

# Powerful Business Women Highlight the Texas Women in Leadership Symposium



*Powerful business women speak at the Texas Women in Leadership Symposium*

The Annual Central Texas Women in Leadership Symposium was held in Austin, TX at the J. Neils Thompson Commons Building at the University of Texas at Austin on Tuesday, February 7, 2012. A diverse group of leaders from numerous organizations in the Central Texas area attended the symposium, which addressed topics relevant to women in leadership. This year's symposium presented the theme of "Women Leaders as Architects of Change."

The event opened with an opportunity for the attendees to grab breakfast and network with each other. Organizations and businesses were also able to set up a booth where they could

share information about their work with other attendees. This opening situation of meet-and-greet is held as an opportunity to create connections and contacts, establish a network of fellow business leaders, and foster a sense of community and support throughout the fields of work that were represented.

After registration and networking, the symposium itself began. A handful of successful and influential women from some of the top companies in Central Texas comprised a panel created to discuss topics related to women leaders' success in the workforce today. The moderator, Dona Kilby-Costa, gave introductions of the

panelists and topics. Panelists included Melinda Garvey, Co-Founder and Publisher of AW MEDIA, INC., Rita Russ, Dean of the Virtual University of University of the Incarnate Word, Ying McGuire, Vice President of International Operations of Technology Integration Group, Stacey Martinez, Partner of FULBRIGHT & Jaworski L.L.P., Diana Resnik, President and CEO of Seton Shoal Creek Hospital and Community Care of Seton Healthcare Family, and LaToya Hill, Ph.D., Assistant Dean of Students at the University of Texas at Austin.

Topics of discussion included "Becoming a Person of Influence," "Cross-Cultural Leadership: Women Bridging the Racial Divide," "The 'M' Factor in Mentoring for Leadership and Success," "I'm a Woman. I'm Invincible...and I'm Exhausted! (Work-Life Balance)," "Personal Branding: Accessorizing Your Assets," and "Own Your Finances, Own Your Life." The aim of this year's discussion was to discuss what it means to be a woman in a leadership role, how to succeed in personal business and finance, and the importance of creating a stable circle of support within and out of the work place.