



News from Inova Jan – Dec 2010

December 2010: FEPIE E Training Tool Goes Live

The FEPIE project now has the e learning tool to support female students in Engineering to improve leadership and creativity skills. To try out the tool, please visit the project website. [visit conference website](#)

November 2010: WES Conference 'Making Digital Britain' Comes to Sheffield

The WES Annual Conference is the premier event in the UK connecting and inspiring women at all career stages in engineering, technology and science. Hear from the leaders in the field of engineering science and technology on tackling change and how to plan for a digital future. Invited speakers include technical leaders, thought leaders and personal development professionals. The conference will take place at Kenwood Hall, Sheffield on the 19th, 20th and 21st November 2010. Please visit the conference website to register for your place. [visit conference website](#)

September 2010: Inova Successful in European Bids

Despite tough competition, Inova has been successful in gaining funding under the Transfer of Innovation strand from Leonardo da Vinci to transfer our Mentoring Circles methodology to Cyprus, Malta and the Netherlands for a two year project until September 2012. In addition, Inova has successfully secured new projects with the Grundtvig and Leonardo partnerships programmes to enable staff and learners to transfer their experiences and knowledges in adult education and learning across Europe.

July 2010: Women Mean Business

The UKRC National conference, *Women Mean Business*, will take place on Tuesday October 12th 2010 at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London. Keynote speakers include Professor Lord Robert Winston and Julie Meyer amongst other leaders in the field coming together to discuss the importance of women in the workplace. [visit conference website](#)

June 2010: Share your Opinions on the Issues for Women in IT

The Gender IT European project is inviting men and women to contribute to a discussion by sharing your stories/views about the issues for women in IT today. Are there enough women working in IT? How can we encourage more girls to follow careers in IT? These are just some of the starter questions that Gender IT is looking for your contributions in order to submit these to the European Commission for policy recommendations. [visit discussion](#)

June 2010: Follow us on Facebook

Inova now has a facebook page where you can keep up to date with all our project news and connect with others interested in similar areas of work. [visit website](#)

May 2010: Inova Trains European Trainers in Mentoring Circles Methodology

Inova delivered a one day training the trainers workshop in Sheffield on 18th May 2010 to a group of trainers from universities and training organisations based in Cyprus, Greece, Estonia and Germany to support them to export the Mentoring Circles methodology to their countries. The training is part of the *Women@Business* project which aims to transfer Mentoring Circles for female



undergraduates across Europe to foster a greater interest in starting up a business following university. [visit website](#)

May 2010: Inova's Associate Publishes Sheffield-based Family Business Memoir

'The Potty Edwards What a Way to Get a Living', is a nostalgic memoir told through the eyes of Mick, the youngest in the well-known 'Potty Edwards' market trading family. They were china and glass merchants who sold their wares for many years in Sheffield's old Sheaf Market, known as the Rag and Tag. Mick's daughter, Michele Lockwood-Edwards, one of Inova's key Associates, has written the book. The book is a tale of Mick's childhood from the 1930s and his induction into the family business and recollections of his school days. The story is narrated from Mick's viewpoint as the youngest child in a large family of siblings. [visit website](#)

May 2010: Inova Awarded Customer First Standard

Inova has been awarded the Customer First Standard for providing excellent customer service to our clients. The standard measures organisations against 32 statements around customer service and is a benchmark for all organisations and individuals working with Inova to be confident in our commitment to putting the customer first in all our work in the UK and abroad. [visit Customer First website](#)

March 2010 : Call for Papers - Beyond the Leaky Pipeline

Inova is the UK partner in this European meta-analysis project which has now released a Call for Papers, with the deadline of 31st May 2010 for the final conference to be held on 19th-20th October 2010. The event will bring together experts and practitioners in the field of gender and science from 32 countries in Europe to discuss the possibilities and challenges for European and national research on gender and science and policies towards gender equality in science. [visit conference website](#)

February 2010 : Women@Business Successful Lead Project for DG Enterprise

Inova is a key partner in one of only nine projects to be funded under the European Commission's DG Enterprise programme to foster entrepreneurial spirit in female undergraduates across Europe. Inova will transfer its successful Mentoring Circle methodology to trainers working with female undergraduates in Greece, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany and Italy. The project will also aim to introduce an innovative scheme to place female undergraduates on placement abroad with women-owned businesses. The kick off meeting took place in Cyprus in February 2010. [read press release](#)

