

**NEWSLETTER
WINTER EDITION**

**December
2024**

WASHINGTON 



Official Chapter **NICP**

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President's Message

This year has flown by so fast, and I am blessed and grateful for our chapter leadership team who has made my first year as President be a fruitful one. It's been encouraging to see YOU, the members, engaged with your attendance at an event or responding to our surveys and call out for volunteers. If you've not heard back, we apologize for any delay, but since we are all volunteers, we ask for your grace.

There are very exciting events coming up in the next several weeks for our chapter. I just want to acknowledge Vivian Nguyen with the City of Redmond for stepping up to the plate to take on this challenge of organizing the November "pack & sort" volunteer event and making it happen in record time.

Nominations for 2025 Chapter Officers are also now open. If YOU or someone you know would be interested in becoming more involved in WANIGP, gain leadership experience, earn a resume boost and help guide the future of Washington State procurement professionals. To be considered for this year's ballot, email elections@wanigp.org.

In addition, after almost 10 years in hiatus we are bring back the Holiday Dinner event to our chapter. We have selected Flatstick Pub in Redmond as our venue on Thursday, December 5th from 6:00pm-9:00pm. Your out-of-

pocket cost is \$12 per person. Please register yourself and your guest (optional) at 2024 Holiday Party - Events - Washington State Chapter of NIGP. This venue offers mini golf, duffle board, logs, back 8 and trivia (starts at 7pm).

Finally, I am off to a month-long vacation and looking forward to the balance of the year in leading this chapter through another year if you will have me. There are many more things to accomplish and that includes maximizing our website capabilities and ensuring that we have quality speakers at conferences. I am looking forward to continuing to serve not just as an officer but a mentor and colleague in this profession I fell into over 20 years ago.

Sincerely,
Ginny Justiniano, 2024 President



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Explore WA-NIGP



Since 2003, WA-NIGP has worked with NIGP - the Institute for Public Procurement to support, develop and promote public procurement, contracting, and supply chain professionals in Washington State.

Our \$40 annual membership includes:

① Annual Training and Networking Opportunities
(both virtual and in-person)

- January Business & Awards Meeting: Recognizes our Chapter's Procurement Professional and Managers of the Year.
- Excellence in Procurement Summit: Held each March in conjunction with Procurement Professionals' Day.
- Fall Conference: Includes networking and training from guest speakers/industry experts. *\$
- Philanthropic and Community Service Events
- Social Gatherings *\$

② Ongoing Education and Scholarships

- Monthly Lunch and Learns: 45-minute educational sessions held during the lunch hour.
- Emerging Professionals program: Designed to help mentor and develop our newest professionals.
- Sponsored Courses: We partner with NIGP and other chapters to provide additional, low-cost educational opportunities throughout the year. *\$
- No budget? No problem!: We offer assistance to help members develop their knowledge & skills.

③ Additional Resources and Connections

- Chapter Newsletter: Full of great information and updated every few months!
- Member Directory: Includes contact information for our 350+ members!
- Google Group: Our forum to ask questions, request copies of solicitations, share expertise and challenges, and get incredible advice from other procurement professionals.
- Committees & Workgroups: No experience or large time investment is required.
- So much more!

*\$ - Additional charges may apply

Visit www.wanigp.org for more information and to join!

New Members & Newly Certified Members

New Members – August–September 2024:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	EMPLOYER	TITLE
Riolo	Brittany	City of Tacoma	Senior Buyer
Bisset	Ashely	Port of Everett	Project Coordinator Engineering & Planning
Enciso	Melissa	Seattle Public Utilities	Contracts & Procurement Administrator
Hua	Stella	Western Washington University	Professor
Song	Phillip	Department of Enterprise Services	ECPS3
Nquyen	Vivian	City of Redmond	Senior Purchasing Agent
Silva III	Rudolfo	City of Yakima	Purchasing Manager
Houx	Brenden	Inter City Transit	SR Procurement & Project Management Co-ordinator
Martin	Jonathan	Inter City Transit	Construction Projects Coordinator
Brossard	Caitlyn	City of Arlington	Finance Technician
Phillips	Marci	Attorney General’s Office	Supplier Diversity Leader & Contracts Administrator
Murray	Peggy	King County	
Colina	Peter	DES	ECPS2
Coverdell	Nancy	DES	ECPS3
Knisley	Joel	DES	ECPS2
Olsen	Kate	City of Bellingham	Contract Specialist
Salas-Mitchell	Ryan	City of Bellingham	Contract Specialist
Armstrong	Patti	Seattle Housing Authority	Acting Contract Administrator
Ryan	Seth	Seattle Housing Authority	SR. Contract Administrator
Belcher	Jenny	City of Ocean Shores	Purchasing Coordinator

Newly Certified Members– Fall 2024:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	EMPLOYER	CERTIFICATION
Foster	Ryan	City of Tacoma	CPPB
Suta	Ajla	Seattle Public Utilities	CPPB

Educational Opportunities

CLASSES & WEBINARS

Looking for additional educational opportunities? Explore the websites below for upcoming classes!

