



Chartered June 1967

Richmond ewiConnect

August 2022



Letter from the President

July Recap: Our Richmond Chapter continues to Re-excite, Re-elevate, Re-envision! On July 14, 2022, our chapter meeting was hosted by our member firm, Reynolds Community College, and President Paula Pando. We are grateful for executives like Dr. Pando, who donate their time and energy to our community and to EWI. We are also grateful for firm representatives like Ann Bushey (representing Reynolds Community College) who keep their executives and firms informed and connected to

EWI. It was a stellar night with over 67 attendees.

July is always our month to recognize and award our ASIST Scholarships to adult students in scholastic transition. The Reynolds Foundation assists us with the administration of these scholarships (regardless of where the students attend college). We awarded seven students with \$2,500 scholarships each to continue their education in the fall of 2022. Each recipient was encouraged to invite a guest, the three outside judges were invited, and we invited several Reynolds staff who are very instrumental in administering these scholarships. We also announced a top winner for our chapter's Tom Chewing award (which is awarded each year in honor of a retired CFO from our member firm Dominion Energy, who was instrumental in generating corporate funding for our chapter ASIST program). This top ASIST student is then recommended to our EWI Corporate Office for the potential to receive additional corporate funding. At the chapter meeting, Sarah Scott, representing Dominion Energy, also announced that Dominion was making a contribution of \$10,000 to our BCDP program for scholarships and literacy.

At our July chapter meeting, we also recognized and honored our past chapter presidents. Our chapter continues to thrive because of our past leadership and mentoring through our past presidents. We have about 11-12 active past presidents, and we had another 9-10 retired past presidents attend our July meeting. It was a night of celebrating the past, present and future!

- 2022 Nominating Committee: Your Nominating Committee provided straw ballots and encouraged our members to fill out the ballots and return them to the Nominating Committee as soon as possible so we they can propose a full slate to our chapter at the August or September chapter meeting.
- 2022 Budget Committee: Your board members will be planning for the anticipated budgets for 2022-2023, and the Budget Committee should present in August or September.
- August 11, 2022, we have been invited by Megan Underwood, EWI executive, for a firm night at The Closet Factory, Ashland, VA.
- September 8, 2022, our chapter's annual business meeting and speaker t/b/d.
- September 14-17, 2022, EWI Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting in Corpus Christi, TX
- October 13, 2022, installation of our 2022-2023 Chapter Board and speaker t/b/d

Please continue to promote your firm news in our monthly Connect, by sending articles and pictures to Michele Rundstrom, our Communications Director, representing Altria Client Services LLC, at michele.rundstrom@altria.com.

Debbie Clark (Universal Corporation)

2021-2022 Board of Directors

President

Debbie Clark
Universal Corporation

Vice President

Renee Gaines
Venture Richmond

Secretary

Amanda Foos
Federal Reserve Bank of
Richmond

Treasurer

Christine Slate
Closet Factory

Sergeant-at-Arms

Susan Lawton
Federal Reserve Bank of
Richmond

Communications Director

Michele Rundstrom
Altria Client Services LLC

Retention & Recruitment

Sandy Naumann
Marsh & McLennan Agency,
LLC

Programs Director

Christy McCurdy
ChamberRVA

ASIST Scholarship Director

Michelle Lovatt
Richmond Region Tourism

EWISP & Literacy Director

Donna Thornburg
Virginia Commonwealth
University

Advisor

Tanya Johnson
Community Foundation for a
greater Richmond

Follow Us!



CHAPTER BUSINESS

2021-2022 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



President

Debbie Clark
Universal Corporation
Clarkd01@universalleaf.com



Vice President/Chapter Champion

Renee Gaines
Venture Richmond
rgaines@venturerichmond.com



Treasurer

Christine Slate
Closet Factory
christine.slate@closetfactory.com

Balances as of July 1, 2022	
VACU Operating	\$31,624.10
VACU B/C/DP	\$113,628.87
TowneBank Operating	\$45,994.99
TowneBank B/C/DP	\$55,289.65
Total	\$246,537.61



Communications Director

Michele Rundstrom
Altria Client Services LLC
Michele.rundstrom@altia.com

HELP NEEDED – Do you have website design skills? If so, we need assistance with updating our current website or creating a new website. If you have any of these skills, I would love to hear from you.

Please send me monthly articles, firm news, photographs, member firm advertisements and any suggestions you have to improve our monthly Newsletter, website and social media.

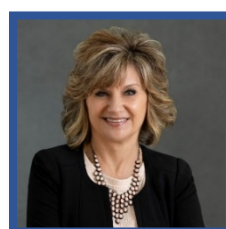


Programs Director

Christy McCurdy
ChamberRVA
christy.mccurdy@chamberuva.com

Close out the summer with our Firm Night at the Closet Factory! We are excited to offer tours of their amazing showroom highlighting

organizational solutions for both home and office. Thank you to Bryan and Teresa Mueller, Megan Underwood, Christine Slate and the entire Closet Factory team for hosting us!



