

# FORUM NEWS

THE FORUM OF EXECUTIVE WOMEN

June 2007

Volume 23

Number 3



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Looking back on this year, I'm very proud of what we accomplished, but I'm well aware of all that there still is to do. I'm most proud of the fact that in this past year, for the first time, we conducted a survey of our members about their membership in The Forum—without you, the members, there is no Forum. We started thinking about the value proposition of a membership in The Forum. Our brief survey was our first attempt to hear from our members*

*about their wants and needs. We had three simple questions, but also a place for comments. We reviewed those comments time and again in Board meetings and Committee meetings, and they helped to shape a number of the decisions we made. I hope this survey becomes an annual exercise for The Forum.*

*We also thought a lot about how to engage all Forum members more deeply in The Forum, and made our Engagement Initiative a standing committee of the Board so we will continue to work hard to engage all members. We have a wide range of members in different places in their careers. We started thinking about moving away from the “one size fits all” approach, especially with respect to programming. We're looking at doing more niche programming—a program perhaps that won't appeal to all members, but really grabs a certain group. We established greeters for events and are acknowledging on our name tags how long each of us has been with The Forum.*

*The Forum Foundation made great progress this year, and for the first time is funding the Forum Award for next year. The Foundation got off the ground thanks to the generosity of the Founders who each contributed \$5000: Carol Ammon; Pam Godwin, Rosemarie Greco;*

*Susan Jaffe; Anne Klein; Leslie Miller and the Miller-Worley Foundation; Ivy Silver; Judee Von Seldeneck; Karol Wasylshyn; Tara Weiner and Harriet Weiss. The Foundation also had the support of many Friends, too numerous to name here, who each contributed \$1000 to launch this great new Forum initiative.*

*We're also working to improve the website. The website will be far more user-friendly, and will become a real communications tool for members. We'll have a place on the website where, if you are looking for someone to attend the ballet with you, you can post a notice to find Forum members who would also like to go. If you want to find other Forum members for another fly-fishing adventure, the website will help you do that. We'll start rolling out the changes this fall.*

*As I pass the gavel to Elva Banks, I'd like to thank her for her hard work this year as Vice President and her very able leadership of the Engagement Initiative and the very successful program on diversity this spring. I'd also like to thank the other officers this year, Ellen Cavanaugh, who kept the books straight as Treasurer, and Tricia Wellenbach, who served as Secretary and also co-chaired the Executive Suites Committee.*

*One final thank you to our staff, Executive Director, Sharon Hardy, and our Administrator, Jane Barr Pino and her team. Most Forum members have no idea all that they do to make this organization work and look as good as it does, and, as the saying goes, I don't know where we'd be without them!*

*Thank you for a wonderful year as President!*

*— Kyra McGrath*

2006 / 2007

LEADERSHIP

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## EXECUTIVE SUITES

The Executive Suites Committee, led by **Patricia Wellenbach** (pdwellenbach@verizon.net) and **Sally Stetson** (stetson@ssgsearch.com), would like to thank the 114 members who completed the recent survey on Nonprofit Board involvement. It was encouraging to learn that more than 50% of the boards on which members reside have funding in excess of \$5 million. Survey respondents expressed a strong interest in having The Forum provide access to high profile board opportunities (72%), and 77% indicated that they aspire to serve on a for-profit or corporate advisory board. The results provide some important feedback that we will use to develop a process for connecting Forum members with nonprofit board opportunities that will serve to enhance their experience and increase their visibility for eventual service on boards within the private sector. Our goal is to have a process in place by early Fall.

We are also pleased to announce that we will be partnering with **DeLoitte & Touche LLP** on this year's *Women on Boards* report and are grateful for their support. Additionally, we have retained the services of an executive editor/writer for the research report. After receiving more than 15 responses to the RFP we issued, the committee interviewed the most qualified candidates and has selected **Susan Fitzgerald**. Her experience includes over 20 years as a journalist with the *Philadelphia Inquirer* reporting on many issues. In addition to her freelance work, she currently teaches journalism at Villanova University.

