



Advancing Women in Transportation

Portland Chapter Annual Report 2016

2016 Chapter Board

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Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) is dedicated to excellence in transportation through advancing the voice and professional development of women in the transportation industry.

The Portland, Oregon chapter of WTS was established in 1985. We are pleased to present our 2016 Annual Report, which highlights the accomplishments of our chapter.

This year marks the end of my two-year term as WTS Portland Chapter President and also marks my eleventh year serving on the WTS Portland Board. I have been so honored to serve my profession and my peers in this way and continue to be inspired by how dedicated our Board and volunteers are, how much we can accomplish when working together, and also how bright the future of our industry looks when you look at the next generation of professionals who WTS is helping to support.

As you will read, the highlights from this past year are many. Our chapter is 250 members strong, provides over \$17,000 annually in local scholarships, and provides leadership training, professional education, and mentoring to members at all stages of their careers. This year we held our seventh annual leadership program for professionals and our sixth year conducting a STEM program (Transportation YOU) for students. We also held seven luncheons, two awards events, and several other networking events. I am certain that reading about these events you will understand why our organization only continues to grow in its reach.



To help our members extend their reach, this year we participated in the first ever WTS Northwest Regional Conference. It took place in Seattle, Washington and was attended by more than 180 transportation professionals from throughout the Northwest. This conference was very well organized, had an excellent program, and was very affordable. The response was so positive that we will be working with the Northwest Regional Council on the location and program for the next Northwest Regional Conference in 2018.

This year our mentorship program included 30 mentors and 30 mentees and was a true demonstration of the commitment of our members to WTS and our mission of advancing women in the field of transportation. Sumi Malik, Mentoring Chair, and Matt Hastie, were honored this year with my President's Award for their contributions to this program. Additional people and organizations we were honored to recognize this year included Karen Schilling (Multnomah County) as our Woman of the Year award recipient; MultiCultural Collaborative (MCC) as our Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award recipient; Courtney Duke (PBOT) as Member of the Year; Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) as Employer of the Year, and Hannah Crum (Alta Planning + Design) as New Voice; and ODOT's Columbia Gorge Express as our Innovative Transportation Solution (Project of the Year) award recipient.

This year we honored five scholarship award recipients—Hailey Diment from Columbia River High School, Jenavee Milkovich from Linn Benton Community College, Jordan Preston from OIT, Kamilah Buker from OSU, and Gwendoline Jones from OIT. For the second consecutive year, one of our local recipients, Gwendoline Jones, is receiving an international level scholarship. We are so proud of her! As you read about all of our award winners and scholarship recipients, I am sure that you will agree that our future is bright!

Susan Wright
WTS Portland Chapter President

2015-2016



WTS Advances Women in the Transportation Field

WTS provides access to transportation professionals and top-level decision makers in the public, private and non-profit sectors.

WTS helps enhance careers through professional development, networking, and mentoring.

WTS supports future transportation professionals and leaders through generous annual scholarships and access to national scholarship awards.

WTS fosters professional development through a variety of training programs, stimulating lunch programs and other events.

WTS fosters leadership through opportunities to participate on boards, committees, and leadership training programs.

WTS develops the interest of young women and girls in the field of transportation by exposing middle school and high school students to the breadth of opportunities in the field.

WTS helps appoint its members to influential local, regional, state and federal positions to shape transportation policy and decision-making.

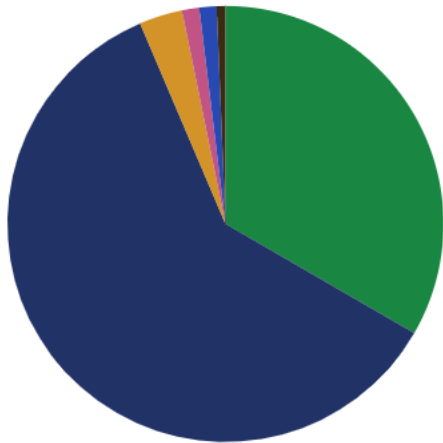
WTS is the Premier Transportation Organization and Forum in the Portland Region and State of Oregon

WTS Portland has been providing Portland members with great technical programs, career support, and networking opportunities since 1985. We have been growing steadily and adding programs ever since. Some highlights:

- Since 1986 our membership has grown from 30 members to nearly 250 members in 2016.
- We gave our first scholarship of \$500 in 1988. In 2016, we awarded \$17,000 in scholarships to well deserving students.
- We continued our Transportation YOU partnership with Girls Inc. of NW Oregon to inspire our next generation of transportation leaders.
- We continued our leadership program and expanded our mentoring program for professionals.

Membership

The Portland WTS chapter ended 2016 with 248 members.



- 52% Private Sector
- 94% Public Sector
- 5% Students
- 2% Executive Leaders
- 2% Educators
- 1% Retired Professionals



Membership Celebration

WTS Portland's annual Membership Celebration (formerly known as the Members Meeting) was held at the Portland City Grill on Wednesday, March 30, 2016. The event was a celebration of chapter accomplishments and a thank-you party for 2015 volunteers. At the event, members enjoyed food and beverages, a photo booth, and a drawing for a gift basket.

New Efforts

To encourage new members to volunteer with WTS, the initial welcome email that new members receive now includes information on volunteer opportunities. We also developed a template email response for members who are interested in volunteering.

Thank You to the Event Volunteers
 Brittany Cowgill Alexis Gabriel
 Mandia Gonzales Brenda Martin



Special Events - Year in Review

January “A Conversation with the Congressman” Earl Blumenauer for WTS

WTS PSU hosted a wonderful reception for Congressman Earl Blumenauer at the Parsons Gallery, Urban Center PSU. There was a great turnout of approximately 60 in attendance. The talk was primarily about how young transportation professionals can lead the way. The Congressman spent a good amount of time encouraging people to become more engaged in the political process. Some questions pushed him on the issues of access and affordability for public transit; a very interesting and vibrant discussion. Moderator Marisa Demull with Sumi Malik presented a framed photo of Earl Blumenauer with other WTS founder at the end of the talk. A small reception was held afterwards at a very well-received event.

