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UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP

President's Message

I love politics and I hate politics. Our political process gives us an opportunity to elect leaders who will lead, legislate, and serve our communities. This provides great power to those put in these positions, and as the Spiderman comics taught us, with great power comes great responsibility.



One power we seem to have abandoned is the power to have a civil discourse with those who believe differently than we do. Too often we are bombarded with toxic messages, sound bites whose only purpose is to instigate, and social media postings that belittle those who may disagree. This part of the political season saddens me. We can do better. We are better than this.

Growing up, debate with my siblings and parents was a common thing. My mom used to laugh at my sister and me, we could argue for days if the sky was blue. But there were rules, we couldn't be mean, and we had to still like each other at the end (not always easy to follow). This passion for discussion has continued in my family. With 4 out of 5 kids in law, discussions are never boring! And we never fully agree with each other. I remember one time my brother had his new wife up for a family dinner. We got into a discussion on some current event and we spent an hour going back and forth. My sister-in-law got up and left the room in tears, afraid we were having a huge fight. Nothing could have been further from the truth!

I disagree with others constantly, and even though I know I'm always right, it's not, and should not, be about winning or losing, but having a respectful exchange of ideas. I don't know that I have really changed my family's minds after any of our discussions, and I don't know if my mind has changed to their point of view either, but I can promise you, that when you listen you learn, and you can see from others' points of view.

When November 3rd comes and goes, we will have plenty of changes. We will have a new governor, we will have new representatives, and they will make their mark on our lives. But we should also still have our crazy Aunt Marthas, our uncouth cousin Eddies, and our friends and coworkers whose politics put them on the other side of the aisle.

I was proud of our gubernatorial candidates who recently put out a commercial reminding Utahns that we are an example to the rest of the country. We can have our differences and still be respectful and productive citizens. This is our clarion call.

While I do not know what most of your political beliefs are, and I'm sure many know mine and disagree, I am reminded of what Thomas Jefferson wrote, "I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend", and you are all my friends!

UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP *Calendar*

UT Chapter of NIGP Meeting

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

10:00 am to Noon

Brown Bag Learning Series

Thursday, November 19, 2020

Noon to 1:00 pm

Topic: Purchasing 101 and Small Purchases

UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP *Elections*

Below is a list of current candidates for the 2021 officers and board positions. The vote will take place virtually during the November chapter meeting held on November 17, 2020 from 10:00am-12:00pm. If anyone else is interested in running, please email Colette Brown at cbrown@purchasing.utah.edu as soon as possible to be added to the roster.

Candidates for Officers and Board Positions



VICE PRESIDENT: Brooke Smith,
Purchasing Agent & Deputy City
Recorder, Murray City



SECRETARY: Gayle Christensen,
Senior Buyer, Canyons School District



TREASURER: Brandon Thomas,
Director of Purchasing and Accounts
Payable, Salt Lake Community College



1st YEAR BOARD MEMBER: Michael
Iwasaki, Purchasing Manager, Utah
State Board of Education

MEMBERS UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP MAKING HISTORY

NEW NIGP-CPP Certification Recipients

In September, [Tonya Hodges](#) passed the NIGP-CPP Certification.

Tonya is Utah Chapter of NIGP 2021 President & Senior Buyer for Jordan School District.



Congrats to Tonya for passing the test!!!

[Click HERE for the Press Release](#)

Tonya's Test Tip:

Take the NIGP-CPP test prep course along with studying your test prep guidebook. Be prepared to apply the concepts and principles taught.

NIGP-CPP Certification Handbook
[Download your copy](#)

NEW EPA Award Recipients

The National Procurement Institute, Inc. (NPI) recently announced the 25th Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® award. [Lori Peterson from Davis School District](#) and [Jared Gardner from Granite School District](#) were named as one of the 188 recipients across the United States and Canada.

A list of the recipients for 2020 can be found [here](#).

The AEP Award is earned by public and non-profit agencies that demonstrate a commitment to procurement excellence. This annual program recognizes procurement organizations that embrace Innovation, Professionalism, Productivity, Leadership, and e-Procurement.



Davis School District



Granite School District

UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP MAKING HISTORY

Last week, TWENTY of our members participated in a [Foundations of Leadership](#) course offered by NIGP. The course was a 2-day intensive course offered over zoom, lead by Lourdes Coss www.lourdscoss.com. The course was made available to our chapter from a scholarship provided by Sourcewell.





Jennifer Steffan, Chapter Relations Manager with NIGP national, has invited our chapter leaders to participate in a webinar to share our tips & tricks that we used when applying for the “[Outstanding Chapter Membership Award](#).”

