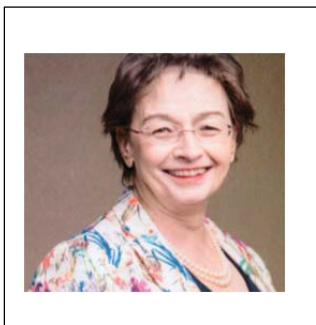




The XXX BPW International Congress
“BPW International: 90 years of
Women’s Empowerment for Sustainable Development”
Orlando, Florida, USA • 21-25 August 2020



Katharina Alice BOSSHART-PFLUGER, Candidate for Position of President, BPW International

Last name and first name	BOSSHART-PFLUGER, Katharina Alice
Member of	Individual member BPW France Club of BPW Fribourg, Switzerland
Nominated by	Agnes Bricard, President BPW France
Consent of own Affiliate	Has elected her Membership of BPW France for her international rights and voting membership
BPW Offices held	Local Club: Founding Member of BPW Fribourg Switzerland in 1997 Individual Member of BPW France since January 2019 International: BPW International Chair of Archive Task Force since 2011 UN Main Representative in Geneva since 2012 Executive Secretary, BPW International 2015 – 2017 Vice President United Nations 2017 – to date
Positions in other Voluntary Organizations	1981-1988 Treasurer of the Board of the University Kindergarten in Fribourg 1981 to 1988 Board Member of the Pre-school Institution and Kindergarten of the University of Fribourg (finance officer) and Chair from 1988 to 1993 1988-1993 Chair of the Board of the University Kindergarten (100 children, 14 employees) 1993-2003 Member of the task force "City Tours of Women" in Fribourg 1999 - 2001 Board member of the Gosteli Foundation and Archives for the Swiss Women's Movement. 1999-2011 Board Member of the Swiss Society for Research in Women and Gender History 2001-2013 Board Member of the Swiss Society of History and chair of the task force "Congresses" 2014 Co-organizer of the NGO Conference Beijing +20 at the UN in Geneva 2015-2017 Vice Chair of NGO CSW Geneva 2016 Co-organizer of the Conference "Economic Empowerment of Women" at the UN in Geneva 2019 Active in the work group "Education" for the NGO Conference Beijing + 25 in Geneva preceding the Economic Council of Europe.





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Related Experience / Qualifications (e.g. CV, resume)

Catherine is a Swiss historian of contemporary and modern history and a specialist in gender studies. After studies in Switzerland, Germany and the USA, she received her MA in 1974 and in 1981 her PhD with distinction. After working on different research projects, she taught first as a senior lecturer and then as a professor for contemporary history at the Universities of Fribourg and California State University, Long Beach.

For twelve years she was a board member of the Swiss Society of History and, as Chair of the "Congresses" section, organized several large international symposia. She was member of the Board of the Doctoral School on Gender at the Universities of Berne and Fribourg. Her many publications cover women and gender history, church history, methodology. In 2001 she published together with one of her students the History of BPW Switzerland. From 2013 to 2017 she was nominated an independent expert for the Gender Studies Program by the Conference of Presidents of Swiss Universities. She was successfully involved in the reform of Bachelor and Master Study Programs at the University of Fribourg. Today, she is an independent scholar and researcher.

Diversity and Multicultural Environment

In her professional and private life, she has worked with totally different groups in different continents. She is used to collaborating in a multicultural environment and to adapting very quickly to new situations and contexts. She has travelled the world and has been in touch with BPW members in all five regions.

Languages and Communication

Catherine is fluent in 5 languages: German, French, English, Italian and Chinese, studied Latin and has some passive knowledge of Spanish and Portuguese. Her elder son opened the doors to the Asian culture for her.

Advocacy for Gender Issues and Women's Empowerment

As a Gender specialist she has been advocating for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment throughout her career. For several years she has successfully advocated for a cantonal law for early childhood institutions. Knowledge about BPW History

Knowledge of BPW History

As Chair of the BPW International "Archives" Task Force, she has archived the BPW documents deposited in Amsterdam.

Attendance and Organization of Conferences and Seminars

Catherine has organized and directed many conferences and seminars. She is very active as a speaker, chairperson and moderator.