February WTS Breakfast Discussion with WSDOT Secretary of Transportation

Lynn Peterson

WTS hosted a breakfast with the Washington State Department of Transportation Secretary Lynn Peterson on Wednesday, February 3rd. Lynn has been a longtime supporter of WTS. She was a WTS Portland Chapter scholarship recipient in 1994 and received the WTS Portland Chapter New Voice Award in 1997. We feel very fortunate she was able to take the morning to meet with many of our members and guests from the Vancouver area, and even those that braved I-5 bridge traffic to join us from Portland.

We had 36 people join Secretary Peterson for a discussion about the recently passed 16-year transportation package and how Practical Design is being implemented at WSDOT. Topics included how WSDOT is using practical design to help identify innovative solutions, use context sensitive designs that take into consideration the needs of the communities, and to ultimately build the most efficient solutions for the State’s transportation needs. Secretary Lynn Peterson stressed the need to consider the bigger picture when making project level decisions. It was a great discussion, and an excellent opportunity to network and meet other transportation professionals working in the area, with many Federal Highways and WSDOT employees in attendance.



Spring Awards Event

WTS hosted the Spring Awards Dinner at the Benson Hotel. Approximately 125 members, guests and award recipients attended and enjoyed cocktail hour in the vintage fireplace lobby followed by the awards dinner in the Crystal Ballroom of the hotel. Holly Williams and Laura Elbert volunteered at registration to welcome all attending, while Cara Belcher events chair and co-chair Kim Bria managed the event. The event raised \$1,950 for the Gail Achterman Scholarship, an increase from 2015!

2015 Awards were presented to the following winners:

Woman of the Year: **Karen Schilling**, Retired Planning Director, Multnomah County

Member of the Year: **Courtney Duke**, Senior Transportation Planner, City of Portland Bureau of Transportation

New Voice: **Hannah Crum**, Programs Planner, Alta Planning + Design

Employer of the Year: **City of Portland Bureau of Transportation**

Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership: **Multicultural Collaborative**

President's Award: **Sumi Malik**, Project Manager, CH2M and **Matt Hastie**, Senior Project Manager, Angelo Planning Group



September Volunteer Happy Hour at A Roadside Attraction

WTS hosted a volunteer happy hour at the eclectic A Roadside Attraction on September 14th. It was a casual atmosphere with about 20 WTS members including past event volunteers and those looking to help. Ideas for events in both Portland and Vancouver, with the goal of getting them on the calendar by spring. Topics included interesting site visits, rail-related events, transit scavenger hunts and casual happy hour gatherings. Attendees brainstormed ideas for events in both Portland and Vancouver, including site visits, rail-related events, transit scavenger hunts, and casual happy hour gatherings.



Winter Gala

The wild Portland winter affected the Winter Gala, which had to be postponed to February of 2017. The Gala hosted 154 people, who together raised over \$3,000 for our scholarships. The gala was at The Embassy Suites, who provided indoor bike parking and discounts on wine and chocolate in the lobby shop Azar Indulgences.

Innovative Transportation Solution Award: Oregon Department of Transportation's Columbia Gorge Express The Innovative Transportation Solution Award (formerly known as the Project of the Year) recognizes a project led by a woman that has been particularly innovative from initiation to completion. The awardee can be an initiative, solution, project or policy that met and overcame challenges to achieve its purpose. The Portland Chapter awarded \$17,000 in scholarships.



Monthly Luncheons - Year in Review

Each year, the Portland Chapter holds seven monthly luncheons from January to April and September to November. In 2016, the monthly luncheons program provided our members and interested guests with information on a diversity of topics and with the opportunity to hear from leaders in transportation from throughout the region and state. In total, the luncheons program attracted approximately 595 attendees throughout the year, for an average of 85 people at each luncheon. This is about a 25% increase in attendance from 2015.

Program Highlights from 2016:

January The 2016 WTS Luncheon series kicked off with a fascinating presentation on Oregon demographics. John Horvick is Vice President & Political Director for DHM Research, an independent and non-partisan public opinion firm. Mr. Horvick discussed how Oregon's changing/growing population could impact future transportation policies and funding, which directly affects our projects and work. There were 72 in attendance to learn how Oregon's demographic changes will shape the state's politics in the coming years.

February WTS hosted a panel to discuss Equity and Transportation. The 110 attendees (WOW!) were able to listen to the perspectives of a community advocate, consultant, and government official. Diego Hernandez (Co-Executive Director of the Momentum Alliance), Anita Yap (Founder of the Multicultural Collaborative), and Emmett Wheatfall (Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Clackamas County) shared their insights on why equity in transportation is important. Vice Chair of Portland Streetcar, Inc. and former Executive Vice President of MTA New York City Transit, Barbara Ramirez Spencer, moderated the panel.

March Portland's much anticipated plunge into bike share is upon us! PBOT's Steve Hoyt-McBeth joined us for an update on BIKETOWN, the City's public bike rental system for short trips. The conversation provided an overview of bike share and described how BIKETOWN is unique relative to other bike share programs. Lunch attendees also got a glimpse at the proposed service area and stations and a first look at how the public is responding to the interactive map that went live in March, 2016. Approximately 75 people attended this luncheon.

