



WOMEN IN PUBLIC FINANCE  
VIRGINIA CHAPTER



# Virginia Women in Public Finance Fall 2017 Newsletter

2017 - 2018  
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Fall 2017

## National Women in Public Finance



The Women in Public Finance (“WPF”) organization came into existence 20 years ago and was founded by four women to support and advance the careers of women in public finance by fostering relationships and networking and providing educational and learning activities and forums. Participants include state and local government issuers, not-for-profit issuers, investment bankers, attorneys, financial advisors, rating agency analysts, trust officers, and municipal market investors. This founding group was located in the Chicago area and in 2010, a decision was made to amend its bylaws to recognize regional chapters encouraging local participation and facilitating regional activities. There are now 17 Chapters located throughout the country including our Virginia/D.C. chapter.

In recent months, national WPF began the strenuous task of encouraging chapters to become more involved in the national organization by decentralizing the national group, diversifying its board members, soliciting for national members on a local basis and rotating the annual conference to different cities throughout the country. There are two price categories to a WPF Annual Membership: \$25 for public sector, issuers and students and \$75 for all other professionals. With a national membership, you will have access to the national member directory, newsletter, national and local events calendar, job bank and WPF LinkedIn postings. Membership also includes discounted rates at the National Conference, which takes place annually typically held in October. This is the first year the conference is being held outside of Chicago. The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual WPF conference will take place on October 26 and 27 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, CA. This year’s keynote speaker will be Mary Schapiro, Chairman of the SEC. If you would like to become a member of national WPF, you can access the Membership Application here <https://www.wpfc.com/membership/join/#join>.

## Founders' Award Recipients

### **Lifetime Achievement Award** **Stephanie Hamlett, Executive Director** **Virginia Resources Authority**

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Stephanie Hamlett in May. The award is presented to someone involved in public finance for more than ten years who consistently demonstrates skill, drive, integrity and vision. At the time of the award, Ms. Hamlett was serving as Executive Director of the Virginia Resources Authority. She has since been named University Counsel to Virginia Commonwealth University.



Ms. Hamlett holds a bachelor's degree from Mary Washington University, a law degree from the University of Richmond and a master's of tax law from the College of William and Mary. She has held a number of positions at the Office of the Attorney General including counsel to a variety of state agencies. She previously served as staff counsel to the Virginia General Assembly House Finance and Appropriations Committees and holds private sector experience.

Ms. Hamlett is highly regarded by her colleagues who cite her broad scope of expertise and skills, unparalleled work ethic, amazing capability to problem-solve, and ability to view both sides of an issue. She is regarded as a generous mentor to younger attorneys and policy makers.

At the ceremony in May, she received countless accolades from colleagues wishing to acknowledge her contributions to Virginia public finance. Said Jean Bass of the Virginia Resources Authority "every branch of state government has benefitted from her legal expertise and talent." John Daniel, Office of the Attorney General and Former Secretary of Natural Resources said "your tenacity in problem solving has benefitted many seeking to make the Commonwealth its corporate home." Carthan Curin, Former Executive Director of the Virginia Tobacco Commission commented that "her public service career epitomizes integrity, dedication, and hard work".

Ms. Hamlett is known for her love of running, a quick wit and tremendous loyalty to friends. One associate said of her "she's a team player and doesn't taking herself so seriously that she can't be part of the joke." When asked to reflect upon the award, Ms. Hamlett was quick to share credit with her co-workers at the Virginia Resources Authority.

Colleague Eric Ballou, Christian Barton, summed it up well when he said "Stephanie is a wonderful friend and a great lawyer. She's had a long and exciting career, embracing all aspects of public and private employment. She is a trusted advisor with a deep knowledge of Virginia public law. She is reflective and yet a decisive decision-maker. But more than anything else, she is driven to do the right thing."

## Founders' Award Recipients

### Rising Star Award

#### **Giedre Ball, Senior Debt Program Analyst Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority**

The Rising Star Award was presented to Giedre Ball in May. Ms. Ball is a senior debt program analyst for the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority where she has structured and coordinated the issuance of more than \$1.5 billion of airport system revenue bonds and Dulles Toll Road Revenue Bonds. She assists with the structure and sizing of MWAA's fixed and variable rate bond financings, oversees compliance with bond covenants, and monitors MWAA's swap portfolio that exceeds \$500 million. She prepares credit and strategy presentations for credit rating agency meetings, prepares documents for the board of directors, and drafts continuing disclosure policies and procedures. She manages and mentors interns within the Office of Finance and leads a Municipal Bonds Basic training program.



Ms. Ball graduated from American University's Kogod School of Business summa cum laude and received a Master's in Finance from George Washington University.

Upon graduation, Ms. Ball first worked as a consultant at the Infrastructure Management Group where she advised on project finance transactions, such as the USDOT's TIFIA loans and P3 alternatives. She joined MWAA in 2014 as a budget analyst and was quickly promoted to financial strategy analyst and then to her current position.

