"A Word From The President"
Clifton Crawford, New Castle County Government

Dear DPPA Members,

I hope everyone enjoyed their time off during the holidays with family and friends. As we venture upon a new year I would like to point out DPPA's 2018 accomplishments.

In 2018 we had a membership drive and our goal was to increase our Membership by 25 percent. We reached our goal and I hope to continue increasing our members into 2019.

We started a vendor sponsorship program which allows vendors to sponsor our newsletter, website, and meetings. The funds received from the vendor sponsorship program will allow member to attend conferences, pay for scholarship and assist in obtaining a CPPB or CPPO certification.

In October we held our first ever educational seminar and vendor expo. We had a classroom filled with attendees and an exhibit hall full of vendors. During the seminar, we awarded the first Greta Iplencki Scholarship Award to Kariem Broxton, a college student at Delaware State University.

In addition to donating to the Ministry of Caring and Food Bank of Delaware, we also supported Red Nose Day and Harrington Lions Club by donating new and used eyeglasses. I want to give a special thanks to the members that volunteered their time to pack lunch bags for the Food Bank of Delaware.

During our fourth quarter meeting DPPA received a Proclamation from State Representative Stephen Smyk on our dedication to promote professional development and specialized education, dedication to supporting agencies that support the public (Food Bank of Delaware, Ministry of Caring) and procurement standards in the State of Delaware.

Our first Chapter meeting of 2019 (hosted by New Castle County) will be Thursday, February 21, 2019 at the Appoquinimink Community Library in Middletown. Hope to see you there!

Clifton

*This Edition of "Delaware Connections" captures all the Chapter’s Fall Events*
“NIGP Introduces a New Innovative Learning System”

“Aspire” is a unique and easy access learning environment which allows participants greater flexibility to engage with their peers while learning.

The NEW Aspire Learning System was released in October 2018. This system allows individuals to access all of NIGP’s classes, register quicker for the classes, and explore the many different methods of learning which best suites our busy lifestyle.

**Leadership Development:** The Leadership Development Program will consist of a 3-tier program:

- Tier 1: Self-Paced – Access to online leadership development content that we can take at our own pace. *(Released in October with the Aspire Learning System)*

- Tier 2: Leadership Reimagined for Chapters – Provide chapter leaders the opportunity to learn and exchange ideas and best practices. *(Scheduled to launch in February 2019)*

- Tier 3: Leadership Development for Members – Bring together a cohort of NIGP peers in both a virtual and in-person setting. *(Set to release at Forum 2019)*

**Virtual Web Conferences:** They recognize that travel costs and time away from the office can often impact professional development. To help, they want to bring the learning directly to our desktop through their new virtual conferences. The first conference was offered November 8th and 9th.

**Content Enhancements:** They are updating and enhancing their content to improve our overall learning experience. One area we will notice is that their content is delivered in smaller “chunks”. This allows greater flexibility and ease when trying to fit professional development into a busy schedule.

Finally, this streamlined educational journey empowers us to make a positive difference at work, in life and in the world. It’s learning that’s as powerful and personal as our aspirations!

For more information regarding this innovative learning portal, please visit the NIGP website at [www.nigp.org](http://www.nigp.org). Under the section “YOUR LEARNING JOURNEY”.

Information obtained from NIGP
"Delaware Chapter Holds It's First Procurement Educational Session"

Here are a few highlights from our Educational Session and Vendor Expo held on Friday, October 19th at the Newark Embassy Suites. There were 40 non-member attendees and 20 Vendors at this one-day event.

To see all the photos from this great event, please visit our website at www.dppa1.org.
Thinking about starting the Certification process?

Here's a helpful flowchart to assist you on your road to success!

You're the driver – Start your prep today!

**SELF-ASSESSMENT**
NIGP's CPPB and CPPO Online Assessment tools offer a virtual test prep experience featuring over 325 study questions that help you determine your strengths and weaknesses.

