The event was well attended and the discussion was lively and memorable.



Celebrating Network of the Year

IWIRC NY celebrated winning The Ryan Award on July 11, 2017. The Ryan Award for Outstanding IWIRC Network, named in honor of IWIRC's founding Secretary/Treasurer Laureen Ryan, is awarded to the IWIRC Network that best exemplifies IWIRC's mission. To celebrate the honor, members were invited to a members-only cocktail reception at Supernova Rooftop at the Novotel Times Square in Manhattan. Attendees mixed and mingled over bubbles and bites in the space overlooking Times Square.



For more pictures of the celebration, visit the [IWIRC website](#).

Sunset Sail

On August 1, 2017, the New York Network teamed up with the Delaware and New Jersey Networks to co-host the second annual sail around the city. Attendees enjoyed an evening cruise on the Hudson River and took in stunning city skyline sites with friends and colleagues from all three Networks.



Northeast Ohio

The Northeast Ohio Network, NEON, hosted its fifth annual golf clinic and luncheon at Brookside Golf Course in Ashland, Ohio on August 3, 2017. Attendees learned a little golf, had a little drink, a white tablecloth lunch, and built some new relationships.



Pictured (left): Sarah McIntosh (Kiko Auctioneers), Fred Schweg (Solo Bankruptcy Practitioner), and Samantha Babcock (Chicago Title Insurance) with our golf professional Terry Valentine at Brookside Golf Course. Also pictured (right): the group on the range in full swing.

Philadelphia

IWIRC Greater Philadelphia members networked while pampering themselves with Pinot & Pedicures at the Nail Bar in Center City Philadelphia on June 27, 2017. Multitasking at its best!



Pictured: **Marie Dooley** (Fox Rothschild; Philadelphia), **Lee Mogavero** (Friedman Schuman PC; Jenkintown, Pa.), and **Angela Baglanzis** (Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP; Philadelphia)



Pictured: **Kitt Turner** (Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC; Philadelphia), **Melissa Martinez** (Saul Ewing; Philadelphia), and **Holly Smith** (Gellert Scali Busenkell & Brown, LLC; Philadelphia)

Singapore

Speed Networking Lunch

IWIRC Singapore hosted a Speed Networking Lunch on July 7, 2017 at Bochinche, a popular Argentinian eatery located within a row of heritage shop houses in the Central Business District in Singapore. It was attended by a cross-section of male and female professionals across law firms, accounting firms and other advisory firms active in the restructuring and insolvency industry in Singapore. The sold-out event received excellent feedback with several attendees commenting on the unique opportunity for them to make and renew cross-industry connections in this space – this is particularly welcome given the recent surge in debt restructuring deal activity across SE Asia. The event was organized by IWIRC Singapore board members **Cat D'Alton** (KorumLegal), **Pooja Sinha** (Global Legal Solutions), and **Holly Yuen** (Madison Pacific Pte Limited).



Shipping in Distress Seminar: Part II

The IWIRC & WISTA Shipping in Distress Seminar: Part II was held on July 20, 2017, building on the collaboration between IWIRC and WISTA (Women's International Shipping & Trading Association) that began in March this year with the IWIRC & WISTA Shipping in Distress Seminar: Part I.

Over 100 people attended from Singapore's insolvency, restructuring, shipping, legal, and finance industries to hear speakers presenting on topics ranging from a consideration of the current and potential future trends in the distressed shipping market, to the practical issues that arise when shipping companies experience instances of severe distress, to the advantages or otherwise of judicial management alongside a review of its use in Swiber. The ensuing discussion between the speakers and the audience illustrated the timely relevance of the subjects covered.

Many thanks to the speakers, Graham Martin of KPMG, Chris Smith QC of Essex Court Chambers, and **Lauren Tang** of Stephenson Harwood (Singapore) Alliance. Thanks also to the organizers, **Alexia Adda** (Walkers) and **Tan Mei Yen** (Wong Partnership) from IWIRC Singapore and Magdalene Chew (Asia Legal LLC) from WISTA Singapore. With calls for a Part III, there may yet be more to come in the series!



Coming Up: The Inaugural IWIRC Pac Rim Conference!

