WTS and the Transportation Industry – A Dynamic Partnership

BY DANIELLA BERNETT

The writer is the WTS-GNY Newsletter Subcommittee Chair and a Special Events Committee member. She is the Research Manager for STV Incorporated.

There’s one night during the year when WTS-GNY shines its brightest. A night of prestige and elegance that is eagerly anticipated by New York-New Jersey transportation industry leaders. A night that underscores WTS’ enduring efforts to promote the importance of transportation in our global society and its dedication to making the industry better. That night is the Annual Cocktail Reception Gala, which was held on October 6th at Bridgewaters in Lower Manhattan.

As the honeyed-gold shadows of late afternoon faded with the onset of dusk, the view of the Brooklyn Bridge from the ballroom came into sharper focus as a jazz trio serenaded guests. An event of this caliber could not be successful without the support of our corporate partners. Our thanks to our 26 corporate sponsors who have generously contributed to the dispatch of the evening’s festivities.

Our next step was to create a task force of chapter members from each of the area’s transportation agencies. Membership Chair Emma Chapman, with the support of Marie DeLucia, WTS-GNY Director-at-Large and member of the WTS International Membership Committee, did a terrific job of coordinating the task force’s activities.

Our outreach efforts included Brown Bag Lunches to introduce WTS to potential members. Over 60 NYCDOT employees came to hear Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan talk about her longtime involvement in WTS and to listen to a presentation on the types of programs and activities that we offer.

The chapter’s corporate partners, which total 26 this year. She noted that their critical support helps to fund timely panel discussions and other professional development programs, as well as discounted memberships for those hit hard during these untenable economic times.

This type of support also has allowed WTS-GNY to further its mission of advancing women in the transportation industry by annually offering scholarships to undergraduates and graduates. These students have to meet certain criteria, including maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher and being enrolled in a transportation-related field with plans to pursue a career in transportation. This year, the chapter awarded one undergraduate and one graduate scholarship.

WTS-GNY President Marcia Shapiro opened the evening’s festivities by acknowled
student, she is currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering, specializing in Transportation. After her graduation in Spring 2013, she plans to attain a master’s degree in the same field, focusing on rail and freight systems design.

To supplement her education, Esther has undertaken several tasks that apply her knowledge to real-life situations. She participated in research involving satellite imaging and this fall she began research in the transportation field. Esther also spent four months this past year working in a full-time internship with Moffatt and Nichol, a civil and coastal engineering firm. Among her projects, she developed transportation cost models for freight-rail development in the United States, and optimized the location and attributes of future maritime loading docks. On campus, Esther is an active member of the CCNY Concrete Canoe club.

“I am thankful and honored to receive this award and hope to stay involved with WTS in the future,” Esther said as she accepted her scholarship. To highlight WTS’ role as a mentor and the unexpected opportunities networking can yield, Shapiro introduced Esther to two new members from the MTA. They were so impressed with Esther’s poise, intellect and credentials that it appears she may secure an internship at the agency.

The Leonard Braun Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Kwan Hui, who unfortunately could not attend the Gala. In 2008, she earned her BA in Political Science and Urban Studies from Rutgers University. She completed her master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration, with a concentration on Public Management, at the same institution in May 2010. Kwan has spent the past year in Hong Kong studying Transport Policy and Planning at the University of Hong Kong with a special focus on community engagement in the development process of the high-speed regional Express Rail Link (XRL). She has now returned to complete her master’s in the City and Regional Planning program at the Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning concentrating in Housing, Transportation, and Environmental planning. After graduation, Kwan plans to begin her career as a transit planner while continuing her active involvement with the Rotary and Rotaract clubs.

Kwan also received a separate $1,000 scholarship from the U.S. Transportation Research Center, which supports WTS’ activities.

As is tradition during the Gala, the chapter holds a Silent Auction. The proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund, so that WTS can continue to assist dedicated and capable young women to enter and succeed in the transportation field. This year’s Silent Auction and monetary donations raised $4,920 for the Scholarship Fund.

continued on page 3
From transportation’s future, the evening returned to one of today’s leaders who has contributed so much to the industry and has been a longtime friend and supporter of WTS. Mary Ann Crotty, president of Macro Associates LLC, stepped up to the podium to introduce Joan McDonald, the 2011 Woman of the Year. As a testament to McDonald’s work in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut region over the last 30 years, WTS International President and CEO Marcia Ferranto, MTA Capital Construction President Michael Horodniceanu, LIRR President Helena Williams, NYCDOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan, NJDOT Commissioner James Simpson and NJ Transit Executive Director James Weinstein were on hand to join the chapter in bestowing this honor.

