

American Council on Education
Office of Women in Higher Education
New England Networks of Women Leaders in Higher Education
9th Annual Regional Conference
Assumption College - Hagan Campus Center – Conference Room
Friday, October 1, 2011



Creating a Viable Future: Women Educational Leaders Investing in Themselves

AGENDA

- 9:00-9:30 a.m.** **Conference Registration:** Hagan Campus Center - Conference Room
- 9:30-9:45 a.m.** **Opening Remarks from the New England ACE Networks Planning Committee/Introduction to the work of the ACE Office of Women in Higher Education** – Martha Shouldis and Cynthia Forrest
- 9:45-9:50 a.m.** **Welcome from Assumption College** – Facilitator: Martha Shouldis
Dr. Francesco Cesareo, President of Assumption College
- 9:50- 10:50 a.m.** **Networking and Roundtable Discussion** - Facilitator: Henriette Pranger
- **Social Networking:** Share your insights and learn from others about the use of social networking sites such as Linked In and Face Book and the pros and cons of their use for professional networking and development. Facilitators: Christie Boronico, University of New Haven and Mimi Royston, Assumption College
 - **Work/Life Balance** – How do we, as women educational leaders, maintain work/life balance? Facilitator: Peggy Jablonski, University of New Haven
 - **Creating a Competitive Edge in the Search Process** – What kinds of things would give you the competitive edge when you search for your next role? Facilitators: Martha Shouldis, St. Vincent’s College and Valerie Szymkowitz
 - **Managing Multiple Constituencies:** The practice of leadership requires an evolving pattern of skills, knowledge, talents and ideas that grow and change as we do. How do we handle tension inherent in trying to balance the various need and demands of different constituencies? Facilitators: Wanda Mitchell, University of New Hampshire and Lily Hsu, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
 - **Respect for Women in Higher Education:** Dr. Melinda Rising, author of *Put the Blame on Eve* will lead a discussion on issues of equal pay, equal status, and equal respect for women in higher education.
- 11:00-11:45 a.m.** **Keynote Address:** - Dr. Danielle Ripich, President of the University of New England.
Facilitator: Cynthia Forrest
- 11:45-12:45 p.m.** **Lunch and Networking** (Hagan Campus Center - Buffet)
- 1:00-1:45 p.m.** **Response to the Keynote Address** – Facilitator: Wanda Mitchell
- **Susan Huard**, President, Manchester Community College
 - **Rhona Free**, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Eastern Connecticut State University
 - **Wanda Heading-Grant**, Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the President for Multicultural Initiatives, University of Vermont
- 2:00-3:00 p.m.** **Tips and Techniques for Leadership Effectiveness** - Interactive Session led by
Dr. Vanessa Druskat, Associate Professor, Management, University of New Hampshire –
Facilitator: Wanda Mitchell
- 3:00-3:15 p.m.** **Closing Remarks** – Martha Shouldis
- 3:15 p.m.** **Book Signing** – Dr. Melinda Rising author of *Put the Blame on Eve*

Brief Bios for Speaker and Panelists

Dr. Danielle Ripich

President of the University of New England

Danielle N. Ripich, Ph.D., is University of New England's fifth president. UNE educates more health care professionals than any other institution of higher learning in Maine, and is the number-one provider of physicians for the state. Under her leadership, the university has seen substantial growth, as well as the construction of six new buildings, including a Center for Biomedical Research, the launch of a College of Pharmacy, and the 300-bed Sokokis Residence Hall in Biddeford. Plans are under way for the UNE College of Dental Medicine to open in 2013. UNE is an economic driver for the state, contributing nearly \$560 million to Maine's economy each year.

President Ripich is widely recognized for her work in child language and with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. She has written extensively in her field, including edited books, several book chapters, manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, and has served as an editorial consultant to numerous medical and language journals.

President Ripich earned a Ph.D. in speech pathology from Kent State University. She also received a bachelor's and a master's degrees in speech pathology from Cleveland State University. President Ripich has served in numerous professional association leadership positions, and has been the recipient of many honors, awards and fellowships, including a Congressional Fellowship from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In October 2009 she was named a Fellow by the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions in recognition of her significant contributions and leadership in allied health education.

Dr. Susan Huard

President, Manchester Community College

Dr. Huard became president of Manchester Community College in July 2010 following a successful decade as the Dean of Learning and Student Development at Quinebaug Valley Community College in Connecticut, where enrollment increased more than 74% during her tenure. At QVCC, Dr. Huard's responsibilities covered all academic programs – including new programming in Allied Health, Computer Technology, Construction Technology, Fine Arts, Science, and Early Childhood Education – as well as student development and support services, including outreach and job placement.

Prior to QVCC, Dr. Huard served as the Director of the Liberal Arts Division of Manchester Community College in Manchester, Conn., where she supervised and evaluated faculty and support staff, and oversaw budget management and curriculum development. She created a series of faculty seminars to explore diversity issues, chaired an initiative on developmental education, and developed the Outreach! program in collaboration with area high schools.

