United Around the Globe to Foster International Trade and Advancement Of Women in Business

CONNECT

Organization of Women in International Trade

OWIT Newsletter August 2018

SAVE THE DATE:

October 24-25, 2018 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya
Bridging the Gap - Empowering Businesses to go Global

In response to global demand and burgeoning trends in trade modernization, OWIT International is bringing back its 18th Annual World Conference. In recognition of Nairobi's vast potential to engage in global trade, OWIT International has selected its OWIT Chapter in Nairobi, Kenya as the host for this year's annual conference. On October 24-25, 2018, OWIT members around the globe will converge with supporters and experts in their field to empower both the local community and business leaders throughout the world.

Day One will be comprised of a capacity-building workshop for local women entrepreneurs seeking to take their business across borders. Day Two is a conference for trade practitioners and policy makers from around the world for discussing best practices, what's next for the future of trade, and what women's roles should be in that future. Day 3 will be the first ever OPEN OWIT Board Meeting where we will discuss what it takes to start an OWIT chapter and best practices for existing chapters. Of course, we are making this a week to remember, so it also includes a safari!

REGISTER TODAY

- October 24, 2018 - Capacity Building Workshop
- October 25, 2018 - Conference
- October 26, 2018 - OWIT Board Meeting (Morning will feature open sessions for interested conference attendees to participate in, if desired)
- October 27, 2018 - Executive Board Meeting/Free Day
- October 28-30, 2018 - Optional safari add-on activity at Masai Mara
- October 30, 2018 - Return to Nairobi

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CLICK HERE !

Highlight a Woman Leader - YOU!

Create a 60-second (or less) video showcasing how OWIT International has been of value to your professional growth. Post it on our Facebook page before September 1, 2018.

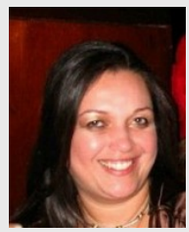
Our best submissions will have their videos featured at OWIT International's October 25th Conference in Nairobi, Kenya: Bridging the Gap - Empowering Businesses to Go Global.

Visit www.owit.org/programs/nairobiconference to learn more about the Nairobi Conference and related empowerment and networking events!

(Please note that all postings are reviewed by OWIT International before going live, so you will not see the video go up immediately.)

OWIT Member Spotlight: Cami Mazard

For our first OWIT Member Spotlight, we featured our very own OWIT International's Executive VP Cami Mazard.



How did you first get involved with OWIT, what made you decide to join? And what keeps you involved?

I first became involved with OWIT as the OWIT alternate representative from the DC's WIIT chapter in 2006. Twelve years later, I stay involved due to the dynamic women in the group, networking opportunities and my love of international trade.

What piece of advice would you like to give to women in international trade and business?

Develop and use the OWIT network. In this exciting time of international trade and tariffs, OWIT is a good resource.

What is one of your favorite memories of OWIT?

One of my favorite memories of OWIT was traveling to Geneva. It was great to be in the other center for international trade with our lovely OWIT president and be hosted at Thomson Reuters' lovely locale there.

What are you looking forward to the most at the Annual World Conference in Nairobi this October?

I am looking forward to reinvigorating the conference and bringing it back to life. Our Nairobi chapter is so robust and I am excited to be there when they host their first conference.

What would you like to see in the near future for OWIT?

I would like to see us engaging with an OWIT chapter on each continent. We are in the process of getting our licensing agreement off the ground so that vision will come to fruition soon.

What mantra do you live by?
Live like you mean it!

OWIT at SheTrades Global

OWIT Cairo, South Florida and Nairobi teams at the SheTrades Global in Liverpool from June 26 - 28th, 2018.

OWIT Lake Geneva: 2018 Annual Summer Reception

At OWIT Lake Geneva's Annual Summer Reception and Panel Discussion on June 12, 2018, tips and tricks were shared on how to be successful and how to enjoy what you do!

Before kicking off the panel discussion, OWIT Lake Geneva's president Hulya Kurt introduced OWIT Lake Geneva and its activities as well as the charity they support - Room to Read . Sylvain Freneat from Thomson Reuters provided attendees with a great snapshot on the Diversity & Inclusion Index and how companies that actively adhere to D&I initiatives constantly outperform the competition in their industries.