Retention & Recruitment

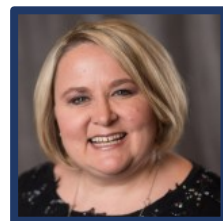
Sandy Naumann
Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC
Sandy.Naumann@MarshMMA.com

Let's keep up the momentum Ladies and keep those referrals coming and let's make this year our best! Thank you!



EWISP & Literacy Director

Donna Thornburg
Virginia Commonwealth University
dwthornb@vcu.edu



ASIST Scholarship Director

Michelle Lovatt
Richmond Region Tourism
mlovatt@visitrichmondva.com



Secretary

Amanda Foos
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
Amanda.Foos@rich.frb.org

Looking for a committee? Why not consider the Secretary Committee? Taking notes at our membership meetings help keep our membership connected with what's happening at the Chapter and Corporate levels. If you would like to know more about the Secretary Committee, please contact me.



Advisor

Tanya Johnson
Community Foundation for a greater Richmond
tjohnson@cfrichmond.org



Sergeant-at-Arms

Susan Lawton
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
Susan.Lawton@rich.frb.org

Meeting Reservations

In addition to Chapter Bylaws* that are the same for all EWI Chapters, each EWI Chapter has a unique set of Standing Rules approved by its membership. The Richmond Chapter Standing Rules can be found on page 4 of this issue of the Connect.

Regarding reservations for EWI Richmond Chapter monthly membership meetings, our Standing Rules state, *"Reservations for each monthly Chapter meeting are made through a response to the monthly notice of such meeting. Each Representative must respond to the Sergeant-at-Arms by the date requested as to whether he or she will or will not be in attendance. In the event of no response, no reservation will be made. If a Representative indicates he or she will attend a meeting, and subsequently does not attend, the Representative will still be responsible for paying the meeting fee."*

We try to be flexible if attendance plans change before the final count is provided to the caterer; however, once we finalize the attendance count, we are unable to waive meeting fees for last-minute cancellations and no shows, since the Chapter is committed to pay the catering costs.

*Chapter Bylaws can be found on the EWI Corporate website – www.ewiconnect.com – in the Members Only section under Resource Library.

Last Call for Items LCAM Gift Basket Items

Many thanks to Altria and VCU for already donating items to the Richmond basket being raffled at the Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM). It's not too late to also promote YOUR member firm! Please bring items to the membership meeting or contact Susan Lawton to make arrangements for pickup. Proceeds will assist EWI Corporate in offsetting LCAM costs.

Celebrating August Birthdays

Congratulations to the following representatives who are celebrating birthdays in August:

Michelle Lovatt (August 2)
Jennifer Laws (August 16)
Dee Dee Van Buren (August 19)
Lacyn Barton (August 22)
Viki Frankenburger (August 25)



Happy birthday!

EWI of Richmond Chapter Boundaries:

Cities of Richmond, Ashland, Williamsburg, Petersburg, Hopewell and Colonial Heights, and Counties of Amelia, Caroline, Charles City, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Louisa, New Kent, Powhatan and Prince George.

EXECUTIVE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL® RICHMOND CHAPTER STANDING RULES

Approved by Membership Vote 11/08/2018

The Richmond Chapter of Executive Women International (EWI of Richmond) will strive to be a *Chapter of Excellence* by including in its membership a diverse group of businesses, governmental agencies, non-profit enterprises or associations as defined in the EWI Corporate and Chapter Bylaws.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

In accordance with Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 1. A (3), EWI of Richmond representatives voted in November, 2018 to adopt subsection (b) regarding transitional status of Representatives after termination of employment with a member firm. The Chapter Board may grant transitional status, including voting rights and service as an Officer or Director, to an individual after termination of employment with a member firm who is in good standing and who has become unemployed due to elimination of job position, merger, acquisition, or other legitimate business reason for a maximum of 120 days. If after four months the representative has not found employment with a member firm, the individual will have the option to transition into one of the other bylaw membership classes adopted by the Richmond Chapter. However, transitional status may only be offered after advising the member firm and no objection is received within 10 days from said member firm.

In accordance with Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 1. B, EWI of Richmond representatives voted in January, 2015 not to include the Individual Member class of membership.

In accordance with Chapter Bylaws, Article III, Section 1. C, EWI of Richmond representatives voted in November, 2018 to include the Student Member class of membership. The Chapter will not collect initial or annual dues for this class of membership.

When developing a list of prospective firms, we will make a good faith effort to respect a Member Firm's line of business. However, realizing that in some cases, competitors are also excellent partners and customers, we will engage a myriad of firms to complement the roster of active membership.

ELIGIBILITY OF A FIRM – When considering a prospective firm for membership in EWI of Richmond, the Recruitment and Retention Director, together with the Chapter Board, will ensure that the prospective firm enhances the diversity of the Chapter at the time of the posting. Such considerations shall include, but are not limited to: (1) a recommendation for membership from a Member Firm or Representative (2) use of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to identify the code of the prospective firm (3) a minimum of one year in business, (4) approval by the Chapter Board, and (5) posting the information of the prospective firm as outlined in the EWI Chapter Resource Guide. The Richmond Chapter has voted not to accept individual memberships.

