UPCOMING WP+D EVENTS

April Small Networking Lunch featuring Krista Kahle Elam, Director of Economic Development at North Branch Works
May 18, 2016
Chicago Cultural Center Cafe

Spring Professional Development Event: Speak Up! A Two-Part Presentation Skills Event for Women in Planning and Development
May 19, 2016
Reyes Kurson, 600 W Van Buren #909

CHICAGO P+D EVENTS

Activate 2016: Touch
May 13, 2016, 5-10 pm
8th Street Alley, Chicago

Chicago River Day
May 14, 2016
60+ locations for volunteers to clean up the river from Lake Forest to Blue Island

Walking the Riverwalk: Connecting People to the Chicago River
June 2, 2016 3 pm
AIA Chicago

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, Women in Planning and Development!

Developing and refining your professional voice is an important challenge at all stages of a healthy career. Whether it’s an early stage woman angling for her first opportunity for significant client contact, or an established professional searching for just the right approach to carry her proposal to the next level, robust public-facing skills are critical in our field. That’s why this spring, WP+D is offering a series of opportunities to build those skills in a supportive environment.

For our spring professional development program, we are excited to offer a broadly applicable public speaking workshop led by Liz Drapa of CSH, followed a few weeks later by an evening opportunity to practice professional speaking with WP+D. Liz will touch on tools for engaging and connecting to audiences, speaking with confidence, and preparing memorable presentations, as well as methods for dealing with less-than-ideal situations like an unfriendly audience or mid-speech crisis of confidence. Thank you to board alumna Amy Kurson for donating event space at Reyes Kurson. The workshop is limited to 40 members, so register today!

In June, we have an interactive forum planned with CMAP to generate a vigorous conversation with all of you about the direction of our region’s next comprehensive plan, ONTO2050. Following in July, our annual membership picnic in Millennium Park will include announcement of the 2016-2017 WP+D Board. There will be three positions open on the board in the coming year, so keep an eye out in June for the recruitment email if you are interested in becoming part of our all-volunteer board. It’s a great leadership development opportunity and another good way to develop your professional voice.

As always, we welcome your feedback and look forward to building skills and confidence together at the many events planned this spring and summer.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Scott, WP+D President

SPRING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT!

Speak UP!, our spring professional development event is intended to hone your public speaking skills and in a safe and supportive environment. The first part of the workshop, led by Liz Drapa of CSH, is open for registration now. Liz is a master facilitator who trains people to communicate effectively about housing issues. She has graciously created a presentation skills workshop for WP+D that will be applicable to women in all P+D sectors.

Because we want to keep the event small and interactive workshop, registration is capped at 40 and limited to WP+D members only. The workshop will be held at Reyes Kurson, where space has been generously donated by WP+D board alumna Amy Kurson, and will include both the workshop, dinner, and some time for networking.

This event is certain to sell out, so register today to secure your spot. Following a few weeks later, we will also be hosting an evening of brief, topical presentations offering an opportunity to practice the skills learned at the SpeakUP! event. Stay tuned for more details!

“I have no logic that can be superimposed on the city; people make it, and it is to them, not buildings, that we must fit our plans.” — Jane Jacobs
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Lindsay Broughel

Lindsay currently works as a Senior Plan Associate at World Business Chicago. In this position, she supports the implementation of the Plan for Economic Growth and Jobs. She has worked on projects ranging from urban water systems to manufacturing education and has built an internal system for tracking metrics and data. Lindsay has also been a member of WP+D for three years, is a member of the American Planning Association, and serves on the alumni board for the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at UIC.

Prior to working at World Business Chicago and during her graduate studies at UIC in urban planning and policy, Lindsay worked at CMAP (Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning) and for the Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement at UIC. She previously worked at a legal aid organization in Chicago and at the Civilian Complaint Review Board in New York City where she investigated complaints of police misconduct. Lindsay grew up in the Boston area, but has lived in Chicago for five years and now resides in the Humboldt Park neighborhood with her husband and her dog, Pickles.

Lindsay’s favorite urban factoid is that if the whole population of the US lived at the density level of Brooklyn, NY (~35,000 people per square mile) the whole nation would fit into the state of New Hampshire.

Correction: The Fall 2015 Newsletter incorrectly stated the role of our Spotlight Member, Caitlin Ritter. Caitlin leads the growth and development of the research program at MB Real Estate as the Market Research and Analysis Manager.

GOOBYE, JANE!

WP+D would not be possible without the countless volunteers hours dedicated to planning events and programs from our Board. We are saddened to say goodbye to Jane DeRonne, who served as a member of the Board for the past two years. Jane relocated to St. Louis in December and we wish her the best on her future endeavors!

RECAP OF RECENT EVENTS

Annual Holiday Party

Our Annual Holiday Party was a great success with more than 60 WP+D members coming together to see old friends and make new connections. The event, held at Kinmont in Chicago’s River North neighborhood, featured food and drinks; a welcome address from WP+D President, Elizabeth Scott; and a slide show highlighting the many WP+D events held throughout the year.

Funding Chicago: Career Pathways & Trends in Philanthropy

The fall professional development event proved to be another successful and insightful panel. The event took place on the evening of November 17, 2015 and featured the City’s foremost leaders in the philanthropic arena. Panelists shared personal experience with regard to successfully transitioned into careers in philanthropy and how their prior experience informs their current work. Panelists discussed the role philanthropies play in Chicago’s civic space, how funding goals bolster and guide the work of planners and policy makers, and today’s shifting funding priorities. Special thanks to Deborah Singer, a WP+D Board Alumna, for generously providing the event space at PwC. Our outstanding panelists included:

- Alaina Harkness, Program Officer, MacArthur Foundation (Moderator)
- Peggy Davis, Chief Officer of Programs, Chicago Community Trust
- Heather Parish, Program Director, Pierce Family Foundation
- Debbie Reznick, Senior Program Officer, Polk Bros Foundation

WP+Drinks

Between happy hour drinks and morning coffee chats, Third Thursdays draw new and old faces to meet and mingle. The events take place throughout Chicago, allowing members an opportunity to not only network, but also enjoy many of the great venues throughout the City.

- October - Jak’s Tap
- November - Haymarket Pub
- December - Corner Bakery
- February - Adamus Lounge
- March - Corner Bakery
- April - Rudy’s Bar & Grill

Small Networking Lunches

Our fall small networking lunches featured prominent leaders in the fields of economic development, community investment, and conservation. These events are restricted to five members to allow for an intimate lunch gathering to share thoughts, career advice, and form lasting relationships. We were pleased to host the following women:

- October - Jane Hornstein, Deputy Director of the the Cook County Department of Planning and Development
- November - Emy Brawley, Vice President of Conservation for Openlands
- December - Caroline Goldstein, Interim Executive Director of LISC Chicago
- January - Courtney Kashima, Founder + Principal, Muse Community + Design
- February - Heather Schady, Senior Transportation Planner, Active Transportation Alliance
- March - Maiko Emi Adachi, Vice President, Heitman
- April - Mari Gallagher, Principal of Mari Gallagher Research & Consulting Group