Women CIOs: Diverse Pathways to the C-Suite
Women CIOs: Diverse Pathways to the C-Suite

Hilary Baker
California State University Northridge

Loretta Early
George Washington University

Christine Miller
Sacramento State University

Helen Norris
Chapman University

Melissa Woo
Stony Brook University
If you have C-suite aspirations, what one word describes a potential barrier to achieving that goal?

Respond at PollEv.com/csunpolls
Hilary’s path

- Bachelors in Mathematics and Geography from University of Birmingham, England
- Masters in Architecture and Urban Planning (majored in Computer-based Information Systems) from UCLA
- Urban Decision Systems, a Geographic Information Systems company
- J. Paul Getty Trust/Museum - project manager and increasing leadership roles - museum and administrative systems
- California State University Chancellor’s Office - Senior Director for systemwide PeopleSoft implementation at 23 campuses
- Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA - CIO
- California State University, Northridge - Vice President for Information Technology and CIO
Loretta’s path

★ Summer intern: Wall Street financial services company
★ Student-athlete an important aspect of my journey
★ First family of “three-generations” of University of Virginia women graduates
★ Hired by financial services headquarters as a systems analyst after graduation
★ Relocation due to marriage. Private consulting practice for several industries, including higher education
★ Made commitment to serving higher education in 1988
★ College of William and Mary, variety of leadership roles
★ Survived several university leadership changes
★ Chose to be “master of my fate” and pursued leadership growth opportunity
★ University of Oklahoma: AVP 2000-2010, VP/CIO 2010-2017
★ The George Washington University: July 2017, CIO
Christine’s path

● Neo-luddite as a teen
  ○ BASIC = boring
● Started dabbling a bit out of interest and necessity
● Got hooked via student worker job as ‘Cable Girl’ in 1991
● Academics @ UGA (1988 - 2011) earned AB English, MEd Instructional Technology, and PhD in Higher Education
● Career @ UGA (1993 - 2014) started as Data Operator II and left as Assistant Dean and IT Executive Director
● Career @ Sacramento State (2014 - present)
  ○ Associate CIO 2014 - 2016 (Helen’s old job)
  ○ Acting/Interim CIO 2016
  ○ CIO 2017 - present
Helen’s path

- Bachelors in Mathematics from Trinity College Dublin in Ireland
- Masters in Computer Resource Management from Webster University in St. Louis
- Frankfurt, West Germany - U.S. Army Programmer
- St. Louis, Missouri - various IT roles in a variety of corporations
- UC Berkeley - various IT Leadership Roles
- California State University, Sacramento - Associate CIO
- Chapman University, Orange CA - CIO
- ... board service including Women in Technology International (witi) and the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE)
Melissa’s path

- Bachelor’s & PhD in Biophysics
- University of Illinois
  - Health physicist
  - Career change to entry-level UNIX/Linux sysadmin
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
  - Research Cyberinfrastructure
  - Infrastructure & Operations
  - COO for IT
- University of Oregon
  - CIO
- Stony Brook University
  - CIO
  - … and now healthcare IT
Women CIOs: Diverse Pathways to the C-Suite

- Hilary Baker, California State University Northridge
- Loretta Early, George Washington University
- Christine Miller, Sacramento State University
- Helen Norris, Chapman University
- Melissa Woo, Stony Brook University
How to stay in touch?

- Hilary Baker - hbaker@csun.edu
- Loretta Early - learly@gwu.edu
- Christine Miller - christine.miller@csus.edu, @intentionalcio
- Helen Norris - hnorris@chapman.edu, @CIO_ChapmanU
- Melissa Woo - cio@stonybrook.edu, @mzyw
Ask Us Anything