



Advancing Women in Transportation
Washington, DC Chapter

2005

Annual Report

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2005 Corporate Members

THE WTS-DC CHAPTER WISHES TO THANK AND EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO OUR 2005 CORPORATE MEMBERS:



WTS MISSION

OUR MISSION IS THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN IN TRANSPORTATION.

WTS-DC Diversity Statement:

WTS-DC strongly supports increasing diversity in our membership, activities, and leadership positions. WTS-DC pursues greater participation of people from varying backgrounds and support recruitment, retention and advancement of these individuals in our membership and in the transportation profession.

OFFICERS**PRESIDENT**

Jeanette Kramer

VICE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Clinger

SECRETARY

Shirley LeBeau

TREASURER

Molly Wagner

PAST PRESIDENT

Margaret Mullins

CHAIRS**CORPORATE RELATIONS**

Traceé Strum-Gilliam

DIVERSITY

Laura Trejo & Grace Waters

LEGISLATIVE

Margaret Ballard

MEMBERSHIP

Jennifer Klass

MENTORING &**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Lynne Morsen

**NEWSLETTER &
COMMUNICATIONS**

Leigh Merino

PROGRAMS

Michele Holland

RECOGNITIONS

Tonya Holland

SCHOLARSHIP

Jennifer Rephlo

Dear Members:

As I write my final letter to you in this 2005 Annual Report, I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to reflect on our Chapter's achievements this past year as well as my own progress towards personal and professional goals. When I accepted the nomination to become the 2005 WTS-DC Chapter President, I was both honored and enthusiastic, but I also knew it would be challenging and time-consuming. My main goals were to increase and diversify our membership, offer informative and appealing programs and mentor the next generation of transportation leaders. Because of a very creative, dedicated group of officers and committee chairs, we were able to:



- ◆ Expand and diversify our membership; many of our newest members are new to the area or just beginning their transportation careers;
- ◆ Host eight formal programs and in true WTS-DC tradition, these programs addressed the most timely and important infrastructure issues within our geographic base of DC, Maryland and Virginia. Not only were our formal programs well attended, but also each one was partially underwritten by a corporate sponsorship, allowing us to keep our program costs affordable for our members.
- ◆ Offer two summer tours - a boat tour and narrative on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project on a beautiful Saturday morning in July for over 80 members and guests and a presentation and tour of The Portals Project in The District in October. Again, corporate sponsorships and resources were key to make these efforts possible as well as free to members;
- ◆ Sponsor our third Mentoring Initiative Program, seven mentees and eight mentors who committed to a 9-month program (Oct-May). This year's program is geared toward solid mentor relationships as well as career enrichment and opportunity. The costs for each mentor program meeting or event is absorbed by the Chapter, which genuinely reflects our commitment to the professional development of the next generation of transportation professionals.

Although my term as WTS-DC President has concluded, I hope that there will be many opportunities for me to contribute to this Chapter and its activities. I congratulate the incoming 2006 Board and Committee Chairs and I look forward to supporting their efforts throughout the coming year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanette Kramer". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Jeanette Kramer
2005 President, WTS-DC Chapter

CORPORATE RELATIONS

WTS-DC continued to provide public and private institutions with multiple opportunities to support Chapter activities in 2005. In addition to corporate memberships and chapter programs, organizations were encouraged to support the Holiday Party, Awards Ceremony, and a Silent Auction benefiting the WTS-DC Scholarship Fund. This event, held on Dec. 7, 2005 at the Army Navy Club, was well supported and attended.

The Corporate Relations Chair continued using the recruitment materials and one-on-one meetings, and cold calls to attract and retain members. Several lunch meetings were held with a new strategy for targeting local firms that are working in the DC area. Also, the outgoing chair and the new chair had several meetings to review and update sponsor tracking sheets for the chapter.

In areas of promoting member benefits, corporate members were encouraged to take advantage of WTS-DC member rates for their representatives at monthly luncheons and/or tours. Member organizations were spotlighted with an article in the Chapter's newsletter, as well as with recognition at luncheon programs. Several corporate members took advantage of the opportunity to share publications at Chapter events and were encouraged to promote their programs in the Chapter newsletter. This year we also were able to attract two new corporate sponsors as a direct benefit of these activities: Cairo Corporation and the District Department of Transportation.