Following this short introduction, the main 'attraction' of the evening began. OWIT Lake Geneva's very diverse and experienced panelists shared with the audience the ways their organizations support the advancement of women. Expertly mediated by Executive VP Anca Gosling and guided by questions and remarks, the panelists discussed what further steps can and should be taken to ensure women are offered more opportunities to progress their careers and continue contributing to the growth of the organizations of which they are part, in both private and public sectors.

OWIT Lake Geneva ended their very interesting discussion with a few wise words from each of their panelists and had a chance to talk to them more and network at the cocktail afterwards!

How did OWIT Lake Geneva's chapter benefit from OWIT International going to Lake Geneva?

OWIT Lake Geneva's President, Hulya Kurt, says:

" We met F2F, which is so important. We understood that we are belonging to an International Organization and not a local one only. We have an International vision and mission, partners all around the globe and we see likeminded women who would like to make a difference to become a better world. To support women, encourage them and guide them. It is eye opening to hear from different chapters, share, discuss and agree on an action plan together and try to execute as much as we can, considering the localizations.

An amazing experience and opportunity at same time. We energized and inspired each other which is so important. The more we can have those meetings the better at least once a year ..."

OWIT Chicago: Roundtable on International Trade Change and Uncertainty

On July 26th, 2018, OWIT Chicago hosted a unique, peer-led conversation that focused on industry changes and challenges facing international trade professionals, including Section 232 & 301 duties & retaliatory duties , electronic logging devices and supply chain adaptation to rapid regulatory changes.

In-house trade professionals attended to learn best practices and creative solutions from other in-house trade professionals in a confidential and informal environment. Attendees also were able to share ideas, ask questions and mingle to grow their professional network.

Thank you to our moderator, OWIT Chicago's president, Beuloria Williams and to Radiant Global Logistics in Woodridge, IL for hosting the successful event!

A former OWIT member's feedback on the roundtable event:

Cynthia Allen Schenk 6h
Global Logistics expertise helping companies utilize technology to impro...

This was such an exciting event. Every single person who attended had incredible incite into today's Logistics challenges , deep experience in International Trade and were all so gracious to share their vision for the future. I learned so much. In addition the scope of business at Radiant logistics has just exploded with new services, new acquisitions, prestigious awards and accomplishments. What a valuable day it was.

Like Reply | 1 Like

WIIT DC and the European Parliament Liaison Office (EPLO) Hosted two Members of the European Parliament in an Interactive Roundtable Discussion

WIIT and the European Parliament Liaison Office (EPLO) were honored to co-host two leading Members of the European Parliament on July 16th for a wide-ranging discussion on topics and insights on women's leadership in politics.

Emma McClarkin, MEP - UK and Tanja Fajon, MEP-Slovenia joined over 30 WIIT members to highlight potential for growth and cooperation in US-EU trade, despite the current trade challenges.

Emma in particular noted common interests in pursuing WTO reform and promoting high standard trade agreements and enforcement around the world. Tanja also discussed the opportunities for better understanding and approaches to trade and development that solve common issues such as migration challenges; as well as the importance of continuing to support strong, quality media to encourage real debate on the importance of trade.

Both women spoke candidly on their careers as well, encouraging women to support one another, take credit for their work and to have the passion and sincerity to follow their beliefs. The event was an excellent and candid discussion.

OWIT South Florida: Around Town

On June 12, Canadian Consul General Susan Harper spoke at an OWIT/Global Ties Miami event about the latest issues concerning NAFTA. Carmen Hiers, OWIT South Florida president, as well as OWIT members and board members were on hand along with Global Ties executive director Annette Alvarez and other GT members and representatives, for a very interesting and informative presentation.

OWIT Monterrey and ProMéxico

On June 19th, OWIT Monterrey had a successful event with PROMEXICO, a government agency that assists small and medium-sized companies to commercialize products and/or services internationally. PROMEXICO has several internationalization programs at a low cost.

From the event that was held, a tortillería took advantage of one of the projects and opened operations in Canada. Another company, Balanco Services, also took advantage of one of the programs. Balanco opened offices in Houston, TX to internationalize the services of shelter, legal and administration in Human Resources.