- WA-NIGP: www.wanipg.org
- NIGP Webinars: <https://www.nigp.org/learning/all-courses/webinars>
- Columbia Chapter of NIGP: <http://columbiachapternigp.org/pro-d/>
- Oregon Public Purchasing Association: <https://www.oppaweb.org/index.cfm>
- Idaho Public Purchasing Association: <https://nigp-idaho.org/content.php?page=Training>
- Institute for Supply management: <https://www.ismwww.org/>
- Municipal Research and Services Center: <https://mrsc.org/Home/Training.aspx>
- American Public Works Association ([APWA](#))
- Washington Finance Officers Association ([WFOA](#))
- Harvard Law School– Program on Negotiation: [Free Reports - PON - Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School](#)
- NASPO– Procurement U: [Procurement U - NASPO](#)

NIGP Forum Recap

- Washington State was one of the highest attendance for Forum (both virtual and in-person)
- Check out the top 5 rated education sessions before the Forum platform expires in November!
- Here is a link to our photo album! https://wanigp.org/content.aspx?page_id=187&club_id=756424

**Thank you for making
NIGP Forum 2024 truly epic.**

Attendees

3,000+

Total

1,543

In-Person

1,471

Virtual

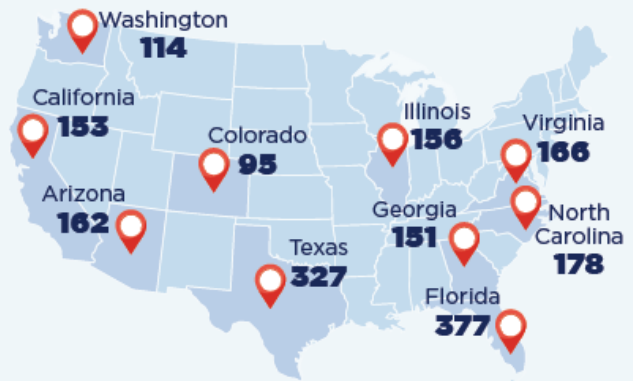
1,097

First Time Attendees

Registration by Country



Top Registrants by State



Top 5 Rated Education Sessions

- #1 **Procurement and Public Speaking: Using Your Voice to Make an Impact**
- #2 **Tangled Triad: Decoding the Fraud Triangle**
- #3 **Houston We Have a Problem: How to Simplify Change Management and Leadership to Achieve Success**
- #4 **Leadership - Lead, Follow, or Get Out of the Way**
- #5 **Steering Clear of the Wreckage: Avoiding Disaster with Your ERP Project**

November Volunteer Event

For those unfamiliar, Food Lifeline is like the “food bank to the food banks,” serving as a critical hub to distribute food to those in need across the region. We moved over 11,000 pounds of butternut squash in just a couple of hours! It was incredible to see how much impact we could make in such a short time.

Our efforts were guided by a dynamic volunteer coordinator who brought so much heart to the day. He shared his personal story of benefiting from food banks when he immigrated to the U.S. 30 years ago, which added a meaningful perspective to the work.

The butternut squash made its way into people’s homes as early as November 19th, just one day after packing!



Member Highlights

Ginny Justiniano: Procurement leader

Ginny Justiniano, Lead Contract Specialist, will speak at the Washington Procurement Connect, a conference for procurement professionals from public agencies including state agencies, cities, counties, schools and tribes, in Tacoma on October 8. She will also teach a class at the event.

"I'm representing King County and the Washington state chapter of NIGP which is all about public procurement members learning more about how to stay on top of the trends that are happening in the procurement world," Justiniano said.

