

# CONFLICT RESOLUTION NETWORK

## Presents

# FAIR OR FOUL

# OMBUDSMEN MAKE THE CALL

**Tuesday, October 19, 2010**  
**6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Refreshments and Networking at 6:30 p.m.  
Presentation at 7:00 p.m.

**Southern Methodist University**  
Plano Campus – Building 3  
5228 Tennyson Parkway  
Plano, Texas

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** (469) 426-1348

**OR**

[WWW.SWCRN.COM](http://WWW.SWCRN.COM)

*Non-Members & Guests - \$10.00*

**Dr. Belinda K. Newman** was appointed as the University of North Texas Ombuds in 2007. She brings more than 30 years of higher education experience, including roles at Texas A&M University, the University of South Carolina, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and as the provost of Collin County Community College District's Preston Ridge Campus. Prior to becoming provost for CCCCD Preston Ridge, she served as Associate Vice President for Instruction as well as Provost at CCCCD Central Park. She also worked as a CCCCD legislative and coordinating Board liaison. At South Carolina, she served as Associate Dean of Student Development and at Texas A&M University she was Supervisor of Judicial Affairs. She also has worked as a legislative aide and intern in the Texas Legislature. In addition to her staff positions in higher education, Dr. Newman has taught courses for SMU, UNT, Collin College, and Amberton University. Dr. Newman has worked in mediation and dispute resolution within her various roles in higher education service. She completed the mediation training from CDR Associates in Boulder, Colorado, in 1984. Currently, Dr. Newman serves on the Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee of the International Ombudsman Association, and is also a member of the Association for Conflict Resolution and Ombuds of Texas. Dr. Newman earned her bachelor's, masters and doctoral degrees from Texas A&M University.

**Ronnie Thomson:** After a fifteen-year Human Resource Management career, Ronnie transitioned into the field of Conflict Resolution within a unique niche as an Organizational Ombudsman. Her objective is to listen to employees experiencing conflict and assist each employee in exploring the many options available in working toward resolution in the hope of avoiding formal processes, such as arbitration or employment litigation. Ronnie has many hours of training through the International Ombudsman Association, Chorda Conflict Management, and North Lake College, as well as her BA from the University of Southern Mississippi. Her experience, education, and passion for her work gives her the skills and the heart to assist employees in telling their story, identifying their interests and possibly reframing to view conflict as an opportunity for growth, empowering each employee to make choices that more closely align with their interests. Ronnie excels as a facilitator as well as an informal mediator.