April We finished our spring luncheons series with an impressive panel who discussed Women in Management. The panel, moderated by Heather Wills, the Environmental Planning and Compliance Division Manager at Parametrix, consisted of Metro's Planning and Development Director, Elissa Gertler, TriMet's Leah Robbins, current Director of the Southwest Corridor Project, and Leah Treat, Director of PBOT. This diverse group of women each had their unique perspectives to management in the transportation industry. They shared personal stories about their professional journey on leadership positions and discussed philosophies on management and leading. This luncheon drew 105 attendees.

September The fall luncheons kicked off with a panel discussion on Affordable Housing and Transportation. Nick Sauvie (ROSE Community Development) moderated a panel of Jes Larson (Welcome Home Coalition) and Arlie Atkins (U of Arizona) addressing the importance of why affordable housing should be a part of all transportation planning and the immediate issues the region is working to address. This luncheon drew 72 attendees.

October In advance of the November election, we welcomed Karmen Fore (Gov. Brown's sustainable communities and transportation policy adviser) and Rep. Barbara Smith Warner (District 45 - Portland) to discuss what a Transportation Package could mean for Oregon. There were approximately 91 attendees present.

November Our last luncheon of 2016 featured Kristen Stallman (ODOT) and Kristin Dahl (Travel Oregon). The presentation explained the new Columbia Gorge Express pilot project, the importance of transit partnerships and how the program was marketed to the public. There were 70 WTS members and guests in attendance.

2016 Luncheons Committee Volunteers

Cathy Cibor, Hannah Crum, Diane Dulken, Julie Gustafson, Lacey Hammond, Dee Hidalgo, Zachary Horowitz, Christine Nickerson, Jennifer Rabby, Shayna Rehberg, Ashley Riehl, Jessica Roberts





WTS Northwest Regional Council

The Northwest Regional Council is comprised of existing WTS chapters, Alaska; Vancouver, BC; the Puget Sound; Portland; Idaho (Treasure Valley); Utah; and Colorado, and includes the geographies of Nevada, Wyoming, and Montana. The purpose of the Regional Council is to:

- Help bolster existing chapters where more members and volunteers are needed to sustain the WTS vision,
- Start chapters in states that currently do not have enough active members to create a chapter,
- Encourage collaboration between region chapters through events and communications,
- And grow WTS membership and participation within the region.

WTS Northwest Regional Conference

In 2016, the WTS Northwest Regional Council hosted the first WTS Northwest Regional Conference. The conference took place in Seattle in September and was a great success. The Northwest Region Council Chair Danielle Smith and Vice Chair Elizabeth Faulkner put together an excellent program that featured many high-level speakers, including Christine Gregoire, Former Governor of Washington; Roger Millar, Washington State DOT Secretary; and current and past WTS Board members: Paula Hammond, Susan Martinovich, Dorri Raposa, Dana Hook, Grace Crunican, and Beverly Scott.

The conference was attended by more than 180 transportation professionals from all levels and modes of transportation. Congratulations to the WTS Northwest Region Council on the success of their first Regional conference.

Regional Council Representatives

Theresa Carr, as WTS Portland's Past President, was Portland's representative to the NW Regional Council. Other representatives included: Tiffany Jackson (WTS International staff), Paula Hammond (Puget Sound, WTS International Board member), Danielle Smith (Colorado), Elizabeth Faulkner (Puget Sound), Tracy Ellwein (Treasure Valley), Teresa Brewer (Alaska), and Helen Peters (Utah).



Mentoring

The WTS Portland Chapter 2016 Mentoring Program had strong participation with 60 participants in 30 mentoring pairs. Program participants were able to meet one another at a happy hour in October, 2015 at Saucebox. Mentees completed an application stating what they'd like out of a mentor, and the program organizers established pairs based on mutual interests. A mentoring kick-off was held in November, where the relationships were chartered and participants discussed what kind of industry knowledge they would like to seek and pass on through mentoring. The program had a range of participants, from recent graduating students to those in management and executive management. We had participants from Vancouver, the Portland region, and Salem, representing engineering, planning, and public involvement.

In the spring of 2016, a panel of mentors—Frank Angelo, Principal at Angelo Planning Group; Chris Deffebach, Policy Analyst with Washington County; and Kirsten Pennington, Director of Planning, CH2M—addressed the program participants. Sumi Malik moderated the session, asking panelists questions based on some of the tougher situations mentoring pairs faced, such as how to negotiate pay with a new job, how to you start a job search, while in a current job, including asking for references.

The 2017 Mentoring Program kicked off in November, 2016 with a happy hour for mentees to mix and mingle with mentors. Shortly following, this year's 23 mentees were paired with mentors and attended a kickoff event together in December. The Mentor Committee will check in with mentoring pairs over the year, plan a happy hour event for Salem-area participants, and host a panel discussion in June and closing session in October to ensure that pairs are engaged in their relationships throughout the upcoming year.

Key Volunteer: Matt Hastie

Incoming Chair: Hannah Quinsey

Mentors

Bridget Weighart, PB
Mia Birk
Shelley Devine, TriMet
Joanna Valencia, Multnomah County
Margi Bradway, PBOT
Jamie Snook, Metro
Karyn Criswell, ODOT
Eric Hesse, TriMet
April Siebenaler, HDR
Matt Hastie, Angelo Planning Group
Courtney Duke, PBOT
Catherine Ciarlo, CH2M
Steve Dickey, Salem Keizer Transit
Heather Wills, Parametrix
Karen Schilling
Aaron Deas, TriMet
Darci Rudzinski, Angelo Planning Group
Judith Gray, PBOT
John Cullerton, Parametrix
Shelia Lyons, ODOT
Mandy Putney, ODOT
Tara Weidner, ODOT

