

2016 WLI Prologis Scholarship Essay

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As I was unpacking, reflecting on the ULI 2016 Fall Meeting in Dallas, my eyes caught the word “breakthrough” on the cover of the notebook I’d received at the WLI Prologis Scholarship Winners Breakfast. This word perfectly captured what I experienced both professionally and personally during the week-long conference. As a WLI Prologis Scholarship winner, I was given a network, exposure, and access that expanded my own sense of potential and introduced me to exciting future opportunities.

The WLI Steering Committee Meeting, where I met my fellow scholarship recipients as well as other global WLI committee members, established a network of women that I spent valuable time with throughout the Meeting. We compared experiences in our careers, at the Fall Meeting, and with ULI/WLI. This became a group of women that I have and will continue to consult with.

The WLI Steering Committee Meeting, Reception, Prologis Scholarship Winners Breakfast, and View from the Top Panel exposed me to a variety of new ideas including ways to help strengthen and expand WLI globally and as well as in my Southeast Florida/Caribbean District Council. I will:

- Advocate for 50% women on ULI panels;
- Work within my network to form a consolidated list of women speakers for the WLI Speakers List;
- Advocate for women on member surveys;
- Volunteer for panel discussions;
- Join a Product Council;
- Act as a sponsor and mentor for junior women;
- Remain connected with other WLI/scholarship winners to share WLI programs and actions.

My assignment to the Redevelopment and Reuse Product Council along with a mentor, Peggy DaSilva, gave me access to a diverse group of professionals with knowledge, commitment, and passion for the real estate industry. Having a mentor helped me navigate the Product Council Day where I benefitted greatly from observing and participating in the sharing of professional experiences and best practices.

Thank you to Prologis and WLI for selecting me as a scholarship winner. The award enabled me not only to attend the Fall Meeting but to experience new ideas and meet inspiring real estate professionals that strengthened my resolve to advocate more forcefully for a gender-diverse workforce.