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

In response to feedback from Forum Members, the upcoming year will bring some changes in The Forum's programming, guided by **Stefanie Fine** (stefanie.fine@jevs.org) and **Marlene Henkin** (mhenkin@knoxforphilly.com) who is replacing **Linda Galante** as co-chair starting July 1. Programs will more closely align with The Forum's mission, engage members in dialogue, be unique and "create a positive buzz." Look for a cultural/fun program and a leadership retreat in addition to The Forum's signature events—the Leadership Breakfast, Holiday Dinner, Executive Suites program, Annual Meeting and Women, Policy and Politics program. We will not schedule formal programs during January and February due to possible bad weather, nor in July and August due to vacations. Affinity groups will independently schedule events such as Beach Day and other trips, social activities or educational programs that will be of interest to some of our Forum members. We continue to welcome your input and look forward to a great Forum year.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee, led by **Margaret Sadler** (margaret.sadler@fmc.com) and **Susan Jaffe** (sojaffe@aol.com), held a New Member Breakfast in May, graciously hosted by **Jane Storer** at Blank Rome. The purpose of the Breakfast was to get new members acquainted with one another and with representatives of The Forum's Board. Committee Chairs were present to share their initiatives and invite new members to volunteer on various committees. In other news, **Roz McPherson** (rmcpherson@therozgroup.com) will replace Susan as co-chair starting July 1.

## MENTORING PROGRAM

The twenty-two pairs of this year's Forum Mentoring Program officially began their work together early this year. Each mentoring pair negotiated a written agreement on key goals to accomplish during the year and meets monthly to assess progress. Quarterly Educational and Networking events are held for the entire group of mentors and their mentees. March and June Quarterly Educational and Networking Meetings focused on political savvy and negotiation, the top two areas generating much interest as indicated by a February survey of mentees.

The Mentoring Program is one of the key areas of focus for the new Forum Foundation, whose formation and details were announced at The Forum's 30th Anniversary Celebration on June 4, 2007. This fall we will once again recruit Forum Members to serve as mentors for the young women of our partnering organizations during our 2008 Program. The Forum of Executive Women Mentoring Program began as a pilot in 2005-2006, as an extension of our mission to develop and advance women leaders in the Philadelphia region. The Forum Mentoring effort is led by co-chairs **Nila Betof** (nbetof@verizon.net) and **Gloria Rabinowitz** (gloria\_rabinowitz@verizon.net), supported by the Mentoring Core Team as well as five facilitators who assist as necessary.

## STRATEGIC MARKETING &amp; COMMUNICATIONS

The Strategic Marketing and Communications Committee, led by **Robin Neifield** (rn@netplusmarketing.com) and **Grace Migliaccio** (gmigliaccio@yesbank.com), has been focused this quarter on assembling a website group drawn from all areas of our membership. This group is tasked with driving the website redesign project and has met several times to review design compositions and fine tune navigation, features and functionality. Look for the updated website with lots of great features this fall. Grace Migliaccio and **Dittie Guise** (dguise@paconvention.com) will co-chair the committee as we start this new fiscal year continuing Grace's several years of able experience as co-chair of the committee. We look forward to new members and new ideas and will start the year by re-establishing our committee goals.

## WOMEN, POLICY &amp; POLITICS

The Women Policy and Politics Committee, led by **Margaret McCausland, Esq** and **Lynda Barness**, produced two exciting policy-related programs this past year. In October, the topic was gun violence in our communities and what citizens can do about it. The program aired on "It's Your Call" hosted by Lynn Doyle on CN8. The panelists were from CeaseFire PA, Mother's in Charge, the Deputy Commission of Police and the Second Amendment Sisters. It was a lively and thought provoking program, in which Forum members and their guests participated as members of the studio audience. In May, the topic was Prescription for Pennsylvania, which was an informative discussion about the health care plan put forth by Governor Rendell, which will have an impact on all Pennsylvanians, whether as patients, providers, or business owners. The WPPC, which welcomes new members, plans to be just as active in the year ahead under new Committee Co-chair, **Melissa Weiler Gerber** (mweilergerber@womensway.org) and **Carmen Paris** (carmen.paris@phila.gov).

## Speeches & Publications

**Wendy Beetlestone** (wbeetlestone@hangley.com), an education law and litigation shareholder, at Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin authored a commentary entitled: “No Child Left Behind’s Accountability and Access Provisions: An Inherent Tension within Supplemental Educational Services Programs” published in the April 19, 2007 issue of the *West’s Education Law Reporter*.

