



GTPF

December, 2019

Newsletter

Annual General Meeting , January 2020

The GTPF Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 14, 2019, at Marriott Independence Salon C from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm**, during the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 99th Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. All members are encouraged to attend. Dr Rev. Charles Adams, Director of Transport Research and Education Centre, Kumasi (TRECK), will be our guest speaker. Many delegates from Ghana will be in attendance as well to share their experiences from their work in Ghana.

Ghana Infrastructure Conference, 2020

The Ghana Transportation Professionals Forum (GTPF) in collaboration with Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) and the Regional Transport Research and Education Centre, Kumasi (TRECK), KNUST, is organizing *Ghana Infrastructure Conference 2020 (GIC- 2020)*.

The objective is to provide opportunities for participants to exchange novel ideas, professional experiences, case studies, and research applications in the areas of transportation infrastructure and related systems planning, design, financing, maintenance, and monitoring. In addition, the conference will address issues related to innovation, sustainability, security, resilience, management, and ethics in transportation infrastructure development.

Theme: Planning and Implementation of Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure

Date: August 11 –14, 2020, Accra, Ghana

Click [here](#) for conference details.



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Wishing all GTPF members a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year. Best wishes from the Executives

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Deadline: January 31, 2020

Submit Abstracts [here](#)

2019 Webinar Series

The second edition of the 2019 GTPF webinar series was held on July 26, 2019. The two major topics discussed during the webinar included

- Preparing for job interviews and the job market and
- Giving effective presentations during a job interviews

David Mahama (a transportation engineer with DKS Associates) and Yolanda Oliver-Commey (a transportation engineer with Pennoni) were our panelists for discussion on the two topics. They shared their experiences on their respective jobs and offered some tips to attendees on what employees look for in prospective candidates for job positions. They also answered questions related to accepting/rejecting job offers, work visa sponsorship, optional practical training (OPT), job training, etc. For more details on the discussion, please click [here](#) for the recorded webinar (downloadable).



David Mahama, PE



Yolanda Oliver-Commey, PE, PTOE

2020 Best Student Paper Award

We will be presenting our Annual Student Paper award during our next meeting. If you are a student with accepted papers or presentations for the upcoming TRB meeting, please send the following information to gtpforumna@gmail.com by December 31st, 2019.

Name:

School:

Paper Title:

Presentation Date/Time:

All general members who have presentations should also send information about their presentations to 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.

Membership Dues

Please remember to pay your dues to help maintain our organization and implement our initiatives for the year. Dues are \$20 for students and \$100 for professionals. You can pay through:

PayPal: use the link on the GTPF website (<http://gtpf.org>)

Mailed Check: Make checks out to "Ghana Transportation Professionals Forum" and mail to our treasurer Dr. Stephanie Amoaning- Yankson at *3101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 900, #6146, Arlington, VA 22201.*

Bank Deposit: send an email request to gtpforumna@gmail.com for bank account information.

Dues for 2019 will be accepted until December 31, 2019.

Thanks to all who paid their dues at the annual meeting in Washington, DC.



Member Spotlight

Educational Background

I obtained my PhD in Civil Engineering and a Master of Arts in Economics from the University of Florida, USA in 2013. Prior to that, I was awarded a Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering also from the University of Florida in 2009. In 2002, I successfully graduated from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. I also graduated in 1996 from the Pope John Senior High School and Junior Seminary in Koforidua, Ghana.

Role at Current Job

I am currently a Principal Engineering responsible for Planning and Development at the Department of Feeder Roads in Ghana. My main role under the planning division is to lead research activities with respect to rural access and transport. I am also responsible for coordinating Ministerial research activities for the Ministry of Roads and Highways. Furthermore, I assist in Departmental budgeting, project initiation and project planning. At the Development division, my main role is to review engineering designs, vet project certificate and undertake monitoring and evaluation of key projects. I am also a member of the Ministerial Technical Committee where I assist in the design review of key projects undertaken by the various agencies under the Ministry of Roads and Highways.

Favorite Project Worked On and Accomplishment

I returned to Ghana at the time when the Ministry of Roads and Highways/ Department of Feeder Roads had been accepted into the UK AID Funded Research for Community Access Partnership (ReCAP) and have since played a frontal role in promoting rural access and transport research. I have enjoyed being part of all the over seventeen projects but perhaps my most favourite project is being the lead pavement expert on the JICA funded Labour-based bituminous surfacing of the Obomofe Densua to Akote feeder road. I was a member of the team that designed, constructed and developed guidelines for using the labour-based construction technology. The focus of the methodology is to promote rural employment and therefore reduce poverty while decreasing rural road deterioration. I led the team in the presentation of key findings of the project at the 17th ILO Labour Based Regional Conference in Addis Ababa and also promoted the methodology on various local and international platforms.

Benefit of Being a GTPF Member

GTPF is a big community of transportation professionals both in Ghana and abroad. Being part of such a big family firstly has provided me with the necessary professional networking opportunity through which I easily tap into the collective experience of its membership. Secondly, it provides me a forum through which I can learn from the current development in the field of transportation. Diverse opinions are shared on the forum and it provides me a learning opportunity to view topical issues from different perspective

What one thing are you excited about for this year?

This year has personally been exciting in a number of ways. On the GTFP front, I am excited to see more engagement on the platform with increasing interest of Ghanaians in the diaspora in what is happening on the local front. On the institutional front, I was excited to have been invited by the Ministry of Roads and Highways to present on “Effective Uptake and Embedment of Research” during its annual management meeting. I felt fulfilled to the extent that my advocacy during the past five years was receiving some recognition and acceptance. It is my hope that research will play a vital role in the operations of MRH and its agencies. On a more personal front, I was excited to receive the Civil Service Excellence Award during the course of the year. I was really humbled by that recognition.



Dr. Patrick Amoah Bekoe

News Updates from Members



Photo of Dr Dan Seedah, president of GTPF, giving a presentation to some Faculty members and students at KNUST. August, 2019.



Photo of participants at the 5-Day Short Course on Road Safety and Traffic Management organized by TRECK in collaboration with the University of Alabama (USA).



Picture from the Inaugural Railway Dialogue with Professor Cornelius Nuworsoo in Ghana. August 2019



ENR MIDATLANTIC

2020
Top Young
Professional

YOLANDA
OLIVER-COMMEY

Yolanda named to [ENR MIDATLANTIC 's](#) 2020 Top Young Professional list. The awards program honors individuals who have built extraordinary industry portfolios in just a few short years.

