



The UK Open University: a story of opportunities for women
Preceded by the Annual General Meeting of PWF

Date: Thursday, 26 August 2010
Location: **InterContinental Hamburg**
Fontenay 10, 20354 Hamburg
Time: 6.30 pm Annual General Meeting
7.30 pm Presentation begins

The Open University (OU) is the United Kingdom's only university dedicated to distance learning and has around 150,000 undergraduate and more than 30,000 postgraduate students, nearly all of them studying part-time. Most OU courses are available throughout Europe and more than 25,000 OU students live outside the UK.

Dr Liz Manning, Assistant Director for The Open University in the North of England, will talk about what the **Open University** offers to women, not just in the business setting, but more widely. The OU has always had the unofficial alternative title of 'the University of the second chance'. It is women particularly who need such a second chance, whether it is because they had less confidence in their early 20s, or because they want to change careers (or even start one) after having had a family. Liz will also explore the OU's role as a UK university in a wider European – and global – context and what challenges that presents in offering courses outside the UK.

Dr Liz Manning began working at The Open University in 1997 as a tutor in music. She became Assistant Director in the OU's centre in the North of England in 1999, where her responsibilities include the management of the OU's day-to-day activities in France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. She has always been interested in how students are supported in distance learning, particularly those with little experience of study and less confidence. More recently she has been appointed Head of Services for Younger Students, particularly leading on a scheme in which Open University courses are offered to bright students in schools. She very much enjoys her annual visits to Germany.

There will be a buffet supper after the presentation. PWF members pay € 20 and guests pay € 35 which covers food for the evening. Please pay this fee in advance and drinks individually on the night. Please return the completed reply slip below with a copy of your bank transfer for our records by the **deadline of 23 August 2010**.

To: Pat Pledger, Fax: 040 820676, e-mail: patpledger.bet@t-online.de

I will be attending the evening on 26 August 2010

PWF member Tel:

Guestemail: Tel: