

## **Monthly Meetings of the International JRCLS WIL Committee**

The Women in the Law Committee of the JRCLS meets monthly, by conference call, except in December, when no meeting is held, and in October, when the meeting is held in person at the **annual leadership conference**. The **Goals and Plan of Work** for the year specify particular tasks to be completed each month.

The ongoing tasks of the committee are as follows:

1. Plan sessions for the **annual JRCLS leadership conference**, held each on the Thursday and Friday before October LDS General Conference. This conference has been held at the BYU Law School and at the Aspen Grove camp, located near Sundance in the Provo Canyon. Responsibilities of the WIL committee at the annual leadership conference have included (1) training all WIL representatives from chapters who attend the conference; (2) meeting face-to-face as a WIL Committee to discuss issues and training; (3) other training as requested by the Executive Committee of the JRCLS or as agreed by the WIL Committee with the Executive Committee and Leadership Conference planning committee. These “other” training sessions can include meeting with all chapter chairs or with student chapter chairs to assist them in organizing a WIL section in each chapter; (4) addressing all conference attendees at plenary sessions on the goals and accomplishments of the WIL Committee; and (4) participating in the “open house” session, usually on Friday afternoon, during which WIL Committee members “man” an information table with handouts on WIL activities, organization, etc.
2. Plan and implement a session for the **annual JRCLS Conference**, held each year in February at a different location in the USA. The WIL-sponsored sessions for 2010 and 2011 consisted of panel discussions on the following:
  - a. 2010 (SLC, UT): “Beyond Private Practice: If I Don’t Want to Work in a Law Firm, What Else Is there?” (Panelists: Lisa Watts Baskin, Mary Hoagland, Charlotte I. Miller, Angelina Tsu, with Elizabeth Shaw Smith as moderator)
  - b. 2011 (Dallas, TX): “Men and Women Working Together in the Law” (Panelists: Alyssa Englund, Michael Jensen, Carol Warnick, Gordon Wright, with Elizabeth Shaw Smith as moderator)
3. Plan, host, and publicize a WIL breakfast gathering for all women attendees at the **annual JRCLS conference** each year. This breakfast is usually a subset of the breakfast held for all attendees, with WIL breaking out into a separate room. The gathering is usually fairly informal with introductions and discussion, led by women from different chapters, as requested by the WIL Committee. In 2011, for example, the breakfast discussion leaders focused on topics such as networking, organizing a WIL section, bias against women, history of WIL, and suggestions for WIL events.
4. Plan, publicize, and host a “**pre-law event**” at BYU on the Wednesday evening just prior to the annual JRCLS leadership conference. This event can be sponsored jointly

with the WIL section leaders of the BYU Law School. The event was first held in 2009 and consisted of a panel of women attorneys in various phases of law practice or non-practice, as well as an address by Elder John Carmack on women and education. In 2010, the panel was on “Top 5 Reasons Why Women Should Attend Law School” (flexibility, independence/preparedness, self-esteem, spirituality, and leadership), and panelists were Patti Smith (Riverside, CA), Prof. Nunez (BYU Law School), Kim Swallow, Jessica Everett-Garcia (Phoenix, AZ). In 2011, the panel topic was “Dynamic Duos Then and Now: Fathers and Daughters in the Law” and panelists were Milan and Tiffany Smith, David and Susannah Thomas, and Jim and Aubrey Wright.

5. Communicate with, support, and encourage WIL sections around the world via the [JRCLS WIL blog](#), emails, personal contacts, and other efforts.
6. Encourage JRCLS chapters to organize and maintain a WIL section in each chapter, where feasible.
7. Encourage JRCLS chapters to have women on each Board of Directors and Executive Committee, where feasible
8. Provide support and networking assistance to all JRCLS women attorneys through the WIL blog, annual conference, and pre-law conference. Work to locate and document women attorneys who may be interested in JRCLS membership or association.
9. Respond to requests for documentation, presentations, assistance from the Executive Committee of the JRCLS.
10. Conference calls are arranged through the LDS Church General Counsel’s office (via Marnell Davis, in 2011, secretary to Bill Atkin)