



International Nominating Committee 2022-2024

Official slate of Candidates for Officers, Directors and
International Nominating Committee Members for Election at Convention 2024
as of 14 February

Candidates are presented in alphabetical order under each office. Included are the candidate's district, club and country.

Campaigning before and during Convention is forbidden. Candidates are reminded of the Zonta International [Campaigning Policy](#), which must be observed. Campaigning by or for a candidate will result in the removal of the candidate from the slate.

Candidate for International President-Elect

One (1) to be elected

Fernanda Gallo-Freschi

D28, Zonta Club of Milano Sant'Ambrogio, Italy

Candidates for International Vice President

One (1) to be elected

Annika Bränström

D21, Zonta Club of Sundsvall, Sweden

Reneé Coppock

D12, Zonta Club of Billings, USA

Sandra Venn-Brown

D22, Zonta Club of Stanthorpe Inc, Australia

Candidate for International Treasurer/Secretary

One (1) to be elected

Souella Cumming

D16, Zonta Club of Wellington, New Zealand

Candidate for International Director

Seven (7) to be elected

Margaret Akofio-Sowah

D18, Zonta Club of Accra II, Ghana

Ofelia “Lia” Bautista

D17, Zonta Club of Greater Rizal I, Philippines

Ivana Sarotto Benotto

D30, Zonta Club of Alba Langhe Roero, Italy

Barbara Crabtree

D10, Zonta Club of Dallas, USA

Christine Dersch

D28, Zonta Club of Marburg, Germany

Errick Elavia

D25, Zonta Club of Bombay I, India

Unna Huh

D32, Zonta Club of Seoul III-Nam Seoul, South Korea

Phillippa Jacobs-Lory

D16, Zonta Club of Christchurch-Canterbury, New Zealand

Maria Jongbloed

D29, Zonta Club of Utrecht, The Netherlands

Bridget Mather

D23, Zonta Club of Adelaide Inc, Australia

Ela Pandya

D9, Zonta Club of Porterville, USA

Darleen “Sharyl” Scott

D24, Zonta Club of Macarthur Inc, Australia

Vivienne Shen

D31, Zonta Club of Hsin Chu, Republic of China (Taiwan)

Candidates for International Nominating Committee

North, Central and South America

One (1) to be elected

Joyce Combs

D5, Zonta Club of Columbus OH, USA

Joanne Gallos

D3, Zonta Club of Annapolis, USA

Europe

One (1) to be elected

Isabel Rameil

D14, Zonta Club of Aschaffenburg, Germany

Raisa Valve

D20, Zonta Club of Lahti, Finland

Africa

One (1) to be elected

Marguerite Akossi Mvongo

D18, Zonta Club of Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Australia, New Zealand

One (1) to be elected

Judith "Judy" Gorton

D23, Zonta Club of Perth Inc, Australia

Asia

One (1) to be elected

May (Mei-Hong) Wen

D31, Zonta Club of Kaohsiung YuHsiuan, Republic of China (Taiwan)

At Large

Four (4) to be elected

Desirae Kirby

D16, Zonta Club of Rotorua, New Zealand

Teresa Lin

D17, Zonta Club of New Territories, Hong Kong

Dorte Olesen

D13, Zonta Club of Copenhagen I, Denmark

Ute Scholz

D27, Zonta Club of Verden, Germany

Brittany Vaughan

D9, Zonta Club of Burbank Area, USA

Anna Weselak

D6, Zonta Club of Oak Brook, USA



Fernanda Gallo-Freschi

Candidate for International President-Elect

Zonta member for 14 years, Zonta Club of Milano Sant'Ambrogio, District 28

Senior Partner - co-founder, Studio Freschi

2022-2024 International Vice President; 2020-2022 International Director; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2014-2016 Foundation Ambassador; 2012-2014 District Secretary. 2017 District Conference chair

Main Zonta achievements

Vision, Strategic Planning, Governance: I worked on Membership, chaired Awards In Resolution 2 workstreams and contributed creating Strategic Plan 2023–2030. My vision for ZI's strong, inclusive, sustainable future is totally aligned with it. Ready to ensure continuity in implementation, mindful of ZI mission, members' expectations. I represented ZI at Vienna UN-ODC, Gender&ClimateChange events (CSW/NY66-67, AMMPE), UNGeneva, Lions Academy, ADBIS EuroConference. After my pre-G20 meeting interview, Women Journalists World Association President invited me as speaker at their Advocacy Day, and World Conference. Leadership: I believe in leading by example. As Governor, leading COVID-19 crisis with empathy, resourcefulness and courage guided me later in "all-virtual" 2020-2022 international board, and beyond. Membership, D&I: I liaised UNCommittee, 7 districts worldwide, supporting top (D18) membership growth open several countries, guiding smallest (D01) to sustainable growth As LTGovernor-Governor, chartered several clubs/e-clubs. I support He-for-She and successfully liaised our first 2 male governors (D25 and D18).

Business or professional experience and skills

I speak 4 languages (English, Italian, German, French). I have experience in management by objectives, based on international regulations. During a previous 15 years carrier, up to the position of Senior Partner in an R&D company, I was team coordinator in several EU-funded projects, responsible for international relations and joint-ventures with US partners in IT applications to constructions, and representative c/o international professional associations. There I gained multicultural awareness, teambuilding and leadership skills. Studying and working in technical male-dominated environments, I gained deep experience of advocating against gender workplace inequalities, recently registered as lead auditor for workplace gender equality certifications.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

Continuing from my term as VP, one of my focus areas is to enhance membership, which requires tailored regional strategies, a global diversified and inclusive membership offering, an attractive value proposition, enhanced sense of community and simplified governance. While long-established women's rights keep being eroded, another focus is for ZI to be in the forefront advocating for women's rights, by involving more youth, enhancing alliances with peer organizations, facilitating national action across districts. In 2022-24, these principles became the backbone of ZI Strategic Plan goals that we championed as the Board: making ZI a credible, visible voice on women's human rights, supporting clubs' success, and becoming a more sustainable organization with alliances and audiences. I also strongly support focusing on the Strategic Plan key areas: education equality, climate justice, ending gender-based violence, career advancement. The president, with the Board, is in the driver's seat of the Strategic Plan and will guide change with the necessary boldness, but also needs sensibility in setting priorities and making any updates to face new challenges and changing environments. My vision for ZI is a climate friendly, inclusive, engaged, strong community that builds a better world for women and girls, under every sky!

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

I started as 2020-2022 International Director having treasured my past experience as ambassador about

increasing awareness and confidence on the impact of our international projects, enhancing a culture of individual giving and promoting new donation tools. In the post-COVID-19 environment in which I currently serve as Vice-President, our clubs' membership and fundraising are still deeply challenged and our Foundation goals still depend on ZI membership trend and their donations. Resolution 2 – Fundraising Workstream came to the overall conclusion that our organization “ has the ability to be more ambitious in its fundraising goals”, not only enhancing current fundraising activities, but also “ diversifying channels and investing in resources to deliver fundraising development” . When applying for Vice-President last biennium, I already mentioned that, looking ahead strategically, we needed new and diversified ways to fundraise (including external sponsorship). Expanding our fundraising horizons outside Zonta membership, globally and locally, is now well reflected in Goals 3 and 4 of the 2023-2030 Strategic Plan. I continue to embrace these strategies. To do this, we shall initially define guidelines to identify appropriate partners and sponsors, whose governance, social accountability and conduct of business are aligned with the Zonta mission.



Annika Bränström

Candidate for International Vice President

Zonta member for 26 years, Zonta Club of Sundsvall, District 21

Head of a Department at the Agency for Digital Government since 2018 until September 2022

International Director 2022-2024; 2020-2022 Governor; 2019-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 2014-2016 Area Director; 2012-2014 Vice Area Director; 2016-2019 District Foundation Ambassador

Main Zonta achievements

Supported, participated and was part of finalizing the Strategic Plan for ZI. Participate actively in the board work, have a good relation as a Board liaison to my districts. Visited three Inter District Meetings, CSW and made a lot of connections. Was in the SOM and chartered an e-club in the district. Made Zonta visible, supporting the clubs with press releases used by the clubs locally, held a competition for teenagers (together with a national magazine) on how to stop Early Child Marriages. Participate in Area Meetings in the District informing about Zonta International. Supported the Clubs with digital solutions, Zoom accounts and education during the pandemic and continued to support virtual meetings and conferences. Held the first Virtual DM successfully in 2020. Have achieved recognitions for the D21 from Foundation and as DFA contributed to being in top three Districts for my biennas.

Business or professional experience and skills

Used to be working with leadership, both in Public Agencies and different public and private boards. Previous leading large organizations, as Director General and Head of many different departments during more than 35 years. Started and developed international organizations. Leading different international and global organizations. Have been and I'm responsible for budget, finances, results, and risk management. Have a Master in Law, education in Board Work, Leadership Education etc. Have been responsible for developing digitalization for the public of Sweden. Work with risk and change management. Responsible for recruiting staff. Have worked with the UN, EU and the World Bank etc.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

ZI should be a visible international organisation for building a better world for women and girls. ZI should continue the international projects to make sure to have good relations with members, sponsors and co-operators like the UN and the European Council. ZI needs to attract new members and clubs. We need more funding for the administration, to be able to hire more staff for corporate funding, communication, and information, to make sure Zonta stays relevant and can attract new members. Working with advocacy, even more regional and encouraging the members and clubs to act. Encourage Inter District Meetings and unions/caucuses for working together. We should be continuing implementation of the long-term Strategic Plan, make sure that the HQ provides the tactics and key numbers and the Board needs to decide how to follow up the progress of the plan. Continuing working on simplification of rules and Bylaws. Customize information and communication to different parts of the world. Continue the development of virtual meetings and digital solutions. Continue to have good relations with the governors, DFA: s and committees, supporting with relevant information and material, making sure we consider the differences in different parts of the world.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

Zonta Foundation needs to have a long-term strategy, to make sure ZI can fulfil its obligations. I have been responsible for public authorities with the same challenges, with long-term strategies and responsibilities for staff and goals, reporting systems and follow-up processes from the government. I know the importance of following all rules and regulations and being of good standard. I've been responsible for both national and international organizations and know that there are different systems. I've been working with the UN, EU, the World Bank, and many others and know the importance of having very good relations with organizations you cooperate with. I like working together very much with others. I have experience from organizations totally

dependent on gifts and funding from others. I have been working on corporate sponsorship and dialogues with donors and sponsors, also responsible for the contracts. I want ZI to start working professionally on corporate sponsorship. I have worked a lot with the importance of updated, frequent, and reliable information and communication. It should be interesting, and easy to understand. I am also a member in other organizations working with funding projects etc. I have organized fundraising events and been a DFA.



