



# Furthering women's leadership 2008

Monday 9 June 2008, The Montague, London

The Women's Leadership Network is for women who hold or aspire to leadership and management roles at all levels in the further education and skills sector. Our purpose is to help develop a strong, dynamic and influential network of women leaders, to ensure equality of opportunity throughout the FE system.

Our first conference will bring together sector leaders and managers to hear about the experiences of top women leaders in education, share best practice and examine ways to promote the progression of more women to leadership roles in the FE and skills sector.



**Supporting opportunity in further education**

## Conference overview

Research<sup>1</sup> carried out for the Women's Leadership Network and the Centre for Excellence in Leadership in 2006 found that while women were well represented in further education management, there was still a significant glass ceiling effect in senior management and governing bodies. Between 50 and 60 per cent of first-line and middle managers were women, but females accounted for only 28 per cent of college principals in England.

This compares favourably with the commercial sector, where women occupy only 5 per cent of the top jobs, but more work is needed to redress the imbalance. Promoting an inclusive and equitable approach to people management is vital if the sector is to meet the needs of learners and mitigate the impact of a looming succession crisis.

The introduction of the Public Sector Duty on Gender Equality in April 2007 offers another compelling reason why colleges and providers need to take the issue seriously. The legislation lays a general statutory duty upon all public authorities to eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunity between men and women.

Our first conference will bring together sector leaders and managers to hear about the experiences of top women leaders in education, share best practice and examine ways to promote the progression of more women to leadership roles in the FE and skills sector.

## Why should you attend?

- Hear top female leaders in FE discuss their key challenges and achievements
- Hear what progressive colleges and providers are doing
- Share experiences of recruiting, developing and retaining female talent
- Network with inspirational female leaders and managers
- Take part in practical workshops aimed at helping your career progression.

## Who should attend?

Leaders and managers in the FE and skills sector, including principals and chief executives, vice-principals, senior women, governors, equality and diversity directors and managers, HR and staff development directors and managers.

## Membership of the Women's Leadership Network

The remit of the Women's Leadership Network is to provide professional support to female leaders working within the further education system. Our mission is to:

- promote and represent the interests and aspirations of women in FE by influencing leadership thinking and policy
- encourage career progression by supporting female managers to pursue leadership roles and work to improve support for women in the workplace
- provide professional support and intelligence networks for female leaders in FE
- raise awareness of the underrepresentation of women in FE leadership
- be recognised as a source of good professional practice.

The annual membership fee is just £500 for an FE college or provider institution. For further information, visit the website at [www.wlnfe.org.uk](http://www.wlnfe.org.uk)

1 Centre for Excellence in Leadership, 2007. *Gender-related factors in career progression*. London: CEL

# Programme

09.30 – 10.00	■ Arrival – tea and coffee
10.00 – 10.10	■ Welcome – our vision for the network <b>Sally Dicketts</b> , Chair, Women’s Leadership Network
10.10 – 10.25	■ Keynote speech: <b>Bill Rammell MP</b> , Minister of State for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education
10.25 – 10.40	■ Keynote speech – lessons from experience <b>Professor Janet Beer</b> , Vice-Chancellor, Oxford Brookes University
10.40 – 11.00	■ Questions to the panel
11.00 – 13.00	■ <b>Workshops</b> (coffee will be served) A Can we have it all? Tips on work-life balance. B Look like a leader – update your image, get noticed, get promoted. C Defining your route to success – get the career you want. D Power and authority – do women have to behave like men to get to the top?
13.00 – 14.00	■ Networking and barbecue lunch
14.00 – 16.00	■ <b>Workshops</b> (tea will be served) A Can we have it all? Tips on work-life balance. B Look like a leader – update your image, get noticed, get promoted. C Defining your route to success – get the career you want. D Power and authority – do women have to behave like men to get to the top?
16.00 – 16.30	■ Closing plenary. What do you want from the Women’s Leadership Network? <b>Sally Dicketts</b> , Chair, Women’s Leadership Network
16.30 – 18.30	■ Champagne reception in the piano bar



**Sally Dicketts** has been principal and chief executive of Oxford and Cherwell Valley College since October 2003. She is chair of the Women’s Leadership Network and serves on several other boards.



**Bill Rammell MP** has been Minister of State for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education since 2005. He is responsible for post-19 policy and for funding across the FE, skills and HE sectors.



**Professor Janet Beer** is Vice-Chancellor at Oxford Brookes University. She is a board member of the HEA and chair of its Academic Council, a board member of the Equality Challenge Unit and HEPI.

# Furthering Women's Leadership 2008: REGISTRATION FORM

(Please register online or use additional forms if you have more than two delegates.)

**Invoice address.** Please use BLOCK CAPITALS.

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Purchase ref \_\_\_\_\_  
Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

**DELEGATE 1:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Job title \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Workshops 11.00  A  B (tick one)  
(details on  C  D  
previous  
page) 14.00  A  B (tick one)  
 C  D  
Subsidy  BME  LGB  disabled  
 ACL  WBL  specialist college  
Any special  no  yes (please specify)  
requirements?

**DELEGATE 2:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Job title \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Workshops 11.00  A  B (tick one)  
(details on  C  D  
previous  
page) 14.00  A  B (tick one)  
 C  D  
Subsidy  BME  LGB  disabled  
 ACL  WBL  specialist college  
Any special  no  yes (please specify)  
requirements?

The details you provide will be held on WLN's database and used to promote events and programmes that may be of interest to you. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive any other information.

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**Method of payment.** Please tick a payment method on the left, record the number of delegates and the relevant price on the right, and print and sign your name. Please note that we require payment before the event.

- By BACS:  
Sort code 40 33 01  
Account 21675303
- Cheque drawn on UK bank enclosed  
(payable to National Network of Women Managers  
in the Further Education Services).

I authorise the Women's Leadership Network to invoice my organisation for:

- 1 delegate at £200
- \_\_\_\_\_ delegates at £175 each, total fee: £ \_\_\_\_\_  
(This reduced rate applies to bookings from two or more delegates from the same institution.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please post your completed form and your payment (unless paying by BACS) to:  
Tina Fahm, Women's Leadership Network, Fourth Floor, 47 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7QQ  
Alternatively, you may register online at [www.wlnfe.org.uk/2008.html](http://www.wlnfe.org.uk/2008.html)

## Further information

For more details, please contact Tina Fahm on 07789 735 890 or email [tinafahm@wlnfe.org.uk](mailto:tinafahm@wlnfe.org.uk)

## Terms and conditions

The registration form constitutes a legally binding agreement. No refund will be offered for non-attendance on the day. If the conference is cancelled by WLN (other than as a result of events beyond WLN's reasonable control) the full fee payment will be refunded. WLN cannot be held responsible for the non-arrival of information: if by 14 days before the event you have not received a confirmation, please contact Tina Fahm on 07789 735 890.

The Women's Leadership Network has been operating under the auspices of Inspire Learning Limited, trading as the Centre for Excellence in Leadership, a company registered in England and Wales under number 04716399. WLN is in the process of being incorporated as a company.