



WIA Connections Summer 2013 | [Click here to view online](#)

August 2013

## Connections Newsletter



Dear Annette,

The heat of the summer has done little to slow down the progress and excitement here at WIA. I am so honored and proud to be the Chair of WIA as we continue to grow and thrive!

The first half of 2013 has been absolutely thrilling as we continue to ride the high of such a successful conference! In 2009, WIA had a vision of creating a one day conference that set out to bring together individuals from across the aerospace industry to discuss innovative trends and issues, in a collaborative and engaging way, with diverse panel discussions and impactful speakers. It was our hope to position WIA as a true thought leader in our industry.

From all of the overwhelmingly positive comments we received from our attendees, it is clear we exceeded your expectations as well. Nothing pleases us more than knowing we have achieved our goals of meeting our member needs, raising our profile in the industry and providing both an excellent networking and educational opportunity for professionals in our field.



Dianne Sosa  
WIA Chair

Here are a few samples of the comments we received from our evaluation:

- "A lot of positive energy from the crowd, a lot of fabulous women in attendance."
- "The quality of the speakers and program was amazing - it was such a valuable day!"
- "Good mixture of professional development and speakers/topics."
- "Close and 'intimate' format, even with record numbers of attendees!"
- "Excellent speakers - fantastic networking!"

The success of this conference would not have been possible had it not been for the dedication and leadership of our Conference Planning Committee. I'd like to take a moment to recognize this team. They are as follows:

Sue Chodakewitz, Tetra Tech AMT  
Sandy Coleman, ATK  
Stephanie Fraser, Covell Solutions  
Michele Gates, NASA  
Margaret Jenny, RTCA  
Lillian Ryals, The MITRE Corporation  
Melissa Fowler, Women in Aerospace  
Annette Summers, Women in Aerospace

The success of WIA is directly related to the time and effort put in by our volunteers. I am delighted to work with such a marvelous group that is so dedicated to the continued

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success of our organization. Without your hard work and dedication, WIA could not provide the high quality of programs and events that our members have come to expect. Thank you so much for all that you do!

Looking ahead to our annual WIA Awards Dinner, I am so excited to be able to recognize such remarkable women in our field as they continue to make outstanding contributions to our industry. The WIA Awards Dinner is the perfect time to congratulate and thank the women who have made a significant impact within our field. Thank you to all of you who nominated the amazing women being considered for our awards this year.

The 28th Annual WIA Awards Dinner and Ceremony will be held on October 29, 2013 from 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm at the Ritz Carlton Pentagon City in Arlington, Virginia. We hope you will [register](#) today.

In our last newsletter, we shared the commitment the WIA Board of Directors made to increasing and improving our professional development events and offerings this year. Hopefully, you have taken notice, and even attended some of the wonderful professional development programs we have put on this year. We are so pleased that we are able to take the feedback from our members and actually broadcast the events so that our members from outside of the immediate DC area can take advantage of this great benefit.

In keeping with the commitment to increase and enhance our professional development offerings, we have developed a Leadership Course for Emerging Leaders. This exclusive 8-week program is designed to provide the necessary skills and tools to master the essential areas of leadership. The target audience for the program is those individuals who are already involved with leadership development or are just beginning the process in their organization, corporation or government agency. More information about the course is included in an article below. We hope you will take the leadership challenge!

As always, we want to hear from you and all of your ideas for WIA. Send an email to me at [info@womeninaerospace.org](mailto:info@womeninaerospace.org) to share your thoughts!

Sincerely,



Dianne Sosa  
Chair  
Women in Aerospace

### With Appreciation to our Aerospace 2013 Sponsors

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## Self-Confidence: The Foundation of Career Success Receives High Ratings

WIA's most recent professional development session, "Self-Confidence: The Foundation of Career Success" led by Executive Coach Jayne Mattson of Confidence Counts broke the record for the highest attendance to date for any professional development session. Even including a member from the Netherlands! Jayne's session focused on several key elements around the core concept:

"Career Confidence is the self-assured belief that you will be successful in your career and be able to overcome challenges that tend to get in your way"

Even though the program was broadcast live and completely virtual, Jayne created an interactive environment eliciting great dialogue amongst attendees. Through exercises, Jayne provided examples, reference points, thought provoking questions and clear guidance for attendees that wished to polish their career confidence.



Jayne Mattson,  
Confidence Counts

WIA live tweeted the event and shared some of Jayne's top confidence tips on Twitter which included:

- Surround yourself with confident people
- CELEBRATE your successes
- Create a vision of what you want the new you to look like
- Begin each day with a positive affirmation

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The University of Maryland Department of Aerospace Engineering  
University of Washington

**Counsel to WIA**

The responses we received from this event were great! Look at some of the feedback our members left through the evaluation and Twitter:

- "Thank you, Jayne! I walked away with some very valuable tools and helpful resources."
- "This session was absolutely more than I expected and exceeded all of my expectations - such a great use of my lunch hour on this Friday afternoon!"
- "Thank you, WIA for providing us with such an innovative session. It was fun, thought provoking - and I left feeling so inspired!"

