“Social advance depends as much upon the process through which it is secured as upon the result itself.” – Jane Addams

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Greetings, Members and Friends of WP+D,

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through 2018. If I can reflect for a moment, 2017 marked a milestone year for us as we celebrated 25 years of Women in Planning and Development. Our 25th Anniversary Gala was one of the many highlights bringing together founding and alumni board members, current members and friends who believe in our mission; all now a part of this organization’s legacy. We are excited to see how our legacy continues to unfold over the next 25 years because of each and every one of you.

In 2017, we celebrated professional achievements like new graduates joining our field, career changes, promotions, prestigious awards and first-time appointments for women in positions that once only occupied men. We also shared in the personal stories and celebrations of our members with birthdays, travel, marriage, motherhood, homeownership, new friendships and connections that remind us we can in fact have and do it all.

We did not expect anything less for 2018. If you enjoyed our special Bike in Brookfield event, annual Holiday Party at Morgan’s on Fulton, or Work Smart Workshop to observe Equal Pay Day, join us for many more great programs, events and new opportunities. These experiences are what WP+D is all about.

As President, it has been important to me to ensure WP+D reflects our rich, diverse and dynamic field—from the companies, sectors and neighborhoods we represent to the hobbies and interests that shape who we are. As we continue to move through 2018, I want each of us to lean into what our presence and unique perspective brings to this amazing network to take this organization to the next level.

Be sure to visit our new website for the latest WP+D news and updates. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Best wishes,
Shavion Scott
President, WP+D

2017-2018 EVENTS RECAP

Fall Professional Development Event

Thank you to our Winding Paths to Careers in Planning panelists (pictured below). Our guests shared their diverse and personal experiences that let them into the field of planning. The panel discussion provided insight and perspective on how life and career choices can lead to unexpected places.

WP+D is an organization for women working in all areas of planning and development in the Chicagoland area to network, enhance job skills, and strengthen professional relationships.
Spring Salary Negotiation Workshop

Angela Hurlock, Executive Director of Claretian Associates, facilitated our Spring Workshop and led a dynamic discussion about pay equity and salary negotiation. Participants traded stories, practiced negotiation tactics, and shared advice and insight from their own careers.

Small Networking Lunches

Our small networking lunches have recently featured prominent leaders in sustainable development, real estate, transportation, economic development, historic preservation, affordable housing, community development financing, and design. These intimate discussions with leaders in the broad world of planning are restricted to 5 WP+D members and offer a unique opportunity to talk shop, share career advice, and form lasting relationships. We’ll see you at the next one! Don’t forget to register on the first of the month—spots fill up quickly!

WP+Drinks

Every Third Thursday of the month, WP+Drinks is a great opportunity to connect with other women in planning and development. We strive to offer a relaxed setting for members and non-members alike to network or learn more about our organization and host our events at diverse locations across the city to attract professionals from all around the Chicagoland area.

Past WP+Drinks:
August | Plymouth Rooftop Bar
September | Corner Bakery (morning edition)
October | Baderbrau
November | JW Marriott Chicago
February | Moe’s Cantina
March | Sociale Chicago
April | Bar Siena
May | 2Twenty2 Tavern
June | Plymouth Rooftop Bar
August | Park Grill

Join us in August at Park Grill on Michigan Avenue.

MEMBER APPRECIATION PICNIC

The summer weather is finally here and so is our annual WP+D Member Appreciation Picnic!

We invite you to join us as we celebrate all of our members at this annual summer event. It’s our favorite way to say "Thank You" for your involvement in WP+D and to invite new women to get involved.

During this signature event, you’ll have an opportunity to meet and mingle with Chicago women in a variety of career fields related to planning and development. Come enjoy food, drinks, good company and conversation!

2018-19 OPEN BOARD POSITIONS

It’s election time and we’re excited to welcome new members to the WP+D Board of Directors! There were three (3) positions available for the upcoming term: Treasurer, Membership Chair, and Marketing Chair. Applicants had to be current members to apply and will be announced at our upcoming Member Appreciation Picnic. If you’re interested in joining the WP+D Board of Directors in the future, we’d be happy to talk to you about it. Email us at wwpdbicago@gmail.com for more information. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our events!

Katanya Raby

Katanya Raby exemplifies commitment to the planning profession and to the communities and residents we serve. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois Chicago, with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology and a Master’s in Urban Planning and Policy. In her current role as Associate Outreach Planner at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), Katanya is an important contributor to the ON TO 2050 regional planning effort and to CMAP’s Local Technical Assistance Program, which helps communities put plans into action for their residents. She helps coordinate and execute the agency’s public outreach, ensuring that residents’ voices are heard loud and clear in the development and implementation of plans.

Katanya brings a deep understanding of challenges communities face, including institutional inequities, historical segregation, and economic isolation. Urban planning is a vehicle for Katanya’s great passion: getting people interested in the world around them and in how we might—together—improve quality of life for all.

She also works to promote diversity and inclusion in the field and in the workplace. At UIC, Katanya co-founded the Society of Black Urban Planners to develop programs promoting diversity in the graduate school and to facilitate discussions on urban planning concerns. She now serves on the APA-IL Diversity Committee.

Katanya’s passion includes the next generation of citizens and planners, focusing much of her public engagement work on students and youth as she co-manages CMAP’s Future Leaders in Planning program for high school students. Katanya’s impulse to create discussion about improving public spaces even finds expression in her artwork.

Katanya is the 2017 recipient of the APA-IL Emerging Planner Award.

Read her full bio in our Member Spotlight at www.wpdbicago.com.