In loving memory of the Honorable Jane Mathews, AO.

The IAWJ community is mourning the recent loss of Jane Mathews, who was a trailblazer, a remarkable person, a loyal friend, and extraordinary judge. The Honorable Jane Mathews, AO passed away on August 31, 2019.

In recognition of Jane’s outstanding contributions to the legal community in Australia and around the world, the Australian Association of Women Judges (AAWJ) presented a Life Membership Award to Jane on 11 May, 2019. It was the first life membership ever awarded by the AAWJ. The AAWJ wanted to share with IAWJ members all of the reasons why they conferred this honor on Justice Mathews, so we can all remember her amazing contributions to the global judicial community.

Jane was one of a group of international women judges, along with Arline Pacht, who met and founded the IAWJ in 1991. She served as the President of the IAWJ from 2004-2006. Also, she founded the AAWJ in 1992 and served as its President for many years. In both of these roles, Jane oversaw a very successful and fondly remembered IAWJ Biennial Conference in Sydney in 2006. Jane’s history as a pioneer for women in the legal profession generally, and particularly for women judicial officers, is legendary. She was the first female Crown Prosecutor in the State of New South Wales. Furthermore, she was the first woman appointed as a judge in that State when she was appointed to the District Court of NSW in 1980. In that role, she also sat as the first Senior Judicial Member of the NSW Equal Opportunity Tribunal, which implemented a new Anti-Discrimination Law and created innovative human rights law in the process. She was then the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 1987 where she served with distinction.
In 1994, she went to the Federal Court of Australia and subsequently served as president of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and Deputy-President of the Native Title Tribunal, where she made a significant contribution on indigenous issues. Jane retired from the Federal Court in April 2001, however, she returned to sit as an Acting Justice of the Supreme Court of NSW until her final retirement in 2017. Outside her judicial role, Jane is much loved within the arts community in Australia. She made enormous contributions to the arts, especially to music. She was a well-loved and regarded patron and friend of Opera Australia, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Pacific Opera and other musical organizations in Australia. Also, she generously donated her time as patron of the NSW Women Lawyer's Association. For all of these reasons, the AAWJ, along with the entire IAWJ, celebrates Justice Mathews' life and her exemplary work.
Dear IAWJ Members,

As we were going to press, we received the sad news of the passing of former IAWJ President Jane Mathews of Australia. She was an IAWJ stalwart, inspiration and friend to numerous judges and music lovers. Her many contributions are highlighted in the loving tribute prepared by her Australian colleagues in this Newsletter. Many of us have our own personal recollections. I have fond memories of the 2006 biennial conference Jane organized in Sidney, which I attended as President of NAWJ. Next year we will return to her corner of the world for our next biennial conference in neighboring New Zealand. Jane had a passion for Wagner Ring cycles, which she pursued all over the world. I remember comparing notes with her about the performance in Washington DC right before the 2016 biennial conference.

Jane would be proud of the milestones and activity of IAWJ associations and members reflected in this Newsletter. AMJA (Argentina) celebrated its 26th anniversary and CHAIFEJ (Haiti) its 18th, veteran IAWJ member associations that have pioneered important justice projects.

Two weeks ago, I was honored to participate in the annual meeting of the Capítulo Mexico, held in Mexico City, at which Officers were re-elected and several association-strengthening measures were adopted by the membership. The IAWJ Mexican chapter has grown impressively over the last three years, when all IAWJ members united under the leadership of IAWJ Vice-President, retired Supreme Court Justice Margarita Luna Ramos. She was unanimously re-elected to continue as head of the Mexican IAWJ judges. At over 450 members, they are now the third-largest IAWJ member association, with cutting-edge programs on judging with a gender perspective, femicide and access to justice for rural and indigenous women. The new Chief Justice of Mexico, Min. Arturo Zaldívar Lelo de Larrea, expressed strong support for the inclusion of women in the judiciary and the importance of the women judges’ association, highlighting the current call for applications for federal judgeships set aside exclusively for women candidates. This demonstrates a real, practical approach to correcting historical disparities in judicial selection at the highest level of the judiciary.

The history of IAWJ embodied by longstanding associations like AMJA and CHAIFEJ continues in the growth of newer ones such as Capítulo México.

Jane would be so very proud.

With my best wishes,
The Hon. Vanessa Ruiz
IAWJ President
I want to send my sincerest condolences to Justice Mathews' family and friends. She was such an inspirational woman who embodies all that IAWJ stands for. As one of the founding members of IAWJ, I am sure she was quite proud of IAWJ and all that its members do to empower women within the judiciary and to address challenges facing women and girls in the justice system. She will remain in our hearts and minds as we continue to grow and solidify IAWJ's efforts.

