

2019

The Aspiring Women Leaders Conference

Presented by
Karen Spiller and Ros Curtis

**Saturday 3 and
Sunday 4 August 2019**

Presbyterian Ladies' College
14 McNeil Street
Peppermint Grove



Why attend a conference like this?

Research into factors that impact on the leadership aspirations of women in teaching suggests that women are reluctant to put themselves forward for leadership positions unless identified and sponsored by others and encouraged to take part in leadership preparation programmes.

This conference aims to provide relevant training and preparatory experiences in leadership and to demystify the application and interview process for female aspirant leaders.

As Principals and other senior leaders are often the most effective mentors and facilitators of leadership learning, this conference draws upon the experiences of practising leaders in schools. Its interactive workshop sessions focus on sharing experienced-based wisdom about effective leadership practice and, through stories, encourage reflection on leadership learning and preparation.

This conference programme is specifically designed to support women aspirant leaders and is aimed at women who wish to make the next step in their careers.

Leadership 101

Look, you can't expect to wield supreme executive power just because some watery tart threw a sword at you? Peasant to King Arthur-Monty Python and the Holy Grail .

Relevant leadership theory determined by the participants' responses to a pre-conference survey (sent on registration) will be the focus of this session. Specifically, characteristics of effective leadership and the implications for female leaders will be addressed.

The Leadership Journey

My grandfather once told me there were two kinds of people; those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to be in the first group. There is much less competition. Indira Gandhi.

Senior Leadership in Schools – Are you ready?

Principals will provide you with their views about what they look for in the application for a senior leadership position. They will offer insights into how to ensure success in the interview process.

Characteristics of my Leadership Journey

A panel of current Senior Leaders will provide a personal account of the nature of their leadership journey, sharing their wisdom and providing insight into the issues concerned with moving from middle management into senior management.

The Four requirements for Career Progression

It's not so much how busy you are, but why you are busy. The bee is praised; the mosquito is swatted. Marie O'Connor

Have you ever wondered why one person was given a job over someone else? This session promises to provide the insight that you need. Delegates will be given the opportunity to reflect on their career performance to date while exploring the qualities of a high performer in a school and what principals are looking for in their future leaders.

Dressing for Where you Want to be – Looking The Part

Clothes can suggest, persuade, connote, insinuate, or indeed lie, and apply subtle pressure while their wearer is speaking frankly and straightforwardly of other matters. Anne Hollander

Dressing for success may appear to be a frivolous topic, but dressing now for the role you aspire to be in is like donning a costume – helping you to fulfil the requirements of the role and meet an expectation for the position. Dressing for the part often makes people feel more confident and, if it is true that perception is reality, like it or not, more credible. Although this confidence may appear to be coming from an external source, that is, your appearance or clothing, it is really about drawing on your own confidence in your abilities and presenting those strengths and skills to the world.

Making The Leap

Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal. Vincent Lombardi

The purpose of this session is to set the scene for taking the next step. Possible strategies and the challenge ahead will be discussed. An outline of the day will follow where the group will be divided into two for participation in concurrent sessions. In these sessions, all participants will critically analyse their curriculum vitae, participate in a mock interview and learn about the issues for transition into leadership. A mock interview will allow a short critique of interview strategies.

Issues for Transition

A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don't necessarily want to go, but ought to be. Rosalyn Carter

The focus of this session is on the issues of:

- Governance, Financial Management
- Risk Management and Compliance
- Staff management
- Industrial Relation Issues
- Marketing and Competitive Difference

Having knowledge and experience in these areas is an important preparatory step for a senior leadership position. In this session, participants will be provided with an overview of these topics as well as some advice about how to learn more about them.

An Action Plan for the Future: What Do I Need To Do?

Life is change. Growth is optional. Choose wisely. Karen Kaiser Clarke

Participants will be provided with the opportunity to consider their own experiences so far and how well they have prepared to meet their leadership aspirations. In this session, participants will have the opportunity to review actual role descriptions and key criteria for applications against their own Curriculum Vitae and to participate in mock interviews. As a result of the activities in this session, participants will be able to develop an Action Plan to assist them in fulfilling their leadership aspirations and to develop a plan for plugging the gaps in their CV.

To register go to www.ais.wa.edu.au

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