The Singapore Network is organizing and hosting their inaugural IWIRC Pac Rim Restructuring and Insolvency Conference in Singapore on August 23, 2017, at Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd. The conference will be a half-day event targeting

professionals in the restructuring and insolvency industry across Asia and particularly members from the IWIRC networks in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Japan, China, India, and Indonesia. The inaugural conference will feature a technical panel with representatives from the Pac Rim networks and will be capped off with a Singapore cooking class and networking opportunity. Registration is required for this event, so sign up now! Visit www.iwirc.com for more information.

Virginia

The IWIRC Virginia Network hosted a Girls Night Out happy hour and dinner on June 1, 2017, the evening prior to the annual Western District of Virginia Bankruptcy CLE in Roanoke, Virginia. Over thirty women attended the event featuring a "party bus" ride from the host hotel, drinks, and dinner at a local Mexican restaurant. Attendees included Bankruptcy Judge Rebecca Connelly, her law clerk, representatives from law firms, the US Trustee's office, and many staff members. This was one of the first IWIRC events in the Western District of Virginia. A wonderful time was had by all in attendance, and plans are already underway for a similar event in 2018.



A How to Guide for Virtual Events

By **Tara J. Schellhorn** (Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP; Morristown, NJ)
IWIRC Vice Director of Regional Programming



Why Virtual Events?

Bringing IWIRC members together for events can be a challenge, particularly when networks members are spread out across a large geographic area or two networks are trying to connect. A solution networks have implemented is hosting "virtual events," which allow IWIRC members to connect via video-conference. While different from your typical event, many networks that have held virtual events are now hosting them annually.

Planning a virtual event is easy, once you get comfortable with the technology. Follow these simple steps:

1. Determine Who Will Connect. Is your network spread out across a large geographic area? Virtual events are a great way to bring your members together on a more regular basis. Is your network interested in hosting an event with another network? Virtual events are an inexpensive way for your members to connect with women from other networks and even in other parts of the world.

2. Find a Location and Connect the IT Professionals. Find at least two locations with video conferencing capabilities. Check with firms in your area to see if a firm is willing to host and/or sponsor the event. Once you have found your locations, be sure to connect the IT professionals from each location so they can discuss logistics. The IT professionals should, at some point prior to the event, do a "test run" to make sure things run smoothly. A few other tips:

- Networks have had success hosting virtual events at multiple offices of the same firm. This often makes things easier since the offices are generally already set up to connect with each other via video conference.
- In the event you have more than two locations, plan ahead since the logistics may be slightly more complicated.

3. Choose a Topic. Many networks have utilized a short article or TED talk as the basis for the discussion. Another possibility is to have a speaker at one location to facilitate the discussion.

4. Choose Moderators and Develop Discussion Points. Choose a moderator for each location. The moderators should work together on discussion points and coordinate regarding the flow of the program to ensure the discussion keeps moving.

5. Advertise. Begin advertising your event at least one month in advance. The invitation should highlight, among other things, the key details about the event (including whether meals are being provided or if attendees should bring "brown bags") and attach or link to any materials that should be read or viewed in advance by attendees. Don't forget to post to Eventbrite.

6. The Day of the Event. Someone should arrive early to test the equipment and make sure the locations are able to connect without any trouble. Again, be sure to coordinate with the IT professionals. Most importantly, have fun!

If your network is interested in hosting a virtual event but needs help getting started, please contact me. I would be happy to help. Contact Tara at tschellhorn@RIKER.com.



International Article

By **Andrea Yandreski** (McKinsey & Company Canada; Toronto)

Andrea Yandreski of McKinsey & Company Canada's restructuring group recently collaborated on a report titled ***The Power of Parity: Advancing Women's Equality in Canada***. One of the most comprehensive reports of its kind to date, this study sizes the economic potential of greater gender equality, maps existing gender gaps at the national, provincial, territorial, and city levels, and analyzes results from a new workplace survey of Canadian companies. While the report is focused on Canada, the themes discussed are relevant to all major economies. You can download a copy of the report online at <http://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/gender-equality/the-power-of-parity-advancing-womens-equality-in-canada>.

In common with many other advanced economies facing demographic headwinds as population growth slows, Canada's economic growth prospects are concerning. There is a growing consensus that without new ways of promoting growth and productivity, GDP growth will probably continue to stagnate and possibly even slow to half the rate of the past fifty years. A significant part of the solution is for Canada to tap into the vast unrealized potential of women. Accelerating progress toward gender equality is not only a moral and social imperative - it would also deliver a growth dividend.

