

ULI Fall Meeting – 2015 WLI Scholarship

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Winning the WLI ULI 2015 Fall Meeting Scholarship afforded me the ability to attend my very first Fall Meeting. After ten years of involvement with ULI at the local District Council level, it was exciting to see a new side of the organization. I was privileged to meet many accomplished women from around the country who are involved in the Women's Leadership Initiative. Through the WLI focused events, I received some great advice and take-aways to help me advance my career as a woman in this industry. There were some great themes and reminders for me to take charge of my career and to ask for what I want, not be afraid to fail, and to ask for visible and challenging work assignments. I also really appreciated being paired with a mentor, Janet Protas, who truly made sure I was not feeling lost or overwhelmed throughout the experience.

While the WLI focused programs were very empowering, being part of the Urban Revitalization Council was reaffirming. Being in a group of smart, talented, and focused professionals who have the same desire to revitalize urban areas just reinforced my passion for urban development and redevelopment. I loved being able to talk shop and was able to glean knowledge and ideas that I can carry into my organization.

I hope this was the first of many ULI Meetings I will have the opportunity attend and hopefully as a full-fledged member of a Product Council in the future. I want to continue to develop the relationships I made at the Fall Meeting and form new relationships. I am grateful for the value that ULI provides to me as a professional and to our world as we evaluate the best ways to use our land.