

A Bright Future

SUMMER 2014

A Virginia WPF Publication



Founder's Awards Recipients

Inside this Issue

Founder's Award Recipients	1
Mary Blackwell Barnes Scholarship Recipients	2
Spotlight: Mentor/Mentee Interview	3
Career Fulfillment Without Losing Yourself	3
Upcoming Events/Sponsorships	4

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The Founding Members of the Virginia Women in Public Finance received nominations and announced the winners of the 2nd annual Founders' Awards at the Wine and Chocolate Tasting Reception held in Virginia Beach on May 28, 2014.

Manju Ganeriwala, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia, won the Lifetime Achievement Award. With over 30 years working in Virginia government she is truly deserving of this award. When Treasurer Ganeriwala accepted her award she provided us with a depiction of a woman's struggle for education in India which left most of our group in

awe of her accomplishments given her early circumstances.

Stephanie Jones, Compliance Officer at the Virginia Resources Authority, was the winner of the Rising Star Award. After completing her Masters of Public Policy at William and Mary, Stephanie joined the VRA in 2010 as a full-time intern and was offered a position on staff following the internship. Stephanie recently joined VGFOA's Communications Committee after being involved in the organization for a few years and in October 2013 Stephanie became a Certified Virginia Government Finance Officer. As a member of the VA WPF's Mary Blackwell Barnes Memorial Scholarship Committee,



her enthusiasm and dedication to the committee has been apparent and appreciated.

The 2015 Founder's Awards nominations will be accepted after January 1, 2015. If you have previously nominated a deserving woman, those nominations will stay on file for consideration in future years.



Announcing the 2014 Mary Blackwell Barnes Memorial Scholarship Recipients

The Scholarship Committee of Virginia Women in Public Finance is pleased to announce three recipients for this year's Mary Blackwell Barnes Memorial Scholarship. Out of a very competitive applicant pool, the Committee recommended and the Board approved scholarships to Anna Vesely, Ho Yee Cynthia Lam, and Emily Wavering. Anna will be a third-year at the University of Virginia where she was accepted into the McIntire School of Commerce with concentrations in finance and marketing. She has been involved in extracurricular activities such as the Alternative Investment Fund, Student Entrepreneurs for Economic Development, and the Women's Leadership Development Program. An upcoming fourth-year, Ms. Lam is double majoring in business administration and English at Washington and Lee University. Ho Yee Cynthia stood out to the Committee for becoming managing editor of the Ring Tum Phi newspaper on campus, interning in the Office of the Secretary at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and completing a civic fellowship with the International Leadership Foundation.

Emily Wavering is pursuing a Masters of Public Policy at the College of William and Mary, and has had many leadership positions both there and at her undergraduate St. Mary's College of Maryland. Emily is the incoming Editor-in-Chief for the William and Mary Policy Review Journal and was a Planning Committee member and student presenter at the William and Mary Graduate Research Symposium. At her undergraduate, she was President of Circle K International, a service organization, Vice President of the Economics Club, Vice President of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society, and a peer mentor for first-year students. Virginia Women in Public Finance look forward to presenting their awards at its Signature Event at Main Street Station in Richmond on September 17.

Virginia Women in Public Finance (VWPF) wanted to accomplish two primary goals with the available scholarship. The first was to honor the memory of Mary Barnes who was a dedicated public finance professional until her untimely death at the too-

young age of 44. Mary taught many things to many people and left behind mentees who miss her friendship and professional support. The second goal was to encourage pursuit of public finance careers by young women. Part of VWPF's organizational goals is to mentor high school and college age women. The national Women in Public Finance organization, of which Virginia is a chapter, offers a scholarship to high school seniors who are college bound. Virginia's Scholarship dovetailed the National Scholarship and made it available to upcoming sophomores or higher student status. The availability of the Scholarship provides awareness to the field of public finance and presents career options for students who have interest in similar fields. The hope is also that Scholarship recipients will stay involved in VWPF, and in fact, Jessica Rogers, one of the two original recipients, registered for the upcoming Northern Virginia Event on August 27.

Women in Public Finance, Virginia Chapter, hope you will attend the Signature Event on September 17 to join in congratulating the three 2014 Mary Blackwell Barnes Memorial Scholarship recipients!



Interested in Serving on a Virginia WPF Committee?