**Marjorie Brody** (marjorie@BrodyPro.com), Founder/CEO, BRODY Professional Development, wrote an article about “Smart Body Language” now featured on the opening page of Women Working’s website: <http://www.womenworking.com/honey-ourskills/index.php?id=34>. Workingwomen.com is a site where working women, from entry level employees to managers, to owners of companies or entrepreneurs, find Success Strategies for juggling career and personal life.

**Cathy Greenberg PhD.** (cathy@h2leadership.com), Founding and Managing Partner, h2c (Healthy Companies, Happy People), co-authored a new book *What Happy Women Know* with Dan Baker and Ina Yalof. The authors will be featured on the top 200 Talk Radio Shows nationwide over the next 10 weeks including NPR with TV programs pending on CNN, The Today Show and other outlets including a PBS piece on July 3rd. The book is highlighted in *Oprah Magazine’s* June Issue as well as *Ladies Home Journal* in July. Cathy was also a featured speaker at the Simmon’s Women’s Leadership Conference and will be a featured speaker at the upcoming Linkage Women’s Summit in November (two of the largest women’s leadership events nationwide).

**Tine Hansen-Turton** (Tine@nnc.us) along with Susan Sherman and Vernice Ferguson is co-author of *Conversations with Leaders: Frank Talk from Nurses (and others) on the Frontlines of Leadership*. The book is in print this summer and published by Sigma Theta Tau International. Several Forum members’ leadership journeys are included in the book, such as Afaf Meleis and Susan Sherman.

**Lorina L. Marshall-Blake** (lorina.marshall@ibx.com), a corporate executive, governor’s adviser, and ordained minister, was the Baccalaureate speaker at Albright College and received an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities on May 20, 2007. The Reverend is Vice President of Government Relations for Independence Blue Cross, an associate minister at Vine Memorial Baptist Church, a member of the board of the Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation, and on the boards of 16 non-profit organizations. Since 1989 she has received 26 awards for public service.

**Gaytana Pino** (gmp@parsupply.com), CEO/President, Paper and Ribbon Supply, Inc., and **Karen Kaufman** (kk@kpartners.com), Co-founding Principal, The Kaufman Partnership, Ltd., were panelists for a student program organized by Philadelphia University’s School of Business Administration, entitled “Women in Business: Has the Glass Ceiling been Shattered?”

**Miki Young** (myoung@levlane.com), SVP/Strategist, LevLane Advertising/PR/Interactive, recently spoke at The National Forum on Women in Executive Leadership in Arlington, VA, on the topic of corporate responsibility and ethics. Miki is the co-director of LevLane’s newly established Corporate Social Responsibility practice helping organizations to align their business goals with their responsibility to people, community and the environment.

## Appointments & Elections

**Robin Bond, Esq.** (robin@transition-strategies.com), founder of the employment law firm Transition Strategies, LLC, was inducted into The Union League on May 24, 2007. She has also joined the adjunct faculty of The American College, Bryn Mawr, where she teaches Business Law, Compliance, Benefits & Social Responsibility to graduate management students. In other news, Robin recently traveled to NYC to tape the gala debut of a new online web talk show *First Wives World*, sponsored by the producers of the Broadway show to open in 2008. She provided insight and tips for working divorced women in “You Need Money Honey.” The show is viewable on-line at [http://www.firstwivesworld.com/video/debbie\\_does\\_divorce\\_workplace\\_attorney\\_robin\\_bond](http://www.firstwivesworld.com/video/debbie_does_divorce_workplace_attorney_robin_bond).

**Rachel R. Cohen** (rachel\_cohen@ml.com), Vice President & Wealth Management Advisor, Merrill Lynch, was elected to the Board of JEVs Human Services in 2007. She also was elected Chair of the Penn Forum (Advisory Council to Management) which is a group that is helping to make Merrill Lynch the most diverse workforce with the most inclusive work environment in Pennsylvania.

**Nancy Alba Dunleavy** (ndunleavy@matchingmissions.com), President/CEO, Dunleavy & Associates, was appointed by Speaker Dennis O’Brien (PA House of Representatives) to the honorary host committee of “Charity’s Ball,” a black tie fundraising event to benefit the programs of CORA Services in Philadelphia. Speaker O’Brien is chairman of Charity’s Ball.

**Karen Kaufman** (kk@kpartners.com), Co-Founding Principal of The Kaufman Partnership, Ltd. has been selected to serve on the Mass Mutual Women’s Advisory Board focusing on the recruitment, retention and success of their female talent.

