



The International Network for Women in Dispute Resolution

## AW Celebrates Progress, Supporters and New Leadership

### MIRÈZE PHILIPPE SPEAKS

*Dear Readers,*

*We wanted to give our members and friends who could not be with us an opportunity to share in what made up our program for the evening who gathered 120 participants at the prestigious Hotel Prince de Galles in Paris. ArbitralWomen thanks all friends and colleagues who joined us at the truly magical celebration. Without your generous support, this event would not have been possible. All of us at ArbitralWomen are truly grateful to you. \**

Welcome to the fifth anniversary gala dinner of ArbitralWomen ("AW").

We would like to thank all those who supported our gala dinner; our sponsor, Freshfields Paris; the firms and organizations who bought tables, Debevoise New York, Dechert Paris, and the Lewiatan Court of Warsaw; the ICC who announced our gala dinner on the webpage of the joint Colloquium at which most of you participated today and,

Freehills Melbourne for the calendars which are offered to you at the occasion of our anniversary.



*Founders and co-presidents Mirèze Philippe and Louise Barrington remitting the awards to Donald Francis Donovan and Klaus Reichert*

### LOUISE BARRINGTON SPEAKS

Aside from organizing dinners like this, AW has a pretty impressive record in its brief history, of producing or assisting with some pretty fine projects. I'm not going to tell you about everything our members have accomplished because I do have a plane to catch this evening, but here's a state:

1. We publicise events – seminars and conferences – where women and our members are speaking. We're often asked to put conference flyers on the homepage of our website, and are happy to do that – provided at least one AW is featured as a speaker!

\* Go to section Photos on [www.arbitralwomen.org](http://www.arbitralwomen.org) and select the date of the event to see the photos.

### HONOURABLE MEN

*The International Network of Women in Dispute Resolution Acknowledges with Gratitude the Invaluable Contribution of Donald Francis Donovan and Klaus Reichert in supporting the work of ArbitralWomen*



**Donald Francis Donovan**

Donald is a partner in Debevoise & Plimpton in New York. He concentrates his practice in international disputes before courts in the United States, international arbitration tribunals, and international courts.



**Klaus Reichert SC**

Klaus is a Senior Counsel practising from Dublin and Brick Court Chambers, London.

## MIRÈZE PHILIPPE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We are pleased to have representatives from the institutions who organized today's colloquium and to welcome Meg Kinnear, Secretary General of ICSID, and Jason Fry, Secretary General of ICC International Court of Arbitration.

Bill Slate, the President and CEO of the AAA, regrets not being able to stay with us after the cocktail due to a prior commitment. We are however delighted that his wife, Debora Miller Slate, is with us.

We are also honoured to have other institutions represented by Lorraine Brennan, Senior Vice President of the CPR Institute (International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution), Beata Gessel, Vice President of the Lewiatan Court in Warsaw, Carolyn Lamm, immediate Past President of the ABA, and Maria Vicien Milburn, General Counsel of the UNESCO.

We are equally happy to have many arbitration law firms and heartily welcome each and all of our friends and colleagues who joined us for this special celebration, and who come from Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and Venezuela. What a wonderful representation!

We wish to sincerely thank two members of AW, Vanessa El Houry and

Asoid Garcia-Marquez. Please show the photographers your best smile, because the photos will be posted on our website in a few days - unless you do not wish to have your photo displayed - in which case, do please let us know. Otherwise we will assume that you accept to have the photos of the gala dinner displayed on our website.

Finally, we would like to thank the bluegrass band playing for us tonight.

We are delighted that you could join us for this special AW event in celebration of our fifth official anniversary, and our recognition and appreciation of two men who have been particularly supportive of AW: **Donald Francis Donovan and Klaus Reichert.**

But first, I would like to begin by explaining what AW is, why is women practitioners an issue that motivated the creation of AW, and what we do?

We will then tell you why AW has chosen to recognize these two distinguished Men.

**WHAT IS AW?**

*AW is a network of women involved in international dispute resolution who share information and experience, organize activities throughout the world, support younger women through mentoring programs, sponsor and interact with students during moot competitions, and provide referrals.*

AW's goal, amongst others, is to remind the business world and dispute resolution community at large, that highly competent women practitioners are available. AW has contributed to provoking this awareness and to promoting women in the international dispute resolution arena.



*ArbitralWomen Banner*

AW is not only celebrating its 5th official anniversary, but also the 17th anniversary of the day Louise Barrington gathered 60 of us, in November 1993 in Paris, at a dinner for women involved in international dispute resolution. Louise wanted to understand the reasons for the absence of women in this field, and discovered that there were women practicing international dispute resolution but without being visible.

It was decided that something had to be done to bring women to the forefront. We needed to leave the backstage to move to the front stage.

But, who was going to undertake this publicity for us?

The only answer was : us of course!

As a general rule, getting into the legal profession has never been easy for young lawyers so how could we expect it to be easy for women? Men have their own clubs, open only to men. Women do not have clubs. At the time, not many people believed in the project launched by Louise and we were greeted with a great deal of criticism from both men and women. It took the courage of Louise Barrington to start up a network.

This was made possible when Louise and I created an electronic group in 2000. But the group remained private which could not allow women practitioners to discover about us and join us.

It was in 2005 that we created a website and became visible. We also founded the legal structure of AW with a small group of members who joined us in this adventure. We simply had to dare do this, and our perseverance has paid off.

We never imagined that AW would attain worldwide recognition. AW is no longer a mystery, a sort of “secret society”. It is well-known and internationally recognized organization.



*Left to right: Vanessa Thieffry, Rabab Yasseen, Brigitte Stern, Elie Kleiman*

AW has brought together women from over 40 countries around the world and has a membership of several hundred, including most of the leading women involved in dispute resolution practice, and we are equally proud to have both confirmed and young practitioners. The diversity of our membership profiles is particularly enriching for our network, which is also comprised of minorities, such as practitioners from Egypt, Nigeria or Indonesia. International dispute resolution is no longer a field reserved only for grey-haired men as in the past.

It has now been a while since this field opened up to grey-haired women, as well as both young and confirmed practitioners, men and women. Women are no longer a rare creature in the field, but increasingly present alongside their male colleagues. I have personally seen a tremendous increase in the number of women in the last twenty years.

This change of scenery results from a natural phenomenon, the increase in the number of women law graduates who entered the international dispute resolution world, which has reduced the effects of the gender factor, although women still encounter obstacles to their success in the field, more than their male colleagues. But, the way upward was achieved step-by-step, by women as well as by their male colleagues. Although the percentage of women in the legal profession is higher now than ever before, the proportional increase in the number of women in key position in the legal profession has been and remains difficult to obtain. Today, half of the pool of arbitration teams in law firms are composed of women. Strikingly, however, very few of these women are offered a partnership in their law firms.

But, times have changed and will continue to change; so we can hope that more women will rise to the position of partnership in the future.

The increase in the number of women has indeed been visible in recent years, but in certain countries it remains difficult for women to be recognized as part of business life. Women with equal qualifications are entitled to and should receive the same chances to intervene as arbitrators, mediators, lawyers, experts, speakers, as their male counterparts. This is why AW plays a significant role in supporting women and in promoting their advancement.

We believe that it is the duty of both women and men practitioners, to continue mentoring, sharing and transmitting the knowledge and the experience, as well as supporting younger practitioners and minorities, men and women.

It should however be made clear, that AW was not created to defend women practitioners, but to remind the business community that highly competent women practitioners are available around the world.

One of our many activities is a referral service which has contributed to the appointment of women. We have openly expressed our concern to organizers of events every time no women or only very few were invited to panels. This affirmative action has played a role in giving equal chances to women with equal qualifications as their male counterparts, and in showing women that by uniting, we have a better chance of being heard.



*Tables were named  
after flowers*

*Each table had a  
different flower*

*Photo: Ornithogalum  
arabicum*

This being said, our referrals are not limited to women,. For instance, two years ago, I was approached by a contact from the Gulf countries who was looking for a marine surveyor. I collected twelve names recommended by members, actually there were more men than women, and sent them to my contact without telling him how they had been collected. He called me later, perhaps out of courtesy, to inform me about his choice. I was very pleased to learn that he had selected a woman. This example demonstrates that where equal qualifications exist, there is place for both men and women.

AW's network also offers many referral opportunities amongst members and non-members. A friend of AW, Maria Vicien Milburn recently told me that she owed a lot

to AW because she met one of her best 'collaboratrice' at one of our gatherings. She is co-authoring an article with an AW, hired yet another member, and became good friends with a member she met through us.

