

ULI Fall Meeting – Dallas
October 24th – 27th, 2016
Essay

As I suspected, the ULI Fall meeting was a tremendous experience. Not only was I exposed to the very latest in real estate trends but I was able to do so in the perfect setting – Dallas! I was able to see how Dallas transformed into the amazing hub it has become today and it was truly inspiring, especially considering Jacksonville's struggle to do the same. I keep looking for the opportunity to discuss Dallas's addition of a park in the middle of the city with local leadership!

In addition to the exposure I obtained, I was able to make some truly fantastic relationships. The committee pairing me up with such a dynamic and powerful woman in real estate, Jamie Covello, was such an honor. I immediately understood how she has become the woman she is today – her nonapologetic demeanor and enthusiasm for the importance of women in leadership is infectious. I was also introduced to many other women in real estate that were happy to take me under their wing – I felt welcome from the start.

As for some takeaways from the meeting, my favorite part was the panel breakfast hosted by Prologis. I was able to hear firsthand from some talented and very diverse women who have continued to break the mold as women in real estate. From the assistant who climbed her way to the top taking any opportunity she could, to the woman that preached how important articulation was in success, each story was inspirational.

Not only did attending the UDMUC Product Council further open my eyes to all the collaboration that ULI provides but also provided the opportunity to see and understand Dallas's transformation. As I mentioned before, I am very passionate about the revitalization of downtown Jacksonville and I walked away with great insight that I can hopefully pass on to those decision makers in Jacksonville.

ULI's programming always stands out as superior and this meeting was no exception. I was given several opportunities with different committees to learn how to advance the programming of the local WLI of which I am the chair. I was able to network with other women which will only further my plan to help develop a plan to engage more and more women locally. I was also pushed outside of my comfort zone a bit as a local leader and was appreciative of the opportunity as those moments don't happen as often as I'd like.

I would like to thank each WLI committee member and Prologis for the scholarship provided to attend the 2016 ULI Fall Meeting. I have not stopped talking about all that I learned since I returned and can't thank you for the hard work and resources that were put in to fill me with such excitement. I look forward to staying in touch with all the great connections I made and even more so to discuss all my takeaways with the local WLI committee to continue to grow our women in the industry.