Mentees

Tamara Grenwell, WSDOT
Heidi Beierle, Enroute Transport
Brian Ross, CH2M
Belen Herrera, PBOT
Molly McCormick, Kittleson & Associates
Brittany Cowgill, Parametrix
Colleen Mosser, PBOT
Rachel Braun, OHSU
Scott Bucklin, CH2M
Kelly Hawley, ODOT
Nathan Jones, TriMet
Jenny Cadigan, OHSU
Shabina Sharrieff, TriMet/PSU Student
Alex Phillips, ODOT
Lisa Patterson, PSU
Amy Jones, OBEC
Shoshana Coehn, PBOT
Kristine Connolly, Kittelson and Associates
Eileen Cunningham, Multnomah County
Jamin Kimmell, Angelo Planning Group
Lacy Brown, PE, PhD, DKS
Josie Langhorst, Port of Portland
Rachel Vogt, DKS Associates

Awards

Knowing women are underrepresented in the transportation industry, WTS furthers its mission of advancing women by recognizing the achievements of its members and women in transportation in general. Every year, the Portland Chapter recognizes women, employers, and projects that have demonstrated in many ways extraordinary leadership in the transportation industry in Oregon and southwest Washington. These award winners were celebrated at WTS's annual Spring Awards event on June 2, 2016 at the Benson Crystal Ballroom. The Innovative Transportation Solution (Project of the Year) award was recognized at the Winter Gala on February 7, 2017 at the Embassy Suites.

Volunteer Awards Committee We wish to thank the following members of the selection committee for their time to review the applications: Steve Litchfield, Heather Catron, Lacey Hammond, and Stacey Thomas.

Woman of the Year: Karen Schilling

Woman of the Year honors a woman who is an outstanding role model and has contributed to the advancement of women and minorities in transportation.

Everyone in Portland/Vancouver transportation industry – public, private and non-profit sectors, and elected officials – has benefited from Karen's leadership over the past two decades. As Planning Director for Multnomah County, an active and respected member of the regional Transportation Policy Advisory Committee, member of the WTS International Board for five years, and a long-time Board Member of the Portland WTS Chapter, Karen's influence has stretched internationally as well as impacting the local transportation landscape.



For over 20 years, Karen worked for Multnomah County, starting as a Bicycle/Pedestrian Planner and ending her career at the county as the Director of the Land Use and Transportation Planning Division. One of Karen's primary roles at the county was to help secure funding for the County's transportation infrastructure. In this role, she helped secure funding for numerous road projects in East County, including the 223rd Ave Railroad Undercrossing, and for a range of projects benefiting five of the six Willamette River bridges, including replacement of the Sauvie Island and Sellwood bridges. Karen was also instrumental in the development of key transportation policy documents including the County's Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Instrumental in bringing the WTS Conference to Portland in 2014 (and serving as Conference Chair), Karen has helped to raise the profile of the Portland metropolitan area as a region not only progressive in transportation, but progressive in the way in which transportation leaders collaborate and partner. While President of WTS Portland, Karen helped spearhead a corporate sponsorship program for the chapter, greatly increasing the revenue available to offer programs, services and scholarship to our community. With others, she also helped launch the Chapter's first leadership scholarship program. This program has impacted the lives of many women in the Portland chapter since its inception. Karen's involvement at a very high level in the WTS International – serving as WTS International President, and on the International Board – saw an increase in WTS membership, linkages between WTS and Washington D.C. decision makers, and appointment of women to key roles at the federal, regional and local levels.

Innovative Transportation Solution Award: Oregon Department of Transportation's Columbia Gorge Express,

Project of the Year celebrates a woman-led initiative, project or policy that solves a problem or meets a need through innovation.

The Columbia Gorge Express was initiated as a pilot to provide transit access between east Portland and Multnomah Falls. This project is remarkable because the team went from beginning the planning process in Nov. 2015 to first day of service on May 27, 2016. The success was a result of strong partnerships that ODOT has with partners at USDA Forest Service, Western Federal Lands Highway Division, FHWA, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, TriMet, Travel Oregon, Travel Portland, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, Hood River County Transportation District, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, and Friends of Multnomah Falls.

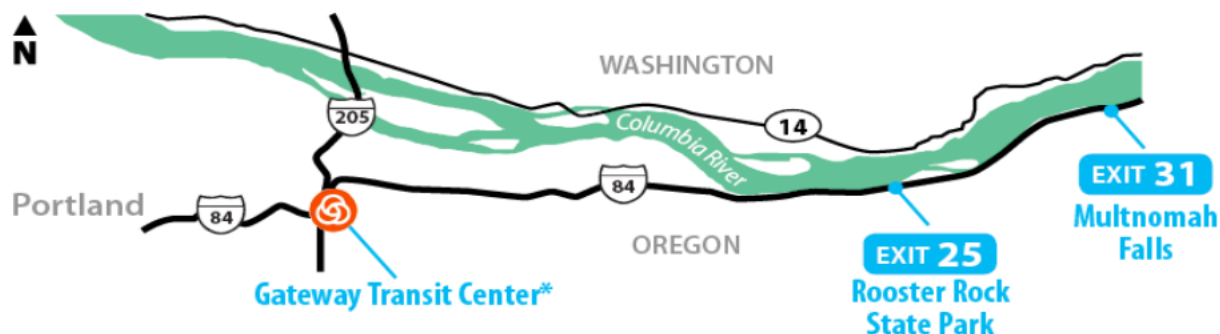


Pilot service started Memorial Day weekend and lasted through September. Buses operated Friday-Sunday and federal holidays providing nearly 30,000 trips to and from Multnomah Falls.

Kristen Stallman, ODOT's Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Coordinator, led the planning effort to initiate the project, managing consultant contracts, personally engaging stakeholders so they were aware of the project, and was on the ground during the opening weekends talking with riders problem-solving.

