

APPA Participates in 2008 Women's Leadership Institute

By Polly Pinney

I have always been greatly appreciative and favorably impressed by the array of professional development opportunities offered via our APPA membership, both internationally and regionally. It is this rich professional development continuum that makes membership within APPA so very special and worthwhile. As a young facilities professional (more years ago than I care to admit), I was most grateful for the leg-up on my future that these programs provided.

On December 7-10, 2008, I was privileged to join a delegation of APPA members for the Women's Leadership Institute in Amelia Island, Florida. This new offering was designed in collaboration by seven of our CHEMA associations and is targeted for women seeking to become senior leaders in higher education administration.

Candidates from APPA were nominated and supported by their institutional leadership based on their potential and status as "up and coming" facilities professionals within the APPA member community. APPA members **Christine Douglas**, University of Iowa; **Tanya Hughes-Joiner**, University of Florida; **Susie Reid**, University of Richmond; and **Shawna Rowley**, Weber State University, joined **Suzanne Healy**, APPA director of professional development and me for three-and-one-half days of programming.

Subject matter included Crucial Conversations, Influence/Power, Change Management, Developing Others, Gender/Cross Cultural Communication, and Career Development, and was keynoted by Sara Leeschever, co-author of *Women Don't Ask*, and anchored by Frances Lucas, president of Millsap College. In between day and evening sessions the schedule was

interspersed with time to network, talk a bit with corporate supporters such as American Campus Communities and Spellman Johnson and Associates, and spend some time in personal reflection on the career development portions of the subject matter.

Feedback on the Women in Leadership event from our APPA participants and the overall evaluation of all participant comments indicates it was well received and a success by all standards.

In times such as the ones we all currently face, the development of our team members takes on additional importance. I have recommended we continue our collaboration on this endeavor and look forward to adding this opportunity to the rich fabric of programs we offer our members. ☺

IN TIMES SUCH AS THE ONES WE ALL CURRENTLY FACING, THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS TAKES ON ADDITIONAL IMPORTANCE.

Polly Pinney is executive director for facilities management at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ, and APPA's President-Elect. She can be reached at polly.pinney@asu.edu.



From left to right: Tanya Joiner-Hughes, University of Florida; Suzanne Healy, APPA; Polly Pinney, Arizona State University; Susie Ried, University of Richmond; Christine Douglas, University of Iowa; Shawna Rowley, Weber State University.