



British Female Inventors & Innovators Network (BFIIN) Newsletter Special Edition

HIGHLIGHTS OF BFIIN'S EXHIBITION, CONFERENCE & AWARDS 2005



DEBORAH BECOMES FEMALE INVENTOR OF THE YEAR 2005

Deborah Leary, inventor of a product to help police collect evidence at crime scenes, beat off strong competition from other contenders to win the top prize. Her product, Forensic Anti Contamination Stepping Plates allows the police to walk around a crime scene without making contact with the ground. Deborah's clear polycarbonate plastic stepping plates also enables officers to see the crime scene more easily than other alternatives on the market. They are lightweight and stackable.

Vice Chancellor of UEL Mike Thorne expressed his support for innovation and diversity stating that "Universities like ours have a long track record of innovation, enterprise and for working with industry. We have launched Knowledge Dock to provide local businesses and entrepreneurs with access to the resources they need to compete in the global workplace."

Deborah being presented with her well deserved trophy by Premier Sponsor Representative, UEL Vice Chancellor, Mike Thorne



ADRIANNE NAMED FEMALE INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR 2005

Welsh inventor **Adrienne Jones** from Conwy, North Wales was delighted to be named the Innovator of the Year 2005 for her Biocycle, biodegradable tree shelter and seedling cover, which is used to protect young trees. The product is an alternative to plastic tree shelters, which are more difficult and costly to dispose of. It is made out of natural fibre (flax) and cashew nut shell Liquid Resin.

Jacqui Lait, MP for Beckenham & Shadow Home Affairs presented the trophy to Adrienne Jones and spoke of her support for BFIIN "I am delighted to support exceptionally creative, inventive and innovative women and applaud everyone who is taking part. It is wonderful that this Award Scheme has attracted so many women and that the idea has spread world-wide. Women in Britain are world-wide leaders."



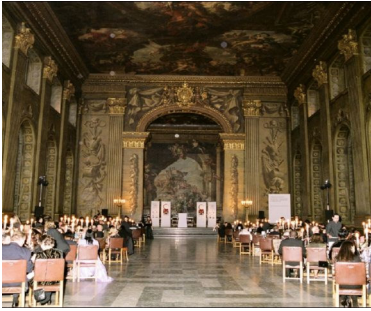
London businesswoman **Yana Johnson** of Yana Cosmetics receives her Silver Trophy for her innovation under the Exceptional Creative Items Category from UKTI's David Train.

LONDON'S UK TRADE & INVESTMENT BACKS BFIIN



Our thanks go to main sponsors of the BFIIN event this year, the London region of UK Trade and Investment (UKTI). This is the Government organisation that supports companies in the UK doing business internationally. Recognising that the UK has a strong science and technology base, with world class design, research and development disciplines, UKTI continues to provide support to UK's business environment by promoting various incentives for companies to grow, innovate and compete in a global marketplace. David Train, International Trade Director of UKTI said "UK Trade & Investment are very pleased to be able to support the British Female Inventors & Innovators Awards 2005. One of our key aims is to help break down the barriers that women face when looking to enter the world of business and international trade, which thrives on the new, improved or different. We want to encourage as many women as possible to develop their ideas." Bola Olabisi, CEO of BFIIN commented, "it is always encouraging to learn that London's UKTI is continuing it's efforts of making innovation and diversity a top priority."

THE VENUE



The Painted Hall at Greenwich
Sponsored by the University of
Greenwich



MORE ON THE BRITISH FEMALE INVENTORS & INNOVATORS EXHIBITION, CONFERENCE AND AWARD CEREMONY 2005

The BFIIN event celebrated the ingenuity, innovation and design expertise of innovative women across Britain. It is now in its sixth successful year and took place in the magnificent setting of the Painted Hall, Old Royal Navy College in Greenwich courtesy of Greenwich University.

The event spanned two days with the first day starting with the exhibition. This was very well attended and attracted many visitors from home and abroad. This was the first time many of the innovations were on public display. A total of 50 finalists exhibiting in five

categories namely: 'Inventors and Innovators', 'Innovation in Industry', 'Support for Product Development', 'Exceptional Creativity', and 'Capacity Building initiatives'. Exhibitors were able to talk about their products and receive feedback.

The second day involved round table discussions with representatives from over seven countries which included France, Iceland, Finland, Estonia, Sweden and Croatia contributed towards the discussions. In the evening the Award Ceremony was held in the beautiful settings of the Painted Hall. Distinguished

Guest presenters included Jacqui Lait MP for Beckenham and Shadow Home Affairs Minister, Professor Mike Thorne, Vice Chancellor University of East London, Dr Elizabeth Pollitzer, Director of Equaltec—Advancing Women in ITEC, Barbara Mowat representing IFC —The private sector of the World Bank Group, Laurel Herman of Positive Presence, Maxine Benson of Every Woman, Avril Owton of Cloud Hotel and many more.