The Chapter retained ten corporate members including American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, American Public Transportation Association, Association of American Railroads, Dewberry, DMJM+Harris, HDR Engineering, Jacobs Civil Inc., Parsons Corporation, Railway Supply Institute, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

Corporate Sponsorships

The WTS-DC Chapter received several corporate sponsorships for various monthly programs. Four corporate sponsorship tiers (\$250, \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,000) are in place to help explain the different benefit levels for sponsoring a program. There is a special tier program in place to support the Holiday Program, Awards Ceremony as well as contribution opportunities for the Silent Auction, which benefits the Chapter's Scholarship Program.

This year we had the opportunity to host an array of very interesting projects and topics to the chapter and members of the transportation community. These events held throughout the year included the following programs and events:

January - "Maryland Transportation Outlook"

AMMANN & WHITNEY

March - WTS-DC
Diversity Leadership
Award Luncheon



April - WTS-DC Annual Legislative Program



May - "Airport Expansion Programs at Dulles and National Airports"

AMMANN & WHITNEY

June - "Innovative Transportation Solutions in Virginia"



July - Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project Boat Tour



September - "WTS-DC Presents Washington Post's Dr. Gridlock and WTOP's Bob Marbourg"



At the end of the year, the WTS-DC Annual Holiday Party Committee worked diligently to obtain event sponsors at various levels - gold, silver, bronze. The event was supported by Ammann & Whitney, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Raytheon, APTA, Bechtel, Dewberry, Dulles Transit Partners, DMJM Harris, Jacobs Civil Inc, Rubber Manufacturers Association, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, and the Washington Group. See page 14 for more about the holiday party.

DIVERSITY

In 2005, the Diversity Committee's first activity was to revise the Chapter's Diversity Strategic Plan - the first revision since 2003. The DC chapter regularly participated in the monthly WTS National Diversity Committee teleconferences. The primary focus of the Diversity Committee in 2005 was to increase awareness and education of diversity issues among the Chapter membership and associates through programs and by publishing articles on various cultural diversity celebrations.

In 2005, articles were drafted and included in the Chapter newsletters in recognition of Martin Luther King Birthday, and African- American, National American Indian, Asian-Pacific American, Women's and Hispanic History Months. The committee also assisted in planning the Chapter's Diversity Leadership Luncheon in March 2005. The Committee identified and invited the keynote presenter, Dr. Ruth A. David, President and CEO of ANSER. Furthermore, the co-chairs secured copies of "WOW! Quick Facts Women and Diversity" booklets from the Diversity Best Practices/Business Women's Network (DBP/BWN). These booklets were distributed to program guests, at no cost to the organization.



WTS-DC Diversity Leadership Award Luncheon
 From left to right: Bea Hicks (WMATA), William Millar (APTA), Linda Washington (USDOT), Dr. Ruth David (ANSER), Jeanette Kramer (Dewberry), and Richard White (WMATA).

Further, the committee was integral in securing the newly appointed Federal Railroad Administrator Joseph Boardman, to speak at the Chapter's October program. Also, the committee assisted the Mentoring Program chair to identify a presenter for the program's kick-off ceremony, Dr. Michael Doyle, Professor at the U.S. Naval Academy. The committee was represented at the 2005 WTS Annual Conference in Phoenix, Ariz., including the inaugural Cultural Diversity Fair. Mentoring, networking with other WTS diversity committee representatives and information on federal transportation employment opportunities was promoted during the conference.

JOB BANK

The WTS Job Bank continues to be a resource for WTS-DC Chapter members who are in the job market. The DC Chapter Job Bank, which is linked to the full WTS International Job Bank, is updated regularly with listings from throughout the world and also includes the new Toolkit. The Job Bank Toolkit is one of the newest additions to WTS International's website. It is exclusively for WTS members and contains advice, news and a connection to CareerBuilder.com. It is a resource for posting and accessing job opportunities regionally, nationally and internationally through our network of chapters worldwide. A WTS International Board position was created this year in connection with the new Toolkit.

