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## Words from President

"The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others."- Albert Schweitzer

The Ghana Transportation Professionals Forum was formed by a group of multi-disciplinary professionals with a vision to provide leadership. Their shared purpose to serve the country brought them together to lay the foundation of this organization. Their vision involved developing sustainable solutions, promoting research, and influencing national policy discussions on transportation-related issues in Ghana. As current members and executives, we now have the opportunity to continue with their efforts and to promote this vision through our God-given individual and collective skills. I will therefore like to acknowledge Prof. Sam Labi, Prof. Sam Owusu-Ababio, Dr. John River-son Dr. Isaac Takyi, Dr. Samuel Ampadu, Dr. Kofi Obeng, Dr. Felix Ammah Tagoe, Dr. Alexandar K Appea, Dr. Joe Lamptey, Dr. Adjo-Amekudzi, and a host of others who have provided us with this great platform to continue with the work they started.

It is my desire to extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Senanu Ashiabor, Ms. Mary Kissi, Dr. Bismark Agbelie, Mary Ankomah, and Sam Essien for their tremendous effort to continue with the vision and growing the membership of this organization. To date, our active number of participants on the GTPF WhatsApp group is 69, and our mailing list reaches over 200 individuals across the globe.

During our just ended GTPF 2018 Annual Meeting at Washington, DC, we had the privilege of hosting Hon. Ing. Kwabena Owusu-Aduomi (Deputy Minister for Roads and Highways), Ing. Akua Sakyibea Vander-Pallen (Dept. of Urban Roads), Ing. Collins Baudu Donkor (GHA), Ing. Godfrey Amoo (Dept. Urban Roads), Ing. Sitsofe David Addo (GHA), Ing. Magnus Lincoln Quarshie (Delin Consult), and Ing. Kwabena Bempong (GhIE). Their invaluable support towards the growth of this organization is greatly appreciated. I encourage everyone to read our GTPF 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes diligently compiled by Dr. Kwaku Frimpong, GTPF Secretary. It is very comprehensive and provides a great summary of Hon. Ing. Owusu-Aduomi 's keynote speech on the current state of Ghana's transportation infrastructure development challenges.

Our agenda for 2018, though ambitious, is surmountable. Through the collective effort, hard work, and determination of our splendid group of volunteers, we've made significant strides in the last couple of months.

Key in this year's agenda is the hosting of the **First Ghana Infrastructure Conference** themed "*Enhancing Transportation Infrastructure for Accelerated Socio-Economic Development*". The conference will be at the Holiday Inn, Accra Airport, from August 5th to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The planning of this conference is led by Prof. Sam Owusu-Ababio, Prof. Sam Labi, current and past GTPF Executives, and with assistance from Dr. Julius Codjoe, Ms. Yolanda Oliver-Commey, Ms. Yaa Amanuah Osafo, and Mr. Patrick Amoah Bekoe. I thank God for this great team of individuals who are working towards making this vision a reality. For more information concerning registration, call for papers, and sponsorship opportunities, please visit the conference website at <https://gtpfconference.com>.

Naa Alabi Bortiorakor, GTPF Webinar Series Coordinator, will be continuing with our quarterly webinars which will cover intelligent transportation systems by Dr. Julius Codjoe, roundabout design and operations by Dr. Samuel Hammond, and artificial intelligence concepts in transportation by Dr. Yaw Adu-Gyamfi. Please be on the lookout for exact dates and times for these webinars as your presence is greatly appreciated.

Dr. Margaret-Avis Akofio-Sowah, GTPF Vice President, will also be leading our efforts to compile and document all available transportation and infrastructure datasets from the various agencies in Ghana. This long-term effort will require our collective support in identifying key individuals and agencies we can reach out to for data. Updates of the progress of the GTPF Data Committee will be provided during our quarterly webinar series.

The final item on this year's agenda, is the development of the Ghana Transportation Infrastructure Planning Manual. This is long-term effort which will once again require a very dedicated group of individuals willing to spend a few hours each month drafting guidelines in the areas of planning, design, management and maintenance of transportation infrastructure in Ghana. Work on this initiative is expected to take off most likely after the First Ghana Infrastructure Conference in August.

There are many opportunities to be involved in GTPF, and we need your help. Please don't hesitate to contact any of the executives concerning how you will like to assist, either financially or by volunteering your time. Dr. Stephanie Amoaning-Yankson, GTPF Treasurer, keeps track of our membership dues which helps fund our initiatives. I encourage members to either pay online or contact her about payment options. For more information on GTPF, I encourage you to visit our website at <http://gtpf.org>.

I will conclude by saying that we should all seek to contribute our "delta" to ensure the change we seek to have in our beloved country, Ghana. And as the popular Bible verse says, "with God, nothing all things are possible". Let us stay strong and work towards the GTPF vision!!

Sincerely,  
Dan P. Seedah, PhD  
GTPF President



President



Vice President



Secretary



Treasurer

## Member Spotlight

- Name:
- Schools Attended (with degree and graduation year):
- Occupation:
- Describe a project you are currently working on:
- What do you see as the benefit of the GTPF net work?
- What are you excited for this year?

Submit to responses to [gtpforumna@gmail.com](mailto:gtpforumna@gmail.com)

**Membership Database:** We are compiling an up-to-date record of all our members. Please click [here](#) to complete our membership database form. The information you provide will assist us in staying in touch with you and will support networking opportunities. If you've filled out the form before, no need to complete it again, unless you would like to update your information.

