

WLU 2001-2002 Board

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WLU Annual Meeting

WLU will hold its annual meeting at the Law and Justice Center on May 30, 2002, at 12:00 noon. This meeting is open to all members of WLU. At the meeting, we will appoint new officers and board members, consider comments regarding and vote on proposed revisions to WLU's Bylaws, and discuss WLU's agenda for the coming year. The proposed new Bylaws are available for review on WLU's web site at www.utahwomenlawyers.org. We welcome your attendance and participation! See inside for statements from this year's candidates for the WLU board.

Patrice Arent is Woman Lawyer of the Year

Women Lawyers of Utah has named **Patrice M. Arent** as The Christine M. Durham Woman Lawyer of the Year for 2002. Arent, an attorney, has been a member of the Utah House of Representatives since 1996, where she served as the Minority Whip during 2001 and 2002. Arent was an attorney in private practice and with the government for 15 years prior to joining the legislature.

Arent was born and raised in Utah and joined the Utah legal community in 1981. She received her Bachelor of Science degree *magna cum laude* from the University of Utah in 1978 and her law

degree from Cornell University in 1981. She was the first female law clerk hired by Judge Bruce S. Jenkins of the United States District Court of the District of Utah. Judges before whom she appeared during her private practice years describe Arent as a fine attorney, bright, capable, and an excellent communicator. As one judge observed, "Patrice has the unusual gift of being able to disagree without being disagreeable."

At the Durham Award ceremony on April 11, 2002, Carolyn B. McHugh, the prior year's recipient, noted that Arent "is a tireless advocate of the legislative process, constantly encouraging others, particularly women, to run for office. As a legislator, it is not unusual for Arent to work well into the night during legislative session. She is not shy about calling those that might give her more insight on pending legislation and she is willing to consider the positions advanced by all. And, Patrice is a supporter of the numerically-challenged Democratic party in Utah, which can only be seen as evidence that she is an undying optimist."

McHugh also observed: "Patrice Arent sincerely believes in our system of government and, by example, encourages the rest of us not to shirk our responsibilities as citizens by hiding behind indifference or cynicism. Indeed, Patrice is so committed to the process that she recently announced her candidacy for the Utah Senate. She is obviously a woman who is not intimidated by challenge."

Judge Greenwood Receives Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award

At the Utah State Bar convention this spring, the Bar awarded Judge Pamela T. Greenwood of the Utah Court of Appeals the Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award for the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession. Judge Greenwood, who recently completed a term as Presiding Judge, has served on the Utah Court of Appeals since its formation in 1987. Throughout her career, Judge Greenwood has advanced the cause of women in the legal profession through her involvement as the first woman president of the Utah State Bar, first woman president of the Salt Lake County Bar, a member of the Gender and Justice Task Force, and as vice Chair of the Utah Judicial Council. Judge Greenwood was also one of the founding members of WLU.

Spring Fireside a Success

The annual Spring Fireside was very well attended this year, and the food and the champagne were a hit. Part of the purpose of this year's Fireside was to honor the appointment of Christine M. Durham to Chief Justice of the Utah Supreme

Court. Chief Justice Durham gave an inspiring talk about the history of women in the legal profession, which led to a lively discussion about women leaders in the legal field both in Utah and other states.

The event also honored Patrice Arent, who was named Woman Lawyer of the Year. She received numerous standing ovations and encouraged other women lawyers to get involved in politics.

Finally, the two women candidates for President-Elect of the Utah State Bar—Debra Moore and Denise Dragoo—each delivered campaign speeches to the attentive crowd. Regardless of who wins the election, we are happy to report that the new President-Elect will be a woman. Both candidates are highly regarded attorneys with long histories of advocacy for issues of importance to women generally and women lawyers in Utah in particular.

Candidates for WLU Board - Statements

Jennifer N. Hyde

I would like to be a member of the Board of WLU because it would provide a wonderful opportunity to participate in the legal community in general and to serve an organization committed to issues of importance to women in that

community. I am enthused about the ideas and projects discussed at the annual retreat this year, and I am ready and willing to contribute whatever I can to those projects. I am currently a Senior Associate with Holme Roberts & Owen LLP, where I have worked since 1999. I graduated from the University of Utah College of Law in 1997.

Dianna Cannon

My name is Dianna Cannon and I graduated from the University of Utah Law School in 1992. Since that time I have worked for Cannon, Cleary & Match, P.C., practicing Social Security Disability law. My practice consists of representing disabled individuals in administrative proceedings and in federal court litigation. In addition to managing my own office and parenting my daughter, I have served in several pro bono and volunteer positions, including the ACLU legal panel, judge pro tempore, volunteer counsel for the People with Aids Coalition of Utah and board president for Self Determination Inc. (an organization which provides social and employment support to disabled individuals).

I have developed a great respect for the way WLU brings together the female legal community. I want to serve on the board in the hope that I can represent the experience and perspective of the small firm attorney.

I also hope, as a WLU board member, that I would have the opportunity to encourage more women to start their own firm.

Lara R. Reymann

I am a female lawyer with a strong interest in advancing women's causes in Utah. I do believe that women attorneys can improve our legal community and support each other through groups like WLU, and I hope that I can help achieve those goals. What do I bring to the table? Good intentions, optimism and a willingness to help. Hopefully that is enough for a start. I was inspired by the comments at the last WLU retreat concerning the need for building upon the successes of the past, and integrating the earlier generations of women lawyers with more recent additions to the Bar. I value the insights of women who have forged new paths, and the enthusiasm of women just starting to find their paths. The combination should be able to help us, as a group, both understand the realities of our legal community and continue the pursuit of ideals. And that's how I would like to see WLU functioning in the near future.

I am a member of the litigation department of Parsons, Behle & Latimer, where I concentrate my practice on intellectual property. I graduated from the University of Chicago Law School, where I worked in the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic.