

IWIRC NEWSLETTER

Network News



Connecting Women Worldwide



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Network News

Houston Network

To celebrate IWIRC's 30th anniversary, the Houston Network hosted a fashion show benefitting Dress for Success, an international non-profit whose mission is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. On March 30, 2023, the Houston Network members gathered at Nordstrom over champagne and hors d'oeuvres for a fashion show and a personal shopping event. Attendees donated professional clothing, purses and accessories to Dress for Success; additionally, each of the 20 attendees made a \$25 cash donation to benefit the mission of Dress for Success. The event turned out to be so popular that the Houston Network added it to its regular programming and held a Sip and Shop event at Nordstrom on April 10, 2024. The event yet again proved to be a huge success.



Houston Network

The Houston Network celebrated the holiday season with its Annual Holiday Luncheon on December 7, 2023. Traditionally inviting all Houston bankruptcy judges and their staff, the Houston Network hosted the event at a historic room of the JW Marriott hotel in downtown Houston, treating the guests to a champagne toast and custom-made holiday bouquets in addition to a festive sit-down dinner with vegetarian and pescatarian options as well as a dessert buffet. Like each year, the luncheon was fully sold out at 50 guests and had a long waitlist to attend.



New Jersey Network

On Friday, May 3, 2024, members of the New Jersey attended the Honorable William H. Gindin Bankruptcy Bench Bar Conference at Pines Manor in Edison, NJ. The event was a success by all accounts – due in large part to the hard work of the Chair of the New Jersey Network, Sari B. Placona, who also co-chaired the Conference. Sari and her conference co-chair, Angela Pattison, planned a well-organized event with excellent and compelling programming, including a panel hosted by the ladies of the New Jersey Network. Tara Schellhorn, Caity Conklin, Jaclynn McDonnell, and the Hon. Rosemary Gambardella presented the “Name that Case!” panel in a game show-style fashion, pitting audience members against one another and examining some of the most cited opinions written by currently sitting bankruptcy judges from the District of New Jersey. Winners walked away with bragging rights and a prize, and all who attended were entertained and learned a thing or two.



Europe Network

The Europe Network was delighted to organize an IWIRC Europe lunch in Zurich, Switzerland on 3 June 2024, kindly hosted by Ardenter Law (Switzerland) and Charles Russell Speechlys (UK).

The guests came from all across Europe and the world, from Luxembourg to Spain and France, passing by India and South Korea. This invite only event allowed lawyers, investigators and insolvency practitioners to connect, in the warm and friendly atmosphere of the Michelin Guide's restaurant Bauernschänke. Many thanks to Alison Goldthorp and Antonia Mottironi for making the meeting possible.



Connecticut Network

On June 6, 2024, the Connecticut Network hosted Networking & Comedy for a Cause in Westport, Connecticut. The event was planned around the Westport Writers' Workshop's Lit & Wit- A Comedy Night Fundraiser. Members enjoyed pre-show networking and then attended the show. IWIRC member Liz Austin was one of the many talented comedians that performed that night (pictured below). Proceeds from the comedy show benefited the Outreach Program, which provides complimentary writing instruction to underserved communities.



India Network

India Network members attended the Leadership Summit in Singapore from 13-15 June 2024. For the first time, the India Network was represented by 6 women, Manisha Dhir, Pooja Mahajan and Anagha Anasingaraju (India Network Board members) and Mahima Singh, Varsha Banerjee and Saloni Thakkar (India Network members). The presence of such large number of India Network members show the commitment of the India Network to contribute to the cause of diversity and inclusion in the restructuring world.



Additionally, the India Network's Quarterly e-Newsletter (April –June 2024) was published which covers legal updates and articles by their members and friends in the field of insolvency and restructuring. Read it [here](#).

British Virgin Islands Network

On Tuesday, 19 June 2024, the British Virgin Islands Network and South Square hosted a breakfast session lead by Kira King and Imogen Beltrami discussing “Does the glass ceiling still exist? Making it to the top as a woman!”