Women2Drive Success

By Janice Whitaker

"I've driven all over the world. Why not in my homeland?" questioned women's rights activist Aziza al-Yousef, age 60. In 2008, a film of activist Wajeha al-Huwaider driving on International Women's Day attracted international media attention. On June 25, 2018, Saudi Arabia Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman lifted the last country's ban on a woman's right to drive, after decades of activism and an international social media campaign, the Women2Drive movement. The Saudi women behind the success paid dearly for it with withering attacks, imprisonment up to 73 days, harassment, loss of jobs, being exiled for safety, accused of being traitors, harming the public interest, and sullying the reputation of Saudi Arabia abroad.

The World Economic Forum's 2016 Global Gender Gap Report ranked Saudi Arabia 141 out of 144 countries for gender parity, down from 135 out of 145 in 2015. The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) elected Saudi Arabia to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women for 2018-2022. Women in Saudi Arabia constituted 13% of the country's native workforce as of 2015. In 2011, women were allowed to vote in the 2015 local elections and be appointed to the Consultative Assembly, there were more female university graduates in Saudi Arabia than male and female literacy was estimated to be 91%, which while still lower than male literacy, was far higher than 40 years earlier. In 2013, the average age at first marriage among Saudi females was 25 years.

The Saudi women activists recognized the right to drive gave women independence, mobility and opened the door to spark more employment options for half of the country's population. This initial measure is anticipated to bring social reform on other women's issues: domestic violence, repealing male guardianship laws, addressing inequality in the justice system, and eliminating the requirement of special travel documents for women traveling outside Saudi Arabia alone.
The fight for women's rights in Saudi Arabia is not over. They are still subject to a myriad of restrictions in everyday life:

1. Cannot make major decisions without male permission
2. Wear clothes or makeup that "show off their beauty"
3. Interact with men
4. Go for a swim in public
5. Compete freely in sports
6. Try on clothes when shopping

The world's women must continue to use their social media accounts, personal travels, narratives, business network and other means to bring attention to the restrictions Saudi women still experience to support the activists for further change. We know that giving women social rights, including the right to drive, enhances the economy of the country and raises the standard of living for children. Saudi women must be allowed to pursue their dreams, contribute to their families, be free to travel and to enjoy a higher standard of living that the rest of the developed world's women take for granted. It is their time, it is our time.

WIT-NC, CA Chapter Assistant Vice-President, Janice Whitaker, Sr. Manager, Teledyne Technologies

Janice has been in the trade, customs and logistics field for over 20 years, starting with several logistics carriers and then transitioning into global trade with various high technology companies including Intel, Raytheon and Teledyne Technologies. Her eleven and half years at Raytheon were especially stimulating as she met the challenges of two Consent Agreements with DDTC. She relocated to Northern California as a Senior Manager with Teledyne Technologies, managing Global Trade at four international sites in the UK and Australia, three Bay Area sites, and two on the East Coast. She leads the development, management and oversight activities related to a variety of global trade controls for commercial and defense programs to include export/import compliance and licensing, integrating international regulatory requirements with operational business processes, and implementation of effective assessment methods to assure compliance in executing global business activities. Janice serves on the US Commercial Service Northern California District Export Council, is a Licensed Customs Broker and previously served on the WIT-LA Board in the Secretary role.

Upcoming Webinars

Getting Women Ready for the African Growth and Opportunity Act with Sable Badaki on Thursday, August 16 at 9:00 EDT

REGISTER NOW

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) has been an important piece of legislation for female exporters to the United States since it was signed into law in 2000. In this webinar, Sable Badaki of She Works Now will discuss why the AGOA is important to OWIT International members, how to identify products that are marketable in the United States, how to assess business capacity for exporting, and determining business strategy for market entry. This webinar is a must-attend for OWIT International members interested in the Sub-Saharan African area and in the U.S. looking to attract business from this area.

SABLE BADAKI has over 15 years of consulting experience in the U.S. and several African countries with both public and private sector organizations. Over the years, she has focused on helping SMEs grow with strategies that improve their bottom line. In an economy where competition is global and business opportunities are boundless, she helps female entrepreneurs enter global markets. She also helps ambitious female entrepreneurs create scalable businesses, then open the global doors to build profitable partnerships.

