



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

WTS-Boston

www.wtsinternational.org/boston



Advancing Women in Transportation
Boston Chapter

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Message from the President _____ | 3 |
| Board Officers and Directors _____ | 4 |
| Committee Chairs _____ | 5 |
| Advisory Board Members _____ | 6 |
| 2019 Corporate Sponsors _____ | 7 |
| Treasurer’s Report _____ | 8 |
| Finance Committee _____ | 9 |
| Communications Committee _____ | 10 |
| Diversity Committee _____ | 11 |
| Fundraising Committee _____ | 12 |
| Membership Committee _____ | 13 |
| Mentoring Committee _____ | 16 |
| Professional Development Committee _____ | 20 |
| Programs Committee _____ | 21 |
| Public Art Committee _____ | 29 |
| Outreach Committee _____ | 30 |
| Scholarships and Awards Committee _____ | 31 |
| Special Projects Committee _____ | 32 |
| Student Chapter Committee _____ | 39 |
| 2019 WTSI Conference committee _____ | 40 |
| WTS International, Northeast Region _____ | 42 |

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The end of 2019 marks the end of my first year as President and I am amazed at how quickly it went by! I am proud to be President of WTS-Boston and I look forward to another great year in 2020. We have a fantastic team of 50+ volunteers helping to deliver a strong Chapter focused on mentoring, professional development, diversity, and networking for its members, while centering on the WTS mission of advancing women in the transportation industry. For those of you not involved in WTS, I encourage you to get involved with one of our many committees and attend our events. You will not be disappointed - WTS provides countless opportunities to sharpen leadership skills and grow your network.



This annual report helps showcase just a small fraction of what WTS-Boston did in 2019 and I am impressed by our accomplishments and the level of commitment of our strong leadership, enthusiastic committees and advisory board. One accomplishment I am especially proud of for 2019 is our Public Art project becoming a reality with an official unveiling in May at MBTA's South Station. This effort was over 12 years in the making and the result of a lot of hard work and dedication. In 2019, we kicked off a successful formal mentoring program with ten mentor/mentee pairs. We also raised a significant amount of money at our Annual Golf Outing towards the WTS-Boston Scholarship Fund. We had some phenomenal luncheon speakers throughout the year including Sam Sleiman, Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs at Massport, MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Rail and Transit Administrator Astrid Glynn, and State Representative William Straus, Chair of the MA Legislature Joint Committee on Transportation. In addition to our successful luncheon seminar programs, WTS-Boston held our 2nd Diversity-In-Motion event focusing on workplace bias. We also welcomed Patty Leavenworth, MassDOT Chief Engineer and WTS-Boston Woman of the Year to lead a book club focused on Angela Duckworth's book *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*.

I am honored to have led the Chapter through 2019 and look forward to 2020, which is the 40th anniversary of WTS-Boston! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers who have served with me including the Board of Directors, Advisory Board and Committee Co-Chairs for their support, hard work and dedication to WTS-Boston.

Sarah Dennechuk
WTS-Boston President

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2019 CORPORATE SPONSORS

Executive Level

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| AECOM | Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority |
| AI Engineers, Inc. | Massachusetts Port Authority |
| APTIM | MassDOT Highway Division |
| ARUP | Michael Baker International, Inc. |
| BSC Group | Nitsch Engineering |
| City Point Partners | Nobis Engineering |
| GEI Consultants, Inc. | Sanborn Head |
| GPI | Stantec |
| Green International Affiliates, Inc. | STV |
| HDR | Tetra Tech |
| HMMH | The LiRo Group |
| HNTB Corporation | TranSystems |
| Howard Stein Hudson | VHB |
| Jacobs | Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. |
| Kleinfelder | WSP USA |

Associate Level

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bryant Associates, Inc. | Keville Enterprises, Inc. |
| Cambridge Systematics, Inc. | saam architecture |
| Geocomp Corporation | |

Supporter Level

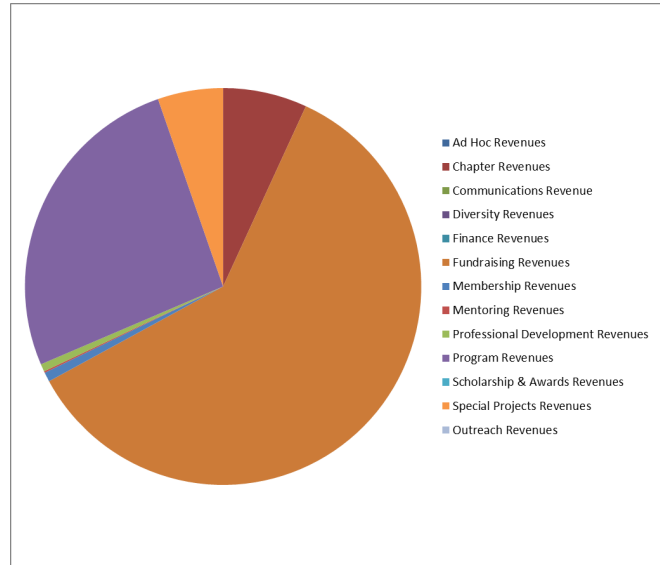
| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Beta Group, Inc. | Fennick McCredie Architecture |
| CDW Consultants | GZA Environmental, Inc. |
| Crosby Schlessinger Smallridge | McMahon Associates |
| Dewberry | Sherin and Lodgen LLP |
| Epsilon Associates, Inc. | |

TREASURER'S REPORT

2019 Income

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Ad Hoc Revenues | \$ - |
| Chapter Revenues | \$ 15,910.76 |
| Communications Revenue | \$ - |
| Diversity Revenues | \$ - |
| Finance Revenues | \$ - |
| Fundraising Revenues | \$ 139,620.00 |
| Membership Revenues | \$ 1,775.00 |
| Mentoring Revenues | \$ 290.00 |
| Professional Development Revenues | \$ 1,431.25 |
| Program Revenues | \$ 60,490.00 |
| Scholarship & Awards Revenues | \$ - |
| Special Projects Revenues | \$ 12,360.00 |
| Outreach Revenues | \$ - |
| Student Chapter Revenues | \$ 120.00 |

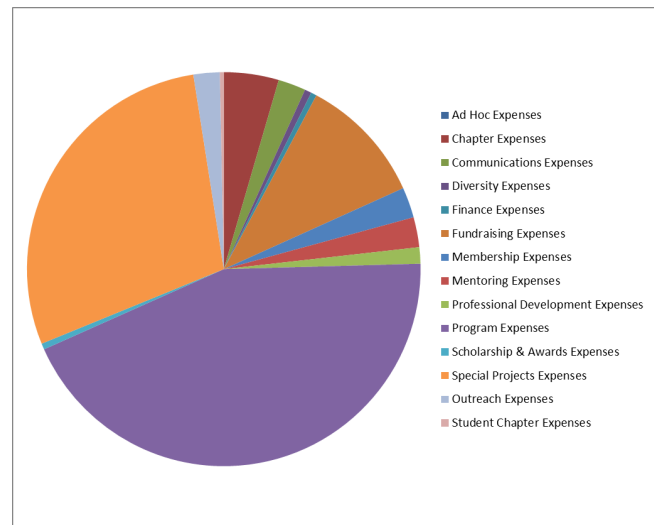
Total Gross Income \$ 231,997.01



2019 Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Ad Hoc Expenses | \$ - |
| Chapter Expenses | \$ 8,453.74 |
| Communications Expenses | \$ 4,250.00 |
| Diversity Expenses | \$ 1,050.83 |
| Finance Expenses | \$ 875.00 |
| Fundraising Expenses | \$ 19,611.87 |
| Membership Expenses | \$ 4,684.07 |
| Mentoring Expenses | \$ 4,607.68 |
| Professional Development Expenses | \$ 2,527.20 |
| Program Expenses | \$ 82,078.45 |
| Scholarship & Awards Expenses | \$ 932.00 |
| Special Projects Expenses | \$ 53,804.58 |
| Outreach Expenses | \$ 4,055.62 |
| Student Chapter Expenses | \$ 597.85 |
| Boston Charitable Fund Expenses | \$ 34,029.13 |

Total Gross Expenses \$ 221,558.02



FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee was chaired by Carrie Lavalley, MassDOT, and WTS-Boston Treasurer Sarah Bergman, WSP.