Renée Coppock

Candidate for International Vice President

Zonta member for 28 years, Zonta Club of Billings, District 12

Senior Partner, Crowley Fleck PLLP

2022-2024 International Director; 2020-2022 International Bylaws Task Force member; 2018-2020 International Bylaws Committee chair; 2012-2014 International Bylaws Committee member; 2012-2014 International Bylaws Task Force chair; 2016-2018 Governor; 2014-2016 Lieutenant Governor; 2012-2014 Area Director; 2018-2020 District Nominating Committee member; 2022-2024 District Internal Communications Committee chair; 2018-2022 District UN Committee chair; 2010-2012 District Parliamentarian; 2010-2012 District Bylaws Committee chair; 2008-2010 District Nominating Committee member

Main Zonta achievements

Worked with ZI EC on finalizing ED selection and contract. Assisted in completing ZI Strategic Plan to guide ZI's future. Attended all Inter-District meetings, gaining cultural knowledge; learned important issues for Zontians across globe. Liaison to 4 governors, meeting at least monthly; assisted planning district conferences. Attended 14 NGO-CSW meetings; presented/moderated sessions relating to issues relevant to ZI. Agreed Conclusion comments submitted were accepted multiple years. Worked with ZIB to implement online bylaws comments and voting for canceled 2020 Convention. Presented/co-presented MMIW and Climate Change webinars at all Zonta levels. Co-organized US Women's Caucus; involved Zonta. Maintain social media highlighting Zonta. BRC Chair: worked with ZIB to reach resolutions regarding sensitive issues. Planned/implemented week of advocacy - Red Sands Project (human trafficking) and #HearMeTooMontana ConverZations. Publicity highlighted Zonta's mission, reaching over 10,000 people. Reviewed/revised D12 bylaws. Planned D12 Conference-4 international speakers. Instituted D12 campaign for 16 Days of Activism.

Business or professional experience and skills

Legal background enables full understanding of governing documents and role on executive committee. -- Developed conflict resolution skills. --Litigation sharpened strategic thinking skills; taught me to ask appropriate questions and challenge questionable answers. --Long term planning skills. --Position on diversity committee has broadened knowledge of issues impacting minorities and women in the work place. --Assisting international clients has allowed me to think across cultural boundaries. --Involvement in committees and mentoring has resulted in good time management and people skills. --Work involves extensive use of electronic communications. --Legal work demands adherence to high ethical standards and fiduciary responsibilities. --Developed persuasive writing skills.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

With a record of leadership within the Zonta community, I have been privileged to work on critical issues and contribute to meaningful change. However, the challenges Zonta faces are undeniable: declining membership and donations. As we navigate the future, my vision is clear: embrace our dynamic strategic plan, maintain focus, and forge powerful alliances with like-minded organizations/corporations. To build a better world for women and girls, we must listen to and educate our members, ensuring that they remain passionate--impassioned people join and remain in organizations. They donate. Increasing awareness about international projects can be accomplished through strategic social media campaigns "advertising" Zonta's ability to reach the most vulnerable populations with efficiency and effectiveness by partnering with other global organizations. Zonta should consult with a PR firm to increase global visibility, re-enforcing Zonta's relevance and confirming members are truly building a better world, thereby strengthening membership. It will also be a tool to attract corporate donations/sponsorships, putting less emphasis on membership donations. It's critical that knowledgeable members are speaking/present at key events at the UN, CoE, CSW, NGO-CSW and women's forums. Zonta must be visible on the world stage. Without visibility, we risk obscurity. We cannot take that risk.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

The Foundation's purpose is to carry out the charitable objectives of ZI in a manner that does not jeopardize the Foundation's 501(c)(3) status. As a Director for the Foundation, I gained valuable knowledge about the Foundation's structure and inter-relationship with ZI, as well as the Foundation's finances. My marketing and legal backgrounds give me insight on how to legally and visibly promote the Foundation and its relationship with ZI's service/advocacy projects. Given my years of attending CSW and NGO-CSW meetings, as well as my time being a liaison to the UN Committee, I know the importance and prominence of the Foundation's relationship with the UN and the Council of Europe. With this knowledge, I can speak credibly about the significance of the Foundation continuing relationships with these entities and like-minded global organizations. As an attorney, I have assisted businesses with formulating long-term goals and strategic plans, while adhering to high ethical standards. These same skills would be utilized to continue to guide the Foundation in accordance with the strategic plan. I understand what is necessary to maintain the Foundation's 501(c)(3) status and would use my legal background to make informed, thoughtful decisions, ask questions and challenge questionable answers.



Sandra Venn-Brown

Candidate for International Vice President

Zonta member for 23 years, Zonta Club of Stanthorpe, District 22

Director - Human Resources, Department of Justice and Attorney-General (retired)

2022-2024 International Director; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2014-2016 Area Director; 2020-2022 District Nominating Committee chair; 2012-2016 District Amelia Earhart Fellowship chair; 2020-2022 District Young Women in Public Affairs Award Committee member

Main Zonta achievements

As International Director I liaise with four Governors from districts in the USA and South Korea, to inspire membership growth, Zonta spirit and improved governance. One district in particular experienced great hardship this biennium. I attended monthly board meetings, held regular Zoom meetings with the Acting Governor and provide moral support and guidance. I also liaise with the newly formed Greater Diversity Working group. Through my guidance we conducted a successful international webinar and three presentations at inter-continental meetings. My passion is membership growth. As Governor I oversaw the chartering of two new clubs with no disbandment.

Business or professional experience and skills

Professionally I have held many varied roles but predominantly in senior management. The following skills are most essential to the role of Vice President including team building; open and regular communication; decisiveness; collaborative decision making; conflict management and resolution; change management, project management and strategic planning. - No-one can achieve without support from others; no team member is less important than another and all team members' opinions are important and valued. Swift resolution of any conflict is vital to a healthy organization.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

Resolution Number 2 and the subsequent Strategic Plan 2030, shows us Zonta International is facing many challenges. Two challenges which require immediate attention are membership growth and financial security. I propose the following ways to help in these areas: improved visibility - expand on the Greater Visibility team's work to encourage clubs and members to engage more broadly with their communities through actively recruiting local champions, partnerships and sponsorships. With increased visibility comes membership. We need to redefine "membership" for the next generation. One size does not always fit all. To spread our name and mission we must establish unique pathways to membership. I would encourage districts to implement a "supporting members" membership drive. I would also encourage clubs and individuals to take tangible and visible action to achieve gender equity and eradicate gender based violence. Members join for our goals, and local activities are essential to increasing visibility and membership. I would seek to identify significant and unique organisations with which to partner financially and practically. I would work with the Young Talents Team to develop a think-tank of young members to explore membership options. We must implement the Strategic Plan to ensure consistency of approach, help Zonta International move towards international recognition, and guarantee a sustainable future.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

I believe Zonta's mission of gender equity can only be achieved with robust and competent financial management. In my 20 plus years of Zonta experience, working with district Foundation Ambassadors is a key to encouraging financial contributions from our members. As Governor I worked with our ambassador to highlight the Foundation's achievements. I ensured the Foundation received a platform at area meetings and district conference. We encouraged lasting connections with local award winners, and helped clubs identify

new ways to raise funds including seeking perpetual grants and/or sponsorships, fostering local benefactors and in-kind support. Unfortunately, with declining membership also comes declining avenues for revenue raising. I have always believed in the importance of seeking funds from external sources – not just grants and sponsorships but ongoing financial relationships with like-minded organisations. We must give serious consideration to paying for services which are currently being provided by members. Marketing and public relations expertise can often be better sourced professionally – helping us to expand the reach of our mission and message and lead to greater financial security.



Souella Cumming, ONZM (Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit)

Candidate for International Treasurer/Secretary

Zonta member for 17 years, Zonta Club of Wellington, District 16

Partner, KPMG New Zealand (retired 31 December 2023)

2022-2024 International Treasurer/Secretary; 2020-2022 International Director; 2012-2014 International Finance Committee chair; 2010-2012 International Finance Committee member; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2012-2016 District Treasurer; 2010-2012 District Parliamentarian

Main Zonta achievements

In my current role as Treasurer / Secretary of Zonta International/Zonta Foundation for Women I have worked with the President, Board, Executive Committee, various International Committees, Executive Director and Headquarters to ensure strong financial stewardship. During 2022/2023 I led the Resolution 2 Fundraising and Strategy Workstreams, and contributed to the development of the 2030 Strategic Plan to ensure Zonta is well positioned to address the challenges, and embrace the opportunities, facing women and girls. The current global economic and investment environment is challenging, and impacts our members, our fundraising, and our programs. In my role as Treasurer I have ensured that our financial risks are identified and managed through effective financial oversight by the Board. I also bring hands on experience at Club and District levels. This enables me to ensure Zonta is well positioned to embark on delivering the Goals and Strategies set out in the 2030 Strategic Plan.

