

A Year On

One of the most important benefits of reaching the finals of the WiP National Student Awards is the support offered in securing a work placement. WiP's "Class of 2007" have been busy over the past year and our thanks go to the firms who snapped up this wealth of aspiring talent.

Sarah Hopkins, winner of the 2007 South East award, is now back at Kingston having spent a year working with the Development and Asset Strategy department at Jones Lang LaSalle. She says "The placement has helped enormously, it should give me a helping hand in terms of knowledge and confidence for my final year at university as well as my up-coming interviews for a job once I have graduated."

The Midlands 2007 award was won by **Lisa Hastilow**. Lisa took up her work experience placement at Cushman & Wakefield in London and has since joined Jones Lang LaSalle in Birmingham.

The 2007 national winner, **Fiona Forrest**, completed her degree in Property Management and Valuation, achieving a First. In May she joined the WiP Central Scotland Committee and has thoroughly enjoyed becoming involved in the branch. She is now working full time as a Graduate Surveyor with Knight Frank LLP in their Glasgow office.

Claire Gardiner, who won the Northern branch award last year, was mentored by Cathy Stewart, the Awards ambassador, who suggested Claire should apply for a work placement at architects, Woods Bagot, in London. Claire did just that and has been with the firm for three months.

Aiming High

The past few months have seen some high powered moves and promotions.

Miriam Best, a past Chairman of the South East branch and National Treasurer, has been made a partner at Denton Wilde Sapte.

Michele Curran has joined Interserve as Business Development Director for the South and South East and is also involved in establishing the new South East branch satellite, covering the Solent region.

Ann Maclean and **Kate Bilbrough** have both been made associates with property consultants, Thomas and Adamson.

Marie Martin has joined the Economics & Development team of URS Corporation in Glasgow, where she is a Property Funding Consultant.

Candice Sammeroff has been promoted to Senior Associate at law firm, MacRoberts.

Former WiP Chairman, **Kathy Toon**, has joined Clarke Willmott where she is a partner in Commercial Property, specialising in retail property.

A life on the ocean waves

The WiP all women crew saw off some serious competition during the Little Britain races on 11th - 14th September. Congratulations go to skipper Carol Bell and her team who came 3rd, 3rd, 3rd and 5th in their four hotly contested races. They also met with Beijing Olympic gold medallists Sarah Webb and Pippa Wilson who were presenting prizes at the Gala dinner.



Mission Statement

The Association of Women in Property seeks to enhance the profile of women in the still male dominated construction and property sector, both by providing a dynamic forum for women in these professions and by encouraging and developing newcomers.

For further information on the Association contact Fiona Alfred, Executive Director on 0207 603 4746 or email falfred@btinternet.com

www.wipnet.org

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news

winter issue 2008 issue 38



Chairman's column

by Maria Francké

Now firmly into its second year, our National Student Awards initiative has gone from strength to strength! This year, we linked up with 23 universities from across the UK and some 38 separate built environment degree courses.

With the help of all our members, it's our aim to try and double this number for next year. It's not impossible. With our 1600 members, many of us will have contacts at University from the professional courses that we ourselves studied. I need your help in passing the relevant course leader contact details at the Universities onto our Executive Director, Fiona Alfred.

What really makes our Awards so valuable, is that as a direct result of participating in the interview process, many of the young women who have taken part have secured work placements. Our shared vision must surely be to open up the opportunities of participating to more young female students, all of whom can benefit from industry contact - through the selection and interview process, securing essential work placements, mentoring and membership of our Association. The support we have had from our Industry Sponsors has also served as clear recognition of the national importance of this initiative.

But we cannot succeed in this without your help. We need more Universities participating in the scheme.

It's a virtuous circle - with 'win win' benefits for the students, the Universities, our Industry Partners and our Association. It's central to one of our key aims to increase the number of women working in the property and construction industry. All our Regional winners are also channelling their enthusiasm in acting as ambassadors for Women in Property, helping us to promote the varied career opportunities to schoolchildren through our UK Roadshow programme.

The challenge then, is to grow our Awards year by year so that more talented young women secure valuable work placements and help us in our goal to drive up the number of women working in the property and construction sector.

That is what we must now work towards. It's an exciting ambition and one that I'm sure we can achieve.



Maria Francké
Chairman of Women in Property and
Head of Planning and Development
Drivers Jonas, Scotland

Branch Events

As ever, all branches have been hosting some superb events ranging from site visits and seminars which could earn CPD points, through to drinks evenings all of which present excellent networking and personal development opportunities. Details of all forthcoming events and an events archive are available on the WiP website. Here are a few highlights:

Central Scotland

Live jazz and award winning mixologists were the magic ingredients for networking at the Chairman's Cocktail Party, hosted by branch Chairman Lesley Woolfries at St Judes boutique Hotel in Glasgow.

East Midlands

A networking opportunity with a difference was organised by the East Midlands branch. 'Derby's Mini Fashion Adventure' was an exclusive style event held at Stratstone Mini Showroom and combined an Image Consultant, drinks and canapés.

South Wales Satellite

The South Wales satellite held their regional Student Award presentation at the RICS Wales Awards Ceremony, which took place at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff Bay, by kind permission of the RICS Wales and was attended by National Chairman Maria Francké.