Special thanks to MC's Rita Beckwith of City Cruises and Martyn Laycock of Managing Transitions for their great work in ensuring the proceedings ran smoothly.

TOP TEN WINNERS

Apart from Deborah Leary and Adrienne Jones, the eight other inventors in the top 10 were:

***Simi Belo** of London for Newhair, a new type of wig made to a unique design.

***Joanne Bradford** of Telford for the world's first market inflatable travel cot for children 0-18 months old.

***Toni Jane Cherrett** of Alderney for the Trover dog coat.

***Cheryl Cullen** of Essex for the Kitten-Pole portable dance pole.

***Celia Gates** of Colchester for Handl Cookware. The design which provides a solution to the age old problem of handling heavy saucepans.

***Cintra Jaggan-Vince** of London for a one sleeved jacket with an integrated, adjustable and detachable sling.

***Liz Paul** of Harrogate for Scentuelle, A clear aromacology patch which works through the sense of smell

***Liz Williams** of Denbighshire for Redweb Persona personal safety alarm which is designed to deter, defend and detect an aggressor in

personal attack or attempted abduction cases.

BFIIN FOUNDER—BOLA OLABISI SAID:

"This has been an exceptional year with creative ideas in many different sectors. The awards show that women can solve problems in every environment from domestic to industrial.

Over the past six years, the event has showcased many remarkable and innovative products and previous winners have gone on to establish successful businesses and achieve global recognition."



CATEGORY AWARD WINNERS RECOGNISED & ACKNOWLEDGED



Unique Jewellery takes centre stage. Andrea Neves, Seba Alden and Toyin Seweje holding their awards.

***Akgun Ozkok** of Surrey became Winner of the Innovative Women in ITEC Category for the Surgical Patient Information System which supports decisions in the treatment of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm.

***Dr. Ann Sudder** of Wrexham became the Gold Award Winner of the Support for Product Development category for her assistance with the progress of the Instant Florist while ***Denise Harris** from

Llanelli won the Silver Award for the Envirocomp Composing System.

Exceptional Creative Items Winners: ***Andre Neves** and ***Saba Alden** of Surrey walked away with Gold Awards for Kayapo jewellery while Silver Award was presented to ***Yana Johnson** for Yana Cosmetics which specializes in ethnic skin as well as being versatile for European skin tones.

***Frances Williams** from London was awarded the Gold Award for her Capacity Building Initiative with Kenana Knitters in Kenya.

The Silver Award went to ***Lorlett Hudson** of London for One Hand Can't Clap, an innovative organization committed to individual and collective development. Recognition came for their collection of 52 unique card sets of wisdom.

For more information please visit www.gwiin.com

KEY ISSUES, DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS & PRESENTERS

A key theme of the Conference was the role of universities and government agencies in promoting and supporting innovation.

Baroness Tessa Blackstone, Vice Chancellor of the University of Greenwich and **Patrick Robinson**, Director of Innovation Strategy, Department of Trade & Industry both gave the Welcoming Address followed by the

Distinguished Keynote Speaker GWIIN Patron **Haifa Fahourn Al Kaylani**, President of the Arab International Women's Forum. Lunchtime provided the opportunity and privilege to listen to Keynote Speaker **Margaret Heffernan**, Author of "The Naked Truth" on 'A working woman's manifesto on business and what really matters'

On the first day the plenary sessions were led by : Sonia Klein from UEL, Sarika Patel, LDA, Christina Hartshorn from SEEDA, , Gail Williams, International Trade Advisor for London, UK Trade & Investment, Clare Logie, Director of Women in Business from Bank of Scotland, Jill Durdin from The Patent Office, and Dr Graham Rawlinson, Chartered Psychologist & Research Fellow — Sussex University and

author of "How to Invent almost Anything".

On the Second Day, Six Round Table Events took off with fully booked seats. Everybody was invited to participate in the discussions and their opinion/feedback was much appreciated.

The series of information and training opportunities covered issues relating to the whole inventing process, international trade and intellectual property.

The topics for the roundtable events were:

Roundtable 1:

International Trade: The Trials & Triumphs of taking it overseas by Bryan Treherne of UK Trade & Investment

Protecting that Innovative Idea by Jill Durdin of The Patent Office.

Roundtable 2:

Tips on Production & Manufacturing by Richard Gallafent & Linda Oakley of Ideas 21

Techniques to Fund and Develop your Idea by Garry Moore of Phoenix Product Development Ltd and David Whitehead.

Roundtable 3:

Style, Presence & Image

Matters by Laurel Herman of Positive Presence.



Looking your Best: Tips for Success with Graphics by Bobby Gunthorpe of Central Saint Martins College of Art

Roundtable 4:

Taking that Valuable Idea to Market by Tony Guile, Wales Innovation Network

Virtual Entrepreneurship — Sonia Klein, Knowledge Dock, University of East London.

