



the *active*
learning centre

Making Power Work for Women

22 March, 09.15-1.30, Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC), 333 Woodlands Road, Glasgow. [Registration from 9.00](#)

The Conference will be opened and chaired by *Melanie Reid* award winning journalist at *The Herald* who now reports and commentates for *The Times*.

Session 1 9.30 – 11.00

This session will present research sponsored by the Active Learning Centre on women and politics in Scotland. Cross party representatives will lead discussion of the research and offer perspectives on current and future possibilities.

Johann Lamont Former Minister, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party in the Scottish Parliament, and spokesperson on Equal Opportunities will join *Danny Phillips* and *Susan Dalgety* to discuss the impact of women ministers on policy in the Scottish government over 1999-2007.

Elsbeth Attwooll retired Member of the European Parliament for Scotland and current President of the Scottish Liberal Democrat Women will join *Dr Catriona Burness* in discussing her research which gives an historical perspective on the campaign to get more women into the Scottish Parliament.

Christine McKelvie MSP for the Scottish National Party and currently a member of the Equal Opportunities Committee of the Parliament will bring us up to date.

11.00 - 11.15 [Coffee break](#)

Session 2 11.15 – 12.45

The Millennium Development Goals include equal participation of women with men in decision-making. Effective scrutiny of policy, budgets and legislation from a gender perspective is believed to make an essential contribution to poverty reduction.

Professor Ishita Mukhopadhyay, Department of Economics and Director, Women's Studies Research Centre, University of Calcutta, will present her research findings on women in local office in the state of West Bengal. India amended its Constitution in 1994 to reserve one-third of seats in panchayats and municipalities for women.

Bertha Sefu managed the 50:50 campaign which sought to ensure more women ran and were successful in the general election of May 2009 in Malawi. She will explain how they made a break through to win 42 women parliamentary seats.

12.45 [A buffet lunch and networking.](#)

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