MEETING DATE – The monthly meeting of EWI of Richmond shall be held on the second Thursday of each month.

MEETING RESERVATIONS – Reservations for each monthly Chapter meeting are made through a response to the monthly notice of such meeting. Each Representative must respond to the Sergeant-at-Arms by the date requested as to whether he or she will or will not be in attendance. In the event of no response, no reservation will be made. If a Representative indicates he or she will attend a meeting, and subsequently does not attend, the Representative will still be responsible for paying the meeting fee. A Representative who has pre-paid meeting fees, and subsequently does not attend a meeting, will forfeit the fee for that month. Credits will not be issued for future meetings.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS – Each Member Firm is required to be represented by a Representative or an Executive at eight (8) meetings within the calendar year. Attendance at a Spring Conference, Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting, or a monthly membership meeting of another EWI Chapter counts as a meeting attended in lieu of an EWI of Richmond Chapter meeting. In the event that a Member Firm cannot meet the attendance requirements due to extenuating circumstances, a written explanation by the Representative or Executive should be provided to the Chapter President for consideration by the Chapter Board.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING (LCAM) – The President and Vice President/President-Elect will be Delegates to the Annual Meeting. Additional Delegates, if any, and Alternates will be selected by the Nominating Committee and submitted to the membership for election. Delegates and Alternates will serve for one year or until otherwise elected by the membership. In the event that the President or Vice President/President-elect or an Alternate is unable to attend the Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee will recommend one of the elected Alternates or another Representative attending LCAM to serve as a Delegate. All proposed nominees will be elected by the membership.

AMENDMENT – These Standing Rules may be adopted without previous notice by a majority vote of the active Representatives (in good standing) present at any business meeting. At any meeting these Standing Rules may be suspended by a majority vote of said Representatives present, or they may be amended or rescinded by a two-thirds vote of said Representatives present. If notice of the proposed action was given at a previous meeting, or in the notice of the meeting, the Standing Rules may be amended or rescinded by majority vote of said Representatives.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Want More Great Leadership Tip Videos? Click the link below to check out my YouTube channel!

Dr. Heather Williamson

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<http://www.linkedin.com/in/drheatherwilliamson>
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Transformation-Group-LLC/115938085147841>
<https://twitter.com/DrHeatherVA>



Leadership * Strategy * Performance

Mads Singers Management Podcast- "Having The Right People To Achieve Your Vision" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)

Sale Ring Podcast - "Building Relationships & Teams" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)

Leadership Talk With Adegoke Omotola Podcast- "Leadership and Building Trust and How To Win People Over" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)

The Bald Truth Podcast- "Building Trust In Your Organization" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)

Business Success & Coffee Podcast- "YouTube Tips To Get An Audience and Secrets To Magnetic Trust" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)

Business Excellence Podcast- "How To Create Employee Trust & The Importance Of Clear Communication" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)

The Power Of Connection with Kimberly Layne Podcast- "How We Build Trust As We Are Getting Back To The Office" with Dr. Heather Williamson

[Listen Here](#)



Much Success,
Dr. Heather

P.S. Don't forget to take me up on my offer *to be a guest on my radio show*, email me at drheather@transformationgroupllc.com.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINARS

Awake Your Potential: Inside Out Leadership

Presenter: Kim Zoller

ID360

CEO & Founder

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

1:00 PM CT



Join the Meeting



Cracking the Success Code: Tips for
Personal and Professional Development

Presenter: Lewana Harris

Korn Ferry

Consultant

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

1:00 PM CT



Did you know? These corporate webinars are open to everyone in your member firm. Share them with your colleagues. All of the corporate webinars are also posted on MyEWI for you to view at any time. Take advantage of these webinars for your professional development.



"LEADERSHIP CAN,
AND MUST,
BE TAUGHT."

LORI GIOVANNONI, DEAN OF EVIS ACADEMY OF LEADERSHIP

EWI VISION Statement

To enhance professional growth
and development within a
diverse group of women while
empowering them to make a
difference as they inspire
others.

LCAM 2022



Dates: Thursday, September 15–Saturday, September 17, 2022

Host City: Corpus Christi, TX



REGISTER HERE!

Omni Corpus Christi Hotel
900 N Shoreline Blvd.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Registration

LCAM only

LCAM and Leadership Caucus

Omni Hotel & Resort

**(Note room block expires
August 12, 2022)**

Regular Pricing *(July 1 - Sept 1)*

\$800

\$950

2 Double Beds

\$154.00

King Bed

\$154.00

This year's LCAM returns to a more traditional schedule based on member feedback. We encourage everyone to attend as many scheduled events as possible to maximize value and your connections with EWI Members.