In 2019, the Finance Committee reviewed the overall financial health of WTS-Boston - including the yearly revenue and expenditures, investments, and scholarship account.



The finance committee has worked on digitizing the Treasurer process with keeping all records on Google Drive. The Finance Committee continued leading the invoicing efforts for all WTS-Boston events after each event has closed. The Finance Committee is working on collecting all outstanding fees for the 2019 events.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee is responsible for both internal and external chapter communications, including streamlining communication to the membership as well as heightening awareness of WTS–Boston by identifying opportunities for media coverage of WTS–Boston programs and events. The Committee is co–chaired by Lauren Dale of WSP and Sasha Vinton of RND Consultants, Inc. In 2019, the Communications Committee maintained regular contact with all other WTS Committees in order to provide WTS-Boston members with timely access to speakers and information on important issues impacting our industry and chapter events.

The Communications Committee accomplishments in 2019 included:

- Drafted and published more than 60 E-Blasts
- Maintained E-Blast distribution list with more than 1,000 active email addresses
- Weekly scheduling phone calls with WTS-Boston President and Vice-President
- Reformatted and maintained current content on the WTS–Boston webpage
- Maintained Flickr photo sharing site
- Updated social media using Hootsuite dashboard (includes Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn)
- Posted Instagram photos during events
- Maintained job-postings on WTS-Boston website
- Established protocols and schedule for posting weekly content via Constant Contact
- Coordinated with WTS–Boston Committees to update the website
- Assisted Committees in content development
- Prepared online registration for the 2019 events across committees
- Coordinated with the WTS–Boston photographer for events and maintained photography contract



Advancing Women in Transportation
Boston Chapter

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

The Diversity Committee serves as an internal resource and guide for WTS-Boston Committees to use in a collective commitment to increase diversity and representation within the organization. The co-chairs for the 2019 Diversity Committee were Lauren Ballou of VHB, Elizabeth Ulloa-Murray of the MBTA, and Bree Sullivan of Bayside Engineering.

In 2019, the Diversity Committee collaborated with several other committees to hold the following events:

Ted Talk Screening: The Diversity Committee partnered with the Mentoring Committee to screen the Ted Talk “How to Get Serious About Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace.” Following the screening, attendees participated in a facilitated discussion.

2nd Annual Diversity-in-Motion Workshop: The Diversity Committee partnered with the Scholarships & Awards Committee to host the 2nd Diversity-in-Motion Workshop featuring three panelists and a facilitator. The discussion focused on workplace bias and provided attendees with advice on how best to address bias in the workplace.



In December of 2019, the Diversity Committee hosted an event with WTS-Boston leadership to brainstorm ways to improve diversity and inclusion. The Committee plans to implement these recommendations, in partnership with other committees, in 2020 and beyond.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Sponsorship

Golf Outing

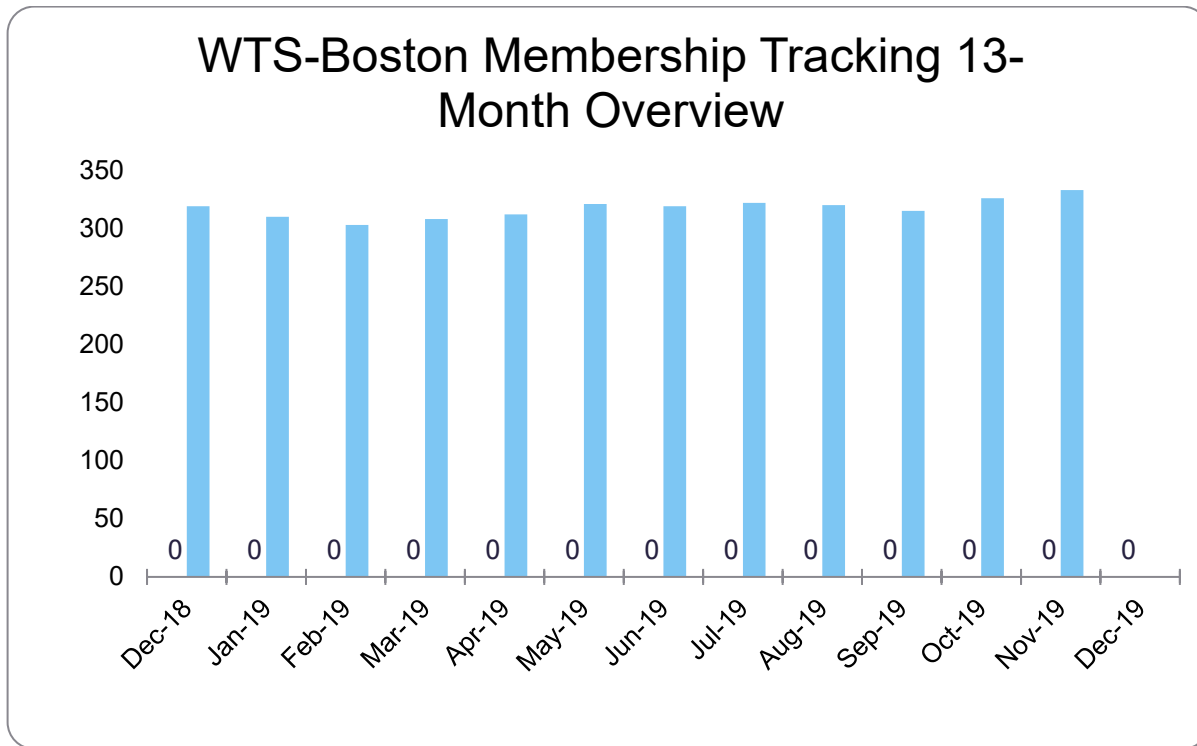
The goal for the golf outing is to raise money for the WTS Scholarship program and to bring folks together for a great day of networking and golf. The 2019 golf event held at Stow Acres Country Club was led by co-chairs, Christine Mizioch from AI Engineers and Karin Marshall from S&R Corporation. The fun-filled day was sold out and raised over \$15,000 for the WTS Scholarship Fund.

The committee, led by 2020 co-chairs Kathryn Eagan of BSC Group and Linde Thatcher of Tetra Tech, decided to return to Stow Acres for our 2020 event scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2020. Foursomes are already filling up and sponsors jumping back on board. We have a great committee for the event but could always use more help! If you are interested in joining the committee, please reach out to Keagan@bscgroup.com or linde.thatcher@tetrattech.com. We look forward to seeing you on the course!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The WTS-Boston Membership Committee had a successful year under the leadership of co-chairs Heather Audet from GZA and Nicole Rando from Talent Collaborative Group. With the help of dedicated committee members, the committee maintained a steady rhythm of monitoring membership throughout the year by sending welcome emails as new members joined, sending reminders to members whose memberships were set to expire, and creating membership reports to track updated information. In addition to the continual tasks throughout the year, the committee hosted annual membership events and had a very strong Membership Drive.

Membership Stats



Note: The number of members has been modified to remove expired members from the membership reports.

Membership Types

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----|
| Regular | 193 | 58% |
| Public Sector | 98 | 29% |
| Students | 19 | 6% |
| Executive Leader Public Sector | 3 | 1% |
| Executive Leader | 15 | 4% |
| Educator | 4 | 1% |
| Other | 2 | 1% |
| Total | 334 | |

Public Sector Breakdown

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----|
| MassDOT | 29 | 30% |
| Massport | 21 | 21% |
| MBTA | 13 | 13% |
| US DOT/ Volpe | 16 | 16% |
| Others | <u>19</u> | 19% |
| Total | 98 | |

Membership Events

New Member Orientation - April 30, 2019

This year's New Member Orientation was held at VHB's Boston office. Thank you to Selma Mandzo for coordinating the in-kind donation for the space. The evening started with networking and casual dinner which was deli platters, salads, and dessert catered by Whole Foods. We gave all New Members in attendance a Welcome Bag which included a WTS-Boston logo umbrella, pen, and wire taco. Our goal was to have representation from senior leadership and every committee to discuss their responsibilities and how members can become active in WTS and to welcome our newest members. Thank you to Marie Sullivan for MC-ing the event for us.

