

**Council on Gender Parity in Labor and Education
Meeting Minutes**

September 27, 2007

Labor Education Center, Rutgers University
New Brunswick, New Jersey
10:30-12:00

Chair Dianne Mills McKay opened the meeting with a welcome to all and introductions of those in attendance.

Attendees:

Chris Almafe, Eileen Appelbaum, Angela Bethea, Terri Boyer, Suzanne Eng, David Finegold, Judy Formalarie, Mary Gatta, Grace Hamilton, Rosemarie Korbelak, Janice L. Kovach, Lynne Krause, Barbara Lee, Dianne Mills McKay, Henry Plotkin, Sondra Sen

David Finegold mention that Rutgers University's President Richard McCormick announced the main initiative for the University is diversity.

Henry Plotkin mention that Institute of Division in Workforce there is a report in progress regarding minorities and the labor market.

Gender Parity Council had its first meeting of the Fall on Thursday. Among the items discussed:

The Innovative Training & Workforce Development Center got a \$45,000 planning grant from the Sloan Foundation to develop a proposal to work with 3-4 high-impact states that will seek to transform the delivery of training and adult literacy using technology. The hope is for a matching planning grant from Microsoft. The Center's annual national conference in DC on Dec. 13-14 already has 100 sign ups. The keynote panel will focus on "What should the next President's agenda be for workforce development?" Day Two will focus on use of technology for the system of re-entry from prisons into halfway houses and one-stop centers. CWW has a project to evaluate a new initiative to do this in NJ as a condition of parole, funded by the Nicholson Foundation. This partnership approach is seen as a model for a new initiative on state crime.

Non-Traditional Career Resource Center (NCRC) got another \$345,000 grant from NJ Dept. of Education for the coming year's activities. Terri Boyer sits on NJ's Career & Technical Education Workforce Advisory Board, which is responsible for a six-year plan under the Perkins Act. She also serves on the BioPharma Skills NJ Innovation

Partnership Institute's "Strengthening the Pipeline" team to develop curriculum modules.

Women in Law Project is showing great progress, thanks to the hard work of Terri and **Chris Amalfi**, whose law firm, Gibbons, was recognized by Working Mother Magazine as one of the top law firms for women in the country, thanks to the high retention rate for women lawyers (article at: http://www.gibbonslaw.com/news_publications/news.php?action=display_news&news_id=2448) There are already 30 responses to an online survey, even before a major rollout. The Founding Partners Fall event will be held at the Heldrich Center on October 26. It will feature a workshop on "Business Case for Including Diversity and Women" and preliminary results from the survey. The Law Journal is interested in an exclusive article sharing the results of the survey. It will include a free ad of the survey, and also a spotlight on the survey with a link in its daily bulletin. The survey will be online for 6 weeks. NJ Women Lawyers Association and NJ Bar Association will also be sharing with it their members.

Women in Science & Technology Project has received funding from the state to write up last Spring's successful Symposium. It will be creating a sub-committee to look specifically at these issues. Seton Hall has the Institute for Healthcare Science, Technology and the Law as a potential partner. There are not many women in this field.

Douglass Business Leadership Symposium – Danielle Gougon, Asst. Dean, Douglass College discussed the focus of the Douglass campus, which will have a growing emphasis on women's leadership and Science, Technology, Engineering & Math, and require all students to have an externship, and an e-Portfolio. They are planning a one-day Business Leadership Symposium that will have a high-profile keynote speaker and panels. Possible topics are: opting out; helping women back into the workforce; entrepreneurship/micro lending; the impact of a credit crunch on women; 'negotiating for ourselves;' mentorship.

New Business- Komen Cure 5K walk/run May 4, 2008

The next meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2007 and Jan 10, 2008.