

Message from Executives

GTPF Members,

We hope that you and your families are doing well despite the ongoing global health crisis. When we met in Washington, DC just a few months ago, we never imagined that a widespread pandemic would sweep across the globe. The world as we know it has changed, and we have all had to adapt to new ways of working, traveling, and interacting with our family and friends. The impact of this pandemic on surface, water and air transportation systems has emphasized the importance of our work as Transportation Professionals in supporting essential services, emergency response management, and overall economic development. Our agencies have been faced with the challenge of responding quickly to changes in travel operations and behavior from safety, operations and financial perspectives, to name a few. But with our expertise as engineers, planners, and others, we have a unique opportunity to influence how our world responds to this pandemic, especially our community in Ghana.

As an organization, we began the year with a full agenda for 2020 and an overall goal of improving member engagement and participation. Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, most of our activities will move forward, albeit with modified structure. Our planned activities for this year include Webinar Series on transportation related topics, 2020 Ghana Infrastructure Conference virtual conference, and collaboration with key partners like the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) and the Transport Research and Education Center (TRECK). Plans are also still in place to update our membership database and continue to provide enhanced benefits to our members.

Following our meeting in January we welcomed new members to the 2020 Executive Board, and we are excited to humbly serve in advancing our worthwhile cause.

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GTPF's MISSION

GTPF is a private, non-profit group of multi-disciplinary professionals with a mission to promote innovation and sustainable developments in transportation infrastructure and related systems via research, professional practice, policy development and implementation. We also seek to provide leadership in the development of sustainable solutions to transportation-related issues in Ghana towards promoting long-term economic growth.

Visit our website at ghanatransportationprofessionalsforum.org

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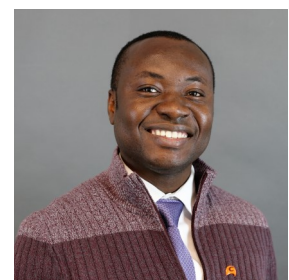
We would like to thank Dr. Dan Seedah and Dr. Stephanie Amoaning-Yankson, for their dedication in serving GTPF as President and Treasurer, respectively from 2018 to 2019. After a successful electronic mid-term Presidential Election, we are delighted to introduce our newly appointed Executive Board.

As we move forward with our 2020 agenda, we ask for your continued support and participation to advance our mission. The benefits of membership, which include a strong network of technical expertise, the critical exchange of knowledge, and contributions to the continued promotion of transportation excellence in Ghana, are most realized with active member engagement. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Executive Board with your questions or contributions, or simply to volunteer your time. If you are new to our organization, we encourage you to visit our website at www.gtpf.org for more information.

Thank you, and we look forward to a productive year.



Dr. Margaret Avis Akofio-Sowah
President



Dr. Kwaku Frimpong Boakye
Vice President



Ms. Yaa Amanua Osafo
Secretary



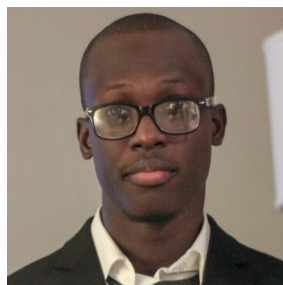
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Communications Officer



Ms. Hilda Ofori-Addo
Student Affairs Officer



Mr. Abdul Rashid Kanda Mussah
Social Media Coordinator



Ms. Bortiorakor Naa Alabi
Webinar Coordinator



Dr. Sam Owusu-Ababio
External Liaison



Ms. Yolanda Oliver Commey
2020 Conference Chair

Ghana Infrastructure Conference 2020 (GIC 2020) Moved Online



After careful consideration and consultation with our partners regarding travel restrictions and crowd-size constraints due to COVID-19, the organizers of the conference have decided to cancel the in-person version of the conference and to move the conference to an online platform.

The conference planning committee would like to thank the authors who submitted their papers for presentation at the GIC-2020 originally scheduled for August 11-14, 2020 at the Accra Marriott Hotel.

We are currently working on the exact format and date of the virtual conference, and will provide authors with details as soon as possible.



Group picture of some attendees at GIC 2018

The Ghana Transportation Professionals Forum of North America (GTPF) and its organizing partners, Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE), and the Regional Transport Research and Education Centre Kumasi (TRECK) of KNUST are fully committed to making their expertise in the transportation field available to their members, partners, supporters, and contributors and will continue to explore collaborative efforts in this regard. You are encouraged to visit www.gtpfconference.com for any updates



2020 GTPF Annual Meeting Highlights



The GTPF Annual Meeting was held on January 14, 2020, during the TRB 99th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. There were over 60 members in attendance including professionals and students from across Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. Members received reports from GTPF officers and voted to accept the financial budget for 2020. Professor Reverend Charles Adams (KNUST) was the guest speaker at the meeting. Details of the meeting minutes can be found [here](#).

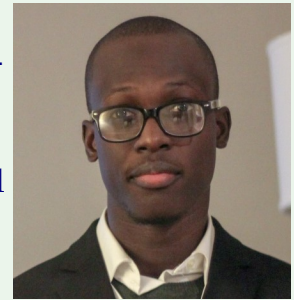


Membership Spotlight: Abdul Rashid Kanda Mussah



Who do you work for and what is your current role?

I am currently a student working toward my doctorate in transportation engineering at the University of Missouri, under the supervision of Dr. Yaw Adu-Gyamfi. I could say in my professional capacity I am a graduate teaching and research assistant for the civil and environmental engineering department.



Abdul Rashid Kanda Mussah
University of Missouri

What is your educational background? What schools did you attend?