**Robin Neifield** (rn@netplusmarketing.com), CEO NetPlus Marketing, Inc., was named Secretary to the board of directors for the American Red Cross Blood Services, Penn-Jersey Region. In addition, the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Marketing Association awarded her company, NetPlus Marketing, with “Marketer of the Year.”

**Ellen Toplin** (ellen@toplin.com), President of Toplin & Associates, assumed the position of First Chair for the American Red Cross Blood Services, Penn-Jersey Region, and will be spearheading the 37 person board that advises and assists the blood center. The Region provides life-saving blood products to over 125 hospitals in southeastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

## Awards & Honors

**Lynn Axelroth** (axelroth@ballardspahr.com) and **Regina O’Brien Thomas** (thomasr@ballardspahr.com) of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP, were named “Pennsylvania Super Lawyers.” The final list of Super Lawyers is published in the June edition of *Philadelphia Magazine* and the *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* magazine.

**Helen Bosley** (HBosleyCFM@comcast.net), President, Corporate Financial Management, Inc. received the Bertha Bates Cole award from Planned Parenthood of Bucks County recognizing her volunteer contributions over the past 15 years as Board VP, Treasurer and member of many committees. The award is named for a founder of the agency, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

**Pamela Godwin** (pamelagodwin@changepartnersofpa.com), President, Change Partners Inc., **Melonease Shaw**, President/CEO, Transitional Work Corp., and **Judith M. Von Seldeneck** (jvonseld@divsearch.com), Chairwoman/CEO, Diversified Search Ray & Berndtson, were honored as winners of Pennsylvania’s annual Best 50 Women in Business.

## MEMBER NEWS

**Vicki W. Kramer** (vickiwkramer@comcast.net), V. Kramer & Associates, co-authored a paper on "Critical Mass: How Many Women Does a Board Need?" which won the Outstanding Empirical Paper Award in May at the Eastern Academy of Management Conference.

**Peggy McCausland** (mccausland@mccauslandlaw.com), Principal, Law Offices of Margaret A. McCausland LLC was named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer by *Law and Politics Magazine* for the fourth consecutive year.

**Page Morahan** (psmorahan@att.net) and Rosalyn C. Richman, her co-Director of the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine program for women, were the first recipients of the Drexel University College of Medicine Eli Abrutyn Mentoring Award, on June 1, 2007.

**RoseAnn B. Rosenthal** (roseann@sep.benfranklin.org), President/CEO, Ben Franklin Technology Partners of South-eastern Pennsylvania, received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Philadelphia University at its commencement ceremonies on May 20th, in recognition of her decades of commitment to economic development in the region. In other news, her company BFTP/SEP was granted \$900,000 from the US Economic Development Administration to support the expansion of its technology commercialization model.

**Melissa Weiler Gerber** (mweilergerber@womensway.org), Executive Director, WOMEN'S WAY, was honored by the Women's Resource Center for her community involvement at the organization's June 5 "Achieving Amazing Things" luncheon at the Union League.

**Sophia Wisniewska, Ph.D.** (stw1@psu.edu), Chancellor at Penn State Delaware County, was named Education Honoree for the March of Dimes 2007 Salute to Excellence in Delaware County. This event recognizes four outstanding individuals who live or work in Delaware County and exemplify professional excellence and commitment to the community.

### Business News & Moves

**Elva L. Bankins** joined CEO Resources, a retained executive search firm as Senior Vice President. With an extensive background in general management, sales and marketing in the technology and services industries, Elva is managing executive search assignments in all functional areas across a broad spectrum of for-profit and not-for-profit companies. Elva can be reached at 215.209.3065 x24 or elva@ceoresources.com.

**Dr. Gail Bubenick**, CEO, has announced that SIERRA Communications, Inc. was awarded contracts of executive coaching and leadership development, respectively, for Radian Group Inc. and SunGardHE.

**Kathryn M. Farley** (Kfarley@PEBTF.org) was appointed to the position of Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF). In this role, she is responsible for the overall operation and administration of the PEBTF, including strategic planning, negotiations with vendors, staffing and member services.

**J. Lindsay Johnston**, Vice President Human Resources, PJM Interconnection, LLC, has moved to Comcast as the Eastern Division VP-HR. Her new email address is lindsay\_johnston@cable.comcast.com.