Karyn Criswell, ODOT's Regional Transit Coordinator, worked the transit side to secure vendor contracts, troubleshoot and remove barriers to getting the service launched, led the communications and outreach for the service itself and was on the ground during opening weekends talking with riders and problem-solving.

The project achieved its purpose because it fulfilled a desperate need in the Columbia Gorge. Designated as one of Oregon's seven wonders, the Columbia Gorge and its beauty is a place where locals and visitors will continue to visit. Through the leadership of Kristen and Karyn, there is now an easy alternative to driving that continues to support the Oregon economy through tourism and visitation to the beauty of our state.



* Follow wayfinding signs from the transit center to the Columbia Gorge Express bus stop, located at the corner of NE 99th Ave and NE Pacific St.

Member of the Year: Courtney Duke

Member of the Year recognizes a WTS member who has made extraordinary contributions to the success of the organization.

A WTS member for more than 15 years, Courtney has consistently volunteered her time to help the organization and encouraged many young women new to the transportation industry to join WTS. She has served on the Events Committee, on the International Membership Committee, and as the Communications Committee Chair. In 2014, when the Annual Conference was in Portland, she was instrumental in the Portland Bureau of Transportation's (PBOT) decision to be a sponsor and exhibitor. More recently, Courtney has been responsible for garnering PBOT's support for 4-10 employees to attend each of the WTS luncheons. She encourages PBOT staff and interns to join WTS, attend events, participate in the mentor program and apply for scholarships.



During her 10-year tenure at PBOT, she has supervised and mentored interns and countless staff in various stages of their career. Courtney is a champion of women in transportation, serves on the Executive Committee of Diverse and Empowered Employees of Portland, co-founder and current board member of PDX CityMamas working mom's support and affinity group, volunteers as the Bike and Walk Coordinator for the Markham Elementary PTA and is the founder of Run Mama Run. Her numerous community activities strengthen her involvement with WTS, just as her deep history with WTS benefits these other organizations.

New Voice: Hannah Crum

New Voice recognizes an active WTS member who has been out of school and in a career track for fewer than five years and shows promise in making a contribution to the transportation industry.

Hannah graduated from the University of Oregon in 2013 with a focus on Geography and Planning, Public Policy, and Management. She developed an interest in travel options and transportation demand management while working on Safe Routes to School, open streets and public outreach projects as an intern for the cities of Eugene, Springfield and Wilsonville. After graduating, Hannah joined Alta Planning + Design as a Programs Planner. She now regularly manages multiple staff and clients through materials development processes, trains and supervises Outreach Ambassadors on different projects, and has started managing her own projects.



Hannah participated in the 2015 WTS Portland Leadership for Emerging and Advancing Professionals Program, managed Luncheon volunteers and currently serves as the WTS Portland Membership Chair.

A colleague says that "her heart is in the work we do" and new WTS Portland members have a great deal of appreciation for the warm welcome she provides. She is already making important contributions to the WTS Portland Chapter and the transportation industry and she's only getting started.

Employer of the Year: Portland Bureau of Transportation

Employer of the Year honors an organization (company, non-profit, association or government agency) for recruiting, retaining and advancing women.



Director Leah Treat and PBOT staff joined WTS at the Spring Awards event.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is a community partner shaping a livable city. It plans, builds, manages and maintains an effective and safe transportation system that provides people and businesses access and mobility. Portland's transportation system is a nearly \$10 billion investment in infrastructure assets from streets and structures to traffic signals and street lights that facilitate the movement of people, goods and services within Portland. Through planning and constructing solutions to meet the demands of a growing city and region, while maintaining economic vitality and neighborhood character, Portland stands as a national leader in innovative transportation solutions.

Since PBOT's inception under the first Director, Felicia Trader, women have been found in leadership positions at all levels of the organization. The current Director, Leah Treat, joined the bureau in July 2013 and since then she has spearheaded a number of significant new initiatives including Vision Zero, BIKETOWN Bike Share, US DOT Smart City Challenge, and Portland Progress, as a two-year work plan for the bureau with key performance measures.

Reporting directly to Leah is a team of nine managers that oversee PBOT's programs, projects, services and funding. Nearly half of these positions are held by women. PBOT also has a number of women serving as Division Managers (Maintenance Construction and Operations, Active Transportation and Safety, Streetcar and Transit Partnerships, and Parking Operations). In addition, several women engineers and planners serve in senior management roles. Women are frequently planning, managing and implementing the major initiatives that continue to move the organization forward as transportation innovators, problem solvers and thought leaders.

Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award: MultiCultural Collaborative (MCC)

The Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership award honors an individual, group, or organization that has made significant contributions in promoting diversity and cultural awareness within their organization, the transportation industry, or in a project or activity that supports the goals and mission of WTS.

MCC's organizational mission is to bring together a multicultural team of professionals to help build capacity in institutions, empower communities of color by having a voice in policy and decision making, and assist in strengthening emerging markets in local economies.



**MultiCultural
Collaborative**

Founded by Anita Yap in 2013, partners Tony DeFalco, Emily Hull Bower, Roberto Jiminez and Therese McLain, MCC is majority woman owned. MCC principals envision a future where everyone has access to opportunities necessary to satisfy their essential needs, advance their well-being, and achieve their full potential. MCC continues to pioneer innovative and cutting edge community engagement strategies in the Portland region.

By not only using a racial equity lens, but building on relationships, trust and a multicultural focus, MCC has successfully executed several projects that further the goals and mission of WTS, including a community liaison program for the Powell Division project. This project was one of the largest community engagement efforts in recent years. By coordinating multi-jurisdictional efforts, MCC and Cogan Owens Greene provided community Engagement Liaisons an opportunity to fully engage and show the full strength of our diverse communities as input was needed on the Powell Division project.

