

**New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission  
Council on Gender Parity in Labor and Education**

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 30, 2009**

Labor Education Center, Rutgers University

New Brunswick, New Jersey

10:30-12:00

**Attendees:** Terri Boyer, Laurel Brennan, Suzanne Eng, David Finegold, Judy Formalarie, Glenda, Gracia-Rivera, Grace Hamilton, Dianne E. Hartshorn, Andrea Karsian, RoseMarie Korbelak, Janice Kovach, Barbara Lee, Dianne Mills-McKay, Sarah Pallone, Henry Plotkin, Virginia Treacy

Chair Dianne Mills McKay opened the meeting with a welcome to all. During introductions, council member Sarah Pallone mentioned her new appointment to the federal Environmental Protection Agency starting in June, but that she would be retaining New Jersey residency, as well as her membership on the council. David Finegold also announced that this year's Daniel Gorenstein Award from Rutgers University was awarded to council member Barbara Lee.

**Update on the Governor's Conference for Women and Update on State Legislation:**

Janice Kovach of the Division on Women provided an update on the Governor's Conference for Women, to be held May 12, 2009 in Atlantic City. The conference already has over 1700 registrants, including 21 women legislators and 70 exhibitors. A subcommittee to discuss the creation of state legislation was proposed, with council members Sarah Pallone, Janice Kovach, Laurel Brennan, Judy Formalarie, Dianne Mills McKay and Henry Plotkin volunteering. This committee will forward any proposed legislation to the broader council.

**Women in Law Report** Dr. Terri Boyer distributed the final report to the Council, "Legal Talent At the Crossroads: Why New Jersey Women Leave Their Law Firms and Why They Choose to Stay". Council members discussed dissemination plans, and interested members were invited to a conference call the following day. The report will be released via exclusive to the New Jersey Law Journal as per earlier agreement, followed by a broader press release. Plans for release include working with the New Jersey State Bar Association at the Annual Meeting in May, as well as the USDOL's Women's Bureau's "FlexOptions" program. Dianne Mills McKay will contact state legislators to set up a briefing event with targeted commentary remarks. Other suggestions included connecting this work with women in other professional fields, distributing the report to Chambers of Commerce, and organizing a panel based on the research for the International Labour Process Conference that will be hosted by Rutgers in March of 2010.

**Women In Leadership Development (WILD) Conference and the British Exchange:**

Laurel Brennan provided a synopsis of the NJ AFL-CIO's WILD conference, held on March 20-21 in East Brunswick, NJ. The conference was attended by over 200 union women leaders, including 10 union women leaders from Britain who were here on an exchange program. In addition to full participation in the WILD Conference, the UK women participated in interviews and focus groups, as well as tours of relevant cultural and industry sites. The program is a partnership between the NJAFL-CIO, Rutgers, Cornell, and Queen Mary University of London, and is funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

**NJ Women in Science & Technology Summit:** Copies of the proposed agenda for the June 5, 2009 summit were distributed to council members. There are already over 80 participants registered, and interest in the topic of "Green Jobs" is quite high.

**Resources from the Achieving Equity for Women: Policy Alternatives for the New Administration:** Dr. Terri Boyer distributed resources from a conference she attended in Washington, DC, including contact information for the President's Council on Women and Girls.

**Next meeting** of the Council will be the GPC Retreat scheduled for Thursday, July 23 at the Janice Levin Building, Room 102.