- Cost: Free
- Members Only: Yes



June Mixer - June 4, 2019

The June Mixer was held for the 3rd year in a row at Tia's Waterfront. Thankfully, we have had amazing weather again! The evening included complimentary appetizers and an icebreaker. Three Starbucks gift cards were awarded to randomly chosen participants.

- Cost:
 - Members, \$20
 - Non-Members, \$35
- Members Only: No



Membership Drive - October 1-October 31, 2019

The goal of the Membership Drive was to increase our membership. We had over 30 members join during the drive and had at least 5 additional new members in the following month as a result of 15 members providing referrals. We reached out via e-mail to each person who was referred to encourage them to join. Referrers and new members were entered into a drawing for a bag of WTS swap at the Membership Celebration, and new members that attended received a WTS-Boston gift.



Membership Celebration - November 7, 2019

The Membership Committee co-hosted the annual Membership Celebration with the Professional Development committee on November 7, 2019. We learned about the variety of Italian wine and what to look for when trying new wines. There were four varieties of wine to try (two reds and two whites). It was a night to meet-up over a beverage and appetizers with old friends and colleagues and welcome some of our newest members.

The evening concluded with raffling off two Omni Parker House gift cards and giving out 12 WTS swag bags with Starbuck gift cards based on a random drawing of new members, referrers, and participants in our icebreaker activity. Proceeds from the Omni Parker House gift card raffle went towards the WTS-Boston Scholarship fund. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and congratulations to all who won. In addition to the raffle prizes, each member in attendance was given a commemorative WTS stainless steel water bottle.

· Cost- includes food and wine tasting:

- Public Sector, \$20
- Private Sector, \$25

· Members-Only: Yes



MENTORING COMMITTEE

In 2019, the WTS-Boston Mentoring Committee developed programming that supported mentoring at all career levels, through the Formal Mentoring Program, TED Talk, Mid-Career Roundtable, and Emerging Professionals Program. The 2019 committee was co-chaired by Kristen Whitman of Jacobs and Caroline Leary of Dye Management Group, Inc. The Board liaison was Crystale Wozniak of Kleinfelder.

Formal Mentoring Program

We were excited to announce the implementation of a formal mentoring program for the Boston Chapter in 2019. The program's objective is to provide the opportunity for rising professionals to access more experienced professionals in the industry, allowing them to gain access and insights that could have a lasting and tangible effect on their careers. Mentors benefit from sharing career success stories with future women leaders, building long-term relationships, and giving back to an industry that has helped them in their careers. The program ran from January-June 2019 and included both one-on-one time with mentor-mentee pairs and group professional development events open to all program participants. The committee matched the mentor-mentee pairs after the kickoff speed dating-style event in January 2019. The program received a lot of positive feedback and we were fortunate enough to have multiple participants volunteer to help organize this year's program. The 2020 call for applications occurred in the fall and the committee received more applications than the number of spots, so the program has become competitive. We look forward to the 2020 program and hope for continued interest for years to come.



TED Talk co-hosted with the Diversity Committee

On July 17th, over 20 attendees gathered at Kleinfelder Boston office for a TED talk viewing and discussion facilitated by Margaret O'Meara, Northeast Transportation Segment Leader at Kleinfelder. The WTS-Boston Mentoring and Diversity Committees co-organized the event and selected the TED Talk "How to Get Serious About Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace" by Janet Stovall, Executive Communications Manager at UPS and inclusion advocate.

In her talk, Janet describes her lifelong effort to combat racism through courage and focus, or as she calls it "single-mindedness." Janet recalls challenging racism as a student at Davidson College by creating an action-oriented report to hold the college's administration accountable for failing to enroll black students and hire black educators and administrators. Today, as a speechwriting and communications professional at UPS, Janet emphasizes that if businesses and employees became "single-minded" about racism, not only could we transform our workplaces into inclusive and diverse environments, but also change the way we coexist in our world outside of work. To make businesses address diversity and inclusion, Janet employs a three-point strategy: identifying real problems, finding real numbers, and creating real consequences. Additionally, she clarifies the difference between diversity, which can be mandated or quantified, and inclusion, which must be cultivated. Janet argues that businesses will not become "single-minded" about diversity and inclusion unless the problem becomes urgent and relevant to their bottom line. To her third point, Janet stresses that a lack of diversity and inclusion must result in real consequences for businesses in order for them to begin to take these matters seriously. To conclude, she asks the audience to imagine a diverse place of work, at all levels of leadership, where people of color feel safe and are expected to "bring their unassimilated selves to work because the perspective that they bring is both recognized and respected."

Following the talk, Margaret O'Meara described her own experiences with diversity and inclusion in her 30+ year career in the public and private sector. Margaret identified that her "single-mindedness" was about advancing the role of women in the workplace. Margaret's colleagues would eventually remark about what a great staff she had assembled, when in fact she had simply elevated and encouraged the women and minorities that were already working there, but who were often overlooked. To end, Margaret asked the attendees how the TED Talk impacted them. Some agreed with Janet's overall message but suggested that

education still played a major role in efforts to promote diversity and inclusion, because in our industry, it often dictates which candidates will be hired or promoted. Other attendees described efforts they have made at their own workplaces, such as creating Employee Resource Groups, which are designed to elevate issues of diversity and inclusion throughout their company. We also discussed the unique way the transportation industry affects issues of race and equity in our communities, and discrepancies in diversity and inclusion between the public and private sector. Margaret and other attendees emphasized the role WTS has played in their career advancement and their own efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in their workplaces. Given the popularity of this event, we hope to host two TED Talks in 2020.



Mid-Career Roundtable / Management Networking Roundtable

The committee hosted two roundtables this year, on June 6 and November 15. The Mid-Career Roundtable is geared toward WTS members with at least 10 years of experience in the transportation industry. Marian Barth of STV, Inc. and Dieckmann Cogill of Jacobs coordinated both events. The roundtable events brought together WTS-Boston members to share their perspectives and experiences through small-group facilitated discussions.

Topics of discussion in 2019 included:

- Assertiveness and the double-bind faced by women in management
- Harnessing your emotional intelligence when leading or using emotional intelligence to drive results
- Pace of work today and in the future
- Remaining relevant professionally

Additionally, in the spring, we modified the name slightly, to Management Networking Roundtable. We have faced some challenges attracting people to this event, which might be due to the timeframe. Two hours at the beginning of a workday might be difficult for many people, so we plan to try out a weeknight event in the spring of 2020.

Emerging Professionals

For the 2019 Program for Emerging Professional Women (EP Program), which aims to assist in the development of our future leaders, WTS-Boston selected Birgit Wurster, Michelle Cantor and Jasmine Meadows.

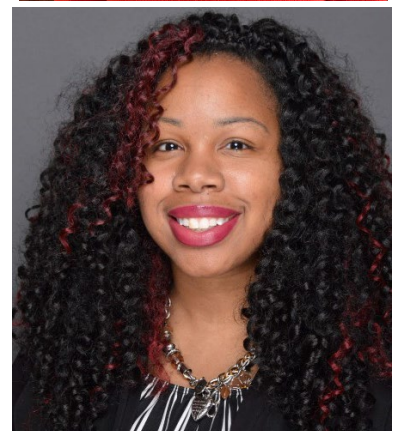
Birgit Wurster is a Graphics Coordinator in Capital Delivery at the MBTA. Her role with the Graphics and Wayfinding group at the MBTA includes working with project managers, architects, and engineers throughout the design process to implement MBTA wayfinding standards at both new and existing stations.



