



Business and
Professional
Women's
Foundation

For Immediate Release
September 16, 2009

Contact: Ayoka Blandford
202-293-1100 Ext. 8933

Nonprofit Works to Create Successful Workplaces for Women and Families
New Officers and Trustees to Lead Business and Professional Women's Foundation

Washington, DC -- Business and Professional Women's Foundation (BPW Foundation) is partnering with employers and policy makers through its Successful Workplaces Movement to transform today's workplaces. BPW Foundation defines *Successful Workplaces* as those that embrace and practice diversity, equity and work life balance. BPW Foundation's newly-elected officers and trustees have committed their time and expertise to this Movement.

"This diverse group of women leaders has agreed to advance this Movement as well as to continue and expand our work which focuses on issues and programs that impact women, families and employers," said BPW Foundation chair Roslyn Ridgeway. "The Successful Workplaces Movement combines research, policy, resources and programming in order to create systemic change," added Ridgeway, a small business owner in Georgia who was re-elected to chair the board of trustees.

"The officers and trustees are committed and ready to redefine today's workplace by providing strategic direction to our current research and programs in terms of women and the green economy, women veterans, Generations X and Y and public policy," said CEO Deborah L. Frett.

Officers for the board of trustees:

Chair: Roslyn Ridgeway, CEO, DeRoz Entertainment

Vice Chair: Barbara Henton, executive marketing director, Globalnet GNP

Secretary: Venita Garvin-Valdez, chief executive officer, Domestic Abuse Shelter (DAS), Inc.

Treasurer: Tina Garner, CPA, CFO, Home Hospice of Grayson County Texas.

New members of the board of trustees:

- Dr. Sheila Barry-Oliver teaches online graduate management courses for Trinity (Washington) University and the University of Maryland University College (UMUC). Previously she spent 28 years in the corporate sector—four years as the Director of the global workforce initiative at Booz Allen Hamilton and as an information technology leader with four professional services firms.

- Tina L. Garner serves as chief financial officer, Home Hospice of Grayson County Texas and has served as a board member and/or officer of many Texas community organizations such as the Wilson N. Jones Memorial Hospital Foundation, where she currently serves as chair of the Board of Trustees.
- Pat Taylor retired from SBC Communications after a 29 ½ year career. Taylor currently serves as a consultant. Taylor chairs the Coker United Methodist Church Stewardship Committee and serves as the lay director for the San Antonio Emmaus Community.
- Venita Garvin Valdez serves as CEO for the Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc. located in Florida. Garvin Valdez has been involved in the domestic violence movement since her first position with the YWCA; she was the first woman of color to serve as director for YWCA battered women's program in Cincinnati and Richmond, Virginia.
- Leslie Wilkins is vice president of the Maui Economic Development Board, Inc. (MEDB). Wilkins launched MEDB's Women in Technology Project in 1999 and was elected vice president of the Board of Directors. The Women in Technology (WIT) Project, which she continues to direct, has grown from a pilot to a national demonstration project, funded in part by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education and Agriculture. Wilkins also serves as a board member for the Hawaii Women's Fund.

To learn more about BPW Foundation's programs and research and the board of trustees, visit www.BPWFoundation.org

BPW Foundation supports workforce development programs and workplace policies that recognize the diverse needs of working women, communities and businesses. BPW Foundation mission: to empower working women to achieve their full potential and to partner with employers to build successful workplaces through research, education, knowledge and policy. BPW Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) research and education organization.

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