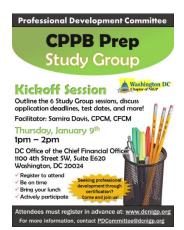




# **Professional Development**

The Washington DC Chapter Professional Development Committee's (PD) goal is to continuously educate members, promote excellence in our rapidly changing industry and promote ongoing training and certification to those engaged in the procurement profession. We strive to have a 100% certified Chapter. The PD Committee consistently promotes and provides opportunities for the District of Columbia professional procurement community.



### **CLASSES & WEBINARS**

When the pandemic hit and area budgets were frozen the PD Committee coordinated several virtual, instructor led classes and webinars to continue to provide training opportunities at no cost to the members. The classes were led by certified members of the Chapter, and included the CPPB Prep Study Group, provided in six session that covered a range of items such as: the application process, deadlines, test dates, and reviewer lead overviews of the domains for the exam.

CPPB Prep Study Group – January 9, 2020
CPPB Prep – Procurement Admin – January 16, 2020
CPPB Prep – Sourcing – January 30, 2020
CPPB Prep – Negotiation Process
CPPB Prep – Contract – Administration – February 13, 2020
CPPB Prep – Contract Administration – February 27, 2020
CPPB Prep – Supply Management – March 12, 2020
CPPB Prep – Strategic Procurement Planning March 26, 2020

The PD committee also provided webinars on topics such as Contract Administration: An Overview and Best Practices on April 28, 2020, led by Lydia Gray, CPPB. The webinar addressed contract monitoring, maintaining changes, maintaining contract documentation, addressing claims and disputes, and closeout activities.

The Contractor Performance Evaluation webinar on May 20, 2020, was led by Lizbeth Bryan, CPPO. Ms. Bryan laid out firsthand details about contractor performance assessment, performance evaluation in the solicitation, evaluation methodology, evaluation process, contractor appeal and the benefits of the evaluation.

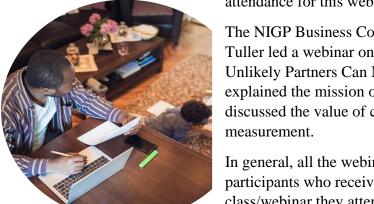
On July 01, 2020 Samira Davis, CPCM, CFCM led the Best Practices in IT Procurement webinar. The webinar provided an overview of technology procurements such as the type of IT commodities, IT Acquisition planning, IT projects life cycle, attributes of the IT procurement and risk management.

Recognizing that Chapter members were dealing with a lot during the pandemic, the PD

committee developed a webinar, "Remote Working Wellness", with panelists that provided different prospectives on how they were personally and professionally dealing with the pandemic as well as insights and suggestions on how to cope with the challenges of working in the pandemic environment. On August 13, 2020, Pauline Barrett, CPPB, Drakus Wiggins, CPPB, CPPO, Angela Turner, CPPB, James Crenshaw, CPPO, NIGP-CPP and Samira Davis, CPCM, CFCM conducted the

panel. At least 50% of the Chapter membership were in





acquired certification.

The NIGP Business Council members Rob Rhoads and Drew Tuller led a webinar on September 30, 2020 about How Unlikely Partners Can Make You Successful. The webinar explained the mission of the NIGP Business Council, discussed the value of communication and performance

In general, all the webinars consisted of approximately 15-30 participants who received 1 Credit CPE for each class/webinar they attended and that could be used toward either applying for a certification or renewing their already

### NIGP AREA 2 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

In 2020, The Washington DC Chapter hosted the NIGP Area 2 Conference. The conference was slated to be an in-person conference, but due to the pandemic the Chapter decided to host the conference virtually. This was a 3-day conference that included keynote speakers and various webinars. During the midday webinars a top tier sponsor spoke for a 5-minute talk time before presentations. In addition to the webinars the Chapter held a panel discussion of procurement leaders from five states with top tiered sponsors. The discussion centered around tips, insight, and business opportunities from their state and answered live questions from event sponsors. More than 170 participants attended the Area 2 conference.

The Chapter secured, 9 vendors who sponsored various events of the conference. The conference also hosted a virtual vendor showcase which all 9 vendor sponsors participated. The Chapter made the vendor showcase interesting by engaging the participants in a scavenger hunt as they visited each vendor's website. During the evening each day the Chapter hosted a virtual

social with a DJ, where participants were able to meet, engage in conversation, dance while engaging in fun activities along with winning prizes. This conference was a great success. The participants thoroughly enjoyed themselves through the various webinars that were presented, by participating in the virtual scavenger hunt during the vendor showcase and meeting and greeting friends and colleagues during the virtual social. The Chapter was highly pleased with how successful the conference was, and the Chapter received very high praise for a job well done.

## **MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

Mentoring is a reciprocal and collaborative relationship that occurs between individuals, one more senior than the other for the purpose of growth, learning, and career development. It's an opportunity to influence and provide guidance to help them reach their goals. Our mentorship program was created to do just that for graduating college students. The Chapter partnered with the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) School of Business and Public Administration's (SBPA), Master of Public Administration (MPA). This was an opportunity to bridge the gap between the collegiate and the procurement profession. Mentees would gain (1) a comprehensive knowledge of the profession, (2) get hands on experience with certain competencies, (3) engage in mock interviews, (4) learn new skills, and (5) walk away with a personal reference from the mentor after a successful mentorship. The program lasted 8 weeks and the chapter paired student mentee with Chapter mentor. Because this was the inaugural program only two mentees were selected, and mentors were assigned to them. Both mentor and mentee met and devised a strategy in which they were able to meet the goals, objective and criteria they agreed to. It was a successful 8 weeks. Both the mentor and mentee were able to gain knowledge and met the goals they established. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic the University in agreement with the Chapter suspended the program until they are able once again do in person meeting.

#### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The scholarship program is created to provide active members with the opportunity to further their education through professional development in public procurement that leads to a procurement certification. The scholarships are awarded after each member submit an application showing their active status in the Chapter, and an essay that addresses why they should be awarded a scholarship and what they would use it for (i.e. certification/recertification or to attend a procurement forum or conference). In 2020, the Chapter awarded 20 Scholarships. Two recipients received scholarships, specifically allocated to pay the registration fee to attend the NIGP Area 2 virtual Conference in Washington, November 4th – 6th, 2020. 18 additional scholarships were awarded to Chapter members to attend the instructor led NIGP Training Class: EFFECTIVE DECISION MAKING, which was led by an NIGP Certified Instructor: Mr. Michael J. Kolodisner, CPPO.

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