

POWER: Opening Doors for Women



Monday, December 01, 2008 In late September, Comcast hosted the first POWER® women's networking event to be held in Philadelphia. **POWER®: Opening Doors for Women** <<http://www.womensnetworkingcommunity.org>>, is a series of networking events hosted by the Women's Networking Community, a nonprofit organization based in Chicago. Its mission is to develop a sustainable pipeline of future women leaders. For the past five years, POWER events have provided a platform for women in high-level leadership roles to connect with other women leaders.

The evening began with a general reception in Ralph's Café followed by simultaneous, theme-based dinners in multiple venues throughout the city. Speakers at the reception included, **Andrea Agnew**, Comcast's Director of Diversity and Inclusion and Power Advisory Board Member, **Deirdre Joy Smith**, Founder and President of Power, and special guest Honorable **Marjorie O. Rendell**, First Lady of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Judge, Third Circuit Court Appeals.

After the reception, the women broke into groups to attend dinners focused on a particular area of interest to them. Topics included: Corporate Boards, Corporate Leadership, C-Suite, Entrepreneurs, Finance, Pharmaceuticals & Life Sciences, Politics, Real Estate, and Science and Technology. The dinner hosts were influential and accomplished women who served moderators and panelists for discussion on the chosen topic. For example, **Charisse Lillie**, Vice President of Community Investment, Comcast Corporation, and Executive Vice President of Comcast Foundation, was a panelist at the dinner focusing on Corporate Boards along with a number of other senior female executives.

What POWER Attendees Were Saying

"We got to hear a number of successful tips and personal experiences that would help all of us to continue healthy social networking to expand and enrich our lives in our professional settings," **Henrietta N. Ukwu**, POWER panelist, Vice President, Global Regulatory Affairs, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

"The benefit I received from POWER tonight was really to hear these fabulous executive women talk about how they made it, and what their best advice is. Their advice was very simple. It was reach high, don't be afraid, and just do it. I thought it was very inspiring," **Jennifer L. Miller**, Partner, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP.

“A benefit that I got was reinforcing the idea of networking. I just graduated from Temple University so I think the understanding of networking in my generation is formidable and already preached in the university, but the problem is we are not really told how to network. But I think empowering women was a theme here, and they told us to just go out there and do it. Don’t be afraid of networking, participate. What you know is very important, but who you know is just as important.” **Yvonne Ukwu**, POWER Attendee.

To watch a video of the Power: Opening Doors for Women event, [click here](#)

<http://www.teamcomcast.com/imageserver/shared/medialibrary/team-flash/teamfan/popup.html?v=933201682&pl=933288014.xml&config=/imageserver/shared/medialibrary/team-flash/teamfan/tfconfig/default.xml>