EWI will be working with the YWCA of Corpus Christi with 5th and 6th grade girls, and we are so excited to be presenting something different to our members. This is the age that they begin making life altering decisions, like alcohol, drugs, and sexual activity. Prevention is a vital positive path for girls this age. The girls the YWCA serves in YWTeens are primarily from lower socioeconomic areas of the community. Our goal at the Reading Rally is to promote reading without being totally obvious.

If you have questions about this year's event, please contact Cheryl Holmes at cholmes@castoinfo.com.

AMAZON WISH LIST INFO

- <https://amzn.to/3qS4fB4>
- Ship all items to:
Navy Army Community Credit Union
Attn: Virginia Whitham
2730 Rodd Field Rd.
Corpus Christi, TX 78414
- Please do your best to ensure items arrive no later than July 31, 2022

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- **DONATE BOOKS:**
Decide on a dollar amount you'd like to contribute to purchase books and order through the Amazon link
- **SPONSOR THE RALLY:**
If you would like to purchase items or make a monetary contribution, please contact Cheryl Holmes, B/C/DP Director, at cholmes@castoinfo.com

Reading Rally Flyer [available here](#).

EWI CORPORATE NEWS

Corporate Events:

Next Chapter Leadership Call: Friday, August 26, 2022 1pm CT

Join the 2021-2022 Corporate Board of Directors for the August 2022 Chapter Leadership Call! Register [HERE](#)

August Professional Development Webinar with Kim Zoller, ID 360 - August 9, 2022 - 1:00 PM CT

EWI Corporate Budget & Bylaw Amendment Call with Membership: Friday, August 12, 2022 12pm CT

Please join the 2021-2022 Corporate Budget and Bylaws Committees for an open forum call to share proposed updates to the 2022-2023 Corporate Budget and the Corporate and Chapter Bylaws. Register [HERE](#)

Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting (LCAM): September 15-17, 2022



We Need You! We need donations for the silent auction and door prizes. Help us create an epic LCAM! Please contact Jennifer Clark, EWI Dallas Chapter to donate items - jennifer.clark@dallashearingfoundation.org. You can also mail gift baskets and/or door prizes to Jennifer Clark, 1732 Crystal Way, Plano, TX 75074

Corporate Nominating Committee proposed slate for our 2022-2023 Corporate Board of Directors:

Position

Nominee/Firm

Corporate President	Christine Laird – EWI of Oklahoma City, Individual Member
President-Elect	Charlie Rosenquist – EWI of Chattanooga, BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee (3-year term)
Secretary/Treasurer	Samantha Patrick – EWI of Albuquerque, Farmers Insurance (2-year term)
Director	Vicki Chapman – EWI of San Antonio, SWBC (2-year term)
Director	Kathy Scott – EWI of Kansas City, Balls Food Stores (2nd year of 2-year term)
Director	Cheryl McCall – EWI of Omaha, Access Bank (2nd year of 2-year term)
Director	Marji Zamora – EWI of Houston, Speedy Printing (2nd year of 2-year term)

Christine Laird will be installed as President at the 2022 Annual Meeting in Corpus Christi, TX, on September 17, 2022. As immediate Past Corporate President, Christine Healy, EWI of Des Moines, representing TPI, will fulfill the position of Corporate Advisor for the 2022-2023 Corporate Board of Directors.

The Corporate Scholarship Committee is excited to announce the EWISP and ASIST winners:

EWISP Winners - 5 scholarships at \$1,000 each

Leah Dugger – EWI of Dallas
Elizabeth Price – EWI of Tulsa
Rose Johnson – EWI of San Diego
Savanna Peng – EWI of Honolulu
Katrina Machetta – EWI of Houston

ASIST Scholarship Winners

1st Place \$6,000– KaShawndra Davis – EWI of Birmingham
2nd Place \$3,000 – Cynthia Lazar – EWI of Phoenix
3rd, 4th, and 5th Place winners \$2,000 each
Kristen Monahan – EWI of Lehigh Valley
Angel Sape – EWI of Tulsa
Kauluwehi Kato - EWI of Honolulu

Awake Your Potential, Provided by: Kim Zoller, ID360



We must lead ourselves first before we can lead anyone else! Leadership is the ability to significantly influence the thoughts, feelings, actions, and behaviors of those they lead. Leadership is influence. Leadership is not persuasion or manipulation. It's having the certainty in yourself so that you are able to serve others. It's caring and committing to yourself and those you lead and serve.

"Knowledge is a rumor until it becomes a muscle." Leadership in most cases is a learned skill, not an innate talent. Even for people who have some natural leadership skills, leadership is like a muscle. And just like a muscle, you must constantly train, adapt and grow to meet the needs of those you are mentoring and leading. [\(read more\)](#)...

EWI OF RICHMOND CHAPTER AND FIRM NEWS



Have you ever thought of Board service? Giving back to our Chapter in the form of board service is the most rewarding and satisfying experience. It's that time of year when the Nominating Committee requests membership fill out the Straw Ballot nominating our representatives for Chapter Board positions. You can nominate yourself too! See the Straw Ballot and message on the next page from the Nominating Committee Chair, Dr. Heather Williamson, representing Transformation Group LLC. Don't worry, we will mentor you and show you the ropes, so don't be shy! Get involved today.