Business or professional experience and skills

-Retired as a partner with KPMG New Zealand after 42 years on 31 December 2023, global professional services firm - Qualified financial accountant (Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand) - Financial management - long term financial planning and stewardship - Budget management/monitoring - Commercial/business acumen - Financial risk strategy and management - Fraud, integrity and ethics - Audit and assurance experience - Investment management - Risk management: cyber/technology; privacy; sustainability - Member of a number of Finance, Risk and Audit Committees - Governance experience on a range of boards - Organization strategy - Program/project governance - People/customer management - Technology skills - Communication, both oral and written

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

With the launch of the 2030 Strategic Plan I see a wide range of opportunities to retain what Zonta does well, optimize our governance and organizational arrangements, and embark on new initiatives to increase our credibility and visibility. I fully support Zonta International's focus on education equality, climate justice, ending violence against women and supporting women in leadership and decision-making roles. With my strong financial background, and governance and leadership experience I will work closely with the President, Board, the headquarters team, and other key stakeholders to ensure our financial risks are identified, assessed and appropriately managed. I will ensure that the financial implications of any new initiatives/projects are fully assessed and monitored appropriately. I will work collaboratively and contribute to the long term sustainability of Zonta International. Key areas of focus include development of the budget, regular update of the 10-year financial forecast, working with the finance team and auditors, reviewing financial statements and reporting to the Board and members on the financial health of Zonta International.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

As the primary source of funds for Zonta's educational and global programs the financial sustainability of the Zonta Foundation for Women is critical. My experience at a governance level on a number of Foundations and my financial/investment knowledge provide me with the expertise to contribute to the effective governance of

the Foundation during a time when global markets and the economic environment continue to be volatile. During 2022/23 I led the Resolution 2 Fundraising Workstream which has identified a number of areas where the Foundation can diversify and grow contributions beyond our existing members. Exploring alternative sources of contributions is critical. The 2030 Strategic Plan recognizes the importance of a strong Foundation and there is an opportunity to be ambitious in setting our long term fundraising goals for the Foundation. My experience can help to ensure that we understand the risks and opportunities to grow the contributions and endowments made to the Foundation and maintain strong financial stewardship over the invested funds to enable us to build a better world for women and girls.



Margaret Akofio-Sowah

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 27 years, Zonta Club of Accra II, District 18

Chief Manager/Area Manager, GCB Bank PLC

2014-2016 Area Director; 2016-2018 District Treasurer; 2020-2022 District Nominating Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

Being the Chair, District Nominating Committee, I was able to get eligible Zontians elected to serve on the District Board for 2022-2024

Business or professional experience and skills

My professional experience will enhance the following 1 human relationship management 2 corporate business management 3 leadership skills 4 risk management 5 investment management 6 talent identification and human resource recruitment

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

ZONTA International is an organization which believes in making the world a better place for all, by empowering women and girls through collaboration with likeminded professionals all over the world. I believe in the Zonta goals and these can be achieved by globally investing in girl child education . This is because when girls education is tackled, more girls will have education which will in turn produce more skilled and independent girls, women and mothers. Educating girls will also increase their self development and empower them to have better choices and make informed decisions which will benefit themselves, their families and the community at large.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

My involvement in fundraising, volunteerism and philanthropy all my life, and especially in my 27 years in Zonta activities, will help me fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for women. My involvement at the club and District levels will help promote the Foundation's development programs for women and I will encourage Zontians in my country and other countries in the District 18 to get involved and participate in them. I will also encourage Zontians to collaborate with UN Agencies in Ghana to help implement the Service projects of which Zonta Foundation is passionate about. This involvement will also give visibility to the foundation's programs in the country.



Ofelia “Lia” Bautista

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 20 years, Zonta Club of Greater Rizal I, District 17

Managing Director, Twins Realty and Properties Corporation

2022-2024 Governor; 2020-2022 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2020 District Treasurer; 2014-2016 Area Director; 2010-2012 Area Director; 2008-2010 Vice Area Director; 2012-2014 Z and Golden Z Club Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

Throughout my journey in Zonta, I came to understand the responsibilities of a member, of the Club President and each Club Officer, and of the Area Director and the District Board. I can relate with Zontians, at every level of their participation and engagement. Engagement among members has always been my goal since the time I was a Club President. At every level of office that I held thereafter, I always initiated a system improvement to achieve this. This biennium, we initiated the ZReport, an automated reporting system which is simple and easy to use for the report maker and the end users. This significantly eased the burden of doing reports. The Club Presidents are well-guided on ZI and District Goals through the key performance indicators, they are guided on the projects that they need to accomplish, and they are able to focus more on managing their Clubs.

Business or professional experience and skills

The following are work skills learned that I can use in Zonta: Communication – I can communicate well from top to bottom. Knowledge of Business – I understand the mission and vision of the company. And I understand the business environment. Teamwork – I understand the value of working together. Adaptability – I can adjust our system to adapt to the needs of the time. Positivity – We can overcome challenges and literally keep our company on the positive. Leadership – I understand the different levels of positions of the organization and work well, specially, with key point persons.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

A better world for women... is a better world. We can achieve this at the Club and District Level by focusing on: Membership – let us strengthen our brand so we can attract new members. Let our good work leave an indelible mark among our beneficiaries/stakeholders; Advocacy – creating awareness and increasing knowledge. Once understood, we can carry out projects that would support and promote our causes. Let us educate members more on Zonta Says Now; Governance – let us guide our clubs on proper administration and management. The District Board should oversee proper implementation of By-Laws and Rules of Procedure; Involvement – let us re-educate our members on the responsibilities of being a Zontian, especially regarding voluntary donation to Zonta Foundation for Women; and, Service – translating awareness and knowledge into action – let us help or do more work to empower women. “MAGIS” is a Latin word that means “more” in English. A well-known proverb says... “If you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate a nation.” On the same token, when we do more for women, we create a better world for all.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

Having been a Vice Area Director, twice Area Director, twice District Treasurer, a Lt. Governor and now as a District Governor, I carry in my heart and mind a wealth of knowledge and experience. I always believed that we could empower women by empowering ourselves first with these 3 E’s: Educate, Enable, Engage . We can apply the same principle to achieve the goals of the Foundation. Educate . Knowledge about Zonta is paramount to achieving our goals. Enable . Proper knowledge gives the Area Directors, Foundation Ambassadors, and Club Presidents the tools to enable them to carry out our goals. Engage . And with proper knowledge, we can appreciate being a Zontian more. It will be easier for our Area Directors, Foundation

Ambassadors and Club Presidents to engage members to actively participate in raising funds for the Foundation. With my experience as District Treasurer, I can teach the Clubs to put extra care and detail in everything, especially those relating to Zonta Foundation for Women. Lastly, having served the District Board for 6 terms, I have what you may call an institutional memory. And I may be able to questions from the members and the Board.



Ivana Sarotto Benotto

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 16 years, Zonta Club of ALBA LANGHE ROERO, District 30 manager, Candiolo Cancer Institute IRCCS

2022-2024 Governor; 2020-2022 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 Area Director; 2014-2016 Vice Area Director; 2020-2022 District Membership Committee chair; 2018-2020 District Advocacy Committee chair; 2014-2016 District Advocacy Committee member; 2012-2014 District Membership Committee member

Main Zonta achievements

I have always strived to work towards building bridges between people, generations, and cultures, with the aim of fostering mutual understanding and new opportunities, aligned with our new strategic plan to enhance our credibility and visibility. I have focused on fostering cooperation and forging new alliances, finding supporters and sponsors along the way. These efforts have brought forth fresh energies dedicated to creating a better world for women and girls. For the District Conference I engaged citizens, associations, and institutions, reaching out to the Prime Minister of the Italian government and even attracting the interest of members of the European Parliament. Zonta brand was prominently displayed everywhere, and the media gave voice to our initiative. I motivated and added value to the attending members, and also the clubs in formation. I addressed, crucial issues, including the fight against climate change, women in territories of war, and the battle for rights.

Business or professional experience and skills

Medicine and scientific research have broadened my mind and led me to explore the world, and the thoughts of others, to network, and to build teams. I embrace challenges and constantly seek solutions. I am flexible in considering the opinions of others. I fight battles as part of a team towards a common goal. I possess skills in technology, planning, and organization. I cherish and defend life and freedom. I dream about a world without disease and poverty. I work with students, and my lessons are always motivational, encouraging them not to settle, to treasure diversity, and to courageously face life's challenges.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

The strategic plan will play a pivotal role in helping us achieve our goals. One of our foremost objectives is to bolster our membership, with more active and thriving clubs. The growth of our membership will only materialize if Zonta elevates its credibility and visibility. We must become a recognizable voice that instills trust and creates changes. It is imperative that we shed any fear of taking bold initiatives. To make a genuine impact, we must put in diligent effort to share and embrace change. Our members should be not just engaged but also motivated, enthusiastic, and satisfied. Happy and inspired members will naturally share their experiences with their friends, family, and acquaintances, which can significantly enhance our membership. Another critical facet of our strategy is strengthening our financial resources and operational capabilities. This includes fostering partnerships with major donors such as banks and foundations, among others. By doing so, we can secure the necessary resources to fuel our International projects and activities. Moreover, we must actively seek global partnerships to explore new and advantageous opportunities for projects' development and the effective execution of our actions. These partnerships can open doors to greater impact and effectiveness on a global scale.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

The Foundation must be supported with increased resources. Its support should become a top priority for the clubs; they ought to come together in unity to support the Foundation, and to share its objectives and purposes. It is crucial to share project results, including interim ones, with our members so that they become more active, engaged and, as a result, enthusiastic. The world is in great need of Zonta International's

initiatives. It's imperative that we focus on a sustainable number of projects and establish a solid Foundation for them to outlast our initial involvement, and to become an integral part of each country's ongoing development. The importance of Zonta's projects must be known; they have the potential to bring about meaningful, lasting change in the communities we serve. To make a real impact, we must also work on improving our communication efforts by using all communication channels, making our projects more visible not only within our organization but also to the broader public. By doing so, we can raise awareness and attract additional support, ensuring that our initiatives continue to make a positive difference in the world.



