

**WIIT Charitable Trust**  
**Annual Report**  
**2009-2010**

Now in its ninth year, the WIIT Charitable Trust is continuing to identify ways to expand its educational efforts at all levels and its partnerships with similarly oriented organizations, corporations and educational institutions.

For the year 2009-2010, one of our new focus areas was on maintaining the International Trade Library. We undertook the logistical changes to the library website to clearly indicate that the library is part of the WIIT Trust. Many thanks to Barbara Wanner not only for providing the opportunity for the Trust to assume ownership of the Library but also for spearheading our efforts as we changed the website and populated the library. Thanks also to the generous in-kind donation of an intern, Katy Groover, from Amanda DeBusk and the firm of Hughes Hubbard, we were able to clean out the library removing outdated materials and to replenish it with timely articles and reports. We also used our intern to explore the possibility of partnering with the Girl Scouts Council of the United States to create an international trade badge. That exploration continues this year.

The Trust elected to create a new scholarship program open to women only that are studying international trade. The scholarship opportunity is for \$1,500 for two persons, one in undergraduate and one in graduate school. Scholarships are available for both the Spring and Fall semesters. We worked hard to create the eligibility criteria and then posted the opportunity on two main scholarship websites used by students around the globe. Unfortunately, we were unable to offer the program for the Fall 2009 semester but had it available for Spring 2010. In order to increase the awareness of the opportunity, the members of the Board send notice to their graduate and undergraduate schools. We did not have any applicants for Spring 2010 but hope to have some for Fall 2010. We encourage all WIIT members to send information about the scholarship opportunity to their alma mater and to young people they may know entering college or continuing their studies in graduate school.

We also were contacted by a group in Zimbabwe, the Regional Export Promotion Agency. The Regional Export Promotion Trust (REPT) is a registered women's organization mainstreaming gender into Trade policy in Zimbabwe. The REPT is making independent research on trade markets to provide Zimbabwean women with expertise and training on business expansion in emerging regional markets. They were asking for assistance to participate in and attend the 54th Session of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York in March.

The CSW is the principal global policy making body dedicated exclusively to gender equality and advancement of women. This meeting will be further dedicated to evaluating progress on gender equality and the advancement of women worldwide. Because the Women in International Trade Charitable Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization created in 2001 to fund

charitable, scientific, and educational activities in international trade and its mission is to promote public knowledge and understanding of international trade and international business and strengthen the role of women therein by being a valued source of information and by globally sponsoring research, educational programs, and information-sharing activities, we determined that the Trust should sponsor in part the participation of one attendee. Therefore, we allocated a grant of \$2,000 to the REPT. We were facilitated in this effort by OWIT New York, and specifically Laura Rabinowitz, to meet with the Zimbabwe delegation, give them the money and discuss the possibility of setting up an OWIT chapter in Zimbabwe. We received a report of the REPT's participation in the CSW and can share that with any interested WIIT members. We also understand that OWIT is working with REPT to establish a chapter.

We also reviewed our website. Unfortunately, it has not been redesigned since the inception of the Trust, thus the technology and functionality are nearly 10 years old. We are seeking input from the management company to update our website and will work on this venture in the coming year.

We developed a one page document that illustrates the objectives of the WIIT Charitable Trust. We believe that the WIIT membership at large are not fully aware of the Trust and therefore need to be more informed of our activities and objectives. I have attached a copy of the one page document to this report in hopes of further educating our own members about the Trust.

Recognizing that the annual silent auction in December benefits the WIIT Trust, we undertook to seek as many donations as we could. We were able to contribute about 15 items to the event. As a result, we want to thank WIIT for its generous efforts to raise money for the Trust and for the contribution of over \$3,000 for this past year's event.

We are always looking for persons interested in helping the Trust and its activities. Please contact us if you are interested because we are lining up several Hill events for later this year.

Submitted by:

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