**REVIEW**
NIGP's courseware aligns with the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council (UPPCC) Body of Knowledge by Domain.

**CHOOSE COURSES**
Select courses that fill your knowledge gaps. NIGP offers face-to-face and online courses as well as relevant webinars.

**TAKE A PREP COURSE**
NIGP's CPPO and CPPB prep courses address key information on topics identified in the UPPCC Body of Knowledge. An invaluable tool that helps you identify your strengths and weaknesses. Face-to-Face or Online CPPB & CPPO Prep Courses are available.

**STUDY**
Form a study group of between 7-15 people to get unique perspectives on the topics. We have a guide to help you.

**RE-ASSESS**
Take the Online Assessment Tool one more time to see the progress you've made.

**PERSONAL STUDY TIME**
NIGP's animated, online flashcards make learning key procurement terms and definitions fun and exciting. Available in three volumes and based on the NIGP Dictionary.

**EXAM READY!**
“Chapter Members Volunteer at the Food Bank of Delaware”

On Saturday, December 1st and Friday, December 7th chapter members volunteered their time at the Food Bank of Delaware (Milford Warehouse). During the 3 hour blocks we sorted and restocked shelves and also prepared “back pack” meals for local school children in Sussex County. Collectively, we were able to make over 1,000 “back pack” meals; which will go out to the local schools.

Thank you to all who volunteered!
Chapter Holiday Luncheon & Awards Meeting

The Chapter Holiday and Awards Luncheon was held on Friday, December 14th at the Lemon Leaf Café in Smyrna. During this meeting we donated a van full of non-perishable to the Food Bank of Delaware and in conjunction with AFSCME Local 1607, we also collected 79 pairs of eye glasses for the Lions Club. We finally got the opportunity to meet our newest “Honorary” member, “Baby Elena” and present her and her mother, Salina Spencer, with a basket full of gifts. We accomplished all of this and still had time for a wonderful lunch and exchanging gifts.
On October 29th, members of the Delaware Public Purchasing were presented with an official state recognition to acknowledge the chapter's professionalism, growth, and dedication to serving the citizens of Delaware. Representative Stephen Smyk made the presentation to the chapter during our fourth quarter chapter meeting after providing us with some words of encouragement.

State of Delaware
House of Representatives

Be it hereby known to all that the House of Representatives acknowledges the

DELAWARE PUBLIC PURCHASING ASSOCIATION

This esteemed organization consists of professionals from eighteen different agencies throughout the State of Delaware. This chapter is recognized as one of the best procurement organizations in Delaware. The members are responsible for sustaining state procurement standards on all levels. Their membership grows remarkably by 25% in one year by providing professional development and specialized education. They are greatly involved with numerous local organizations and participate with their special interest in state legislation. We commend their outstanding contributions and extend our best wishes for continued success.

The House of Representatives extends its best wishes and directs this certificate to be issued the 29th day of October 2018.

[Signature]
Representative Stephen T. Smyk
20th District

We would like to thank Rep Stephen Smyk, for taking time out of his extremely busy schedule to visit the Chapter and for the speech and presentation. It was an Honor!
CHAPTER ACADEMY

FEBRUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 16
HYATT REGENCY DULLES | HERNDON, VA

A different educational experience that accelerates your impact as a chapter leader.

NIGP FORUM 2019

August 25 - 28  ~  Austin, Texas

What exactly is NIGP Forum ??

The NIGP Forum is where over 1,400 procurement professionals come together to turn ideas into reality. While at the forum you will enhance your professional development, network with colleagues from other states, and connect with new suppliers/vendors and much, much more.

For more information and to register, please go to www.nigp.org

~ Future Forums ~
FORUM 2020: August 23rd - 26th (Chicago, IL)
FORUM 2021: August 29th - September 1st (Anaheim, CA)
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Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, February 21, 2019 ~ 9:45 am to 3:00 pm
Apppoquinimink Library ~ 651 N Broad Street, Middletown