

# We Can Do It!

Women, Leadership & the Law

## Annual Awards Dinner & Legacy Presentation

October 14, 2011

Grand Hyatt, Seattle



Presented by

**WWL**

Washington Women Lawyers

# *Agenda*

Annual Awards Dinner and Legacy Presentation

*Welcome and Thank You*

Debora Motyka Jones (Events VP 2010-2011)

*Legacy Presentation and Presentation of Legacy Award*

Karrin Klotz (Legacy VP 2010-2011)

*Presentation of Board and Chapter Member of the Year Awards*

Jessica Skelton (President 2010-2011)

*Presentation of President's Award*

Jessica Skelton (President 2010-2011)

*Presentation of Passing the Torch Award*

Jessica Skelton (President 2010-2011)

*Keynote Address*

*We Can Do It! Women, Leadership & the Law*

Sarah Weddington

*A Note from the Foundation*

Justice Faith Ireland

*Passing of the Gavel*

Jessica Skelton (President 2010-2011) and Alison Bettles (President 2011-2012)

*Closing Remarks*

Alison Bettles (President 2011-2012)

## Keynote Speaker



*Sarah Weddington*

Sarah Weddington has lived a life of leadership and now shares her expertise and insights with others. A nationally known attorney and spokesperson on leadership and public issues, her experience and charisma make her a highly sought-after speaker on the development of leadership skills. She is particularly well known for her work on issues affecting women in her many roles as attorney, legislator, presidential advisor, professor, and expert called upon by the national media.

She is a proven leader in government at the national and state levels. From 1978 to 1981, she served as assistant to President Jimmy Carter, directing the Administration's work on women's issues and leadership outreach. As general counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1977 and the first woman to ever hold that position, she supervised more than 200 lawyers. From 1983-1985, Dr. Weddington was the first woman director of the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations. Elected in 1973 and serving three terms, she was the first woman from Austin in the 150-member Texas House of Representatives.

In her first book, *A Question of Choice*, Dr. Weddington detailed the landmark *Roe v. Wade* case, which she successfully argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973. She is believed to be the youngest person ever to win a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. A founding member of the Foundation for Women's Resources, she has been integral in all its activities, including the "Leadership Texas" and "Leadership America" programs and the creation of The Women's Museum, which opened September 29, 2000, in Dallas, Texas. She is featured as one of 39 in the "Unforgettable Women" exhibit in the Record Breakers case with Babe Didrikson Zaharias and Amelia Earhart.

Dr. Weddington has received numerous leadership honors and awards. Most recently, in August 2008, Dr. Weddington received the Margaret Brent Award for Lifetime Achievement from the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession. Dr. Weddington also received the "Knowledge is Power" Award from Texas Women Lawyers in 2007. In 2004, she was a featured speaker for the March for Women's Lives in Washington, DC. In 2003, the *Roe v. Wade* decision was featured in TIME Magazine's "80 Days That Changed the World." In 2001, she was presented the Speaking Out for Justice Award by the American Association of University Women. In 2000, Texas Lawyer named her as "one of the Most Influential Lawyers of the 20th century." She was named a "Face of the Century" by the San Antonio Express-News (TX), and the Houston Chronicle named her as one of "100 Tall Texans - Those who left their mark on Texas and the rest of the world in the 20th Century."

In 1999, she was honored as a "Texas Woman of the Century" by the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Texas, and featured for her "Courage to Challenge" in *Women of Courage: Inspiring Stories from the Women Who Lived Them* by Katherine Martin. In 1998, she received Leadership America's Hummingbird award for contributions toward the advancement of women's leadership and McMurry University's Trailblazer award for "setting a path for others to follow as servant leaders." In 1996, she received the 1996 Colby Award for Public Service from Sigma Kappa Sorority and was profiled in *The Fifty Most Influential Women in American Law* by Dawn Bradley Berry. In 1995, she was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa Society, the National Leadership Honor Society. She received the 1993 Woman of Distinction Award at the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. In 1990, the National Association for Campus Activities named her "Best College Lecturer;" and in 1980, she received the Planned Parenthood Federation of America's Margaret Sanger Award, its highest honor. TIME named her one of the "Outstanding Young American Leaders." Ladies Home Journal presented her with its Woman of the Future award. She was selected as one of the ten "Outstanding Women in America." Esquire recognized her in 1984 as an "American Under 40 Making Things Happen." She has been featured in *Working Women*, *People*, and the *Washington Post*, and has been a guest on *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *CBS Morning News*, and CNN.

