

# 2018 ASCE-UESI Pipelines Conference

## Women in Engineering Breakfast and Panel Discussion

### Guided Discussion Topics & Notes

#### **Objective**

The panel discussion will assist Women in Engineering in achieving their career vision and potential through mentoring and open discussion on how to navigate the unique challenges females face within the industry.

#### **Moderator**

Anna Pridmore, P.E., PhD, M.ASCE, Vice-President of Pipeline Solutions at Structural Technologies, LLC

#### **Panelists**

Robin Kemper, P.E., LEED AP, F.SEI, F.ASCE, 2019 ASCE President-Elect

Therese Kline, P.E., M.ASCE, Facilities Engineering Manager at Michigan Department of Transportation

Bethany McDonald, M.ASCE, Condition Assessment Business Leader at Black and Veatch

Stevie Darr, MBA, PMP, Project Manager at First Energy Nuclear Operating Company

Marlee Franzen, P.E., M.ASCE, Manager of Water Distribution- Department of Water Services at DC Water

#### **Format**

Guided interactive discussion of directed topics; each panelist will provide their input, panelists and participants will be encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback.

#### **Directed topics**

8:30am – 8:40am -

*Panelist introductions*

- Background and current role

8:40am – 9:00am -

*What signs of progress are there today that will have an impact on the percentage of females choosing the engineering profession in the future?*

- 20% of graduating class today
- 11% of practicing engineers
- 14% female within civil engineering industry

9:00am – 9:20am -

*How do you face the challenge of strongly advocating for an idea or concept you believe strongly in without being labeled as pushy or aggressive?*

- Drawbacks to being an aggressive female vs. male
- Do females have to push harder to have their ideas gain adoption?

9:20am – 9:40am -

*What are the most challenging scenarios we face, day-to-day, as females in the engineering industry today?*

- Client interactions
- Travel situations
- Managing conversation direction

9:40am – 10:00am -

*Career development – do we sell ourselves short?*

- How to create a career vision
- Ignoring the voice inside your head
- Most important lessons learned