Altria is proud to have earned "Great Place to Work® Certification™" for the third year in a row thanks to their people. Their company culture is their top priority! Check out what their employees say makes working at Altria so great: <http://ow.ly/f9ga50JWtXb>. Interested in joining their team? Check out www.altria.com/careers for job openings near you!



Leading Practices in Diverse Talent Management

AUGUST 17, 2022

12:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Event is FREE and Open to Chamber Members & Non-Members



ChamberRVA presents *DEI Collaborative: Leading Practices in Diverse Talent Management* on Wednesday, August 17 from 12pm to 2:30 pm. This is a free event open to both Chamber members and nonmember and lunch will be served. [Register for tickets here.](#)

Diverse talent management is important to consider as we move forward with the collective vision of a workforce that accurately models all the different backgrounds of our community.

This DEI Collaborative Leading Practice session will provide an opportunity to hear from some of those leading this work right here in our region. This session will begin with an interview with Jennifer Hunter of Altria to hear

about her experiences commandeering this work within her own organization.

The interview will be followed with a panel presentation featuring their organization's DEI practices through the lens of one of the following:

- *Recruitment | Casey Prentice, Account Director and Hannah Robinson, Account Executive. The Hodges Partnership
- *Retention-Culture | Mario Velez Acosta, Vice-President, Local Engagement, Corporate Social Responsibility and Public Policy, Verizon
- *Advancement | Jamie Lewis, Human Resource Director, Gilbane



We're so grateful for everyone who participated in this year's Anthem LemonAid presented by Richmond Ford. Because of you, we were able to raise more than \$172,000 for kids with cancer at CHoR!



Feeling a pinch in your pocketbook or wallet? With inflation continuing to rise, free resources through the Federal Trade Commission can help consumers make better-informed choices about the products they buy. You can get consumer advice, guidance, news, and consumer alerts here: <http://ow.ly/B82V50KaGh4>





EWI of Richmond 2022-2023 Board of Directors Straw Ballot Form

Enter your first choice for each position, and if desired, your second choice. Prior to our next business meeting at which the Nominating Committee will report, written notice of the proposed slate will be sent to all representatives. Other nominations may thereafter be submitted in writing to the President fifteen (15) days prior to our chapter annual meeting, and the President shall notify the membership. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the meeting. If there is more than one nominee for an office, the vote shall be by ballot.

A minimum of three (3) directors, which includes the President-Elect, must have served on the Chapter Board the previous year. No director shall serve more than five (5) consecutive terms.

Please return your ballot by **August 26, 2022** to Dr. Heather Williamson at (drheather@transformationgrouppllc.com).

	First Choice	Second Choice
President	Renee Gaines_____	_____
Vice President / President Elect	_____	_____
Secretary	Amanda Foos_____	_____
Treasurer – <i>serving a 2 year term</i>	Christine Slate_____	_____
Sergeant-at-Arms	Susan Lawton_____	_____
Retention & Recruitment Director	Sandy Naumann_____	_____
Program Director	Christy McCurdy_____	_____
Communications Director	_____	_____
ASIST Director	_____	_____
EWISP / Literacy Director	_____	_____

EWI of Richmond – Board Positions

Board Positions and Snapshot of responsibilities:

President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Chapter Preside at all meetings of the Chapter and the Chapter Board of Directors Appoints a parliamentarian; Appoint Standing Committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee Serves as an ex-officio, voting member of each committee except the Nominating Committee Votes only to break a tie or in case of a vote by ballot in a Board or Chapter meeting Shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chapter Board of Directors 	Treasurer (2 year term) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements Receives and deposits all money of the Chapter in the name and to the credit of the Chapter, in depositories designated by the Chapter Board of Directors Disburses the funds of the Chapter as may be approved by the Chapter Board of Directors, providing proper documentation for such disbursements Renders to the President, the Chapter Board of Directors, and to the Chapter whenever they may require accounts of all transactions as Treasurer, and of the financial condition of the Chapter Responsible for annual corporate assessments and new member admission fees Reconciles monthly bank statements Serves on and chair's the Budget Committee, which prepares the annual budget
Vice President/President Elect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performs all the duties of the President in the case of the absence or disability of the President Performs other duties as may be delegated by the President or by the Chapter Board of Directors. Shadows the President throughout the year to gain an understanding of the position of President. 	Sergeant-at-Arms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages online registrations for membership meetings Conducts roll call to establish a quorum at each meeting; maintains attendance records Prepares nametags for monthly membership meetings Greets executives, representatives and guests at monthly membership meetings Sends birthday cards to representatives and arranges for flowers or gifts when special circumstances warrant
Secretary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records Board and Membership meeting minutes, presents them to Board for approval, and presents them to Membership for approval. Sends to Corporate upon approval Sends notice of meetings to Membership. Executes official documents, with the President, in the name of the Chapter 	Retention and Recruitment Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruits new member firms Works with a committee to retaining existing member firms Plans a new member orientation for new representatives as needed Installs new member representatives as needed Pairs new representatives with Chapter mentors Keeps records of all new members and provides contact information on each to the Chapter Board of Directors
Program Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommends speakers and plans programs for the year in keeping with the three tenets of the EWI mission statement Makes logistical preparations for monthly membership meetings Develops and implements fundraising projects for the Chapter's B/C/DP (Business/Career/Development Programs) initiatives. Organizes and handles monthly membership meeting raffles. 	Communications Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepares and distributes monthly Chapter e-newsletter Relays member firm and representatives news to the chapter Maintains and updates Chapter website as well as Chapter social media channels Ensures that photography is taken at all EWI events Keeps Chapter pictorial directory current and periodically distributes updates
EWISP / Literacy Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EWISP – Administers EWI Scholarship Program (academic-based scholarships for high school seniors) Literacy – Secures programs to conduct with members and groups in the Richmond Region community that focus on literacy efforts. 	ASIST Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASIST – Administers Adult Students in Scholastic Transition (need-based scholarships for adults)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JULY ASIST SCHOLASHIP AWARDS AND MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Left to right: Ann Bushey, Debbie Clark And Dr. Paula Pando