At the start of the program, Michelle Cantor was a Capital Policy Analyst at the MBTA, where she was involved in conducting budget and data analyses, as well as assisting with grant reporting for capital projects. She moved back to Ohio during the summer and began an exciting project analyst position with her former employer, the Southwestern Ohio Transportation Authority. She was very grateful for all she learned through the EP program and is excited to get involved with the Southwest Ohio chapter of WTS.



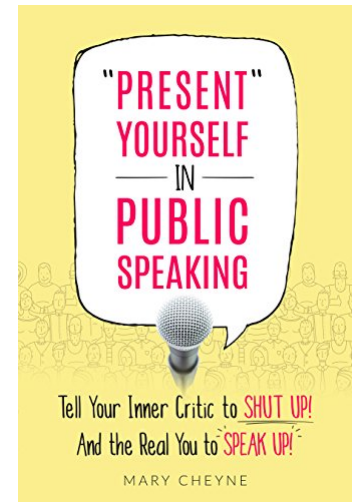
Jasmine Meadows is a Document Control Manager for the GLX program at the MBTA. Jasmine began her journey in the transportation field as a Green Line trolley operator for the MBTA. She served as an operator for four years before being promoted to her position as Document Control Manager within the Capital Delivery Department.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

In 2019, the Professional Development committee hosted four events.

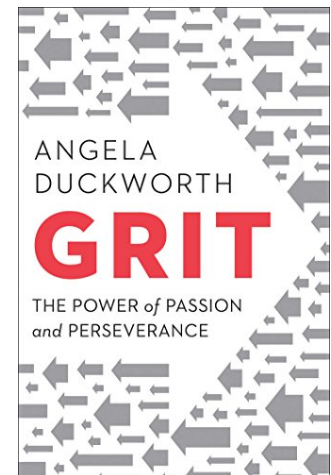
On January 16, the committee organized two-hour workshop on presentation skills called Present Yourself to Success in Your Career, led by Mary Cheyne, president of Magnetic Podium, LLC. Participants learned about speaking powerfully and authentically under pressure, and how to own their own power as an expert in their field.



On May 9, the committee organized a program on risk management, led by Frank Rivera, Director of Risk Management and Workers' Compensation at the Massachusetts Port Authority. Participants learned about insurance, risk transfer, and contractual obligations and how they relate to Massport's profitability and organizational success. Participants came away from the program with tools and protocols to manage risk exposure

on projects and operations.

On September 26, the committee organized a book club meeting to discuss *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance* by Angela Duckworth. Patricia Leavenworth, Chief Engineer at MassDOT's Highway Division moderated the discussion. Patty led participants in a thought-provoking discussion about what is "grit" and what it means to have professionals on your team with "grit." While "grit" is not the only factor that determines success, it is believed to be a common denominator of long-term success.



On November 7, the Membership and Professional Development Committees co-hosted a member celebration at Serafina Boston. The event included a wine tasting where participants learned what to look for when trying new wines.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

The Programs Committee had a productive and successful year devoted to planning, coordinating, and implementing the Chapter's monthly luncheon programs and the annual summer tour. A summary of our 2019 events and programs is provided below.

February 27, 2019 - Massport Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs Houssam "Sam" Sleiman, P.E., CCM, FCMAA, NAC, Hon. D. Eng.

On February 27, 2019, Massport Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs Houssam "Sam" Sleiman, P.E., CCM, FCMAA, NAC, Hon. D. Eng. provided WTS-Boston luncheon attendees with an overview of the exciting capital programs underway at Massport. Growth in the number of passengers serviced by Logan airport and the number of containers processed at Conley Terminal is driving the need for improved infrastructure to support the increased volume at these important hubs. To support this demand, Massport's capital program for the next five years is about \$2.6 billion spread over 336 projects. About 31.5% of that program is focused on state of good repair projects to ensure that existing infrastructure is maintained. Massport's capital program is projected to create over 45,700 jobs over the next five years. Sam also described Massport's focus on new technology, efficient delivery, lean and sustainable designs to produce memorable and best-in-class projects.



It was great to hear about the exciting projects that are underway at Massport. Thank you to Sam for speaking with WTS-Boston!

March 28, 2019 - MassDOT's Registrar of Motor Vehicles, Erin Deveney

On March 28th, 2019, MassDOT's Registrar of Motor Vehicles, Erin Deveney, presented to a captivated audience of WTS-Boston members and guests.

Erin's latest appointment as registrar began with a focus to improve and effectively manage customer service in the overall operation of the Driver Control Unit with an RMV goal to serve 85% of customers in 30 minutes or less. This was accomplished by implementing small changes to streamline the service lines within the RMV. Erin also described the successful replacement of the 33-year old mainframe system for licensing and REAL ID and the



upcoming changes the public should be aware of. After October 1, 2020, you will need a REAL ID or a passport to fly within the United States or enter federal buildings. See <https://www.mass.gov/decision-tree/real-id-real-answers-a-tool-to-help-you-determine-if-you-need-a-real-id> for additional info.

Thank you to Erin for taking time to speak to WTS about the new technology and new methods to improve customer service and operational performance at the Registry.

April 11, 2019 - Governor Baker's Commission on the Future of Transportation Vice Chair Eileen McAnneny and Commission member Carol Lee Rawn.

On Thursday, April 11th, WTS Boston gathered to hear from Governor Baker's Commission on the Future of Transportation Vice Chair Eileen McAnneny and Commission member Carol Lee Rawn.



The Commission, established by Executive Order No. 579 in January 2018, provided recommendations to the Baker-Polito Administration on how to best account for potential changes in transportation in the future, focusing on transportation needs and challenges facing the Commonwealth between 2020 and 2040. The Commission's 2018 report considers complex factors affecting the future of transportation such as climate change and the intersection of land use, housing and transportation policies. The report relies on scenario planning to help shape plausible future scenarios. The Commission relied on two major trends which will shape people's mobility options and needs and used these two trends to create plausible scenarios: technology adoption and jobs and housing distribution. Eileen and Carol's presentation to WTS focused on the 18 recommendations from Volume 1 of the report.

Thank you to Carol and Eileen for speaking with WTS-Boston! This report will be a vital document to the future of transportation in the Commonwealth.

May 23, 2019 - Representative William Straus - Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation



On May 23rd, WTS-Boston hosted Representative William Straus, the Chair of the MA Legislature's Joint Committee on Transportation. The Legislature's Joint Committee on Transportation is comprised of members of the State Senate and the House of Representatives and considers all matters concerning the development, operation, regulation and control air, land, and water transportation.

Representative Straus discussed the overwhelming priority for transportation planning within the State Legislature is to achieve a more realistic understanding of the state-of-repair and fund the necessary transportation expansion projects to maintain economic growth. However, the critical issue is the state's ability to raise funding to achieve that goal.

The quality of the current transportation system, at today's spending level, is unsustainable. The state will require additional transportation spending and funding. Representative Straus discussed the forms in which this increased funding could take; changes to the Transportation Trust Fund, revisions to the gas tax, a vehicle mile traveled tax, or ballot initiatives.

Thank you, Representative Straus, for speaking with WTS-Boston.

August 15, 2019 - Neponset River Bike Trail with Stella Lansing, DCR, and Michael Trepanier, MassDOT

WTS-Boston members took a Summer Tour of the Neponset River Trail by bike and by foot, with bicycles and helmets provided by BlueBikes.

The tour will begin at Mattapan Station with an introduction and project history from Stella Lansing, with DCR. The tour continued towards Central Avenue, with stops at the Neponset River Bridge and Central Avenue where Michael Trepanier, MassDOT, provided their insight into the MassDOT process and relationship with DCR and the MassDOT trails team.

Cycling participants continued east to Tenean Beach to talk about the upcoming extension before returning to Steel & Rye for delicious food and drink.