As a testament to the vision of Jane and the other founding mothers of IAWJ, AMJA and CHAIFEJ celebrated significant anniversaries this month. With AMJA celebrating 26 years and CHAIFEJ celebrating 18 years, it is undeniable proof of their great work. IAWJ's member associations' longevity demonstrates the power of women judges to be change agents around the world. Examples of how all of you are making a difference are highlighted throughout this newsletter. We encourage all members to continue to submit highlights of your work for the monthly newsletter so we can showcase all that you do.

Finally, I want to also congratulate individual CHAIFEJ members on their new positions within the Haitian government. Judge Marguerette Toussaint Georges is Haiti's Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Françoise Morailles was appointed Minister of Culture and Communication. The IAWJ headquarters' team has worked quite closely with CHAIFEJ members for the past several years on human trafficking projects. We have been so fortunate to collaborate with these dynamic individuals who are so committed to instituting real reforms within Haiti. We are happy that others within Haiti recognize their amazing contributions and given them significant platforms to continue to do great work.
Haere mai! (Welcome) The New Zealand Association of Women Judges (the NZAWJ) is delighted to invite you to register for the biennial conference of the IAWJ in Auckland, New Zealand, 7 to 10 May 2020. We look forward to sharing with you the beauty of our country, our indigenous Maori culture and a taste of our South Pacific hospitality. To register for the conference click [here](#).

The theme of the conference is Celebrating Diversity. You will hear from inspirational speakers, including the Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand, Rt Hon Helen Clark former Prime Minister and former head of the United Nations Development Program, Baroness Helena Kennedy, author of Eve Was Shamed and Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, as well as from judicial speakers from around the world. Please answer the call for speakers if you would like to share your own insights (deadline 20 September). Download the Call for Speakers Form [here](#).

Visit [iawj2020auckland.com](http://iawj2020auckland.com) for further information about the conference and New Zealand, including pre and post conference tours (under “optional activities”). We look forward to seeing you all in Auckland next May.

Mary O’Dwyer, President of the NZAWJ and Susan Glazebrook, President-Elect of the IAWJ.
• The **Australian Association of Women Judges** presented its **second Human Rights Award** to Professor Hilary Charlesworth in Melbourne. She is an internationally recognized human rights academic who was also the first Australian Woman to be appointed to sit part time on the ICJ.

• BMT Member, **Justice Ann Walsh Bradley (USA)** travelled to Kiev to speak at the Ukrainian Women Lawyers Association Second All-Ukrainian Forum entitled "**Women in the Legal Profession: Visibility, Advocacy and Influence.**"

• The **Association of Women Judges of Argentina**, in collaboration with the Women's Office of the Judicial Power of the Province of Neuquén, conducted a workshop on "Gender-based Violence within Work Relations" in Neuquén, Argentina.

• The **Tanzania Women Judges Association** is working to uphold the **UN's Beijing Platform for Action Declaration of 1995**.

• **Ms. Andrea Di Gregorio** from the **Association of Women Judges of Argentina** wrote an exclusive blog post for our website titled "**A Balanced Composition of the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights.**"

• The **Mexican Chapter of the IAWJ** celebrated its **Annual Meeting** with over 200 Mexican women judges present.
**Latest News**

- Dr. Agustina M. Olmedo from the **Association of Women Judges of Argentina**, wrote an original blog post for our website on "The Office of Family Violence Coordination of the Superior Court of Justice of the Province of Córdoba, Argentina."

- To commemorate **Women's Equality Day** on August 26, Ms. Anne Goldstein, IAWJ’s Director of Human Rights Education, and Ms. Nancy Hendry, IAWJ’s Senior Advisor wrote a blog post on "Equality in the Courts."

  You can still contribute to our Women's Equality Day fundraiser [here](#).

- The **Association of Women Judges of Argentina**, together with the Superior Judicial Court of La Rioja, conducted a **Seminar on Human Rights and Femicide**.

- The **Haitian Chapter of the IAWJ** celebrated its **18th anniversary** on August 12th, 2019. To commemorate the anniversary, they organized a week of activities.
The Association of Judicial Magistrates of the Republic of Paraguay conducted a free workshop in June on the "Evolution of Women’s Rights" at the University Cooperative.

The Association of Women Judges of Argentina celebrated its 26th anniversary on August 20, 2019.
• The Papua New Guinea Judicial Women’s Association elected its new executive council for the period of 2019 - 2021 at their Annual General Meeting.

• Our South African Chapter hosted its 15th Annual Conference in collaboration with the University of Mpumalanga. This year’s theme was “Women Empowerment: A Shawl and a shield in the fight against sexual and gender violence.”

• The Association of Women Judges of Argentina participated in the first workshop between the government, the judiciary, and indigenous peoples for the implementation of trial by indigenous juries.

• The National Association of Women Judges - USA announced a new partnership with the Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC), for their Women In Prison program.

• Land Portal published a blog post titled: “Sextortion: the hidden face of land corruption.” The article addresses the ways in which sextortion is present in land corruption. IAWJ’s Senior Advisor, Nancy Hendry, was consulted in the creation of this article.