LEGISLATIVE

The year 2005 saw considerable drama, delay, excitement, and final passage of important SAFETEA-LU legislation. The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), was passed as Public Law 109-59. It is the legislation that authorizes the six-year transportation program for the country. During the SAFETEA-LU conference, the Legislative Chair provided brief articles titled "Reading The Tea Leaves" in several chapter newsletters. These "tea leaves" could not quite anticipate the various delays! Several pieces of continuing legislation allowed the federal transportation program to limp along while Congress continued to decide what to do. The House finally passed its measure for the 6-year program on March 10, while the Senate passed its version on May 17. The joint Conference Committee worked out negotiations leading up to the ultimate passage in July at \$286.4 billion.

Not only did the House (\$284 billion) and the Senate (\$295 billion) offer and debate considerably different packages, the Bush Administration clearly and regularly signaled its intent to veto any proposal in excess of \$284 million. That limit notwithstanding, the President signed the bill.

WTS-DC sponsored its annual Legislative Update on April 17. Two Congressional committee staff members provided engaging presentations. Jim Tymon, staff with the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee spoke on the diverse issues surrounding the then-recently passed the House bill (HR-3). He particularly noted concerns related to donor/donee states, and transit and maintenance funding. John Fischer, a long-time transportation specialist with the Congressional Research Service, spoke on some of the longer range issues relating to the continuation of transportation funding. Questions from the audience provoked lively and thoughtful discussion! The Legislative Committee appreciates the gracious sponsorship for that event by Public Transportation Partnership for Tomorrow, Dulles Transit Engineers, JV; the venue was compliments of the American Trucking Associations.



Audience listens to latest Hill activity at the annual WTS-DC Legislative Program.

For highways, transit, Amtrak, and other transportation infrastructure and services, expectation for sustaining the 2006 level of spending is slim, without additional revenue sources. As a case in point, in 2005, gasoline tax receipts dropped, while gasoline prices dramatically increased. This was due to two things: 1) Federal and most state gasoline taxes are pegged to a number not a percentage, and 2) Americans generally drove less or switched to more gas-efficient automobiles.

Not only did this spell less revenue, but also construction costs jumped as prices for diesel fuel, cement, steel, asphalt jumped. If you were looking for an example of "double-whammy," you just read it! This lower-revenue/higher-cost paradox will be an additional challenge to many transportation agencies and services. WTS-DC provided an example letter for member to send to their Federal and State representatives requesting protection of the taxes on gasoline and diesel fuels for their designated transportation purposes.

MEMBERSHIP

As of December 2005, the total membership for the Chapter was 283 members. The Chapter had 65 new members for the year. To recognize WTS DC members, a successful Members Appreciation Event was this year. The Chapter arranged a guided tour of "The Portals" project, which is a three-phase, center-city office and hotel development site in the District of Columbia costing about \$190 million. Geoff Azaroff, the Portals Project Manager and Steve Curtis, Dewberry Project Manager exposed the members to the finished elements of the project.

Other membership efforts focused on retention and recruitment activities. Retention efforts consisted of the annual renewal call campaign. The Board made courtesy calls to remind members about renewing their memberships. In addition to this, the Chair participated in the National monthly membership calls.

The Job Bank Chair assisted in organizing a couple of WTS-DC Networking Happy Hours at local DC venues. The first was held in August at Ortanique and the second was held in December at Morton's. These events are a casual way for members to socialize, introduce prospective members to others, and, most importantly, network. The Chapter will continue to offer these networking opportunities in 2006 as an informal way for members and prospective members to get together.

NEWSLETTER & COMMUNICATIONS

Under the direction of a new chair, the WTS-DC newsletter took on a new format and publication schedule. The role of the newsletter chair was more one of an editor and worked with a layout graphic designer to develop each newsletter. Dewberry, a WTS-DC corporate member, generously provided their own time and resources of one of their graphic designers as an in-kind contribution to the Chapter.

Going to a publication schedule of six issues per year gave the Chapter more flexibility to have more substantive articles, themes, and features. While the newsletter has been in electronic format for the past few years, distributing the



newsletter as an e-mail attachment was getting problematic. In 2005, the newsletter chair began distributing the newsletter exclusively via broadcast e-mail and incorporated a direct online link in the body of the e-mail. The link goes directly to the WTS International website's DC Chapter newsletter page. Here members can view, download and print a PDF version of the latest newsletter. Approximately a year's worth of back issues are also posted online for reference. In 2005, the Chapter produced a special, year-end edition to specifically highlight the successful 2005 Annual Holiday Party, Awards Ceremony and Silent Auction.