Thames Valley Satellite

The inaugural event of the new Thames Valley Satellite was held over tea and cakes at Henmans's prestigious offices on the Oxford Business Park. It drew together around 60 women from a diverse range of organisations to network and listen to a talk from Carol Bell, chairman of Women in Property's South East branch.

Yorkshire and North East

The Yorkshire and North East branch teamed up with the Camberwell Project to host a networking event at Leeds' newest social enterprise development, Shine at Harehills in September. Camberwell combines top-class private sector skills and experience with a social mission to create enterprise that offers long-lasting benefits to communities.



Jobs for the girls



"I wish I'd known that then!"
This is the comment we regularly hear from women successfully working in property and construction - but no thanks to their school career advisors who, even now, appear to have little awareness of the diversity of paths open to girls in the sector.

WiP is committed to changing this situation, one element of which is our involvement in schools roadshows nationwide. Our members visit schools to explain the many different careers in property and construction, at a time when young people are making critical education choices.

Now, to support the roadshows and kindly supported by Asset Skills, we have produced a careers leaflet which outlines seven of the key disciplines. The leaflet will be available through branch roadshow co-ordinators.

National Student Awards 2008

Introducing the 'Best of the Best'...

For nine students across the country, the waiting is over. On 23rd September at an awards dinner at Claridge's, the winner of the National Student Awards 2008 was announced. Marie Reaveley who is studying Urban Studies and Planning at the University of Sheffield has been voted 'Best of the Best' by our high profile panel of national judges.

Marie said, "This whole process has been brilliant from beginning to end and I'm sure it's not over yet. Just going through the interview stages and having to present myself, my work and my opinions to some highly respected people in the world of property and construction has been a great, life-changing experience. It's been truly inspiring...and now this! I'm completely thrilled!"

The standards throughout the Awards process have been extremely high and all the finalists can congratulate themselves on their achievement. They are all winners! Indeed, such was the competition, the judges specially requested that a Highly Commended certificate be awarded to Katherine Timmins, who is studying Architecture

at Manchester School of Architecture.

Eamonn Boylan, Strategy Director of Regeneration at Manchester City Council and one of the national judges, said, "This is just what the industry needs - high quality talent being supported at the earliest stage of their careers by leading professionals, their natural role models. It has been a really interesting and rewarding experience."

The Women in Property National Student Awards were launched in 2007 to mark the 20th birthday of the Association. Fuelled by their success, WiP ran the awards for a second time. Universities from across the UK are now being invited to nominate their most promising second year students for the 2009 awards. Judging will commence in the early New Year.

2008 National Judges

Eamonn Boylan,
Strategy director of Regeneration,
Manchester City Council

Joanna Embling,
Partner, Cushman & Wakefield

Maria Francké,
Partner & Head of Planning
(Scotland) Drivers Jonas

MJ Long,
Long & Kentish and
CABE Commissioner

Cathy Stewart,
Director of Education, Woods Bagot

Gary Taylor,
Director, Argent plc



**Central Scotland
Winner Joanne Bell**
studying Building Surveying at Glasgow
Caledonian
Judges' comment
"A strong, passionate and engaging
person. She will make her mark"
Participating Universities
Glasgow Caledonian, Glasgow University,
Heriot Watt, Mackintosh School of
Architecture, Napier University



**Northern
Winner Kathryn Timmins**
studying Architecture at Manchester
School of Architecture
Judges' comment
"Kathryn is enthusiastic, driven and
ambitious, she's highly articulate and
has real sparkle"
Participating Universities
Liverpool John Moores University,
Manchester School of Architecture,
University of Salford



**South Wales
Winner Ruth Manning**
studying Civil and Environmental
Engineering at Cardiff School of
Engineering
Judges' comment
"Ruth has a mature and broad appreciation
of her subject, she is confident, enthusiastic,
an excellent motivator"
Participating Universities
Cardiff University



**East Midlands
Winner Anna Kirk**
studying Real Estate Management at
Nottingham Trent University
Judges' comment
"Anna is a calm, confident person, who
is really absorbing her industry. She is a
good ambassador"
Participating Universities
Nottingham Trent University



**Northern Scotland
Winner Niamh Treacy**
studying Architecture at Robert Gordon
University
Judges' comment
"Shows obvious delight in architecture
and design, a strong, articulate and well
developed candidate"
Participating Universities
Robert Gordon University



**South West
Winner Natalie Ponfield**
studying Civil Engineering at UWE
Judges' comment
"Clients will love her infectious enthusiasm
and she is clearly passionate about
the sector"
Participating Universities
University of the West of England



**Midlands
Winner Charlotte Smith**
studying Commercial Management and
Quantity Surveying at University of
Wolverhampton
Judges' comment
"An excellent advocate for the industry,
fantastic enthusiasm for her work and a
mature approach"
Participating Universities
Birmingham City University, University of
Wolverhampton



**South East
Winner Christine Saeverud**
studying Building Engineering at University
of Westminster
Judges' comment
"A very committed young woman,
extremely aware of the industry and
the world around her"
Participating Universities
University of Greenwich, Kingston University,
London Metropolitan University, Oxford
Brookes University, UCL and University of
Westminster



**Yorkshire and North East
Winner Marie Reaveley**
studying Urban Studies and Planning at
University of Sheffield
Judges' comment
"Marie demonstrated intellect and depth of
knowledge, a very impressive individual"
Participating Universities
Leeds Metropolitan University, Newcastle
University, Sheffield Hallam University,
University of Sheffield



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