

News from Inova Jan – Dec 2011

November 2011: Inova Celebrating 10th Anniversary!

We're turning 10 this year, and to celebrate we're holding a gathering in Sheffield, also coinciding with the launch of the [fe:male project network](#). The evening will be opened by Councillor Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, followed by the launch of the first European network for female entrepreneurs. We're having some inspirational talks and an exhibition of businesses from people we've supported in the past, a mini workshop, and the chance to find out more about what programme's we're currently running. Speakers include Yee Kwan of [Yee Kwan's Ice Cream](#), and Silversmith [Katey Felton](#). Due to popularity, this event is now fully booked, but keep an eye on our facebook page for news and photos. [Facebook](#)

November 2011: Placement opportunity for European Student

An opportunity to start a work placement as Project Assistant with Inova has become available, starting in mid-January 2012. This vacancy is open to final-year students from Europe who are eligible for, and preferably have secured, a Leonardo or Erasmus grant. For more information please see the document attached.

[More information](#)

October 2011: New Inova Circles™ website Launched!

Inova are delighted to announce the launch of our new Inova Circles website! Find out more about the different Circles we offer to support you in your career change, or setting up and growing your business. We have a new range of products to suit whatever stage you are at in your career, and remember that we also provide one-to-one business coaching as well. Have a look at our new website here: [Inova Circles webpage](#)

November 2011: National Everywoman Conference, London, UK

The 11th annual National everywoman Conference, The Art of Business Success takes place on Tuesday 1 November at the Grand Connaught Rooms, London. The theme of the day is structured around developing your identity as a successful businesswoman. The agenda is packed with charismatic female entrepreneurs who know how important it is to hone your performance and presence. Like any art, no matter how much you love it, you still need to constantly practice and these women will show how with hard work and determination they started their own businesses from scratch and now enjoy global recognition. [visit conference page](#)

Sept 2011: Inova Successful in 2011 Round of European Funding Proposals

Inova has now heard about new projects which have been successful this year and is pleased to announce that a wide variety of new projects which Inova is part of have been chosen to go ahead. New projects include: a European Transfer of Innovation project to encourage more graduates to go on placements and encourage more SMEs to take part in European mobilities; a project about mumpreneurs; a partnership project about social enterprise; and various projects linked to mentoring. As projects start, we will be adding more information to the website so that results can be shared as widely as possible. To find out more about our new projects, please get in touch.

[contact us](#)

Sept 2011: Women and Leadership: Closing the Gender Gap



An exciting 2 day conference will be held in Oxford Brookes University, UK to explore the latest research and focus on the experiences of women who have successfully achieved leadership positions. To book your place, please visit the conference website. [visit conference page](#)

June 2011: Glass Ceiling for Women in IT still Limiting Career Progression

A report carried out by [Intellect](#) in collaboration with [Women in Technology](#) has revealed that women still face barriers to progressing in the IT industry. Over 60% of respondents had over a decade of experience in the sector, yet only 29% were in senior management positions. Despite flexible working options being available, very few women choose to take this option as it is seen as very detrimental to their chances of promotion. Is a long hours working culture to blame? How can women break through the ceiling? Join the debate on our [facebook page](#) [read the report here](#)

May 2011: Inova welcomes WiTEC Europe representatives to Sheffield

May saw members of the board of WiTEC gathering in Sheffield for the bi-annual strategic meeting, hosted by Inova. WiTEC (the European Association for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology) has been active for nearly 25 years, supporting initiatives promoting women in all areas of SET. With members in 10 EU countries, this recent meeting provided an opportunity to plan the Association's activities for both the near and long-term future. To find out more about WiTEC and its activities, visit the website below.

[visit website](#)

April 2011: fe:male project starts Mentoring Circles™

Mentoring Circles™ are starting in the UK, Netherlands, Cyprus and Malta this month as part of the fe:male project, funded by the European Commission. fe:male is supporting potential female entrepreneurs who face added barriers to starting up a business, through the innovative Mentoring Circles™ methodology. To find out more and see how you can get involved, visit the project website.

[visit website](#)

April 2011: EUWIIN Conference, Exhibition and Awards Ceremony

GWIIIN and KVENN are presenting the 3rd bi-annual EUWIIN (European Women Inventors and Innovators Network) international conference on 25th-27th May in Iceland. Join them for a programme rich in content and lots of opportunities to learn more about existing policies and practises which support and assist the many creative and scientific inventions and innovations by women in Europe and beyond. Areas of discussion will cover intellectual property rights, business intelligence, research and development, equity and commercialisation, access to funding and various other existing opportunities.

[visit conference website](#)

March 2011: Now recruiting for Mentoring Circles™

Are you thinking about setting up in business or working for yourself? We are now accepting applications for Mentoring Circles™, a recognised highly innovative programme for women thinking about setting up a business. A chance to meet other women thinking about starting a business, along with an experienced facilitator and entrepreneur, to help you develop your skills. Previous participants have found Mentoring Circles™ exceptionally useful in getting their enterprises started, see our success stories. Places are limited and are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis so contact us as soon as possible for more information. [contact us](#)



March 2011: ECWT conference 'Women in Science, Innovation and Technology in the Digital Age'

To mark the 100th Anniversary of International Women's day, ECWT and other partners are organising a conference on the role of women in science and innovation. There will be a special focus on how to measurably increase their presence across the board in these fields: in education, research and innovation, entrepreneurship, workforce and leadership roles. To attend or find out more, please visit the website below. [visit conference website](#)

February 2011: Start of SiGOLD project

SiGOLD project, funded by the European Commission with partners in Slovakia, Greece, Cyprus, Austria and the UK held its first meeting in Slovakia. SiGOLD will be developing a series of integrated courses which aim to support the working lives of older employees. To get your views heard by the project, please contact us via the link below. [contact us](#)

January 2011: FE:MALE project launch

The Fe:male project was launched this month with the first partner meeting in Sheffield. Fe:male aims to support women facing disadvantage to develop their entrepreneurial skills and set up their own business. Fe:male will be offering free Mentoring Circles™ to women in this target group in March, please visit our facebook page for more information. [visit facebook page](#)