Women's inequality is a pressing human issue that also has significant ramifications for jobs, productivity, GDP growth, and business/personal relationships. Although Canada has made great progress toward improving the social and economic opportunities for women, challenges remain in addressing a number of areas of inequality across both work and society. In analyzing this issue for Canada, we hope to help business leaders chart the way to achieving greater gender diversity within their corporations and support all stakeholders, including policy makers, in devising effective interventions that promote equitable growth and broad-based prosperity.

Canada is well-positioned to make progress on gender inequality and reap the social and economic awards. It is the world's tenth largest economy and a vibrant, multicultural democracy. In 2016, women made up more than fifty percent of the working-age population (fifteen years and older). Canada's women are abundantly qualified to work, holding fifty-three percent of all advanced degrees (bachelor's or higher). Moreover, according to a recent International Labor Organization/Gallup poll, seventy-seven percent of Canadian women prefer to work at a paid job rather than staying at home. Men share these attitudes; eighty percent of men polled prefer that women work at a paid job. There is rising momentum in Canada for action to accelerate progress toward gender parity. The federal government and several provincial governments have made gender equality and inclusivity a priority.

The research examined fifteen social and economic indicators and identified seven where Canada still has significant gender gaps. To address them, all stakeholders, could undertake a portfolio of initiatives in five priority areas for action in Canada: namely, removing barriers against women entering STEM fields; enabling more women to be entrepreneurs; reducing gender inequalities in child care and unpaid care work; amplifying women's voice in politics; as well as reducing gender bias and reshaping social norms.

The report also surveyed sixty-nine Canadian companies representing over 500,000 employees, and it sheds light on the barriers Canadian women face in the workplace. The report found that:

- Advancing women's equality in Canada has the potential to add \$150 billion to GDP in 2026, a 0.6 percent increase each year for the next decade, which is equivalent to adding a new financial services sector to the economy. Each province stands to gain between 0.4 and 0.9 percent each year, with the most potential growth in British Columbia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec.
- The most important levers for growth are adding more women to high-productivity sectors such as mining and technology, and raising women's labor force participation from sixty-one to sixty-four percent. Each lever accounts for forty-two percent of the impact. Another sixteen percent comes from increasing women's working hours by fifty minutes a week.
- Canada is amongst the global leaders in women's equality. McKinsey Global Institute's research in 2015 ranked Canada in the top ten of ninety-five countries based on a review of fifteen equality indicators in work and society. Canada leads the United States and lags only a few of the Nordic, Western European, and Oceanic countries. However, progress toward gender parity has stalled over the past twenty years, and Canada must find new ways to keep pace. Data on many indicators have shown little improvement and, at current rates, gender gaps could take thirty to 180 years to close.
- The gender gaps are most significant in seven indicators: women represent thirty-five percent of managerial positions, twenty-eight percent of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) graduates, twenty-three percent of STEM workers, twenty percent of small business owners, and twenty-nine percent of elected officials, but they take on sixty-four percent of unpaid care work in the home and represent eighty percent of single parents. Results are largely homogeneous across provinces and cities, pointing to common priority areas for action for the nation and for organizations.
- Survey results clearly show that, in corporate Canada, women are less likely than men to be promoted to the next level at almost every stage of their careers. Promotion from director to vice president is a particular bottleneck, where men are three times more likely to advance than women. The loss of female talent along the pipeline is not due to lack of ambition or higher attrition—women aspire to promotions at a similar rate and actually leave at a lower rate than their male counterparts.
- Corporations need to embrace a holistic set of initiatives while focusing on implementing them well and sustaining the efforts over time. In Canada, best-in-class companies use five initiatives to drive progress:
 1. **Go beyond a vocal commitment to diversity by cascading a clear business case for change.** More than half of companies consider gender diversity a top ten strategic priority, but only fourteen percent have clearly articulated a business case for change.

2. Set targets, track performance, share results, and hold leaders accountable. Fifty-five percent of companies lack targets for female representation, and seventy-five percent do not track female recruitment nor reward leaders for fostering gender diversity.

3. Create formal sponsorship programs to help promote women. Men are fifty percent more likely to attribute their advancement to a senior leader than women are, yet eighty percent of companies lack a formal sponsorship program.

4. Make flexibility compatible with promotion. Most companies offer long-term leave or part-time programs, but fifty-eight percent of employees believe that taking advantage of them hurts their career progression.

