THE ADVANCED LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

An exclusive developmental experience for elite female school leaders across America

ISLA WOMEN LEADERS INITIATIVE

Proudly presented by the International Schools Leadership Alliance
The International School Leadership Alliance is a global social enterprise which brings together an unprecedented array of education stakeholders spanning academia, government and an ever-expanding cohort of school systems. The purpose of ISLA is simple: to support the development of exceptional school teachers and leaders.

ISLA works in conjunction with many of America’s most respected educational institutions to contextualise global best practices for US schools. In addition to its North American chapter, ISLA is represented in the Asia Pacific, Australasia, the UK, and Middle East. The institutions listed on this page are illustrative of ISLA’s stakeholder reach.

**ISLA Women Leaders Initiative**

The ISLA Women Leaders Initiative is an international enterprise committed to supporting and increasing the presence of women in school leadership roles. Through supporting a greater percentage of talented women to step up into school leadership positions, tremendous cultural and economic benefits will follow. The ISLA Women Leaders Initiative is informed and guided by ten years of research into the unique challenges and complexities that women leaders face and comprises a range of professional development programs, advisory services, personalised coaching and networking opportunities. Every year, ISLA works closely with thousands of female teachers and schools in areas such as leadership, coaching and mentoring and gender equality. For further information on the ISLA Women Leaders Initiative visit www.schoolsalliance.org
What is the Advanced Leadership Program?

The Advanced Leadership Program (ALP) is a concentrated development experience specifically designed to enable elite female school leaders to realise the full heights of their leadership aspirations. The program has been developed to reflect the complex needs and challenges of today’s female school leaders by offering both skills development and emotional enrichment.

The structure and content of the ALP has been influenced by a unique range of stakeholders including respected leadership experts, leading universities and female teachers across all school sectors. At its heart, the ALP is designed to support the development of high calibre female educators and as such the program is intrinsically linked to school learning outcomes. Having a commanding grasp of the essential behavioural and environmental complexities of effective leadership is instrumental in achieving your long term goals. The ALP is built around ISLA’s guiding principles of empowerment, growth and collaboration ensuring that participants connect deeply with their learning journey and establish the foundations for long term career growth.

The Advanced Leadership Program will equip you with the strategies, passion and purpose to pursue a full and rewarding career in school leadership.
The Advanced Leadership Program (ALP) provides a critical forum for female school leaders to deeply explore their personal strengths and weaknesses and how these factors influence their interaction with others. The ALP employs a blended learning methodology based around expert tuition, peer knowledge-sharing, and practical workplace application. Throughout the program, learnings are related back to the day-to-day realities and challenges of each participant within the school context. Through combining these facets, participants not only learn how to be more effective in the short term, but are supported to develop sustainable approaches to future challenges.

Throughout the program, four core themes are explored:

**Theme 1:** Mindful and authentic leadership

**Theme 2:** Conflict and feedback – the DNA of performance

**Theme 3:** Mastering influencing and negotiation

**Theme 4:** Creating my Pathway
Program Elements Explained

The program alternates between delivery modes to create a rich and engaging learning environment.

- **Self-Diagnostic**
  At the beginning of the program, participants undertake a capability assessment to evaluate their ability and confidence in key areas. Results from this simple assessment support each participant to develop a personal action plan to help them achieve their developmental objectives.

- **Personal Development Projects**
  Throughout the program participants complete a number of small personal development projects. By contextualising major themes within each participant’s unique work setting, the projects reinforce key learning and equip participants to operationalise new approaches.

- **Self-Directed Learning**
  During the program, content and media for each module is accessible 24/7 via a state-of-the-art online learning management system that allows participants to engage with it any time from any device.

- **Online Workshops**
  Throughout the program participants engage in live, interactive webinar sessions, focused on rich discussion and debate.

- **Peer Coaching Sessions**
  The coaching agenda is guided by the individual action plans and is critical in ensuring that the Colloquium experience delivers optimal value to each participant.

- **Interactive Online Community/Portal**
  During the program participants have 24/7 access to the interactive online portal which connects them with other female leaders from schools throughout North America.

Themes Explained

- **Theme 1: Mindful and authentic leadership**
  Leadership presence is the key to dynamic and authentic leadership. Mindfulness strategies anchor us in the present moment and focus our energies, enabling us to take command of the task at hand. The first module introduces participants to a values-based operational framework as they explore the relationship between personal authenticity and effective performance. Participants take a deep dive into the traits and behaviours that define exceptional leaders in today’s society and consider how to synthesise their personal aims and objectives with that of their role in order to optimise their impact and stay focused on their goals.

