

Julie R. Weeks

President and CEO, Womenable
13601 S. Beaver Pond Road ♦ Empire, MI 49630 USA
P: +1.231.326.3300 ♦ F: +1.231.326.5656 ♦ M: +1.703.628.5013
E: jweeks@womenable.com ♦ W: www.womenable.com

Profile

- One of the world's leading experts on the field of women's entrepreneurship, with experience in both the private and public sectors in the areas of research, public policy and program management
- Accomplished oral and written communicator, with proven ability to translate data and complex information into clear, concise, and actionable knowledge
- Well-traveled, works effectively with people of diverse backgrounds, cultures and levels of authority
- Skilled manager of people and programs

Professional Experience

Research

- Led local, state, national and international research efforts from design through execution, analysis and presentation of findings
- Has been personally responsible for much of the extant information on the state of women business owners and their enterprises in the United States
- Worked with international teams to conduct research and policy analysis projects in over one dozen countries around the world
- Skilled not only with research design, execution and analysis, but with summarizing key research findings in ways that are understandable and actionable
- Developed requests for proposals and managed sponsored research with contractors and outside providers in both the public and private sectors

Management

- Managed small entrepreneurial teams, temporary project-focused efforts and long-term career professional staff
- Vast experience with project management, from individual projects to \$1,000,000+ annual budgets
- Experience working with and managing subcontractors and vendors

Public Policy

- Directly involved in public policy support and advocacy for women's enterprise development, both in government and in civil society, in the US and internationally
- Written and prepared Congressional testimony
- Consulted with governments and non-governmental organizations on women's enterprise development policy issues

Communications

- An accomplished writer, with skill in translating complex information into actionable intelligence
- Experienced at oral presentation – as a speaker, moderator, and panelist
- Skilled at developing messages and communicating both upward to key decision makers and leaders and outward to important constituencies and audiences

Training and Program Design, Monitoring and Evaluation

- Spoken at numerous international conferences on issues related to the elements necessary for sustainable support for women's enterprise development
- Designed and executed program monitoring and evaluation efforts
- Designed and delivered women's enterprise leadership and business training
- Conducted business-enabling environmental assessments with a gender lens

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| Work History | President and CEO Womenable, Empire, MI | 2005 – present |
| | Executive Director National Women's Business Council, Washington, DC | 2002 – 2005 |
| | Managing Director & Director of Research Center for Women's Business Research, Washington, DC | 1993 – 2002 |
| | Deputy Chief Counsel for Statistics & Research U.S. Small Business Administration, Washington, DC | 1990 – 1993 |
| | Vice President, Politics and Public Affairs Market Strategies, Southfield, MI | 1990 |
| | Vice President, Political Group Market Opinion Research, Detroit, MI | 1980 – 1989 |
| Education | Leadership Development Program Center for Creative Leadership | 2001 |
| | Master of Arts in Political Science , University of Michigan concentration in research methods, course work at the Inter-University Consortium on Political and Social Research (ICPSR) | 1981 |
| | Bachelor of Arts in Political Science , University of Michigan concentration in American politics and public opinion, minor in economics | 1979 |
| Boards/Civic Engagement | Association of Women's Business Centers Board of Directors (Chair in 2011) | 2011 – present |
| | International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship Member, Editorial Advisory Board member | 2010 – present |
| | International Council for Small Business Board of Directors | 2009 – 2011 |
| | Vice President, Women's Entrepreneurship Committee | 2006 – 2009 |
| | Association of Women's Business Centers Co-chair, Public Policy Advisory Council | 2006 – 2010 |
| | Three Generations Circle Northern Michigan philanthropic circle focused on women and girls | 2006 – present |
| | National Association of Women Business Owners National Board of Directors | 2007 – 2010 |
| | Enterprising Women Magazine Member, National Advisory Board | 2005 – present |
| | Friends of the Washington and Old Dominion Trail Board of Directors (President 2001-2005) | 1999 – 2005 |

Selected Publications and Presentations**Selected Publications**

- “The American Express OPEN State of Women-Owned Businesses Report” (2011)
- “Innovation and Women’s Entrepreneurship: An Exploration of Current Knowledge” 2010 (for UNCTAD)
- “Assessing Business-Enabling Environments: How Gender Changes the Equation” 2010
- “Rwanda: Investing in the Empowerment of Women in Business” 2009
- “A Connotation for Control: Women Business Owners Seeking Balance AND Growth” 2008
- “Women Entrepreneurs in the Middle East and North Africa: Characteristics, Contributions and Challenges” 2007
- “Mapping the ‘Missing Middle’: Determining the Desire and Dimensions of Second-Stage Women Business Owners” 2007
- “Women Business Owners in Vietnam: A National Survey” 2006
- “The Performance, Progress and Promise of Women’s Business Centers in the United States: A Summary of Three Research Studies” 2006
- “Support for Women’s Enterprise Development in the United States: Lessons Learned” 2002
- “Women-Owned Businesses: Breaking the Boundaries, The Progress and Achievement of Women-Owned Enterprises” 1995
- “Styles of Success: The Thinking and Management Styles of Women and Men Business Owners” 1994

Selected Presentations/Major Addresses

- Participated in a panel discussion concerning policies and programs to encourage growth-oriented women’s enterprise development at the “We Own It Summit” in London, June 2011
- Addressed a national conference of women’s enterprise supporters and ambassadors on international trends in women’s enterprise development at a conference organized by Tillväxtverket in Stockholm, Sweden, April 2010
- Spoke on the current state and future directions of the women’s enterprise movement globally at the 35th annual International Small Business Congress in Belfast, Northern Ireland, November 2008
- Presented the findings of a 5-country study on women business owners in the Middle East and North Africa at a launch event attended by Her Majesty Queen Rania in Amman, Jordan, June 2007
- Spoke on the topic of “Women’s Enterprise Development in the U.S. and Internationally: Some Lessons Learned,” at a World Bank conference on Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (PREM) in Washington, DC April 2005
- Spoke and moderated a panel presentation at “Accelerating Women’s Entrepreneurship Forum” held in conjunction with an OECD SME Ministerial meeting in Istanbul, Turkey June 2004
- Addressed the launch of the United Kingdom’s Strategic Framework for Women’s Enterprise in London, England in May 2003 on “A Perspective from Abroad: The US Experience in Women’s Enterprise Development”