Therefore, AW gives us also opportunities for social gatherings that we enjoy. Business comes, business goes, but friends remain. We value the human relations.

Although male practitioners cannot become members of our organization, they nevertheless benefit from our referrals and are welcomed once a year to join us at the occasion of an event such as the one organized tonight.

Today, we can go so far as to say, that if our male colleagues do not include women in their network, they risk being considered "vieux jeu" or "old-fashioned boys".

To conclude, the AW adventure has been very successful thanks to the initiator Louise Barrington and to the members of AW. We are pleased and proud to continue this adventure together with all of our members and with the support of our male colleagues, and your presence tonight is very dear to us.



#### LOUISE BARRINGTON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

2. We organize events – it's not possible or even interesting to give you a list of all the events we've done, but these range from

\* simple gatherings of a dozen members in a Singapore bar or a Hong Kong law firm;

\* a number of well attended lunches and dinners to gather women in New York and Washington organized by Yulia Andreeva, Julie Bedard, Lorraine Brennan, Jean Kalicki and others;

\* annual AW dinners in Vienna during the Vis Moot organized by Barbara Steindl;

\* the debate on External Funding for Arbitration held at King's College London a couple of years back, before most people even knew the practice existed;

\* conferences in Sydney and Melbourne Australia that were co-organised in the name of AW by members there;

\* to this year's highly successful international conference on Arbitrating M&A transactions organised by Beata Gessel in Warsaw.

Yulia Andreeva was in charge of the programmes and we now have a programme committee in AW to suggest events and provide some coordination among members who are organising events around the world. These events, aside from any intellectual content (there may not have been too much of that in the Singapore bar meeting) provide a platform for our members and are building a global network which is informal but effective.

3. Another AW activity is our Mentoring Programme. A few years ago several younger members had approached me about pupillage – following an arbitrator through a case or cases to observe and learn. This is a tough order, given the privacy of the process; but in discussing the idea with some of the more senior members, we came up with the

Mentoring system, where an experienced woman practitioner is assigned one or possibly two less senior women. These relationships vary enormously, depending on the personalities involved, but it's a way for the newer members of the profession to meet and learn from others, ask questions, and benefit from the judgment of more experienced practitioners.

The Mentor programme is now in its fourth year, administered by Karen Mills in Indonesia who organises the pairings each summer and gets feedback as well.

4. AW Awards. Now, when we began the association five years ago, we knew we would need funding to get professional help in building the website. Mirèze could tell you stories about that, but I'm really glad she hasn't. You don't want to know! Anyway, we decided to charge a very small membership fee to cover the expenses of building and maintaining the website and for a part time administrative assistant. Pak Suen is here, and it is she who answers some of your website questions.

But the point is, we have a small but dependable bank balance. Now anyone who knows me realizes that I hate to have money sitting in a bank account and will always try to find some way to get rid of it.

You will also not be surprised to learn that in my role as director of the Vis East Moot in Hong Kong, I get emails each year begging me to waive the registration fee for teams who want to participate but are having trouble getting funding. For years I had been writing back, sorry the Vis cannot waive the fees, as it's a very lean organization and depends very much for its existence on the registration fees.

But then a couple of years ago, I remembered that AW had a bit of a surplus, so I went to the Board and we established the AW Awards.

These awards are given to groups to assist them in activities that foster the development and promotion of women in international dispute resolution. For the past three years, AW has paid the Vis or Vis East registration fees of three teams either composed entirely of women, or which have women as at least half their members. It is not a huge amount, but it's psychologically very important, as often it is the first contribution the teams receive, and acts to prime the pump as the students are looking for other sponsors.

5. Our most recent enterprise is the Honourable Man Award, awarded for the first time this evening to our two friends Klaus and Donald.

I hope I've given you a flavor of the kind of work we do in AW. The important point is that the groups is energized not only from the centre out, but also from our members who bring ideas to the board. We have enormous resources in terms of intellectual capacity and womanpower, so the possibilities for action are unlimited.

Now speaking of action. Mirèze - and some others - keep embarrassing me by giving me credit for starting this whole thing. While it's true that I had the original idea, it was only one of my many ideas. And 99% of my ideas never see the light of day.

Speaking of percentages, Thomas Edison once said, "Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration". Well, if I contributed the 1%, the person who contributed the 99% is without a doubt Mirèze.