I attended the Presbyterian Boys' Senior High School in Ghana, before majoring in civil engineering at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology for my bachelor's degree. I moved to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2016 to pursue a Masters' Degree in Civil engineering and decided in 2017, after completion, to pursue a Doctorate, which I am currently working toward at the University of Missouri.

Tell us about one of your favorite projects that you've worked on. What was accomplished?

Well, much of what I have been working on for the last few years have primarily been focused in the academic field, but have vast real-world application potential. My most recent research involvement deals with the application of deep learning and computer vision geared towards improving transportation systems management and operations. This I am excited about as our research team has been able to develop some amazing applications, which are capable of tasks ranging from anomaly and congestion detection to real-time segment, route, and network performance tracking of all kinds of transportation infrastructure.

What has the benefit of the GTPF network been for you?

GTPF has been incredibly beneficial. The advantage of having a community of peers and mentors in the field to help you navigate the professional and cultural labyrinth of the United States, as well as back home in Ghana also, cannot be overstated. Our annual meetings are a great time for interacting and learning from one another, as also are the webinars. To have such a network is a valuable foot in the door to many opportunities for any young engineer such as myself.

What one thing are you excited about for this year?

The GTPF Annual Meetings are always a lovely way to crown the new year, but if I may add, we also have a follow-up Ghana Infrastructure Conference happening this year, which I am hoping will be as exciting and successful as the first.

Announcements & Updates



Membership Database

GTPF will be updating its membership database this year. You will be contacted via email to complete an online form with your personal and contact details, your area of expertise and other information that will assist us in improving and supporting our networking opportunities.

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](#)

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

Dues for 2020 will be accepted until December 31, 2020. Thanks to all who paid their dues at the annual meeting in Washington, DC.

2020 Webinar Series

Our webinar series will be coming to you soon. Please watch out for an email on when the first webinar will be scheduled. We are looking for speakers. If you are interested on any topics related to transportation, please contact our webinar coordinator at balabi@purdue.edu

Postponement of 2020 GhIE Annual Conference

In view of the seriousness of the global pandemic, the Council of the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE) has subsequently postponed the upcoming 2020 GhIE Annual Conference, which was scheduled to be held at the Accra International Conference Centre from March 25-27, 2020.

MSc Transportation Leadership

KNUST and the Research for Community Access (ReCAP) want to inspire the next generation of transport leaders in Africa and equip them with the skills and vision required to deliver Africa's transport future. This will be accomplished through their MSc program supported by UK aid through ReCAP. See promotional [video](#).

RELEVANT RESOURCES

Professor Amekudzi-Kennedy and Professor Labi recently published two articles on COVID-19. Read [Article 1](#) & [Article 2](#)

COVID-19: Time to stand, be counted, by Dr. Patrick Bekoe on [GRAPHIC ONLINE](#).

Towards Transportation Infrastructure Advancement in a Developing Country, by Ms. Yolanda Oliver-Commey, PE, PTOE in [C+S MAG](#)

2021 Traffic Control Device Student Challenge: Apply by October 1

In collaboration with American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA), TRB's Standing Committee on Traffic Control Devices announces the annual Traffic Control Device Student Challenge (TCD Challenge). Individuals or teams of students are challenged to devise an innovative traffic control device for speed management on limited access freeways. Submissions are due October 1, 2020. [Click](#) for details

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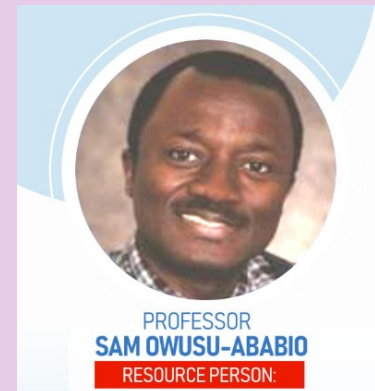
gtpforumna@gmail.com

Latest News

GhIE is partnering with the Ghana COVID-19 Private Sector Fund to **construct the first-ever infectious disease treatment facility in Ghana** in response to the coronavirus pandemic. In the shot below is a site visit by the Executive Director of GhIE, Ing. Kwabena Agyei Agyepong and a delegation from GhIE. The pandemic has shown that “we can work together & support ourselves” as Ghanaians – Ing. Kwabena Agyei Agyepong. Click [here](#) for full story.



Other resources: [Ghana COVID-19 Private Sector Fund COVID-19 Private Sector Fund: Work on 100-bed infectious disease facility progressing](#)



Professor Sam Owusu-Ababio from the University of Wisconsin recently presented a series of lecture on “Ethics”. Two modules presented so far

included:

Module 1: Member perceptions about Ghana Institution of Engineering regarding ethics

Module 2: Analysis of engineering practitioners’ workplace ethical experiences and observations

For copies of the presentations click [here](#).

Women in Engineering Ghana (WinE Ghana), a network of Ghanaian women Engineering practitioners and student members within GhiE presented a **proposal to re-engineer markets** in Ghana for the COVID-19 period and beyond.



The proposal was presented to the Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources, Hon. Cecilia Dapaah on Wednesday, April 22, 2020. WinE Ghana also presented baskets, nose masks, hand sanitizers and veronica buckets to be distributed to market women in selected markets in Accra, Kumasi and Tema. Click [here](#) for more details



TRECK recently organized a webinar on **Online Teaching And Learning During COVID-19 Pandemic Academic Disruption: Approaches and Assessment Methods**. Visit TRECK’s [website](#) for the recorded webinar.

Sponsors & Partners