“I am proud to be here,” Crotty said. “It is a good task and an easy thing to do to introduce Joan. Our love of public service started in the 1980s when we both worked in the New York State Assembly.

“Joan was always a risk taker. That’s how she got so far. Even when she left New York for Connecticut, she was always learning [to get to know her new constituencies].

“Her personality is such that she has an ability to make people like her. Joan listens to her staff and can manage a large organization in a difficult time. She is the real thing. She has a wonderful leadership style and an incredible ability to motivate people. Joan faces demanding management challenges, but I can’t think of anyone better to do the job.”

After listening to the praise of her colleague and friend, it was time for McDonald to accept her well-deserved award. “I feel really honored and blessed to be here tonight. When I look around the room it’s not about old boys winning and losing, but rather about men and women having the pleasure of working [together] in the transportation industry.

“I admire the science and art of engineering and what it does in the transportation world. I have degrees in English and Political Science, but I had colleagues like Donna Evans, Pam Burford and Susan Kupferman in the transportation [field]. I liked what they were doing so I went to the Kennedy School [of Government at Harvard University] to learn public administration.

“There weren’t many women in meetings when I started at the MTA. It was hard work and [took] intelligence and perseverance.

When I was at Jacobs, I realized that I had a responsibility to be a mentor. It was important to have female and male colleagues who we could bounce off ideas.”

“At the end of the day,” McDonald explained, “it’s about the relationship that we’ve built up in this room. We suddenly real-
ize that we’ve built a foundation. In the transportation world, we know that we can’t do it alone. We’re only as strong as the people with whom we work. We have challenges in front of us, but with everyone’s ideas, we will continue to be strong, creative and able to do good things.

“I’m thrilled that there’s a WTS and to see how it has evolved over the last 35 years. What a difference it has made in my life and the lives of the men and women in this room.”

To close the program, WTS was pleased to have NJDOT Commissioner James Simpson as a special guest speaker. “If you want to aspire to be great,” he suggested, “then follow the path that Joan took. She is a true public servant. It is great to have someone so up to speed.

“[As for WTS,] it’s a wonderful organization. It is [fantastic] that we have so many women in the industry and so many who are leaders. For the scholarship winners, it is [commendable] that you want to enter this industry.”

Event volunteers: Linda Travis; Ella McLeod; Marcela Rodríguez; Daniella Bernett; Amy Verel; Sonia Corredor; Jamielyn LoBello;

The Silent Auction, combined with monetary donations, raised $4,920 for the Scholarship Fund.

Nina Harvey; Lisa Marie Pompei; Kimberly Patterson; Linda Sylvester; Stephanie Camay; Sharron Smith; Jennifer Terry; and Giselle Fernandez.

Members in the News

Grace Baird, WTS-GNY Young Professionals Committee chair and a catenary engineer, recently joined URS Corp. She had been with Parsons Brinckerhoff for four years, one as an intern and three as a full-time employee.

Polina Knaster, WTS-GNY Programs Committee chair (NJ) and NJDOT District Program Manager, ROW Central District, was selected to participate on an eight-member team in SCAN 10-01 “Best Practices for Risk-Based Forecasts of Land Volatility for Corridor Management and Sustainable Communities” sponsored by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP). This is an educational initiative that provides an opportunity to learn from experts in other states who have achieved success in this particular transportation field. The scan will investigate how metropolitan planning organizations (MPO), state DOTs and other transportation agencies have used risk-based forecasting and related analysis to address such topics as: capacity issues in the development of long-range corridor plans and integration of land-use and volatility forecasts into transportation plans with a multiyear horizon. Upon completion of the study phase, an implementation plan will be developed.

Amy Verel, WTS-GNY Special Events Committee member and a landscape designer/project planner, joined Mark K. Morrison Landscape Architects at the beginning of December. Amy had been with B. Thayer Associates for two years.

And look who was in town…”

Allison Davis, former WTS-GNY vice president (NY) who left this summer to accept a job in the Long-Range Planning Department at the Washington Area Metropolitan Transportation Authority (WMATA), participated in the New York City Marathon on November 5th. Her time was 4 hours and 30 minutes.

