



*Advancing Women in Transportation*  
Greater New York Chapter



Issue: 20

## February 2017

2016 - 2017  
CORPORATE  
PARTNERS

### Upcoming Events!

#### February

**Tuesday, February 21, 2017 -Emerging Leaders Webinar**  
*Creating an Opportunity-Driven Career*

Some people seem to have all the career luck. They never have to look for opportunities - the best jobs seem to find them. Learn how to create your own career breaks and to uncover opportunities hiding in plain sight.

*Speaker: Jo Miller, Founding Editor of BeLeaderly.com and CEO, Women's Leadership Coaching, Inc.*

Click [here](#) to register

Diamond



#### March

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017 - Scholarship Fundraiser,**  
**5:30-7PM, Some Good Wine 13 E. 8th St., NY**

Click [here](#) to read more



TBA - NJ Spring Dinner Program

#### April

**Tuesday, April 18, 2017 | Leading a High-Performance Culture**

*What's the role of leadership in building a strong culture?*

In this webinar, we'll define what culture is, and discuss ways to measure a culture's quality. Learn about actions that leaders at all levels can take to build a collaborative, achievement-oriented culture that people feel happy to be a part of.

*Speaker: Shveta Miglani, Global Leadership Development*



Leader, Palo Alto Networks.  
Click [here](#) to register

TBA YP Trivia Night  
TBA NY Spring Dinner Program

**May 17-19** WTS International Annual Conference NYC  
[Registration](#) Now Open !



Transportation You - Stephanie Dawson, COO, PANYNJ, Veronique Hakim, Interim Executive Director, MTA, Polina Knaster, HDR, President WTS-GNY.

members and their great achievements. Following welcoming remarks from WTS-GNY President Polina Knaster, there were five awards that were presented and then a keynote speech by Stephanie Dawson, Chief Operating Officer of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The Ray LaHood Award was given this year to MTA Long Island Railroad President Patrick Nowakowski for his tireless efforts to encourage LIRR employees to pursue membership and involvement in WTS. Indeed, in 2015, the agency hosted a large WTS professional development event at their offices thanks to his leadership and efforts.

The Member of the Year Award was presented to Sutapa Bhattacharjee, Principal Transportation Planner at NJ Transportation Planning Authority for her tireless work in establishing the NJ Transportation YOU program with Newark Science Park High School. Like its NY counterpart, the NJ program will support eight committed high school students each year with carefully planned information sessions, tours, and other curriculum developed in conjunction with school counselors.

The Employer of the Year Award was given to Arup, a global professional services firm with over 1,000 employees in the Americas focusing on infrastructure projects. The company received the award for its commitment to supporting employees' active participation in WTS leadership roles, corporate

### 2017 Annual Meeting:

On Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, WTS-GNY held its 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. It was a wonderful evening to highlight and toast a number of the Chapter's very accomplished



sponsorship at the Emerald Level and its sponsorship of the upcoming WTS Annual Conference.

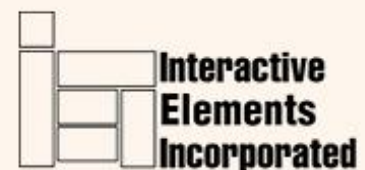
The Innovative Transportation Solutions Award went to NYC Department of Transportation for its work on the Queens Boulevard Safety Improvement Project, an effort involving almost every division of the agency. This was a multi-year complete street design of Queens Boulevard, a 170-foot-wide corridor, often dubbed "The Boulevard of Death." In 2015, Mayor de Blasio announced the Vision Zero Great Streets program, committing \$100 million to Queens Boulevard between Roosevelt and Eliot Avenues, a 2.5 mile stretch, for capital improvements. Led by a team of female planners and designers, NYC DOT reimagined this corridor to significantly improve safety with every type of roadway user in mind. Improvements included safer crossings, pedestrian refuges, more crosswalks, and protected bike lanes. These lay the groundwork for future capital investment and have led to fewer pedestrian and cyclist crashes and no fatalities since 2014. Additionally, accessibility and walkability have improved and cycling volumes have more than doubled.

The Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award was presented to Denise Berger, Assistant Chief Engineer at the Port Authority of NY and NJ (PANYNJ). Ms. Berger, who has almost 30 years of experience, manages a department of over 500 engineers. She also has been an active participant in WTS events in the past. In addition to her experience and commitment to the advancement of women in the field of transportation, she received the award for her creation of the Port Authority Women's Council (PAWC), a formally chartered employee resource group aimed at fostering the advancement of women within PANYNJ.

The evening concluded with Stephanie Dawson's informative keynote speech on the importance of PANYNJ's assets and its many future projects. Ms. Dawson, who as Chief Operating Officer at PANYNJ, ensures the implementation of policies, procedures, and practices that enhance coordinated action across the Agency. She also advances initiatives that enable the seamless common delivery of vital services. She is responsible for Aviation; Tunnels, Bridges, and Terminals; Port; and PATH Rail Departments, as well as common services provided by the Operations Services Department and the Office of Storm Mitigation and Resilience. Ms. Dawson began her career at PANYNJ delivering Technology and Security Projects and also had responsibility for Building Management Systems, Revenue Systems, and ITS projects. Additionally, she also was responsible for the Capital Program, Operations Programs, the Public Safety Department, Office of Emergency Management and Security



W/M/S/DBE





Program Management. Ms. Dawson is an innovator and created the Project Management Office at the Port Authority, supervised and managed initial operations, and also sponsored the recently created Agency Operations Center. Before joining PANYNJ, she was a Director at the NYC Department of General Services and an operations manager in banking. A retired Army colonel, career ordnance, and later Transportation and Logistics officer, she is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. She currently serves as treasurer on the WTS International Board of Directors and was the president of the NYC Chapter of the Project Management Institute.

## WTS GNY - Volunteer Opportunities!

### 2017 Annual Conference:

Please join for an exciting opportunity to help prepare for the WTS 2017 Annual Conference in NYC!

Contact Alexa Gangemi at [Alexa.Gangemi@ch2m.com](mailto:Alexa.Gangemi@ch2m.com) for more information

### Communications Committee:

A great opportunity to get involved with WTS GNY! We need writers, editors, and social media transportation-savvy volunteers. If you can write, edit, and have time to volunteer and contribute monthly news, featured articles, social media messages, tag lines, please contact us immediately at [wtsgnycommunications@gmail.com](mailto:wtsgnycommunications@gmail.com)

### Glass Ceiling Committee: -

The Glass Ceiling Committee (GCC) is seeking volunteers, preferably from the public sector, to help with conducting and analyzing results of an industry-wide survey, the first of its kind in the New York/New Jersey market, to be administered in early 2017. This survey endeavors to baseline and raise awareness of the level of engagement of women at senior and executive ranks in and public sector organizations. This committee focuses on glass ceiling issues that could be impeding the growth of women in the transportation industry. Those involved are currently in the process of conducting research and working on recommendations for programs and policies to be led by WTS-GNY to further its mission of advancing women in transportation.

If interested in being part of this ground-breaking effort, contact Yvonne Lopez-Diaz, WTS GNY GCC Chair at [ylopezdiaz@HNTB.com](mailto:ylopezdiaz@HNTB.com).

### Transportation You Committee:

The NJ Chapter of the Committee is looking for new mentors and committee members for 2017-2018. Our mentoring program inspires young women (14-18) to pursue careers in STEM and Transportation. Transportation YOU is a hands-on, interactive, mentoring program that offers girls an introduction to a wide



2016 - 2017  
CORPORATE  
PARTNERS

Diamond



variety of transportation careers. WTS members work to make a difference in the lives of high school girls in Newark, NJ, by offering site tours, professional development and group activities that will spark their interest in all modes of transportation. We also seek to encourage them to take courses in math, science, and technology, which are the stepping stones to exciting careers that can change the face of the transportation industry.