Barbara Crabtree

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 18 years, Zonta Club of Dallas, District 10

Vice President Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley

2020-2024 International Investment Committee chair; 2018-2020 International Investment Committee member; 2018-2022 District Treasurer; 2016-2018 Area Director

Main Zonta achievements

Leadership roles in Club, District and International have taught me more about ZI programs and initiatives, which in turn I have used to educate members in my club and district. My goal is to make sure members of D10 understand the scholarships and international service projects we support, as well as our advocacy efforts. As chair of the investment committee, I have had direct impact on the management and performance of ZI and ZIFW funds. In my first few months as chair, we began a review of our investment policies and then completed a search to replace investment manager. I recognize the fiduciary responsibility to preserve and grow the funds that support our scholarships and service projects. Outcome was better communication and performance. In 2022, I visited Peru to observe Adolescent Health project, which further inspired me to encourage others to support for ZIFW and international service projects.

Business or professional experience and skills

Leadership, People skills, Fiscal responsibility, Diversity and Inclusion, Long term planning, Goal setting, Delegation, and Team work are all attributes I have that will guide me as a successful International Director and Board Member

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

Membership is the key to long-term success in advancing the objects of Zonta. So my goal is to increase membership globally above previous record levels. I believe that starts at the club level. As members we need to be always sharing the mission and vision of Zonta in an effort to recruit and retain new members while nurturing our existing members. At each meeting we need to discuss the work of ZI, our District and our club to emphasize how we help in the effort to build a better world for women and girls. It is important that we encourage club members to participate in Area, District and International meetings, whether that is virtual or in person. Members should be reminded to visit the ZI website weekly to review new content and access the tools available. This activity should inspire us to be better Zontians and drive us to encourage others to join us.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

My experience as a financial advisor has taught me the importance of long-term financial planning. Because of this, I committed early on to make annual donations to Zonta Foundation for Women and the Endowment and to support fundraisers at meetings where the proceeds go to our scholarships and service projects. As Chair of the Investment Committee for ZIFW and ZI it is my responsibility to ensure our foundation is preserved and grows. I take every opportunity to ask club members to contribute to ZIFW and the Endowment if they want to see our scholarships and international service projects continue. I was blessed to be included in a visit to Peru in 2022 where I was able to see firsthand how the dollars donated to ZIFW make a difference in the lives of women and girls through our Adolescent Health Project. As a leader in my club and my district I encourage each club to give 1/3 of its earnings to the foundation. You will not find a stronger advocate for Zonta Foundation for Women



Christine Dersch

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 19 years, Zonta Club of Marburg, District 28

Legal Counsel, authorized representative subsidiary, Stadtwerke Marburg GmbH

2022-2024 Governor; 2020-2022 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 Area Director

Main Zonta achievements

Personal commitment together with a great community for what is important to me/us for the rights of women and girls-that is what moves me to get involved with Zonta. Fast I took responsibility. Meanwhile I was club president for 5 years. As vice AD and AD of the very large Area 02, I got to know the national Zonta world. During my tenure, an alumnae seminar was held with the topic "Great Women meet great Girls". Awardees and Zontians from Germany, Switzerland and Italy met, exchanged ideas, and shared experiences. As a result of this contact, the first Golden Z Club was founded in the area. As Lt. Governor and District Governor, I faced the challenges of the Covid pandemic. As a team, we have managed to keep the membership almost constant and keep the members tuned in to the digital world. All Zonta clubs have arrived digitally.

Business or professional experience and skills

- Legal Education and Years of work in a responsible position in a business company have taught me to become an efficient team player - Quick thinking - Discuss problems and decide afterwards - Make decisions and include cultural differences between different employees - Mediation in case of differences in the staff

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

The goals of Zonta International - to create a better world for girls and women - are unfortunately more relevant than ever. The current world situation and the effects of climate change hit our target group particularly hard. This is where we must continue to act: Only with a loud, clear, and united voice we can make ourselves known worldwide. We need to increase our own visibility even further - people need to know that we exist and what we want to achieve. This visibility will bring us new committed members. We definitely need to involve the Awardees more. Every year hundreds of young women worldwide take part in our scholarships and awards, we have to make better use of this, e.g., through regular awardee meetings in the areas and districts.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

We need to think bigger and increase opportunities to work with sponsors, especially at the local level. In my own club, I have established contacts with commercial enterprises and banks that act as sponsors. Larger events at area and district level also need to be promoted through such sponsors. We cannot achieve our goals and meet our international obligations solely through the membership fees we pay.



Errick Elavia

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 15 years, Zonta Club of Bombay I, District 25

School Principal, Lady Engineer High School and Academician

2022-2024 International Greater Diversity Working Group chair; 2020-2024 Zonta Says Now Committee member; 2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 Vice Area Director; 2022-2024 District Nominating Committee chair; 2022-2024 District Greater Diversity Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

As DG of District 25 organized PPT Competition on Climate Change for Zonta Clubs of District 25 to make members think about Climate Change challenges and what should be done to take care of environment & Energy. Gave PPT presentation on Climate Change at Hamburg Convention 2022. In Biennium 2022-2024 as ZI Representative for District 25 for 'Zonta Says Now' sponsored Activism of ZC Bombay III. As ZI Diversity Committee Chairman gave PPT presentation at 2nd Asian Inter District Meet 2023 in Taiwan. At District 25 Area 2 Meeting in Bangladesh gave PPT presentation on Greater Diversity. As District 25 Nominating Committee Chairman issued circular inviting Nominations for District Board & Nominating Committee to place before District 25 Conference Kathmandu October 2023. Motivated like minded men to join Zonta Club. As first male Governor in Zonta history has made me more committed to lead with vision, motivation and appreciation.

Business or professional experience and skills

As Principal of a Co-ed School my role has been a judicious organizer and motivator. Had to be a leader with understanding problems and aspirations of Staff & Students. Working with the School Management and Government Authorities have developed management & presentation skills to get even innovative propositions accepted. Encouraged Golden Z and Z Clubs in my school to promote leadership qualities and community service in accordance with Zonta vision. Motivated the students for their educational challenges and encouraged them to participate at the school and national level competitions. A good listener and respects everyone's ideas and believes in harmony.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

'To build better world for Women & Girls' the urgency is to explain to men, boys and communities, why it is needed. It is not only for their development, but HER development, is the development of community. She is also a human being and has equal right to be respected, loved and given equal opportunities to be self-reliant with flowering her potentials. To motivate men/boys as Father, Brother, and Husband to respect women/girls in their lives. In Co-Ed School I have tried to inculcate that ethical value. I have motivated men to join Zonta so that they spread Zonta Spirit within their circle and work hand in hand with women to give Better World to Women & Girls. I feel that men working at Grass Root to promote Gender Equality and to give equal opportunities to girls should be recognized by Zonta. There is a need to study cultural, traditional & religious thinking and to clarify wrong conceptions with gently putting across moral reasoning. Why men inflict violence on women? It needs psychological and biological studies and to think of ways to channelize their energy and thinking for ethical and caring life.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

As the Principal of a Co-Ed School having students from marginalized communities, shall appreciate Zonta's Educational projects in Developing Countries. Understanding & managing the safety and health needs of adolescent school girls will help me in my role for Zonta Foundation. To raise funds for Zonta Foundation I have motivated Foundation Ambassadors of my District 25 to organize Fund Raising Programs. Child marriages are still prevalent in India. To lessen the burden of one mouth to feed and be free of the safety of

daughters. Campaigning against Child Marriage will be a guide to me for my responsibilities as Director of ZIF for Women and Girls for Service Projects and International Scholarships.



Unna Huh

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 11 years, Zonta Club of Seoul III Club, District 32

Associate Head for External Affairs and Development, Chadwick International(CI)

2022-2024 Governor; 2020-2022 Lieutenant Governor; 2018-2020 Area Director; 2016-2018 District Z and Golden Z Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

1. Create Z and Golden Z Club and led them to support service activities to advocate the message of “stop violence against girls” on the Seoul central street. Z club visited chair of Women Committee of Korean National Assembly and made a petition for the ‘Adolescent girls’ right’. 2. Create a new club of Seoul VIII. They are young professors and the leader has served the community in Honduras many years. She visited last summer with Z club student (on-line) and other Zontians and provided leadership training. 3. Hold first nationwide “Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women and Girls” walkathon including all 3 areas in 5 cities with orange T-shirts 4. Create first DEI committee and appoint first committee chair 5. Try to refocus on service activities to fit with Zonta vision from the general services activities 6. Lead both district/area workshops regarding (home) violence against women & girls

Business or professional experience and skills

1. Leadership and big-picture perspective: As one of the top school leader, I review diverse aspects of school affairs with directors and try to share the goals and build organization strategy to solve any challenges. 2. Diversity and inclusion: Being in an International School working with multi-disciplinary team, I’m facing issues dealing with different perspectives and culture and learned to work collaboratively and peacefully with people with diverse background. 3. Financial skill: As a former congresswoman who had to review budgets and dealing with financial issues, I have a general understanding of account, which I apply in our school budget.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

1. Goal: Support International Service program How: As my career shows, my life was full of pioneering a new path for my life. Returning to Korea after receiving Ph. D and had few years of experience in the U.S. I created ‘Educational technology’ department in Hanyang University and led the informatization of Korea as National Education Reform Committee member and President Kim Dae Joong’ Science/Technology advisor which led me to become a Congresswoman. As an inaugurator chairman of the IPAIT (Inter Parliamentary Association for IT). I picked the issue of digital divide between rich and poor countries and supported African & Costa Rican congressmen through Bill Gates. I visited Timor-Leste with doctors and businessmen, meeting president Gusmao and supported their war-widows and the children. As the Information and Communication University president, I’ve been widely traveling to countries like UAE, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Uganda to support their education system and informatization. Through these experiences, I cultivate the appreciation of their culture and the need for global cooperation. With these backgrounds, I will try to find ways to support Zonta ISP by traveling to the places in need and seek for better ways to help them.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

I’ve been responsible for the advancement of the Chadwick International(CI) school. Since CI was a new school, I had to build the system of “the Philanthropy Culture” starting from the scratch within the school community. I used “Start small and quiet” strategy, since the ‘giving’ in Korean school is seen illegal in school environment since it is often considered bribery. I started with parents who are exposed of western universities/private school system where “voluntary donation” is open and accepted. I could persuade 5-6 families explaining the need to build endowment first year and this group it grows into 60+ families now. Then I

decided to move to the next step “open and voluntary” strategy and established “CI development committee” composed of the parents who are open and willing to work voluntary giving activities. As the first of such event, we held a golf event, which was very successful that all participants enjoyed the event, gave generously and they brought other parents. We look forward to next year’s event. These fundraising experiences could be helpful to the Zonta Foundation for women work. We are raising a pretty good sum of fund now by making pledges for our Oct 14 District Conference.