The webinar will be scheduled before the end of the year and our board members are excited to share the great things that our members & chapter is doing.

NIGP Announcements

Call for Participants – NIGP Research

NIGP is seeking participants for a study conducted in collaboration with faculty from Florida Atlantic University and the University of Illinois-Springfield in order to learn from and directly address procurement issues resulting from COVID-19.

What are the requirements?

- Sustained commitment from the participant throughout the study
- The study will consist of a series of brief surveys over three months asking questions relating to COVID-19 response, challenges, planning, short- and long-term impacts, and how practices have changed
- Each web-based survey will take approximately 5-7 minutes to complete

The window for admitting participants to this study will close at midnight ET on October 30th.

If you are interested in participating in this effort, please email Laura Shelters at lshelters@nigp.org.

[READ MORE](#)

NIGP Mentorship Program: Making Connections, Sharing Advice

Mentorship can play a vital role in your career success. The NIGP Mentorship Facebook page is designed to help you by connecting junior members with more experienced practitioners who can offer tips, advice and shared experiences.

The Mentorship Group hosts monthly live virtual events that bring the community together.

Upcoming Live Virtual Discussion: “Mentor”

Richard Pennington discusses “Mentor”, a classic book by Laurent Daloz that provides a practical, engaging exploration of mentoring and its power to transform learning. Join this reading journey that’s filled with inspiring vignettes and helpful nuggets of wisdom we can all benefit from.

OCTOBER 28 | 1PM – 2PM (ET)

Visit NIGP Mentorship Group on Facebook for additional information and to join if you are not already a member of the group.

“WIN-WIN” Incentive for Chapters & Our Members

[Download Program Flyer](#)

How it Works

It’s simple. You win by getting exclusive savings of 30% on select virtual offerings. NIGP has reduced prices on numerous virtual classes so you can keep learning and growing. See full list of offerings below.

Our chapter wins by getting a 10% rebate for every member who registers before December 31, 2020.

Be sure to use the code **FORUS02** to get your savings. Let’s make this program a “WIN-WIN” for you and for your chapter.

[Download Flyer for list of Modules!](#)

UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP

Fraud Alert

It's important to know about fraud cases, so you can think objectively about potential weaknesses within your own agency.

Utah State Parks manager fired, under investigation for fraud, warrant states

Snippets from the Article:

Recently, a Utah States Parks manager was fired “for fraudulently contracting his own private company for projects that the state paid for, but in some cases the work was never done.”

“In March, Utah State Parks and Recreation conducted an internal audit, according to the warrant. In July, Deputy Director Scott Strong asked to review the audit by checking on a sampling of vendor invoices.”

“Scott Strong said as he was reviewing the samples, he noticed one sample stood out for vendor Colt Paving Inc. Scott noticed many of the invoices from Colt Paving Inc. were for just under \$5,000, which caused him concern because if a bid is over \$5,000 it has to go through a process with different controls. Scott also noticed some of the asphalt repair work was conducted during the winter months, which isn't typically done,” the warrant states.”

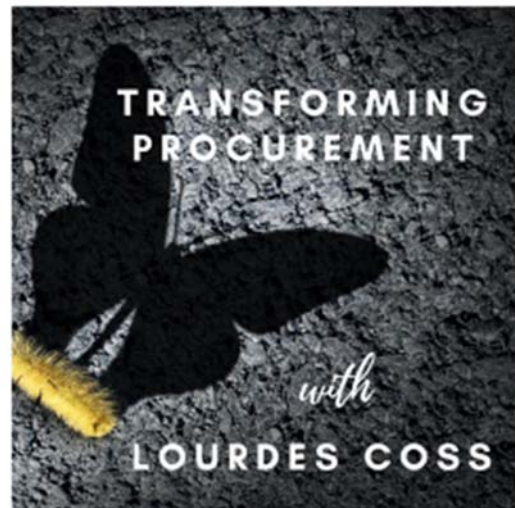
To read the full article, click [HERE](#).

UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP *Recommendations*

PODCAST: Transforming Procurement with Lourdes Coss

Transformation, Leadership and Procurement - educational thoughts, interviews, and commentary for procurement professionals.

https://transforming_procurement.buzzsprout.com/



UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP *Volunteer Opportunities*

Historian, Communication Involvement, and **Newsletter Editor** volunteer positions are open. If you are interested in serving on NIGP Board, please send an email to president@nigputah.org.

UTAH CHAPTER of NIGP

Meet the Board

Click on the link below to see your 2020 NIGP Board members.

[Utah Chapter Board Members](#)



Like the new look? Let us know what you think.

For newsletter submissions, recommendations, or comments, please email Brooke Smith @ bsmith@murray.utah.gov.