September 18, 2019 - Jonathan Gulliver, Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT) Highway Administrator

On September 18th, Jonathan Gulliver, Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT) Highway Administrator, spoke to WTS-Boston luncheon attendees about the State's current state of congestion and the recently filed Transportation Bond Bill.

Administrator Gulliver opened his remarks with a powerful statistic:

Currently, 81% of the Greater Boston population uses vehicles as their primary mode of



travel, leaving 17% taking public transportation, and only 2% walking/biking. This data point is one of many obtained when MassDOT undertook a comprehensive data-driven analysis of vehicular congestion on major roadways across the state. The congestion study can be found online for further information.

Next, Administrator Gulliver discussed the Baker-Polito five-year Transportation Bond Bill (TBB). Data collected from the Congestion Report was used to build the TBB. The bill aims to authorize and accelerate transportation investment. The \$18 billion TBB will provide capital funding to MassDOT local roads and bridges, regional transit authorities, MBTA capital investments, and municipal partnership programs.

The Congestion Report and the Transportation Bond Bill are both exciting and encouraging for residents throughout the Commonwealth. Thank you to Jonathan Gulliver for joining WTS-Boston and sharing an informative and important presentation!

October 24, 2019 - MBTA's Assistant General Manager for Policy, Laurel Paget-Seekins

On October 24th, 2019, MBTA's Assistant General Manager for Policy, Laurel Paget-Seekins, presented to an audience of WTS-Boston members and guests on how the MBTA is combining data and public involvement into policy decision-making.

Laurel opened her presentation highlighting the difficulty of combining data analytics and public input. While data analysis and public input are different decision-making aids, they both rely on a similar outcome: to discover new ideas, issues, and details. Both factfinding missions require asking the right questions, keeping an open mind, recognizing when the results don't align with a hypothesis, and iteratively assessing the data points for the best possible outcome. Combining data analysis and public input can complement one another to fill in critical gaps to create a more complete picture and better overall understanding.

Some challenges Laurel highlighted include turning raw data into something understandable that the public can react to; implementing the gathered knowledge in a timely manner and balancing the combination of data and the public input to be able to recognize when data aren't telling the whole story. The MBTA is in process of working through these challenges and learning from their experiences to create a better process moving forward.

Laurel finished by asking the audience what the MBTA and MassDOT need to change for the concepts presented to be incorporated into standard practice. Several audience members noted the process described can be expensive and lengthy, but wholly worthwhile.

November 21, 2019 - Karilyn Crockett, Lecturer in Public Policy & Urban Planning in MIT's Department of Urban Studies & Planning, and guest Ann Hershfang, President of America Walks and WalkBoston

On November 21st Karilyn Crockett, Lecturer in Public Policy & Urban Planning in MIT's Department of Urban Studies & Planning, and guest Ann Hershfang, President of America Walks and WalkBoston, presented at the November luncheon seminar and shared how activists came together to stop a highway from being built through the heart of Boston and published in Crockett's 2018 book titled, "People Before Highways: Boston Activists, Urban Planners, and a New Movement for City Making."



The movement mobilized from the neighborhood level to the Massachusetts State House. On January 25, 1969, Ms. Hershfang, along with 2,000 others, confronted the new governor, Francis Sargent, determined to change his mind about the highway. Sargent had been the Head of the Department of Public Works and had a pro-highway stance. Their pleas worked, and in 1972 Governor Sargent put a stop to the expansion and instead introduced an alternative transportation plan that included community parks, gardens, and basketball courts. None of this would have been possible without the persistence of the activists.

On January 25, 2019, a reenactment was held at the State House to celebrate the anniversary of the People Before Highways protest. The same activists from 50 years earlier, were united again to celebrate their victory. Many of these activists went on to be public servants who made positive changes in the city they loved so much. Ms. Hershfang reminds us that when you truly care about something, to work for it. Anything is possible even with the odds stacked against you.

December 19, 2019 Astrid Glynn, MassDOT Rail and Transit Administrator

On December 19th, 2018, MassDOT's Rail and Transit Administrator, Astrid Glynn, spoke to WTS-Boston members and guests at the annual meeting. Astrid gave a riveting presentation about the changing landscape of regional transit in Massachusetts. She first discussed the 2018 Commission on the Future of Transportation report which provided



several recommendations for the Commonwealth's transportation future including providing robust, reliable, clean and efficient public transportation is a foundational element of our transportation system in Massachusetts which, in many communities, will rely on the Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs). After discussing the challenges the Commission's report identified, Astrid highlighted several key milestones since its publication: First, the appointment of a diverse taskforce to examine how RTAs could improve and, second, the FY20 state budget which increased contract assistance for RTAs. The legislature also directed MassDOT and each RTA to establish Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with baseline and targets in the four key performance areas. Lastly, it provided a second year of discretionary grants to encourage innovation and support pilots. Astrid described two exciting projects piloted by the Brockton Area Transit and Franklin County Transit Authority which highlight the RTA's willingness to try something new and measure the results of that innovation. The RTAs are committing themselves to experiments that might succeed and might fail but will be evaluated based on data. Last, Astrid discussed the important next step for all RTAs which will be preparing their updated Comprehensive Transit Plans. These plans will capture and analyze data for route planning and establish new equitable fare policies with a focus on gateway cities and rural transportation, as highlighted in the Commission report. Each RTA's plan will be unique and tailored to the challenges of their region to aid in improving performance.

Prior to Astrid's presentation address, WTS-Boston Chapter President, Sarah Dennechuk recognized all Past Presidents of WTS-Boston. These pioneering women have contributed to the success of WTS-Boston and WTS International for decades. Sarah also thanked the 2019 sponsors as vital to the organizations mission and announced WTS-Boston will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2020! She also recongnized our 2020 Emerging Professionals: Katie Kalugin, MBTA and Ambar Johnson, Livable Streets and highlighted the unveiling of WTS's Public Art at South station! Sarah closed the Annual Meeting

recongizing the outgoing 2019 chapter leadership and welcoming the incoming Chapter leadership.



PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

WTS-Boston commissioned a new public art installation to celebrate the contributions, diversity and creativity that women bring to the transportation industry. Working with MassDOT and the MBTA, the piece was installed in Red Line Concourse at South Station. The art is a permanent piece commemorating women's contributions to transportation in the Greater Boston area. The art enhances this main transit hub and continues the proud tradition of public art already adorning the MBTA system.

WTS-Boston Public Art Piece is now complete!

After 12 years of hard work by WTS-Boston and our Public Art Committee, a new piece of art has been created to help raise awareness of women's contributions to the transportation industry. The piece, titled "NETWORK" and designed by artist Ellen Harvey, is a 650-SF, hand-made in Italy, glass mosaic. The mosaic fabrication was completed by Miotto Mosaic Art Studios, Inc., and Trvisanutto Giovanni SRL. The beautiful piece wraps the interior of the headhouse entrance to Boston's South Station at the northeast corner of Summer Street and Atlantic Avenue.



Today Boston's South Station is the hub for a vast transportation network, encompassing not only the railways and subways but also the roads that link it to the rest of the country. The location of South Station however, reveals a not-so distant past where Boston Harbor and its rivers were the primary means of transportation. We take this transformation from natural to artificial networks for granted but it is the result of human action and human decision-making. We all travel within a hidden history of engineers, architects, surveyors, builders and politicians - many of who were women, as WTS-Boston reminds us and as we too often forget.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The co-chairs for the 2019 Outreach committee were Heather Moulton, STV Incorporated, and Stefanie Beaver, VHB. Selma Mandzo, VHB, acted as Board Liaison to the committee. For the beginning of 2019, the Outreach committee was busy attending local STEM expo events to showcase our program and engage students with a hands-on activity. For all of these events, the activity was Straw Bridges which was a continuation from Fall 2018. Attendees were given straws, tape, and a wooden platform and were tasked with seeing how much weight their bridge could hold.