To find out how you can get involved, please contact Sutapa Bhattacharjee ([sbhattacharjee@njtpa.org](mailto:sbhattacharjee@njtpa.org))

### Members in the News:

Congratulations to Our WTS GNY Chapter Members:

**Tom Prendergast** - Retirement,

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/mta-head-thomas-prendergast-set-to-retire-1483404305>

**Veronique Hakim** - Named Interim Executive Director, MTA,

<http://www.mta.info/news/2017/01/30/governor-cuomo-announces-veronique-hakim-will-serve-interim-executive-director-mta>

**Darryl C. Irrick** - Named Acting President, MTA New York City Transit,

<http://www.mta.info/news/2017/02/01/darryl-c-irick-named-acting-president-mta-new-york-city-transit>

## WTS 2017 Annual Conference in NYC

### Registration Now Open!

WTS International will host its annual conference in New York City, May 17 - 19, 2017! The 24/7 New York area transportation network, serving as the backdrop to the conference, is the largest in North America. With its complex systems, multi-state linkage, and service for passengers and freight, it is vital for residents, visitors, and the nation's economy. During this interactive, three-day session, transportation leaders will exchange ideas and learn about the latest developments in the industry. More than 700 corporate and governmental transportation leaders worldwide will be in attendance and a multitude of topics will be covered.

Past conferences were completely sold out, so see what's new and register now!

[WTS-GNY Website](#)



Ruby



Emerald



Don't miss the opportunity to attend the premiere multi-modal conference of the year!

Highlights include:

- 19 optional technical tours of some of the nation's most impressive transportation hubs and iconic infrastructure and landmarks.
- Spectacular networking events and insightful programs.
- 2 optional professional development intensives: *Authentic Influence and Understanding and Growing Your Personal Brand*.
- Keynote address by Arianna Huffington, of *The Huffington Post*.
- A special 40th Anniversary Celebration, included with your conference registration!
- Much, much more!

EARLY BIRD RATES ARE IN EFFECT!

## Call for Posters -

### 2017 WTS Annual Conference NYC

If you are involved in the cutting edge of new technologies, partnerships, policies, and projects, please consider sharing your insights and experiences during the poster session at the 2017 WTS Annual Conference in New York. [Click HERE](#) to learn more about the poster session opportunity and to submit your project

#### Job Opportunity

Interactive Elements, Inc. is a certified WBE/DBE, based in New York City.

Please submit resumes to Ed Boni at [eab@ieitransit.com](mailto:eab@ieitransit.com) or call Ed at 212 490 9090.

Seeking Mechanical / Electrical Engineers and Inspectors to support a large, long-term transportation project in the New York Metropolitan area.

Requires a degree and 5 + years of experience.  
Vehicle / Rail vehicle experience a plus

Long-term / full time position with opportunity for growth

#### Job Opportunity

##### Public Involvement Project Manager

Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. (FHI) is seeking an experienced Project Manager for our Public Involvement Service team. The best candidate will have a passion for working with the public,

 **AKRF**

**ARUP**

**LTK**  
LTK Engineering Services

**Sapphire**



**CAMBRIDGE**  
SYSTEMATICS

Transportation leadership you can trust.

**ch2m**

 **Dewberry**

 **Gannett Fleming**

**25 YEARS** **HAKS**  
1991-2016 Client Focused - Quality Services

**NY** NEW YORK  
**BC** BUILDING  
CONGRESS

**Sam**  
**Schwartz**  
**Consulting,**  
**LLC**

**SYSTRA**

**W/M/S/DBE**



 **ARORA**  
Solutions for Secure



governmental agencies and project stakeholders, leading engagement efforts that result in optimal project outcomes and, ultimately, better communities. We are looking for an experienced project manager with a proven record of developing and implementing innovative public outreach techniques and strategies for public and private sector clients. Responsibilities will include developing and implementing strategic outreach plans to include and facilitate communication with stakeholders and the general public on transportation and community planning projects, utilizing a wide variety of tools and techniques including public meetings, printed materials, social media, website, press releases, and PowerPoint presentations. Additionally, the candidate will need to lead business development efforts and proposal activities that includes guiding preparation of proposal and presentation materials.

Minimum degree: Bachelor's degree and 10 + years of experience. Candidates with a valid driver's license preferred. Multilingual capabilities a plus. Salary commensurate with level of experience. Send resume to [publicinvolvement@fhiplan.com](mailto:publicinvolvement@fhiplan.com) or Claudia Massie, 416 Asylum Street, Hartford, CT 06103. Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. is an EEO/AA /VEV/Disabled employer.

**WTS-GNY Deadline for March Buzz**  
**February 28, 2017**  
email [wtsigny@gmail.com](mailto:wtsigny@gmail.com)

