



Organization of Women in International Trade

OWIT Newsletter November 2019

□ **OWIT International Corner**

Our 19th OWIT International Global Conference hosted by OWIT Tampa Bay was a Huge Success!





For more #OWITConTampaBay photos, click here!

#OWITConTampaBay Year of the Woman!



On October 23rd - 25th, businesswomen from **20 chapters** of OWIT International gathered in Tampa, FL to join OWITConTampaBay - the 19th Global Conference for OWIT. The conference theme for 2019 was "Year of the Woman". The conference featured a Tampa Bay business tour, conference program, port tour, awards dinner and OWIT International board and executive meetings.



Day 1 of #OWITConTampaBay!

Featured a Tampa Business Day Tour, sponsored by the Tampa Hillsborough EDC! The tour was fascinating and showcased Tampa's growth, entrepreneurial spirit, and large military presence.

Day 2 of #OWITConTampaBay!

Day 2 featured the OWIT International 19th Global **Conference**. Speakers joined the conference from all over the globe (Nairobi and Nigeria being the farthest) and sessions included:

- In praise of OWIT Women of the Year: Retrospectives & Perspectives



- Business Beyond Borders: Demystifying Trade with Europe and Latin America
- *Keynote* Make Disruption Your Wonder Woman Superpower
- Reading the Tea Leaves: Trade in 2020
- A Canal, a Career, a Challenge
- Born Leaders: Genes, Luck, or Hard Work?
- Power 10 – Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway
- The African Trade Revolution

The conference was immediately followed by a **Port Tampa Bay Harbor Tour** and thereafter the **TBOWIT Annual Awards Dinner**

- Keynote – Alex Sink, Former Florida CFO & Chair Tampa Bay Wave Scholarship Recipients
- International Person of the Year, Maryann Ferenc, CEO/Proprietor, Mise En Place



Day 3 of #OWITConTampaBay!

OWIT International President Jennifer Diaz led an open OWIT International Board meeting featuring interactive sessions, and chapter best practices. Pictured left are the OWIT Executive

Board members that attended the board meeting.

Day 4 of #OWITConTampaBay!

OWIT International President, Jennifer Diaz led the Executive Board Meeting hosted by the Tampa Port Authority.



For more photos from all of the festivities, [click here!](#)

ISO Photos and Testimonials for our New Website

We are looking for great photos of OWITers and chapter events to include in our soon to be released newly re-designed website. We'd love to include your photos! Send to VP-ChapterSupport@owit.org.

Want to be on our new website? Tell us why you

love being a member of OWIT! Virtual Members: We want to hear from you, too! Send your testimonial to VP-ChapterSupport@owit.org.



□ Article Spotlight



"I Participated as the US Delegate in the Youth G20 Summit this Past Summer" by Vannary Kong

This past summer, the Youth G20 Summit was held in Tokyo, Japan on May 26-30, organized by the G7/G20 Youth Japan. Delegates from the G20 nations along with six guests from the Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, the IMF, the WB, and the WTO were invited. The Saudi Arabia

organization committee attended the Summit as observers as they will host the event next year.

I had the honor of participating as the United States Youth G20 Delegate. I contributed in policy discussions on global issues together with other young global leaders. Discussion topics included issues related to business and environment, the future of work, and international trade.

The Y20 Summit called to action on:

- Corporate Reporting must be monitored and based off of climate crisis to provide full disclosure to public-private platforms, with an emphasis on Corporate Responsibility, to become readily available to the public
- Supporting workers' protections and benefits in the digital and informal economy; Focusing on preparing the future and current generations for the global job market in the digital age with an emphasis on STEAM and 21st Century skill
- Combatting the climate crisis and tackling global waste, particularly plastics;
- Strengthening the multilateral, rules-based trading system within the framework of the World Trade Organization through IP Protection, reform of the public procurement rules, and equitable access of MSMEs to global markets, to promote youth engagement.