Thomas Carlyle put it another way: "Genius is an infinite capacity for taking pains". And John Ruskin said, "I know of no genius but that of hard work".



*Louise Barrington and Mirèze Philippe*

What could be a better description of Mirèze?

For years, in fact, for well over a decade now, Mirèze has shouldered the responsibility for nurturing the AW idea into a living, growing reality. First the yahoo chat room, and then our more sophisticated (and to me infinitely frustrating) website. At times, I'd try to catch her out; while in Canada, 6 hours behind Paris, I'd write an email, thinking there'd surely be an interval of 6 or 7 hours before Mirèze responded. It's usually only an hour or two. Sleepless, Mirèze would be organizing AW work, following up on the membership, responding to hundreds of emails. Some people may be amazed to learn this, but has a life outside of AW. Patrick, her husband, is a man of infinite patience, who has managed to put up with late nights, early mornings and lost weekends, while Mirèze sat glued to the computer on our behalf.

This kind of commitment is more than just hard work; it is diligence; it is sacrifice; it's generosity; it is passion.

This evening is another example. Mirèze has worked tirelessly to make this dinner the lovely experience that we're all enjoying tonight.

I had the idea for different flowers in 1993; Mirèze revived it and chose each flower with care for this evening and named the table after each of the flowers.



*Amaryllis*

I casually remarked that a bit of live music might add atmosphere; Maria Beatriz Burghetto found the group you're hearing tonight and Mirèze met the musicians and did the rest. My first emails this morning from Mirèze were about last minute table arrangements, sent at about 6:30 this morning!

One percent inspiration; 99% perspiration – well, tonight it is time to paraphrase yet another famous American, and pass the torch.



*The bluegrass band*

Over its brief existence AW has grown in stature and in status. As Mirèze said, people aren't laughing anymore; they see the group as a hub and a reference point. Since the birth of the association, young dynamic creative women have been joining us, and it is time to give them the opportunity to make their own contribution.

Both Mirèze and I are confident that in passing the mantle to Lorraine and the new Board this month, we are placing it in wise and careful hands.

And we're not disappearing: when we drafted the bylaws we ensured there would always be a role for us to play. Even though we are stepping back tonight to make way for the next generation, we'll both remain available. Even from the other end of the world, we're only an email away.



ARBITRAL WOMEN

A network of women from around the world  
matched in international dispute resolution

A gift for you to celebrate the  
5th Anniversary of ArbitralWomen

Paris  
17 November 2010

For further information, please use the "contact us" link at [www.arbitralwomen.org](http://www.arbitralwomen.org)

This calendar was created by **Freehills**

*A gift for you to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of AW  
Calendar offered by Bronwyn Lincoln from Freehills*

## HONOURABLE MEN AWARD

Since the beginning of AW, we've had dozens of requests from men to join. While we appreciate the thought, this IS an organisation FOR WOMEN. Over our 5 years of official existence, there has been a constant conversation about how to reconcile our women-only stance with the fact that there are some men who are just as active as we are in promoting women's roles. Again and again, we've concluded that there is a real value to a women-only forum, but the counterbalance has always been: how do we show that AW recognises their contribution and is grateful to the men who not only share our goal of promoting women, but also actively support it.

Last year at the Moot in Vienna, we came up with the idea of a special Award. We at first jokingly called it Honourable Man, but as we reflected, we realised that it was a good name, an award for men who deserved to be honoured.

Members of the then Board nominated men who in their view had been of real assistance, and we came up with a list of about a dozen. We discussed and argued and short-listed, and finally the choice came down to two. We simply couldn't decide between them. Since this is the first year of the award - so in a way to catch up after 5 years of our association's existence - we decided it was only fair to honour TWO honourable men with this first Award. And those two men are you - Donald and Klaus.

We are delighted that you are both here to receive the AW Honourable Man Award.



*Klaus Reichert and  
Donald Francis Donovan*

Your presence this evening demonstrates once again your support and your friendship with AW. We are grateful for your continuous support.

When the Global Arbitration Review interviewed us about the reasons for creating this Award and our selection of the men who will receive this first Award, we informed them that the idea and the choice were dictated by the significant support we received from you, Donald and Klaus.