• The Association of Women Judges of Spain published on their website a “Manifesto for a Childhood Free of Sexist Violence,” due to the “urgent need to for a comprehensive, quick and effective protection of mothers and their children.”

![International Association of Women Judges]

**WHAT IS SEXTORTION?**

SEXTORTION is the ABUSE OF AUTHORITY to OBTAIN a SEXUAL BENEFIT.

SEX + CORRUPTION = SEXTORTION

It is a form of CORRUPTION in which SEX is the CURRENCY of the BRIBE.

The Council of Europe published a guide on "Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage." This Guide elaborated aims at preventing and combating female genital mutilation, it provides strategic guidance on the standards, principles, features and characteristics of the necessary integrated response to end these practices.

Prosecutor Francoise Morailles (Haiti) has been appointed Minister of Culture and Communication of her country.

Ms. Omnia Gadalla wrote an article on "The Egyptian Woman Judge: Setting the Bar for Gender Equality" for the Institute of African Women in Law (IAWL) about Egyptian women’s ban from becoming judges and Ms. Gadalla’s #HerHonorSettingTheBar initiative.

The Hon. Maguy Florestal (Haiti) has been chosen to participate in the U.S. Embassy in Haiti's International Visitors Leadership Program on penal reform.

Justice Norah Amilcar Jean-François (Haiti) has been appointed President of the Court of Appeal of Port-au-Prince. She is the first woman appointed to that position in the history of the Haitian government.

The Hon. Magarette Toussaint Georges (Haiti), has been appointed Minister of Justice and Public Security by Presidential Decree. She is the first woman appointed to the position in the history of the Haitian government.

The Hon. Judith McConnell (USA) was honored by the American Bar Association for her service in the legal profession. She was one of the recipients of ABA Commission on Women in the Profession's Annual Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.

Judge Joan V. Churchill (USA) was interviewed by Legal Talk Network during ABA’s Annual Meeting on "Due Process Issues Facing the U.S. Immigration Courts."

The Hon. María Esther Cafure de Battistelli (Argentina) was interviewed for the Secretariat on Extension and Linking of the National University of Córdoba’s segment on "Women that move the world."

IAWJ Board Member, the Hon. Jovita Rojas de Bortoletto (Paraguay) has been appointed to the Court of Civil and Commercial and Labor Appeal of the Judicial District of the Department of Cordillera.

The Hon. Carmen Velasquez (US) received the 2019 International Gold US Judicial Excellence Award from the Peruvian American National Council (PANC) for her work at the Queens County Supreme Court.

The Hon. Gloria Poyatos Matas (Spain) was honored at the XII Recognition Night Act by the Madrid Convention Bureau for her work organizing IAWJ’s Europe, Middle East and North Africa Regional Conference 2019: "Justice with a Gender Perspective."

Ms. Cecilia Palomo (Mexico) directed a summer program on feminism at the Cadiz University in Spain.

To read all In the Spotlight News click here.
IAWJ Projects Update

- The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women released the final evaluation of IAWJ and the Women Judges Association of Malawi's Project: "Women Judges Lead the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi."

Professional and Leadership Opportunities

- **World Bank’s Law, Justice and Development Week 2019 - Rights, Technology and Development**: November 4-7, 2019. IAWJ members receive a courtesy discount of 50% off the registration fee. Use the code IAWJSPECIAL2019 to obtain the 50% off at the payment page. Code expires on **October 27**. Register [here](#). Contact: ljd@worldbank.org.

- You can register for the International Bar Association's Law Firm Management Committee's Webinar: "Women Making it Rain: Advice from Great Women Rainmakers, Across the Globe" [here](#). The webinar will take place on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 2:00:00 PM CET - 3:00:00 PM CET.

*Please note, the IAWJ is not associated with the organization of any of these events or conferences. For more information, contact the organizers directly.*
Upcoming Meetings and Conferences

- The **National Association of Women Judges - USA's 41st Annual Meeting** will take place in Los Angeles, California, US, from October 15 - 19, 2019.
- The **United Kingdom Association of Women Judges** will host its Annual Meeting on November 8 in Birmingham with the theme "Migration, slavery, and the law."
- **UNODC's High-Level Meeting of the Global Judicial Integrity Network**, Doha, Qatar, November 18 and 19, 2019.
- **IAWJ's 15th Biennial Conference: "Celebrating Diversity"** will be hosted by the New Zealand Association of Women Judges (NZAWJ) in Auckland, Aotearoa, New Zealand from May 7 - 10, 2020. Register for the conference here. Download the Call for Speakers Form here. Download the Application for Funding Form here.

  #IAWJBiennial2020 #CelebratingDiversity

Don't forget to check out our **Calendar of Events** for more information!

Look out for the next newsletters on:
October 14 | November 11 | December 9

Please send us content for next month's newsletter to office@iawj.org before September 30.