Have you received a promotion or changed jobs? Have you won an award or been recognized for community service? Share the news with WTS-GNY. Call Daniella Bernett at (212) 614-7632 or email at Daniella.bernett@stvinc.com.
For over 50 years, Weidlinger Associates®, Inc. has been a leading structural engineering and applied mechanics consultant. The firm designs and rehabilitates buildings, bridges and infrastructure; develops advanced analysis software; and provides special services in multihazard engineering, structural health monitoring and sustainability. The number of women engineers employed by the firm has increased in the last decade, prompting more active support of WTS and its mentor program by the firm’s principals and engineers, both male and female.

Weidlinger’s Building Design group has engineered many complex structures, such as the Rose Center for Earth and Space, the Javits Center and the Georgia Dome. The Applied Science & Investigations Group sets the firm apart and is responsible for creative contributions in many fields. The Transportation Group is credited with unprecedented solutions to many challenging problems, from bridge cable reanchoring and anchorage dehumidification to aerodynamic stability and deck replacement. Beyond bridges, the group inspects, designs and supervises construction of highways, railroad and transit facilities, tunnels and waterfront structures, and provides civil engineering services at major sites, such as Times Square, the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens and the White House Lawn.

The Transportation Group is known particularly for redesigns of historic suspension bridges that correct original defects, anticipate future problems and resist multiple natural and man-made hazards. A recent milestone was authorship of the first-ever guidelines for the inspection and evaluation of suspension bridge cables. Another was the installation of wind fairings on the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge to improve its aerodynamic stability, the largest application of FRP composite panels on a bridge to date.

Among the group’s newest designs is a 3-D double-helix footbridge over the Nanhe River in Xinjin, China, in collaboration with WXYArchitecture. Weidlinger also designed major structural elements of the new $6.3-billion self-anchored suspension span (SAS) of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, the world’s longest SAS span and the first nationwide with a single tower.

Weidlinger is headquartered in Lower Manhattan, with East Coast offices in Cambridge, MA; Washington, D.C.; Hartford, CT; and Mountain Lakes, NJ. The firm also has offices in Mountain View and Marina del Rey, CA; Albuquerque, NM; and two locations in the United Kingdom. For more information, please visit www.wai.com or call (212) 367-3000. Follow Weidlinger on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/WeidlingerAssociates.
WTS-GNY
Mentor Program
in Tenth Year!
BY AMY V. KAUFMAN WITH CARL SELINGER

Amy Kaufman is the WTS-GNY Secretary and a Strategic Planning Manager for MTA-NYCT. Carl Selinger is a longtime WTS mentor, as well as an author and motivational speaker.

Every professional should have a mentor... someone you trust who can give you career advice and personal guidance to help you along the difficult path of the working world. This fall, we recognize the 10th anniversary of the founding of the WTS-GNY Mentor Program, which has helped 100 apprentices advance their careers.

The program was inspired by a WTS-GNY Board member’s commitment to “pay it forward” after participation in the International Leadership program. Inga Barry came back to New York and, with the help of Co-Chair Claire Spielberg and chapter President Saundra Lautenberg, started the program. Their format of 10 pairs of mentors and apprentices, monthly meetings and guests speaking candidly about their careers, remains in place today.

While the overall format remains the same, the input from past apprentices and mentors has helped the committee that guides the program to adapt to the changing needs of the participants. Linda Travis, past co-chair and an apprentice in 2002 stated that “[our] high-quality participants” with diverse interests “challenge us to supply their needs.” Ella McLeod, 2007, really appreciated the “speed dating” approach to matching mentors and mentees. McLeod, now a committee member and co-chair of the Special Events Committee, urged participants to get the most they can out of the program.

Apprentices receive hands-on guidance in key areas of development. Each apprentice makes a five-minute presentation to get the opportunity to speak in public, after which she receives critical feedback from the group.

The mentor program has also developed the “30-second elevator pitch,” worked with the Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), and other group/individual exercises. Apprentices are expected to become actively engaged by asking questions of guest speakers, not simply by sitting back and listening politely.