You, Donald and Klaus, believed in AW's efforts and have opened doors for us, first in Montreal in 2006, and then in Dublin in 2008. You got the AW featured on the website of the ICCA conferences - Donald in Montreal and Klaus at ICCA Dublin - which was very significant for us.

In addition to supporting AW, Donald and Klaus, you have contributed to the invitation of women to the panels of speakers at ICCA and you have been extremely supportive of the advancement of women in the dispute resolution arena. At ICCA in Dublin, where Donald, you had a major role in choosing speakers. Women had always been conspicuously absent on the platforms of past ICCA conferences.

In Dublin the percentage, largely because of your efforts, was over 40%. Klaus worked with us for months, generously helping us raise our profile in the months leading up to the Dublin ICCA.

*Louise first presented a short biography of Donald Francis Donovan.*

Donald, you invited us to present AW at the Debevoise cocktail in Montreal at the 2006 ICCA Congress and you were the first person to open an opportunity for us to publicize the existence of AW.

You braved the disapproval of some to give us a platform to explain the goals of AW - when SOME people found it rather amusing to see women in international dispute resolution uniting in an association. You understood what we meant with this association, and what it meant to us to speak publicly about our goals. This first opportunity you offered us smoothed the way for AW for many other events since then.

In fact Donald, your support of AW is right in line with your achievements related to human rights.

*Mirèze then presented a short biography of Klaus Reichert.*

Klaus, your support in Dublin was instrumental to the success of our first gala dinner in Dublin. Catherine Kessedjian who was a board member met you and presented to you her project for the gala dinner. Without hesitation you offered your support and opened all doors in Dublin.

With your support, Catherine was able to organize a very successful event. Catherine knew that the only person who could help us succeed this event was you. She has invested significant time and efforts and offered us a memorable evening.

We would like to take this opportunity to address special thanks to Catherine Kessedjian without whom this event in Dublin would not have taken place. She could unfortunately not join us tonight due to another commitment.

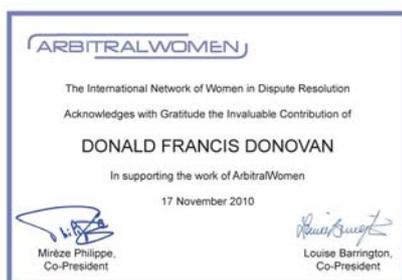
In a recent press-release in the Global Arbitration Review, you said that:

***“The goals and achievements of AW command the profoundest respect and support from all those who seek a vibrant future for international arbitration”.***

Your kind words are most appreciated and this is yet another testimony of your recognition and support of AW.

We would like Donald and Klaus, with this award to express our gratitude for what you have both done to promote AW, and for your continuous support.

This certificate, signed by both Co-Presidents (Louise and Mirèze), reminds you that AW will not forget your standing beside us.



*“The International Network of Women in Dispute Resolution acknowledges with Gratitude the Invaluable Contribution of Donald Francis Donovan and (the second one) Klaus Reichert in supporting the work of ArbitralWomen”*  
17 November 2010

And with this cardholder engraved with your name and AW logo we hope you will have a constant reminder of our appreciation and a memento of this evening.



*Engraved inside the lid: Presented with thanks to Donald Francis Donovan and Klaus Reichert*  
17 November 2010

## **DONALD FRANCIS DONOVAN**

### **Remarks on Receiving the Honourable Man Award**

I am enormously grateful to you all for giving me this Award.

I may not have my priorities straight, but I should say first that I am especially grateful to receive the Award at a ceremony graced by a bluegrass band. You could not have known this, but I am a bluegrass fanatic, and it is a great treat to find the music here in Paris.

Before I thank Mirèze and Louise and everybody, I also want to send along my wife Jennifer Lake’s regrets for not being here to see so many friends. As some of you know, Jennifer serves as legal advisor for Independent Diplomat, an organization that provides diplomatic services to under-resourced governments and political organizations. ID has two clients before the Security Council this week, but she sends her regards to all. As I was leaving yesterday, I thought I heard her say something to the effect that had anybody from the nominating committee called her, I might not be making this trip, but ...

But to the real business. I do not have many heroes, but one of them is Justice Blackmun, for whom I worked at the start of my career. Many of you know that Justice Blackmun was a great supporter of women in his jurisprudence; perhaps fewer know that he was also a great supporter in his professional life, including in the selection of his law clerks.