The primary method of Chapter communication continues to be broadcast e-mail messages for upcoming programs and events. These messages are also typically sent to our prospective member list. The WTS International website is another avenue for communication and the chair continually updated the DC Chapter online "News and Events" pages throughout the year. Additionally, member broadcast e-mails and newsletters began to incorporate information about other related transportation groups' events and programs in newsletter/e-mail features such as "For Your Information" or "Save the Date".

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & MENTORING PROGRAM

In 2005, the annual Mentoring Program was set up to run from October through May. The mentoring program began with a unique professional development opportunity as seven mentor-mentee pairs met at the "Meet Your Match" event. Brad Johnson, Ph.D., author of *The Elements of Mentoring*, served as guest speaker and facilitator as the pairs discussed their personality traits, communications styles, career/family



2005-06 Mentor Program - "Meet Your Match Night"

Seated left to right: Jeanette Kramer, Lynne Morsen, Shana Johnson
Standing left to right: Diane Bowman, Erin Morrow, Janet Myers,
Brad Johnson, Ph.D., Susan Perry, Lindsey Alden, Rosemary Covington,
Rich Weaver, Melinda Zwolinski, Marlys Osterhues, Art Guzzetti

balance, and ideal career trajectory. Pairs chose each other - the process was less formal than in past programs, which allows the pairs to develop their mentor relationship in a way that best suits them. With mentees names listed first, the pairs in the 2005-06 program are:

- ♦ Lindsey Alden and Susan Perry
- ♦ Diane Bowman and Rosemary Covington
- ♦ Anya Graves and Art Guzzetti, Laurence Bory
- ♦ Shana Johnson and Rich Weaver
- ♦ Erin Morrow and Greer Gillis
- ♦ Marlys Osterhues and Regina McElroy
- ♦ Melinda Zwolinski and Melissa Loughlin

Experience shows that the successful, personal relationship is confidential, collaborative, respectful, open, and built on trust. The pairs have the potential to establish invaluable, lifelong contacts.

Plans were in place for early 2006 to host a "Leadership Night", where the discussion will center on two leadership videos on radiating possibilities by Benjamin Zander, director of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, and his wife, Roz Zander, an executive coach. The mentoring program will "graduate" its participants in May of 2006.

PROGRAMS

During 2005, the Chapter held seven Luncheon Programs and two Networking Happy Hours for members and guests in 2005. In July, the Chapter chartered a boat tour of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. Additionally, in October the chapter hosted a members only tour of "The Portals Project" and our 2004-05 Scholarship recipients presented their scholastic work at a "brown bag" lunch. The Chapter's final event in 2005 was the Dec. 7 Annual Holiday Party, Awards Ceremony and Silent Auction.

The Chapter began a Programs Task Force led by Jennifer Clinger, Chapter Vice President, which met to brainstorm program ideas for the year, draft the calendar, and strategically target corporate sponsorships for the programs. This approach successfully identified a variety of programs focusing on different transportation modes with broad appeal. Individual members of the Task Force championed a program, and every one received sponsorship.

January

“Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project: Public-Private Partnerships At Work in Virginia” - Approximately 65 WTS members and guests attended the first luncheon program of 2005 on January 24. The program featured Sam Carnaggio, Director for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project for the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), who updated us on this project and the public-private partnership being used to implement it.

February

“Maryland Transportation Outlook” - Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator of the Maryland Department of Transportation’s State Highway Administration, was our distinguished speaker on Feb. 25. Speaking to over 50 WTS members and guests, Mr. Pedersen discussed such issues as safety, the Intercounty Connector (ICC), and the challenges in funding “mega-projects”.



MDOT-SHA Administrator
Neil Pedersen with WTS-DC
President Jeanette Kramer.

March

“WTS-DC Diversity Award Luncheon” - On Mar. 30, WTS-DC honored the American Public Transit Administration (APTA), which was the Chapter’s nominee for the first WTS International Diversity Leadership Award in 2005. WMATA’s General Manager Richard White presented the award to APTA President and CEO William Millar. Furthermore, two WTS members were also recognized for their efforts in advancing diversity - Linda Washington, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration at the USDOT and Bea Hicks, Chief Operations Liaison for WMATA. Keynote speaker Dr. Ruth David, President and CEO of ANSER Corporation, addressed over 50 members and guests. ANSER is an independent not-for-profit public service research institution that provides analytic on support national and transnational issues.