Mentors are incredibly dedicated to the program. Carl Selinger has been a mentor with WTS-GNY for each of the 10 years. He has been assigned as a mentor to 14 apprentices and informally mentored a least half of the other 86. From his perspective, the mentor program is the best value for younger WTS members. Virginia Borkoski, an apprentice in 2002 and then a mentor in 2008 and 2009, firmly believes that establishing mentoring programs is the one of the best things WTS does. “Mentoring builds leadership and a sense of connection,” she said. Virginia is the only apprentice to date who has gone on to become a mentor as well.

For the committee chairs, it takes a lot of work to coordinate such an intensive program that knits together career development, networking and one-on-one career assessments. According to Felice Farber, the first program chair (2001-2006), “the people who are involved in creating the [mentoring] program get as much out of it as the participants do.” She pointed out that the apprentices very often go on to leadership roles in the chapter. “It says a lot about the success of the core structure that motivates participants to give back to [WTS].”

Often in the workplace, Travis noted, there is little opportunity for mentoring. The program serves a definite need for our members, especially those mid-level managerial positions who find it difficult to get to the next level. Travis was an apprentice in 2002, joined the committee and then served as chair in 2008 and 2009. “It was a great opportunity to pass on knowledge,” she said.

The 2012 committee, chaired by Malinda Foy and Nina Harvey, a 2010 apprentice, looks forward to working with the next group of mentors and apprentices.

WTS is now soliciting both mentors and apprentices for 2012. Please check the website and contact Co-Chair Malinda Foy Malinda for more information.
Smart Cities: Integrating Technology into Transportation Planning and Operations

BY STEPHANIE CAMAY

Technology plays a key role in virtually all aspects of transportation from automatic vehicle location (AVL) on buses, to train control systems and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) pavement sensors on roadway facilities. Aside from the use of technology, transportation providers are using the Internet and social media to improve real-time communication to the public. In keeping abreast with current transportation topics, WTS-GNY’s September Quarterly Meeting, held on September 22nd at Club 101 in Manhattan, focused on technology. The featured speakers were MTA Systems Engineering Manager Michael Frumin and Oakland Business Improvement District (BID) Executive Director Georgia Petropoulos Muir.

Muir provided an overview of Innovation Oakland, a technology-based approach to neighborhood transformation introducing new ways of thinking about how community assets, public spaces and commercial corridors contribute to the economic prosperity of Oakland, PA. Located on a bluff above the Monongahela River in the heart of Pittsburgh, three miles from downtown and 21 miles from the Pittsburgh International Airport, Oakland is the region’s second-largest employment and commercial center, with more than 38,000 jobs and 100,000 daily visitors. Oakland is also Pittsburgh’s most ethnically diverse and lively neighborhood, home to universities and museums, world-class hospitals and grand architecture.

In addition to being an epicenter of employment, education, medicine and culture, quaint coffee shops, international cuisine and specialty shops create the daily hustle and bustle found in Oakland. The city’s density and demographic distribution also contribute to its vibrancy. With approximately 20,000 residents, Oakland has a gross density of 12,788 persons per square mile (more than twice the density of Pittsburgh). Moreover, half of its residents are between the ages of 20 and 34.

As early as November 2002, the Oakland community prepared “The Future of Oakland: A Community Investment Strategy,” outlining four consensus initiatives to: create a sense of place; make it easier to get into and around; stimulate neighborhood revitalization; and foster technology development. Through a public outreach process, Innovation Oakland, a community-wide infrastructure initiative of the Oakland Task Force in partnership with the Oakland BID, Carlow University, Carnegie Mellon University, UPMC, and the University of Pittsburgh, was developed. “Oakland is determined to be America’s first digital community.” Fueled by state-of-the-art technologies, Innovation Oakland will combine art, design, place making, and way-finding solutions to create new interactive public destinations for the use and pleasure of residents, employees, students, and visitors from around the nation and the world.

Continuing the technology conversation, Frumin described the MTA’s B63 Bus Time pilot project. Unveiled on February 1, 2011, the program is the latest customer communications initiative to provide real-time information to bus riders. Using Global Positioning System (GPS) devices (installed on 30 buses along the B63 bus route) and wireless communications, MTA Bus Time tracks the real-time location of buses. B63 riders can utilize the technology to find and monitor the location of the next few buses that will arrive at respective bus stops.

MTA Bus Time takes the guesswork out of waiting for the next bus ride. The system is accessible via a desktop web map, a mobile website continued on page 2
on iPhone, Android, or other smartphone, and SMS text messages on all mobile phones. B63 riders simply text the code prominently displayed at the bus stop. They will immediately receive a return text with the real-time locations of the next several buses. Electronically-savvy customers can also use their smartphones to snap a picture of a two-dimensional barcode installed at every B63 stop. A barcode-reading app, available free of charge, interprets this information and directs the user to the Bus Time mobile website.

What does this mean to B63 bus riders? MTA Bus Time means knowing if the bus is on time before leaving home, knowing if there is time to grab a cup of coffee or newspaper, getting updates on delays while out and about, and unlocking opportunities for better service across the entire network. B63 riders’ feedback has been positive: “It’s fantastic!”; “The mobile website is fabulous! I use it ALL the time and have been blabbing about it to everyone I meet at the bus stop, on the bus, and in my neighborhood. It has changed my life.”; “PLEASE do the MTA Bus Time project test on the B61 route!”; “This program is one of the more significant improvements the MTA has introduced.”

Unlike earlier Manhattan cross-town pilots on the M16 and M34 routes, the B63 system was developed by the MTA in collaboration with non-profit civic group OpenPlans. Using non-proprietary, open standards and software for development and deployment allowed for increased flexibility and reduced costs. This means MTA Bus Time can be expanded to more bus routes much more quickly than initially expected. The success of the pilot demonstrates that open, standard hardware and software can meet the needs of the biggest transit authorities and their riders at a fraction of the cost and in a fraction of the time.

In light of the pilot program’s success, MTA Bus Time will be expanding to Staten Island later this year followed by the remainder of the City. As the MTA’s transit system works to catch up with the 21st Century expectation that real-time information is available on the go for all New Yorkers, MTA Bus Time is a big part of the vision for improved bus service in the City.

Event volunteers: Stephanie Camay; Allison Davis; Elizabeth Federico; Amy Kaufman; Elizabeth Marcantonio; and Jignasa Ray.

FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK

continued from page 1

the past year. Thanks so much to Catherine Matera, our NYCDOT task force member, who organized the event!

Susan Baer, director of Aviation for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANY&NJ), also hosted a Brown Bag Lunch, inviting women who work in aviation at the three metropolitan airports. Over 50 women attended, not just from the three major airports but also from Stewart International Airport in Westchester County. Our program included both an introduction to WTS and a presentation on financing and design innovations in the expansion of the Mumbai Airport. Thanks to Porie Saikia-Eapen, CH2M Hill vice president and area manager and WTS-GNY Advisory Board member, for pulling this together on very short notice!

So how did we do? As of now, we have 49 new public-sector members, bringing the number of public-sector members to 101 out of a total of 358. Our new members come from MTA, NYCDOT, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, New Jersey Transit, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, New Jersey Homeland Security, NJDOT and the New York City Department of City Planning and PANY&NJ.

To our new members, welcome to WTS! We look forward to meeting all of you at upcoming events such as our Annual Meeting in January. Happy Holidays to all of our members, friends and supporters!

Marcia Shapiro, President GNY Chapter
(646) 460-4947
Marcia.s.shapiro@gmail.com
Storytelling: The Key To A Great Presentation

BY JENNIFER TERRY

The writer is the WTS-GNY Professional Development Committee Co-Chair and an intern in the Systems Planning and External Affairs division at the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority.

The Professional Development and New York Programs Committees combined forces to co-host "Enhancing Your Presentations Through Storytelling," an interactive event featuring Dr. Karen Lawson, PhD, CSP, on October 19th at Arup’s office in Soho. By engaging the audience with group exercises and sharing her personal and professional experiences, Dr. Lawson showed WTS members how to use stories to develop a rapport with an audience and humanize presentations. She explained that stories help speakers to capture the audience’s attention by sending memorable messages; conveying values and priorities; highlighting desired behavior; and sharing lessons learned.

Lawson defined the four basic types of stories: parables; fables; anecdotes/vignettes; and full-length stories, and suggested sources to WTS members from where to get story ideas, such as the news media, friends and colleagues, and the movies. However, she emphasized that the best source for a story is one’s personal experiences. Not only does this tactic avoid the potential complexities involved with properly attributing the story, but it is much easier to remember.

Lawson said that a story must have a point and be relevant, interesting and authentic. In addition, a story should address the following questions: who, what, when, where, and why it’s important. The story must have value to the audience.

