



EVENTS | PROGRAMMES | CEO BLOG

Dear Lisa

I was privileged to attend last week's [Hogan Lovells Global Women's Executive Summit](#) which was exceptional as business summits and women's conferences go on many fronts. The theme of the Summit was Disruptive Leadership. Speakers and audience members discussed how advances in areas like technology and healthcare, and consumer preferences moving towards shared economy business models and self-automation, are causing massive disruption and enormous pressure on regulators. Thank you Hogan Lovells for inviting me to speak on how with She Objects, TWF is working to disrupt out-dated gender stereotyping by the media!

Among many outstanding presenters, I was particularly struck by comments by Tanya Holcomb, Vice President and General Counsel, Global Litigation, Honeywell International Inc. who when asked how diversity affects business observed that decades of research on the effectiveness of juries clearly demonstrates that diverse juries are better at considering case facts, make fewer errors recalling relevant information and, in cases with a racial element, display a greater openness to discussing the role of race in the case. These improvements didn't necessarily happen because black jurors brought new information to the group—they happened because white jurors changed their behaviour in the presence of black jurors. In the presence of diversity, they were more diligent and open-minded.

I am very grateful to Tanya for highlighting this body of research which so compellingly demonstrates that a group of people with diverse individual expertise is better than a homogeneous group at solving complex, non-routine problems. As the research shows, this is not only because people with different backgrounds bring new information. Simply interacting with individuals who are different forces group members to prepare better, to anticipate alternative viewpoints and to expect that reaching consensus will take effort.

On this theme, Scientific American published an article on "[How Diversity Makes Us Smarter](#)" in 2014 which concluded "This is how diversity works: by promoting hard work and creativity and by encouraging the consideration of alternatives even before any interpersonal interaction takes place. The pain associated with diversity can be thought of as the pain of exercise. You have to push yourself to grow your muscles. The pain, as the old saw goes, produces the gain. In just the same way, we need diversity—in teams, organisations and society as a whole—if we are to change, grow and innovate."

Amen to that and thank you again to Hogan Lovells for an eye-opening experience!

Warm regards

Su-Mei Thompson
 CEO, The Women's Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS



Breakfast with HKU President Peter Mathieson, one of 30 UN Women HeForShe Global Impact Champions!

Over breakfast, HKU President, Professor Peter Mathieson, will share insights and learnings from the second anniversary celebration of UN Women's HeForShe Initiative as part of the 71st UN General Assembly in New York. UN Women unveiled the first-ever HeForShe IMPACT 10x10x10 University Parity Report where 10 leading global universities (including HKU) will chart their progress towards achieving gender parity.

DATE: Wednesday, October 12, 2016

TIME: 8.15 - 9.30 a.m.

VENUE: Baker & McKenzie, 14/F, Hutchison House, 10 Harcourt Road, Central

REGISTER [here](#) to join. Male champions for gender equality are particularly welcome! For inquiries, please email lisa.moore@twhk.org.

BOARDROOM LUNCH

FOURTH LUNCH
 THE SERIES

SOLD OUT



30% Club Annual Boardroom Lunch

We are thrilled with the line-up of corporates who are hosting tables at our fourth 30% Club Boardroom Lunch this Friday! Table hosts this year include AIA, Alibaba, BlackRock, Citi, Deacons, Goldman Sachs, Herbert Smith Freehills, HKEX, Hogan Lovells, HSBC, Macquarie, MTR, PCCW, Slaughter and May, Swire and Thomson Reuters, alongside event



sponsors Standard Chartered and KPMG. Board members and C-suite leaders from these organisations will engage in simulated boardroom discussions with our 100 women to watch.

DATE: Friday, October 14, 2016

TIME: 12.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.

VENUE: The Asia Society Hong Kong Center, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty

**TWF AND BLOOMBERG
PRESENT A LUNCHTIME
DISCUSSION**

ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
GENDER-EQUALITY
INDEX



Bloomberg Financial Services Gender-Equality Index Presentation, Oct 17

TWF and Bloomberg invite you to a lunchtime talk by Angela Sun, head of Strategy & Corporate Development, Bloomberg L.P on the Bloomberg Financial Services Gender-Equality Index. Firms in the Index include American Express, Bank of America, Barclays, BNP Paribas, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, HSBC, JPMorgan Chase, MetLife, Standard Chartered, State Street and UBS. Angela will discuss key findings from the Index and what firms are doing to effectively promote gender equality.

DATE: Monday, October 17, 2016

TIME: 12.30 - 1.45 p.m.

VENUE: 22/F Champion Tower, 3 Garden Road, Central

REGISTER [here](#) to join.

**2016 GALA
DINNER
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 15**

EARLY BIRD TICKETS
NOW SELLING

TWF Gala Dinner 2016 - Reserve your table now!

Tables are now selling fast for TWF's 2016 Gala Dinner sponsored by Bloomberg! We are delighted to have Sabrina Peng, Vice President of Ant Financial Services Group and Partner of Alibaba Group, as our keynote speaker this year. Other guest speakers include Erika Irish Brown, Global Head of Diversity & Inclusion at Bloomberg, and Shiza Shahid, Co-Founder of the Malala Fund. In keeping with the theme of celebrating women in tech, we will also share video remarks from global tech icons including Sheryl Sandberg - COO of Facebook, Ruth Porat - CFO of Google (now Alphabet) and Jean Liu - President of Didi Chuxing, to celebrate women in tech, and we are delighted to have Facebook as our Social Media Partner. We are also looking for more event sponsors and auction prize donors - to find out more, please contact Claire Lim at claire.lim@twfhk.org.