**Marian V. Marchese** (mvmarchese@comcast.net), cofounder of The Art of Making Connections, has accepted the position of Vice President of Strategic Alliances for Scholarship America, effective July 16, 2007. In her role as Vice President of Strategic Alliances for Scholarship America, Marian will be responsible for leading efforts to establish alliances with corporate partners and influential individuals for the purposes of raising funds for the organization through scholarships, sponsorships and special initiatives. Marian will continue independent work with the Art of Making Connections to deliver training on how to build lasting business relationships.

**Suzanne S. Mayes**, previously a partner at Saul Ewing LLP, joined the firm Cozen O'Connor as a member and co-chair of the public & project finance practice. Mayes' experience is in municipal finance and project finance law, including economic development, single-family, multi-family and senior housing, transportation, government and education financings.

**Nancy Moses** (nancy@nancymoses.com) is the strategic museum planner on the team creating a new museum honoring Thomas Edison in Menlo Park, New Jersey. She is also planning a new cultural heritage center for Cumberland County College in Vineland, New Jersey.

**Kathleen Stucy** (kstucy@njeda.com) recently joined the New Jersey Economic Development Authority as the VP - Operations, with management responsibility for Credit Underwriting, Program Services (which includes bonds, tax incentives, and other non-credit products), Closing Services and Credit Compliance/Portfolio Servicing.

### Other News

**Anne Klein** & Associates Inc. celebrated its 25th Anniversary by contributing \$25,000 to Rowan University and Temple University. Rowan University and Temple University each received \$12,500, with the request to allocate \$2,500 each year for the next five years to underwrite students' expenses for attending the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) national conference.

Of the top publicly-held companies published in *The Philadelphia Business Journal*, five of the seven women leading those companies are Forum members: **Dorrit Bern** (terri.register@charming.com), CEO, Charming Shoppes Inc., **Donna Coughy** (dcoughy@wfbonline.com) President/CEO, Willow Financial Bancorp Inc., **Deborah Fretz** (dmfretz@sunocologistics.com), President/CEO, Sunoco Logistics Partners, **Jane Hoffer** (jhoffer@prescient.com), President/CEO, Prescient Applied Intelligence Inc., and **Demetra Takes** (dtakes@hncbank.com), President/CEO, Harleysville National Corp.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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## The Forum Celebrated 30 Years at The Belmont Mansion



*Thank you to our Sponsors*  
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### SAVE THE DATE

September 28, 2007

THE LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST

Keynote Speaker: Debra Sandler, President, McNeil Nutritionals LLC

Time: 7:45 am

Location: Park Hyatt at the Bellevue  
Broad and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia

## A NOTE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT: ELVA BANKINS

As I reflect on our 30th Anniversary and the growing impact of women leaders in today's workforce, it is my hope to engage the Executive Committee and the Board to focus on three areas in the upcoming year. They are as follows:

(1) Create a continuing dialogue with area CEOs regarding the need to advance women leaders, including women of color, to positions in executive suites and corporate board appointments.

(2) Proactively increase the number of women leaders of color within our Forum membership that meet the criteria, while continuing conversations of the impact of "color" with all women in The Forum.

(3) Add value to our membership by focusing on the value proposition for all members. This is the year of Engagement where all members become actively involved with The Forum.



This can be realized in several ways:

- Delivery of a new and enhanced website by mid-Fall 2007. The website offers various ways to increase communications, visibility and awareness of The Forum, its activities, its members, member-to-member communications, information on sponsorships and much more.
- Creation of Affinity groups to have members meet each other with similar interests in activities and thought leadership.
- Creation of a Forum advocacy—where The Forum takes a stand on an issue that impacts all women leaders. It could be family friendly workplaces, or pay equity and executive compensation. Stay tuned on this one. We are welcome to ideas and will be making a decision shortly.
- Offer a Leadership Forum, an exciting information exchange where our members can engage in thought-provoking leadership topics.

That's a full agenda. However, many of these initiatives are already underway. On behalf of the Executive Committee and the Board, we welcome the engagement of all members. It's our 30th Anniversary and with the help of our membership, we can "make it happen".

## Pearls of Wisdom: Leading with Influence

The ability to influence others to follow your direction, or point of view, is an important talent for success in business. We asked Forum members: **what “Pearls of Wisdom” can you provide on the approach you take, or what you do, to positively influence others?**

**Elva Bankins** “I’m a big believer in getting my team to know and appreciate each other. So, I like to periodically take them out to fun places for lunch or have a staff meeting in a place where we can have fun! Usually at these meetings, I’d give out awards or plaques of appreciation for highest quality ratings, biggest deal of the month, or something special or funny that happened in the office. If you let the team in on it, they will come up with some very funny awards. It takes the edge off, especially in high stress times and people feel appreciated.”

