

INAUGURAL PROFESSORIAL ADDRESS

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 2018

AUT



PROFESSOR
CANDICE
HARRIS

The working mother conundrum and why organisations should care

Working mothers face several conundrums that present distinct challenges when it comes to juggling home and work domains. At work they are expected to show ever present determination. At home Mum is still required to be the calm face of care and order.

While organisations and wider society support working mothers in some ways, the focus has overwhelmingly been on new mothers and those with young children. Large parts of the lives of working mothers remain a mystery when considered from the work context.

This inaugural professorial address by Professor Candice Harris explores the conundrums working mothers face and how organisations can work with women to address them. Candice uses examples from popular media (such as the Mommy Wars debate of the 1990s and more recent notions of neoliberal Momism), as well as academic and industry research to illustrate how shifting discourses of motherhood and work have been portrayed in both a historical and contemporary light.

Candice will also showcase findings from recent research conducted with the Auckland Corporate Mothers Network that sheds light on current parenting and professional issues that working mothers are managing. Finally, she discusses ways in which organisations can demonstrate commitment to working mothers - ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous, so that they can develop strategies and practices that are actually wanted by and work for mothers.

Professor Harris is delighted to be a working mother and Head of the Management Department at Auckland University of Technology. Her research focuses on careers and gendered experiences of work. Since 2009 Candice has been a member of the Women in Leadership Steering Group affiliated with Universities New Zealand. She has also chaired diversity committees and co-led women in leadership programmes.

In 2016 she was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence - Postgraduate Supervision and this year received a Vice Chancellor's Diversity Award.

TUESDAY
25 SEPTEMBER

12.00pm

WA Conference Centre
AUT City Campus
Level 2, WA Building
55 Wellesley Street East
Auckland 1010

To register for this event,
please [CLICK HERE](#)

Refreshments will be served
after the address.