Phillippa Jacobs-Lory

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 16 years, Zonta Club of Christchurch-Canterbury, District 16

Founder/CEO, Pinnacle&Co. Limited

2018-2020 International Z and Golden Z Club Committee member; 2022-2024 Governor; 2020-2022 Lieutenant Governor; 2018-2020 Area Director; 2014-2016 District Z and Golden Z Club Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

One of my most significant achievements within Zonta was leading a team to organise a highly successful District 16 Conference. My leadership, commercial and promotional skills, along with my theme #alwaysbettertogether, played a pivotal role in the conference's impressive 30% turnout. I drew upon others and my strengths, mine being my experience as a business owner focused on visual branding and marketing that added excitement, involvement, and energy, sending a clear message that strengthened our impact. I have the ability to inspire and unite individuals toward our common goal, igniting their enthusiasm, and encouraging active participation all linked to Zonta's mission and purpose. It was not just the conference itself, but also a lasting impression by reenergising our members and winning their hearts. My experience with this successful conference reinforces my dedication to Zonta's mission and my determination to continue making a meaningful difference locally, nationally, and internationally.

Business or professional experience and skills

Leadership Expertise - My extensive experience in Zonta and business roles has refined my highly effective leadership abilities, equipping me to guide and inspire teams toward success. Drive - My track record reflects my constant commitment and determination in pursuing ambitious goals and overcoming challenges. Innovative Thinking - My proven creativity will deliver fresh perspectives and innovative solutions. Kindness and Empathy - I am dedicated to providing a supportive and compassionate environment, ensuring that all members feel valued and supported. Innovation - With my dedication I'll tirelessly ensure every member's voice is heard and valued.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

My focus lies in bringing Z Clubs, Golden Z Clubs members to full-fledged Zonta membership. While these youth share our common goal of improving the world, the transition often poses difficulties. One idea I propose is to include them as members, even with a symbolic small fee like \$1. This would prevent them from falling through the cracks and foster a sense of belonging and maintain their connection to our mission. They would then also stay connected with our updates. Currently, we risk losing touch with these young individuals, but this approach could encourage smoother transitions, strengthening our organisation's mission and impact. We need to initiate surveys and discussions with Z and Golden Z Clubs. By pursuing this idea, we can secure the organisation's future, remain relevant and enhance the collective journey towards a better world, benefitting both those we aid and our members. With around 16+ years of dedicated service to Zonta International, including international committee involvement, I recognise the potential for innovative solutions amidst our challenges.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

With a 25-year track record in managing my advertising and marketing company, I bring vital expertise in organisational management, a focus on visibility and financials to this role. In my advertising business, I've led over 300 Social Media Seminars, driving sales for clients and charitable organisations alike. I understand the intricacies of promotions and the power of crafting a compelling message to mobilise support for our mission and increasing membership and donations. My leadership experiences in business, Scouting, and Zonta have

honed my skills in understanding how organisations operate and motivating others to contribute to our cause. I've effectively communicated our identity and objectives, amplifying Zonta's voice and fostering its growth. With a successful business under my belt, I also know how to get the brand out there for clients to succeed which skills transfer into charities too. I understand the need for advertising and promotions, and I firmly believe that forming partnerships between Zonta and other influential companies is the next logical step to boost our global visibility and secure increased financial support. This will ensure our organisation's continued success in achieving its goals.



Maria Jongbloed

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 31 years, Zonta Club of Utrecht, District 29

Vice-President Nederlandse Vrouwen Raad (NVR) (Association of Women's Organisations), Dutch Women Council

2014-2016 Governor; 2012-2014 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 District Nominating Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

For the past 6 years, I have represented Zonta as a board member of the Dutch Women's Council and have therefore been able to make Zonta NL participate in important projects of the emancipation and diversity department of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. This made Zonta much more visible and improved our advocacy at a national level.

Business or professional experience and skills

The following aspects of my work in NVR are of particular relevance to work on the ZI board: Developing and implementing (together with others) a new structure for a large (c.100,000 members) women's organization towards a more sustainable future. Leading the implementation of 3 long-term projects for the Ministry of Education to improve the position of women with regard to: financial independence, better division of care tasks in the family, their participation and role in politics by addressing barriers, participation among politicians, and general public. Long-term experience speaking (in multiple languages) to large groups at (inter)national conferences.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

I want to use all my experiences on local, national en international level: Advocacy: I support policies and initiatives that promote women's rights and gender equity/equality and I support and develop programs to increase inclusivity and diversity in workplace and community. Supporting Zonta's programs and projects that focus on education, healthcare, and economic empowerment for women and girls. Developing and supporting initiatives for young women and girls to help them build confidence, leadership skills, and achieve their goals. Encouraging them to pursue education and careers in male-dominated fields. Raising awareness about and act against gender-based violence. Supporting organizations and initiatives combatting violence against women. I was engaged in the work of several Dutch universities and stay informed about women's issues through research and data. I am experienced in using facts and evidence to advocate for change, to make Zonta a sustainable organization in the future, I like to use my experiences and skills in change management for the implementation of the so powerful ZI strategic plan.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

For a sustainable future for Zonta Foundation is it very important to: Encourage Zontians individually and collectively to be active in fundraising. Use programs for clubs/areas and districts to improve their fundraising activities that are culturally sensitive and therefore more effective in the local and national situation. Encourage also the General Public to donate, to support Zonta's programs and projects by local and national PR campaigns. Find appropriate external funding sources to support in particular the educational programs. Make the procedures around Awards and Projects as efficient as possible to lower costs. As vice-chairman of the Dutch Association of Women's Organizations, I have gained experience with fundraising at local and national level. Earlier, as Club (vice) president and (vice) area director, I promoted the work of the Zonta International Foundation.



Bridget Mather

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 27 years, Zonta Club of Adelaide Inc, District 23

CEO, Coorong District Council

2016-2018 International Advocacy Committee member; 2022-2024 International Service Recognition Award Jury member; 2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 Area Director; 2016-2018 District UN Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

I have lead workshops at three International conventions, Nice, Yokohama and Hamburg as well as a multitude of events at District conferences demonstrating the ability to work with a diverse range of people. As part of the International Advocacy committee, I lead the work of Districts 16, 17, 22, 23 and 24 for their advocacy. In District 22 successfully lead the 44 clubs including laying the foundation for the now 'club in formation' in PNG and establishment of new club in Biloela. During my time as DG, there was a 15% increase in overall membership and many clubs were recognised for their positive performance in the 'Add your Voice' campaign. Since moving in 2022, to District 23 I have worked with Sandy Venn Brown, current international director on the establishment of a Zonta Australia framework that will provide a national advocacy voice in Australia to the federal governments.

Business or professional experience and skills

My executive roles are complemented by my experience in the not for profit sector including many roles of board chair and board member. These skills include the full range of leadership skills: sound leadership risk management; strategic vision and planning; ethical decision making; leading and managing in complex organisations; problem solving; team building networking and resilience. I am confident in leading community and organisational sustainability; am an effective communicator and can undertake stakeholder engagement at the highest levels of government. This is complemented by my financial acumen; community engagement; advocacy; PR and marketing; compliance and legal experience.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

My focus is on ensuring the organisation remains sustainable and relevant. Internationally, district and locally, I want Zonta to be recognised as a trusted partner in providing advocacy and support for issues and policies as they relate to the Zonta vision. My goals include a strong focus on not only the increase and retention of membership but also improved diversity of members. I want to be able to refresh the approach to what a club 'looks like' and flexibility in how they operate, recognising that to improve diversity, flexibility and adaptability are paramount in how clubs and districts operate. At the international level my goal will be to continue to interact positively with international bodies such as the UN in particular and to leverage the power of the SDG's by ensuring that members across the globe understand the intersectionality of issues as they relate to gender equity and visibility. This will be done by ensuring that a strong advocacy voice is established at all levels within the organisation.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

I am a graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors and this provides me with the theoretical knowledge of board membership. This informs and complements my practical experience of stakeholder engagement in large complex organisations and will enhance my ability to advocate and assist the Zonta Foundation for Women in achieving its goals. This experience includes strong financial and political acumen, leadership in a diverse range of settings, strong communication and positive team building. In all of my not for profit roles, a strong understanding of public relations, fund raising and financial expertise were required. I

am comfortable and experienced in all elements of a board role from public companies through to small NGO's.



