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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](mailto: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



THE  
GRACE E. HARRIS  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

VCU | Virginia Commonwealth University

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	<i>Dr. Nakeina E. Douglas</i> , Director Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute Virginia Commonwealth University
12:10 p.m.	Alumna Speaker	<i>Rose Hatcher</i> , Procurement Manager, Aetna HIGHER Ground Alumna, Class of 2008
		-Buffet Lunch-
12:50 p.m.	Introduction of Speaker	<i>Dr. Grace E. Harris</i> , Distinguished Professor Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute Virginia Commonwealth University
1:00 p.m.	Keynote Speaker	<i>Eva Teig Hardy</i> , Executive Vice President, Retired Dominion
1:30 p.m.		-Break-
1:45 p.m.	Afternoon Plenary	
	<b>Session A- Leadership with Presence</b>	
	<i>David S. Leong</i> , Professor Theater Department, Virginia Commonwealth University	
	<i>Aaron Anderson</i> , Associate Professor Theater Department, Virginia Commonwealth University	
	<b>Session B- Finding Balance</b>	
	<i>Sindy M. Benavides</i> , Director of Gubernatorial Appointments & Latino Liaison Secretary of the Commonwealth, Office of Governor Timothy M. Kaine	
	<i>Rev. Beverly Bullock</i> , Ordained Minister Word and Sacrament of the Presbyterian Church (USA)	
	<i>Tekisha Dwan Everette</i> , Senior Government Relations Manager Drinker Biddle & Realth LLP	
	<i>Lisa Schaffner</i> , Public Relations and Marketing Director United Network for Organ Sharing	
	<b>Session C- Courageous Leadership</b>	
	<i>Dr. Sheryl D. Bailey</i> , Executive Director Virginia Resources Authority	
3:15 p.m.		-Break-
3:30 p.m.	Networking Session	

*Living Today, Leading Tomorrow*

THE GRACE E. HARRIS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, VCU  
HIGHER GROUND WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



## 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 Eva 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.