5. Raise awareness of, and combat, unconscious bias to create a truly inclusive environment. Women comprise only one-quarter of senior leaders, but 80 percent of employees think their company is inclusive.

Gender equality in work is linked with gender equality in society—the former is not possible without the latter. To progress on the latter, all stakeholders, including government, corporations, not-for-profit organizations, educational institutions, media, and individuals, could undertake a portfolio of initiatives in five priority areas for action in Canada: namely, 1) removing barriers against women entering STEM fields; 2) enabling more women to be entrepreneurs; 3) reducing gender inequalities in child care and unpaid care work; 4) amplifying women’s voice in politics; and, 5) reducing gender bias and reshaping social norms. Engaging men as well as women and collaborating across organizations and sectors to tackle entrenched attitudes will be one of the most difficult but critical keys to success, ensuring Canada’s continued position as a global leader on women’s equality.

Member Spotlight: Liz Boydston



The IWIRC Dallas/Fort Worth Network has been a godsend of mentorship, opportunity, connections, and friendship. When I started at Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP (formerly Fulbright & Jaworski) in 2009, I was the only female bankruptcy associate in the entire firm—and at the time we had thirty-one bankruptcy attorneys (and only one other female, a semi-retired partner in Houston)! Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP has always been an IWIRC sponsor, and in early 2010 the firm encouraged me to join IWIRC and be the firm’s representative at IWIRC events. I remember attending my first IWIRC meeting and being blown away! In a day, I met a group of women who not only impressed me, but who also welcomed me. By the fifty-ninth minute of my first IWIRC meeting, I became the network’s Communications Chair, met a group of women in restructuring who loved their jobs, made two lunch dates for the next week, and had six women-centric networking events on my calendar!

IWIRC is important to me, but it’s because it’s incredibly important to my network. In this male-dominated practice, IWIRC is the only insolvency and restructuring group solely for women. And its mission holds true from the first day I joined to today—connecting women and promoting women to success! Each of the members I know, and each of the members I’ve met, believes in women, believes in

encouraging women, believes in mentoring women, believes in promoting women, and believes in celebrating women and our successes.

For example, in 2016 and 2017 we've had a number of extremely large chapter 11s file in Dallas. The encouragement (and ultimate representation) of the Dallas area women to get the other women involved in each case is a true testament to the importance the members of the IWIRC Dallas/Fort Worth Network place on each other. In the Adeptus Healthcare Enterprise case alone, IWIRC members represent the 140 debtors, the unsecured creditors' committee, the equity committee, one of the three major transaction partners, countless numbers of landlords, countless numbers of creditors, contract counterparties, the patient care ombudsman, the U.S. Trustee—the list goes on and on. It's such an awesome case for women! In fact, I distinctly remember two hearings where every person in the courtroom (including the judge and her law clerk) was a woman! The IWIRC members in the room (all of us representing major parties in interest on a significant motion) looked around, smiled, and said, "This is amazing. All women!"

IWIRC not only provides me with a built-in network of women to whom I can turn for anything—advice, instant knowledge about local practice, recommendations, true mentorship about building a book of business, someone to help me navigate the partnership process—but in the last three years . . . referrals! (If I could, I'd put 10 exclamation points after referrals!) The number of referrals I received in the first six months of 2017 alone is astonishing—and two of them have resulted in business in big cases!

I truly believe my love for my practice wouldn't be as deep as it is if I'd never joined IWIRC. The women I've met through IWIRC, many of whom are genuinely close friends and confidants, helped me grow my practice, build my knowledge of bankruptcy, develop my professional and personal networks, and become the woman I am today.

IWIRC wants to hear from you!

IWIRC is working on a project to compile the benefits its members have received from their involvement in IWIRC. Did your involvement in your local IWIRC network help you at the office? Did you get a referral as a result of an IWIRC connection or IWIRC colleague? Did you find a mentor or sponsor through IWIRC or attending an IWIRC event? Has IWIRC impacted your career in a positive way? If so, we want to hear from you!

Please contact IWIRC Communications Director **Jennifer Kimble** at jkimble@primeclerk.com and (212) 257-5487. Quotes, a description of the benefits, and/ or any other information you are willing to provide are encouraged. Please try to be as specific as possible in your responses and indicate whether you consent to IWIRC using the information you provide and your name in future marketing materials. Responses may be featured in a member benefit spotlight section of future IWIRC newsletters.