- **Theme 2: Conflict and feedback – the DNA of Performance**
  Although many people shy away from conflict and perceive it as negative, conflict is a natural and normal part of life. Unresolved conflict can result in negative consequences but when handled effectively, conflict leads to a better awareness of other people's feelings and can be highly productive. The second module approaches conflict and feedback as proactive management tools and fundamental ingredients in effective communication. Participants identify key principles of performance management in order to ensure consistency with desired objectives.

- **Theme 3: Mastering influencing and negotiation**
  Our ability to effectively influence and negotiate with others is fundamental to success in all areas of life and no more so than in our role as leaders and educators. As leaders we use these skills every day to settle differences and achieve optimal outcomes for ourselves and our schools. The third module will explore the psychology involved in influencing others and negotiating for a particular outcome. Participants will have an opportunity to put their skills to the test before evaluating their strengths and weaknesses and developing strategies for future success.

- **Theme 4: Creating my path**
  The demands placed upon today’s school leaders are many and varied. As our everyday environments increase in complexity it is easy to become distracted by the immediate at the expense of what's truly important. The final module centres on developing a coherent and dynamic ‘game plan’ for future career and life fulfilment. Within the context and expectations of their own workplace, participants consider the steps required to fully leverage their passions and purpose, find their sweet spot and realise their true potential.
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES
The Advanced Leadership program has been developed for an elite cohort of female school leaders. Accordingly, participants are expected to have held a senior leadership role (Principal, Vice Principal, Deputy or Assistant Principal, Head of Campus or equivalent) for a minimum of three years. Graduates of advanced post graduate courses with less than three years’ experience may also apply.

PROGRAM COST
The standard program fee is USD $3,990. This covers all program related materials, online sessions and tuition. Through the International Schools Leadership Alliance, scholarship subsidies are currently available to female school leaders in America. Subsidies reduce the program fee to USD $990. Subsidies are subject to quotas.

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HOW TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING
Applicants must complete the Scholarship Application Form. To obtain the application form please contact ISLA’s enrolments office.

North America Enrolments Office - USA
Email: info@schoolsalliance.org
Telephone: (212) 220 5754
Physical address: One World Trade, Suite 8500
New York, NY 10007

North America Enrolments Office - Canada
Email: info@schoolsalliance.org
Telephone: (437) 222 2031
Physical address: 60 Atlantic Ave, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1X9
Stakeholders and Supporters

The International Schools Leadership Alliance is supported by a unique group of senior education specialists through the International Efficacy Review Committee (IERC). The IERC provides ongoing advice in relation to pedagogy and learning outcomes across all ISLA program offerings. In doing so, the IERC plays a key role in ensuring the ongoing relevance and quality of ISLA programs across all geographical boundaries. The committee comprises a range of highly respected experts from areas such as higher education, educational learning research, executive school administration and school leadership.

International Efficacy Review Committee

Dr Bruce Stenlake
Convenor, North America Efficacy Review Committee, International Schools Leadership Alliance

Mr Daniel J Hampel
International Director, North America International Schools Leadership Alliance

Professor Julia O’Sullivan
Dean of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education University of Toronto

Dr Mary Kalantzis
Dean, College of Education University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr Blye Frank
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Glenn E Good, PH.D.
Dean of College of Education University of Florida

Karen Symms Gallagher, PH.D.
Dean of the USC Rossier School of Education University of Southern California
Network, learn and exchange ideas with school leaders across the world

The ISLA alumni has been created to provide ongoing support to participants of the Advanced Leadership Program by creating a much sought after channel for school leaders to network, learn, and exchange ideas. Through various online and face to face activities, the alumni will become an invaluable part of the contemporary school leader’s professional ‘toolkit’. The ISLA alumni is open to education professionals from all education systems including government, independent, international and catholic. As part of the world’s only international alumni of school leaders members enjoy a unique platform to cut across the various streams and geographical divides to access the best available leadership thinking – regardless of where it resides.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS
- Unique global forum to network with like-minded education leaders across all school systems and geographies
- Access to periodical whitepapers, articles and industry updates from a range of education and leadership experts
- 24/7 access to online learning resources and media Invitations to attend exclusive alumni events, public lectures and professional development workshops.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA
Graduates of the Advanced Leadership Program
ALP graduates automatically become eligible for membership.

Non-graduates of the Advanced Leadership Program
School leaders who have not completed the ALP may apply for membership (fees apply for non-ALP graduates) on the basis of specific criteria.

Membership is open to teaching and non-teaching school professionals.

“...The ISLA Alumni provides a wonderful platform for school leaders from all school systems to come together as a single community. When we think about a school leader from Singapore exchanging ideas with a school leader from Canada, China, or the USA... what a tremendous opportunity.”

Mr Dominic C.A. Meachen
International Director, Asia Pacific,
International Schools Leadership Alliance