



April 25, 2016

Texas Diversity Council Hosts Women in Leadership Symposiums Across the State

In March 2016, the Texas Diversity Council hosted Women in Leadership Symposiums in Corpus Christi, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio, Texas. Attendees of the symposium gained knowledge and advice from corporate leaders who shared insight from their personal success and leadership experience as professionals.

“It is amazing to see the growth of the Women in Leadership Symposium,” said Dennis Kennedy, Founder and Chair of the National Diversity Council. “These events advance gender inclusion by inviting women to share their knowledge and experiences with their peers.”

The half-day event featured multiple business leaders from various organizations discussing topics such as “Branding: Becoming Visible & The Importance of Self,” “Positioning Yourself for the Next Big Opportunity,” and “Becoming a Person of Influence.” The symposiums began with a welcome from exceptional women in each city. Following a series of speeches presented by featured panelists, audience members were given the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts on the discussion topics presented.

The Texas Diversity Council would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers and attendees for helping to make this event a success.

Program booklets, photos, and other post events from 2016 can be viewed on the Texas event [timeline](#).

Corpus Christi Women in Leadership Symposium, March 31, 2016

Featured Presenter and Moderator:

Nelda Martinez
Mayor
City of Corpus Christi

Dona Kilby-Costa
Vice President
The Elliot Group

Panelists:

Barbara A. Canales
Port Commissioner
City of Corpus Christi

Elizabeth Chu-Richter, FAIA
Chief Executive Officer
Richter Architects



National Diversity Council Chairman, Dennis Kennedy, with Gulf Coast Women in Leadership Symposium panelists.

Kelly Elkins, MPH

President

*CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Shoreline &
CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Memorial*

Annette Medlin, IOM

President & CEO

Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce

Valerie Pompa

VP & Manufacturing Manager

Flint Hills Resources, LLC

Dallas Women in Leadership Symposium, March 24, 2016

Moderator:

Angeles Valenciano

Chief Executive Officer

National Diversity Council

Panelists:

Laura Reilly O'Hara

Partner

Strasburger & Price, LLP

Leah Lin

VP, Tax, Treasury & Tax Counsel

National Diversity Council

Michelle Riddell

VP, Strategic Communication &

Community Investment

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas

Patrice Tomplkins-Everidge

*VP, Worldwide Environmental, Safety &
Health and Manufacturing Site*

Compliance

Texas Instruments

Virginia Rose-Harris, MBA, FACHE

*Service Line Officer & Administrator,
Margot Perot Center for Women & Infants
Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas Hospital*

Whitney Shelley

VP & Chief HR Officer

Denbury Resources

Gulf Coast Women in Leadership Symposium, March 26, 2016

Moderator:

Pranika Uppal Sinha

*Manager, Employee & Organization Development
Occidental Petroleum Corporation*

Panelists:

Anne Cleary

*Energy Consultant
ASC Consulting, LLC*

Deidra Owens

*VP, Business Partners & Talent Acquisition
CenterPoint Energy*

Pavi Mani

*M&A Managing Director
PwC*

Stephanie Stegall

*VP, Event Sales and Operations
Houston Astros*

Tandra Jackson

*Managing Partner
KPMG LLP*

Y. Ping Sun

*Of Counsel
Yetter Coleman LLP*

San Antonio Women in Leadership Symposium, March 29, 2016

Special Attendee and Moderator:

Ivy R. Taylor
Mayor
The City of San Antonio

TJ Haygood
Director, Commercial Strategy and Business Development
Donald L. Mooney Enterprises

Panelists:

Allison Sadler
Senior VP, Business Banking Division
Bank of America

Bonnie Elder
Counsel
VIA Metropolitan Transit

Janie-Canty-Mitchell, PhD, RN
Professor & Chairman, Department of Family & Community Health Systems
University of Texas Health Sciences Center San Antonio

Laura Gump
VP, Center Store Operations
H-E-B Grocery Co.

Leah Curry
VP, Manufacturing
Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana

Tracy Jackson CPA, CIA, CISA
VP & Controller
Tesoro Corporation