Achievements as Vice President UN of BPW International

Currently, BPWI is represented by a very active and connected group of UN Representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna, at FAO in Rome and UNESCO in Paris. BPWI is regularly present at the UN with written and oral statements. Each year, BPW members have visited workshops in Geneva about the activities of the United Nations and could attend UN conferences. A new website and Facebook group reports on





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	<p>BPWI activities at the UN. Catherine is currently working on the Accreditation of BPW International in the Nairobi Office in Kenya.</p> <p>Family Catherine is married to Louis Bosshart, Professor Emeritus of Communication and Mass Media Research at the University of Fribourg. The couple has two sons and one granddaughter.</p>
<p>Statement by Candidate (Maximum 500 words)</p>	<p>International Theme: “Creating Opportunities through Cooperation” With a clear goal and a well-developed ability to cooperate, women can move the planet. Finding common values and strategies is a demanding challenge, even a work of art. But it is worthwhile developing the ability to cooperate because it multiplies our impact. In former times, using power and pressure to conquer others was normal. Since the disaster of the Great War (WW1) Woodrow Wilson instigated the creation of the League of Nations which later became the United Nations in order to have a platform for continued cooperation and collaboration to solve problems in a win-win way.</p> <p>Action Plan Focusing on opportunities for cooperation and using them consciously is a field where each BPW Member and all levels of our organization can multiply their impact in a sustainable manner. My concrete action plan is summarized by the following 3 points:</p> <p>Communication: Cooperation requires well-organized communication which respects the needs of all partners. I will focus on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A monthly BPW International Newsletter will summarize the most important issues - The BPW International Website stores all necessary information in a user-friendly manner and offers Taskforces and working groups a “working platform”. - Special topics, information and opinions will be exchanged in closed Facebook Groups. - The Reports of the Affiliates have to be analyzed in a user friendly and intelligent manner - An Annual BPW International Leaders’ Summit should not only be offered in New York but in Europe too, eg in Geneva (UN conference) - A leaflet for new members which answers the question “What can I get from BPW International?” - Zoom-Meetings is a communication tool which supports cooperation very effectively - Branding and visibility: New strategies to attract more members <p>Administration: Compared to a business, the democratic rules of BPW require terms for leaders. This results in a regular loss of know-how. Therefore, BPWI needs a solid administration.</p> <p>BPW International has already used the new opportunities of our digital age and appointed Administrators for different tasks (Membership, UN & other</p>





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	<p>Partners, Website and Communication). Moreover, an additional Administrator for “Friends and Fellows” and a specialist should be hired for Sponsoring and Fundraising.</p> <p>I will expand the system of independent Administrators and Implement the 2017 Resolution regarding the administration of the BPW International Office.</p> <p>Finances: I support the initiative of a dues increase by one Euro per triennium which is an inflation adjustment.</p> <p>It is imperative that BPW International invests money in a professional sponsoring and fundraising expert. As performance records are available, this can be realized easily.</p> <p>We desperately need to revive our own sponsors, the “Friends and Fellows”. This specific task has to be given to an Administrator.</p> <p>Presentation of the use of our finances in a more detailed manner.</p> <p>In the last years, the President’s allowance has increased in a disproportionate manner. An International President should be able to fulfil her duties with an allowance of 50,000 Euros per year.</p>
<p>A written Supporting statement (Maximum 200 words) by nominating affiliate</p>	<p>BPW France is honored to nominate Dr Catherine BOSSHART-PFLURGER for the position of President of Business and Professional Women International.</p> <p>Since 2019, Catherine has been an individual member of our Federation. She is well known in France through our collaboration with the UN, the International Labor Organization in Geneva and the UNESCO in Paris. Catherine is a true professional, her work ethic is solid, she is reliable, creative, thoughtful and an engaging team player. I have known her as a goal-oriented person who despite her broad background shows modesty. In her work as Executive Secretary and Vice-President UN she exhibited ethical morals with fairness and caring. She has a very positive and supportive personality and is always ready to listen to the members.</p> <p>Catherine is a true global citizen - at home in any country, and able to converse at all levels. With her vast experience of the International Federation, gained whilst being a member of the Board, she is an experienced advocate who will be able to promote the goals of the BPW International and of the women of the world. She has pronounced organizing skills and will manage a large organization like BPW efficiently and with bravery.</p> <p><i>Agnés Bricard</i> <i>President BPW France</i></p>