Events

- Parlin STEM Night - Wednesday, January 23rd, Everett
- Everett High School Science Fair - Thursday, January 31st, Everett
- Explore STEAM Night - Thursday, March 14th, Wakefield
- Girl Scouts of Eastern MA STEM Conference - Sunday, March 24th, Framingham
- Cambridge Science Festival - Saturday, April 13th, Cambridge

In June, the committee met with Monica Tibbits-Nutt to kick off planning for the 2019 Transportation YOU Summit. The event was held on October 26th, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, at Harvard University's Science Center and Lab for Integrated Science and Engineering. It was a great success with about 60 girls in attendance and positive feedback from those who attended. This was only the second time holding the Summit and the number of attendees doubled in size. The committee looks forward to building on its success for next year.



SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Scholarships and Awards Committee had another great year of recognizing those in our community who have or who will have a great impact on the transportation industry.

2019 WTS Boston Award winners

- Woman of the Year Award
 - Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Highway Division, Deputy Administrator and Chief Engineer
- Claire Barrett Member of the Year Award
 - Lori Chicoyne, BSC Group, Inc.
- Employer of the Year Award
 - Jacobs
- Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award
 - Laura Brelsford, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Assistant General Manager for System-Wide Accessibility (SWA)
- Innovative Transportation Solutions Award
 - Boston BRT
- Honorable Ray LaHood Award
 - William (Bill) Rizzo

We received a large number of applications for scholarships, and the applicants were highly motivated and qualified individuals. The decision making process is always very difficult and this year was no different.

2019 WTS Boston Scholarship winners

- Jacquelyn R. Smith Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship
 - Sarah Brown, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Ann M. Hershfang Graduate Scholarship
 - Katerina Deliali, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- WTS-Boston Member Graduate Scholarship
 - Allison Sweeney, University of Massachusetts Boston

We recognize these individuals and employers not just for their achievements, but also to acknowledge how they further the WTS mission of advancing women in transportation.



SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

The Special Projects Committee was responsible for planning four events in 2019:

- New Year's Reception on January 29, 2019
- Annual Leadership Forum on April 23, 2019
- Annual Scholarships and Awards Dinner on June 20, 2019
- WTS-Boston and Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT)-Boston joint event: Tour of the transportation aspects of the Encore Casino Development on October 10, 2019

New Year Reception

On January 29th, WTS-Boston members and sponsors gathered for an evening of networking at the UMass Club in Boston. The UMass Club provided a beautiful setting for the Chapter's annual New Year Reception which offers a time for friends and colleagues to reconnect after the holidays and discuss professional goals for the new year.

The evening opened with welcoming remarks from the Chapter's new President, Sarah Dennechuk, Senior Project Manager at Massport. Sarah discussed the continued importance of an organization like WTS-Boston in supporting the advancement of women in transportation. She recognized the key role that members, chapter leadership, and sponsors play in maintaining and fostering the WTS-Boston network and the immense value this has on members' professional and personal growth.

This year, the keynote speaker was the new General Manager of the MBTA, Steve Poftak. On January 1, 2019, Steve Poftak joined the MBTA as General Manager. General Manager Poftak, who previously served as the Vice Chair of the Fiscal and Management Control Board and as a Director of the MassDOT Board since 2015, came to the MBTA from the Harvard Kennedy School, where he was Executive Director of the Rappaport Institute for Greater Boston. General Manager Poftak expressed that it is a privilege for him to serve the MBTA and the people of the Boston Region in his new position. The General Manager outlined his five priorities for the T:

- Safety - of vital importance and encompasses the safety of customers and employees.
- Human capital - value of hard work and the importance of supporting employees in doing their best work. He also stressed his desire to build diversity within the T.
- Implementation of the capital plan - the goal of the T is to invest \$8 billion over the next five years. This is a dramatic increase in capital spending over previous years' goals and

successful implementation of capital projects will need to be supported by an organization that can deliver on the scale and complexity inherent in this level of investment.

- Customer experience - much of the focus of planned investments will be on improvements that customers can feel and feel soon.
- Fiscal discipline - two main approaches to keep the T on track towards fiscal discipline: strategic hires and strategic investments.

In addition to these main areas of focus, Poftak touched on some of the specific initiatives and projects planned, including the acquisition of new cars on the red, orange, and green lines as well as the development and roll-out of the Automated Fare Collection 2.0 system.

With themes of new beginnings and dedication towards continued improvement, the evening was a fitting start to a new year with WTS-Boston. Thank you to our corporate sponsors for their generosity in making this special event possible!

Annual Leadership Forum

On April 23rd, WTS-Boston's 23rd Annual Leadership Forum honored Judith Nitsch, PE, LEED AP BD+C, over breakfast at the Courtyard Boston Downtown. Over 100 WTS-Boston members, sponsors, and invited guests gathered for this annual event that honors an exceptional female in the field. Ms. Nitsch was selected for this award due to her 40+ year commitment to building better communities and her visionary leadership.



Ms. Nitsch is the Founding Principle of Nitsch Engineering, Inc., a 100+ person firm headquartered in Boston, and with offices in Washington DC, Worcester, MA, and Lawrence, MA. Established in 1989, the firm has provided civil, structural, and transportation engineering; land surveying; planning; green infrastructure consulting; and GIS services on projects in 20 states and 5 countries. Judy is a graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. She is a registered professional engineer in 27 states, and is a LEED Accredited Professional BD+C. She received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in 2010 and an honorary Doctor of Engineering from WPI in 2015. Her work as a civil engineer has focused on the design, permitting, and management of site development and infrastructure-related projects. Much of

her firm's civil engineering work includes consulting for and designing the sustainable sites aspects of green building and green infrastructure projects.

Judy described her firm's successes as resulting from a combination of three things - fabulous projects, wonderful clients, and terrific employees. As she spoke to the crowd gathered at the Leadership Forum, Judy imparted four stories of teamwork that shaped her career - to focus on strengths and become excellent at them, to establish a "two pair of eyes policy" to peer review work, to partner and team on projects, and to build the future workforce with diversity, vitality, and responsiveness in mind to bring diverse ideas.

WTS-Boston was thrilled to honor Ms. Nitsch at the Annual Leadership Forum. In addition to building a leading company and being a vital member of WTS-Boston for over 25 years, Judy started Nitsch Engineering's annual Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day. This event has introduced many aspects of engineering to 6th to 12th grade girls for the past 18 years and continues to serve as an important avenue for middle- and high school aged girls to learn about engineering subjects such as waterfront/ocean engineering and resiliency.

Congratulations Judy!

Annual Scholarships and Awards Dinner


More than 250 WTS-Boston members and guests gathered on June 20th to honor current and future leaders at our 2019 Annual Awards and Scholarships Dinner. This year's event was held at the Colonnade Hotel in Boston. The event's honorees share the distinction that each is making a significant and positive impact on our industry today, with tremendous potential for future contributions.


Scholarship Recipients


The WTS-Boston scholarship funds come from a combination of individual member contributions, corporate sponsorships, and proceeds from the Annual Golf Outing. Thanks to the generosity of our members, our sponsors, and successful events, WTS-Boston awarded \$12,000 in scholarships to three incredibly talented women. More information about the scholarship categories is available online:

<http://www.wtsinternational.org/boston/news/annual-wts-boston-awards/>. This year's scholarship winners included:

- **Jacquelyn R. Smith Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship** was awarded to **Sarah Brown**. Sarah holds bachelor's degrees in Civil Engineering and Professional Writing from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Sarah is passionate about transportation systems and designing equitable, safe, and inclusive mobility for urban communities. For her undergraduate capstone project, she implemented a low-cost traffic calming countermeasure in an elementary school zone to redistribute the power between vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Sarah will be pursuing her master's degree in City and Regional Planning in the Fall of 2019.