APTA President & CEO
William Millar accepts the
WTS-DC 2005 Diversity
Leadership Award from
WMATA General Manager
Richard White.

April

“Legislative Reception on Capitol Hill” - The Chapter’s annual legislative event was held as a reception this year at the American Trucking Associations’ Capitol Hill office. An intimate crowd of about 30 attendees listened to guest speakers from the Hill talk about pending issues relative to the then-pending transportation bill - SAFETEA-LU. Jim Tymon, staff member of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and John Fischer, a long-time transportation specialist with the Congressional Research Service, were our guest speakers. The lively and thoughtful “Q&A” session between the speakers and the audience emphasized the value of this annual program.

Also in April, the Scholarship Committee held a fundraiser at the Washington Mystics basketball game (see Scholarship report for details).

May

“Airport Expansion Programs at Dulles and National Airports: What’s Waiting in the Wings?” - The May 17 luncheon featured James Bennett, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWA). Speaking to over 50 WTS members and guests, Mr. Bennett provided a thorough overview of the airport expansion programs at the Washington Dulles International and Ronald Reagan Washington National airports.



James Bennett,
President and CEO of MWA

June

“Innovative Transportation Solutions for Virginia” - On June 22, Pierce Homer, Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Virginia, discussed several transportation initiatives underway in Virginia, including programs



WTS-DC members have a few moments
to chat with VDOT Secretary
Pierce Homer before the program.

to attract private investment in Virginia's transportation infrastructure, to improve mobility and air quality in urban areas, and to create stronger partnerships in the delivery of rail, transit, and local government services. This program, which was held in Arlington, Va., attracted over 60 attendees.

July

"Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project Boat Tour" - On a brilliant Saturday in late July, WTS-DC members Norrine Walker and Michelle Holland led over eighty members and guests on a fantastic, free-to-members boat tour of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. This was a unique opportunity for spectators on the tour to witness the bridge construction project up close and personal.



September

"WTS-DC Presents Dr. Gridlock and Bob Marbourg" - This Sept. 21 program featured two of the region's well-known advocates and for the transportation user -- Ron Schaffer, a.k.a. "Dr. Gridlock" from The Washington Post, and Bob Marbourg, WTOP traffic reporter. More than 50 WTS members and guests heard our panelists' remarks about hot transportation topics in the DC Metro area. Our speakers also indulged the audience in an active Q&A session about issues like the coordination of land development and transportation infrastructure, the ICC, and the need for local commuters to advocate better investments in the region's infrastructure.



Bob Marbourg (left)
and Ron Schaffer (right)

October

On Oct. 6, WTS-DC hosted a members-only, guided tour of "The Portals Project", a massive three-phase, center-city office and hotel development



site in the District of Columbia. Tour guides Geoff Azaroff, Portals Project Manager, and Steve Curtis, Dewberry Project Manager, gave a brief presentation of the project and then showed everyone the finished elements of this project from a "bird's eye" view.

Joseph H. Boardman, Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) was our guest speaker at our Oct. 25 program was at the Army and Navy Club at Farragut Square. WTS-DC member Karen Bourlag-Phillips, with Canadian National Railway, introduced the Administrator. In his remarks, Boardman outlined the FRA's focus on safety and security; 80 members and guests were present.



Joseph H. Boardman
FRA Administrator

Also in October, our 2004-05 WTS-DC Scholarship recipients presented their work at a casual "brown bag" lunch event. More details can be found in the Scholarship Committee report.

December

On Dec. 7 the Annual Holiday Party, Award Ceremony and Silent Auction was held at the Army and Navy Club, with over 110 Chapter members and guests attending. For details, please see page 14.

RECOGNITIONS

In early 2005, the Chapter Recognitions chair submitted our Chapter's 2004 award winners as nominees for the WTS International recognitions awards in the same categories (February 2005). In the fall, the chair solicited nominations for the 2005 Chapter recognitions awards and conducted the evaluation and selection of the award winners by the Chapter Board. In November, the chair administered the Board election ballots for the 2006 elected officers. Lastly, the Recognitions Chair presented the awards at the 2005 Annual Holiday Party.

