

Committee Chair Spotlight

Submission Date	06-11-2019 00:10:38
Name	Laura Simic
Please select the name of your committee:	Leadership Development
Describe the role of your committee at IWCF.	The Leadership Development Committee encourages members to become more engaged by taking on leadership roles in IWCF. The LDC creates the annual slate of board members to be voted upon by the membership, provides orientation for new board members, and works with the Education and Events committees to present a leadership enhancement program for all members.
Does your committee have any needs or roles to fill? Describe.	The Leadership Development Committee is one of two IWCF committees whose members have fixed terms and are approved by the board of directors.
Why are you a member of IWCF?	I am a member of IWCF because I believe in the power of philanthropy to improve the human condition. I believe the opportunity for collective giving provided by IWCF allows members to have important impact in our community that benefits all.
What are your top 5 strengths (from StrengthsFinder)?	Strategic, futuristic, maximizer, individualization, connectedness.
What does true leadership mean to you?	True leadership means inspiring and enabling others to work toward a common purpose and the greater good.
What is your personal philosophy?	We are all responsible for one another and lifting each other up for the greater good; everyone has dignity, value and something positive to contribute.
What was the most unusual or interesting job you've ever had?	I've worked in philanthropy for education my entire adult life and am second-generation in the profession. My most interesting and fulfilling role was the director of planned giving for the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. I loved really getting to know donors' dreams and wishes, thinking big-picture and long-term, the intellectual challenge of complex gift plans, the depth of the relationships, and helping people do for others in ways that last long after their lifetimes.
What is one thing you cannot resist?	I have more than one thing....good coffee, fried shrimp, chocolate, impressionistic paintings, musical theater and books.
What is your favorite thing to do?	Sing....it gets the endorphins going!
If you could take a two-week long vacation anywhere, where would you go?	A house with a great porch on the rocky Oregon coast or on the Italian Riviera.
Tell us something about yourself that might surprise us.	I used to play basketball and was on a city-wide YMCA all-star team that won the state championship in Alabama. I also co-coached two teams in the Eugene, OR public schools.

Favorite quote(s)?

Education and philanthropy are among the most powerful forces shaping the future of our society. Together, they may be unsurpassed in their ability to improve the human condition. (William Beaty Boyd)

What have you seen lately that made you smile?

Puppies!

Do you grant IWCF permission to share your Member Spotlight to social media?

YES



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