October 09, Sheffield: Connecting European Businesses - Free Event for SMEs

Inova organised an event at the Jury's Inn Hotel in Sheffield with the European project EUCOMEN to encourage UK small businesses to network and find out about doing business abroad. Speakers from Creative Sheffield, UK Trade and Investment, the Regional Language Network and Sheffield Hallam University presented the benefits of trading abroad and encouraging SMEs to think globally. The event was a great chance for Sheffield and Yorkshire-based businesses to find out about the benefits of trading across Europe. Companies from Latvia, Czech Republic, France, and Italy also attended to network with UK businesses. [download conference presentations](#)
[download event agenda](#)



June 09: Inova Recruiting Women Starting up Businesses in Doncaster

Inova is looking to start new Mentoring Circles for women wanting to start up a business who live in Doncaster. We currently run Mentoring Circles for women starting up social enterprises as well as women starting up general businesses. To find out how to join this free programme and build your business confidence, [contact Inova](#).

April/May 09: Inova Recruiting Women Returners for Career Development Project

Inova is now recruiting women who are wanting to return to work but who have been on a career break for any reason, in order to join a small group of women to receive training and support in building confidence and CV/application skills to return to work. If you are a woman wanting to return to work, [contact Inova](#) for more details about this free programme in Sheffield.

March 09: Inova Trains Businesses in Inter-Cultural Awareness

Marina Larios delivered the informative workshop 'Cross Cultural Considerations for Business in Mexico' on March 18th 09 to businesses operating in Yorkshire and Humber who are looking to prepare to export their services/products to the USA, Canada or Mexico. [visit event site](#)

Feb 09: Inova Launches European Career Circles for Women Returners Across Europe

Inova has been successful in receiving funding from the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme, to export our methodology recognised in the UK by SFEDI (Small Firms Enterprise Development Initiative) to a new group of participants: women returners across Europe. Inova hosted the first European meeting for the project called EU Return in London on 22nd and 23rd January at the Royal Academy of Engineering. Participants from Portugal, Romania, Switzerland and the UK took part in a training the trainers session where training methodologies and exercises to use when working with women returning to work following a career break were discussed and exchanged. [visit EU Return](#)

Feb 09: New Elected Executive for WiTEC

More than 8 European Countries travelled to Halmstad, Sweden in order to participate on the 30th January 09 in the elections of the new WiTEC Executive Committee. WiTEC (European Association for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology) which celebrated its 20th anniversary last year in Amsterdam has since 1988 being the leading association in Europe in the promotion of women in science, engineering and technology. Inova is pleased to announce that Marina Larios, Inova Director has been re-elected to her position of WiTEC President for 2009-2011.

The new elected executive members are:

- Marina Larios (UK) President
- Miretta Giacometti (Italy)- Vice-President
- Nadia Chryssikopoulou (Greece) Vice President
- Ute Wanzek (Germany) Secretary
- Taru Kankkunen (Austria) Treasurer

Marina Larios stated: "I am extremely honoured to have been elected for the third time as WiTEC President and will pursue my commitment towards WiTEC ensuring the association grows from strength to strength. WiTEC has just received the great news of new EC funded programmes which gives us a great start for 2009!"



For further information please [contact WITEC secretariat](#).

Jan 09: Celebrating Achievements: Female Entrepreneurs, 10th Sept 2008, Sheffield, UK
Inova ran a highly successful event on 10th September 2008 at The Millennium Gallery, Sheffield, UK to celebrate the achievements of women entrepreneurs who had been through the various Inova mentoring and training programmes for women starting up or developing a business. The event was attended by over 100 women entrepreneurs and policy makers and was a great opportunity to celebrate the successes of women in Sheffield and South Yorkshire. During the event Councillor Sylvia Anginotti spoke about the importance of programmes such as those run by Inova to encourage and support more women to start up in business. Cllr Anginotti also released a new policy on the night of the event stating that Sheffield City Council are committed to making sure that Sheffield becomes one of the best places to set up in business as a woman.

"A joyful, seamless and thoroughly uplifting event! Brilliant achievement and a great way to top it off."

Frances Wells

"I really enjoyed the conference. The speakers were very informative and made me want to be one of those female entrepreneurs. Very enjoyable and I met some very interesting people who are clearly passionate about what they do which was very positive."

Jennie Medcalf (Sheffield International Venues)

[Read Event Programme](#) (PDF, 140kb)

[Read Speaker Biographies](#) (PDF, 71kb)

[Read Cllr Sylvia Anginotti's speech](#) (PDF, 57kb)

[Read letter of support from Paul Scrivens, Leader of Sheffield City Council](#) (PDF, 381kb)