Leslie Berkoff



Rebeca Caquias-Mejias



Amber Carson



Lisa Coggins



Bodie Colwell



Jodi Cooke



Sarah Frankel



Mary Grace Diehl



Karen Giannelli

Member News

Leslie A. Berkoff (Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP; New York) and **Krista L. Kulp** (Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP; Garden City, N.Y.) wrote an article on *Medicare's Jurisdictional Bar and the Bankruptcy Code*, published in the May 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.

Rebeca Caquias-Mejias, an attorney and CPA, recently founded RCM Law Office LLC, a virtual, boutique law firm with offices in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Rebeca's practice in Puerto Rico has included real estate, commercial financing, secured transactions and creditor's rights. Her new firm provides creditors with a cost-effective representation in bankruptcy cases adhering to ethical and honest business practices. She states, "My objective is that, being a small law firm, we can control our rates while not affecting the quality of the services provided. I have secured all the software and tools required to provide a competitive and lower rates to my clients. At RCM Law Office LLC we are devoted to offer the highest level of customer care, recognizing that timely response is essential as well as offering a cost effective representation." For more information about Rebeca and RCM Law Office LLC, please visit www.rcmlawpr.com.

Amber Carson (U.S. Bankruptcy Court N.D. Tex.; Dallas) co-authored an article, "*You Can't Sue Me: Preclusion of Claims Against Professionals*", in the American Bankruptcy Institute's August 2017 issue.

In June, **Lisa Coggins** joined the law firm Woloshin Lynch & Associates, P.A. in Wilmington, Delaware office.

IWIRC New England members **Bodie Colwell** and **Rue Toland** of Preti Flaherty published an article in the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal on the re-characterization of equipment leases as security interests. The article appears in the August 2017 issue.

Jodi D. Cooke (Stichter Riedel Blain & Postler P.A.; Pensacola, Fla.) was sworn in as President of the Escambia-Santa Rosa Bar Association during their annual Installation Banquet on July 13, 2017.

Sarah Frankel, founder of the525group, has been selected as a recipient of the 2017 *M&A Advisor's* Emerging Leaders Award. Winners were selected by an independent judging panel of distinguished business leaders and Sarah was chosen for her accomplishments and unique expertise in the restructuring space.

Judge Mary Grace Diehl (U.S. Bankruptcy Court N.D. Ga.; Atlanta) was honored by the Atlanta Bar Association at a luncheon in Atlanta on June 13, 2017. Judge Diehl received the Outstanding Woman in the Profession Award and was recognized for her invaluable contributions to the profession.

Karen A. Giannelli (Chair of the Financial Restructuring & Creditors' Rights Department of Gibbons P.C. in Newark, New Jersey) was recently named a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the nonprofit research foundation of the American Bar Association. The Fellows is an honorary organization that supports the mission of the Foundation, comprising attorneys, jurists, and legal scholars and academics who have demonstrated throughout their careers exemplary commitment to their communities and to the highest standards of the legal profession.

Irena Goldstein (Trenk DiPasquale Della Fera & Sodono, P.C.; West Orange, N.J.) wrote a legislative update for the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal's August 2017 issue.



Irena Goldstein

Leanne Gould recently joined Aprio, the new name for HA+W, in their litigation support and forensic accounting services group. Leanne provides litigation support and forensic accounting services in complex commercial and bankruptcy disputes. She is excited about the opportunity to provide her clients and their counsel with quality customer service and access to over 400 professionals with broad industry and specialty service expertise. Aprio is the largest full-service, CPA-led business advisory firm in Georgia with over 400 professionals providing a wide range of advisory, assurance, tax, outsourcing and private client services to clients across the nation and the world.



Leanne Gould

Anna Haugen (McGuireWoods LLP; Jacksonville, Fla.), and **Courtney A. McCormick** (McGuireWoods LLP; Jacksonville, Fla.), co-authored an article with Kathryn Z. Keane (McGuireWoods LLP; Tysons Corner, Va.) entitled, *Re-"Structuring" Dismissal Flexibility: An Analysis of the Supreme Court's Jevic Decision*, published in the May 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.