The Y20 Delegates also presented the final policy recommendations to the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Prime Minister's Office. The First Lady of Japan, Akie Abe, also hosted the group at the Prime Minister's Official Residence for a closing ceremony.

My experience in the Youth G20 Summit was an experience of a lifetime. The cultural exchange was an interesting component of the conference. I got to share my experience of growing up within the United States being mixed race. The other delegations were more accepting of me once I shared that my maternal family are refugees of the Khmer Rouge War in Cambodia. The Japanese Planning Committee had amazing hospitality from the cultural events, catered meals, and amazing sights throughout the negotiations.

Within the Summit, there were other youth leaders we all got to engage and network with such as Girls 20 and Knovva Academy, where we had the opportunity to come together to impact current policies through our Communique.

Within the International Trade Working Group, there were three main categories: World Trade Organization Reform, Corporate Behavior, and Free flow of data. My proposal focused on upholding the TRIPS Agreement (Trade-Related Aspects on Intellectual Property Rights) within the World Trade Organizations, advocating for intellectual property protection. There were some challenges with the overall negotiations. I was glad to see that my proposal made it into the final negotiations. With any conference involving multiple stakeholders, there was some hostility. However, there was a mutual understanding that we are all here in Tokyo to shape the world into a better place. Once the Communique was finalized, all the Delegates got the opportunity to share it when Prime Minister Abe Shinzo and his wife at the Emperor's Palace. He was very receptive to our ideas and even shared them in the G20 Summit.

Once the Summit was over, I was invited to speak at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to discuss youth engagement within the G20 Summit. Once I was back in Washington DC, I started seeing the Communique with other Research Think Tanks, Foreign Governments, and Private Sector. It has been such a rewarding experience serving as the United States Youth Delegate impacting the work influencing policy decisions.



□ Chapter Corner



OWIT Chicago: Four Member Panel on Section 301 Duties



On October 15th, OWIT Chicago had a great program with the Association for Operations Management. They had a four person panel on Section 301 duties. Included in the panel was Meaghan Vander Schaaf, OWIT Chicago's immediate past president and Lauren Pitelli, President of Baker Logistics Consulting. Lauren will take part in the leadership webinar. She was also a presenter at the Think Global conference in Chicago later in October. Photos of the panel program above.

OWIT Chicago on the O'Hare Cargo Tour



Photo of the team from OWIT Chicago's Signature event on October 4th - The O'Hare Cargo tour.

OWIT DR at the Employability and Women's 2019 Conference



OWIT Dominican Republic participated in the Employability and Women's 2019 Conference (el Foro Empleabilidad y Mujer), celebrated on September 12th, 2019. The conference was a special involvement of several main women's organizations and associations in the Dominican Republic, to discuss true transformation and real commitment to change by the leaders of all the productive sectors.

Leaders from different sectors took part in this forum, such as the Vice President of the Dominican Republic, **Margarita Cedeño de Fernández**; Canadian Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, **Sauna Hemingway**; and recognized communicators in the country such as **Tania Báez** and **Jatna Tavarez**, among others. The president of OWIT DR, Mabel Báez, contributed to the "Que hacer Dominicana" (What to do, Dominican?) panel discussion.



WIIT Hosts Panel at the OWIT's Annual Conference in Tampa



On October 24, **WIIT** hosted a panel titled “Reading the Tea Leaves: Trade in 2020” at the Organization of Women in International Trade’s Annual Conference in Tampa. CompTIA’s Maggie Henkin moderated the panel with Yuri Unno, President of WIIT, Lisa Gelsomino of Avalon Risk Management, and Susan Harper of the Canadian Consulate. The panel delved into pressing trade policy topics such as Section 232, the status of USMCA, and Customs and Border Patrol’s 21st Century Framework.

