

Letter from the President



Dear EWI of Oklahoma City,

Recently I came across an insightful article from June 13 on Forbes' website, "This Moment Calls for the Great Reset." This article touches on the effects of COVID and race relations in our country and that accepting a 'new normal' is not good enough. Rather, we should strive to leave what we previously considered to be 'normal' life behind and instead seek a "Great Reset."

With a focus on our organizations, the Great Reset requires us to rethink four key areas:

- The Point of Work
- How We Lead
- The Manner of Work
- Workplace EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion)

The Point of Work is hinged on five "Good DEEDS": Delight your customers; Engage your team members; Ethical within society; Deliver fair practices and Serve all stakeholders. How We Lead is focused on 9 key lessons: Be relatable; Play for meaning; Stay present; Remain curious; Embrace change; Dare to share; Command clarity; Commit to balance and Champion others. The Manner of Work provides two key thoughts: Resetting where we work and when we work. Last but far from least, Workplace EDI stresses "shifting equity, diversity and inclusion from...bullets in an annual report to a living, breathing command center of action. There is much more to digest in this article, but the question remains: "are we willing to reset?"

With gratitude,

Christine Laird
Oklahoma City Chapter President

2019-2020 Officers & Directors

President

Christine Laird, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce

Vice President/President-Elect

Sierra Eberle, Arvest Bank

Secretary/Co-Treasurer

Michelle Ferguson, Skyline on Bricktown Canal, LLC

Co-Treasurer

Ramona Carey, SSM Health

Program Co-Directors

Carrie Parker, The Sheraton Downtown Hotel & Julie Schmiedeskamp, Colcord Hotel

Sergeant-At-Arms

Kelly Hamilton-Coyer, OGE Energy Corp.

Three ASIST Scholarship Finalists Announced

EWI of Oklahoma City is pleased to announce three finalists for this year's Adult Students in Scholastic Transition (ASIST) Scholarship. They include Jeanine Hegwood, Esmerelda Fonesca and Mechelle Abbott. Each finalist's application was thoroughly vetted by this year's judges, Nathaniel Harding of Antioch Energy and Andrew Hammontree of Francis Tuttle Technology Center.

While we anxiously await the announcement of our first place ASIST winner, Scholarship Chair Chantelle Olguin gave us a snapshot of our winner via the letter submitted to Corporate for consideration in their ASIST Scholarship:

"Many acquired life experiences cause us to learn and glean insight for our lives. I have not arrived or obtained great success, however I have gained many treasures of wisdom along the way," says our winner. At the young age of twenty-one, [she] grabbed her professional ambitions by the horns and became a real estate agent. Unfortunately, her life dramatically changed when she was attacked with a principality in her mental membrane. After a couple of years sticking her head in the sand, [her] professional reputation suffered and personal credit card bills stacked up.

You can learn more about our winner at the upcoming ASIST Scholarship dinner Tuesday, August 11 and hosted by member firm The Sheraton Downtown Oklahoma City Hotel.



July Birthdays

July 3 – Sierra Eberle, Representative, Arvest Bank
July 6 – Joe Hodges, Executive, SSM Health
July 21 – Starla Hesse, Representative, EAN Holdings
July 28 – Tracy Crook, Representative, Chapel Hill Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens

Happiest of birthdays to all!

News and Notes: ICYMI – Laird Nominated to Serve as Director on EWI’s Corporate Board

June 29 EWI’s Corporate office announced the 2020-2021 slate of Officers and Directors which included current EWI of Oklahoma City Chapter President Christine Laird. Laird has served as President since January 2018, when she assumed the role of President nine months earlier than planned and is nearing completion of her second consecutive full-year term. With President-Elect Sierra Eberle preparing to take the helm on October 1 she knew it was the right time to apply for Corporate Board service.

Laird has been nominated for a two-year term as Director with the official vote on her nomination occurring during this year’s Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 19. “It is an honor to be nominated for the opportunity to serve all of our EWI members across the US and Canada,” says Laird. An incredibly special thanks to longtime EWI Representative and past Chapter President Ramona Carey for giving Christine the added boost of confidence needed to fearlessly seek this invaluable opportunity to serve.

Corporate Corner: Courageous Conversations with EWI Corporate President Felicia Senter

In EWI’s June edition of Friday with Felicia it was noted that our Corporate President would be participating in courageous conversations with EWI members. These conversations will focus on things going on in and around the world today. I highly encourage you to participate in this opportunity to glean from our leadership while engaging in open, honest dialogue. As Brene Brown says “Daring leaders are never silent about hard things.”

If you’re interested in having a courageous conversation with Felicia please e-mail her at felicia.senter@tulsatech.edu or call her at 918-828-5007 to get on her calendar.

DATES TO NOTE

July 14, 2020 at 5:30PM
Professional Development Program Meeting led by member Debbie Davis, Quest Executive Services:
Maximize the Contribution of Your Voice – Know Yourself to Lead Yourself for EWI. This meeting will be held at Central Exchange, 7 NE 6th Street, Oklahoma City 73104. Face coverings are encouraged to be worn during this meeting.

July 28, 2020 at 12PM
July Board Meeting hosted by SSM Health at 1000 N Lee Ave, Oklahoma City 73102