In sharing her stories and thus demonstrating how to use stories, Dr. Lawson often painted a picture with words by describing the scene where the action occurred and relaying dialogue as spoken by the main protagonists. She also moved around the room, varied her body language, and changed her voice to distinguish different characters in her stories.

She walked attendees through the process of creating a story, which includes the following steps:

- Determine the story’s purpose
- Create the scene/context
- Introduce a challenge/complication
- Share the resolution
- Bring the story to conclusion

Afterward, attendees adhered to these directives to create their own stories. With Lawson’s guidance, participants developed stories to help listeners visualize complex planning and engineering projects. With these new skills in hand, WTS members will be able to fashion engaging presentations for future audiences.

Members are encouraged to visit www.LawsonCG.com for further information.

Event volunteers: Jennifer Terry; Jignasa Ray; Lindsay Maguire; Stephanie Camay and Elizabeth Federico.

Once again, thanks to Arup for hosting this event and providing refreshments.

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SAVE THE DATE

WTS-GNY 32nd Annual Meeting and 15th Annual M/W/DBE Expo
Member of the Year
Employer of the Year
Rosa Park Diversity Leadership Awards Presentations

Tuesday, January 31, 2012
at Club 101

Keynote Speaker:
Nuria Fernandez
MTA Chief Operating Officer

STAY CONNECTED WITH WTS

Join the WTS-GNY LinkedIn group. Visit www.linkedin.com and search for WTS in the Groups section, or go to http://www.linkedin.com/e/vgh/1828322/ and send us a request. This is a members-only group intended to provide a forum for information sharing, discussions and news updates. Members are encouraged to post events and other items of interest. Also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

To join WTS-GNY’s mailing list click here: WTSGNY@gmail.com
WTS-GNY’s Second World Trade Center Transit Hub Technical Tour

BY KELLYANN WEST

The writer is a Professional Development Committee member and a Senior Marketing Analyst at PANY&NJ.

Nineteen WTS members enjoyed full access to the World Trade Center (PATH Terminal) Transit Hub site on October 25th. The occasion was WTS-GNY’s second World Trade Center (WTC) Transit Hub Technical Tour hosted by WTS-GNY’s Professional Development Committee. The morning commenced with a presentation by WTC Construction Assistant Director Carla Bonacci and Transit Hub Program Director Clarelle DeGraffe. Bonacci, an architect, and DeGraffe each have 20-plus years of experience with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANY&NJ), including more than seven years on the Transit Hub project.

The underground tour, which covered the site’s east and west connectors, future retail hall and central chiller plant kept participants moving busily through the active construction site. WTS members were invited to ask questions concerning the particulars of the site as part of an interactive technical experience. Mike Hessemer, the tour leader and project veteran, who is also with PANY&NJ, gave a comprehensive overview of each area that the group visited on the nearly hour-long tour.

Significant progress has been made in the construction of the Hub (which was designed by famed Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava) since WTS-GNY’s first tour in winter 2010. The Hub, which is expected to serve more than 200,000 daily commuters by 2020, already has all nine sections of the main truss that will support its roof in place, along with 310 pieces of steel that will comprise the roof of the PATH Hall. In total, over 11,000 tons of permanent steel have been installed in the PATH station to date, all while PATH service and New York City Transit (NYCT) No. 1 subway line service continue underneath.

Bonacci stressed the intricacies involved in a construction project that protects train operations below ground. Similarly, DeGraffe took pains to point out the measures that PANY&NJ has taken to protect the City’s sewer system, which also runs under the site. The theme for the presentation and tour was that the realm of an architect or construction manager extends far beyond the narrow scope of beams and measurements. Participants were offered a comprehensive analysis on all aspects of the Transit Hub project, including political and community considerations, environmental impacts, security awareness and efficiency enhancement measures.

For those lucky WTS members who participated, the tour proved to be highly informative and exciting.

For more information about the WTC Transit Hub Project, please visit: www.wtcprogress.org.

Event volunteers: Stephanie Camay; Beth DeAngelo; Jignasa Ray; and Kellyann West.
The Festive Season

WTS-GNY members and non-members alike had a marvelous time at the chapter’s Holiday Party at Trinity Place Restaurant in Lower Manhattan on December 5th.

From left: Incoming WTS-GNY President Mary K. Murphy and President Marcia Shapiro.