Dr. Weddington holds honorary doctorates from McMurry University, Hamilton College, Austin College, Southwestern University, and Nova Southeastern University. She received her JD degree from The University of Texas School of Law in 1967 and is a Distinguished Alumna of McMurry University. From 1981-1990, Dr. Weddington was a Distinguished Lecturer at Texas Woman's University and an Adjunct Professor in the History and Government Dept. in 1993. She is also an adjunct professor at The University of Texas in Austin, where she helped shape a new generation of leaders in her classes "Gender-Based Discrimination" and "Leadership in America." She also writes and travels extensively, speaking on the development of leadership skills, and is currently working on her next book on the topic of leadership and self-renewal.

## Award Recipients



President's Award - *Justice Mary E. Fairhurst*

In 2003, Mary Fairhurst began serving as a Justice on the Washington State Supreme Court. She began her legal career in 1984 as a judicial clerk for Chief Justice William Williams, and then Justice William Goodloe. For the intervening 16 years, Justice Fairhurst served in the Washington Attorney General's Office, specializing in criminal justice, transportation, revenue, and labor. She received the Attorney General's Steward of Justice Award. Justice Fairhurst served as President of the Washington State Bar Association and on the bar Board of Governors. She also served as President of Washington Women Lawyers and on the Supreme

Court Gender and Justice Commission. Justice Fairhurst earned both her law degree magna cum laude and her undergraduate degree cum laude from Gonzaga University. She serves as president of the Gonzaga Law School Board of Advisors and the Gonzaga Law School Alumni Association and also serves on Gonzaga University's Board of Regents. Justice Fairhurst also recently received the Council on Public Legal Education's Flame of Democracy Award and the WSBA Award of Merit. Justice Fairhurst comes from a large, loving family which places great value on fairness, service, and the dignity of every man, woman, and child. She is dedicated to ensuring that our legal system treats people fairly, equally, and protects everyone's basic rights.



Passing the Torch Award - *Nancy Isserlis*

Nancy Isserlis is a friend and mentor to many newer women lawyers, including attorneys at her firm, Winston & Cashatt. She promotes equal rights and opportunities for women lawyers by believing in them and teaching them to believe in themselves. According to one mentee:

"[T]he thing about Nancy is her unwavering confidence in those she mentors. She is excellent at putting someone in charge of a case and supporting them in such a way that the client and you believe you have been doing it forever." Another mentee agreed, stating that it as if Nancy is a teaching you to swim by throwing you off the end of the dock and telling you to swim to

shore, but because it is Nancy, you know you can do it. Nancy models a service-oriented life, involving herself in local, state and national bar activities (she is the WSBA 5th District Governor) and encouraging her mentees to do so as well. As she takes on new leadership responsibilities, she makes it a point to take her mentees along with her. Nancy takes her mentoring duties very seriously, working to help them become the smart, kind, professional, honest and selfless lawyers that exceed the expectations of others.



Legacy Award - *Jane Noland*

Jane Noland has been a member of the Seattle City Council, the Metro Council, the King County Board of Health and the National League of Cities, as well as a commissioner with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission, and president of the Association of Washington Cities. She has also been legal counsel to the King County Council and a trustee of the Seattle King County Bar Association. Prior to these appointments she was an attorney at Perkins Coie in Seattle and a tribal judge for the Nisqually Indian Community. Ms. Noland is currently a member of the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education. She was the first

president of the Washington Women Lawyers and has also worked with numerous other women's and civil rights organizations. She is a graduate of Seattle University Law School, where she was named Distinguished Law Graduate in 1992, and has an M.A. in Public Law and Government from Columbia University and a B.A. in History from the University of North Carolina Women's College. During law school she served as an Extern to Judge Eugene Wright of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In her college years she was a Peace Corps Volunteer to Iran, as well as an intern in the Office of Governor Evans. Ms. Noland's personal interests include glass art, and she is currently the owner of Jane Noland Glass Art; she is also a member of the Board of Pratt Fine Arts Center.



