



“... when women come together with a collective intention, magic happens.”

- Phylicia Rashad



# WP+D NEWS

## RECENT AND UPCOMING WP+D EVENTS

### August WP+Drinks

August 15 | 6-8 PM  
The Kitchen  
316 N Clark St, Chicago

### August Small Networking Lunch with Sarah Jacobson

August 28 | 12-1 PM  
Chicago Cultural Center  
78 E Washington St, Chicago

### September WP+Drinks

September 19 | 6-8 PM  
Adams Street Brewery  
17 W Adams St, Chicago

### September Small Networking Lunch with Eleanor Gorski

September 25 | 12-1 PM  
SB Friedman Development Advisors  
221 N LaSalle St #820, Chicago

### October WP+Drinks

October 17 | 6-8 PM  
Location TBA

### October Small Networking Lunch | 12-1 PM

Date & Location TBA

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENT UPDATES

## SEND US YOUR EVENT

As a benefit of WP+D membership, we will share select events in our newsletter and on our social media pages.

Email [wpdchicago@gmail.com](mailto:wpdchicago@gmail.com) with all event details.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Members and Friends of WP+D,

It's a high honor to have been elected as the newest Board President of WP+D after serving as Co-Chair of Professional Development since 2017. This year's Board is bursting with talent and enthusiasm, and we look forward to an exciting new year of valuable programming and building connections among members.

In addition to running WP+D programming, the Board is focused on growing our own professional skills and on (re)connecting with Board alumnae, who gathered this past June to catch up with friends and to weigh in on the future of the organization. If you're a Board alumna interested in re-engaging with WP+D, please contact Past President Elizabeth Scott (2015-2016) at [escott@cmap.illinois.gov](mailto:escott@cmap.illinois.gov).

I look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Kathleen Day  
WP+D President



## 2018-2019 EVENTS RECAP

### Fall Professional Development Mentorship Pilot Program

The first ever WP+D Mentorship Pilot Program kicked off with the Fall 2018 event, hosted at BMO Harris: Unlocking the Power of Mentorship with panelists Cindy McSherry, Jimena Sayavedra, Courtney Kashima, and Angela Brooks. Panelists shared best practices for protegees (always pick a coffee spot near your mentor's office!) and traded stories about the impact of mentors on their career trajectories.



### Spring Professional Development Time Management Workshop

This year's Spring PD workshop, Tackling Time Management, brought together nearly 40 women to discuss universal--yet rarely openly discussed--challenges. How do you prioritize your work when you're feeling overwhelmed? How do you

## WELCOME TO THE 2019-20 BOARD

President		Kathleen Day*
Vice President		Isabel Velez Diez*
Treasurer		Estefany Noria
Secretary		Haley Cannon*
Programs		Tracy Lewis*
Programs		Rachel Groat
Prof. Development		Claudia Rodriguez*
Prof. Development		Janet Li
Marketing		Brittani' Batts
Membership		Emma Heemsker

Returning\*

Advisor:  
Shavion Scott\* (immediate Past President)



**Elizabeth Ginsberg**

Elizabeth’s commitment to planning and economic development is illustrated through her volunteer service and career. She served as the WP+D Board Treasurer from August 2015 to August 2018 and as a WP+D Professional Development Co-Chair for the past year. In these capacities, she supported the ongoing administration of the organization, as well as special initiatives such as the 25th Anniversary event in Spring 2017 and the Mentorship Pilot Program launched in Fall 2018.

Elizabeth has a background in community and economic development, development finance, and urban planning. She currently works in economic development, real estate development and public-private partnership consulting at SB Friedman Development Advisors. Prior to SB Friedman, Elizabeth worked as a Portfolio Management Associate at a local community development financial institution, where she supported the management of a \$45+ million loan portfolio and oversaw the compliance and social impact reporting of for-profit and not-for-profit clients. Elizabeth is currently completing her Master of Urban Planning and Policy degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Sociology from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington.

Elizabeth thanks WP+D and her many board colleagues for the numerous learning opportunities and experiences she has been provided and entrusted with over the years. She is grateful for the privilege to build relationships with so many women that she has admired from afar and to lend a hand in sustaining an organization that continues to be such an important community for so many.

Elizabeth has lived in Chicago for seven years and is excited to be a new resident in one of her favorite neighborhoods, Albany Park. She enjoys cooking, traveling, and catching up on television shows everyone else has already seen.

avoid distractions? How do you find time to work towards your professional goals? Participants shared tips and advice in what several women described as a much-needed “group therapy” session held at the offices of Accion Chicago in the brand-new Hatchery at Lake and Kedzie.

**Small Networking Lunches**

Small Networking Lunches this year have featured guests in transportation, consulting, research, design, housing policy, sustainable development and more! To highlight just a couple of these many fascinating women, July featured SNL guest Sara Disney Haufe, a rising star in the world of transportation planning and the recipient of the 2019 Urban Land Institute Young Visionary award. September’s guest was Eleanor Gorski, Acting Commissioner at the City of Chicago’s Planning and Development department. We hope to see you at the next one!

Be sure to register on the first of each 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. In addition to offering a relaxed setting to learn more about our organization, we strive to select diverse locations to host our events to attract professionals from all around the Chicagoland area.

WP+Drinks is open to both members and non-members alike and many attendees are at various stages of their planning careers.

Past WP+Drinks:

- August ‘18 | Park Grill
- September ‘18 | Kaiser Tiger
- October ‘18 | Point and Feather
- November ‘18 | Early Society
- March ‘19 | City Social
- April ‘19 | The Scout South Loop
- May ‘19 | Goddess and the Baker
- June ‘19 | Raised Rooftop Bar
- August ‘19 | The Kitchen
- September ‘19 | Adams Street Brewery

**Annual Holiday Party**

Latinicity proved to be a great venue to host our 2019 Holiday Party. We weren’t sure it would happen with the blistering winter weather but we had a great time!

Have ideas for future venues? Let us know.

**Annual Member Appreciation Picnic**

It was great to see summer finally arrive in time for our annual WP+D Member Appreciation Picnic. It was hot!

Thank You for your involvement in WP+D. Please continue to invite new women to get involved.

**FAREWELL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

As I reflect on this past year in leadership, it epitomizes what WP+D is all about. Every year that a new face becomes a friend, colleague, guest speaker, mentor, business connection or role model now within reach, we’ve won. We are reminded why we chose this profession. We are inspired to be great. We are empowered to imagine the careers and life we want with clear representation across our network of what is possible.

I am thankful to our founders for their foresight and fearlessness in the ideation of what WP+D could be. We hope we’ve made you proud. To those who served on the board and are now part of a distinguished alumni network, we are forever bonded. A special thank you to those I’ve had the pleasure to work alongside. To every current and prospective member, this experience is what you make it and there are so many women once in your shoes ready to support your journey.

It has been a privilege to lead this amazing organization. Congratulations to the leaders who have emerged to uphold its legacy.

We were celebrating our 25th Anniversary year when I stepped into the role of President. Here’s to many, many more.

Sincerely,

Shavion Scott  
WP+D President, 2016-2019