



Touro College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Donne Kampel, Associate Dean of Faculty at Touro College, to Moderate Discussion with Leading College Presidents on “*The Changing Roles of Women in Academic Leadership*” at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

New York, N.Y., March 9, 2011 -- Donne G. Kampel, Ed.D., associate dean of faculty at Touro College, will moderate a panel discussion with four female college presidents titled “*The Changing Roles of Women in Academic Leadership*.” The panel discussion, to take place on Thursday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the National Archives building in Washington, D.C., is free and open to the public.

As women continue to carve paths to the top of academic leadership at major colleges and universities, the panelists will discuss what it took them to succeed and the future challenges women face in academe. Panelists include Teresa A. Sullivan, president of the University of Virginia; Catharine Bond Hill, president of Vassar College; H. Kim Bottomly, president of Wellesley College; and S. Georgia Nugent, president of Kenyon College.

Dr. Kampel is the author of the book *Learning Leadership: Women Presidents of Colleges and Universities: The Perceptions of Women College Presidents as to How They Learned to Lead* (March 2010, LAP Lambert Academic Publishers). In her book, she shares through personal interviews the diverse factors that influenced female academics and eventually shaped their chosen career paths.

“In 1986, women held 9.5 percent of all college presidencies. By 2010, that number had reached 23 percent, with women leading some of the biggest and best academic institutions,” said Dr. Kampel. “However, most researchers in the field agree that while women have made progress, the progress has slowed and we still have work to do.”

As part of her research for the book, Dr. Kampel interviewed 12 female presidents of both four-year colleges and research universities. In order to discover how these women learned to lead, Kampel said she explored their backgrounds, beginning with early childhood, and tracked their successes through school; career intentions and pathways; role models and mentors; and leadership styles.

“Their stories took me through the resources they had available, such as formal leadership development programs, and more informal but critically important resources, such as mentoring and networking,” said Dr. Kampel. “The presidents also described, in great detail, some of the obstacles they had had to overcome and other challenges they still faced. We also discussed whether some of the more commonly-known obstacles, including discrimination based on gender, race, and ethnicity, the glass ceiling, and sexual harassment, still existed on the way through the academic pipeline.”

Dr. Kampel said in addition to investigating important aspects of how women learn to lead, her research also provided a foundation for further inquiry into such areas as the leadership pipeline and equality of opportunity for women in academia in the 21st century.

Dr. Kampel has been an academic administrator in higher education for over twenty years. Since 2006, she has been associate dean of faculty at Touro College in New York City. She began her career at City University of New York’s Office of Budget and Finance, after which she spent several years as administrator of the Office of Student Affairs. Dr. Kampel spent several years at Yeshiva University, first as the administrator of Academic Affairs and second as assistant dean of Yeshiva College. Dean Kampel conducts seminars and workshops in her specialty areas of women and leadership and faculty advancement.

The panel discussion will take place in the William G. McGowan Theater of the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. Attendees should use the Special Events Entrance, located on the National Mall at Constitution Ave. and 7th Street, NW. For additional information, call 202-357-5333.

Touro is a system of Jewish-sponsored non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was established in 1971 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American community. More than 18,000 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has branch campuses, locations and instructional sites in the New York area, as well as branch campuses and programs in Berlin, Jerusalem, Moscow, Paris, and Florida. Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus, as well as Touro College Los Angeles, are separately accredited institutions governed in common by the same Board of Trustees as Touro College. For further information on Touro College, please go to: <http://www.touro.edu/media/>.

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