



WP+D NEWS

UPCOMING WP+D EVENTS

Stay tuned for more upcoming opportunities to connect with other WP+D members virtually!

June's Small Networking Lunch
Anna Lee, June 26, 2020

June WP+Drinks- virtual happy hour edition, June 18, 2020

Board application deadline July 1, 2020

Board interviews + elections: July 10, 2020

July's Summer Annual Membership Event : July 23, 2020 TBD

Check out our website for event updates.

Send us your event! As a WP+D member, we'll share select events in our newsletter and on our social media page. Email wpdchicago@gmail.com with all the details.

WP+D 2019-2020 Board

President- Kathleen Day

Vice President- Isabel Velez Diez

Treasurer- Estefany Noria

Secretary- Haley Cannon

Programs- Tracy Lewis and Rachel Groat

Professional Development- Claudia Rodriguez & Janet Li

Marketing- Brittani' Batts

Membership Development and Retention- Emma Heemsker

"We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond."- Gwendolyn Brooks



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

Greetings WP+D Members and Friends,
Now and Always, WP+D Stands for Racial Equity

Dear Members, Alumnae, and Friends of Women in Planning + Development,

We are practitioners of urban planning, a field in which it is not only inaccurate but irresponsible to treat our country's heritage of systemic racism as a historical footnote. The modern American city would not exist without racism. Our profession has complicitly perpetuated racism and division through redlining, uneven investment, and problematic policing in neighborhoods. Despite hard-won victories, including successful efforts by activists in Chicago that led to nation-wide policy changes, the events of the past week bring to mind the saying: "The past is never dead. It's not even past."

Women in Planning + Development - our Board of Directors, members, alumnae, guest speakers and friends - includes Black women and women of color whose lived experience is deeper than a textbook-level understanding of racism and its impact on our cities. This is an especially painful time for members of our community, and we the WP+D Board of Directors extend our heartfelt support to you. More importantly, we stand in solidarity with you.

Over the next month, WP+D is renewing our commitment to racial equity and will use our platform, which brings together hundreds of women planners throughout the region and beyond, to provide a space for discussion, to amplify anti-racist voices, and to share resources to leverage this historic moment and make a positive, lasting impact through action rather than just a statement. Stay tuned for the

announcement of our next online gathering, in June.

WP+D is also re-committing to examining our own practices to ensure that they align with our commitment to racial equity and that we intentionally cultivate opportunities for and amplify the voices of those who have been historically silenced and marginalized.

In solidarity,

The Women in Planning + Development Board of Directors

Please find full statement on our website.

Board positions are now open! The Board reflects the wide variety of personal and professional backgrounds of the members of WP+D. We encourage women of all backgrounds to apply!

New Board members will be presented at the Summer's Annual Membership event.



ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES

Please join us in educating and fighting against racism.

[Anti-Racist Resources- Airtable Universe](#)

[Black Lives Matter \(BLM\)-Airtable](#)

[Ways To Help BLM](#)



RECENT EVENT RECAPS

Spring Professional Development workshop

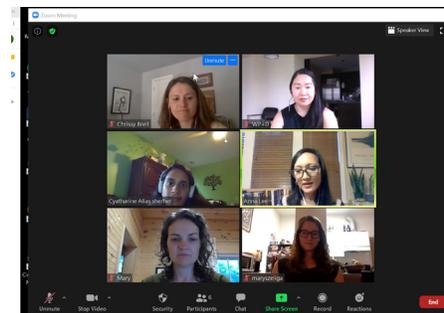


Board alumnae in force at this year's Spring Professional Development workshop: Conflict Management From top left to bottom right: current WP+D members Audrey Wennink to WP+D Board Estefany Noria

On April, WP+D hosted our first virtual Spring Development workshop via Zoom. It was great. The attendees had break out sessions while learning about the work conflict management. Thank you to Pari Karim and Larrissa Hacinski with Center for Conflict Resolution and all twenty-nine of the amazing and impressive women who attended! See you at our next professional development workshop in the fall 2020!

Small Networking Lunches

Small Networking Lunches this year have featured guests in housing policy, advocacy, research, design, economic development, and more! To highlight just a couple of these fascinating women, we kicked off with our April's guest **Alderman Maria Hadden**, Alderman of the 49th Ward. In May, we had **Ciere Boatright**, Vice President, Real Estate and Inclusion for Chicago Neighborhood Initiatives, Inc. In June, we had **Anna Lee**, Director of Community Impact for the Chicago Community Trust, this June! We'll see you at the next one!



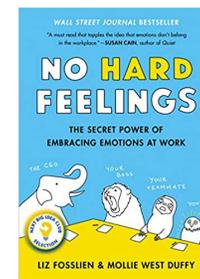
Above: June's Small Networking Lunch

WP+Drinks



Every third Thursday of the month, WP+Drinks is a great opportunity to connect with other women in planning and development. Normally, we strive to offer a relaxed setting to learn more about our organization, and connect with like minded professionals from all around the Chicagoland area. In the spirit of staying home and safe, we want to see your splendid faces online. You can't get more relaxed than that! We discussed racial equity. We planned to have additional powerful conversations going forward. WP +Drinks is open to our members and non-members alike and many attendees are at various stages of their planning careers.

WP+D Bookclub



The brand new WP+D Book Club was launched last year and has been a hit! In May, members met virtually to discuss Liz Fosslien and Molly West Duffy's **No hard Feelings: The Secret Power of Embracing Emotions at Work**. If you are finding you have a bit more time to catch up on reading and you're hungry to connect with fellow professional women, sign up for our next session in July- stay tuned for details!