NIGP is The Institute for Public Procurement. Justiniano is president of the Washington NIGP chapter. Her speaking engagement comes on the heels of her participation in back-to-back conferences in Charlotte, North Carolina. She started with the 2024 Airport Purchasing Group (APG) Annual Conference on August 23-24, where she was the sole Washington state delegate and the first attendee from King County International Airport's procurement group.

Then, on August 25-28, she attended the NIGP 2024 Annual Forum and Product Expo, a national conference for more than 3,000 procurement professionals. She participated in leadership events and spoke at three different sessions. This included co-facilitating a networking session for large counties and serving as a panelist for "Fell into Procurement, Now What? Creating a Professional Development Action Plan."

"The APG conference was super informative as it was

just focused on airport business," Justiniano said. "In my one and a half years at KCIA, I've discovered how we operate like a little city. The size of an airport can dictate how many services we are able to provide to our customers."

"We are aiming to be best in class by 2030," she added. "Taking procurement classes related to aviation will help me understand what it means to be best in class."

She added that many people end up in the procurement field by accident.

"Nobody guided us to how we get to learn this thing," she explained.

Conferences are a way to learn and to share information with peers from across the country.

"NIGP offers so much professional development, mentorship, leadership," Justiniano said. "There was so much good information that I want to take back to my team."

As part of her ongoing professional development, Justiniano recently obtained her NIGP-CPP certification.

She joined 409 other procurement professionals on the NIGP stage for the traditional Walk of Fame to publicly affirm their achievements during the awards dinner at Forum.

As an added benefit of her attendance, most conference sessions are available online for 60 days after the conference, allowing the learning to continue.

Photo: Ginny Justiniano points out her name on a large poster at Forum celebrating those who obtained their NIGP-CPP certification.



Member Highlights

Former intern to graduate, already lands a job

Dominique Thomas recently completed her internship at King County International Airport through the Year Up program. She will be graduating from South Seattle College on October 25 with a technical certificate in business operations and finance.

She's already landed a job as a contracts coordinator at Active Construction, Inc., a private construction firm.

"It's definitely bittersweet leaving the airport," Thomas said in a presentation about her experience. "Being in this positive and knowledgeable environment has truly transformed my perspective and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my journey in procurement."

Thomas originally wanted a career in human resources. She hadn't even heard of procurement. But as many people do, she "fell into procurement" through Year-Up. And she loves it.

YearUp is a non-profit professional development program dedicated to providing equitable access to economic opportunities and education for young adults from diverse backgrounds. Participants take classes for six months and then are placed in six-month internships.



"It is an amazing experience," added Thomas, who was a Finance & Contracting Services Intern. "It is something that has drastically changed my life. My future definitely lies in procurement."

King County's Finance and Business Operations Division (FBOD), in the Department of Executive Services, started using the Year Up program earlier this year. Ginny Justiniano, Thomas' supervisor and mentor, heard about FBOD's success with the program and wanted to try it out. Thomas' internship was the airport's first experience with the Year Up program.

"It was a successful internship experience and as capacity opens up we are open to having another one in the future," said Justiniano, Contracts Specialist.

Photo: *Left, Dominique Thomas, former Finance & Contracting Services Intern,*

Elections

Yearly elections are around the corner

Email the following nominee informatization to elections@wanigp.org

- Nominee name, email address, and organization/agency
- Position/officer role nominated
- Photo and biography
- Confirm you have spoken to the nominee, and that they are interested and willing to serve



Board Positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Membership Secretary
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer

Any questions regarding job duties or would like to request a job description please send an email to info@wanigp.org

Volunteers Needed

Our community at WA-NIGP thrives on the dedication and passion of its members. We are reaching out to all who are willing to make a positive impact, and contribute their time and talents. Whether you have a few hours a week or just occasional availability, we have opportunities for you to get involved and make a difference.

Join Our Committees

Our committees are the backbone of our organization's operations and initiatives. We are currently seeking volunteers for the following committees:

- By-Law
- Education and research
- Emerging Professionals
- Newsletter
- Membership
- Scholarship

Become an Ad Hoc Volunteer

For those who prefer more flexible commitments, we also have ad hoc volunteer opportunities. These roles are perfect for individuals who can contribute on an as-needed basis:

- Events
- Short-term projects

How to Get Involved

Volunteering with WA-NIGP is a rewarding way to give back to the community, meet new people, and develop new skills. To sign up or learn more about these opportunities, please go to [WA-NIGP Committees page](#).

We look forward to working together to make our community even stronger and more vibrant. Thank you for your support and commitment!