Anna Haugen

The IWIRC New England Chapter is pleased to announce that its current Board's Ex Officio Chair, **L. Alexandra Hogan**, has begun a new partnership, Sabella Hogan, P.C. located at 1350 Main Street, Suite 214, Springfield, MA 01103. She practices in the areas of bankruptcy, business litigation, and general business, and may be reached at (413) 333-5577 and orahogan@sabellahogan.com.



Alexandra Hogan

Catherine Hopkin (Tydings & Rosenberg; Baltimore) was appointed to the Board of the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland by the Maryland State Bar Association's Board of Governors.



Catherine Hopkin

Candice Kline recently joined Carpenter Lipps & Leland LLP as a partner in the Chicago office. Candice focuses on commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and restructuring situations and also serves as a director and officer of the TMA Chicago/Midwest Chapter. In August, Candice also presented on the "State of the Distressed Market" at the Midwest Dealmakers 2017 Conference held in Chicago.



Candice Kline

SSG Capital Advisors, LLC announced that **Teresa C. Kohl** has been promoted to managing director. Teresa has special-situations investment banking experience and is based in the firm's West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania headquarters. She will continue to originate and lead investment banking transactions, as well as manage SSG's Litigation Advisory Practice. She has twenty years of experience in restructuring advisory and serves on ABI's Board of Directors.



Teresa Kohl

Bernice Lee (Shraiberg, Landau & Page, PA; Boca Raton, Fla.) co-wrote an article, *Pssst, Can You Keep a Secret? Unperfected "Secret" Liens as a Preference Defense*, in the June 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.



Bernice Lee

Sharon Levine (Saul Ewing LLP; Newark, N.J.) was recognized during ABI's Annual Spring Meeting in April in Washington, D.C. with a publication award for *Representing the Creditors' Committee: A Guide for Practitioners*.



Sharon Levine



Courtney McCormick



Jennifer McLemore

Jennifer McLain McLemore (Christian & Barton, LLP; Richmond, Va.) co-authored an article, *Stoppage Notices Have Chilling Effect on Liens of Secured Creditors*, published in the August 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.



Jennifer Meyerowitz

Jennifer Meyerowitz, GCG's Managing Director, Client Relations & Development, was a featured panelist at the American Bankruptcy Institute's 22nd Annual Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop in Hilton Head on July 28, 2017. Jennifer and her fellow panelists shared tips and best practices for young professionals eager to enhance their careers and grow their practices via proven marketing business development and marketing strategies including branding and social media.



Christina Pullo

Christina Pullo (Prime Clerk LLC; New York) and her coworker, James Daloia, wrote an article on *Practical Considerations for Pre-Bar Date Plan Solicitations*, published in the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal in July 2017.



Jeana Reinbold

Jeana K. Reinbold (Jeana Reinbold Law; Springfield, Ill.)'s article, *Interest in a Debtor's Right to Tax Overpayments for Pre-Petition Years*, was published in the May 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.



Sarah Schrag

Sarah Schrag (Dentons US LLP; Atlanta) co-authored an article on *Value, Not Face Amount, of Liens Controls in a Battle of Credit Bids*, featured in the July 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.

In July, **CC Schnapp** (U.S. Bankruptcy Court, N.D. Ga.; Atlanta) participated on a panel presented by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia's Bench and Bar Committee on the FDCPA and Bankruptcy. CC and her fellow panelists discussed the FDCPA and how it intersects with bankruptcy, recent Supreme Court cases on the FDCPA, issues regarding stale proofs of claim, and issues relating to debt buyers.



CC Schnapp

Sage Sigler (Alston & Bird LLP; Atlanta) was named to The Best Lawyers in America® for 2018 in the area of of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor/Insolvency and Reorganization Law.

Cullen and Dykman LLP is happy to announce that **Nicole Stefanelli** has joined the firm.



Sage Sigler

Lisa Tancredi (Gebhardt & Smith LLP; Baltimore) was busy this past quarter writing for several publications. She published the following three articles: *Challenges to Tax Exempt Status of Bankrupt Non-Profits* in Bloomberg BNA Bankruptcy Law Reporter (July 20, 2017); *Treatment of a Pre-Petition Foreclosure of Accounts Receivable*, in the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal (July 2017); and *Effective Appeal of Exclusivity Orders under 28 U.S.C. § 158(a)(2)*, in the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal (June 2017).