### **WIA Announces Emerging Leaders Program: *Take the Leadership Challenge***

WIA is dedicated to mentoring and professional development. The Emerging Leaders Program has been designed as a key way toward providing leadership development for our membership and for our corporate members that wish to further develop these skills among some of their most talented employees.

This esteemed group of individuals will be honored at the 2013 Awards Dinner. Networking amongst this elite group will be highly encouraged as opportunities arise throughout their continued careers in the aerospace industry.

This 8-week program, open to both women and men, is designed to provide the necessary skills and tools to master the essential areas of leadership. The target audience for the program is those individuals that are already involved with leadership development or are just beginning the process in their organization, corporation or government agency.

Program description: The first session in the Emerging Leaders Program will be titled, "Take the Leadership Challenge" and it will focus on the Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership®, developed by authors and researchers Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner. In a highly interactive, experience-based approach, participants learn how to Model the Way, Inspire a Shared Vision, Challenge the Process, Enable Others to Act, and Encourage the Heart.

Individuals joining this 8-week, in depth training will walk away with these key concepts:

- An understanding of their own leadership style
- An appreciation of other leadership styles
- An increase in credibility and courage as a leader
- More capability and willingness to provide leadership for their organization
- Essential skills to improve and achieve better results for their own staff
- An ongoing action plan and a commitment to do things differently

Participants will develop their leadership skills in various learning styles, individual assessment, small and large group interaction and presentations by leaders in the WIA association. The groundwork will be the reading and understanding of the work done by Kouzes and Posner, "The Leadership Challenge".

Registration opening soon.

The program is limited to 20 individuals - be sure to apply quickly before the first 20 slots are filled.

### **Have You Posted Your Resume on WIA's Job Board?**

In an effort to continue offering great professional development opportunities to our members WIA is focusing on prioritizing the WIA Career Center to be your online resource for making career connections in the Aerospace industry.

You can participate in this effort by posting your resume on the WIA Job Board. Even if you are not currently looking for a new job, it makes sense to post your resume on the WIA Job Board, because you never know what opportunities may be out there looking for you. Moreover, your participation will help attract more and better job listings,

Berliner Corcoran & Rowe

### **UAS Panel Program on Policy Issues Associated with Unmanned Aircraft**

Join us on September 24th for a comprehensive panel discussion on Policy Issues with the Unmanned Aircraft, including a brief introduction entitled *Introduction to Unmanned Aircraft* presented by Andrew Lacher, The MITRE Company. This innovative program will focus on providing attendees with an introduction to unmanned aircraft, followed by a panel discussion in regards to policy issues surrounding unmanned aircraft.

Panelists include: **Colonel Elisabeth S. Auld**, Director of Staff, Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Public Affairs, The Pentagon, United States Air Force; **Jay Stanley**, Senior Policy Analyst, The American Civil Liberties Union; **Gretchen West**, Executive Vice President, Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI); and **James H. (Jim) Williams**, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration Office, FAA Aviation Safety Organization. Moderated by **Susan Chodakewitz**, President, Tetra Tech.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Liaison Hotel, located at 415 New Jersey Avenue NW in Washington, DC. [Register](#) today for this exciting breakfast event.

### **Upcoming Events**

**September 9, 2013**

*MEMBERS ONLY*

[Speed Mentoring](#)

5:00 p.m - 6:30 p.m.

Jones Day

Washington, DC

Click [here](#) to register.

**September 18,**

**2013 MEMBERS ONLY**

[Reverse Mentoring](#)

improve the career prospects of your fellow members and strengthen your professional community at large.

The WIA Career Center provides:

- FREE and confidential resume posting - Make your resume available to employers in the industry, confidentially if you choose.
- Job search control - Quickly and easily find relevant industry job listings and sign up for automatic email notification of new jobs that match your criteria.
- Easy job application - Apply online and create a password-protected account for managing your job search.
- Saved jobs capability - Save up to 100 jobs to a folder in your account so you come back to apply when you are ready.

As an organization centered on the Aerospace profession, there is no more meaningful service we can provide our members than to help you advance your careers, so we want to provide the most robust and valuable employment service that we can. To that end, WIA has embarked on an aggressive marketing program aimed at attracting employers in the field to post their job listings on the WIA Job Board.

Help us help you. Visit <http://careers.womeninaerospace.org/> today and post your resume! Click on the "Find Your Job" button and then the "Post Your Resume" link. You do not need to enter your WIA member number when it asks for it. If you have questions, please click [here](#) to contact us.

## Upcoming Professional Development Events

Our professional development series, focusing on the softer skills that are so key to leadership and growth for all ages are a fundamental part of success in everyone's career. WIA has three professional development events planned for the summer and fall season- that we strongly encourage you to check out! Each of these events, unless otherwise specified, are broadcast live as webinars - which means you can participate from anywhere in the country. WIA uses an interactive software that allows viewers to instantly ask questions and participate as if they were in the room with the presenter. For those who live in the DC area and would like to participate in person, this is also an excellent option. We also recommend pairing up with colleagues in your own city and making this a networking opportunity.