I would like to discuss a different aspect of the man, though. Justice Blackmun was the author of the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1985 decision in the *Mitsubishi* case. If you will indulge me a moment, I want to say a word about that decision and then bring the matter back to ArbitralWomen.

In *Mitsubishi*, the Supreme Court held as a matter of U.S. law that antitrust claims were arbitrable in international cases. In the course of the decision, the Court provided a robust endorsement of the capacity of international arbitral tribunals to render justice, to act as impartial and independent tribunals in disputes arising from international commerce.

Justice Stevens, an old antitrust lawyer from Chicago, vigorously dissented. He was aghast at the notion that an arbitral tribunal constituted under the Rules of the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association and sitting in Tokyo would hear and decide a U.S. antitrust claim. In concluding his dissent, he observed that to listen to the majority’s reasoning, one would think that international arbitration was an institution designed to promote world peace. And then for emphasis, he cited Kant’s *Perpetual Peace*. Justice Stevens was not happy with the *Mitsubishi* judgment.

But perhaps he saw something in the majority opinion that was actually there. We who work in the field of international arbitration need to keep constantly in mind that we are part of a transnational *justice* system. What we are all about is promoting a system in which parties, including states, from a wide variety of national jurisdictions, with different legal systems, different legal traditions, and different economic systems, with the participation of advocates, arbitrators, and client representatives from those different systems and traditions, create a truly impartial and independent dispute resolution mechanism that can take full account of those differences. And if we do that well, if we do that effectively, we may just make a real contribution to the global community's prospects for dynamic economic and social development and, dare I say it, genuine protection of human dignity and security.

Here I return to ArbitralWomen. If we are going to achieve the goals I just set out, if international arbitration is to be truly international, the participants in the international arbitral process – the advocates, the arbitrators, the clients – must reflect the same diversity as the people affected by the process. That is the mission of ArbitralWomen, and that is the mission that we are gathered here to celebrate. All we have to do is look around this room, and to think of our daily practice, to appreciate the spectacular range of truly impressive women now participating in the process and,

as well, the spectacular range of truly impressive participants, both men and women, from states and regions that have long been under-represented.

The objective of full participation is not yet achieved, but it is not far off. There is much to be done, but it is absolutely appropriate to pause tonight, on this fifth anniversary of the organization, to celebrate how much ArbitralWomen has done to help us get there.

So congratulations to Mirèze and Louise and all, and my deep thanks for this Award.



*Donald showing the certificate*

### **KLAUS REICHERT SPEAKS**

Ladies and gentlemen, I am enormously humbled to be here, you can hear from the quavering in my voice that I am deeply touched by this Award. I am quite sad that Catherine can not be with us. As some of you may know, I have known Catherine for a very long time.

In my own practice and in my own life knowing her and the support that she has given me since I first joined the IBA, she has meant the world to me in how I got on. Catherine has been an inspiration to me.

I wanted to thank Louise, Mirèze, most particularly for the very kind words.

People asked me why I supported ArbitralWomen. I am not going to tell you anything other than one simple thing. We do not need protocols, we do not need guidelines, we do not need statements, we do not need agreements, it is simply the right thing to do. That is all it is. Unless we know what the right thing to do is in our lives then what on earth are we doing? Other than the fact that Catherine asked me to do it, I recognized immediately that it is the right thing to do and that is why I did it. I immediately recognized that supporting ArbitralWomen was the right thing to do.

I wish you all a bon appétit and thank you so much.

*(speech as transcribed by the editors)*

## PRESENTATION OF THE NEW ARBITRALWOMEN BOARD

Now we come to the moment of transition and present to you the new ArbitralWomen board for 2010-2012.