Capitol Chapter Member of the Year - *Julie Kammerer*

Julie currently serves as Vice President of Programs for the Capitol Chapter and previously served as the State Board Representative. Since assuming her new role, Julie has organized two successful programs, each of which had very high attendance. In the fall of 2010, Julie organized a lunch forum for Supreme Court candidates Charlie Wiggins and Richard Sanders. Julie engaged local NPR reporter Austin Jenkins to moderate the event. In the spring, Julie coordinated a program about Don't Ask Don't Tell with the Soldier's Legal Defense Network (SLDN). She also helped plan a free CLE in conjunction with the Government Lawyer's Bar Association. Julie also used her contacts with the Thurston County Bar Association to co-sponsor the event and secure a venue. Julie is committed to representing the WWL Capitol Chapter in a professional manner. She puts her full energy into any event she presents and is a leader in the chapter.



Clark/St. Helens Member of the Year - *Marisha Childs*

Born in Washington D.C., Marisha received her undergraduate degree from Oregon Institute of Technology and graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in 2001. After law school Marisha clerked at Cook County Circuit Court in Chicago, Illinois, the largest unified court system in the country. After her clerkship, she returned to the Northwest and practiced as a public defender with a firm holding the largest indigent defense contract in Clark County. She now owns her own firm and has continued to handle criminal matters for low income clients while also developing her elder law practice. Marisha currently serves as President of the Clark County Chapter and has been a committed and enthusiastic leader. This year, she spear-headed the annual membership event with the theme: "What Not to Wear . . . in Court!" The event was a huge success. She also participates in the Clark County Judicial Evaluation Committee and works hard to generate enthusiasm and interest in other chapter activities.



King County Chapter Member of the Year - *Karen Clark*

Karen has been an active and dedicated member of the King County Chapter in 2011, particularly in her role as CLE Committee Chair. She has worked tirelessly to coordinate CLE sessions of interest to a wide range of practitioners and with an eye toward giving women lawyers a leadership role in the practice and in the community into the future. Under her leadership, the King County Chapter has organized an outstanding roster of speakers for 2011, as well as expanded the chapter's options for offering participants alternate formats to attend such as webinar and live conferencing. Karen is responsive and welcoming to continuing and new members alike and gracefully lends her expertise to the King County Chapter while juggling a demanding solo practice schedule.



Kitsap County Chapter Member of the Year - *Elizabeth Starks*

Since being admitted to practice law in the state of Washington in November 2006, Elizabeth has practiced in the areas of civil, domestic relations, and criminal defense. She has high ethical standards, and is respectful of all parties, counsel, and the legal process. She also is active in WWL activities and is especially helpful with sharing her perspectives on managing work-life balance. She does all of this while raising her young family of three boys with her husband, Jason. Elizabeth is a great example of how to conduct a practice with grace and civility, while maintaining a healthy balance in her personal life at the same time.



Pierce County Chapter Member of the Year - *Amy Pagano*

Amy rarely misses a Pierce County Chapter meeting and has even hosted them in her home. She has performed the role of Treasurer with calm competency and always delivers her report with a twist of humor. Along with her regular duties as Treasurer, she has filled in as Secretary and Social Chair, coming up with ideas for great events and helping organize them. Amy maintains a transactional practice at Harlowe & Falk LLP in Tacoma. Her practice focuses on general business and corporate law, real estate and trusts and estates work, along with bank and consumer financial lender operations and regulatory compliance. Amy is a member of the Tacoma Pierce County Bar Association and the Washington State Bar Association, participating in its Business Law; Real Property, Probate and Trust; and Taxation Sections. Amy is also a member of Tacoma Rotary No. 8, a Toastmaster, and the Treasurer of the Tacoma-Area Delta Gamma Alumnae Association.



Snohomish County Chapter Member of the Year - *Bridget Casey*

Bridget is a prosecutor at the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office, Civil Division. She has chaired the Snohomish County Chapter's Judicial Evaluations Committee for the past two and a half years and takes on the bulk of the responsibility for the judicial evaluations process. Bridget coordinates with the governor's counsel for judicial appointments, facilitates candidate interviews, sets up the scheduling with the committee, and conducts the entire process with the strictest of scrutiny to ensure fairness. During her tenure, she has led the Committee through a number of evaluations relating to judicial appointments and judicial elections, as well as an unprecedented County Prosecutor election for which the Snohomish County Chapter conducted a candidate forum. Bridget's leadership and guidance have been critical to the Committee's successful operation.