Read more about the panel discussion here at [WIIT](#)

WIIT and CompTIA Host Oct. 15 Event



WIIT and CompTIA co-hosted an **off-the-record** Trade Talk on Tuesday with a status update of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement featuring Congressional staffers and trade experts from Personal Care Products Council and Coalition of Services Industries. The sentiment from the Hill is generally positive – both Republican and Democrat staffers present on the panel indicated their members’ full support of the bill and were optimistic on the prospect of passing USMCA by 2020. There are still a few items in the periphery however, including, the CR expiration on November 21st and hammering out the details of the end of the year package. Despite that, USMCA continues to be a part of discussions and both sides of the aisle are eager to put it to a vote soon. They reminded us that

CWIT Holding its 14th Annual Auction & Party on Tuesday, November 19th to Raise Scholarship Funds



CHARLESTON WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

14th Annual Auction & Party

Save the date

Advanced Ticket Sales \$35.00

TRADESMAN Brewing Co.

Beer/Wine Food Trucks Networking Bidding

Uptown at 1647 King St Ext.
Tuesday, November 19, 2019
5pm-8pm

www.cwitsc.org annualevent@cwitsc.org

CWIT awards scholarships annually to aid South Carolina resident students enrolled or enrolling in an accredited higher education program in pursuit of a degree specific to international trade or related course of study. To date, **31** students have received CWIT scholarships, amounting to a grand total of **\$67,000** since CWIT's scholarship program began in 2004, over 13 years ago! Awards are presented during CWIT's Annual Meeting and Banquet held in April of each year. CWIT scholarships are primarily funded by the organization's Annual Event held in the Fall.

Register for the CWIT event here!

CWIT Held a World Maritime Day on September 26th!



CWIT had a for World Maritime Day on September 26, 2019! This year's theme was **Empowering Women in the Maritime Community**. Its objective is to provide an opportunity to create awareness about the importance of gender equality. CWIT would like to thank our industry partners and supporters, especially the Charleston Port and Seafarers, and our generous event sponsors, Hines Law LLC and Premier Logistics Solutions!



OWIT Lake Geneva at the WTO Public Forum 2019: Gender Inclusiveness in Trade in Services



Photos of OWIT Lake Geneva at the WTO Public Forum 2019. [Click here](#) to watch OWIT Lake Geneva/WEI session on Gender Inclusiveness in Trade and Services at WTO Public Forum 2019. In completion, please [click here](#) to find the Session Overview & Recommendations

[Click here to watch the OWIT Lake Geneva/WEI session](#)

PAEI / WIT-NC Join Extended Program: Sanctions and Restricted Party Screening for Tech Companies



Wednesday, November 20th from 3:00pm - 8:00pm

Extended Program, Coffee, Snacks, Networking, Dinner and Wine will be provided.

Extended program focusing on benchmarking and sharing best practices on how tech companies face the challenges screening for embargoed destinations and restricted parties to comply with BIS and OFAC regulations.

The afternoon session will consist of panel discussions by Industry experts, with the evening session consisting of a networking dinner and presentation by solution providers about the latest advancements in tools available to support screening and resolution. In light of the recent Department of Justice charges and BIS sanctions against Huawei, it is more important than ever for companies to use robust screening methodologies to mitigate risk.

[Overview of Screening Challenges to the Tech Industry – Downloads, Distys and Data](#)

Panel 1: Designing Effective Automated Screening Programs for Tech Companies

Panel 2: Due Diligence – Meeting the Challenges of the 50% Rule, Channel Partners, and End-Use Restrictions

Panel 3: Shutdown and Disaster Planning - Excluding Former Customers and Setting UP Your System for Rapid Response to Changes in Sanctioned and Restricted Party listings

Participate in local, practical training without expensive travel costs brought to you by your local Bay Area Trade Professional groups, PAEI and WIT-NC.

[Click to visit WIT-NC's event page](#)

OWIT Partner Corner

FITTskills Lite Series for OWIT Members

As a business owner who's looking to grow your company within international markets, you need to build that expertise and find answers to your problems quickly.