During the late summer, work began to solicit nominations for the 2005 recognitions awards. We placed articles and reminders in the Chapter newsletter, made announcements and utilized our blast communications technology to get the word out about recognitions and urge Chapter members to submit nominations. Our efforts paid off. This year we were fortunate to receive strong nominations in each of our four

awards categories - Woman of the Year, Member of the Year, Employer of the Year, and the Diversity Leadership Award - and the Chapter was able to honor award recipients in each of these categories. We are happy with the success of the Diversity Leadership Award, which is only in its second year. The award was implemented in 2004 to specifically recognize individuals or organizations that do an exemplary job in their recognition and promotion of diversity in the transportation industry. This award would go above and beyond the Employer of the Year award, which does include diversity issues as one of the award criteria.

In March, the Recognitions Committee teamed up with the Diversity Committee to coordinate a luncheon to acknowledge and honor the WTS-DC Chapter 2004 diversity award winner - APTA - and other honorees - Linda Washington (USDOT) and Bea Hicks (WMATA). The diversity program also featured keynote speaker Dr. Ruth A. David, President and CEO of ANSER Corporation.

In December, the annual Holiday Party and Awards Ceremony, the Chapter officially recognized the our award winners. Please see page 14 for more event details. The 2005 award winners were as follows:

Member of the Year

Sherry Ways is a Transportation Planner with the Federal Highway Administration, where she manages the coordination on transportation planning capacity building, training, and safety in planning, bicycle and pedestrian issues, research and land use planning and analysis. Sherry has earned the honor of the WTS-DC Chapter Member of the Year Award for her outstanding job of expanding the DC Chapter through her initiatives in support of diversity. Sherry has supported WTS' commitment to diversity as a former Chair of the DC Chapter Diversity Committee, where she developed the chapter's first strategic plan for diversity. Sherry has been extremely active as the current WTS International Diversity Co-Chair where she has led numerous initiatives in support of diversity, including the first diversity fair at the 2005 WTS National Conference and a comprehensive update of the WTS Diversity Manual. Currently, Sherry is spearheading efforts to include diversity as part of the WTS Chapter Leadership Training and to include diversity content on the WTS web site. Sherry has promoted WTS membership to friends and professional col-



From left to right:
2005 WTS-DC Chapter Award Winners
Linda J. Washington, Diana Mendes, Ronald L. Ewing, and Sherry Ways

leagues and has made new members welcome with her warmth, enthusiasm, and support of diversity.

Woman of the Year

Diana Mendes, AICP, is a Senior Vice President with DMJM Harris with over twenty years of experience working in the transit industry. She is a nationally recognized expert in transportation planning, land use, and the environmental management aspects of major transportation development projects. Diana has successfully coordinated controversial projects with government agencies, interest groups, and citizens. She is a leader in the field of environmental streamlining and stewardship, and recently developed an environmental management system to support the redevelopment of the Lower Manhattan area in the aftermath of September 11. In addition to her professional career, Diana has taken great care in helping to develop and enhance the careers of women in the industry. For those individuals that know her and have the privilege of calling her a mentor, she is always willing to take time out of her busy schedule to talk about career goals and provide advice. She is an active supporter WTS and has served as a senior advisor to the DC chapter's mentoring program.

Diversity Leadership Award

As Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration for the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Linda Washington is responsible for the delivery of centralized services to the Department's 11 operating administrations in the areas of human capital management (which includes the corporate diversity pro-

gram); security; transportation services; facilities; and procurement and grants programs. Promoting diversity awareness is Linda's life long passion. Throughout her professional career, Linda has dedicated herself to serving as a role model for women, minorities, and employees with disabilities. As a senior executive, she is a leader and a mentor to many current and potential employees from various backgrounds and abilities who seek counsel and advice on work-related goals, concerns and aspirations. She serves as vice chair of the Secretary's Diversity Advisory Council (DAC), which consists of senior executives from each of the 11 operating administrations. Under Linda's leadership, DOT has developed a comprehensive strategic planning process for implementing corporate initiatives on diversity management. In addition to ensuring that diversity policies and procedures are in place at DOT, Linda's personal dedication and commitment significantly contribute to promoting all women in the transportation industry.

