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ICRW names Jeannie Bunton Vice President, External Relations Group

WASHINGTON, D.C. June 26, 2008 – The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) today announced the appointment of Jeannie Bunton as vice president of its external relations group. Bunton brings to ICRW more than two decades of communications, media and public relations experience at the nonprofit and federal levels.

Bunton leads ICRW's communications, advocacy and library sciences divisions, and collaborates with the development team on its fundraising initiatives. She also serves on ICRW's executive team and works closely with ICRW's president and board of directors to increase the organization's visibility and expand its donor base.

"Jeannie is an innovative strategic thinker with excellent experience, credentials and a real passion for her work," says Geeta Rao Gupta, ICRW president. "We are thrilled to have her on board, and we look forward to the contributions she'll make to raise awareness of ICRW, its mission and services."

Prior to ICRW, Bunton was vice president of strategic communications at the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, Wall Street's top lobbying organization. Bunton was a senior counselor at Policy Impact Communications Inc., where she advised an array of clients on media relations, message development and government relations strategies. Before joining Policy Impact, Bunton directed press and public relations at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). During her 10 year tenure, she served as spokeswoman, working daily with members of the national and local media.

Before joining CPB, Bunton served as a White House aide to President George H.W. Bush in the office of media affairs and the office of presidential speechwriting. She first came to Washington as a legislative assistant to Rep. Arthur Ravenel Jr. (R-S.C.). Before leaving South Carolina, Bunton and two partners founded a weekly newspaper, *The Bluffton Eccentric*, where she was editor for four years.

Bunton has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in communications, writing and public speaking at American University in Washington, D.C. She graduated with honors (Phi Beta Kappa) from the University of South Carolina and holds a master's in public communication from American University.

"I'm honored to join ICRW, a respected and influential organization that for more than 30 years has informed the policies and practices of governments, NGOs and philanthropies to improve the lives of women and girls the world over," says Bunton. "I look forward to working with my colleagues whose evidence-based, action-oriented research and advocacy is empowering women, advancing gender equality and fighting poverty."

Bunton succeeds Leslie Calman, who now heads the Mautner Institute.

The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) is a leading Washington, D.C.-based international research organization that works to improve the lives of women and girls in developing countries. To learn more, visit www.icrw.org.