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Organization of Women in International Trade

OWIT Newsletter December 2021

A message from our President

From all of us at OWIT International,
Happy Holidays to all.

We were closed for the holidays during the month of December. But I had the distinct pleasure of attending the wedding of OWIT Nigeria President Blessing Irabor earlier this month. While in Nigeria, I also met with the VPs of Membership and Partnership who wish all OWIT members a happy holidays from Nigeria!





OWIT International Board 2022

Title		2022 Chapter
President	Frida Owinga	Kenya
EVP/President Elect	Hulya Kurt	Lake Geneva
Asst. Treasurer	Torrey Chambliss	Tampa Bay
Treasurer	Carolina Schneider	Virtual
Chapter Development	Maurice Otieno	Kenya
Chapter Development	Susan Baka	Toronto
Marketing	Niki Jones	Virtual
General Counsel	Audrey Glover	South Florida
Social Media	Kyesubire Greigg	Kenya
Programming	Kezia Mukiri	Kenya
Programming	Sydonie Neysmith	Virtual
IT Website	John Njau	Kenya
IT Website	Pearl Ngwenya	Zimbabwe
Sponsorship	Stephanie Sherrod	Virtual
Sponsorship	Tshengi Ndolvu	Zimbabwe
Partnerships	Angela Hofman	DC-WIIT
Partnerships	Cortney Morgan	DC-WIIT
Membership	Nancy Aketch	Kenya
Secretary/Conf/Newsletter	Audrey Ross	Toronto
Support	Karen Bland	DC-WIIT
Virtual	Alexian Wines	DC-WIIT
Virtual	Rosy Henandez	Virtual
Immediate Past Prez	Cami Mazard	DC-WIIT

OWIT International Corner



Husch Blackwell's third-annual international trade law year-in-review report provides a detailed look at how 2021 played out and takes a peek at how 2022 might develop. As companies begin to strategize on what a second year of the Biden administration will bring, we hope the framework presented in our report will help your business maximize potential cost savings and minimize potential risks as enforcement activity continues to rise and supply chains remain under pressure well into the coming year.

Our downloadable report, "International Trade Law: 2021 Year in Review & Outlook for 2022," focuses on these key areas:

- Tariffs, Trade Remedies, and Trade Policy
- Antidumping/Countervailing Duties
- False Claims Act Implications on International Trade
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Developments
- Section 337 Litigation
- Export Controls and Trade Sanctions
- Supply Chain

[Download White Paper](#)

 [OWIT Past Webinars](#)

[Readout from the WTO Public Forum | Road to WTO MC12](#)



OWIT Members Free and Non-Members \$15

The WTO Public Forum takes place September 27-October 1 in Geneva, Switzerland. This event is a key opportunity for public-private exchange on the future of the WTO. OWIT International and WIIT (OWIT's DC Chapter) are hosting a readout from the Public Forum with four engaged experts, who will discuss progress on current negotiations, new ideas for WTO modernization, and the path forward to the 12th Ministerial Conference.

Watch Recording

Finding Your Value in the Midst of Uncertainty

FINDING YOUR VALUE IN THE MIDST OF UNCERTAINTY

ARE YOU PROFESSIONALLY ALIGNED WITH YOUR OWN VALUE PROPOSITION?



Tiffany Grandchamp

Founder & CEO, Women Lifting Women

Rosy Hernandez

Founder & CEO, Heritage Writing Co.

REGISTER FOR FREE!

**NOVEMBER 17, 2021
2 PM- 3 PM ET**

REGISTER TO RECEIVE THE ZOOM LINK!



- What is a Value Proposition & why it is important?
- The Impact of the Pandemic & the Great Resignation
- Q&A with Panelists
- Tips to get started with your own Value Proposition
- Engagement with OWIT Virtual Chapter
- Connect with Women Lifting Women Leadership

WOMEN LIFTING WOMEN



Watch Recording

**The World is Your Marketplace –
Grow Your Business with EXIM and OWIT!**

OWIT Members Free and Non-Members \$15

Please join OWIT International and Export Import Bank of the United States (EXIM Bank) for a discussion about educating and growing Minority & Women-Owned businesses through export sales.

