



SheLEADS

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

13 MAY 2014

HOTEL REALM, CANBERRA

The She Leads Conference provides women leaders and those aspiring to leadership with the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and networks to accelerate their leadership journey.





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Time	Session
8:30am	Registrations Tea and coffee will be served on arrival
9:00am	Introduction Jane Alver, YWCA of Canberra President Susan Brennan, MC
9:10am	Welcome to Country Aunty Anges Shea
9:20am	Opening remarks Susan Brennan, MC
9:25am	Keynote address Anne Summers, Why Women Should...
9:55am	Panel discussion She Leads: personal reflections on leadership Four panellists from diverse personal and professional backgrounds will share their leadership stories and reflections on what leadership means to them, followed by an audience Q&A. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Khadija Gbla• Casey Keed• Lauren Anderson• Virginia Haussegger
11:05am	Morning Tea
11:30am	Concurrent Workshop Session 1 Sessions: A. What's your leadership ID? – Suzi Skinner B. Personal effectiveness techniques – Dianne van Meegen C. Communication and leadership – Julie McKay
12:40pm	Lunch

Time	Session
1:25pm	Panel discussion From statistics to solutions: overcoming our biggest leadership challenges The panel will consider the current statistics about women in leadership in Australia, and discuss some of the historical and current issues affecting women in the workplace. The panel will also share their ideas about what can be done at an individual and societal level to advance gender equality. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carmel McGregor• Yolanda Vega• Helen Conway• Caroline Lambert
2:25pm	Concurrent Workshop Session 2 Sessions: A. What's your leadership ID? – Suzi Skinner B. Personal effectiveness techniques – Dianne van Meegen C. Communication and leadership – Julie McKay
3:35pm	Afternoon Tea
4:00pm	Concurrent Workshop Session 3 Sessions: A. What's your leadership ID? – Suzi Skinner B. Personal effectiveness techniques – Dianne van Meegen C. Communication and leadership – Julie McKay
5:10pm	Closing remarks Susan Brennan, MC

Key note speakers



Anne Summers

Anne Summers is an Australian author, journalist and pioneering feminist.

She has authored numerous best-selling books, been a political adviser and now well known commentator. Her latest book, *The Misogyny Factor* was published in May 2013.

Anne has edited the Good Weekend as well as writing for the Sydney Morning Herald, the Australian Financial Review and numerous other publications. In 1989 she was made an Officer in the Order of Australia for her services to journalism and to women.

Anne helped start Australia's first women's refuge in the early 1970s and in 1975 her book *Damned Whores and God's Police* helped spark the women's movement in Australia.

In 1987 she moved to New York, where she worked as the editor-in-chief of America's landmark feminist magazine *Ms.* In 1988, with business partner Sandra Yates, Anne bought *Ms.* and *Sassy* magazines in the second only women-led management buyout in US corporate history.

From 1983 to 1986, Anne ran the federal Office of the Status of Women when Bob Hawke was Prime Minister. She was also an advisor on women's issues to Prime Minister Paul Keating prior to the 1993 federal election.



Susan Brennan

Susan Brennan is a Melbourne barrister practising in planning and environment law. Between 2007 and 2011, she served as President of the World YWCA, a global women's movement reaching 25 million women and girls in over 100 countries. Susan is the current Vice President of the World YWCA for the Pacific region, and a director of Action Aid Australia, a rights based anti-poverty agency addressing the root causes of poverty and injustice — not just the effects.

As a young woman, Susan was elected as one of two joint Presidents of the YWCA of Australia. Her commitment to women's human rights is evident from the range of organisations with which she has been involved: the International Women's Development Agency, the Women's Rights Action Network of Australia, the Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service of Victoria and the Queen Victoria Women's Centre.



Yolanda Vega

Yolanda Vega is the CEO at the Australian Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

In 2012 Yolanda presented the findings from the first Australian national research project on women owners and female entrepreneurs at APEC in St. Petersburg, Russia. She was also one of two women to represent Australia as a 'Young Leader' at the 2009 International Women's Forum World Conference held in Hong Kong.

