

Concurrent Session E
Tuesday 13 September 2016
10:35am – 11:25am



Session 5

Women in Leadership - The Journey, Challenges and Triumphs

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Downing

Australian National University, University of Wollongong, University of Queensland, University of Newcastle

Leanne Cambridge is the General Manager, ANU College of Engineering & Computer Science and is responsible for leading the operational functions of the College. Leanne has a diverse experience across university administration functions.

Lorelle Pollard is the Executive Manager of the Faculty of Engineering & Information Sciences at the UOW and is responsible for administration management and governance for the Faculty. Lorelle has solid experience in research administration, international student recruitment, Faculty management.

Gillian Di Corleto is the Executive Officer for the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture & Information Technology and is responsible for the operational management for the Faculty. Gillian is a CPA and has a wealth of experience in management, finance and business analysis.

Natalie Downing is the Associate Director – Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, University of Newcastle. Natalie has extensive experience with a particular interest in student and staff engagement and student recruitment.

There has been a shift over time that has brought about a real focus on equity and diversity in the workplace and this has been especially focussed in the tertiary education sector. This presentation will provide different perspectives of a journey to the pinnacle of the leadership roles available to professional staff within the faculty environment of University by four diverse women. We will present four different pathways that culminate in ending up in the same role in four different institutions. We will deliver a story of the challenges, obstacles and triumphs along the way.

The presentation will culminate in a convergence of ideas and lessons learned that will provide some insight into mapping your way through this minefield. This includes challenges like taking a hiatus for children, study or supporting spousal careers. The lack of representation of women in senior leadership roles (both Academic and Professional), the value of a good support network, the sacrifices that need to be made to succeed and the sense of fulfilment when you get that hard earned role.

It will provide some strategies for managing the challenges while moving along your career trajectory and provide some inspiration to those who are just starting out along their own journey.

