



## NIGP- Utah Chapter

### Inside This Issue:

- Chapter President's Message
- Utah Chapter News
- Upcoming Meeting Dates
- Classroom Corner
- Special Notes/  
Announcements
- Speaker Biographies

### **NIGP- Utah Chapter Officers:**

President: Colette Brown, CPPB

Vice-President: Zachary Christensen, J.D., CPPB

Secretary: Gayle Christensen

Treasurer: Brandon Thomas

Past President: Jason Steinmann, CPPB

### **Board of Directors:**

Kurt Prusse, CPPB

Nancy Webb, CPPO

Vicki Woodward, CPPB

## Chapter President's Message

Dear NIGP Utah Chapter Members,

When I leave my house in the mornings, I can feel the change of the seasons in the chilly air. Summer may be coming to an end, but the NIGP Utah Chapter continues to move forward as we progress and grow. Along with a great speaker, Scott Christopher, who will be speaking on The Levity Effect in September, we will be highlighting the many changes completed since we last met as a chapter at our next meeting. They include a new website and a new scholarship plan.

Every member should have received an email stating we have moved our website to ClubExpress, a company that provides website management resources to clubs and associations. If you have not had a chance, please take the time to explore the website and all the features provided, including: a comprehensive events calendar with registration (please try out our next chapter meeting!); online discussion forums; volunteer opportunities; separate profiles; specific tools and resources in relation to our profession; and much more!

We will also be discussing our new scholarship program as we will be moving to a point-based system in which members can receive scholarship funds through participation in both local and national NIGP activities and meetings. This program is designed to provide incentive to chapter members to enhance their public procurement knowledge and supplement their professional development efforts.

As we approach our November 2019 chapter meeting, we will soon be starting the election process for positions on next year's board. Please consider participating and volunteering as we need everyone's insight to continually become better.

Thank you for your continued support of this chapter and the procurement profession.

Sincerely,

Colette Brown, President- NIGP Utah Chapter



*Colette Brown- President*



# Utah Chapter News

NIGP NATIONAL has made several online courses available. For more information on these courses, visit [www.nigp.org](http://www.nigp.org) , or email [customer-care@nigp.org](mailto:customer-care@nigp.org)

*Basics of Business Math*      *Business Communication– Written Communication*  
*Fundamentals of Business Management Leading High-Performance Teams*  
*Negotiating Skills– Influence and Persuasion*      *Project Management*  
*Time Management Fundamentals*

**VOLUNTEER** to serve on a chapter committee! If you are interested, please contact the committee chairperson listed below:

### Committee Chairpersons

Honors & Awards: Zac Christensen (USBE)  
[zac.christensen@schools.utah.gov](mailto:zac.christensen@schools.utah.gov)

Financial: Kurt Prusse (Jordan SD) [kurt.prusse@jordandistrict.org](mailto:kurt.prusse@jordandistrict.org)

Historian: *Position Open!*

Membership: Solomon Kingston (State Purchasing) [skingston@utah.gov](mailto:skingston@utah.gov)

Marketing/Public Relations: Tonya Hodges (Jordan SD)  
[tonya.hodges@jordandistrict.org](mailto:tonya.hodges@jordandistrict.org)

Education: Vicki Woodward (Davis SD) [vwoodward@dsdmail.net](mailto:vwoodward@dsdmail.net)

Nominating: Gayle Christensen (Canyons SD)  
[gayle.christensen@canyonsdistrict.org](mailto:gayle.christensen@canyonsdistrict.org)

Community Involvement: *Position Open!*

*“Be great in act, as  
you have been in  
thought.”*

-William  
Shakespeare

## Upcoming Meeting Dates

**MEETING LOCATION:** Until further notice, future chapter meetings will be held at the Utah State Board of Education, 250 E. 500 S., Salt Lake City, UT. Meetings will be held 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. See parking directions in this newsletter.

**Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2019:**

Scott Christopher- Motivational Speaker, Author, Actor  
*The Levity Effect: It Pays to Lighten Up*

**Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019:**

Marcheta Gillespie- Retired Director of Procurement, City of Tucson; Past President- NIGP National (2013-14)

## Classroom Corner

2019 NIGP Forum Report. Kurt Prusse, Director of Purchasing, Jordan School District & Utah Chapter NIGP Board Member

I just got back from this year's annual Forum held in beautiful Austin, TX! For those that are not familiar with Texas, it is hot. I mean really hot!! Apart from the heat, this year's Forum set a new record for attendance with over 1,500 fellow professionals that came out to learn, network and share their knowledge. For those that have been to a large conference like this, it is difficult to summarize in a short newsletter posting. Here are a few of the highlights from my perspective:

The new Pathways Professional Development & Credentialing program was introduced in greater detail. To be honest, going into Forum I was very skeptical about the need for another certification. However, after learning more about the program, I am convinced it will serve as another "tool" to put in your procurement tool box. The need or desire for professional certifications is a personal one, so if the existing paths are not right for you, this one may be the answer. One false rumor I want to dispel is, this does not replace the CPPB or CPPO certification, but only supplements them with skill based competencies as opposed to simply testing your knowledge. If you haven't already, take 20 minutes to complete the survey that was sent out and give NIGP National your input on what you would like to see in a professional development and certification program. More information to come in the near future about Pathways.