Topics Include:

- Offering credit terms to your foreign buyers
- Accessing funds with EXIM's Working Capital Loan Guarantee
- Protecting against nonpayment by your foreign buyers



Speakers:

Toya Woods, Business Development Specialist, Office of Small Business, EXIM Bank. Ms. Woods is responsible for promoting EXIM's export financing programs and services to the underserved business community, working primarily with minority and women-owned businesses as well as veteran-owned enterprises.

Brent D. Klepko, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. Mr. Klepko joined the U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service in October 2015 and currently works in the Houston office

Moderator: **Cortney O'Toole Morgan, Co-VP, Partnerships, OWIT International.**

Watch Recording

Chapter Corner



WIIT DC Chapter Weekly Newsletter
| December 28, 2021



Getting

TO KNOW...

Kathi Lunardi
VP of Membership,
Corporate Membership



1. What was your first job?

My first job was on the Ocean City, NJ boardwalk at an old-fashioned ice cream shop called Scoops Ahoy. I was 14 and somehow thought I could convince the owners that I was 16 and old enough to work. If you know me, you know that I am barely five feet tall and so not very likely to fool anyone about my age! The owners were incredibly nice and hired me!

2. How did you get your start working with WIIT?

My involvement actually started with the Trust. At the time, Leslie (Griffin) was the current president and Lisa (Schroeter) was the in-coming president. I had worked with both of them through my then-job at the US ASEAN Business Council and they both knew how passionate I was about mentorship and nonprofits. I guess they decided I would be a good fit to head up the Trust!

3. What's the most important lesson you've learned in your career?

The two most important things to be able to say in "real life" and at work are: I'm sorry, I was wrong and I don't know, but let me find out.

4. As we all excitedly make travel plans, what's your favorite destination?

I am a travel bug for sure. Not too long before the travel restrictions I had gone to Ireland with my younger daughter and loved it. We had also planned a trip to Gander, Newfoundland (If you have seen the musical *Come From Away* you know why!) and are still hoping to make that trip. As far as favorite, I don't really have just one. Everywhere I have been has been magical in its own way.



As we reach the end of 2021, thank you all for your support of WIIT throughout the year. We may have been mostly separated, and connected just by Zoom, but from the Annual Awards Reception to regularly scheduled programming events, it's been a busy year.

[Visit WIIT-DC website](#)

[OWIT UK Launch](#)



@OWITUK
 #OWITUK
 WWW.OWITUK.ORG


 UNITED KINGDOM

OWIT UK LAUNCH: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND GENDER TO BOOST ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPOWERMENT

This exciting launch of a new **OWIT UK** chapter is designed to promote the advancement of women in trade and business and will serve women and men working in all facets of **international trade**.

OWIT International serves as the unifying body of a growing network of chapters located in the Americas, Europe, and Africa. As women business owners and entrepreneurs, we are eager to unlock opportunities, access international markets and grow our networks and communities overseas.

BOOK TODAY: WWW.OWITUK.ORG/EVENTS-PROGRAMS

JUNE 23, 2021 | 2:30 P.M. BST






The UK Launch was featured in TechToday Newspaper!

Article

OWIT Toronto Newsletter Highlights Nov / Dec



Happy Holidays to Everyone!

Another year has sped by and we're getting used to the new normal.

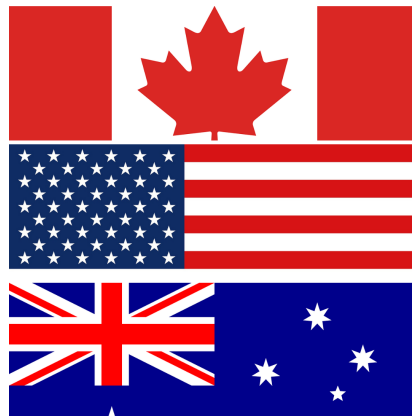
I wish we could say that we've hosted some in-person events, but that will need to wait until early 2022. We did miss seeing everyone in person again this year. Our virtual hosting skills are being perfected, having delivered 14 webinars with topics as varied as crafting your personal brand and navigating supply chain challenges. Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors who have supported these events.

