



LESI Committees:

End of Year Report for the 2026 International Management and Delegates Meeting (IMDM) – 26 April 2026

Submitted: March 12, 2026

Committee Name	Women in Licensing Alliance (“WILA”)
Chairs and Vice Chairs	Chair & Speaker Series: Pamela Cox Vice Chair for Mentorship Program: Judith Miller Deputy Vice Chair for Mentorship Program: Claire Le Floch Vice Chair Communications: Bruna Rego Lins Deputy Vice Chair Communications: Maithili Shroff Vice Chair YMC – Emanuela Bianco Deputy Vice Chair at Large: Cecilia Lou
LESI Board Liaison	Sophie Pasquier

Action Plan

Mission: Advancing the skills and leadership of women, and offer international networking and mentorship opportunities.

Top accomplishments – great speaker series events adding members

Successful transfer planned of Chair position for 2026-7 from Pam to Maithili and secured commitment from remaining leadership team for continuity, especially for the mentor program.

Recent Developments

- **Session 4 celebrating International Women's Day Celebration on March 8, 2026.**
Pre-recorded interviews with inspiration from four past LESI presidents sent to each of the ambassadors to facilitate the celebration at local societies in their time zones. A list of their WILA members was also sent to facilitate distribution and communication.
- **2025-26 Speaker Series as follows:**
Session 1 on September 18, 2025: *Why Leadership Presence is Key to Handling Difficult Conversations: A Neuroscience Approach*
Speaker: Gina Steele, Steele Leadership, Inc.
Moderator: Pamela Cox, Marshall, Gerstein & Borun, LLP (LES USA/Canada)
Session 2 on October 2, 2025: Author Kate Zernike was interviewed about her journey and the impact of her New York Times best-selling book, *The Exceptions: Nancy Hopkins, MIT, and the Fight for Women in Science*, by Michelle Bolos, Marshall, Gerstein & Borun, LLP
Session 3 on January 20, 2026: *Cross-cultural negotiations and why they matter*
Speaker: Tasneem Chopra OAM
Moderator: Judith Miller, Wrays (LES Australia & New Zealand)

Specific Plans

- **2025-2026 Speaker Series continues at LESI Annual Conference:**
WIPO/WILA Mock Mediation: Healthcare IP & Contract Dispute
Speakers: James Sobieraj (LES USA/Canada)
John Ritter, Princeton University (LES USA/Canada)
Charles Valauskas, Valauskas Corder LLC (LES USA/Canada)

Linda Kawano, GroupOptima (LES USA/Canada)
 Pamela Cox, Marshall Gerstein & Borun, LLP (LES USA/Canada)
 Gina Bicknell, Gowling WLG (UK) LLP (LES Britain & Ireland)

Encore of IP Serious Game: How to Do Business and Have Fun - A Smart and Innovative Way of Conceiving IP in Smart Cities

Speakers: Emanuela Bianco, Saglietti Bianco (LES Italy)
 Guido Quiram, Michalski Hüttermann & Partner (LES Germany)
 Tom Oliver, Powell Gilbert (LES Britain & Ireland)
 Magnus Hakvåg, House of Knowledge

- Continue with the WILA Mentor Program that has expanded to senior licensing professional level protégés. Some feedback from the semi-annual survey of the mentor program:
 - ✓ The program is fantastic. ... (my mentor) and I both feel it invaluable to exchange thoughts and ideas across different countries
 - ✓ I've had a great experience and I've really enjoyed the program.
 - ✓ I like this program very much. We followed the guidelines and talking points to discuss issues, and also discuss other issues which I think is very useful.
 - ✓ I think it is fair to say that we are both finding the sessions extremely useful.
- Continue with our Regional Ambassador Program.

Name	Region
Judith Miller	Australia & New Zealand
Candida Ribeiro Caffé	South America
Cecilia (Xianying) Lou	China
Cintia Bernhardt	Spain/Portugal
Claudia Scapicchio	Italy
Claire Le Floch	France
Dr. Samantha Williams	Britain & Ireland
Kathleen de Belder	Benelux
Carmen Correa Martin	Benelux
Stephanie Pautke	Germany
Junko Sugimura	Japan
Natalia Gulyaeva	Russia
Pauline Khor Hong Ping	Malaysia
Ia Modin	Scandinavia
Richa Pandey	India
Booma Yandava	USA/Canada
Ferzana Haq	Singapore
Rosita Li	Hong Kong
Patricia A. O. Bunye	Philippines
Grace Shao	Taiwan
Eliza Stefaniw	Thailand
Karin Hofmann	Austria
Eszter Szakacs	Hungary
Michele Burnier	Switzerland
Madelein Kleyn	South Africa
Marta Sznajder	Poland
Ruby Ho	Chinese Taipei