Chapter President Debbie Clark (Universal Corporation) called the meeting to order at 5:55 pm, welcoming members, past presidents, guests, and award recipients; also thanking Reynolds Community College for graciously hosting the Chapter's ASIST program, as well as the Chapter members whose efforts made the evening possible, most notably ASIST Director Michelle Lovatt and Reynolds Community College's representative Ann Bushey. Debbie then provided an overview of EWI and the Chapter's recent activities.

Sergeant-at-Arms Susan Lawton (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond) conducted a roll call of member firms and representatives, establishing a quorum.

Past Chapter President Carolyn Raskind (Westminster Canterbury, retired) delivered the evening's invocation, inspiring her audience to hold open the door of opportunity for others; resort to hope, not fear; and to break bread with and learn from one another. Dinner was served.



Past Chapter President Carolyn Raskind delivers the invocation.

Ann Bushey (Reynolds Community College) introduced the evening's first guest speaker, Dr. Paula Pando, President of Reynolds Community College. Dr. Pando serves on various boards of directors across the Richmond area and is a pillar of the academic community. She works tirelessly, bringing a pipeline of Reynolds talent to fruition for regional employers. Dr. Pando spoke about the future of workforce talent being adult learners.



Janeen McNeish, two-time former ASIST recipient and graduate of Reynolds Community College with Dr. Paul Pando, President of Reynolds Community College.

Dr. Pando then introduced a special former student of Reynolds and mentee of hers, Janeen McNeish. Janeen is also a former two-time EWI of Richmond ASIST scholarship recipient. Janeen spoke to the group about the importance of the ASIST scholarship, sharing the impact it has had on her life, and also reminding the influence each scholarship has on a student, impacting one student at a time, one life at a time. "Everyone can succeed under the right circumstances." Janeen was the oldest of five siblings in a single parent home in the southside of Richmond. She always looked up to her mother, who was a nurse. Janeen talked about how the ASIST scholarship helped her to go back to school to become a nurse. Becoming a nurse provided Janeen meaning, and renewed her passion and determination. She advised students to seek out faculty members as mentors and to "go after every opportunity because you deserve it."

ASIST Director Michelle Lovatt (Richmond Region Tourism) moved into the awards portion of the evening, thanking the students who applied, and the wonderful judges who dedicated their time and energy: Fred E. Shuford (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond), Dr. Berkita Bradford (Virginia State University), and Judy Lin Bristow (Groome Transportation). She also thanked Reynolds Community College's scholarship office for their continued partnership, and the EWI ASIST committee: Sandy Naumann (Marsh & McClennan Agency), Karen Huffman (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond), Ann Bushey (Reynolds Community College), Renee Gaines (Venture Richmond Inc.), Dee Dee Van Buren (T.A.C. Solutions) and Joan Dyer (Legal Resources).



Left to right: Jasmine Mason, Thinh "Kevin" Nguyen, Judy Bristow, Kemesha McMullen, Benton McFadden, Shekeirra Munford and Dr. Paula Pando.



ASIST Recipient Kevin Nguyen and his proud father.

ASIST Committee members introduced the seven ASIST recipients – Roneisha Coleman (Reynolds Community College), Jasmine Mason (Columbus College of Art and Design), Benton McFadden (Longwood University), Kemesha McMullen (Bryant & Stratton College), Shekeirra Munford (Reynolds Community College), Wreshmina Patman (Reynolds Community College), and Kevin Nguyen (Reynolds Community College). Each recipient who was present was called to the podium to receive a certificate and say a few words about why they chose their field of study and plans for the future. Kevin Nguyen was also announced as the top ASIST winner and his application was entered to win additional scholarship funds from EWI Corporate.