- **Ann M. Hershfang Graduate Scholarship** was awarded to **Katerina Deliali**. Katerina is a Ph.D. student in Civil Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a concentration on Transportation Engineering. As a research assistant, Katerina has been involved in a variety of projects related to transportation sustainability and traffic safety. During her MSc thesis, she focused on the deployment and implementation of zero-emission buses. Her dissertation research is concentrated on bicyclist safety, modeling the interactions between bicyclists and motorists and examining the impact of various bicycle infrastructure treatments. Upon completion of her degree, Katerina hopes to improve transportation by providing guidelines regarding the construction of bicycle networks that provide comfortable and safe trips to its users.


- **WTS-Boston Member Graduate Scholarship** was awarded to **Allison Sweeney**. Allison is receiving her Master's Degree in Public Administration from the McCormack Graduate School of Policy & Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Her research interests are in public transportation and labor policy with a focus on social justice, including how access to public transit can improve opportunities and equity. Allison has worked in various capacities throughout her 16 year career at the MBTA. She is a life-long Boston resident, and also a third-generation MBTA employee. Currently, she works as a Project Coordinator in the MBTA Capital Delivery's Department focusing on Transit-Oriented Development. Allison is very active with WTS-Boston has been a member for 13 years. Through WTS Boston, she has gained a broader view of transportation and she has become a better-equipped professional through development opportunities. She received the WTS-Boston Emerging Professional award in 2009 and remains passionate about supporting other women working in the public sector. Her enthusiasm has led her to advocating and promoting other female Emerging Professionals while making great connections.



Award Recipients

The Annual Chapter Awards recognize individuals and companies/agencies for the positive impact they have made to our industry and in our communities. This year's award winners included:

- **Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award** was presented to **Laura Brelsford**. Laura Brelsford is the Assistant General Manager for System-Wide Accessibility (SWA) at the MBTA. Since joining the T in 2007, Laura has been at the forefront of the T's mission to become the nationwide model of an accessible public transportation system. This has included developing



key programs aimed at driving and sustaining long-term change such as the agency's internal access monitoring program, new trainings for both employees and customers, and system-wide barrier removal program termed the Plan for Accessible Transportation Infrastructure (PATI). A graduate of Mount Holyoke College and former investigator with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD), Laura served as past chair of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities and is currently on the board of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC). She is the recipient of the Marie Felton Award for outstanding advocacy and WalkBoston's Golden Shoe for improving access to bus stops. However, she is most proud of her role in helping

ensure people with disabilities have a seat at the decision-making table—a change that continues to improve services for all.

- WTS-Boston Member of the Year Award** was presented to **Lori Chicoyne**. Lori Chicoyne serves as Director of Client Development for BSC Group, Inc., a collaborative practice of planners, engineers, and scientists, as well as Geonetics, Inc., a boutique group of software developers. Lori works closely with BSC's leadership team to support key markets and existing clients and develop new relationships. She focuses on expansion goals and visibility for the firm, increasing overall awareness of the BSC name, brand, and services to help drive growth. Lori has more than 25 years of leadership experience in professional services marketing overseeing business development, marketing planning, and marketing communications efforts. Lori is a leader in industry organizations and served as the National Conference Co-Chair for the WTS Annual Conference held in Boston in May 2019.



Previously, Lori served in several leadership roles for WTS-Boston, including Director-at-Large and Co-Chair of various committees. In 2017, she was instrumental in securing a prime spot on *Chronical*, an award-winning New England television program, featuring WTS and local leading women in transportation. Lori is a Past President of the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) Boston Chapter. She earned her BS in business administration, with a major in marketing, from Bryant University.

- Innovative Transportation Solutions Award** was presented to **Boston BRT**. The Barr Foundation's BostonBRT initiative was convened in 2013 as part of Barr's climate program, acknowledging that any serious efforts to address climate change must advance solutions for mobility. This initiative raised awareness and generated support for Gold Standard BRT



throughout Greater Boston. The work started with an analysis to determine if and where Gold Standard BRT might be technically feasible in Greater Boston, which resulted in a [June 2015 report](#) that identified five priority corridors. The BostonBRT team organized learning trips to Mexico City so that political, nonprofit, and business leaders could experience BRT firsthand, speak to its benefits, and champion its adoption in Greater Boston. The team also engaged bus commuters and the design community to

visualize the potential of a better bus experience, through a [photography challenge](#) to find beauty in the everyday bus commute, a [station design competition](#) to visualize the potential of bus stops, and more. In 2017 and 2018, the initiative supported [four pilots](#) that demonstrated the benefits of BRT elements and fostered municipal and MBTA partnerships. Three of the pilots have since become permanent. The combination of these activities over the last six years has shifted the conversation in Greater Boston to include bus rapid transit as a viable transportation solution in Massachusetts. BostonBRT can be found online at bostonBRT.org and @bosBRT on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

- **Honorable Ray LaHood Award** was presented to Bill Rizzo. Bill is an Advisor and Board Member to transportation-related consulting companies, including HMMH, a WBE/DBE. Previously he served as Assistant secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth, COO of Geocomp Corporation and Co-Founder and President of Rizzo Associates (now Tetra Tech). He is a National Fellow of the American Council of Engineering Companies and served as Chairman of the Engineering Center Education Trust in Boston. Bill holds a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University and Georgia Tech, respectively.



- **WTS-Boston's 2019 Employer of the Year Award** was presented to **JACOBS**. Jacobs is a strong supporter of WTS, locally (Boston), nationally, and internationally. Strategic Boston office hires were and will continue to be recruited because of their active WTS-Boston leadership roles. The firm is committed to the advancement of women, best exhibited by the percentage of female employees in leadership positions. In fact, Jacobs' Boston office has significant numbers of women in every leadership category, atypical in our industry. Jacobs participation in [Catalyst CEO Champions for Change](#), underscores commitment, starting from the top to improve Jacobs' record of advancing females up the ranks. The firm developed a formal Women's Network to promote an inclusive culture, where women and men can thrive and feel valued. Its mission is to accelerate a cultural shift by empowering women and promoting gender equality, aiming to balance representation, influence recruitment, development, retention and promotion of qualified women, and to champion women leaders. Jacobs also supports female employees by encouraging active participation in external professional organizations focusing on career advancement, structured around inclusion, diversity, and conscious inclusion programs.

JACOBS

- **WTS-Boston's 2019 Woman of the Year Award** was presented to **Patricia Leavenworth, P.E.** Patty has worked at MassDOT for 32 years and became MassDOT's Chief Engineer P.E., (Highway Division) in June 2013. She and her teams work to deliver a \$1 Billion Construction



program annually on hundreds of projects in 351 towns and cities across Massachusetts. Graduating from Norwich University, '87 B.S. Civil Engineer and M.S. Civil Engineering '99 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Patty started her career in Worcester, MA in 1987 and has worked in various positions including Design Engineer, District Environmental Engineer, and District Highway Director. Some of her major accomplishments include development of a District Construction Database, overseeing a \$16 million cable-stayed bridge in Fitchburg, and managed the award-winning Fast 14 project that replaced 14 bridges in 10 weekends on I-93 in Medford, MA. Most recently she is engaged in improving project delivery, building a fully integrated

asset management system for the Highway Division, as well as serving as chair to the Asset Management Council for the agency. Patty's passion for engineering has steered her career and helped promote engineering within the Commonwealth by hosting an annual Innovation Conference and founded the READi Committee for new innovations and pilot programs for MassDOT Highway Division.

Special Projects and Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT)-Boston Joint Event

The WTS-Boston Special Projects Committees collaborated with YPT-Boston to plan a tour, presentation, and networking hour at the Encore Casino in Everett. The event was held on October 10 and drew 50 professionals between WTS and YPT.

Jay Monty, Transportation Planner at the City of Everett, led a walking tour of the casino campus highlighting the infrastructure improvements both on- and off-site that have been constructed as part of the casino's development. These include better sidewalks, buffered bicycle lanes, and safer crosswalks in the vicinity surrounding the casino on Broadway. On the casino property, improvements include a restored waterfront, dock area for water taxi transportation, and the future completion of the Northern Strand Community Trail.