**Gail Bubenick** “Influence is composed of “coinage”. We can influence others if: we are experts in an area; we have a unique reputation in the industry; we are role models; we have a strong base of people; we can create validation; we form personal relationships. It’s interesting that people confuse motivation with influence. They are two separate competencies and are very differently employed.”

**Nancy Dunleavy** “Listen well—don’t just tune out and wait your turn to speak—actually listen to what the person you are attempting to influence is saying because using their words, desires, needs as the basis for what you are suggesting will be far more persuasive than what you “think” they want, desire, need, etcetera. **Smile**—even when you are on the phone since it somehow gets conveyed in your voice! **Believe that all things are possible**—as Henry Ford said, ‘Whether you think you can or you think you can’t you are absolutely right!’ **Convey gratitude (with sincerity)**—I believe that it’s impossible to say thank you too often. And a handwritten, personal note will go a lot further than an email that your browser may flag as ‘SPAM.’ **Adopt the 3 “R’s” of talent—recognize it, recruit it, reward it!!**”

**Stefanie Kadin Fine** “Leading by influence requires fostering relationships, making sure that others feel heard and valued, creating a vision around your point of view, and having a willingness to handle conflict in a constructive way. To lead by influence you need to carefully demonstrate openness to others while always maintaining your integrity and a willingness to persevere.”

**Cathy L. Greenberg, PhD.** From her new book: What Happy Women Know, Rodale Press, 2007: “**Happy women know better than to compare themselves to others—someone will be disappointed. Happy women never abandon themselves—they know in the long run they will be winners. Happy women don’t count how many shoes they have—but how much fun they have dancing in them.**”

**Karen Kaufman and Jane Firth** co-creators of the Women in Partnership Program® and taken from their little yellow book on the impact of powerful women in a new era of leadership:

*“An organization that engenders a culture of partnership has a significant advantage that leads to synergy, longevity, and unprecedented success.”*

*“Part of being a leader is taking responsibility for the visual, vocal, verbal and behavioral impressions you create at every moment.”*

*“Underutilized tools of leadership are the expressions of empathy, appreciation, and acknowledgement.”*

**Peggy McCausland** “Develop a reputation for integrity and fairness. Share the credit; accept the blame. Don’t second guess people to whom you have delegated authority. When things go wrong, don’t indulge your temper. Instead, focus on fixing the problem, and then talk about how to prevent it from happening again. Express your gratitude for a job well done. Remember that the example you provide will be remembered long after your words.”

## Forum Foundation Milestone Reached

At the recent Annual Meeting of The Forum of Executive Women, officers of The Forum Foundation were jubilant as Forum members came forward with the last few pledges needed to put the Foundation over the top in its plan to raise \$100,000. The goal was achieved through 12 Founders-level (\$5,000) gifts and numerous other—mostly Friends-level (\$1,000)—donations.

The Foundation’s plan was to have Forum members provide 100% of the Foundation’s start-up funding. This level of support will enable the Foundation to approach other funding sources, principally foundations and corporations, with a demonstrated level of commitment from Forum members.

The Forum Foundation is an outgrowth of The Forum of Executive Women. While The Forum itself is structured as a §501(c)(6) membership organization dedicated to advancing women leaders, The Forum has organized the Foundation as a §501(c)(3) organization with the mission to carry out exclusively charitable and educational activities that will advance and strengthen women leaders throughout the region. And since donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible, the Foundation will be able to attract underwriting from a broader range of businesses and foundations.

The Forum Foundation will support initiatives of The Forum of Executive Women including the Forum Award, Mentoring, and Executive Suites, programs which impact the public in addition to Forum members. This year the Foundation funded the scholarship for the 2007 Forum Award, which was presented at the Annual Meeting.

The Foundation’s fundraising effort is ongoing and contributions are welcome! If you would like to make a donation to The Forum Foundation or suggest a company or foundation you think might consider making a donation, or if you would like more information about the Foundation, please contact the Foundation’s coordinator, Joyce Ackerman, at [joyceackerman@mindspring.com](mailto:joyceackerman@mindspring.com).