DATE: Tuesday, November 15, 2016

TIME: From 7.00 p.m.

VENUE: JW Marriott Hotel, One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway

REGISTER [here](#) to join.

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Mentoring Programme Interviews Now Underway

The Info Sessions for our Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders attracted a record number of attendees this year with over 700 people joining the 7 sessions. Interviews of shortlisted applicants get underway this week. Good luck everyone!



#SheMeansBusiness Train the Trainers Sessions

Last week, Clair Deevy of Facebook led Train the Trainers sessions for #SheMeansBusiness in Hong Kong. The training was attended by supporting partners from BSD Academy, Cocoon, Goodlab, Metta and WHub and topics included creating online content, setting up and managing Facebook pages, growing your audience and using ads to scale up. Many thanks to BSD Code and Design Academy and Metta for hosting the sessions.



HKEX Women's Exchange Event

HKEX Chairman Sir CK Chow presented a cheque to TWF's CEO Su-Mei Thompson at the annual reception of the HKEX Women's Exchange last week in support of TWF media literacy workshops in under-served schools. Other speakers at the event included Laura Cha and Tim Freshwater, as well as Angelina Kwan - Chair of HKEX's Women's Exchange and TWF Board Vice-Chair.



Community Screenings

Last week, TWF was invited to introduce She Objects to HKUST's Women Faculty Association. HKUST are now planning to organise a screening for over 2,000 students. Coming up in the next couple of weeks are screenings for Bloomberg's Women Community, Linklaters and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. To arrange a screening for your company, women's network, school or university, please contact sarah.abbottLadner@twfhk.org.



Metroplex Press and Public Screenings

Today's Press Screening of She Objects will be followed by a media briefing featuring Director Nicola Fan and Sex Education Specialist Atty Ching. There will also be four public screenings from Oct 20-23 at The Metroplex - tickets are available [here](#). Private screenings of She Objects at The Metroplex can also be arranged. To find out more, please email stephanie.ko@twfhk.org.

INSPIRATIONAL WOMAN INTERVIEW NICOLA FAN



Interview with She Objects Director

She Objects Director, Nicola Fan, has been featured in the blog "Interviews with Women Leaders Across the World". Click [here](#) to read the interview.



New UK Report on How Pressure to Look Perfect Hits Girls' Confidence

Lack of body confidence is not only stopping girls from wearing certain clothes and having their pictures taken but is also preventing them from exercising, speaking up in class and socialising. According to a new report by Girlguiding, "The main source, and arguably the most obvious, is the portrayal of women in the media...Another source is language we use around girls and young women, typically focusing on their physical attributes rather than their achievements". Click [here](#) for coverage by BBC and [here](#) to download the report.

IN THE COMMUNITY



TWF at SHAPE China 2016

Tim Payne, Brunswick's Senior Partner and Head of Asia, and TWF Board member, will lead an interactive workshop on gender diversity



and leadership on October 15 as part of [SHAPE China 2016](#). The session will explore the possible factors behind the under-representation of women in top leadership positions in business in Asia and how companies, entrepreneurs and individuals can use business-centred strategies to redress the balance by 2030.

STAMFORD AMERICAN | HONG KONG SCHOOL | KONG presents
 13th Annual Women of Influence Conference & Awards
 November 11, 2016

Leading Change:
 Transforming ourselves, our organizations, our society

Register Now > #AmChamHKWOI

AmCham's 13th Annual Women of Influence Conference

TWF is proud to be supporting [AmCham's Women of Influence Conference](#) once again this year. The culmination of the conference will be the presentation of the 13th Annual Women of Influence Awards which will recognise seven high-achieving women, a male champion who has demonstrated his support for the advancement of women and one outstanding company for women.

DATE: Friday, November 11, 2016

TIME: 8.00 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.

VENUE: Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong

REGISTER [here](#) to join the conference.

TWF FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES - We Would Love Your Support!



TWF Mischa Pins

To raise funds for our programmes, TWF is selling pins, specially designed for TWF by Michelle Lai - MISCHA founder. The beautiful black and gold enamelled pins featuring MISCHA's signature design can be purchased at TWF and partner events for HK\$50. We are looking for volunteers to help us with selling pins within their organisations and networks. Please contact Stephanie Ko at stephanie.ko@twfhk.org to find out more.

WHAT WE'RE READING

Our top picks for recommended reading and listening on the key trends and breaking stories about women and gender:

- [What If There Were More Women In Tech?](#) (BBC)
- [The Double Payoff Of Gender-Based Investing](#) (Forbes)
- [Why You Should Give Your Sons More Chores Than Your Daughters](#) (Washington Post)
- [It's Australia. In 2016. And Girls Believe It's Not Worth Pursuing Their Dreams](#) (The Guardian)
- [Many men talk like Donald Trump in private. And only other men can stop them.](#) (Washington Post)
- [Hong Kong's Young Women Still Facing Gender Inequality As World Marks United Nations' International Day Of The Girl](#) (SCMP)

9A Chun Wo Commercial Centre, 23-29 Wing Wo Street, Sheung Wan
 E. info@twfhk.org | W. twfhk.org | T. +852-2592-8265 | F. +852-2592-8264

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