Spokane County Chapter Member of the Year - *Jennifer Slattery*

Jennifer Slattery attended the Spokane Chapter's annual summer party the day after she moved from Seattle to Spokane and has been the chapter's go-to person for getting things done ever since. Within weeks, Jen was serving on the Newsletter, Membership, and Social Networking Committee. She worked to update the chapter's Facebook page and membership information and also created the chapter's newsletter. Jen is quick to volunteer for extra jobs as well, working with the state board on the annual event and organizing social events for the local membership. Jennifer also is dedicated to her work in public interest law. As a staff attorney at the non-profit law firm Center for Justice, Jennifer represents low-income clients with a variety of legal issues and supervises volunteers and interns in the Center's Community Advocacy program. Prior to moving to Spokane, Jennifer practiced as a public defense attorney at Stein, Lotzkar & Starr, P.S., in Bellevue



Whatcom County Chapter Member of the Year - *Rebecca Wilder*

After a productive and fun year as Whatcom County's Chapter Representative to the Washington Women Lawyers board in 2010, Rebecca was elected Chapter President for the 2011 term. During her time as Chapter President, Rebecca focused on recruiting new members and has worked hard to fill vacant roles on the Whatcom Chapter board. Rebecca has been instrumental in developing the Whatcom Chapter's upcoming CLE and Recruitment Social, and she actively applies what she learned from her work on the 2010 WWL Annual Event and CLE.



State Board Member of the Year - *Hilary Hoover*

Hilary Hoover is a Washington native. She graduated from Kentwood High School, Whitman College, with a B.A. in Political Science, and the University of Michigan Law School, magna cum laude and Order of the Coif. After law school, she practiced with Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York City and London, in the corporate tax department, working on mergers, acquisitions, stock and debt offerings, and international tax litigation. From 2002-2004, Hilary worked in Washington, DC for the U.S. Department of Treasury as an Attorney Advisor, negotiating U.S. income tax treaties and drafting regulations for international banking and finance. In 2005, she returned to Washington and clerked for Chief Justice Barbara Madsen on the state supreme court and then worked at Perkins Coie in Seattle as a commercial litigator. She is currently on the board of Washington Women Lawyers and the Madison Park Cooperative Preschool and class rep for the Whitman College Annual Fund. She is also active in Adoptive Friends and Family of Greater Seattle, a cause near and dear to her heart after adopting her infant daughter in 2009.



State Board Member of the Year - *Karrin Klotz*

Karrin Klotz is an attorney with over 20 years of experience in litigation and general business law matters. After a judicial clerkship under Hon. Gabrielle K. McDonald of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, she served as a litigator on complex business litigation issues with Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro (now Pillsbury Winthrop), a litigator on worldwide software piracy issues at Donahue, Gallagher, Thomas and Woods, as corporate counsel for Amdahl Corporation and Microsoft Corporation, and as Associate General Counsel for Wall Data Inc. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of California, Berkeley. She has been an adjunct professor for many years, for both UW and Seattle University Law School, specializing in business, intellectual property, and environmental law issues. In addition she has her own legal practice, specializing in representing entrepreneurs on the wide range of issues faced by small businesses operating on a worldwide level. She is the past chairman of the Public Information and Media Relations Committee of the Washington State Bar Association, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa, and has published a paper on intellectual property audits at the 9th World Congress on Intellectual Capital and Innovation.



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*Women, Leadership & the Law*

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO GONZAGA ALUMNAE**

Justice Mary Fairhurst  
President's Award Recipient  
&  
Nancy Isserlis  
Passing the Torch Award Recipient



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\* Indicates a member of the Executive Committee

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*Photos from  
Last Year's Event*

**WWL**  
Washington Women Lawyers





# Thank You!

WWL extends its heartfelt gratitude to the members of the event committee and special contributors for their hard work. Without them, tonight would not have been possible. Thank you!

*Debora Motyka Jones, Vice President*

*Alison Bettles*

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*Judge Beverly Grant*

*Jaime Hawk*

*Karrin Klotz*

*Lauren Sancken*

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*Jaime Taft*

*Pauline Woodman*

WWL also thanks the vendors participating in the event:  
Martina Machackova Photography & Design, Northwest Trophy and  
Cathy Wise of Wise Graphic Design for her endless patience and beautiful designs.

We also would like to extend a special thank you to Executive Director Ann Baus.  
Thank you, Ann, for all that you do and for another great year.

Finally, a big thank you to all of our sponsors.  
Your support of WWL is greatly appreciated.