Working with more than 10 communities, including Native American, Chinese, Tongan, Bhutanese, Vietnamese, Latino, African American, African immigrants, people with disabilities and Russian speaking, the project team delivered early then refined guidance on location, timing and associated attributes for success associated with the project.

Anita Yap and Emily Hull accepted the Rosa Parks Diversity Award on behalf of the MultiCultural Collaborative.



President's Award: Sumi Malik and Matt Hastie

Every year, the Portland Chapter President honors a member or organization that has contributed significantly to the Portland Chapter's events, mission, and/or members. This year, Susie Wright chose to honor Sumi Malik, CH2M, and Matt Hastie, Angelo Planning Group, for their efforts on the 2015 reinvigorating of the mentorship program. Sumi served as the Mentorship Chair and Matt served as her key volunteer. Sumi and Matt reinvigorated the mentorship program and achieved record participation with 60 participants in 30 mentoring pairs thanks to their efforts recruiting mentors and mentees.



2016 Scholarship Awards

WTS Portland has been providing scholarships for the past 20 years to women who are pursuing their education in transportation related fields. Part of the WTS goal of fostering the development of women in the transportation field can be realized by encouraging bright new professionals to undertake careers in the area of transportation. The awards are more than money to help pay for college: they provide freedom to explore additional educational opportunities, and to spend more time on studies with less worries about how to support oneself while in school. They help highlight these women while providing an introduction to the robust network of transportation professionals in our growing chapter who are the vital shapers of our industry.

This year, we received a total of 18 applicants. We awarded \$17,000 in scholarships at our 2016 Winter Gala held on February 7, 2017 including the following;

- Transportation YOU Scholarship (\$1,000) to Hailey Diment, from Columbia River High School in Vancouver, Washington;
- Jr. College/Trade School Scholarship (\$1,000) to Jenavee Milkovich from Linn Benton Community College
- Sharon D. Banks undergraduate award (\$3,500) to OIT student Jordan Preston;
- Helene M. Overly Graduate Scholarship (\$3,500) to PSU student Belen Herrera;
- Leadership Legacy Graduate Scholarship (\$3,500) to Kamilah Buker from OSU;
- and the Gail Achterman Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates and Graduates (\$5,400) given to OIT student Gwendoline Jones, which is our highest award, funded entirely from the generous contributions of attendees at our Spring and Winter events.

We congratulate the 2016 scholarship winners! They all had very impressive resumes as well as a demonstrated passion for working in the field of transportation. WTS Portland is proud to help support the next generation of transportation professionals!

Scholarship Committee Volunteers

Thank you also to our amazing volunteers! The 2016 WTS Portland Scholarship Committee included Jennifer Chariarse (Scholarship Chair), Lidwien Rahman (a former scholarship chair), Heidi Beierle, Francesca Patricolo, and Heather Catron.

Transportation YOU Scholarship

Haley Diment



The \$1000 Transportation YOU scholarship, part of the WTS response for the federal call to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) careers, was awarded to Haley Diment from Columbia River High School in Vancouver, Washington. Haley is a student in the International Baccalaureate Program and is a member of the National Honors Society, Key Club and is a track and field athlete. She is also very active in her community and has been working in a program at her school that has helped raise over \$100,000 for Doernbecher Children's Hospital. Haley endured serious health issues early in her adolescence and that has given her a drive to find an

occupation that will allow her to help others. She is specifically interested in the fields of engineering and medicine. Haley will attend the University of Portland in the fall of 2017, and she has been accepted into the electrical engineering program.

Jr. College / Trade School Scholarship

Jenavee Milkovich



This was the inaugural year for the Jr. College / Trade School Scholarship and WTS Portland awarded the scholarship to Jenavee Milkovich, a first-year student at Linn Benton Community College. Jenavee is studying Heavy Equipment / Diesel Technology with a goal of graduating from the program in spring of 2018. She is an active member of her community, participating as a Chapter Officer in the local Future Farmers of America Chapter for the past four years, was a member of the National Honor Society and was involved as a student assistant for her high school's athletic teams. Jenavee hopes to apply her knowledge of diesel mechanics working on heavy equipment such as construction and farming equipment. She has a goal to one day open up her own diesel shop and be able to offer affordable repair and maintenance in her rural hometown.

Sharon D. Banks Scholarship

Jordan Preston



The Sharon D. Banks undergraduate \$3500 scholarship winner was awarded to Jordan Preston, an OIT civil engineering student with a minor in GIS. Jordan is also planning to pursue her graduate studies at OIT. Her love of engineering was sparked by her dad, who has worked as an engineer with WSDOT's South Central Region and was also an OIT graduate. Jordan's Graduate project is focused on developing a Safe Routes to School Program for Klamath Falls in conjunction with efforts by the Blue Zones Project. She is also working on an NITC Grant titled "Instructional Modules for Obtaining Vehicle Dynamics Data with Smartphone Sensors" with Dr. Roger Lindgren and Dr. C.J. Riley as the lead research assistant. Jordan already has a lot of on-

the job experience, having interned with WSDOT for a total of 45 months, with two summers in Design, one summer in Construction, and the remaining time working in Program Management. Jordan is also an active member of her community, she is the President of the OIT Student Chapter of ITE, a teaching assisting in a Traffic Engineering class, and is a group leader at her church.

Helene M. Overly Scholarship

Belen Herrera



Helene M. Overly Graduate Scholarship \$3,500 was awarded to PSU student Belen Herrera. She is a second year graduate student at Portland State University, enrolled in the Masters of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) program. Belen's past studies in Urban Planning led to a strong interest in the transportation planning field. She has experience working for a non-profit

organization, The Transit Coalition of Sylmar in Los Angeles, and a private company, TranSystems in Long Beach, California. She is an advocate for equitable access to public transit, especially for low income communities and those with disabilities. Belen currently works as an intern for the Portland Bureau of Transportation working on a variety of projects. She has been working on updating the language and format for the Curb Ramps by Request program and has contributed to updating the Transportation System Plan (TSP) policy language.