### **Speed Mentoring**

During this signature professional development event you will have the opportunity to speak with each of our mentors, in a small group moving from table to table. You will also be able to enjoy a casual networking environment before and after, which allows WIA members to interact with mentors and other members in a unique setting and has seen proven results year after year.

Monday, September 9, 2013

5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

Jones Day

51 Louisiana Avenue NW, Washington DC

Register today!

Please note: this event will not be live streamed.

### **Reverse Mentoring**

A mentoring relationship where a senior employee is mentored by a junior employee to acquire new knowledge or enhance new and emerging skills, is a unique pilot initiative that WIA is absolutely thrilled to be sharing with its members. NASA leaders are participating in reverse mentoring as a pilot initiative and the presenters will share their experience implementing this pilot, as well as future plans based on lessons learned.

September 18, 2013

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

WIA Headquarters

204 E Street NE, Washington, DC

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

WIA Headquarters

Washington, DC

Click [here](#) to register.

**September 24, 2013**

[Policy Issues Associated with](#)

[Unmanned Aircraft](#)

8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Liaison Hotel

Washington, DC

Click [here](#) to register.

**October 1, 2013**

**MEMBERS ONLY**

[Unleash Your Inner](#)

[Storyteller: Tips for Building](#)

[Your Professional Reputation](#)

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

WIA Headquarters

Washington, DC

Click [here](#) to register.

**October 29, 2013**

[28th Annual WIA Awards](#)

[Dinner and Ceremony](#)

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Ritz Carlton Pentagon City

Arlington, VA

Click [here](#) to register.

## WIA Awards

The Women in Aerospace Awards Dinner &

Ceremony is an annual event dedicated to celebrating women's professional excellence in aerospace. The Awards Ceremony is WIA's premier event of the year, honoring women whose outstanding contributions to the aerospace community are legendary. Participation in the event demonstrates your commitment to WIA's mission: to expand women's opportunities for leadership and increase their visibility in the aerospace community. The 2013 dinner and ceremony, celebrating the achievements of years of Women in Aerospace, will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at the Ritz Carlton, Pentagon City, 1250 South Hayes Street, Arlington, Virginia. Register today, or contact [Melissa Fowler](#), WIA's Director of Association and Event Services to inquire about sponsorship opportunities.



WIA Board Members  
Judy Smith, Sandy  
Coleman and Rebecca  
Spyke Keiser who  
served as mentors at  
the 2012 Speed  
Mentoring Event.

Register today!

### **Unleash Your Inner Storyteller: Tips for Building Your Professional Reputation**

A clearly defined reputation can open doors to choice assignments, new job opportunities, and increased visibility with managers, clients and co-workers. Yet, frequently, busy schedules and full lives leave little time for this important career tool. All too often valuable opportunities are missed. This program will allow participants to examine how they want to be known and begin the process of building their reputations by transforming a factual account of one career accomplishment into a concise, memorable story with an opportunity for practice and feedback. Members are invited to participate in this exciting professional development event that will give you the opportunity to create an opening sentence that highlights an accomplishment and captures the listener's attention, develop the storyline with action items and details, and present your story to a partner and receive feedback.

October 1, 2013  
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm  
WIA Headquarters  
204 E Street NE, Washington, DC  
[Register](#) today!



Lt Gen Ellen Pawlikowski, USAF accepts the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2012 Awards Dinner.

## WIA Foundation Appoints New Board of Directors

The WIA Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of a new president, vice president and two new members to the WIA Foundation Board of Directors. In addition to selecting new members, the Board also elected Sandra C. Coleman, Director, ATK, Washington Operations as their 2013/2014 president and Annalisa Weigel, Professor, MIT as their 2013/2014 vice president.

The newly approved Board members are:

- Dianne Sosa, Vice President, Engineering Services, ATK Space Systems Division
- Kris Miller, Vice President of Business Operations, Aurora Flight Sciences

These distinguished Directors join the Foundation's current Board members:

- Jeffrey Foust (Treasurer), Sr. Analyst, Futron Corporation
- Rosanna Sattler (Secretary), Partner, Postemak, Blankstein & Lund LLP
- Katherine Bolling Farmer, Principal, Booz Allen Hamilton

As previously announced, the Foundation will present the 2013 WIA Foundation Scholarship to Ms. Erin M. Kirchmeier, a student in aerospace engineering sciences at the Missouri University of Science and Technology (S&T) at the WIA Awards Banquet on October 29, 2013. The Foundation will also present a 2013 WIA Foundation Scholarship to Ms. Samantha B. Rawlins, a student in Mechanical Engineering at California State University, Los Angeles. Finally, a 2013 WIA Foundation Scholarship award for honorable mention will be presented to Ms. Abby Dickes, a student in government and politics, with a minor in astronomy, at the University of Maryland.

The Board also acknowledges the many individual and corporate donors who have made the WIA Foundation's mission possible. These generous donations are enabling the Foundation to increase the number and dollar value of future scholarships. In fall 2013, the application process will open for the 2014-2015 school year, and two awards of \$2000 each will be available. For more information about the Foundation and the 2013-2014 scholarship, or to donate to the foundation, contact [info@womeninaerospacefoundation.org](mailto:info@womeninaerospacefoundation.org).

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