



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The topic on everyone's mind right now is the impact of COVID-19 on their students, faculty and staff. HERS is no different, and the disruption to our daily life is real and present. HERS is monitoring the potential impact on our HERS community and will continue communications with all those scheduled to participate in the upcoming HERS programs and events. You are our priority, and we are here to serve you.

As we continue to monitor the news, we have not lost focus on continuing our work and your advancement. To that end, the Alumnae Refresher webinar series, which in the past was only available to our most recent HERS Leadership Institute alumnae for \$99, has now been made available to all alumnae. [Check it out!](#)

We know we are not alone in advancing women leaders in higher education, and I want to thank our fantastic partner schools, who remain fully committed to developing women leaders and supporting their career aspirations. Your continued involvement with the HERS organization makes our mission of achieving equity in higher education possible.

Moreover, our HERS alumnae say that it is a profound source of pride to be chosen to represent their institution at the HERS Leadership Institute, and to know they are valued and supported in such a tangible way. Our alumnae depart the HERS Leadership Institute confident in their ability to lead in these increasingly challenging times.

We want to make it easier for you to develop great leaders and advance your institutional goals. If your institution is not currently a partner school, there are many advantages to becoming one. To start:

- You will have the ability to develop the women leaders at your institution quickly because we reserve spots for your candidates.
- You will save money since we let you know before anyone else when applications will open.

HERS will work closely with your institution to create a process for providing this transformational experience, found nowhere else, to more of your faculty and staff. In return, they will contribute their newfound leadership skills, problem-solving strategies, national higher education connections, and institutional knowledge towards helping your institution thrive, despite the challenging times in which we live. It is a win-win for all involved and will have a lasting impact on your ability to attract, select, engage, and retain stellar faculty and staff.

If you are interested in starting a conversation, even just to learn more, do not hesitate to reach out to the HERS team and me. Your success, as well as the success of the women in your organization, is our mission.

As always, I enjoy communicating with you through the HERS newsletter and look forward to hearing from you. Stay safe. Stay strong.

Concerned for your well-being,

Verna Fitzsimmons, Ph.D.  
President

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Interested in a HERS Membership?

We want to hear from you. We are evaluating adding memberships to the growing list of HERS offerings. Please provide your feedback by completing this 3-5 question survey. Thank you.

[Take the Survey](#)

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#### BY THE NUMBERS:

Our listservs have never been so active, as alumnae ask and answer questions related to institutional continuity and leadership; share jobs, promotion announcements, and congratulations; and offer messages of support regarding COVID-19. Even our most recent cohorts are active, because if ever there was a time to connect with your network and build community, it's now! Since January 2020, here are the number of messages sent by just our most recent cohorts.

- Wellesley 2019: 137
  - Denver 2019: 64
  - Bryn Mawr 2019: 6
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#### UPCOMING EVENTS:



HERS Leadership Institute at Colorado School of Mines  
June 8 – 20, 2020  
Denver Metro Area (Golden, CO)

HERS Leadership Institute at Bryn Mawr College  
July 6 – 18, 2020  
Philadelphia Metro Area (Bryn Mawr, PA)

HERS Leadership Institute at Wellesley College  
Four Weekend Sessions: September 24 – 26, 2020, November 12 – 14, 2020,  
February 4 – 6, 2021, March 18 – 20, 2021  
Boston Metro Area (Wellesley and Natick, MA)

Regular application deadline: April 15, 2020 (5 p.m. MT)

[Apply Today!](#)

Next Stages Next Steps in Chicago, IL  
August 6 – 8, 2020

[Register Here!](#)

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#### HERS NETWORK SPOTLIGHT:

Dr. Desha Williams

Dean of the College of Education and Social Work at West Chester University of Pennsylvania (HERS Institute Alumna, Class of 2019)

“HERS helped me think about function instead of title. My leadership trajectory is now toward decision-making leadership positions instead of purely operational, where I can still affect operations while also having an impact on change.”

Dr. Desha Williams reflects on how much the HERS Leadership Institute changed her career trajectory. Read more for valuable insights on institutional and peer support.

[Read more >](#)



HERS NETWORK SPOTLIGHT:

Dr. Patricia Findley

Associate Professor of Social Work, Director of the MSW Program, and Special Assistant to the Dean for Interprofessional Health Initiatives at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey (HERS Institute Alumna, Class of 2019)



“Since HERS, I am much more willing to volunteer for leadership opportunities that seem a little daunting to me, knowing that I have my skills, my newfound confidence, and the HERS team to support me.”

Dr. Patricia Findley shares her own experience with the HERS Leadership Institute, highlighting the invaluable support she continues to find from the HERS Network.

[Read more >](#)

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REMINDERS:

Update your contact information by [clicking here](#) and while you're at it, stay in the know and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#)!

We hope you stay safe and mentally strong during these unprecedented times. The institutions you work for need your leadership more than ever.