Having lived on 2 continents and in 3 countries, Sable is able to maneuver through cultural protocol and barriers to build meaningful business relationships. She is a conference host and presenter, holding an M.sc in Human Resources, alumnus of Pan-Atlantic University - Enterprise Development Services, sponsor of the 50.50 women (women entrepreneur training), recipient of the 10,000-women Goldman Sachs award for women entrepreneurs, IFC certified SME Trainer and nominee for the Yale Visiting Women Executive Exchange Program. Her client portfolio includes aviation, manufacturing, financial institutions, and telecommunications.

Past Webinars

OWIT International's 18th Annual World Conference in Nairobi - Promotion Webinar - July 19, 2018

Our featured speakers were :

- OWIT International President Jennifer Diaz,
- OWIT International VP-Conference, Suzie Zimmerman,
- OWIT Nairobi President, Mucha Mlingo,
- OWIT Nairobi Board Member, Kezy Mukiri

Attendees learned :

- An overview of the 18th Annual OWIT World Conference;
- An overview of our workshop and conference agenda (and speaking opportunities still available);
- Logistics for the conference (including an amazing Safari);
- About opportunities for OWIT Members and Non-Members to participate;
- About sponsorship opportunities.

CLICK HERE to purchase the recordings for this webinar

Food Safety Modernization Act: Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) Requirements - July 17, 2018

With Speakers: Dawne Hines, Ilana Korchia and Giselle Jordan

On Tuesday, July 17th, a presentation was held by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the Food Safety Modernization Act: Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) Requirements. Our FDA panelists discussed the purpose and role of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) in ensuring the safety of the U.S. food supply, relevant updates on the FSMA, the key provisions requirements and exemptions under the Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) final rule, the use of "qualified individuals" in the performance of FSVP-related tasks, and the supplier approval and verification process. Part of OWIT International's "Trade Topics" series.

CLICK HERE to purchase the recordings for this webinar

UPCOMING EVENTS WITH OWIT TAMPA BAY...

August 9, 2018 Webinar : "Practical Tips for Negotiating Successful International Contracts and Avoiding Business Disputes and Lawsuits" presented by Susie Hoeller, Hoeller Law Firm

August 23, 2018 Lunch : "'Ex Machina' and Trade: How Artificial Intelligence Could Change Traditional Barriers to International Trade" presented by Diane Boettcher, Microsoft

There will be updates on TBOWIT.org and on our Facebook page.

AND THEIR PAST RECENT EVENT...

June 28, 2018 Lunch: "Bridging the International Gap: Selling Ice to Alaska and other adventures of global sales" presented by Charles Alvarado, Amalie Oil Company Very successful lunch event!

Photo: Devon Barnett, Christyna Doege, Charles Alvarado (speaker), Debbie Fallucca, and Susie Hoeller

Join Women in International Trade - Los Angeles and Co-Host EXIM Bank for the International Trade Financial Strategies Symposium

"How to Develop a Financially Profitable and Strategic Export Policy for Your Goods and Services"

Click here to register

Date:	Wednesday, August 22nd
Time:	Lunch and Program at 11:30A - - 1:30P with Q&A
Cost:	$65 Members $85 Guests
Where:	Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce "Bank of America" Rooms 350 S Bixel Street Los Angeles, CA 90017

Hot Topics for event:

- Have you thought about how you can protect yourself against buyer non-payment?
- Do you know what credit terms are available for selling to your International customers?
- Do you have a strategy for funding your export transactions?
- Do you have a strategy to finance international buyers' purchases?
- How does Currency Exchange impact your International Trade Transactions?

Speakers Include:

Tamara Maxwell
Director
Minority and Women Owned Business & Multiplier Outreach Division Office of Small Business
Export-Import Bank of the United States

LaTaunya R. Darden
Business Development Specialist Minority and Women Owned Business & Multiplier Outreach Division
Office of Small Business
Export-Import Bank of the United States

SAVE THE DATE: OWIT-TORONTO's 2018 Gala and Awards

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 2018
Time: 5:30pm - 9:00pm
Location: Toronto Region Board of Trade, Downtown Toronto

Mark off the date and stay tuned for more details and registration info, along with a link to nominations for our 2018 Awards.