Please email info@virginiawpf.org with your interest in any of the following committees: **Events Planning, Sponsorship, Communication/Outreach, Scholarship or Mentoring.** We are looking for people willing and able to provide enthusiasm and ideas with minimal time commitment.

Virginia WPF is Selling T-Shirts!

VA WPF is selling Bond Girl t-shirts for \$20. All proceeds will go to our Mary S. Blackwell Barnes Memorial Scholarship Fund. T-shirts will be sold at all of our upcoming events. We accept cash or checks.



MENTOR/MENTEE SPOTLIGHT: Bonnie France & Emily Metzler

Bonnie and Emily have been maintaining an effective mentor and mentee relationship for the past 6 months. Below are some tips and information that Bonnie and Emily shared on their secret to success.

Q: How often do you meet?

Bonnie (Mentor): “We are not geographically close (Columbia, MD and Richmond, VA) so it is a little challenging to meet face-to-face, but absolutely worth the effort. We have met a couple times just to catch up and my goal is to meet one-on-one at last once every 3 months. We try to get some “in person” time by attending the Women in Public Finance activities. My goal is to get together by phone at least once a month as mentor/mentee, rather than for business reasons.”

Emily (Mentee): “Every 2-3 months as mentor/mentee.”

Q: When you meet, do you set a topic for discussion prior to the meeting?

Bonnie (Mentor): “No. We share many work-related and personal commonalities so there is no shortage of conversation topics.”

Emily (Mentee): “No, we typically have a lot to talk about and run out of time as it is!”

Q: In your opinion, what is the key in establishing and maintaining a good mentor/mentee relationship?

Bonnie (Mentor): “Although it is always a pleasure to meet with Emily or to talk on the phone, it takes discipline to make dedicated meeting time a priority. A good relationship requires finding time to meet on a regular basis. A good blend of commonalities and differences is also helpful. Emily and I are at different ages and stages in our lives. The relationship is more interesting because of differences in age, location and profession (financial vs. legal). But we share the commonality of a demanding career in the same arena of public finance along with many commonalities in our personal lives.”

Emily (Mentee): “In my opinion, a good mentor/mentee relationship is established through frequent get-togethers, an open line of communication, and by having the opportunity to discuss work and non-work related issues in a relationship that is confidential and without judgments.”

Q: Are there any words of wisdom you would like to offer to others who are seeking a mentor/mentee relationship?

Bonnie (Mentor): “It is worth the effort for both mentor and mentee.”

Emily (Mentee): “Don’t be afraid to ask questions of your mentor and go after what you want in the relationship. For me, I wanted a mentor who understood the difficulties of being a mom and having a career. Bonnie has been great in providing feedback on this issue, telling me about her experiences, and has helped me to appreciate where I am today as a mom and professional.”

Virginia Women in Public Finance offers mentoring services to our members. If you are interested in this program, please contact any one of the Mentoring Committee members or Kirsten Krug at Kirsten.e.krug@citi.com.

Career Fulfillment Without Losing Yourself

Lauren Fitzgerald of the **Mom Complex** will speak on how working moms can have a fulfilling career without losing yourself on September 17 beginning at 4pm at the James Monroe Building in Richmond. Most moms want to create a career that you love while also feeling good about being a wife, mother, daughter, friend, volunteer, etc. Most mothers know that this can be a major challenge and just like “one size fits all” isn’t true - one strategy doesn’t fit every woman’s professional or personal needs.

One of the main messages shared at the workshop is that they are on a mission to challenge working moms to **align who they are with what they do** by following four guiding principles:

- Go after what you want.
- Take off the mask.
- Draw some boundaries.
- Believe you are enough.

During this workshop, Ms. Fitzgerald will use this message, including recent findings in regards to the challenges of today’s busy career woman. This workshop will allow participants to use an interactive environment that will help them discover new ideas and tactics that can be applied to their own busy life. We hope to see you there.

Virginia WPF

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

VIRGINIAWPF.ORG

Upcoming Events!

Keep an eye on your email or visit our website for information:

Virginia WPF Career Fulfillment Workshop:

September 17, 2014, 4:00—5:30pm
 James Monroe Building—101 N. 14th Street,
 Conf. Room E, Richmond VA

2014 Virginia WPF Signature Reception:

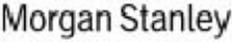
September 17, 2014, 6:00—9:00pm
 Main Street Station—1500 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA





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