Yolanda has owned several small businesses and was appointed to the Federal Government Small Business Advisory Committee in 2012. There she provided women business owners with a voice and instigated several programs to assist women and their business around Australia. In her role as CEO, Yolanda has initiated changes to Federal policy, as well as the Productivity Commission Inquiry into childcare thanks to an outstanding and provocative advertising campaign which received national media attention.

Yolanda is currently working with several Ministers from the Federal Coalition instigating programs to assist and promote the importance and value-add of women-owned firms to the economy.



Carmel McGregor

Carmel is the Deputy Secretary People Strategies and Policy in the Department of Defence. She joined the Department in March 2012.

Carmel's previous positions have included Deputy Australian Public Service Commissioner, and Deputy Secretary Client and Corporate Services in the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. Carmel also previously held the position of General Manager Employment, Disability and Education at Centrelink where she managed delivery of employment and education programs and led the implementation of the Welfare to Work reforms.

Carmel is currently Australia's representative on the OECD's Public Governance Committee. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, a Fellow of the Australian Human Resources Institute, Acting President of Institute of Public Administration Australia in the ACT, a member of Australian Institute of Training and Development, and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Casey Keed

Young Wiradjuri woman Casey Keed was only sixteen years old when she started her own dance school, *Dance Beyond Barriers*. Tackling challenging issues including suicide, bullying, depression and homelessness, the group raises awareness and offers new perspectives and solutions.

Casey's involvement in Indigenous issues extends beyond dance. She was selected to represent the ACT at the Inaugural National Indigenous Parliament where 50 young leaders of the future met to debate issues affecting their communities including recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution.

In 2010 Casey's leadership and her advocacy for reconciliation and equality were recognised when she was named the ACT NAIDOC Young Person of the Year. She is also the Indigenous Ambassador for National Youth Week, and was State Finalist Young Australian of the Year, ACT in 2013.



Helen Conway

Helen Conway is the Director of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency, an Australian Government statutory authority and key to the government's efforts to improve gender equality in the workplace.

Prior to joining the Agency, Helen spent about 30 years in the private sector. Following 10 years in private practice as a lawyer, including seven years as a partner, Helen joined the corporate sector where she held various executive positions in companies covering the insurance, transport, downstream oil, retailing and construction industries. Helen has an established track record in the equal opportunity sphere focussing in particular on initiatives in support of women.

Key note speakers



Khadija Gbla

Khadija Gbla is a passionate leader and an inspired advocate for equality. Determined to give women, young people and minority groups a voice, Khadija is studying Law at Flinders University and is a member of the South Australian Government Minister's Youth Council.

Arriving in Australia after three years in a refugee camp in Gambia, Khadija was determined to make every moment of her new life in Australia a positive step to a better future. Adapting to a strange new way of life at school in Adelaide, she emerged from a tough journey with the credentials to study law at Flinders University. For her social justice activities Khadija was named Young South Australian of the Year in 2011 and Young African Australian of the Year.



Virginia Haussegger

Virginia is the face of ABC TV News in Canberra. She is an award winning journalist, writer and commentator whose extensive media career spans more than 20 years.

Virginia's outspoken views on women, and their place in contemporary society, have been widely debated in the Australian media. Her seminal article on feminism and childlessness was ranked by *The Age* newspaper as among the most significant opinion pieces published in its 150 year history. Her book *Wonder Woman: The myth of 'having it all'* was launched by Julia Gillard at the National Press Club in 2005.

Virginia's work has taken her around the world, reporting for Australia's leading current affairs programs.



Dr Caroline Lambert

Caroline joined the YWCA in 2005 and has long-term interest in women's human-rights and gender equality issues, in Australia and internationally. Over a twenty-five year period, Caroline has been involved in a range of community organisations, including the Women's Rights Action Network Australia, IWRAP Asia Pacific, Amnesty International, Women's Housing Limited, the National Foundation for Australian Women, the Victorian Foundation for the Survivors of Torture, and Arts Access Victoria.

