

## The Arkwright Scholarships Trust signs up to UKRC Charter to encourage diversity

To further diversity in the workforce The Arkwright Scholarships Trust has signed up to the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (UKRC) CEO Charter. The move was announced at the launch of the SET Fair Standard for gender equality in London on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

The UKRC CEO Charter is a visible commitment from the CEO or senior management of businesses and organisations within science, engineering and technology (SET) to implement positive culture change to increase the participation and progression of women.

Linda Scott OBE says "The signing of the Charter demonstrates our commitment to encouraging diversity and gender equality across the industry and our commitment to promoting the Scholarships within the Charters aims and objectives.

By signing up to the Charter we are making a commitment to:

- Actively support the aim of increasing the participation, at all levels, of women in SET.
- Develop and communicate the business case for gender equality within their company, their supply chain and their wider networks
- Promote and showcase their company's approach and examples of best practice at relevant events and forums
- Develop clearly defined strategies and implement practices which encourage women to enter and progress in, or return to, SET careers.



Linda Scott OBE, Chief Executive of The Arkwright Scholarships Trust (4<sup>th</sup> from left) receiving Charter.

Annette Williams, Director of the UKRC said: "The UKRC welcomes this important commitment from The Arkwright Scholarships Trust through signing the CEO Charter Arkwright joins a growing community of leading organisations and professional bodies pledging to take active steps to improve gender equality within their own practice and across their wide spheres of influence. We look forward to working together on the next steps which may include the SET Fair Standard . the Gender Equality Standard for businesses and organisations working in science, engineering and technology"

The UKRC provides a central point of support, information and advice for employers, industry, academia, professional institutes and research councils, and also for women entering, returning to or progressing in SET careers.