

New leadership at advocacy training group

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Ank Santens

The Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy (FIAA) has made several new additions to its executive committee and board of trustees, with **Ank Santens** of White & Case in New York taking a leadership role.

The changes at the Swiss non-profit advocacy training group took place last year and in March this year.

Santens has replaced **Wendy Miles KC** of Twenty Essex as chair of the FIAA's executive committee. Miles, who has [served](#) as chair since 2020, joins the board of trustees. Paris-based King & Spalding partner **Marc-Olivier Langlois** was elected to succeed Santens as vice-chair.

Santens tells GAR that "teaching up-and-coming lawyers advocacy skills that are essential to a successful international arbitration practice has been a passion of mine for a long time".

"After serving for more than 15 years as a member and then vice-chair of FIAA, it is a true honour now to lead this unique organisation in its mission to promote effective and ethical advocacy skills and techniques in international arbitration."

Last year, Skadden partner **Kate Davies KC** in London joined the executive committee, alongside Lima-based **Cristina Ferraro** of Miranda & Amado and **Dawn Yamane Hewett** of Quinn Emanuel in Washington, DC.

In March, **Joseph Chedrawe KC** of Covington & Burling in the UAE, **James Freeman** of Allen & Overy in London, **Tanya Landon** of Sidley Austin in Geneva, **Gisela Mation** of Machado Meyer in Rio de Janeiro, **Katherine Menendez de la Cuesta** of Holland & Knight in Miami and **Lee Rovinescu** of Freshfields in New York also joined the committee.

Together with Miles the board of trustees has also welcomed independent arbitrators **Stanimir Alexandrov** and **Marinn Carlson**, **Eduardo Gonçalves** of Mattos Filho in São Paulo, and **Erin Miller Rankin** of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in the UAE.

Lucy Reed has replaced **Judith Gill KC** as the SIAC representative on the board, and **Bridget McCormack** joined as the new representative of the American Arbitration Association, following in **India Johnson's** footsteps. Sidley Austin partner and co-founder of FIAA **David Roney** remains as president of the board.

There have been no changes to the FIAA's advisory council, which is presided over by the organisation's other co-founder **Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler**.

A full list of members of the executive committee, board of trustees and advisory council can be found below.

The organisation holds advocacy workshops across the world. Last year it held expert witness workshops in Miami and Dubai, and in June 2024 it plans to hold a fact witness workshop in Seoul - for which registration is now open on FIAA's website - and an expert witness event in London in November.

GAR Academy has also launched the second edition of its course on oral advocacy and advocacy skills. More details about the course, which is CLE-accredited, can be found [here](#).

FIAA executive committee

- **Ank Santens** (White & Case, USA) (Chair)*
- **Marc-Olivier Langlois** (King & Spalding, France) (Vice Chair)*
- **Joseph Chedrawe KC** (Covington & Burling, UAE)**
- **Kate Davies KC** (Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, England)*
- **Cristina Ferraro** (Miranda & Amado, Peru)*
- **Dawn Yamane Hewett** (Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, USA)*
- **Simon Chapman** (Herbert Smith Freehills, Hong Kong)
- **Bernd Ehle** (Lalive, Switzerland)
- **James Freeman** (Allen & Overy, England)**
- **Samaa Haridi** (King & Spalding, USA)
- **Shreyas Jayasimha** (Aarna Law, India)
- **Ndanga Kamau** (Ndanga Kamau Law, The Netherlands)
- **Swee Yen Koh SC** (WongPartnership, Singapore)
- **Tanya Landon** (Sidley Austin, Switzerland)**
- **Gisela Mation** (Machado, Meyer, Sendacz and Opice Advogados, Brazil)**
- **Katherine Menendez de la Cuesta** (Holland & Knight, USA)**
- **Lee Rovinescu** (Freshfields Bruckhaus & Deringer, USA)**
- **James Nicholson** (FTI Consulting, Singapore)
- **Jeff Sullivan** (Debevoise & Plimpton, England)
- **Roland Ziadé** (Linklaters, France)

FIAA board of trustees

- **David Roney** (Sidley Austin, Switzerland) (president)
- **Stanimir Alexandrov** (International Council for Commercial Arbitration, USA)*
- **Wendy Miles KC** (Twenty Essex, England)*
- **Claudia Annacker** (Independent Arbitrator, France)
- **Christian Camboulive** (Gide Loyrette Noel, France)
- **Yemi Candide-Johnson SAN** (Strachan Partners, Nigeria)
- **Marinn Carlson** (Independent Arbitrator, USA)**
- **Felix Dasser** (Swiss Arbitration Association, Switzerland)
- **John Fellas** (Independent Arbitrator, USA)
- **Nicholas Fletcher KC** (4 New Square Chambers, England)
- **Matthew Gearing KC** (Fountain Court Chambers, England)
- **Eduardo Gonçalves** (Mattos Filho Advogados, Brazil)**
- **Stephen Jagusch KC** (Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, England)
- **Brian King** (Independent Arbitrator, USA)
- **Meg Kinnear** (International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, USA)
- **Fernando Mantilla-Serrano** (Latham & Watkins, France)
- **Bridget McCormack** (American Arbitration Association, USA)**
- **Andrew McDougall KC** (White & Case, France)
- **Erin Miller Rankin** (Freshfields Bruckhaus & Deringer, UAE)**
- **Eun-Young Park** (Kim & Chang, South Korea)
- **Lucy Reed** (Singapore International Arbitration Centre, Singapore)**
- **Claudia Salomon** (ICC International Court of Arbitration, France)
- **Laurence Shore** (Bonelli Erede Pappalardo Studio Legale, Italy)
- **John Terry** (Torys, Canada)
- **Todd Wetmore**, (Three Crowns, France)
- **Michael Young KC** (Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, France)

FIAA Advisory Council

- **Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler** (Lévy Kaufmann-Kohler, Switzerland) (president)
- **Essam Al Tamimi** (Al Tamimi & Company, UAE)
- **John Beechey** (Beechey Arbitration, Hong Kong)
- **Sheila Block** (Torys, Canada)
- **Teresa Cheng SC** (Independent Arbitrator, Hong Kong)
- **Dushyant Dave SA** (Senior Advocate, India)
- **Donald Donovan** (Independent Arbitrator, USA)
- **Yves Fortier CC KC**, (Cabinet Yves Fortier, Canada)
- **Paul Friedland** (White & Case, USA)
- **Elliott Geisinger** (Schellenberg Wittmer, Switzerland)
- **Michael Hwang SC** (Michael Hwang Chambers, Singapore)
- **Alexis Mourre** (MGC Arbitration, France)
- **Fidelis Oditah KC SAN** (3-4 South Square Chambers, Nigeria)
- **William Park** (Boston University Faculty of Law, USA)
- **Jan Paulsson** (Independent Arbitrator, Bahrain)
- **Klaus Sachs** (CMS Hasche Sigle, Germany)
- **Michael Schneider** (Lalive, Switzerland)
- **James Seckinger** (University of Notre Dame Faculty of Law, USA)
- **Jingzhou Tao** (Independent Arbitrator, China)
- **Pierre Tercier** (Peter & Kim, Switzerland)
- **Albert Jan van den Berg** (Hanotiau & van den Berg, Belgium)
- **David Williams KC** (Bankside Chambers, New Zealand)
- **Markus Wirth** (Homburger AG, Switzerland)

*as of 2023

**as of 2024

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[View full biography](#)