# First Ghana Infrastructure Conference (GIC 1)

August 5-8, 2018. Accra, Ghana

GTPF is hosting the First Ghana Infrastructure Conference (GIC-1) themed "Enhancing Transportation Infrastructure for Accelerated Socio-Economic Development" in Ghana. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn, Accra Airport, from August 5th to 8th 2018.

The purpose of the conference is to explore best practices in infrastructure development to accelerate socio-economic growth. Participants will exchange novel ideas, share professional experiences, case studies, and research advancements in the field of infrastructure planning, design, financing, monitoring, evaluation, sustainability, security, resiliency, management, and ethics.

Registration is now open. The conference offers up to 2 days of top-notch continuing poster demonstrations and paper presentations, panel discussions on critical infrastructure challenges, opening reception, breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and field trip on the last day of the conference. The keynote speaker for the conference is Honorable Kwasi Amoako-Atta, the Minister for Roads and Highways. Other prominent guests and speakers in the infrastructure industry from Ghana and abroad will be featuring as well.

The deadline for early bird registration (General = \$250, Student = \$100, Guest-reception only = \$50) is May 18, 2018. Fees will increase for advance and onsite registration.

Visit <https://gtpfconference.com/> for more information and to register.

## THEME:

"Enhancing Transportation Infrastructure for Accelerated Socio-Economic Development"

## 2018 Annual Meeting Highlights

The annual meeting of GTPF was held in Washington DC during the 2018 TRB Annual conference. There were over 60 members in attendance including students, professors, professionals in the industry and delegates from Ghana. We were honored to have Honorable Kwabena Aduomi, the Deputy Ministry for Roads and Highways, Ghana, as our guest speaker. Details of the meeting are archived at [http://ghanatransportationprofessionalsforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/GPTF\\_Annual-meeting-Minutes-2018\\_Final.pdf](http://ghanatransportationprofessionalsforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/GPTF_Annual-meeting-Minutes-2018_Final.pdf) Highlights of the meeting are summarized below:

### 1. Updates from Executive Members

- The immediate past president, Dr. Senanu Ashiabor, gave a brief introduction about the organization and encouraged members to be actively engaged in the activities of the organization
- Dr. Dan Seedah, the webinar coordinator, gave an overview of the first two webinar seminars that were organized in 2017
- An update on our communication networks (e.g. LinkedIn and WhatsApp) was given by our communications coordinator, Dr. Bismark Agbelie
- Dr. Margaret-Avis Akofio-Sowah, the treasurer, gave a presentation on the finances of the organization in 2017. Members voted to accept the organizations budget for 2018 after she presented it to the group. She also encouraged members to honor their membership dues payment for this year.
- Our external coordinator, Dr. Sam Ababio together with Dr. Samuel Labi gave a presentation on the plans for the first Ghana Infrastructure Conference scheduled to be held in Accra, Ghana from August 5th to 8th, 2018. The presentation covered the goals of the conference, the planning committee, the guest speakers, the cost for attending, accommodation and the venue for the conference.

### 2. Key Note Speaker - Honorable Kwabena Aduomi, Deputy Minister of Roads and Highways, Ghana



- The Minister expressed his appreciation for the invitation to meet GTPF members and commended the group for their commitment to help develop Ghana's infrastructures.
- He listed a number of road projects that are either in the proposal phase or currently under construction. Some of the projects included the construction of Abidjan-Lagos 6-lane highway, Widening of Accra motorway, Accra-Kumasi highway, access roads in the Northern part of Ghana, etc.
- He also touched on some of the challenges that the Ministry faces including substandard design roads, outdated work methods and standards, lack of road funds, backlog road maintain and repairs and many others.

### 3. 2018 Student Award

During the meeting, Dr. Kwaku Boakyie and Dr. Kwaku Brown were honored as outstanding Ghanaian participants in the 2018 TRB Conference. Each awardee received a \$100 gift card for presenting two papers during the conference.

### 4. Updates from Ghana Institution of Engineers (GHIE)

Ing. Kwabena Bempong, encouraged students and professionals outside Ghana to register as members of GhIE. He outlined several benefits that individual members stand to gain upon joining the Institution.

### 5. Elections

Our biannual election was held during the meeting to elect the following individuals to fill these executive positions:

**President**-Dr Dan Seedah

**Vice President**-Dr. Margaret-Avis Akofio-Sowah

**Secretary**-Dr. Kwaku Boakyie

**Treasurer**-Stephanie Amoaning-Yankson



Work methods and design standards are key to the development of infrastructure in every country. For Ghana to maintain sustainable and safe infrastructures for economic development, design manuals are needed to provide requirements and guidance on design methods and policies which are current and practicable. One of the goals of GTPF is to develop an "Infrastructure Manual" to ensure uniformity of design practices, policies, and methods for developing and documenting the design of improvement to infrastructures in Ghana. The "Infrastructure Manual" will be developed to provide adequate safety while maintaining balance among infrastructures, environmental concerns and fiscal restraints.

The manual will have several sections documenting standards for design of roads and highways, drainage structures, railroads, traffic signs and markings, bridge structures, pavement mixes, work zones, pedestrian and bike facilities, etc. Experts including Architects, Engineers, and Planners from Ghana and abroad will team up in developing this manual as a supplementary document to already existing design manuals used in practice in Ghana