Scholarship Committee

WANIGP 2025 Scholarship Program



The purpose of WANIGP Scholarship Program, is to provide funds to members who are interested in furthering the development of their procurement skills.

Scholarship Benefits:

- Financial Support
- Opportunity to further professional development
- Take advantage of your WANIGP membership benefits
- Get funds for travel, transportation, and training
- *Apply anytime, apply for financial aid at anytime*

UPCOMING 2025 Scholarship PROGRAM:

January - [Forum](#) Scholarships (In-Person or Virtual) - as approved in 2025 budget

March/ April - Mike Purdy Scholarship use for NIGP Construction Courses

June - Open Scholarships! Continuing education, certifications support, and other related professional development expenses.

September - Fall Scholarships; Help cover travel related expenses for courses such as Edge Program, APTA Conference, NTI Training or other in-person training

November - Remaining scholarship budget will be advertised and up for grabs!

Please Note: One scholarship per member within a 12-month period can be awarded. You must be a WANIGP and NIGP member to apply. Questions? Contact us at Scholarship@WANIGP.org



NEWSLETTER

SHARE CONTENT WITH US!

WA-NIGP releases newsletters in the following months:

February
April
June
August
October
December

Have something you want in a future newsletter? Be sure to send it to the newsletter representative!

Jessica Buckingham
Email: jessica_buckingham@ycs.wednet.edu

We'd love to hear from you!

Board Members

CONNECT WITH YOUR BOARD MEMBERS – WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU!

Did you know that all members are welcome to attend/listen in on our monthly Board meetings which are held via Zoom every 3rd Thursday from 11am-12pm? Please contact Jessica Buckingham, Recording Secretary at secretary@wanigp.org for an invitation via Outlook.

Meeting minutes are published monthly on our website under the Procurement Resources, Document Library, Chapter Documents, Meeting Minutes. Thank you again for entrusting me and the Board of Directors to lead WANIGP Chapter as we continue to navigate through the many facets of this organization. Your continued support is much appreciated. Questions or comments, please feel free to drop us a note at info@wanigp.org.

The Board of Directors shall:

- Attend the regularly scheduled teleconferences and other meetings of the Board of Directors, and Chapter events.
- Control and manage the affairs and finances of the Chapter.
- Shall have authority to take such actions as will serve the best interests of the Chapter and its Members under an annual plan of activities and budget to be adopted by the membership at the annual meeting of the membership.
- Have no authority to expend or commit funds to an amount over the cash resources of the Chapter, or otherwise cause indebtedness of the Chapter, unless such expenditure, commitment, or indebtedness is approved in the annual budget, or in advance by 2/3 affirmative vote of the voting members at a regular or special business meeting. Such approval may be by electronic mail or other concurrence.
- Review the recommendation of the Membership Committee and by a majority votes shall accept or reject the applications for membership to the Chapter. The vote of the Board of Directors shall be final. An applicant whose application has been rejected, however, may appeal as specified elsewhere in these Bylaws, or may resubmit an application to the Membership Committee no sooner than one (1) year after rejection by the Board of Directors.
- Hear and decide on appeals regarding the Honors and Awards Committee's decisions on award of scholarships.

Chapter President

Ginny Justiniano, CPPB, NIGP-CPP

Email: president@wanigp.org

Phone: (206) 263-9393

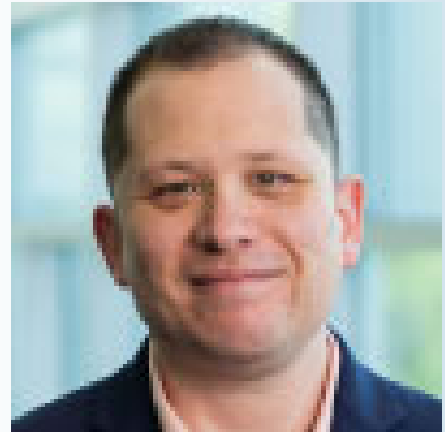


Chapter Vice President

Matt Versdahl, MBA, PMP, CSSBB, CPSM, CSCP, CPCM

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Chapter Membership Secretary

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**Chapter Treasurer**

Samantha Miller

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**Chapter Recording Secretary**

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**Chapter Immediate Past President**

Maija Lampinen, NIGP-CPP, CPPB

Email: majal@portofeverett.com

Phone: (425) 388-0606



**Interested in attending a Board meeting? Contact
Jessica Buckingham at secretary@wanigp.org**