In recognition of past Chapter presidents, Vice President/President-Elect Renee Gaines (Venture Richmond Inc.) announced each past president and presented them with a rose.

Debbie Clark then moved into the Chapter business portion of the meeting. Debbie made a motion from the board to approve Christine Slate (The Closet Factory) and Michele Rundstrom (Altria Client Services LLC) as alternates to vote on behalf of the Chapter at the annual meeting; and to send delegates and alternates "informed but not instructed." The motion was seconded and approved by membership.

Secretary Amanda Foos (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond) presented a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9 membership meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by membership. Renee Gaines delivered a Nominating Committee update, asking membership to complete the straw ballot by August 26. Ballots can be emailed to Dr. Heather Williamson. Sarah Scott (Dominion Energy) announced Dominion Energy's donation of \$10,000 to the Chapter's B/C/DP budget.

Debbie Clark concluded the meeting, announcing August's Chapter meeting will be hosted at Closet Factory's headquarters in Ashland on August 11, 2022.



Background: Kemeshia McMullen; Barry Moore (BBB); Donna Rominieki (Cater Nation); Vicki Frankenburger (Virginia Credit Union); Sarah Scott (Dominion Energy); Foreground: Brenda Long, retired (Dominion Energy); Judy Lin Bristow (ASIST Judge) and Megan Underwood (Executive of The Closet Factory).



Christine Slate (The Closet Factory); Susan Lawton (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond) and Kit Hull, Honorary Member working the registration desk.



Ben Desart (Executive at Universal Corporation) with Dr. Paula Pando.



Past Presidents Lillie Stratton (1993), Elizabeth "Liz" Perry (1995) and Viki Frankenburger (VACU, 2005)



Sarah Scott and Brenda Long announce Dominion Energy's donation of \$10,000 to the Chapter's B/C/DP budget.



EWI of Richmond Past Chapter Presidents: Top left to right: Michele Rundstrom (2019); Viki Frankenburger (2005); Elizabeth "Liz" Wilkes (1996); Christine Slate (2010); Susan Lawton (2007); Debora Honodel (1997); Elizabeth "Liz" Perry (1995); Brenda Long (2012).

Bottom left to right: Patricia Averett, SPHR (1986) Bev. K. Beadles (1987); Lynn P. Webster (1990); Lillie Stratton (1993); Michelle Lovatt (1998); Ann Bushey (2018); Angela Roisten (2014); Debbie Clark (2001 and 2022); and Carolyn Raskind (2000).

2022 ASIST Winners

Roneisha Coleman is currently attending Reynolds Community College majoring in Administration of Justice. She plans to graduate in August of 2022 with her Associate's Degree. After graduation, she plans on enrolling at Old Dominion University to earn her bachelor's in Criminal Justice and hopes to eventually go on to get her Master's in Public Administration. With her educational experience, Roneisha hopes to work in the federal government. She hopes to specialize in cases related to juvenile justice, immigration, LGBTQ+, and military fields. Along with being a full-time student, Roneisha currently works 40 hours a week at the Department of Juvenile Justice as a resident specialist.



Jasmine Mason is currently attending Columbus College of Art and Design majoring in Interior Design and Architecture. She plans to graduate in May of 2024. After school, Jasmine's goal is to go on to create her own interior design business. Growing up in affordable housing Jasmine identified a major issue with the way these spaces were designed. The lack of comfort and bare bone infrastructure of these buildings caused feelings of depression and complacency. Jasmine plans to take the knowledge of design she has received from her education to create more comfortable spaces. Jasmine currently balances her full-time class load with working 35 hours a week as a desk attendant at her college dorm.

Benton McFadden is currently attending Longwood University majoring in History and will graduate in May of 2024. Benton is pursuing a career in education in the hopes of creating a safer space for students. Growing up Benton became inspired by the supportive teaching staff that surrounded him in high school. He experienced firsthand the impact they were able to have on their student's academic experience. Benton believes that this emotional support is part of the reason he has thrived in school and hopes to provide the same support to future students.



Kemeshia McMullen is currently attending Bryant and Stratton College majoring in Nursing and plans to graduate in December of 2022. She hopes to continue her education to achieve her dream of becoming a nurse practitioner. As a child, Kemeshia's grandmother became terminally ill and was hospitalized. When visiting her grandmother in the hospital, Kemeshia witnessed firsthand the positive impact of the kindness and care the hospital's nursing staff took with their patients. This experience inspired her to become a nurse practitioner. Kemeshia balances her academics with her full-time job at Bon Secours.

Shekeirra Munford is currently attending Reynolds Community College majoring in Respiratory Therapy. She plans to graduate with her Associate's Degree in May of 2023. Growing up in a single-parent household Shekeirra watched her mother struggle to support her eight children. Seeing her family struggle, Shekeirra became motivated to work to pull herself out of the cycle of poverty. She hopes through education to act as a better role model for her future children and provide the support and security she did not have as a child. With this scholarship, Shekeirra will not only provide a better future for herself but for generations to come.