New educational "tracks" focusing on specific procurement topics were made available during the plenary session breakouts, which were very popular. I attended most of the construction related tracks, but popped in to a few of the others offered as well. They are listed below:

- Cornerstones of Procurement
- Technology
- Construction
- Case Study
- Emergency Management

Great keynote speakers opened our minds to new possibilities, challenged our everyday thinking about productivity and dared us to overcome our biggest fears. Roy Spence, the first speaker and marketing genius, gave the entire audience a mission statement or purpose to use in your department. *"To buy the best products and services at the best possible price to serve the greater good... to deliver a solid return on investment to the taxpayers of the US and Canada... whether they ever know it or not."*

All work and no play makes anyone a dull person. NIGP members are definitely not dull people. My favorite was the social activity at Austin City Limits, where we were treated to delicious food and great entertainment. You may have seen a couple of our local members tear it up on the dance floor if you were looking. Ask a fellow Utah

*"Great keynote speakers opened our minds to new possibilities, challenged our everyday thinking about productivity and dared us to overcome our biggest fears."*

- Kurt Prusse



## Classroom Corner- Cont.

Member what their favorite part of Forum was. I'm sure it will be different for each of us.

NIGP Virtual Conference (VCON) was also made available to those that could not attend in person. For those of you that like webinars, but on steroids, this one is for you! I hope there were a few of you out there that took advantage of this new technology. I believe this will be the future of Forum attendance for literally thousands, all from the comfort of your own computer.

All that being said, I wish everyone had the opportunity to attend at least one national forum in their professional career. Something of which I think the Utah Chapter NIGP wants to help make possible for many over the next few years through increased scholarships and funding opportunities. But until then, keep pestering your manager to find the money to go. Make a deal with him/her that you will bring back the next great idea to save your organization thousands of dollars in efficiency, innovation, or technology improvement.

See you next year when NIGP Forum is held in the windy city of Chicago!



### Utah Chapter NIGP Wins Award at 2019 National Forum!

Congratulations to our chapter for winning the award for highest percentage increase in membership in 2018 compared to all chapters in the US and Canada! We have officially changed designation from a "small" to "medium" sized chapter. Our chapter experienced a 60% increase in size in 2018.

Thank you to each of you for becoming a member and participating with us! We look forward to many more years of professional development and networking opportunities with you.

Please encourage your co-workers and other agencies to join with us! We would love to see continued growth in our chapter.

### Temporary Location for Remaining 2019 Chapter Meetings

Our September and November chapter meetings for the remainder of 2019 will be held at the Utah State Board of Education, 250 E. 500 S. Downtown SLC. Please park on the south side of the building (off of 600 South). Take a ticket as you enter the lot. Go in the south doors and have the receptionist validate your ticket. Go to the elevators, turn left, and then right. Go to "Basement West" on the right. We will have guides and/or signs to help direct you as you enter. Thank you USBE for offering to host us for our September and November chapter meetings!

## Special Notes / Announcements

### *New Website and Chapter Portal through ClubExpress*

We are excited to announce our new chapter website and portal at <https://nigputah.org/> . This website will provide information for all chapter meetings and events, will handle new membership registrations and yearly dues renewals, will be your source for chapter newsletters and will contain all forms for Scholarships and Manager of the Year and Buyer of the Year nominations. You will be able to track your attendance at chapter meetings and events for your professional development hours for certifications and re-certifications. It is intended to be a one-stop shop for all your needs regarding the Utah Chapter of NIGP!

Starting in September, newsletters and email communications will come from this website. Please double check your email Spam folders if you are not seeing these communications.

We will be uploading your membership information into the website, however, we highly encourage each of you to login to see the member benefits, and make sure your personal information is correct.

This will be a much more robust resource to our members than we have had available in the past, and we look forward to expanding into a documents library and online forum, where we hope you will be willing to share and upload your RFP's and other solicitations into the Specifications Library and Sample RFP folders for all to review and get ideas from.

A huge thank you to Colette Brown for her painstaking efforts to get the website created and up for us. We look forward to using this fabulous resource with you.

