



"Better Jobs, Better Earnings, Better Living"

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Leadership



Leadership

Panelist Loraine Ballard Morrill addresses the morning Leadership session. Moderator Jenny Erwin (left), Women's Bureau Regional Administrator for Region IX, and panelist Dr. Gloria Rodriguez are also pictured.

*"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."
-- Former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt*

Many of the people attending the Summit participated in the morning and afternoon breakout sessions and roundtables on **Leadership**. They listened to panelists and shared their own experiences in becoming leaders in their companies, organizations, and/or communities.

The panelists included:

- **Cathy Bonner**
Founder, The Women's Museum, Dallas, TX
- **Loraine Ballard Morrill**
News & Community Affairs Director, Clear Channel Radio, Philadelphia, PA
- **Dr. Gloria Rodriguez**
Founder and CEO, AVANCE, Inc., San Antonio, TX
- **Mary Ellen Randall**
President & CEO, Ascot Technologies, Cary, NC & Founder, The Women's Institute, Cary, NC
- **Patricia Reed**
Co-Founder and Partner, Choose 2 Lead Women's Foundation, Oakton, VA

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Despite the unique perspectives brought by each of the panelists, they shared similar thoughts on how women can become effective leaders. They agreed that leadership skills are not genetic – they are *learned* – and that anyone can become a leader.

What makes a good leader is being able to use your own talents and to identify and collaborate with people who have those skills you lack. Leaders rely on their networks and support systems to achieve their goals. They are both visionary and practical, taking practical steps to fulfill their dreams.

The panelists advised women to develop a solid business case to justify their actions and decisions; to make learning a life-long endeavor; to have the stamina and nerve to overcome challenges; and to maintain their sense of humor regardless of circumstances.

According to panelist Mary Ellen Randall, to become effective leaders, women must focus on the 4 “C”s of Leadership:

- **Choices** – making good decisions
- **Communication** – conveying their messages clearly
- **Connections** – involving the appropriate people at the right times
- **Confidence** – being sure of themselves and their visions



At the end of the afternoon, the participants crafted Plans of Action outlining programs and practices that they intended to implement when they returned home. These action plans reflect a key message communicated at the Summit – that women can master the skills necessary to become leaders in all aspects of their lives and that they can reach out to other women through partnerships and mentoring to pass on their

knowledge.

“ Thank you for inviting me to participate in such a wonderful conference. I really enjoyed...the stimulating discussion. I look forward to the continuation of a wonderful relationship on behalf of women in America.”

-- Dr. Gloria Rodriguez

The Women’s Bureau is proud to support working women as they strive to develop leadership skills.

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