Ela Pandya

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 30 years, Zonta Club of Porterville, District 9

Administrator, Freedom Medical Group

2022-2024 International Greater Diversity Working Group member; 2018-2022 International Advocacy Committee member; 2016-2018 Area Director; 2018-2020 District Nominating Committee member; 2016-2020 District UN Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

As a member of the International Advocacy Committee for four years, I worked with members from different parts of the Zonta world and became good friends with all of them. Membership in ZI Advocacy Committee offered me the position of a Co-Convener of the USA ADvocacy Caucus, a fairly new undertaking. This allowed me to work with the governors and USA Caucus representatives of the thirteen districts in the USA. I have made life-long friends and work relationships due to that. The success of the USA Advocacy Caucus resulted in the formation of the Canada Advocacy Caucus, which was entrusted to me. Currently, I am hard at work with the first-time ever Diversity Working Group which has only three members and a director advisor. It has allowed me to dig deep into the subject and find creative, positive ways to bring the subject to the members. Also a published author.

Business or professional experience and skills

Communication skills: Conflict resolution. Problem Solving. Ability to look at the larger picture, as well as going close to the problem. Ability to work cohesively with people of varied ages, and backgrounds. Ability to envision a project, plan for it, and seeing it through implementation. Ability to crystallize ideas from the feasibility angle, and resources required. Love getting things done

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

Zonta's global role can be advanced outside of relationship with UN by creating partnerships between clubs located in different geographical regions. I am a firm believer in Zontians helping each other help women and girls we don't know. Another way we can advance globally is by getting known in countries where women face too many issues, by partnering with local NGOs directly. In non-Western countries, governments provide funding to NGOs to do outreach for health and such other social empowerment projects. We can empower our clubs to partner with such NGOs and thus reach more girls and women. There are countries that have defective laws but good system of implementation and there are countries that have good laws and defective implementation. We need to research and classify the countries in these two categories and promote advocacy based on that. I do believe, Advocacy is crucial because through getting legislations passed, and implemented we will be able to see measurable progress towards gender equality. We have a long road ahead of us. We also need to strengthen our clubs from within through education and involving them in advocacy.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

I started my life in the USA with \$7. I am resourceful, creative, and was recently labeled by an Indian movie-maker as a show-runner/executive producer. If I care for something, I learn everything about it and find ways to get involved. I've had many thoughts on expanding the Foundation, and knowing what Zonta does with the funds and the how passionate the leadership is about its mission will only add fuel to the fire I have for Zonta. There is strength in number and every dollar counts. We will have to offer low-value items for members to donate towards, share more success stories. For example, one child in the slums of Mumbai can be supported for one year for \$110. That's two Starbucks coffees a month. I believe if we share our individual success stories and match them with what it cost to achieve that success, we will have members donating more. We also need

to develop corporate partnerships. My experiences and the perspectives I gained during the five CSW forums I attended will help me make better judgement



Darleen “Sharyl” Scott

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 29 years, Zonta Club of Macarthur Inc, District 24

School Principal (retired), New South Wales Government

2000-2022 International Nominating Committee; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2006-2008 Area Director; 2023 District Conference chair; 2022-2024 District Centurion; 2000-2002 District PR and Communications Committee co-chair

Main Zonta achievements

Being elected to the International Nominating Committee (2020), increased my understanding of how diverse Zonta members are in ideas and procedures, the need for teamwork skills, and a systematic organisational approach, that respects everyone’s opinions while meeting the objectives. In 2019 as D24 Governor jointly led the inter-district collaboration with Governors from D16, D22 and D23 to celebrate Zonta’s 100 th anniversary with an Australian / New Zealand Conference attended by 850 Zonta members. Outcome: many diverse voices heard about Zonta’s history, values, and achievements. 2023 D24 Conference Chair and D24 Centurion. Conference coordinated with large district Team. Outcome: a world class program from prominent academic, administrative and Zonta presenters on forced Marriage in Australia, the need for advocacy in women’s health, Zonta Says NOW, young professionals and Zonta Foundation for Women, thus creating a platform for discussion on the strategic plans and diversity of membership.

Business or professional experience and skills

I have experience in leading and managing cultural and systematic change within a large government education department, introducing strategic plans, working with professionals, community, and other government agencies. This requires good interpersonal skills and effective collaboration. crisis management situations, recognised for my diplomatic, inclusive management style and calmness under pressure. mentoring young professionals and qualified (Graduate Diploma) in management techniques that are inclusive and equitable aimed to improve outcomes for students and families, administration with skills that ensure responsible governance in managing a broad range of projects, seeing the benefits of integrity, can work effectively within a timeframe.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

I see Zonta International as an international agency that is recognised as the brand for gender equity, continuing the strong association with women’s human rights and the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals by planning for the future in an organised, methodical fashion. This will create a model whereby our policy direction is understood by our members and our world-wide partners. I would encourage Districts and Clubs to support inclusion and value diversity in membership and work towards completing Phase 1 Zonta International Strategic Plan which empowers clubs and districts to act to increase Zonta’s visibility with practical actions, well written social media advocacy campaigns utilising national and world-wide connections. I would strive to ensure that the business of Zonta at club level is flexible and adaptable recognising their different community needs if the overarching mission of Zonta is upheld. I would focus on leadership initiatives for young professionals, that will relate to Zonta’s mission, relevant to younger members, allowing more flexibility and support for maintaining membership making Zonta more professionally advantageous to them, I would advocate for international and national partnership projects to increase visibility with other like-minded organisations.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

My 20-year involvement in committee work in Australia with NGO’s committed to CEDAW has developed my

understanding of how strong partnerships support our advocacy and gender equality goals. I have led projects for migrant women to have a voice on important issues, partnering with Soroptimists, Girl Guides, Australian Muslim Women's network, Australian Medical Women Association and Salvation Army Women. I am totally committed to gender equity and SDG 5, through attending CSW, the reports on progress of international projects presented at Zonta Conventions, as well as my experience working in education, understanding the effects of social and economic disadvantage and lack of role models. My 40 years as an educator, 17 as a Leading Educator (Principal), led to my commitment to future generations through creating a vision of possibility by engaging local communities, wider civil partnerships, training staff in gender equity, multi-cultural and quality education. I understand, due to my background, the impact the ZFW has from a grassroots level. I have supported students suffering abuse, women affected by gender-based violence, families in poverty, reported suspected early marriage and slavery. I am totally committed to ensuring continuing ZFW funding to build a better world for women and girls.



Vivienne Shen

Candidate for International Director

Zonta member for 31 years, Zonta Club of Hsin-Chu, District 31

Lecturer in Law, National Defense University

2014-2018 International Bylaws and Resolutions Committee chair; 2022-2024 International Membership Regional Representative - Asia; 2008-2014 International Bylaws and Resolutions Committee member; 2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 1996-2000, 2002-2004, 2008-2014, 2016-2020, 2022-2024 District Parliamentarian; 1996-1998 District Status of Women Committee chair; 1996-1998 District Z and Golden Z Club Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

*Led the organizing team to complete AIDM 2023 with almost 700 participants in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. * Launched "Sending Love to New Immigrants" 2020-2022, including issuing relief funds to 140 immigrant families financially impacted by Covid 19, won the District Service Award at the 2022 Convention. *Urged to donate for Ukrainian refugees in Poland as relief funds, such as providing Lunch boxes periodically. Extra donations went to the Zonta clubs in Ukraine for their relief works. *Fundraising for a like-minded NGO helping Uganda's women and girls, resulting in the funds raised for 250 sewing machines in 2021. * Facilitated to create 5 new clubs and 3 Golden Zs from 2020-2022 and D31 was awarded for club creation at the 2022 Convention. * Hosted four online Forums for UNCSW 65& 66 Parallel Events on immigration and violence against women. * Led D31 to win championship Every Member Every November Campaign 2020.

Business or professional experience and skills

*Zontians are from many culturally diverse countries. ZI Board directors must create an environment that accommodates this diversity, allowing all to flourish. My 40 years of experience in the diplomatic sphere gave me an international outlook and multicultural sensitivities to contribute to this aspect. *My professional background allowed me a thorough understanding of legal concepts. Together with my logical thinking, I can advise on all ZI governing documents when serving on the ZI board. *My strong problem-solving and management skills accumulated through various leadership roles in many women's voluntary organizations are also essential for the role of a ZI director.

Goals for advancing globally the objects of Zonta International

* Bridge international friendship to increase and retain membership: encouraging Zonta clubs beyond borders to establish sisterhood relationship through mutual visits and co-responsible services. We need both vertical leadership and horizontal connections to develop a sense of belonging and strong recognition to Zonta. Through international activities by clubs, it shall be able to attract the potential members to join or create a new club. * Encourage districts or clubs to host or cohost UNCSW Parallel events on gender equality, even co-host events with other like-minded associations, to create interactions and raise Zonta visibility. Furthermore, to select women's issues to work together for empowering women and girls.. *Launch initiatives regarding service and advocacy at all Zonta levels: for instance, ZI may provide incentives from Rose Fund to the districts for supporting them to grant service awards to the female university students to empowering young women to serve in their society. The criteria need to be set up. *Build a global Z Club and Golden Z Club virtual network for fostering fellowship and co-operation for advancing Zonta objectives. At this digital age, Zonta needs young generation's new and creative inputs more than ever.

How does your experience and knowledge help fulfill the goals of the Zonta Foundation for Women?

Setting a clear and significant goal to stimulate members to achieve: During my term as Governor, I initiated an online auction in the district for Zonta Rose Day 2021 at the difficult time of the Pandemic and set the

fundraising goal of NTD 1,010,000 (USD36,000) for Zonta 101 birthday. The funds from the Auction received quickly beyond the goal and donated to ZFW. A large amount of funds was raised for Ukrainian refugees from D31 members because of very clear and meaningful cause. Creating opportunities to have fundraisers as possible: A ZFW fundraising booth was set up for selling Zonta goods at AIDM 2023. USD 10,672 was collected and donated to ZFW. At District 31 Conferences, a number of contributions in honor of the International Representative is given to the Foundation. Onsite visits to convince members: Inviting members to the places where the ZI service projects are ongoing. The more members observe the hard life of the women and girls on sight, the more members would like to help. Awareness often sparks empathy and a desire to make a positive impact. Contests are always good and efficient ways to raise funds, such as Every Member Every November Campaign.