Other accomplishments of 2021 included: a number of submissions from our Trade Policy Committee to the federal government with our input on how to make upcoming free trade agreements more inclusive for women; increasing our membership; partnering with new organizations like [Futurpreneur](#) and the [Canada Arab Business Council](#) and with other chapters like Ottawa and Tampa; participating in webinars of other organizations like GroYourBiz in Vancouver and the Global Trade Professionals Alliance in Australia; and assisting in the launch of new chapters in Brussels and South Africa.



We are looking forward to 2022, which starts off with our Annual General Meeting on January 26, 2022, to be held in-person (to be confirmed). At this AGM, we will be reviewing our revised by-laws and having elections for positions on our Board of Directors. The term is two-years. We are currently aware of two vacancies. If there are any members interested in a leadership role within our organization, please contact us. If you're not currently a member, you will need to enrol within 10 days of the election. A strategy session, focusing on upcoming priorities and objectives, will follow soon after. We have two key events in March 2022, with our hybrid Export Awards and a [virtual trade mission to Mexico for food exporters](#). Do let us know if you have any nominations for outstanding woman exporter, woman leader in international trade, and student of international trade. We are hoping to do more in-person networking and educational seminars. We are ready to go. Keep an eye on our events calendar for any upcoming events. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in person in early 2022!
Helen Hemmingsen

Virtual Fireside Chat Links North America and Australia



OWIT was featured in the Festival of Inclusive Trade, an annual Australian online celebration and an examination of all things inclusion and trade, organized by the Global Trade Professionals Alliance. Sharing the virtual stage with the moderator and Director of GTPA, Collins Rex, was Susan Baka, VP International, of OWIT-Toronto, and Jennifer Diaz of OWIT-South Florida and Past President of OWIT International. They discussed OWIT initiatives to make trade more inclusive for women and about its expansion globally. View the [full fireside chat here](#).

OWIT Toronto

Membership

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR OWIT INTERNATIONAL MEMBER BENEFITS

You will find increased functionality and easy access to your OWIT International membership benefits in our new website and membership directory. Once logged on with your member credentials, you can access your Members Only benefits, including the

Membership Directory, discounts on webinars and other events, and the Job Bank. Register for upcoming events from our home page. View OWIT International, chapter, and partner events in our Events Calendar. Connect with members in chapters across the globe via our membership directory.

Here's how to set up your member credentials on the new website:

Did you have a profile in our membership directory on our old website?

Your profile has been exported to the new website and membership directory. Just go to our website <https://www.owit.org> and click on Members Only and Log In. On the Log In page, click Lost Your Password? On the Password Recovery page, enter the email address where you receive OWIT International emails and click Reset Password. You will receive an email to reset your password. Then you'll be ready to update your profile and access your OWIT International member benefits, including webinar registration at the member rate.

Need to Register Your Chapter Membership or Join our Virtual Chapter?

If you don't have a profile in our membership directory yet, please go to our website <https://www.owit.org>. If you are currently a member of one of our chapters, please click on Register Your Chapter Membership with OWIT Int'l. If you'd like to join our Virtual Chapter, please click on Join Our Virtual Chapter.

If you have any difficulty, please contact vp-membership@owit.org.

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 your chapter membership on OWIT International's website <https://www.owit.org>. Create your free member profile today! If you're not a member of a local chapter, please visit <https://owit.org/owit-chapters/> to learn more about our chapters. If you have questions, please contact vp-membership@owit.org.

Did You Know...

We have **OWIT chapters** in:

- Arkansas
- Brussels
- Charleston
- Chicago
- Dominican Republic
- Greater Triangle NC
- Lake Geneva
- Los Angeles
- Mexico City
- Monterrey
- Nairobi
- New Jersey
- New York City
- Nigeria
- Northern California
- Peru
- South Florida
- St. Louis
- Tampa Bay
- Toronto
- Orange County
- Ottawa
- United Kingdom
- Virtual
- Washington, D.C.
- Zimbabwe

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About Organization of Women in International Trade (OWIT)

The Organization of Women in International Trade (<https://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.



[Click here to visit our website](#)

See what's happening on our social sites!

