2009

Annual HIGHER Ground Women's Leadership Conference 2009

The Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute at Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Commonwealth University, gehli@vcu.edu

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HIGHER Ground Women’s Leadership Development Program
3rd Annual Luncheon

IVING TODAY
LEADING TOMORROW

WORKSHOP SESSIONS
LEADERSHIP PRESENCE
WHAT ACTORS HAVE THAT LEADERS NEED

COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP
LIFE IS NOT ALWAYS PRETTY: LEADING IN DIFFICULT TIMES

FINDING BALANCE
LEADING THROUGH LIFE’S TRANSITIONS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Eva Teig Hardy
DOMINION EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, RETIRED

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2009
CROWNE PLAZA RICHMOND WEST
Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute, VCU
HIGHER Ground
Women’s Leadership Development Program
Annual Luncheon

Living Today
Leading Tomorrow

Friday, January 23, 2009
Crowne Plaza RICHMOND West

11:00 a.m.  Registration

12:00 p.m.  Welcoming Remarks  Dr. Nakeina E. Douglas, Director
Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute
Virginia Commonwealth University

12:10 p.m.  Alumna Speaker  Rose Hatcher, Procurement Manager,
Aetna
HIGHER Ground Alumna, Class of 2008

- Buffet Lunch -

12:50 p.m.  Introduction of Speaker  Dr. Grace E. Harris, Distinguished Professor
Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute
Virginia Commonwealth University

1:00 p.m.  Keynote Speaker  Eva Teig Hardy, Executive Vice President, Retired
Dominion

1:30 p.m.  Afternoon Plenary

Session A- Leadership with Presence
David S. Leong, Professor
Theater Department, Virginia Commonwealth University

Aaron Anderson, Associate Professor
Theater Department, Virginia Commonwealth University

Session B- Finding Balance
Sindy M. Benavides, Director of Gubernatorial Appointments & Latino Liaison
Secretary of the Commonwealth, Office of Governor Timothy M. Kaine

Rev. Beverly Bullock, Ordained Minister
Word and Sacrament of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Tekisha DwanEverette, Senior Government Relations Manager
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

Lisa Schaffner, Public Relations and Marketing Director
United Network for Organ Sharing

Session C- Courageous Leadership
Dr. Sheryl D. Bailey, Executive Director
Virginia Resources Authority

3:15 p.m.  - Break -

3:30 p.m.  Networking Session
HIGHER Ground Women’s Leadership Development Program Luncheon 2009

Living Today, Leading Tomorrow

This year’s theme, *Living Today, Leading Tomorrow* emphasizes strengthening the performance capacities of women to confidently confront leadership challenges today, so that they may serve as change agents to achieve meaningful, action-oriented outputs and results tomorrow. The day will begin with a keynote address by Éva Teig Hardy, Dominion Executive Vice President (Retired). Come share ideas, illuminate innovative leadership practices and explore factors that influence your effectiveness at work, at home and in your community.

**AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS**

**Leadership Presence**

*What Actors Have That Leaders Need*

This session uses the metaphor of acting as a tool for connecting more profoundly to those you lead and to yourself. The foundation of success in business and in life is one’s ability to authentically engage and connect with others. This session will guide you through the four key elements of the PRES model: Present, Reaching out, Expressiveness, and Self-knowing, to establish your leadership presence. *(Come dressed relaxed for comfort, especially comfortable footwear, for experiential learning in interactive discussions and activities with groups and pairs.)*

**Finding Balance**

*Leading Through Life Transitions*

This is an interactive session between the audience and the panel that will offer advice on leading through life’s transitions. Women in their 20s, 30s, 40s, and beyond weigh in on the “L” word-Leadership. A panel of women will discuss what defines their leadership personally and professionally and some of the challenges they have faced (and conquered) forging their career and personal lives. This session is designed to give the audience a behind the scenes view at the lives of these dynamic women from diverse backgrounds and experiences at different life stages. The panelists will deliver candid and inspiring stories about their lives, lessons learned, triumphs and tribulations, and reaching milestones.

**Courageous Leadership**

*Life is Not Always Pretty: Leading in Difficult Times*

This session will focus on the bold moves of women making difficult decisions, inevitably gaining strength from their inner leadership to overcome the struggles they faced. In this session we examine how difficult events can become transformative experiences, enriching and deepening an understanding of ourselves. This session will provide participants with a set of skills to recognize and address leadership struggles in your personal and/or professional life.

*If you need special assistance or accommodations please contact the GEHLI office.*