### *Buyer of the Year & Manager of the Year Awarded at September Meeting*

Thank you for nominating your amazing managers and co-workers for the Buyer of the Year and Manager of the Year awards. We are excited to announce our winners at our September 10th chapter meeting!

Please continue to consider those in your office that are deserving of these awards, and have your information ready to nominate them next year. Thanks for helping us recognize these individuals for their outstanding achievements!

## Special Notes / Announcements

*Please Note:*

**Our next chapter meeting will be Tuesday, September 10, 2019.**

**See you there!**



## Special Notes / Announcements (cont).

### Scholarships and Mentorships Oh My!

The Utah Chapter of NIGP is changing! Nelson Mandela once posited that “education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” In procurement, we have many different paths to pursue our professional procurement proficiencies. So, like our national organization’s new Pathways program, we are changing things up. Our scholarship program will be changing. We will be moving towards a participation points system which points can be redeemed for anything related to your purchasing job. If you would like to use that to pursue formal education, great! If you would like to use that for certification exams, fantastic! Are you dying to go to Forum and listen to Zac present, well go to Forum, I’m sure I can find time to bore you otherwise!

This change will help promote activity and giving back to our profession, and our chapter. We are excited to pursue this change and hope that you are too! The details of the new program will be on our super awesome new website and we will talk through them at our meeting. Your activity for this year will all count towards your participation.

Related, we are also creating a mentorship program. We asked earlier this year about mentorships and got a great response. This program will help build our profession, strengthen our professional relationships, and will help propel our chapter forward. You can find additional information on our new website.

If you have any questions about the updated scholarship/rewards program or the mentorship program, please reach out to Zac at [zac.christensen@schools.utah.gov](mailto:zac.christensen@schools.utah.gov).

### Remembering Sheila Bird

Our hearts are broken over the news of our fellow member, Sheila Bird, who passed away on August 31, 2019. She worked at State Purchasing for 26 years. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends and many co-workers she has served with these many years.

### Upcoming NIGP Webinars

*(Complimentary for National Members/\$190 for Non-Members. Register at [www.nigp.org](http://www.nigp.org))*

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019:	<i>Making Agile Procurement a Reality in Your Organization</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019:	<i>Risk Reduction in Public Sector eProcurement Implementations</i>
Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019:	<i>Market Volatility: Is it Impacting Your Organization?</i>

*(On-Demand Webinar Recordings are also available for free download to Institute members in the NIGP Online Store)*

*For newsletter submissions or comments, please contact Tonya Hodges, Newsletter Editor:*

*Phone:: 801-567-8706 ; Email: [tonya.hodges@jordandistrict.org](mailto:tonya.hodges@jordandistrict.org)*

# Upcoming Speakers

## Scott Christopher- Motivational Speaker, Author, Actor

Scott Christopher is author of the best-selling *People People: Who They Are, Why They Win and How to Become One*; *The Levity Effect: Why It Pays to Lighten Up*, and contributing author of *The Daily Carrot Principle* and *A Carrot a Day*. He has appeared on NBC's Today Show, Fox Business Channel, CNBC, National Public Radio, BBC and has been quoted in the New York Times, Washington Post, Boston Globe, New York Post, Newsweek, Economist, Ladies Home Journal and many other publications.

As VP of Speaking and Training at The Culture Works and a consultant on strengthening work culture with recognition and fun, Scott has circled the globe entertaining and motivating thousands of audiences from senior leader retreats to all-staff meetings. Applicable to all audiences in any industry, Scott's unforgettable messages and off-the-cuff humor illustrate firsthand how levity, humor and becoming a 'people person' enrich lives at work and at home.

In his rare spare time, Scott is a television host, emcee and actor (Screen Actors Guild), appearing on network television series Modern Family, Criminal Minds, Granite Flats, Everwood, Touched by and Angel and in Disney Channel movies.

Scott has a Master's in HR Management from the University of Connecticut, and while an undergraduate at Brigham Young University, Scott was honored with the United States' most prestigious acting scholarship, the Irene Ryan Award, at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.



### New CPPB Certification Recipients

Congratulations to Colette Brown (UofU), Zac Christensen (USBE), John Richards (UVU), and Jason Steinmann (Granite SD) for all receiving their CPPB certifications in July!

For those taking the October exam, study groups will start September 17th each Tuesday at 5:00 pm until exam time at the USBE. Contact Zac Christensen for more details.

### State of Utah PEP Seminar Dates

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Thursday, December 5, 2019

If you cannot attend our chapter meetings in person, stream us live on YouTube Live! Here is the link for the meeting:

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCbzRnjdT2gTfEpixKt9IEWg/live](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbzRnjdT2gTfEpixKt9IEWg/live)

If you are viewing the feed, check in on the chat portion of the feed so we can know who is joining us remotely. Thank you!