Joyce Combs

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —North, Central and South America

Zonta member for 20 years, Zonta Club of Columbus, District 5

Human Resource Manager / Personnel Recruiter, General Motors Corporation

2016-2018 Governor, 2014-2016 Lieutenant Governor, 2010-2012 Area Director; 2022-2024 District Parliamentarian, 2018-2020 District Nominating Committee chair, 2024-2026 District Conference chair, 2020-2024 District Co-Archivist/Historian, 2012-2020 District Centennial Committee chair, 2008-2010 District Advocacy Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

2021 NAIDM Chair held in Cincinnati the first hybrid conference for nearly 200 in-person /100 virtual registrations, after COVID-19. The success was attributed to our skilled and organized team. District Nominating Chair – all offices were filled with well qualified, skilled and enthusiastic members. As Governor the key to District achievements is appointing the right chairperson. We were able to achieve the following goals: Golden Z club chartered at University of Akron, supported and mentored by ZC Akron, Barberton, Cuyahoga Falls. Having effective, impactful speakers at District Conference such as PIP Mary Ellen Bittner from D03. As Area 1 Director created an area project making birthing kits which became a staple as a District Conference project for several years. Created and directed a collaborating fundraising luncheon with the local hospital entitled ' Women's Health' in 2008. It has become a significant community event still raising funds and educating women.

Business or professional experience and skills

Many years of Human Resource and recruiting experience is exactly aligned with the International Nominating Committee's responsibilities. Ability to recruit, interview, hire and train qualified candidates. Committed to diversity. Excellent communication skills including verbal, written and interpersonal. Excellent organizational skills, including detail-oriented, team management and strong analytical problem solving. Characteristics include professional integrity and confidentiality.



Joanne Gallos

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —North, Center and South America

Zonta member for 21 years, Zonta Club of Annapolis, District 3

Climate Now District Chair, Previous VP Geophonics Software and Training, Devoting full time to Zonta. Was a manager and consultant.

2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2014-2016 Area Director; 2020-2022 District Nominating Committee chair; 2020-2024 District Climate/Equality Committee chair; 2022-2024 District Climate Think Tank member; 2016-2018 District Membership Committee chair; 2014, 2015 and 2019 District Conference Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

As District 3 Chair for Zonta Says Now to Gender Equal Climate Action, I have given many presentations on climate change and its impact on women and girls. Included are presentations to Clubs, CSW NGOs 2023, 2024, Zonta International Conventions 2022, 2024, District 3 Conferences 2021, 2023 as well as to a high school with 750 students in attendance. I included a panel of students; all were very active and accepted the challenge to act now. Most presentations are for awareness growing into immediate actions. Two clubs in my district plant a garden at the Navy/Marine Corp stadium yearly with Maryland indigenous plants. Several of the clubs show films, use compost, watch Ted Talks, created Disaster Go Bags, eat plant-based foods, ride bikes, have hybrid cars or bought electric. In addition I created the D3 Climate Think Tank, am a member of the US and International Think Tanks, and the US Caucus. She is co-chair of advocacy for her club and a member of the Maryland Legislative Action for Women.

Business or professional experience and skills

Climate presentations have linked me with more people. Leadership experience from both Zonta and computer software management continues to help me organize, see the big picture, and recognize and encourage the development of others. Communication skills are key for understanding and learning. I love people, have a record of strong interaction with others. I listen first, ask questions, encourage choices, help define, am flexible and responsible, capitalize on my mistakes, and have fun with the team.. My passion for and belief in Zonta helps me to serve women and girls less fortunate. I see change as an opportunity for growth.



Isabel Rameil

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —Europe

Zonta member for 21 years, Zonta Club of Aschaffenburg, District 14

Partner / tax consultant, Lucks & Lucks GbR

2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 Area Director; 2004-2006 District Secretary; 2022-2024 District Parliamentarian; 2008-2016 District Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

In my time as Governor (during the Covid pandemic) I looked for ways to connect Zontians online and raise money. So we came up with the "run for Zonta" campaign in which we raised over \$ 5.000 for the Zonta Foundation for Women. It was an online challenge in which the participating clubs and Zonta members donated one dollar for each kilometer run by a professional athlete and we joined online in cheering this athlete. In my time as JMK District Committee chair I was able to spread awareness for this scholarship. We started out with only one application per year. At the end of my time as Committee chair I was able to hand over a well established scholarship to my successor with up to 10 applications each year.

Business or professional experience and skills

My work is very structured, therefore my methods and approach are straightforward and well structured. In my job I have to communicate with people from all different backgrounds. Therefore I have good communication skills. As partner I am also responsible for the recruitment of new employees. So I am used to look into applications and evaluate candidates. I also understand the necessity of networking, to find the best candidates for the respective position in accordance to Zonta International's mission.



Raisa Valve

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —Europe

Zonta member for 17 years, Zonta Club of Lahti, District 20

Head of Nutrition, Päijät-Häme wellbeing services county

2022-2024 International Membership Committee regional representative; 2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 2014-2016 District Secretary; 2022-2024 District Nominating Committee chair; 2016-2018 District Lisa Andström Committee member; 2013 District Conference chair

Main Zonta achievements

In the biennium 2022-2024 I have been a Northern European Regional Representative of Membership Committee, which means connections with Lt. Governors of 6 Districts from Europe and active contact with International Membership Committee as well. I have organised remote meetings with the Lt. Governors where they have been able to share membership issues as well as other things they have found important at that time. This has enlarged and deepened my zonta networks and increased my understanding of the Districts' needs and challenges. In my district (D20), currently I'm the Chair of our District Nominating Committee. I organized the elections in our District with two other Committee Members. This has given me good understanding of the prerequisites of the candidates. Positions in D20 have given me good networks and understanding of the Zonta organisation, how important it is to activate zontians to take responsibilities in zonta organisation in different levels.

Business or professional experience and skills

I am good at networking, looking for new ways of doing things and teamwork. I understand the big picture and the details. For me it is easy to contact people.



Marguerite Akossi Mvongo

Candidate for International Nominating Committee — Africa

Zonta member for 36 years, Zonta Club of Abidjan, District 18

Manager of the Psychotechnical Unit, Coordinator of the Bachelor Program, Université Felix Houphouët-Boigny, Abidjan Ufhb/ Cierpa

2018-2020 International Director; 2022-2024 International UN Committee member; 2020-2022 International Service Committee member; 2016-2018 International Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship Committee member; 2008-2010 Governor; 2006-2008 Lieutenant Governor; 2000-2002 Area Director; 1996-1998 District Nominating Committee member; 2018-2020 District Parliamentarian; 2016-2018 Centurian; 2002-2004 District Service Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

As governor, I organized a publicized district conference. We attracted new members, created links, and became a trusted partner for the ministry of women, civil society platforms and UN representations. ZI board 2018-2020 dealt with the pandemic situation, taking the responsibility to cancel the convention. It was an achievement to manage delicate issues, for the common good, to protect Zonta assets and membership. At club level, as chair of the nominating committee, I convinced younger zontians, to take leadership positions (the board is much younger now). I encourage some to take English classes and run for district board positions. Those who were not elected are being trained to improve their skills. Mentoring starts by boosting candidates self esteem. I work with the Golden Z club Abidjan-Cocody, to prepare a future for Zonta. I am the SOM of a ZONTA club, hoping to charter in December

Business or professional experience and skills

As a psychologist, and former human resources manager, I know the importance of listening, the value of differences, and the necessity of high standards. Having lived and worked in various countries, I have developed the flexibility to adapt to different people and culture. I have taken the opportunity, to meet and interact with many Zontians Training adults, evaluating, assessing, learning from others, encouraging students are part of my professional activities This will be useful for Zonta service, not only for a good selection, but mainly to help reveal new leaders and leadership capacities among zontians.



Judith “Judy” Gorton

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —Australia, New Zealand

Zonta member for 35 years, Zonta Club of Perth, District 23

now retired previous position title Chief of Staff Ministerial, Western Australian Parliament.

2018-2020 International Director; 2022-2024 International Convention chair; 2016-2018 Governor; 2014-2016 Lieutenant Governor; 2020-2022 District Centurion, 2022-2024 District Conference chair

Main Zonta achievements

As a member of the ZI Board and Z I Foundation I met and worked with a team of professional Zontians all with the goal of building a better world for women and girls through our programs and goals. I attended District Conference in Sweeden, Buffalo and Hawaii meeting and supporting Zontians and encouraging them to take up leadership opportunities. As Chair of the Z I Convention in Australia in 2024, I have built a team of strong capable women from all parts of the Zonta world to work with me in ensuring a successful Convention.

Business or professional experience and skills

comprehensive interpersonal skills articulate verbal skills ability to initiate and work in a constructive way with diverse people. Director-level knowledge of Zonta International, its internal operations, protocols , programs and judiciary responsibilities and commitments. I contribute enthusiastically to each aspect of Zonta's work at club and district level.



May (Mei-Hong) Wen

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —Asia

Zonta member for 29 years, Zonta Club of Kaohsiung YuHsiuan, District 31

Chief of Pediatric Endocrinology, Sing Wish Medical Organizaion

2016-2018 International Membership Committee representative; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2012-2014 District UN Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

My main achievements come from my tenure as the 2018-2020 Governor of District 31. During the centennial anniversary biennial, I encouraged each club to organize its own large event for local engagement. For my own, I planned a charity walk in the charming countryside of Taiwan, which garnered more than 1,000 participants. I also organized a charity concert around “Zonta says no” on Rose day. This not only increased Zonta’s visibility but significant fundraising. Through my efforts, we received the prize for membership growth and 100 percent club donation rate. Most importantly, I became a better me through service opportunities and small but consistent efforts. Every biennial, I recruit two new members and administer the Z club and Golden Z club. As the club president since 2012, I’ve planned successful area meetings and established a sisterhood club with Hakodate. I like to become friends with sisters around the world.