Leadership Legacy Scholarship

Kamilah Buker



Leadership Legacy Graduate Scholarship \$3,500 was awarded to OSU student, Kamilah Buker. She is a graduate student working towards the completion of her Masters of Science degree in Civil Engineering at Oregon State University. Kamilah's research focuses on developing an understanding of the safety and operational implications of using Flashing Yellow Arrows to indicate a permitted right-turn. Another project she is involved in includes the incorporation of inductive and interactive learning approaches in courses that include transportation geotechnics content through the use of Desktop Learning Modules. Kamilah is active in school groups, including acting as the Vice Present of the American Rail Railway Engineering, and being a member of ITE, WTS and ASCE. Outside of academia, Kamilah enjoys running half marathons, hiking, and spending time with friends and family.

Gail Achterman Scholarship

Gwendoline Jones



The Gail Achterman Scholarship, the Portland Chapter's highest award, is for an undergraduate or graduate student. This scholarship is honoring the memory of Gail Achterman, and her long service to transportation in Oregon, with emphasis on leadership and risk taking. This year the scholarship was awarded to OIT student Gwendoline Jones. Gwen is an OIT student pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. She has a strong passion for bridges and hopes to one day work as an engineer for ODOT. Gwen is a non-traditional student, having returned to school after nearly 8 years of working in retail and customer service.

Gwen decided to return to school because she wanted to pursue her dream of becoming an engineer that was sparked during a tour of Washington DC with one of the area's civil engineers. During the tour, she learned about how many of the buildings and bridges were designed and built. While that dream of becoming an engineer never went away, life sometimes takes you on a detour, and you find you have to work even harder to make your dreams a reality.

While Gwen is a full-time student, she is also a full-time mom to a 13-year old son who already dreams of becoming an engineer himself, and a 1-year old daughter. Gwen is so completely dedicated to making a better life for herself and her family, that she commutes 160 miles each day to attend her classes at OIT. An instructor even pointed out that Gwen has rarely missed his 8am geology class, even though she lives nearly 2-hours away.

In the words of Matthew Sleep, one of Gwen's instructors at OIT, "she not only exceeds expectations academically, her quality of character distinguishes her as an exceptional student." He recounts a story in which, taking initiative, Gwen helped a student with a physical disability navigate a field day in Geology class at Fort Rock, Oregon, offering physical and mental assistance and never leaving the student's side throughout the day.

This is the type of person that Gwen is and speaks to her leadership abilities and the overall quality of her character. We feel Gail would similarly recognize the strength of character Gwendoline exhibits, and encourage her to follow her dreams.



Changing the Face of the Transportation Industry

Our WTS volunteers worked with Portland middle schoolers, helped with Portland State University's first National Summer Transportation Institute for high school girls, and chaperoned our WTS Transportation You Scholarship recipient to the 2016 Youth Summit in D.C. Thanks to all of our volunteers this year who brought their knowledge to tomorrow's women in transportation.

10-Week Afterschool Program

WTS led a 10-week afterschool session to share our work and careers in transportation with girls at George Middle School in North Portland. From January to March 2016, WTS volunteers led transportation-related STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities and lessons. Girls were introduced to planning, engineering, and science through bridge building, transportation safety, and travel options. The girls were chaperoned on pedestrian-oriented field trips through the neighborhood and local business district to discuss transportation issues in the community. Girls learned about the personal and academic paths that our WTS volunteers followed to their careers in transportation.

George Middle School girls in North Portland traveled to St. Johns to discuss land use and transportation projects in design, toured the neighborhood to conduct a pedestrian safety audit, explored retro-reflectivity in signs, and discussed street design and the built environment.



Summertime with Portland State University

The Transportation Research and Education Center (TREC) at Portland State University held its first National Summer Institute for high school girls this summer. WTS volunteers were happy to help. The two-week camp combined STEM-learning, career exploration, and an introduction to how transportation supports livable communities. The TREC camp connected the 22 high school participants to the many women in our region who work in transportation-related fields and encouraged the girls to consider transportation and STEM-related course work in their secondary and post-secondary education. Portland's local women in transportation served as guest speakers for the curriculum; many are WTS members. WTS volunteers also served as a review panel for the final project presentations given by the girls.

WTS is excited to see TREC continue this summer opportunity for girls in the summer of 2017.



2016 Youth Summit

WTS member Joanna Valencia and high school senior and WTS scholarship recipient Kyla D'Sa were one of 22 mentor-mentee pairs to attend the fifth annual Transportation YOU DC Youth Summit in June. The conference is a one-of-a-kind event designed to introduce, inspire, and guide girls in a future toward STEM studies and a career in the transportation industry. Joanna and Kyla spent five days meeting high-profile women in transportation, learning about academic programs across the country and career paths, meeting administrative officials, and taking behind the scenes tours of some of our nation's most important transportation agencies.

WTS member Joanna Valencia and recent high school graduate Kyla D'Sa attended the 2016 Youth Summit in Washington DC. Participants visited national monuments, major transportation infrastructure, and even the USDOT. Marcia Ferranto, past WTS President, attended the final banquet and "graduation ceremony" of the summit.

Volunteers

Our WTS volunteers step up when asked to encourage and inspire girls in the world of transportation. Many of our WTS presenters and activity leaders are repeat volunteers, but we always have room for new volunteers and new topics. Our goal is to spark interest in girls who may become future transportation professionals.