- The new president, who was member of the Board since the foundation of AW and recently vice-president, is **Lorraine Brennan** from the US. More on Lorraine in a moment.
- The new vice-president is **Yulia Andreeva**, of Russian origin living in NY. She was member of the board in charge of the programs during the last two-year term.
- Our new secretary is **Asoïd Garcia Marquez**, of Mexican origin living in France. She is a new and young board member.
- And our new treasurer is **Rashda Rana** from Australia. She is a new board member also in charge of awards.
- **Karen Mills**, of US origin living in Indonesia, is in charge of the Mentor Program. Karen was on the board since the foundation of AW.
- **Beata Gessel** from Poland is our new board member in charge of the Programs.
- **Debora Miller Slate** from the US is our new board member in charge of the Newsletter.
- **Bronwyn Lincoln** from Australia is in charge of the marketing. Bronwyn was on the board during the last two-year term. She is the one who offered the nice calendars you received tonight.
- **Ann Ryan Robertson** from the US is our new board member in charge of the liaison with other groups.
- **Rabab Yasseen**, Iraqi born, Swiss lawyer practicing in Geneva is in charge of the membership. Rabab was also on the board during the last two-year term.
- finally, **Dorothy Ufot** from Nigeria, who was on the board during the last two-year term.
- Both **Mirèze** and **Louise** remain on the Board as Past Presidents. Mirèze holds a dual French and Lebanese nationality and Louise holds British and Canadian nationality.

- To give you a flavour on who contributed for one or two two-year terms, past board members are :

Diana Droulers from Venezuela  
Florence Gladel from France  
Catherine Kessedjian from France  
Loretta Malintoppi from Italy  
Amance Perrot from France  
Carla Potok from the US  
Barbara Steindl from Austria  
Salli Swarz from the US  
Nancy Turck from the US  
Carita Walgren from Finland  
Janet Walker from Canada  
Isabel Zivy from Mexico

The diversity of nationalities shows the truly international profile of AW.

Our new President, one of our founding members and one of our most active, is Lorraine Brennan.

Louise presented Lorraine and then, rather than continuing to tell about Lorraine's impressive past, she preferred to let her speak for herself and give us all a taste of what is soon to come.



*Outgoing co-presidents Louise Barrington and Mirèze Philippe look on incoming president Lorraine Brennan*

## LORRAINE BRENNAN SPEAKS

I wanted to start with a heartfelt thank you to Louise and Mireze, because I firmly believe without their tenacity and dedication, this evening would not have happened and ArbitralWomen never would have gotten off the ground. So I admire you ladies for all your hard work.

I am truly honored to accept the position of President of Arbitral Women. Nothing in my career, indeed my life, has mattered more to me than seeing that women are treated fairly and simply given a chance. Tonight, I look around this room with awe, when I see all the strong and powerful women that you are, or will soon become. I can't help but think of the sacrifices that were made — by our mothers and grandmothers — including my own grandmother, who came penniless and alone by boat to America at age 19, looking for a better future, and my mother, who could not afford to go to college, but raised five college educated and successful daughters. And I think about all the other amazing women who came before us and fought so hard so that our futures would be brighter — we are forever in their debt and they are indeed here with us tonight.

Now it is up to us, to forge ahead so that our daughters, granddaughters, students and all the young women here tonight who are just starting out in their career will find the path ahead an easier one than that we had to travel. And so, like the lamplighter of olden time who lit the way for people to follow, Arbitral Women strives to be a beacon for all women in the field, to find their way so that their own individual light might brightly shine.

Allow me to close my remarks with one of my favorite quotes by the late Senator Bobby Kennedy: 'There are those that look at things the way they are, and ask why? I dream of things that never were, and ask, why not?'. So I say to you all tonight, why not us? Why not now?

Thank you."



*Lorraine Brennan*

## NEW AW PRESIDENT

### LORRAINE BRENNAN

Our new President, one of the founding members of AW, is one of our most active.

Lorraine Brennan is senior vice president of the Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR). She's responsible for their international expansion, and running events, meetings training and key committees. Prior to joining CPR, Lorraine was a partner in the New York office of Kilpatrick Stockton, where she specialized in international arbitration and dispute resolution and directed the firm's international arbitration group. Prior to that she was Director of Arbitration and ADR for North America for the ICC Court of arbitration. She is an adjunct professor at Cornell, her alma mater, and at Georgetown University in Washington, and has taught at Shantou University in China.

Lorraine is a member of the executive board in the USA of the ILA, former chair of the Women Interest Network of the ABA, and is a member of the Diversity Task Force. She has authored a number of articles, including: 'High Court Declines to Address Arbitrator Bias Standard', and she is a frequent speaker at conferences around the world.

As a member of AW, Lorraine was vice president of the last board, and she has actively promoted the group and its values, working diligently to organize events in the US. She has used her prodigious network of connections to give us profile, and — has been a constant irritation to conference organizers who were unwise or careless enough to "forget" to include women on their panels.