



WISCONSIN

2009 Summer Conference

May 30 - June 3, 2009
Mount Mary College

Conference Theme:

Promoting Next Generation Leadership for Public Health Improvement

No doubt because of the economy, this year's attendance was much reduced, but the White House Project's "Wisconsin Go Lead" program instantly provided the attendees, upon arrival, with the opportunity to network and learn from a broader group of diverse experienced women. Also, ten NEW Leadership™ alumnae returned as volunteers throughout the five days.

Participants came from the following institutions:

- Madison Area Technical College (1)
- Milwaukee Area Technical College (1)
- Mount Mary College (5)
- UW - Marinette (1)
- UW - Stout (3)
- Wellesley College (1)



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showed the young women how they can take control of their lives, assert themselves positively, and ask for what they want.

Networking 101 was led by Raejean Kanter, Associate Director of American Diabetes Association Wisconsin Area, and Merilou Gonzales, Alumnae Relations Director - Public Allies, and 2009-2010 President - Junior League. The two women took the participants through an interactive and fun networking exercise that showed them how they can dismiss assumptions, break down barriers, and recognize their commonalities. The panel of elected officials provided a meaningful and helpful discussion of the steps necessary to run for office. Jennifer Morales - Former Milwaukee School Board Supervisor, Judge Rebecca Dallet - Milwaukee Circuit Court Judge, and a very young Felicia Owen - UW-Milwaukee student, who ran for District Seven school board, shared their personal campaign experiences. Each woman encouraged the attendees to realize that they can do the job themselves. If they are passionate about an issue, then they must take the initiative to run. The panelists also covered the specifics of campaigning - filing reports, fundraising, knocking on doors - and offered helpful hints for balancing one's personal life with the demands of being a candidate. Christine Lidbury, Executive Director - Wisconsin Women's Council, rounded out the panel discussion by giving a sobering profile of women in elected office in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin's 29 women in the state legislature in 2009 represent the lowest level in two decades. That's certainly a step backward and begs the question about what is happening to result in this trend.

Other Sessions presented throughout the Five-Day Conference:

- Public Policy 101 & Health Disparities
- Leadership/Learning Styles
- Importance of Reflection & Balance
- Building & Refining Message Skills
- Advocacy/Activism
- Constructive Conflict
- Lobbying the Legislature
- Ready, Set, Serve:

An Intro to Non-Profit Service

The conference was capped off with graduation remarks by Geneva Bolton Johnson, former President and Chief Executive Officer - Family Service America, Inc., Chair of the Women's Leadership Institute Advisory Board, and trustee emerita - Mount Mary College Board of Trustees. Ms. Johnson spoke on a variation of her theme on "Preparing the Intellectual Leaders of Tomorrow." She talked about the inherent qualities of what makes a leader great; his or her ability to listen, exercise good judgment, and to be empathetic, collaborative, fair, and discerning. Geneva drew from her many international experiences, including as an author and guest lecturer. She was chosen, along with Bishop Desmond Tutu and others, to present in South Africa in April 2008 at the Stellenbosch Seboka on Higher Education and Ethical Leadership; *Global Perspectives in a South African Context*. In June 2009, she presented a retrospective on the life and management principles of Peter F. Drucker at the 2009 Drucker Centennial Conference - Seoul, Korea. The theme of the conference was "The Drucker Solution: The Key to a Responsible High-Performing Society."

So Who Made up NEW Leadership™ Wisconsin 2009?

College Class	Ages
25% Sophomores	67% Age 18-25
33.5% Juniors	25% Age 26-35
33.5% Seniors	8% Age 36+
8% Recent Grads	

Ethnicity

58% African-American
8% Asian-American
34% European-American

Majors

- Justice
- Psychology
- Business Administration
- Art Therapy
- Human Development & Family Studies
- History & Social Change & Development
- Family & Consumer Science Education
- Meeting & Event Management



Ms. Johnson with some of the graduates and their families