From left: WTS International Board Member Maria Garcia; Sara Rosenberg, Columbia University; and WTS-GNY Diversity Committee Chair Hollie Wells.

From left: Sarah Kaufman, MTA NYCT; Elizabeth Wooten, MTA NYCT; and Kimberly Powell, Philip Habib Associates.

From left: L. Dédi Gonga, MTA NYCT; WTS-GNY Director-At-Large Linda Travis; and WTS-GNY Secretary Amy Kaufman.

From left: WTS-GNY Advisory Board Member Deborah Wathen Finn; WTS-GNY Newsletter Committee Chair Daniella Bernet; and WTS-GNY Incoming President Mary K. Murphy.

From left: WTS-GNY Membership Committee Chair Emma Chapman and Manasavi Menon, Parsons Brinckerhoff.

From left: Jetal Bhakta, NYCDOT; Cindi Davidson, NYC Dept. of City Planning; Priscilla Yip, Parsons Brinckerhoff; and WTS-GNY Director-At-Large Beth DeAngelo.
Great things are happening in Brazil and women are leading the way.

Join us as a founding member of a new chapter of WTS International in the incomparable Rio de Janeiro, “Cidade Maravilhosa” (Wonderful City).

As one of the shining stars of the global economy, Brazil is booming and Rio de Janeiro, the country’s capital of samba, sun and sand, is at the forefront.

Rio will play host to two of the world’s largest events: the 2014 World Cup Finals and 2016 Olympics. The city and country are revitalizing and expanding infrastructure. Stadiums are being constructed, new roadways are being built, airports are being remodeled and a high-speed rail line is linking Rio and Brazil’s financial capital, Sao Paulo.

Women are changing the face of Brazilian culture – series of firsts.

Dilma Rousseff, Brazil’s current president, is the first female to occupy this position. Maria Silvia Bastos Marques is leading Rio’s Municipal Olympic Company and Patricia Amorim, former Olympic swimmer is the first woman to manage Flamengo, Rio’s famed 115-year-old soccer club.

There is no better time to be part of WTS International. We are looking for transportation professionals: engineers, urban planners, architects and individuals in related fields who want to make history. Be part of WTS Rio, the organization’s first chapter in South America.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming involved with WTS Rio, please contact Kim Haas at kim@haas-media.com or Leila Weissling at leila.weissling@jacobs.com.
A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!

The list reflects the new members who joined the chapter up until press time.

- Rebecca Cohen
  KLD Associates, Inc
  NYCDOT
- Eleanor M. DiPalma
  NYCDOT
- Desiree Maple
  NYCDOT
- Adalia Leander
  Polytechnic Institute of New York University
- Joan McDonald
  NYSDOT
- Emily J. Gallo
  NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission
- Cynthia K. Davidson
  NYC Department of City Planning
- Phyllis Allen
  NYCDOT
- Susan McSherry
  NYCDOT
- Nicholas A. Carey
  NYCDOT
- Desiree Maple
  NYCDOT
- Adalia Leander
  Polytechnic Institute of New York University
- Joan McDonald
  NYSDOT
- Emily J. Gallo
  NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission
- Margarita Calbitaza
  Hardesty & Hanover
- Dawn R. Stewart-Riles
  MTA NYCT
- Jacqueline Hall dow
  New Jersey Transit
- Swena Gulati
  North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
- Onyinye Akujuo
  NYCDOT
- Jetal S. Bhakta
  NYCDOT
- Katrina Hoyle-Cox
  NYCDOT
- Megan Kelly
  North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
- Sandra Rothbard
  NYCDOT
- Deborah Siegel Baker
  NYCDOT, Division of Planning
- Angela DeVita
  HDR
- Michael F. Donohue
  Skanska Koch Inc.
- Neill J. Lucey
  Parsons
- Elana Freedman
  HDR
- Snigdha Mittal
  Hardesty & Hanover
- Coryann Carlson
  PANY&NJ
- Amy E. Magnuson
  North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
- Taylor Reiss
  NYCDOT
- Kelley R. Yemen
  NYCDOT
- Jennifer Leung
  NYCDOT
- Milagros Olivo
  AECOM
- Marianela Estevez
  MTA NYCT
- Nancy Carola
  NYCDOT
- Emily C. Hultman
  Gannett Fleming
- Pamela M. Burford
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