Employer of the Year

Dewberry is one of the nation's leading specialists in infrastructure development, concentrating in the transportation sector. Dewberry is being recognized for its contributions to the professional development of its employees and its commitment to diversity in the transportation workforce. Dewberry has also been a strong supporter of WTS-DC through corporate sponsorship and the provision in-kind services, such as the design, layout and production of the DC Chapter newsletter, announcement boards, banners, and other marketing materials. Dewberry has sponsored several WTS-DC events such as luncheon programs featuring Pierce Homer, Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Virginia as well as Barbara Childs-Pair, the DC Emergency Office Director. Dewberry actively supports involvement in WTS by its employees, many of whom contribute time, resources, and energy to the WTS-DC Chapter. One of Dewberry's strategic goals in its five-year plan is to increase the diversity of its workforce. Dewberry will continue its mission to provide challenging opportunities to all individuals, particularly women, so that they can continue to contribute at all levels and be recognized for their contributions. Dewberry President and CEO Ronald L. Ewing, PE, LS, accepted the award on behalf of his company.

SCHOLARSHIP

The Chapter held a casual luncheon in November for the 2004-05 scholarship recipients to present on their current research. On November 1, the Chapter hosted our 5th annual Scholarship Recipients Luncheon. These "brown bag" style lunch events provide scholarship recipients an opportunity to present on their research topics to WTS members. An enthusiastic and supportive group of 16 attended the presentation. The WTS-DC undergraduate winner Sara Delmonico (*far right*) presented on her transportation-related experiences in Ecuador the previous summer,



Front Row, left to right:
Sara Delmonico, WTS-DC Scholarship Chair Jennifer Rephlo, and Gulsah Akar

while our graduate winner Gulsah Akar (*far left*) presented on her current research on transportation and energy. The program presented a great networking and presentation skills opportunity for the students and provided new insights for the attendees.

The Chair distributed scholarship applications to Washington, DC metropolitan area universities and colleges in October. The Chapter received ten graduate scholarship applications; unfortunately, no eligible undergraduate applications were submitted. The Board reviewed and evaluated the applications and awarded three scholarships this year at the graduate level. The top award went to Lichun "Lisa" Chen; secondary awards were given to Jing Dong and Stacy Eisenman. All award recipients were from the Transportation Systems Engineering Program at University of Maryland. The Board felt that all three recipients were highly qualified and displayed great commitment to the transportation field. As the top winner Chen received \$2,000; while Dong and Eisenman each received \$1,500. All three women were recognized at the Chapter's Annual Holiday Party and presented with their scholarship checks. The Chapter forwarded Chen's application on to WTS International to be considered for the Helene M. Overly Memorial graduate scholarship.

Primary Scholarship Award

Lichun “Lisa” Chen is a second year PhD student in the Transportation Systems Engineering Program at the University of Maryland. She holds B.E. and M.S. degrees in Transportation Engineering from Tsinghua University in China. She is currently performing research related to emergency preparedness and on-line evacuation of large intelligent buildings for the National Science Foundation.



Lisa Chen

Secondary Scholarship Awards

Jing Dong is in the third year of her PhD program in Transportation Systems Engineering at the University of Maryland. She holds a B.S. degree in Automation and an M.S. degree in Systems Engineering from Tsinghua University in China. She is currently developing real-time predictive information for travelers using DYNASMART-X, a real-time traffic simulation-based dynamic traffic assignment system for traffic estimation and prediction.



Jing Dong

Stacy Eisenman is a second year PhD student in the Transportation Systems Engineering Program at the University of Maryland. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Civil Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She is currently developing a mesoscopic modeling approach of traffic at roundabouts for use in the context of a large-scale network traffic simulation and dynamic assignment capability.



Stacy Eisenman

In 2005, the Chapter hosted two fundraisers for the WTS-DC Scholarship Fund. In April, members attended a Washington Wizards WNBA basketball game. A portion of the ticket proceeds were donated to the Scholarship Fund. In December, the 3rd Annual Silent Auction, which was held in conjunction with the Annual Holiday Party and Awards Ceremony, also raised money for the Scholarship Fund. Nearly 30 organizations and individuals donated gifts for the auction or made direct monetary contributions to the

Fund totaling more than \$3,200 for our scholarship fund.