Tina Adams
Kristin Austin
Jessica Berry
Tori Brinkley
Grace Cho
Christy Darden
LeeAnne Ferguson
Dee Hidalgo
Kristen Kibler
Janis McDonald
Courtney Furman
Susan Peithman
Ashley Riehl
Colleen Smith
Amy Thomas
Joanna Valencia



Leadership Excellence and Development Program - LEAD

On October 23 and 24, 2016, WTS Portland hosted its seventh annual leadership training. This year's program, Leadership Excellence and Development (LEAD), was geared toward mid- to senior-level women in the transportation field to further their personal and professional growth. The twelve women who participated in the 2016 program, held at McMenamins Gearhart Hotel on the coast, were selected through a competitive application process.



The goal of the workshop was to develop a life plan based on professional and personal growth objectives. Participants focused on how to reach the next level of their professional growth, what to do to remain excited, satisfied, challenged, relevant, and marketable, and developed goals to help achieve their career and life plans.

Over the course of two days, participants explored concepts such as their personality type and the types of others, how different personalities react with stress and how they thrive, mindfulness and emotional intelligence, their work style and the style of others, the role of power, work-life balance, and change and accountability. They used these concepts to inform their personal vision and goals.

On Sunday evening, the LEAD participants enjoyed dinner and a panel discussion featuring Karen Schilling, formerly with Multnomah County, Chris Deffebach of Washington County, and April Siebenaler with HDR. The panelists shared tales of their varied paths to transportation careers and offered advice and guidance to participants regarding career growth, work/life balance, and generational differences in the workplace.

Participant's Experience

"It helped me think through my strengths and weaknesses as a project manager, people manager, marketer, and even in how I relate to others outside of work. I was able to identify specific areas for improvement and focus, which I translated into my annual review and goal setting for 2017."

"I really appreciated the diversity of participants. It helped me to see other perspectives and paths."

"This training has been a reflection on what I have achieved so far and what values I consider dear to me. It has opened my mind to the understanding that when your personal and professional values are aligned, you will be a more effective leader and will be proud of your work."

This training was possible due to the generous support of our corporate sponsors.



Fundraising and Sponsorship

Fundraising for the 2017 program year occurs in the fall of 2016. The 2016 target was set at \$42,000. The fundraising team came in slightly under this target, raising \$39,000. Our sponsors are critical to supporting the Portland chapter's operational expenses and the Portland Chapter scholarship fund.

Fundraising Committee Volunteers

DeeAnn Sandberg, Catherine Ciarlo, Charissa Rotramel, Heather Catron, Jason Tell, Katie Mangle, Kristin Hull, Randy McCourt, Steve Perone, Susie Wright, Wayne Bauer, KC Cooper, and Mike Baker

Thank you to all our 2017 program year sponsors.

Titanium - \$3500

CH2M
David Evans and Associates
HDR
Metro



Metro

Platinum - \$2500

DKS
HHPR
Kittelson
ODOT
Parametrix



Gold - \$1500

AECOM
PBOT
TriMet
WSP/Parsons Brinckerhoff



Silver \$750

Alta Planning + Design
Angelo Planning Group
EnviroIssues
JLA
Murray Smith
OBEC
TREC
WSDOT



Bronze \$500

All Traffic Data

Pewter \$250

Clackamas County
Washington County
CMTS
Leland Consulting
ICF



Communications

In 2016, we continued communicating with our members and others interested in the transportation field through our newsletter, weekly email and social media, including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. Our newsletters were identified as the best way to reach members and let them know about upcoming events, luncheons, and job postings. We continued to also post information about luncheons and WTS events on social media and share event photos, presentation highlights, and relevant news stories instantly with members. We continue to see a growing interest in social media as a communication tool and have 412 Twitter followers, 265 LinkedIn members and 171 people that like our Facebook page.

We encourage you to check out our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter and share relevant professional information with our LinkedIn group.

Volunteers

Courtney Duke and Sou Souvanny



2016 Financial Report

WTS Portland Chapter started the year with \$46,373 in cash and long-term savings, and at the end of the year had \$46,436; \$1750 of which was 2016 fund raising that had already been received.

Overall the chapter spent approximately \$2650 more than received making a small impact on the chapter's long-term savings and spending, much of which came from revenues earned hosting the WTS National Conference in 1996.

Of the \$41,200 received from our generous donors in our fund-raising drive for the year, one third was put into our WTS Foundation (WTSF) account for scholarships; just under \$10,000 supported our annual Leadership training, and approximately \$19,000 underwrote luncheons and events. Historically, our events have been planned so that revenues would cover costs; however, the past several years have demonstrated that underwriting events is necessary in order to maintain the quality of our event venues and food service while keeping member costs low and accessible to our entire community of professionals. Keeping costs low is one of our primary goals in order to maintain well-attended events because networking opportunities have continuously been identified as one of the most valuable benefits of membership; we continue to examine ways to balance event revenues and costs.

This year we added a junior college scholarship, and scholarships totaling \$17,900 were given to six recipients: \$12,500 of this was from chapter funds contributed to the WTSF fund; and the \$5400 Gail Achterman scholarship was funded entirely from individual donations at the 2015 Winter Gala and 2016 Spring Event.

	INCOME	EXPENSES
Corporate Sponsorship	\$41,192.40	\$504.09
Membership	6,150.00	4,485.36
Luncheons	13,615.02	22,130.60
Special Events	5,790.38	12,706.02
Professional Development		
Vancouver/Salem/Eugene Events		816.25
Mentorship		964.00
LEAD/LEAP Leadership Workshop		9,923.36
Awards and Recognition		112.52
Scholarship (\$13,750 sent to WTSF)		14,791.75
Outreach		183.60
Treasurer Administrative		2,422.91
Secretary		180.96
Chapter Leadership Training		35.00
Other		140.67
2016 TOTALS	\$66,746.80	\$69,397.09