Roundtable 5:

Opportunities for Maximising New Technologies in Europe — Marina Larios of Equalitec: Advancing Women in ITEC.

Roundtable 6:

Meet the Inventive & Innovative Women: by Elinora Inga Sigurdardottir, President of The Association of Icelandic Inventors, Iceland.

EQUALITEC— ADVANCING WOMEN IN ITEC launches new award at the BFIIN Awards.

The new award is aimed at encouraging more women returners in Information Technology, Electronics and Communication by putting the spotlight on their innovative achievements.

Equalitec is a new project funded by the European Social Fund under the Equal programme working to promote and support women's employability.



Director of Equalitec, Dr Elizabeth Politzer presents delighted Akgun Ozkok with her Gold Award

JUDGING UNDER PAUL AMBRIDGE'S CHAIRMANSHIP



Explaining the judging process, Chairman of the BFIIN Judging panel, Paul Ambridge addresses the Audience at the awards ceremony.

Our thanks to the panel of judges for their diligence and hard-work.

The independent panel of distinguished judges under the chairmanship of Paul Ambridge, President and immediate past Chairman of the Institute of Patentees & Inventors (IPI) is joined on the judging panel with:

Peta Payne, Vice Chairman of European Union of Women

Angela Giveon, Managing Editor of Executive Woman

David Wardel, Journalist, TV Presenter, Chairman of the IPI

Dr Hanna Alasam, Director of UK Healthcare

Marguerite Lipscomb, Director of Enterprise Kingston University

Manisha Dahad, Director of Dynamic Asian Women's Network

Margaret Briffa, of Briffa Solicitors

Meave Darroux, Director of WHE RE IT'S AT PR LTD

Richie Dayo Johnson, Richmond Johnson

Vicki Salmon of Evershed Solicitors



PROMOTION AND EXPOSURE

The exhibition was opened by Alan Wilcher former Chairman of the British Inventors Society. This was a memorable moment as this was the first time that GWIIN was to open any of its exhibitions to the public.



Bola Olabisi
Chief Executive Officer,
Founder of GWIIN and BFIIN

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**Gold Sponsors, Bartercard Rep
Rosemary Morris presents Tony
Guile of WIN with the 'GWIIN
Chairman's Top Special Trophy'.**

THE BRITISH COUNCIL CONGRATULATES GWIIN & HOSTS EUROPEAN DELEGATES

Thanks to **Fiona Bartels-Ellis**, Head of Equal Opportunities and Diversity, British Council and to **Yvonne Thompson CBE**, President of the European Federation of Black Women Business Owners and the European Patron of GWIIN for a fascinating evening. Many of the delegates especially those from Europe were specially invited and warmly received at the British Council Head Office.

The British Council is known for

connecting people worldwide with learning opportunities, for creating ideas from the UK and building mutually beneficial relationships with other countries.



British Deputy Director, Dr Robin Baker welcomes and addresses the delegates from Europe at the Evening Reception on 16 February 2005

WIN COMES UP TOP WITH SPECIAL CHAIRMANSHIP AWARD



Congratulations to WIN for scooping the Special Chairman's Award. Wales Innovators Network (WIN) funded by the Welsh Assembly Government, and managed by the Welsh Development Agency, promotes innovators based in Wales and helps with the commercialisation of their ideas. It is a free support service and offers a range of professional advice, practical support and commercial connections.

Tony Guiles of WIN commented on the BFIIN event and the remarkable level of entries from Wales, "This showcase of inventions is an impressive display for Welsh women inventors who make up 30% of the total nominees from across the UK".

MEMBERS OF THE LIWIC PROJECT GAIN RECOGNITION AT THE AWARDS

Many members of the LIWIC project — a Jumpstart Inspire project funded by London Development Agency, participated at the Awards Ceremony. LIWIC stands for London Inspires Women Innovators Connection and is a new initiative that recognises the importance of Women's creativity as a resource for national economic growth and individual fulfilment. LIWIC has a particular focus on assisting innovative black minority ethnic (BME) women business owners whilst serving as a one stop referral shop for all innovative women across London regardless of their ethnicity. For more information visit www.liwic.com.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL BFIIN SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS INCLUDING:-

Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF)
Baglady
Bartercard
British Association of Women Entrepreneurs (BAWE),
BRIFFA Solicitors
British Council,
British Invention Show (BIS)
Business Link4London,
Chartered Institute of Patent Agents (CIPA)
Cloud Hotel
Daphne Jackson Trust,

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),
Dynamic Asian Women's Network (DAWN)
East London Inventor Club (ELIC)
Equalitec—Advancing Women in ITEC,
European Federation of Black Women Business Owners,
European Regional Development Fund,
European Social Fund,
Every woman,
Ideas 21
Institute of Patentees and Inventors

London Development Agency,
London Inspires Women Innovation Connection,
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