Thinh "Kevin" Nguyen is currently attending Reynolds Community College majoring in Business Administration. He is on track to graduate in April of 2023. He then plans to transfer to the UVA McIntire School of Commerce and apply to be a part of the Navy ROTC program. Kevin grew up in Vietnam and moved to the United States in 2019. He works five days a week at Amazon to assist his parents while in school and is the first in his family to attend college. Kevin's goal is to become a part of the U.S. military. Kevin sees the military as a symbol of democracy and hopes to be able to help people around the world through his service. Kevin was also our Thomas Chewning Award Winner.

Wreshmina Patman is currently attending Reynolds Community College majoring in AAS Accounting. She is on track to graduate in December of 2022, with her Associate's Degree. Wreshmina was born in Afghanistan and often was responsible for taking care of her siblings. Her family eventually moved to Belgium and was able to receive a much better education. Though Wreshmina was afforded a better education, she still struggled to get a job due to religious discrimination. This eventually led her to move to the United States for a better opportunity. Wreshmina was faced with both difficulties of adapting to the U.S. culture and learning a whole new language. She however has found freedom in being able to practice her religion freely. Through her education, Wreshmina hopes to be able to help her people back in Afghanistan.

Special Thanks to our 2022 ASIST Judges

We are very appreciative of the time and commitment of each participating judge.

- Dr. Berkita Bradford, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Hospitality Management, Virginia State University
- Judy Lin Bristow, General Counsel, Groome Transportation
- Fred E. Shuford, Jr., Vice President, Currency and Technology Support, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Photo credit: Michele Rundstrom (Altria Client Services LLC) and Marianne McGhee (Reynolds Community College)

UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>August 11</p> <p>5:30-6:00 pm Networking</p> <p>6:00-7:30 pm Chapter Meeting</p>	<p><i>Firm Night with the Closet Factory</i></p> <p>closetfactory</p> <p><i>Location: 10520 Lakeridge Pkwy, Ashland VA 23005</i></p>	<p>September 8</p> <p>5:30-6:00 pm Networking</p> <p>6:00-7:30 pm Chapter Meeting</p>	<p><i>LCAM Business Meeting</i></p> <p><i>Location: New Market Dining Pavilion, 330 South Fourth Street, Richmond, VA 23219</i></p> <p>LCAMewi 2022 <i>Excite, Elevate, Envision.</i></p>
<p>September 15-17, 2022</p> <p>LCAMewi 2022 <i>Excite, Elevate, Envision.</i></p>	<p>2022 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING</p> <p>Corpus Christi, TX</p>	<p>October 13</p> <p>5:30-6:00 pm Networking</p> <p>6:00-7:30 pm Chapter Meeting</p>	<p><i>2022-2023 EWI of Richmond Chapter Board Installation</i></p> <p><i>Speaker: TBD</i></p> <p><i>Location: TBD</i></p>

If you would like to host a "Firm Night," or recommend a speaker,
please contact Christy McCurdy at christy.mccurdy@chamberrva.com

OUR MISSION

Executive Women International (EWI) brings together key individuals from diverse businesses for the purpose of; promoting member firms, enhancing personal and professional development, and encouraging community involvement.

OUR VISION

To enhance professional growth and development within a diverse group of women while empowering them to make a difference as they inspire others.

OUR VALUES

Integrity | Excellence | Respect | Collaboration

EWI of Richmond Member Firms

31 Member Firms
36 Representatives

[Altria Group, Inc.](#)
[Altria Client Services LLC](#)
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[Venture Richmond, Inc.](#)
[Virginia Commonwealth University](#)
[Virginia Credit Union, Inc.](#)
[Westminster Canterbury Richmond](#)

EWI of Richmond Chapter Life Members

These women are chapter life members due to their special meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty to the Chapter.

Debora Honodel, Southern States Cooperative, Inc.
 Brenda Long, Dominion Energy
 Karen Kuhn, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Chapter President, 1996
 Chapter President, 2012
 Chapter President, 2015

EWI of Richmond Chapter Honorary Members

These women are chapter honorary members due to their service as chapter president and/or special service to the community while active in EWI.

Bev Beadles, Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company of VA
 Jo Anne Cole, Retail Merchants Assoc. of Greater Richmond
 Kit Hull, Bill's Barbecue
 Liz M. Perry, Trigon Healthcare, Inc.
 Carolyn Raskind, Westminster Canterbury Richmond
 Pat Sims, Robert L. Figg & Sons, Inc.
 Lillie Stratton, Greater Richmond Partnership, Inc.

Chapter President, 1987
 Chapter President, 1973
 Representative 1993-2012
 Chapter President, 1995
 Chapter President, 2000
 Chapter President, 1972
 Chapter President, 1993

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR INVALUABLE SERVICE TO EWI!

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