Nicole Stefanelli

Vicki Tickle joined the Vancouver office of McMillan LLP as a partner in the firm's Financial Services group in the insolvency and restructuring practice area, effective July 4, 2017. Prior to joining McMillan, through her commercial litigation practice, Vicki advised on complex commercial insolvencies, corporate restructuring and creditor realization. Vicki has experience in the fields of forestry, mining, manufacturing and technology, real estate, and entertainment. Connect with Vicki at Vicki.Tickle@mcmillan.ca.



Lisa Tancredi

Cole Schotz bankruptcy and corporate restructuring partner **Ilana Volkov** recently sat down with Debtwire senior legal content specialist Richard Goldman to dissect her representation of the foreign representative appointed in Hanjin Shipping's chapter 15 case. During the discussion, Ilana recounts the global and local factors that forced Hanjin to seek rehabilitation relief in South Korea, the fallout from the company's failure to secure rescue financing before commencing its recognition proceedings, and some of the more notable disputes that arose during the chapter 15, including contentious litigation against maritime lien holders. Ilana also recently spoke at the American Bankruptcy Institute's Southeast Conference on a panel called "Will Your Shipment Come In? How Bankruptcy Affects Transportation Issues on Water and Land."

Judy Weiker (Manewitz Weiker Associates, LLC; Indianapolis) was recognized during ABI's Annual Spring Meeting in April in Washington, D.C. with a publication award for *Bankruptcy Mediation*.

Nancy Whaley (Standing Chapter 13 Trustee; Atlanta) addressed the American Bankruptcy Institute's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy during the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustee's 2017 Annual Seminar on July 15, 2017 in Seattle.

Lynne B. Xerras (Holland & Knight LLP; Boston) co-wrote an article with her coworker, Kathleen St. John, on *Tribal Sovereign Immunity from Preference Claims*, included in the July 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.

Anne Zoltani (Tenth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel; Denver) co-authored an article, *Examining Section 362(a)(3): When "Stay" Means Stay*, featured in the May 2017 issue of the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal.

Congratulations to our members on these exciting accomplishments!

Did You Know

Our administrative office uses the information on your online IWIRC membership profile to keep in touch. If you don't update your profile, we can't contact you! Please take a moment to log on and make sure your personal profile information is up to date. If you have any questions or need assistance, contact Autumn Guckert, IWIRC Administrative Assistant, at 434-939-6002 and aguckert@iwirc.com. Thank you!



Rue Toland



Vicki Tickle



Ilana Volkov



Judy Weiker



Nancy Whaley



Lynne Xerras



Anne Zoltani



Upcoming Network Activities

Planning an event? Be on the lookout for the updated 2017-2021 Calendar of Bankruptcy & Insolvency Events, to be released and posted to the IWIRC home page in early September. The calendar includes a comprehensive list of insolvency and bankruptcy related events around the world. We hope that you will find this information a valuable resource when planning your travel/conference schedules and also for use when planning local/regional events!

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Washington DC Network

[Museum of African American History and Culture Tour & Networking Lunch](#)

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Florida Network

[IWIRC Florida Lunch & Learn](#)

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Virginia Network

[IWIRC Happy Hour](#)

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

New York Network

[IWIRC NY: Wine Tasting and Elections Info Session](#)

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

New Jersey Network

[Reception with Guest Speaker Sara Ross \(Joint Event with NJTMA NOW\)](#)

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Florida Network

[IWIRC Florida Chocolate Party](#)

Saturday, September 23, 2017

Virginia Network

[4th Annual Hike Day In the Blue Ridge!](#)

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Southern California Network

[Join SoCal IWIRC and IEBF for a Social Hour at the Riverside Art Museum!](#)

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Florida Network

[IWIRC Yoga Class - Tampa](#)

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Ontario Network

[Wine is the answer \(wait...what was the question?\) Join us for a wine tour](#)

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Florida Network

[IWIRC Florida Table of Eight with the Honorable Paul M. Glenn](#)

Newsletter Submissions

The Newsletter relies on contributions from IWIRC's networks and members. We are always looking for the following content:



- Summaries – and photographs! – of network events;
- Member news, such as job transitions, promotions, awards, speeches, and publications; and
- Short (1-4 page) articles regarding both bankruptcy and insolvency topics and professional development topics. We are especially looking for fresh, new pieces that have not been previously published.

