



WIA Connections

Fall 2009

A Message from the President-Elect

I am struck by both an incredible sense of honor and a feeling of tremendous responsibility as I contemplate transitioning from President-Elect to President of Women in Aerospace in 2010. Not only will we be ushering in a new decade, one that portends significant challenges for our industry, but we will be marking the 25th anniversary of WIA next year.

Nearly a quarter-century ago, a group of visionary women recognized the need for an organization that would offer leadership, networking and mentoring opportunities for women working in the aerospace field. They also sought to attract and inspire women to build careers in what was then, and still is, a predominantly male industry. The mission of those WIA founders was not to diminish the value of men as friends, colleagues and mentors. To be sure, nearly all of us, myself included, have been encouraged, mentored, challenged and inspired by men as we have traveled on our various career paths. Instead, these visionary women sought to create an organization that would embrace all who sought to advance and promote women's opportunities in the exciting field of aerospace, regardless of gender, educational background, or career focus.



It is a testament to the vision of our founders, and all who have succeeded them over the last twenty-five years, that we now find ourselves as a thriving organization approaching 600 individual members. We hail from industry, academia and government, and we have expertise in policy-making, scientific and technical fields, marketing and finance, education, and a host of other domains. Some of us have reached the apogee of our careers, running government agencies or major corporations. Some of us are just beginning the journey, as graduate students or ambitious interns. All of us believe in WIA's mission.

As we enter a new decade and begin a new quarter-century for WIA, we must continue to expand our reach - geographically, and across the full range of our industry's many dynamic sectors, including space and aviation, government and commercial. And we must stay responsive and relevant to our ever-changing industry. It is my job as President to see that WIA stays true to our founders' vision, even as we look forward to the future. Please help me on this exciting and challenging journey!

Best wishes,

Daryle Lademan
WIA President-Elect

Star-Crossed Connections!

-- by Daphne Dador
Aerospace Industries Association

WIA's [Reach for the Stars](#) mentoring program has finished its first year and we've received so much great feedback about the partnerships formed.

The following is an account of one of those partnerships. We hope it inspires you to get involved in the next class of WIA "star" participants.

In September 2008, WIA Reach for the Stars paired mentor Angela Phillips Diaz, *(pictured right)* Assistant for Education to the NASA Ames Center Director, with protégé Linda Marshall, strategic planning director at ITT Space Systems Division. Although Angela lived and worked in California and Linda lived and worked in New York, they made a commitment to meet bi-weekly by phone, despite the east-west coast time difference. They successfully met their commitment with the exception of a couple of times. In fact, the two value this relationship so much that they connect on days off and vacations.



Angela has a wealth of experience from her professional work with NASA, OSTP, and the University of California, so after a few introductory phone calls, Linda began bringing specific topics of interest to discuss. The pair met face to face for the first time at a WIA lunch meeting in September 2008, and Angela introduced Linda to her WIA colleagues. With guidance and encouragement from Angela, and advice from ITT senior management, Linda moved to the Assistant Controller, Director of Strategic Finance position as part of a professional development assignment. Gary Gernhardt, Vice President and Director of Strategy & Business Development of ITT Space Systems Division, ensured that Linda would be able to take advantage of an opportunity to shadow NASA Operations Director Deborah Feng and to meet with Amy Chan, former city manager of Sunnyvale, California.

Over the course of the mentoring year, a number of mentoring topics were covered, including body language, verbal language with senior leaders, working a room, NASA organizational structure, specific leadership issues, and looking for the next position. For example, Angela shared with Linda her experiences in attending various meetings and receptions and "working" the whole room; knowing that you're not the only person that may be uncomfortable. Starting a conversation with strangers helps put it into perspective and is comforting if you can put others at ease. Linda was always engaged and pro-active in the conversations - often posing scenarios that Angela could offer examples of her experiences or pose questions to Linda to help her navigate workplace opportunities. In addition, Angela and Linda share an interest in learning and experience with their respective MBA programs, so book recommendations, articles and training opportunities were often exchanged.

This WIA mentoring relationship was a valued two-way sharing experience and we plan to stay in touch as Linda progresses in her career and Angela discovers her next career in Indiana. Linda is a knowledgeable, focused, and insightful leader who can be a significant contributor as a WIA mentor.

