

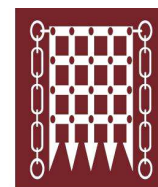
Westminster eForum Keynote Seminar:

Women in the tech sector: access, skills development and policy priorities

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 1st March 2016

Venue: Glaziers Hall, 9 Montague Close, London SE1 9DD

Agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER
eFORUM

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dr Sarah Peers, Vice President, Women's Engineering Society
- 9.05 - 9.15 **Women in the tech sector now: latest data and trends for employment and career development**
Rhona Hutchon, Managing Director, Scotland, Harvey Nash
- 9.15 - 10.00 **Immediate steps: tackling barriers to access and development in the tech workforce**
What are the most notable transferable best practice examples of addressing barriers to women entering and progressing in the tech sector? Where is change and support most needed in policy at all levels from education to employment law and what are the key challenges for company cultures? What practical steps can businesses and educators take to make it easier and more straightforward for women to transfer their skills towards digital industries and other tech sectors? What company-level changes to the way career opportunities are publicised and to HR practices would make a difference? At a policy level, what more is needed to address discriminatory practices and strengthen the legal framework to ensure equality throughout HR processes in this sector and more generally? How might attempts to improve the digital skills of the general public more widely positively affect the number of women entering the tech sector - and could such initiatives be better supported by Government and business? What impact have Government backed schemes such as 'Think, Act, Report' had in making it easier to highlight cases of unfairness in the workplace and how could schemes like this be improved upon?
Gillian Arnold, Director, Tectre and Chair, BCS Women
Wendy Scott, Director of Product Experience, Sky
Philip Landau, Employment Lawyer, Landau Law Solicitors
Questions and comments from the floor with **Rhona Hutchon**, Managing Director, Scotland, Harvey Nash
- 10.00 - 10.40 **Towards equality at every level: entry, management and in the boardroom**
Naomi Climer, President, Institution of Engineering and Technology
Emma McGuigan, Managing Director, UK and Ireland Technology Group, Accenture
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 - 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Dr Sarah Peers, Vice President, Women's Engineering Society
- 10.45 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.25 **Chair's opening remarks**
Chi Onwurah MP, Shadow Minister for Culture & the Digital Economy
- 11.25 - 11.55 **Getting women into tech: best practice and policy priorities**
Nicola Mendelsohn, Vice President EMEA, Facebook
Questions and comment from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Inspiring the next generation: education, careers advice and challenging misconceptions**
What approaches, such as schools visits and more targeted careers advice, are most successful in ensuring more girls take on STEM subjects at school and how can the curriculum be improved so that these subjects transfer more directly to the workplace? How can educators, businesses and others help allay any concerns that might be felt amongst young women that their qualifications and background will be unsuited to tech sector roles - including coding and video games production - currently dominated by men, support their interest and willingness to transfer skills, and create suitably welcoming and inclusive work environments? What steps can be taken - throughout education at all levels - to ensure that girls receive effective careers advice? What role can female role models from throughout the sector play in inspiring women to take up tech sector related work, and how can these efforts be brought into schools more effectively?
Emma Cerrone, Managing Director and Co-Founder, Freeformers
Dr Sarah Peers, Vice President, Women's Engineering Society
Kirsten Bodley, Chief Executive, STEMNET
Emily Atkinson, Co-Managing Director, Girls In Tech UK
Steve Brown, Programme Manager, Future Tech Girls and Director, Empiric
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster eForum closing remarks**
Chi Onwurah MP, Shadow Minister for Culture & the Digital Economy
Daniel Patefield, Forum Lead, Westminster eForum