Earlier in her career, Dr. Huard taught at the middle and high school levels before earning both her M.A. in Reading, and later, her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, from the University of Connecticut. After several years of teaching at Finger Lakes Community College in New York State, she began her administrative career there as Acting Director of Developmental Studies Division.

Dr. Huard has been active in a variety of community service organizations, including: the Home Builders of Eastern Conn. Advisory Council, the state and regional levels of the Allied Health Education Council, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Council (northeast and eastern regions), the Boy Scouts of America, the League for Innovation in the Community College, the International Reading Association, and many others. She has presented at a variety of regional and national conferences, and has published several papers in educational journals.

In addition to membership in Pi Lambda Theta (the most selective national honor society of educators), and Kappa Delta Pi (international honor society for education), Dr. Huard received the Connecticut Dream Award (2009) from the CT Home Builders Association, and several awards for teaching: the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Excellence in Teaching from the Manchester (CT) Community-Technical College Alumni Association.

Dr. Rhona Free,

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Eastern Connecticut State University

From 1983 to 2007 she taught and did research in labor and political economy in the Economics Department at Eastern. She was honored in 2004 as a Professor of the Year National Winner by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. A founding member of the Connecticut Consortium for Learning and Teaching and of Connecticut Campus Compact, a coalition of universities that promote service-learning, Rhona is the editor of Sage Publications' *21st-Century Economics: A Reference Handbook* (2010). Her current research focuses on choice of college major and its impact on gender and racial differences in estimated starting salaries of graduates.

Dr. Wanda Heading-Grant**Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the President for Multicultural Initiatives at the University of Vermont.**

Prior to Dr. Heading-Grant's appointment as Chief Diversity Officer and Special Assistant to the President, she was the Associate Provost for Multicultural Affairs and Academic Initiatives at the University of Vermont. Dr. Heading-Grant has also served as Associate Dean of the College of Education and Social Services at the University of Vermont. Dr. Heading-Grant has over 18 years of experience as a senior-level administrator in higher education. She has spent her career focusing on issues of social justice, education, and equity. She has provided numerous diversity, multicultural competency and affirmative action presentations and trainings to a vast number of non-profit agencies and organizations. Dr. Heading-Grant holds a Clinical Associate Professor appointment in the Department of Social Work and is a member of the Graduate College at the University of Vermont. She has served on the Girls Scout Council of Vermont Board of Directors and United Way of Chittenden County Board of Directors. Dr. Heading-Grant has received the City of Burlington's MLK Service Award and the 2011 United Way of Chittenden County Community Impact Award.

Vanessa Urch Druskat, Ph.D.

Dr. Druskat is an Associate Professor of Management at the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at the University of New Hampshire, where she has served on the faculty for the past eight years. She conducts research in the areas of group dynamics, team leadership and team effectiveness. When she isn't teaching or conducting research, she spends time learning from and working with teams in organizations that range from Fortune 100 Companies such as Johnson & Johnson, Kodak, and Whirlpool to non-profits like the Houston Public School System. She has been invited to present her research at universities around the globe. She lives in Durham, New Hampshire with her husband and two children.

Melinda J. Rising, PhD

Dr. Melinda J. Rising served in higher education for more than twenty-five years. She was Dean of Continuing Education at Three Rivers Community Technical College and later served as Dean of Instructional Programs and Services at Northwestern Connecticut Community College, from which she was named Dean Emerita when she left. Dr. Rising also served as Special Projects Coordinator for the University of Connecticut Tri-Campus. During that tenure she acted as Interim Director of the UCONN Torrington Campus and was later responsible for Charring human rights events, including two Human Rights Convocations, collaboration with the UNESCO Chair's Office, UCONN Regional Campuses, and the twelve Connecticut Community Colleges. Dr. Rising was also a commissioner with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges for seven years.

A former Latin teacher, Dr. Rising holds a BA in Latin from the University of Connecticut, an MS in Administration, Supervision and Curriculum Development from Central Connecticut State University and a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in futuristics from UCONN.

For the past four years Dr. Rising has served on the Leadership Team for AAUW/CT as Liaison to the College/University Partnership and as Women's Issues Chair. In those capacities she has been involved with activities involving the National Conference for College Women's Leadership, \$tart \$mart, a program designed to provide salary negotiation skills to women, and Campaign College, a program providing college females with incentives and skills to run and win in campus, local, state and national political campaigns. The mission of AAUW is advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. Dr. Rising recently completed a non-fiction book entitled *Put the Blame on Eve* which was released in December 2010 by Larson Publications. She is the mother of two adult daughters and grandmother to four granddaughters.

Biographical information provided by speaker and panelist.

Thank you for joining us.

Planning Committee Members

Dr. Cynthia Smith Forrest, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, University of New England;
Dr. Wanda Mitchell, Vice Provost for Faculty Development and Inclusive Excellence, University of New Hampshire;
Dr. Martha K. Shouldis, President/CEO, St. Vincent's College;
Dr. Henriette Pranger, Program Chair General Studies, Goodwin College

Special Thanks to: Assumption College and in particular Dr. Nancy Crimmin, Dean of Campus Life, who handled the logistics of space, food, parking and signage.