FROM THE CHAIR

"I am so encouraged that we are beginning our program year better, stronger and more determined to Move the Needle!"
- Dr. Lisa Jones

The new academic year is well underway. We have been committed to helping advance women in higher education since the reactivation of the ACE Women’s Network of Florida (ACEWNFL) in August 2017. This year is no exception!

We have an exciting array of statewide programming to complement what you are doing on each of your respective campuses. For example, after much success with our statewide summer book club session, we are excited to announce launching Spring and Summer ACEWNFL Virtual Book Club sessions for 2020. Our spring session will be held between March 30th and April 6th. More information about how to participate this spring is available in this month’s newsletter and can be found by navigating to the Virtual Book Club link above. Along with the positive feedback we’ve received, I was pleased to learn that several institutional representatives have replicated the book club on their campuses.
We are also counting down to the 3rd Annual ACE Women’s Network of Florida State Conference. Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Marie Gnage, Florida State College at Jacksonville, and Dr. Melody Bowdon, the University of Central Florida we can be sure to anticipate motivational and informative keynote presenters, leadership skill-building breakout sessions, panelists sharing their leadership journey, and plenty of time to expand your professional networks.

The state conference will be held on April 9th, 2020 at Florida State College in Jacksonville, Florida. The registration link is provided in this newsletter and can be found by navigating to the State Conference 2020 link above. We need your help to market our annual conference on your campuses!

In addition, after a competitive proposal selection process, a team of ACEWNFL Executive Board members will be presenting at the National Women’s Network Leadership Conference which will be held on March 14th – 15th in San Diego, California. The title of our session is *Building an Infrastructure for Success* wherein we will share innovative strategies for enhancing the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of a large network (via digital orientation).

You can see why I am so encouraged that we are beginning our program year better, stronger and more determined to Move the Needle!

Yours in service to women in the great state of Florida higher education systems,

Lisa Guion Jones

ACE Florida Women's Network State Conference 2020
Spring 2020 Virtual Book Club

Following the success of the Summer 2019 Virtual Book Club, the ACE Women's Network of Florida will be launching its Spring 2020 Book Club session from March 30th - April 16th. This semester the chosen read is *Dare to Lead: Brave Work. Tough Conversations. Whole Hearts* by Brene Brown. During this 5 week program, participants will interact with colleagues in small
Interested in signing up?

Contact Dr. Lua Hancock (lhancock@stetson.edu) by March 16th and be sure to include the following information:

1. First and last name
2. Email address
3. Title/position
4. Institution
5. Institutional Representative (yes or no)
6. If no, then include the name of your Institutional Representative
7. If you wish to participate in the Spring

ACE Women’s Network of Florida Program Spotlights

Florida Institute of Technology

This past fall Florida Tech Women’s Council and ACE Florida Network hosted its first Welcome Reception at Florida Tech. The Welcome Reception was coordinated to show appreciation to new female faculty over cocktails and appetizers. The event was deemed a success with a 40% turnout rate.

Additionally, Florida Tech Women’s Council hosted their Speed Mentoring event that brought both junior and senior faculty together to facilitate conversation. Senior faculty (mentors) were assigned to individual tables while junior faculty (mentees) were grouped based on discipline and rotated tables at 10 minute intervals. Feedback on the event was extremely positive.
University of Central Florida

On January 15, 2020, ACE Women’s Network of Florida at UCF hosted a book club discussion. The featured book was titled: *The Assertiveness Guide for Women: How to Communicate Your Needs, Set Healthy Boundaries, and Transform Your Relationships* by Julie De Azevedo. The session was facilitated by Margaret Mlachak, Administrative Project Manager in the Office of Research Administration at UCF who led an insightful discussion. For those that were unable to attend in person, online access (visual & audio) was provided through the Zoom platform.

Looking forward, UCF’s Network will be hosting a Career Mapping facilitated by Dr. DeLaine Priest, Associate Vice Provost for Student Success and Advising at UCF. This event will be available to all female staff members at the university. This event will be held on March 18, 2020. As this date approaches, more information will soon be distributed.

Stetson University

Women Leading while Reading
by Rosalie A. Richards, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Faculty Development & Institutional Representation
Back again by popular demand, the second annual Winter Read has attracted participants from across the Stetson University campuses. Our Winter Read capitalizes on the book selected by statewide ACEWNFL. We offer free books to the first 50 participants who sign up. To kick-off the book club, each campus hosts a special event where participants collect their books and spend the winter break reading in anticipation of book club meetings in the spring. The College of Law in Gulfport hosts a Tea & Chat while the Deland campus members enjoy a Winter Potluck Mixer (below).

![Photo: Stetson’s Winter Read kicks off with a potluck mixer where faculty and staff eat community-table style.](image)

In a context of increased networking where most employees spend significant portions of their day working alone, at a computer, or socializing online, our book clubs create authentic, communal spaces members to make connections. When asked why participants plan to join the book club, 82% of responses identified learning while networking (below). In fact, several club members purchase their own books in order to participate.

![Word cloud: networking, book, read, campus, interested, women, others, connecting, leadership, forward, opportunity](image)

Our book club elevates the “link” IDEAL of the ACE Women’s Network. We are beyond grateful to President Wendy Libby for pioneering leadership and generous support of the Stetson ACEWNFL chapter.

ACE Engage

The ACE Engage platform, which is currently in the pilot stage, provides 24/7
The key parameters of this platform are: (1) Foster Community, (2) Build Knowledge, (3) Catalyze Learning, (4) Enable Action.

If you are interested in signing up for the pilot group, please visit the website.

ACE Fellows

The ACE Fellows program applications for the 2020-21 cohort of ACE Fellows are now closed. However, if you'd like to learn more information on this program connect here.

Leadership Development Opportunities

HERS Institute
ACE Florida Women's Network 2020 State Conference

Trending Topics in Women Leadership

NASPA: Journal of Women and Gender in Higher Education

A Move Toward Greater Diversity in Deanships

DoesPausing Your Administrative Career Mean It's Over?

Taking Initiative: Professional Development Tools for Women in Higher Education

Join the conversation!

Relevant articles, events, book recommendations, and job listings are available on our Facebook page.

If you’d like to share content, copy the URL/ link and paste it into the Post section. Please make a point to Like and Share content regularly. The link to our Facebook page is below:

https://www.facebook.com/ACE-Womens-Network-Florida-360184464485096/

ACE Women's Network of Florida, continue to inspire, elevate and support one another this Spring semester. Wishing you all the best!

From The Editor
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