



LESI Committees:

End of Year Report for the 2021 International Management and Delegates Meeting – May 19, 2021

Submitted: April 22, 2021 (date)

Women in Licensing Alliance (WILA)

Committee Name

Pamela Cox (Chair) and Eszter Szakacs (Vice Chair)

Chairs and Vice Chairs

Fiona Nicolson

LESI Board Liaison

Action Plan

Maintaining WILA Ambassador Program

<u>Name</u>	<u>Region</u>
Judith Miller	Australia & New Zealand
Cândida Ribeiro Caffé	South America
Ningling Wang	China
Clara Pombo	Spain/Portugal
Claudia Scapicchio	Italy
Anne-Charlotte Le Bihan	France
Dr. Samantha Williams	Britain & Ireland
Laura Macdonald	Benelux
Stephanie Pautke	Germany
Junko Sugimura	Japan
Natalia Gulyaeva	Russia
Pauline Khor Hong Ping	Malaysia
Ia Modin	Scandinavia
Richa Pandey	India
Karthika Perumal	USA/Canada

Continue with WILA Pilot Mentor Program

- To recap: Started in the summer/autumn 2019 with Phase I: recruitment of mentors and protégés for the pilot project with 9 cohorts based on geography (different countries but time zones considered)
- 2020, May, Pilot Mentoring Program Interim Survey with participants, led to decision to continue with the Pilot through 2020. Survey summary shared with the participants and on the website as best practices
- Online event held September 17, interviewing a mentor and a mentee – key takeaways shared on website – discussion inspired topics for the Annual meeting
- Closing survey of cohorts in April 2021 – participants reflect best practices and gains from mentoring and advise ways to improve (e.g. enable more precise matching criteria). Overall positive evaluation of the benefits of mentoring, quotes:
 - “Opportunity to ask questions and benefit from others’ experience that is independent of day to day direct working relationships”

- “Deeper insight into LES as an organization”
- “Gives you an opportunity to speak to a role model and ask any questions”
- Valuable topic suggestions made by participants for future online mentoring events (e.g. cross cultural business practices, managing career and side projects, work-life balance)
- Decision to continue with Mentor Program, next plans:
 - Recruit more mentors to ensure variety and accessibility throughout regions and industry/professional backgrounds – better matching
 - Present mentors on the website (potential sub-site) – enable continuous contact making for mentoring
 - Recurring webinars/meeting events for facilitating discussion of most popular topics and discussion of mentoring best practices

Continue with Speaker Series

Recent highlight: Webinar for more than 50 attendees on March 10th featuring Mary Hannon to discuss “**Evaluating the Effect of the USPTO’s Gatekeeping Criteria on the Diversity of the Patent Bar**” and her recent publication in the Indiana University Maurer School of Law’s IP Theory, which led to an interesting discussion of the similarities with other countries, such as Japan, and differences, such as Hungary

Continue to support Annual & Regional Meetings

- LESI Annual Meeting May 27th Panel presentation, “**Advancing Women Leaders in Licensing**”
Moderator: Pamela Cox, Chair IP Transactions, Marshall, Gerstein & Borun LLP
Panelists:
 - Sonja London, Head of Consumer Electronics Licensing Program, Nokia Technologies
 - Sara Matt, Head of Transfercenter Science-Economy-Society of the University of Innsbruck
 - Linda Kawano, Principal, GroupOptima
- Live roundtable with Cândida Caffé, “**Top 5 Female Challenges in Early Career**”
- Happy Hour TBD