Caroline is interested in ensuring that the voices of women in Australia, in particular young women's voices, are integrated in the policy process – so that policy can meet their needs and enable girls and young women in Australia to thrive and meet their full potential. Caroline works with a range of policy tools, with a particular expertise in using the UN Human Rights Treaty System, to achieve domestic political change.

Caroline's doctorate examined the intersections of trade and human rights law using a feminist critique of liberal political and economic theory. She is the co-author of *Critical Chatter: Women and Human Rights Activism in South East Asia* and co-edited *Global Issues, Women and Justice*.

Conference facilitators



Julie McKay

Julie McKay, 29, has held the position of Executive Director at UN Women Australia (formerly UNIFEM Australia) since March 2007. Julie has overseen many campaigns to raise awareness of gender equality issues, including as a National Campaign Manager for the White Ribbon Campaign.

As a young professional, Julie advocates on key issues affecting women including women's leadership, pay equity, political participation and violence against women. With experience in both the corporate and NGO sectors Julie actively works to support strong partnerships between the community, the private sector and government.

Julie was the Australian Institute of Management's Young Manager of the Year in 2010 and was named Telstra Young Business Woman of the Year (ACT) in 2011. She sits on the Steering Committee of the Australian Institute of Management ACT, the UN Association of Australia and the YWCA of Canberra. In 2012, Julie was also appointed to the Australian Defence Force Gender Advisory Board.



Dianne van Meegen

Dianne is the Principal of Directions for Change, a management consultancy that works closely with individual clients, organisations and groups to enhance their effectiveness: personally, professionally and organisationally.

Her work with individuals, undertaken through her coaching, is focused on a range of personal effectiveness techniques and capabilities, including leadership effectiveness, emotional intelligence, resilience, confidence and developing facilitation, presentation and representational skills.

Dianne has a strong interest in supporting people in their career and life decisions and achieves results through highly tailored approaches and strong partnerships with her clients, taking full advantage of their skills, capacities and talents.



Suzi Skinner

Suzi is a social researcher, leadership practitioner and Managing Director of Roar People, Selftalk PTY Limited – a boutique consultancy in Sydney.

Suzi works with organisations to transform leadership, accelerate change towards more inclusive workplaces and enhance employee engagement and results. Suzie is a Harnisch

Scholar and her research, titled "Understanding the Importance of Professional Identity and Gender in Developing Leaders", was awarded first prize at Harvard University's Institute of Coaching Annual Conference in 2012.



Lauren Anderson

Lauren Anderson is the Community Director for CollaborativeConsumption.com, having played an instrumental role in building the global Collaborative Consumption movement, named by TIME as one of the '10 Ideas That Will Change The World.'

Lauren is a highly skilled public speaker and workshop facilitator, who has delivered keynotes in Europe, United States, South America and Australia for organizations such as SXSW Interactive, Fast Company, GigaOm, UNEP Future of Sustainable Lifestyles and Entrepreneurship, CPA Australia and the Brightest Young Minds Summit. Lauren curates a bi-weekly 'Collaborative Entrepreneurs' column getting inside hot ventures from Airbnb to TaskRabbit. Her work has been covered by Fast Company, Big Issue UK, Shareable.net, The Age Australia, and ABC Radio Australia, to name a few.



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Workshop descriptions

What's your leadership ID?

Suzi Skinner will share her award-winning research from Harvard University's Institute of Coaching on "Understanding the Importance of Gender and Leadership Identity in Developing Leaders". During this informative session Suzi will explore how you can do more to take responsibility for bringing out your personal leadership best, creating a career you love, and successfully managing your development despite the obstacles that still exist in many organisations.

Personal effectiveness techniques

In this session, Dianne van Meegen will provide you with tools to reflect on your internal capacities and how they impact your leadership, including emotional intelligence and resilience. Di will also share tips for accelerating your leadership journey through building support networks and fostering mentoring relationships.

Communication and leadership

Julie McKay will discuss your profile as a leader, both on and offline, and will provide advice and tools for building a profile that demonstrates credibility, influence and confidence as a leader. Julie will also provide examples and tips for effective leadership communication.

Tickets for the She Leads Conference are on sale now!
Visit www.ywca-canberra.org.au for all the details

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