The Newsletter is published quarterly. Please note the following submission deadlines:

- Fall Newsletter November 3, 2017
- Winter Newsletter February 2, 2018
- Spring Newsletter May 4, 2018

To submit news and articles, please contact IWIRC's Newsletter Director **Alexandra CC Schnapp** (U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia; Atlanta) at (404) 215-1005 and Alexandra_Schnapp@ganb.uscourts.gov. We look forward to hearing from you!

IWIRC Contacts

If you would like to:

- Introduce a new member to IWIRC;
- Join IWIRC; or
- Volunteer to take on a leadership role on one of our committees

Please contact IWIRC Administrative Director Shari Bedker at (434) 939-6002 and info@iwirc.com.



Welcome New Members!

May 16, 2017 - August 15, 2017

Farhana Ahmed
Opportune
Houston, TX

Isabel Arana
AlixPartners
Chicago, IL

Karen Aylward
MNP Ltd.
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of Canada
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Detrick
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Walkers
Hong Kong

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Bala Cynwyd, PA

Mary McFarland Caskey
Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.
Columbia, SC

Hui Lin Cham
Zolfo Cooper (Hong Kong)
Limited
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Randee Day
Goldin Maritime
West Palm Beach, FL

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Madison Hawk
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Centennial, CO

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David Edelberg
Cullen and Dykman, LLP
Hackensack, NJ

Helena Giles
GLAS
London, United Kingdom

Ann Gittleman
Duff & Phelps
New York, NY

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U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the
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Berkeley Research Group
(Hong Kong) Limited
Hong Kong

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Toronto, ONT Canada

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Rachel Hong
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Atlanta, GA

Ashley Jacobs
Young Conaway
Wilmington, DE

Anne Wise Kann
Lex Machina
Menlo Park, CA

Elyssa Kates
Baker & Hostetler
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Karmjit Kaur
Affin Hwang Investment Bank
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Meredyth A. Kippes
United States Department of
Justice/USTP
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Stella Li
University of Pennsylvania
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New York, NY

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Carey Olsen (Hong Kong) LLP
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Róisín Liddy-Murphy
University of Liverpool,
Truman Bodden Law School
George Town, Grand Cayman

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FTI Consulting
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Michael John Makridakis
Carey Olsen (Hong Kong) LLP
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Baltimore, MD

Katherine McMenamin
DLA Piper Hong Kong
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Pamella Mitchell
Kobre Kim (Cayman)
Camana Bay, Cayman Islands

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Alana Orrell
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Messrs Jamie Wong
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Shan Ty Wong
Ong & Wong Chartered
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IWIRC thanks its sponsors for their generous support!

IWIRC kicks off its sponsorship drive at the Leadership Summit each year, and the 2018 sponsorship year is now in full swing. We hope you will consider sponsoring and supporting IWIRC in the coming year. The levels and opportunities have been revamped for 2018, so please visit <https://www.iwirc.com/about-us/sponsors/benefits> to find out more.

All pledges that are completed by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 8, 2017 will be entered into a drawing to win a large Longchamp tote!

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Treasurer **Michelle M. Pickett** (michelle.pickett@ca.pwc.com), and Vice-Treasurer **Leyza Blanco** (leyza.blanco@gray-robinson.com). Thank you for your support!

IWIRC thanks all of its sponsors who committed to IWIRC in 2017 to support its programs, members, and mission.

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Upcoming Events

The Fall Conference is just around the corner, so be sure to register soon and pack your bags for VEGAS!

Join IWIRC in Las Vegas this fall for
IWIRC's 24th Annual Fall International Conference!

October 7 & 8, 2017
Paris Las Vegas
Las Vegas, Nevada

**NCBJ is graciously allowing IWIRC attendees to use the NCBJ block of rooms, subject to availability. You MUST use [this link](#) to register for the NCBJ block of rooms (\$189 per night if reserved by August 30, 2017, or the block is full, whichever comes first)*

The conference will kick off on Saturday, October 7th
with an opening reception at Bally's Skyview 1.

The conference on Sunday, October 8
will feature a full breakfast,
education panels,
a luncheon and the presentation of the Rising Star Awards, and
Optional intermezzo events.

[View Event Summary](#)



Save the Date!

2018 IWIRC at the Shore Conference – Atlantic City, NJ – March 1-2, 2018

2018 Spring Conference – Washington, D.C. – April 18-19, 2018



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