



## **Coalition Committee Descriptions and Chairs**

**Programming Committee:** Lauren Cohn, *Walgreen Co.*  
Anne Larson, *Ogletree, Deakins*  
Megan Mathias, *Stahl Cowen Crowley Addis LLC*

The Programming Committee is charged with creating and coordinating the annual programming schedule for the Coalition, including (a) an event every 6-8 weeks for Coalition members from “brown bag” telephonic events to formal in-person events; (b) one more expansive annual in-person event open to all member firms, law departments and individual members; and (c) networking opportunities and events for Coalition members. The Committee often invites speakers or other guests to speak at the programming events to educate the members on various legal, business, leadership and professionalism topics. In addition, the Committee liaises with other committees (e.g., Membership, PR, etc.) to increase awareness of the Coalition in general, to advertise upcoming events, and to post information regarding or summaries about past events. Our goal is to make the Coalition’s programming valuable, relevant and engaging for all members of the Coalition.

**Brown Bag Program Committee:** Robyn Bowland, *Akerman LLP*  
Sonya Rosenberg, *Neal Gerber & Eisenberg LLP*

This committee works to develop telephonic programming and webinars that can be shared live with all attorneys at member firms and companies. This year, the committee produced programming focused on financial literacy of lawyers and “unsolicited” advice from senior lawyers.

**In-Person Programs Committee:** Deirdre Fox, *Scharf Banks Marmor*

This committee works to develop the in-person programming for the Coalition, which range from panel discussions to workshops to keynote speakers.

**Leadership Forum Committee:** Kelly Glynn, *Deloitte*  
Jenny Waters, *National Association for Women*  
Erica Zolner, *Kirkland & Ellis*

This committee works to develop the annual Leadership Forum and typically begins work in early spring. The Leadership Forum program includes the Coalition’s annual awards, selected by the Community Outreach committee.

**Associates Committee:** Julie Busch, *Johnson & Bell*  
Danielle Twait, *Mandell Menkes*

The Associates Committee works with the Programming Committee and is responsible for developing programming directed to the associate delegates of the Coalition and for ensuring that the Coalition is relevant to associates at member firms and that associates take advantage of the opportunities presented to them by the Coalition. The Committee’s 2016 successes included its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Judges Panel.

**In-House Counsel Committee:** Cynthia Abbott, *WBEZ Chicago*  
Denise Beihoffer, *Equity Residential*

The In-House Counsel Committee works with the Programming Committee and is responsible for developing and increasing the Coalition's in-house/corporate counsel membership and for developing programming directed to the in-house counsel members of the Coalition. The In-House Counsel Committee conducted the second annual In-House to Power-House series, a program first launched in 2015. The series covered topics ranging from tapping into your emotional intelligence and developing your brand to relationship building and relaunching your career.

**Membership and Public Relations Committee:** Esther Contreras, *Masuda Funai*  
Julie Matthews, *Parker Ibrahim & Berg*  
Jen Gust, *Resolute Management*

This committee is responsible for recruiting new member firms and new in-house counsel, individually and as corporate members. The Committee is responsible for preparing standard materials to distribute to prospective members and for implementing a welcome protocol for each new member. The Committee follows up with past members that did not renew to evaluate the reason for the non-renewal. The Committee helps coordinate the preparation of the annual "Year in Review" report as a summary of the value received from Coalition membership. In addition, this Committee develops and implements the Coalition's public relations plan; interfaces with PR firms the Coalition may use; coordinates interviews with the media; and identifies Coalition spokespeople if there is media interest on a particular topic.

**Community Outreach Committee:** Erin Hines, *Baker Hostetler*  
Kristen Hudson, *Chuhak & Tecson*

The Community Outreach Committee works with the PR Committee to identify charitable/philanthropic organizations, such as Step Up Women's Network, that are aligned with the Coalition's mission and with which the Coalition would like to be affiliated, and it is the Coalition's main contact with these organizations. It also liaises with Chicago-area law schools for outreach efforts to women students who are interested in joining law firms upon graduation. This Committee also works to foster recognition for the Coalition Members' main and alternate delegates through promotion and nomination of the delegates for awards and other recognition.

**Sponsorship Committee:** Irene Fiorentinos, *Jones Day*

The Sponsorship Committee works with the PR Committee and is tasked with contacting and contracting with vendors or other third parties to sponsor or to underwrite the Coalition's general costs and expenses or those associated with a specific Coalition program or event.

**Social Media Committee:** Kirstin Ives, *Falkenberg Fieweger & Ives*  
Ann Marie Wahls, *Latham & Watkins*

The Social Media Committee works to advance the Coalition brand and promote programs, events and membership through the use of social media outlets such as Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook.

**Career Development Committee:** Laura Hammargren, *Mayer Brown*  
Jennifer Nichols, *Banner Apartments LLC*

The Career Development Committee is intended to be a resource for attorneys associated with the Coalition that supports the attorneys' career advancement at every stage of their careers. Our committee goals include helping attorneys (1) identify and learn new skills, (2) refer and receive referrals from one another, and (3) build relationships within the legal field. Goals for the year include a job board for in-house attorneys and a searchable database of experience for all attorneys.

**Advisory Committee:** Leslee Cohen, *Hershman Cohen LLC*  
Julianne Hartzell, *Marshall, Gerstein & Borun LLP*

Comprised of original board members and committee chairs, any former executive officer may join this committee once she transitions off the Executive Committee. The same is true for any former committee chair. In addition, upon invitation, the Board may invite up to 5 additional members and/or other senior women lawyers per year to join the Committee. The Committee will have the following responsibilities:

- To support the Board and the Coalition, as called upon to do so, by serving as speakers, mentors, media contacts and advisors regarding programs, initiatives or existing Coalition business or work;
- To coordinate with the Board and Programming Committee to develop at least one event or reception annually targeted at senior women lawyers; and
- To communicate with the Board from time to time when called upon to do so or to help identify trends, issues and concerns impacting the progress of women lawyers in their careers.

The Advisory Committee kicked off “Coalition Connects,” a program intended to address the formation of closer personal relationships amongst members of the Coalition for purposes of business development, employment opportunities and other ways that Coalition members may be able to help one another. The committee is also interested in helping to address other issues, including the need for senior lawyers, both men and women, to transition work to younger women lawyers, overall succession planning, leadership development for women lawyers and the changing law firm business model. Membership is available to any former Board officer once she transitions off the Board and, upon invitation, to no more than five former Board members and/or other senior women lawyers per year.

**Technology Taskforce:** Katherine Minarik, *Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott*  
Natalie Perry, *Ice Miller*

The Technology Taskforce will be a limited-term project of the Coalition with the goal of identifying the Coalition’s needs in website and database needs, and then identifying appropriate vendors to address those needs.