Q&A with Leah Ong:

What needs to happen to draw more women to careers in corporate real estate?

The corporate real estate field is an excellent opportunity for women in the property industry. From my experience though, we still see a disproportionate amount of women occupying executive-level roles and many women find they simply can’t reach these leadership positions.

There are still so many barriers to success for women in corporate real estate including the lack of promotion opportunity, gender discrimination and pay inequity which organisations need to address and rectify in order to create an environment where women aspire for careers in CRE.

Women in corporate real estate field need access to mentors and champions (both men and women) to help encourage, guide and support them through their career. This is why organisations like CoreNet Global are so important in helping to connect and attract aspiring women in this field.

How did you establish your career in corporate real estate?

I had spent most of my career in Agency and working directly for landlords and it wasn’t until I had the opportunity to move into a Tenant Representative role with an agency where I found I could really make a difference in corporate real estate.

Having experience as a Service Provider and Landlord Representative meant I could provide a greater level of understanding and expertise as I then moved into end user positions. CoreNet Global and our local Australia Chapter has been instrumental in helping me establish my career in corporate real estate and I encourage any women who have an interest in Property to look at corporate real estate as an exciting career opportunity.