Ms. Ball balances her career with being a mother of two small children. She has also volunteered as the treasurer of a local Lithuanian school for several years.

## Scholarship Award Recipients

We are delighted to announce the winners of the 2017 Mary Blackwell Barnes Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is named in honor of Mary Blackwell Barnes, a dedicated servant of public finance. Mary passed away in 2009 at the too-young age of 44, but her memory lives on through the contributions she made to public finance in Virginia. Throughout her 20+ year career in public finance, Mary was a great example of hard work and a positive, confident attitude. Our scholarship will honor Mary through recognizing similarly motivated female students. The scholarships were awarded at the 2017 Signature Reception held in Richmond on Thursday, September 14, at the John Marshall Ballrooms.

### Jamie Marshall

Hampton University  
Class of 2018,  
Business Administration with a  
concentration in accounting and  
finance

Ms. Marshall is a senior at Hampton University, majoring in business administration with a concentration in accounting and finance. Ms. Marshall stood out to the Scholarship Committee for her variety of completed internships. She served as a Foreign Bureau Accounting Intern at The New York Times where she learned about international accounting and finance. She has volunteered as the Board of Finance Chair for a startup nonprofit and she founded ASFG Tutoring which requires her to regularly do budgeting, taxation and financial analysis. In addition, she was a federal audit intern with KPMG. She has been service oriented, giving of her time to serve in finance capacities in various nonprofit organizations. Her education and varied work experiences will serve her well in her future career.

### Emily Shull

Virginia Tech  
The R. B. Pamplin College of Business  
Class of 2019  
Business Information Technology, Religion  
& Culture, and Finance Triple Major

Ms. Shull is enrolled in the R. B. Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech. She is a triple major including business information, technology and finance. Ms. Shull has been committed to mentoring others, such as her serving as a peer educator and a college mentor for kids. One of the things that stood out to the Scholarship Committee was how she has honed her leadership and analytical skills through a game called Pathfinder. She had a great quote in her application: "Corporate finance is defined as maximizing shareholder wealth; public finance assumes every citizen is a shareholder, so it is key to maximize their 'wealth' in the form of public goods and services." Ms. Shull is sure to make a difference in her future career.



*From right to left:  
Jamie Marshall & Emily Shull*

## Virginia Women Recognized

*Our members are consistently recognized for their contributions to their communities and our industry.*

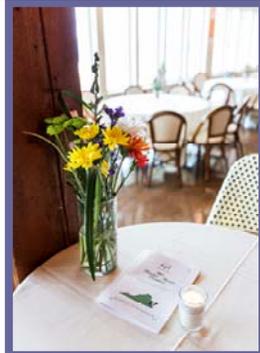
State Treasurer **MANJU GANERIWALA** has joined the Board of Directors of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB). Treasurer Ganeriwala was selected from over 90 qualified applicants. As a Board member, she will be working towards MSRB's strategic goals to address the evolving dynamics of the municipal securities market. Treasurer Ganeriwala's four-year term began on October 1, 2017.

**PATSY BROWN**, Director of Accounting of Chesterfield County, has been named to the Government Accounting Standards Advisory Council (GASAC) as the representative of the National Association of Counties (NACo). The Council consults with the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB), and as a member, Ms. Brown will provide input on factors impacting state and local government accounting and financial reporting. Ms. Brown has been appointed to a term ending December 31, 2018.

*If you or one of your colleagues have received a special recognition, please let us know so we can highlight these accomplishments in future newsletters. Please send information about board appointments, honors, awards, or other significant accomplishments to [info@viriniawpf.org](mailto:info@viriniawpf.org).*

# Virginia WPF Photo Album

## 2017 Founders' Awards Reception



## Upcoming Events

*See website for future event details*

### **Northeast WPF Career Q&A Teleconference**

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Via Teleconference

### **Association of Public Finance Professionals of the DMV**

#### **Networking Reception in Maryland**

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 from 4:00 pm—7:00 pm

World Trade Center, Baltimore, MD

Click [here](#) to RSVP

### **VA WPF Fall 2017 Networking Event at VGFOA**

Thursday, October 19, 2017 from 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Billy's, Roanoke, VA

Click [here](#) to RSVP

### **2017 Fall Virginia GFOA Conference**

October 18-20, 2017

Roanoke, VA

### **21<sup>st</sup> Annual WPF Conference**

October 26-27th, 2017

The Millennium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, CA

Click [here](#) to Register

### **VA WPF: Behind the Scenes @ Reagan National Airport**

Wednesday, November 8, 2017 from 4:00 pm—6:00 pm

Reagan National Airport, Arlington, VA

Click [here](#) to RSVP

### **VACo Annual Conference**

November 12-14, 2017

Omni Homestead, Bath County, VA

### **CDFA National Development Finance Summit**

November 15-17, 2017

Atlanta, GA



*As always, VA WPF events are free to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!*

# Thank You to Our Annual Sponsors!

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