WTS-DC ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY, AWARDS CEREMONY & SILENT AUCTION

As previously mentioned, this annual WTS-DC event was held on December 7 at the Army and Navy Club in Washington, DC. Over 110 WTS members and guests from all aspects of the transportation industry - government agencies, private business, trade associations, special interest groups, etc. - were in attendance.

This very special evening is an opportunity for our Chapter to recognize and honor our Member of the Year, Woman of the Year, Employer of the Year, and Diversity Leadership Award recipients. (See Recognitions report for details.) These individuals and organizations make extraordinary contributions and generously support WTS in a variety of ways. These honorees are leaders, role models, mentors, and benefactors in the expansive transportation industry. In addition to honoring our award winners, we also rec-



2005 Holiday Party attendees



ognized three graduate students as recipients of WTS-DC scholarship endowments. See the Scholarship report for details.

This year we were fortunate to have the support of major sponsorship contributions from the following companies:

GOLD SPONSOR

Ammann & Whitney

SILVER SPONSORS

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Raytheon

BRONZE SPONSORS

American Public Transportation Association

Bechtel

Dewberry

Dulles Transit Partners

DMJM+Harris

Jacobs Civil Inc.

Rubber Manufacturers Association

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (VHB)

Washington Group International

The ever-popular Silent Auction celebrated its third consecutive year as part of the annual holiday party. As stated in the Scholarship report, over \$3,200 was raised for the Chapter's Scholarship Fund. WTS-DC would like to recognize contributions of gifts and direct monetary donations from the following organizations and individuals:

Amtrak

Capital Restaurant Concepts

DMJM+Harris

Earth Tech

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*George Washington University
School of Engineering and Applied Science*

HDR Engineering, Inc.

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Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Margaret Ballard

Jennifer Clinger Mitchell

Lori Cohen

Sally Cooper

William J. DeWitt

Shirley LeBeau

Laura Linn

Leigh Merino

Odessa Phillip

Jamie Rennert

Laura Trejo

Molly Wagner

Furthermore, we especially thank everyone that bid on all of the wonderful auction items. Because of your support, we are able to raise funds for scholarships that we award to deserving female students in transportation-related disciplines at area universities and colleges. Special recognition goes to our highly motivated Silent Auction Committee members: Jeanette Kramer; Molly Wagner; Margaret Ballard; Shirley LeBeau; Erin McLaughlin; and, Jennifer Rephlo.



Onlookers ponder bidding on the myriad of choices.

SUMMARY REPORT

		<u>I-Jan-05</u>	<u>31-Dec-05</u>
Cash Balance:		\$ 5,072.45	\$ 19,709.35
Other Assets:	Cash Reserve Acct	\$ 26,366.83	\$ 26,806.62
	Accounts Receivable	\$ 564.95	\$ 4,375.00
Liabilities:	Accounts Payable	\$ 743.54	\$ 7,024.99
	Total	<u>\$ 31,260.69</u>	<u>\$ 43,865.98</u>

DETAILED REPORT

Income:	Amount
Membership Dues	\$ 8,885.00
Program Meetings	\$ 13,391.69
Newsletter	\$ -
Scholarship	\$ -
Interest	\$ -
Corporate Memberships	\$ 9,000.00
2005 Holiday Party	\$ 7,085.00
Other Corporate Sponsorships	\$ 5,500.00
Interest (Investments)	\$ 897.21
Unrealized Gain/Loss	\$ -
Income Total	\$ 44,758.90
Expenses:	
Program Meetings	\$ 20,382.06
Newsletter	\$ -
Scholarship Expenses	\$ -
Administrative (other direct costs)	\$ 1,912.69
Blast Communications	\$ -
Bank Fees	\$ -
Recognitions	\$ 640.17
Professional Development	\$ -
Mentoring Initiative	\$ 341.08
Membership Expenses	\$ -
2005 Holiday Party	\$ 8,673.95
Other (unrealized loss)	\$ 203.66
Expenses Total	\$ 32,153.61

2005 Photo Gallery

Quality Programs



Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project Tour



Networking





Advancing Women in Transportation

Washington, DC Chapter

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Washington, DC 20026

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