OWIT-GT: Global Entrepreneurship in the Triangle

When: October 3, 2018 from 6:00PM - 8:30PM
Location: HQ Raleigh Capitol Club, 16 W. Martin Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

This October, join OWIT-GT with special facilitators Heather McDougall from Leadership ExChange and Liz Tracy, former director of HQ Raleigh for a "guided roundtable" event designed to discuss and learn about the importance of a global mindset in local business. You'll engage with participants from across the triangle region for a night of learning, networking and fun. Hear from key female innovators as you participate in a guided roundtable discussion with local entrepreneurial leaders, business experts and fellow participants.

There will be in-depth discussions for all levels of learners-from world travelers to those who've never left the United States-where we'll discover why "Going Global" matters to Triangle businesses of all sizes and industries. You'll discuss why global participation and engagement matter for your business, how you can leverage international relationships for better success and tips from global entrepreneurial leaders. Join the Organization of Women in International Trade on October 3rd at HQ Raleigh's Capital Club location for a night of "Global Entrepreneurship in the Triangle" to discuss these topics and more.

Come join us as we get a head start on Global Entrepreneurial Week!

REGISTER NOW

For those unfamiliar with the NCBFAA Educational Institute (NEI), it provides the industry with well-regarded customs and export certifications, which require the accumulation of continuing education credits for annual renewal, thus increasing the participant's knowledge base and professionalism. One element of the continuing education program is the provision of regularly scheduled webinars that are available to certified persons as well as any others with an interest in the industry specific topic.

The NEI hosts several of these webinars a year, encompassing a wide variety of industry topics from eBonds and ADD/CVD, to Sanctions and Carnets. They are looking for qualified speakers to present on relevant topics for 2018 and would like to extend an invitation to OWIT members! If you or someone you know is interested, please email NEI Director Cecilia Ferrara (Cferrara@ncbfaa.org) for more information.

To get a sense of the type of topics the NEI typically presents on, you can view their 2017 webinar list here.

Did you know...
We have OWIT chapters in:

Cairo	Monterrey	Puerto Rico
Charleston	Nairobi	Peru
Greater Triangle NC	New York City	South Florida
Chicago	Northeast Ohio	Tampa Bay
Lake Geneva	Northern California	Toronto
Los Angeles	Orange County	Virtual
Mexico City	Ottawa	Washington DC

Click here for more information on our chapters.

Call for Volunteers!

OWIT International needs you! We have 9 amazing committees that are seeking volunteers. If you are interested, please contact OWIT President Jennifer Diaz at jen@diaztradelaw.com

Chapter Development
Are you interested in helping grow the OWIT network around the world? If so, this is the committee for you!

Chapter Support
Are you interested in helping OWIT chapters learn the benefits of the OWIT network? If so, this is the committee for you!

Marketing
Are you interested in helping with OWIT's newsletters and press releases? If so, this is the committee for you!

Social Media
Are you interested in helping with keeping OWIT's social media active and up to date? If so, this is the committee for you!

Partnership
Are you interested in working with OWIT's premier partners to increase the profile of OWIT around the world? If so, this is the committee for you!

Conference
Are you interested in helping with OWIT's conference to ensure it is a success, with amazing speakers from all over the world, and all members of OWIT around the world attend? If s, this is the committee for you!

Programming
Are you interested in helping with OWIT's webinars? If so, this is the committee for you!

Virtual
Are you interested in helping ensure OWIT's virtual members who don't have a chapter near them feel included within the OWIT network? If so, this is the committee for you!

Sponsorship
Are you interested in helping raise funds for this much-deserved organization via our small business sponsorship, corporate sponsorship, webinar sponsorship, and conference sponsorship? If so, this is the committee for you!

OWIT Newsletter Team

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About Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT)

The Organization of Women in International Trade International (OWIT) is a global association for women in international trade and business. Our 2,000-plus members impact hundreds of millions of dollars in trade and business transactions annually. OWIT's focus is on adding value to our corporate, mid-sized, small business and individual members around the world. (www.owit.org)

This photo represents some of the dedicated and hard-working women at OWIT that work "behind-the-scenes" in managing our programs & webinars, sponsorships, conferences, our chapter support and much more. Our team rocks!

OWIT International info@owit.org | owit.org

Please check us out on our social media!