

Velda Otey

Past President/CEO Women's International Network
of Utility Professionals

Vice President and Chief Information Officer,
American Electric Power (Retired)



Velda Otey is the Past President and CEO of the Women's International Network of Utility Professionals (WiNUP). She has served the energy industry for over 35 years.

She is the former Vice President and Chief Information Officer for American Electric Power (AEP) where she was responsible for Information Technology services for AEP's seven Operating Companies, Generation, Transmission, Commercial Operations, and Corporate & Shared Services business units.

Otey's leadership style is best known for balancing a focus on results with a focus on people.

She holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from The Ohio State University (OSU) and a MBA from Xavier University, Cincinnati. She completed the AEP Management Development Program at OSU, the Darden Partnership Program at the University of Virginia and the Tashjian Developing Executive Women program. Otey became a Certified Systems Professional 1985 and is a 2007 graduate of Leadership Columbus.

Otey strongly believes in the value of giving- back and serves on numerous non-profit community and professional boards and advisory councils, as well as mentors youth and young professionals..

Velda joined EWRT/WiNUP in 1993 and has remained active. She has served at the local and national level as officer, committee chair, committee member, and mentor.

Her recognitions include: Outstanding Young Women of America; International Executive Guild Registry; Technology All-Star Award from the National Women of Color; WiNUP Ohio Chapter Oak Award; AEP/UNCF Legacy Award; Cover of The Women's Book – 2011, AABE 2011 Flame of inspiration; 2011 WELD 12 Women You Should Know Calendar, and WiNUP 2012 International Honorary Life Membership Award.