FITTskills Lite free downloads, taken directly from the **FITTskills program**, provide the knowledge you need to get your company export-ready, or increase your international sales.



And, each of these five learning resources takes **an hour or less to read**, so you can start problem-solving sooner:

- **[Selecting a Market Entry Strategy](#)**
- **[Cash Flow Management](#)**
- **[Establishing Sales Channels to International Markets](#)**
- **[Marketing with Digital Technology](#)**
- **[Analyzing and Mitigating Currency/Foreign Exchange Risk](#)**

Visit the **FITTskills Lite resource page** now to explore your options. In just an hour or less, you'll gain expert international trade knowledge you can act on today.

Don't forget: For a limited time, FITTskills Lite downloads earn you **25% OFF** of the purchase of a related course or workshop!

Click for more info on FITTskills Lite

NASBITE: Student Internships in International Business



NASBITE is pleased to announce the launch of their new internship service for companies involved in international business. Does your business need help? NASBITE are partnered with more than 100 business schools nationwide and they can connect you with top students who are studying to become Certified Global Business Professionals (CGBPs). The service is free to use and details can be found here:

<https://www.nasbite.org/cgbp/student-internships-in-international-business/>

Click for more info on NASBITE Internships!

Interested in applying for a job with the U.S. Commercial Service as a **Supervisory International Trade Specialist**? Here are some great opportunities available. Apply now - deadlines for applications are **November 19th!**

Below are the USAjobs links for the active postings. Applicants who are not in the federal government who want to apply should apply via the (DE) announcement. Applicants who are status employees should apply to the (MP) vacancy.

Non-federal government applicants, apply here by Nov. 19th!

Status employees, apply here by Nov. 19th!

Advertise with Us!



Ready to grow your business with OWIT International? OWIT International offers you the opportunity to connect with an audience of global trade to trade professionals, passionate about supporting the advancement of women in international trade and business. To find out more on how to advertise with us, please contact Jen Diaz at President@owit.org.

Free stock image courtesy of pexels.com

Don't Miss Out on Any Member Benefits!

Did you know that as a member of one of OWIT's chapters, you are **AUTOMATICALLY** part of the OWIT International global network? Your complimentary OWIT International membership adds value to your local chapter membership by offering you added benefits and resources, including:

- Reciprocal benefits and member rate for events organized by any OWIT chapter worldwide
- Member-discounted rate for OWIT International webinars and **FREE** participation in Members' Only webinars on professional development and special topics;
- Access to an expanded network of business and professional contacts;
- Free listing in OWIT International's searchable online membership directory and password to Members-Only section of OWIT International's website;
- Opportunities for professional growth through participation on OWIT International committees.

As a local chapter member, all you need to do is register on OWIT International's website www.owit.org. Create your free member profile today! If you're not a member of a local

Call for Volunteers!

OWIT International needs you! We have nine amazing committees that are seeking volunteers. If you are interested, please contact OWIT President Jennifer Diaz at president@owit.org.

- **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 annual 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 so, 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!
- **Government:** Are you interested in helping to develop and advance OWIT's legislative agenda on trade and women's issues? If so, this is the committee for you!

Editor: [Deirdre D. Nero, Esq., NERO Immigration Law, PL](#)

Designer: [Ariana Malpica, Diaz Trade Law](#)

Translation: [Carmen Hiers, TransForma Translation Services](#)

Did You Know...

We have OWIT chapters in:

- [Cairo](#)
 - [Charleston](#)
 - [Chicago](#)
 - [Dominican Republic](#)
 - [Greater Triangle NC](#)
 - [Lake Geneva](#)
 - [Los Angeles](#)
 - [Monterrey](#)
 - [Nairobi](#)
 - [New York City](#)
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About Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT)

The Organization of Women in International Trade (www.owit.org) 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.



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website

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