After the outdoor tour, James Folk, Executive Director of Transportation for Encore Boston Harbor, gave a detailed technical presentation about the transportation analysis, planning, design, and engineering work that was undertaken by the Wynn development team and the City in order to prepare for the construction and operations of the casino.

STUDENT CHAPTER COMMITTEE

The WTS Student Chapter Committee enjoyed another successful year working alongside the WTS Student Chapter members at UMass Amherst. Since its inception, the Student Chapter continues to grow and gain momentum by increasing its membership and advancing its mission to bring insightful and educational speakers to the campus.

In February 2019, the WTS UMass Amherst Student Chapter under the leadership of Sayeeda Ayaz hosted a LinkedIn workshop for students on how to use the website and refine their resumes. The workshop captured the interest of students on campus and was successful in promoting WTS. Additionally, this year a few of the Student Chapter members attended a Transportation Camp at MIT in Cambridge in April, aligning with the mission of WTS International - working to build the future of transportation through the global advancement of women. In December 2019, the Student Chapter held an election for new leadership of the Chapter. Election results are as follows:

- President: Alyssa Ryan
- Vice President: Sayeeda Ayaz
- Secretary: Sahana Hariram
- Treasurer: Sarah Bakhtiari

In conjunction with the Transportation Seminar series on campus, the Student Chapter hosted a guest speaker in October to share insight on the successes, challenges, advancement, and trends that make up the transportation industry. Bill Paille, PE, is a transportation engineer with BSC Group. Bill conducted a riveting presentation on his 20+ years in the transportation field, sharing experiences from his work with the Federal Highway Administration, City of Newton as Director of Transportation and most recently, the Complete Streets initiative. Bill conveyed how the transportation field has progressed with respect to both projects and technology. He addressed questions on best practices, and offered advice to students who are interested in advancing their transportation career and seeking employment. At the end of his presentation, Bill made his business cards available with the intent to serve as a network connection.



2019 WTSI CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

The 2019 WTS International conference was a true “Hub of Ingenuity” - an interactive, three-day session, where transportation leaders exchanged ideas and learned about the latest developments in the industry. WTS-Boston proudly hosted nearly 800 corporate and governmental transportation leaders worldwide, and a multitude of thoughtful and engaging topics were covered.



Our bike and pedestrian friendly city boasts of many transportation sectors - highway, airport, ferry, bus, trolley, subway, port, and national and regional rail systems. With over 25 breakout sessions, plenary panels and key note speakers, this event brought together transportation professionals to share their experiences and insights regarding the many changes in our industry.



Senator Karen Spilka spoke at the premier Blue Ribbon Reception and Lt. Governor Karin Polito kicked-off the overall conference at the Welcome Reception. Sessions featured leading-edge transportation programming including emerging technologies, demographic shifts, climate change adaptation, and other variables disrupting the transportation space.

Conference-goers had 10 tours to choose from, including a newly featured tour - The Great Urban Race: The Beantown Showdown. These tours showcased Boston well as we have the perfect blend of history and cutting-edge innovation, starting with the oldest subway system in America. From the walkable charm of the diverse neighborhoods and theater district, to civic landmarks and Freedom trail, to the iconic Fenway Park and Harvard University, attendees were able to discover the true essence of Boston and learn why the City is a “Hub of Ingenuity.”

All this was possible with an unprecedented amount of sponsors, the majority of them being local firms with a strong conference presence, and our committed volunteers. WTS-Boston proudly hosted this international event that engaged meaningful and relevant discussions impacting the transportation industry.

PROGRAM BOOKLET and LOCAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

WTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAY 15-17, 2019

THE HUB OF INGENUITY
CONNECT COLLABORATE INNOVATE

BOSTON | WESTIN COPLEY PLACE

WTS
Advancing Women in Transportation

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THE GREAT URBAN RACE: BEANTOWN SHOWDOWN

Heather Hamilton
BSC Group

GRAPHIC DESIGN/ CONFERENCE LOGO

Amy Kvistad
Amy Kvistad Design

CONNECT COLLABORATE INNOVATE WTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE / BOSTON 2019

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WTS PROGRAM 2019
ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS Thank you!

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| THURSDAY LUNCHEON AND KEYNOTE | HNTB | HOTEL KEY CARDS | SIEMENS Ingenuity for Life |
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| BLUE RIBBON DIGNITARIES RECEPTION | JACOBS | EXECUTIVE MEMBER EXCLUSIVE EVENT | KEOLIS |
| EXECUTIVE WOMEN/ WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS ROUNDTABLES | KLEINFELDER Strategic Transportation | POSTER SESSION | ARCADIS |
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| | | CONFERENCE LOGO AND THEME | AMY KVISTAD DESIGN |

CONNECT COLLABORATE INNOVATE WTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE / BOSTON 2019

COFFEE BREAK - THURSDAY MID-MORNING

massport

MIX N' MINGLE CASH BAR

Gannett Fleming

COFFEE BREAK - FRIDAY MID-MORNING

HOWARD STEIN HUGSON

MOBILE DEVICE CHARGING STATIONS

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VIP RECEPTION sponsored by Women Business Owners

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WTS
Advancing Women in Transportation

WTS INTERNATONAL, NORTHEAST REGION

WTS International's geographically based regions connect members from multiple states and across multi-modal industries. Northeast Region Council Annual Statistics include, as presented at the 2019 Annual Conference:

- 242 Programs
- 2319 Members
- Over \$90,000 in Scholarships
- 175 Sponsors

Council Members meet on approximately a monthly basis by conference call to discuss region successes and challenges, with a goal of meeting twice annually in person. Currently working towards setting up President's and Treasurer's calls for the Region to allow the sharing of ideas and offering support throughout the Region.

The following table represents the Chapters that make up the WTS Northeast Region Council and an item/program they are "Most Proud" of for their Chapter and also an "Innovation" brought forward by the Chapter:

| Chapter | Most Proud | Innovation |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Baltimore | Reaching out to more young women, resulting in increased participants and volunteers in Mentoring and Transportation YOU programs | Largest pool of qualified candidates for scholarship program, while also raising record scholarship funding |
| Boston | Public Art Project completed and installed to commemorate women's contributions to transportation | Executive Level Sponsor banners for luncheons and key events, where \$78K out of \$102K raised for 2019 is at the Executive Level Sponsor |
| Connecticut | Establishing a Leadership Program and awarding first Gold status recipient | Hosting an all-day Transportation Mini-Series since 2006, with increased attendance each year |
| Central Pennsylvania | Rotunda Series: developed to build knowledge and business | Transportation Minds Towards a Bridge Future book donation |

| | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| | skills applicable to professional / personal lives | program resulting in over 120 donated books since 2015 |
| Maine | Sending first mentee and mentor pair to the DC Summit | Chapter leadership holds Summer Planning Session annually for chapter strategic planning and development |
| Greater New York | Expanding offerings to members with enhanced Social Media campaigns, Women's History Month and release of Glass Ceiling Report | Collaborating with other Chapters and partnering with other national and local women's and industry groups to expand reach and offerings |
| Pittsburgh | Planning and participating in Commonwealth Connections, an event of all three Pennsylvania chapters participate in to highlight women across the state | Most of the Chapter's speakers cannot receive gifts, so they donate a book in their name to the library of their choice |
| Philadelphia | Chapter held its 2 nd transportation symposium with programming, panels and professional development, call the Commonwealth Connections | Chapter's Diversity and Inclusion Committee held a business panel forum focusing on how Design and Construction Primes engage DBE firms on teams and projects |
| Toronto | Chapter's Annual Dinner has become a marquee event in the transit and transportation sector with over 400 attendees | Chapter's mentoring program has 15 mentee/mentor partnerships for development of future leaders in transportation |
| Rhode Island | Electing the Chapter's first Public Sector President | Chapter Roundtable Webinars, where 15 to 30-minute TED Talks (or something similar) are shown, then have a roundtable discussion |

Note: Additional New Chapters in formation include New Hampshire, New Jersey and another Chapter in a region in Pennsylvania