Business or professional experience and skills

I am kind, understanding, and willing to listen to people. Working as a pediatrician, I have the ability to observe people, including physical and mental. I have learned the importance of inspiring people or setting examples through my own actions. Finally, I excel in good communication skills, decision-making, and conflict resolution.



Desirae Kirby

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —At Large

Zonta member for 31 years, Zonta Club of Rotorua, District 16

Sustainability Lead, APR Consultants Ltd

2022-2024 International Development Committee member; 2020-2022 Governor (District 16); 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor (District 16); 2000-2002 Area Director (District 24); 2018-2020 District Membership Committee chair (District 16); 2014-2018 District Parliamentarian (District 16); 2014-2018 District Bylaws Committee chair (District 16);

Main Zonta achievements

Over 2018-22, I was part of a small team who worked to formalise talent identification and succession planning for D16 Leadership & Development. Key actions included: developing a confidential database of potential future leaders; mapping out role pathways for individuals to round out skill sets; encouraging district committees to have a 'chair in training' member. While early days, it was pleasing to see the depth of talent on the recent 2024-26 D16 slate. A 'pipeline' of new talent is vital. In 2018-20, I developed the '100 Club' recruitment programme for D16 to gain 100 new members. We rolled into a second 100 members and won several ZI Membership Recognition Awards. From starting a mentoring database in the early 90s with my local Zonta club (the Women At Work Register), to taking part in the first cohort of 'Great Girls Meet Great Women', mentoring the next generation is a true passion.

Business or professional experience and skills

Ability to work in a team environment in a collaborative and respectful manner. - Broad experience in stakeholder liaison with a track record of quickly forming constructive relationships. - Communication skills across social media, traditional media & public speaking - acting as a spokesperson for organisations. - Experienced in processing information quickly and developing strategies to meet organisational goals. - Comfortable working within systems-based frameworks to deadlines. - Strong member support services skills - doubling the membership of the Rotorua Sustainable Charter since taking on the role. - Enthusiastic, organised & dedicated to any role I take on.



Teresa Lin

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —At Large

Zonta member for 22 years, Zonta Club of the New Territories, District 17

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Intrabase Financial Services Ltd.

2022-2024 International Director; 2020-2022 International Advocacy Committee chair; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2012-2014 District Secretary; 2020-2022 Foundation Ambassador; 2016-2018 Membership Committee chair; 2014-2016 District IT Development Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

As international Representatives, successfully communicated ZI strategic plan effectively. Improved understanding and affiliations of members with Zonta International. Solicited their support to roll-out club strategic plan in districts and clubs under my liaison role. Built strong friendship and trust. As International advocacy Chair, solicited and convinced powerful speakers to Zonta's advocacy webinars. Expand scope of audience to internal and external audiences to achieve advocacy objectives. Set up Canada Caucus as Advocacy Chair. Recruited members, conduct training workshops and organized clubs in joint area/district events. Proven relationship network in soliciting sponsors for district conferences. Experienced in nominating role as club or district nominating committee chairs. Organized two successful district conferences, invited to facilitate workshops and as speakers in service or advocacy for Zonta. Participated in Strategic Plan Development therefore possess knowledge on future leadership skills requirement.

Business or professional experience and skills

As Zonta International Director, familiar with Zonta's future vision/mission. Insights of leadership qualities, skills requirements as district and international officers which is essential to identification of competent leaders for Zonta International's succession and sustainability. Established regional/global relationship network with Zontians at involvements in district conferences and Zonta events. Proven record in bank management via recruitments and nurturing of bankers to success. Strength in communications, talent development and organization management, especially in management of senior professionals for international job postings. Passion for Zonta, committed, with consistent record of delivering quality services guided by professional experiences.



Dorte Olesen

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —At Large

Zonta member for 33 years, Zonta Club of Copenhagen I, District 13

Consultant, PhD, DSc, Technical University of Denmark (DTU)

2020-2022 International Director; 2018-2020 Governor; 2016-2018 Lieutenant Governor; 2022-2024 District UN & Council of Europe Committee chair; 2022-2024 District Amelia Earhart Fellowship Committee chair; 2016-2018 District Membership Committee chair; 2012-2016 Area Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship & Amelia Earhart Fellowship Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

I have been a Lt. Governor and worked intensively with membership, helping to revive two clubs and start a new one, and as Governor I managed to stimulate collaboration between clubs. I think I know what it takes to stimulate recruitment and enhance retention of members, and I consider such understanding important for International Board Members even though they are normally not doing this hands-on. Otherwise they may make decisions that counteract recruitment and retention. As a Director I had to quickly learn a lot about the ZI finances and took part in the decision of actually going through with the Convention in Hamburg, even though the Headquarters staff was uneasy about this. I believe that my previous board experience from other organisations was important and such experience should be stressed more doing the selection for new ZI directors.

Business or professional experience and skills

For 22 years I was the Director General of The Danish IT Agency for Education and Research, a Government organisation with 325 employees which introduced Danish universities and schools to the digital age. I was for 6 years the President of the Trans European Research and Education Networks Association, where all European National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) collaborated with the European Commission on creating high-speed networks to facilitate international research collaboration. Thus I have a lot of experience in leadership and international collaboration.



Ute Scholz

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —At Large

Zonta member for 32 years, Zonta Club of Verden, District 27

Owner, Ute Scholz - Consulting, Coaching, Mediation

2022-2024 International President; 2020-2022 International President-Elect; 2018-2020 International Vice-President; 2016-2018 International Director; 2012-2016 International Young Women in Public Affairs Award Committee chair; 2010-2012 International Young Women in Public Affairs Award Committee member; 2008-2010 Governor; 2008 Lieutenant Governor; 2012-2014 District Parliamentarian; 2010-2012 District Nominating Committee chair; 2004-2008 District Young Women in Public Affairs Award Committee member

Main Zonta achievements

As the current International President, I am familiar with Zonta's Strategic Plan since years. Knowing the vision behind this Plan is important to identify those potential future leaders, who can continue this process for the next biennia. During my years in the International Board, I had the opportunity to meet Zontians in various countries and continents. I learned a lot about diversity and different cultures in Zonta and how important it is to bring all together and give them a voice. I also had the opportunity to work on different positions together with HQ staff and other Zonta leaders. Therefore, I can easier identify which competencies are critical for our future leaders. For the overall review of Zonta's structure (Resolution #2) I got more insight and understanding for the needs of our members and learned about different ways how a member-based organization can act and what strong leaders need.

Business or professional experience and skills

From my lawyer's lens I know how a legal and fair application process must be. During my work in local government, I was a. o. responsible for HR, for finding the best for different positions. I learned about application processes, interviews, and selection criteria – always on eye level with the applicant. From my perspective as business consultant, I learned how to motivate and encourage volunteer engagement and identify and appreciate personal development. Being openminded, clear and positive is always important for me. I like working together with others in a team, thinking outside the box and sharing team successes.



Brittany (Britt) Vaughan

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —At Large

Zonta member for 12 years, Zonta Club of Burbank Area, District 9

Nonprofit Development Director

2022-2024 International Director; 2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor, 2016-2018 District PR and Communications Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

I have actively served in a leadership position at the district or international level in Zonta for the last 8 years. During this time, I have participated actively in committees, working groups, and other Zonta activities to further efficiencies, try new things, and drive change. I have contributed ideas, offered my support, and encouraged new initiatives. I have done extensive research around topics and brought back information to groups to have everything necessary to make informed decisions. If nominated to the Nominating Committee, I will participate in the same way, actively jumping in to start new initiatives and bring new ideas to the forefront; do any necessary work to carefully plan and prepare; and will use my enthusiasm and drive to seek out and encourage individuals to participate in international leadership.

Business or professional experience and skills

I have worked in highly collaborative environments; had to succession plan for positions in the nonprofit sector; have extensive experience in interviewing and selecting excellent candidates for high-level positions; managed leadership transitions and prepared individuals to take on new responsibilities; and have a firm understanding of the needs and challenges of Zonta International and the Zonta Foundation for Women. My skills include: Organization, Persuasion, Excellent Communication Abilities, Strategic Thinking, Creative Problem Solving, Teamwork, and Collaboration.



Anna Weselak

Candidate for International Nominating Committee —At Large

Zonta member for 12 years, Zonta Club of Oak Brook, District 6

Owner/Consultant, Weselak & Associates

2020-2022 Governor; 2018-2020 Lieutenant Governor; 2016-2018 Area Director; 2022-2024 District Nominating Committee chair

Main Zonta achievements

I am a Founding Member of the Zonta Club of Oak Brook and had the experience of starting a new club. I was honored to be elected to the District 6 Nominating Committee and serve as the Chair of the Committee from 2022-2024. Having served as the District 6 Governor gave me the insight as to the responsibilities of each position and the opportunity to get to know the members within my district. As Nominating Committee Chair, I worked as a team lead with a committee of 3 who participated in the discussions to recommend and select qualified candidates that were elected at our District 6 Conference in October 2023.

Business or professional experience and skills

As part of my job, I help others build interpersonal skills such as communication and relationships with others. I assist executive and management teams to work together cohesively to make good organizational decisions. I can identify behavioral styles of others and appreciate the strengths of each style. I recognize that a diverse team creates a strong team. My work allows me to experience a wide variety of clients including corporate, non-profit and education. I have strong verbal skills and am comfortable when speaking to groups or individuals. Other team members recognize that I can summarize a discussion to bring clarity to all the participants. Zonta helps me live out my passion for helping people and organizations to reach their full potential.