If you are interested in participating in WIA's Reach for the Stars mentoring program please contact me at daphne.dador@aia-aerospace.org.

Upcoming Events

October 19th, 2009: [Women in Aerospace Networking Reception](#)
USGIF GEOINT 2009 Symposium . San Antonio, Texas

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Sponsored by:

October 27, 2009: **Annual WIA Awards Ceremony and Banquet**
National Press Club . 529 -14th Street, NW . Washington, D.C.

[2009 Award Recipients](#) (PDF)
[Reserve your seats now!](#)



A special thanks to our current sponsors:



December 2, 2009: [Breakfast with NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco](#)
The Hyatt Regency, Capitol Hill . Washington, D.C.



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January 29, 2010: **WIA Night at the Washington Capitals**
Night at the Washington Capitals
Dewars Club, Verizon Center, Washington DC
Tickets available soon!

Recent Events

WIA Networking Reception
AIAA Space 2009 Conference and Exhibit
Pasadena, California
September 16, 2009

WIA was thrilled to host a networking reception at the AIAA Space 2009 Conference in Pasadena, CA. More than 60 members and potential members came out to support this event. In fact, at this reception WIA gained two corporate members (Griffin Integrated Marketing and TSTI) and a few more individual members, topping our roster to more than 600! Many thanks to all who supported this reception and we look forward to the next one.



(l to r): WIA Treasurer Jeff Foust (*Futron Corp*), WIA Vice President for Professional Development Carol Aragon-Smith (*The Boeing Company*), WIA Board Chair Debra Facktor Lepore (*DFL Space*), WIA President Merrie Scott (*AIAA*) and WIA Board Member Dr. Laurie Leshin (*NASA Deputy Director for Science and Technology*) at the WIA networking reception at the AIAA Space 2009 Conference and Exhibit.



(l to r): Harla Sherwood and Bob Lindberg of the National Institute of Aerospace (*NIA*) join Dr. Shahzad Khaligh (*The Boeing Company*) and Gary Payton (*Deputy Undersecretary of the Air Force for Space Programs*), making great connections at the WIA networking reception.

The next WIA Networking Reception is at the USGIF GEOINT Symposium in San Antonio, Texas on Monday, October 19th. Click [here](#) for details!

**Panel on Commercial Satellite Imagery and Its Impact on National Security
June 25, 2009**

The sold-out breakfast meeting was a great success when individuals from industry and government gathered at Charlie Parker's Steakhouse for a panel discussion on the impact of commercial satellite imagery. The panel included:

- Bob Minehart, Professional Staff Member, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
- Gil Klinger, Assistant Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Architecture, Engineering and Integration
- Carol Staubach, Vice President of Booz Allen Hamilton
- Uyen Dinh, Senior Director of Government Affairs, GeoEye

The panel discussion was moderated by Warren Ferster of Space News and followed by a question and answer session.



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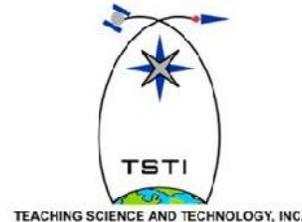


**The Formation of WIA-Europe Introduced at the European Space Agency Pavilion
Paris Air Show
June 15, 2009**

(l to r) Director General Jean-Jacques Dordain; WIA-Europe's first president,

Simonetta di Pippo; WIA president-elect Daryle Lademan; Former NASA Administrator Mike Griffin; and WIA-Europe's first board chair, Claudia Kessler. WIA Board Members Sandy Coleman and Suzanne Jenniches were also on hand for the announcement.

Welcome New Corporate Members!



Using Your WIA Membership

Thank you very much for joining Women in Aerospace! To use the Members Only portion of the WIA website, which includes the job bank and other members-only programming, you will need your user name and password. Your user name is your email address. If you've not used the Members-Only section yet, your password is wia (all lower case). Once you've registered the first time, you will be able to change your password.

If you have a password but don't remember it, you can request your password at the Members Only page. If you have any difficulty at all, please [email](mailto:info@womeninaerospace.org) us or call 202-547-0229.

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