As always, this is never a dull conversation and it was great to share experiences and have an open and honest discussion about difficulties women face advancing in their careers.



The key take away is definitely that we need each other. A supportive environment is needed and that involves more allies, both male and female, who actively work towards gender equality and inclusivity breaking down barriers, challenging discriminatory practices and fostering a culture that supports the advancement and empowerment of women.

Although progress feel slow at times, we are moving in the right direction.



Greater Philadelphia Network

In June, the Greater Philadelphia Network hosted a Summer Networking and Happy Hour at Mural City Cellars (“MCC”). IWIRC members and guests mingled in MCC’s living-room-like tasting room—which is a converted auto body shop space exuding a funky, casual vibe that put IWIRC members at ease and made for fun conversation (...and the wine didn’t hurt either!). Founded in 2021, MCC is a Latinx- and woman-owned business in the heart of the Fishtown neighborhood in Philadelphia that sources all its grapes from growers within a 300-mile radius of the city, features cheese from local dairies, and offers beer and additional wines from local companies. The choice to host at MCC was part of the Greater Philadelphia Network’s commitment to provide support to women, minority-owned and/or LGBTQ businesses and initiatives.



London Network

London Network's Anniversary Party and Awards Ceremony

It was great to see so many of our members at our 6th annual London Network Anniversary Party and Awards Ceremony on 2 July 2024 and congratulations to our award winners: Future Leader Award Winner: Olivia Lock FTI Consulting; Excellence Award Winner: Juliet Schalker, Debenhams Ottaway; and Champion Award Winner: Mandip Englund, Fried Frank.



Our “What Next for Restructuring in the UK and Ireland?” panel discussion on 18 June 2024 brought together the London Network, the Scotland Network and the Ireland Network to share recent experiences and legal insights in the UK restructuring market, and to discuss opportunities for working together. A special thank you to our Moderator Luci Mitchell-Fry and our Panellists Hannah Aynsley, Stefanie Wilkins, Kathryn Rice, Kate Magee, Susan Ower K.C. and Sarah Letson, and to Dentons for hosting the event.



London Network

Insolvency and Restructuring Summer Soiree

Thanks to those that joined us for the Insolvency and Restructuring Summer Soiree on 12 June 2024! The London Network was delighted to partner with the The IFT Women's Network, Insolvency Lawyers' Association Associates' Network, and Turnaround Management Association NextGen to put on this sellout networking event and huge thanks to the fantastic team of organisers for making it happen!



Great Returners Programme

The London Network's Great Returners Programme was set up last year to facilitate a "safe space" for our members returning to work after a period of absence such as parental leave, caring responsibilities, or longer-term sickness. The aim is to connect members who are going through similar experiences and to lend support and most importantly remind those attending that they are not alone in the challenges they face. The programme included six one-hour coach facilitated sessions and we were supported by two fantastic coaches, Fahrah Gulamhusein and Kate Adey. It has attracted significant interest from IWIRC London members and has been attended by members at lots of different institutions and at different levels. The feedback has been really positive. We have covered topics such as "The Journey to Re-Integration", "Strengthening your Career" and "Being You in the Workplace". In the final session of this year's Great Returners Programme on 9 July 2024, we had the option of meeting in person at the London office of CMS with both coaches attending in person for an opportunity to have some real-time coaching and meet the other participants for a networking breakfast.

Mexico Network

On July 12, 2024, members of the Mexico Network visited the National Institute of Pediatrics to donate educational materials so that hospitalized children can continue with their educational programs. This donation was made possible thanks to contributions from IWIRC members, collaborating firms, and individuals committed to the cause.



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IWIRC Hong Kong    

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IWIRC India 

IWIRC South Africa 

IWIRC Ireland  

IWIRC Western Canada  

IWIRC Latin America  

IWIRC Western Pennsylvania 

Thanks for sharing your Network News!

Has your network hosted a great event? Have some exciting events coming up? We want to hear!

Send your submissions to news@iwirc.com to be featured in future IWIRC Network News communications.



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