



IAM FALL VIRTUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Date:

Friday, October 16, 2020

11:00AM North American Eastern Time (15:00 UTC) to 4:30PM

Conference Planners:

Paul Van Osselaer, Chair (Austin TX)

Barbara Cornish (Vancouver BC)

In addition, there are others who are being consulted in the planning and approaches to panelists. We expect to finalize the program in the next few weeks and open registration.

Conference Focus:

The working title for the program is “A Time for Discussion.” We are putting together programs focused on who we are as mediators in an international time of social change and conflict, on confidentiality challenges in mediations, and addressing implicit bias.

Keynote Speaker:

We have approached Darren Walker, President of the Ford Foundation, to be our Keynote Speaker. Mr. Walker has been frequent author of articles and op-eds on particularly wealth disparity and racial privileges worldwide.

Other Speakers:

We are approaching Bill Wood, Bill Marsh, Nina Meierding, Lela Love, Louise Otis and others.

Publicity:

With Jon’s Presidents Message a few weeks ago and Paul’s “Save the Date” email on July 23, members should have the date on their calendars. More reminder emails with, of course, follow when registration opens and the program is finalized.

Miscellaneous:

We will have a very short administrative part of the program to admit new Fellows and Distinguished Fellows. Also, we will be applying for continuing legal education credit for use by the members who are attorneys.

Questions for the Board:

1. Should admission be open to all mediators or by invitation only? Our last virtual conference was open.
2. What should we charge for the conference?
3. How should we use the net proceeds from the conference?