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DECEMBER, 2022

Washington DC Metro. Chapter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ayako Marsh- Miranda, SRA

Thank you AIDC Members, Executive Officers, and Directors for a productive and meaningful year!

I am deeply honored to have served as your President for 2022. This year was filled with planning events and activities that will benefit the Chapter and leave a lasting impact. My primary goals and initiatives were centered around solutions to increase diversity and equity for women and minorities and to reduce barriers to entry into the appraisal industry.



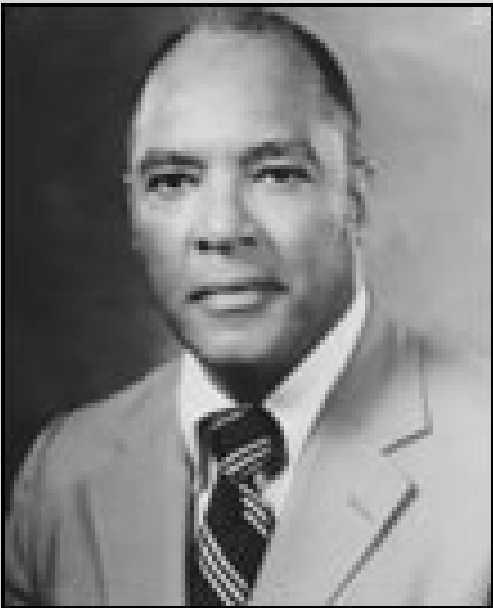
We have accomplished several milestones up to the present moment. Our Education Committee of John T. Farrell, MAI, AI-GRS and Samuel D. Sherwood, MAI are planning a homegrown event to premiere in 2023 to increase our in-person educational offerings. Our University Relations Committee led by Ericka J. Simmons, MAI and Donald S. Boucher, SRA Third Director, Region VI have been diligently engaging students at American University, and we are pleased to announce that Ericka will be representing AIDC Chapter as adjunct instructor for the Appraisal Principles and Procedures course in Spring 2023.

Their hard work sparked an idea for a networking event for students and trainees to meet residential and commercial appraisers. We hosted a University Mixer/Axe-Throwing Event with over 25 students and appraisers. Students from American University, Georgetown University, Howard University and Baltimore County Community College were in attendance. Students joined AIDC, connections were made, conversations had, interviews set and our Executive Director Tiffany Lewis made sure that everyone threw at least one axe.

Our Emerging Leaders Impact Fund Committee of myself and Chair Gregg D. Pascual, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, CCIM, ASA, MRICS led the development of the Funds purpose, criteria, and application process. The Emerging Leaders Impact Fund is dedicated to breaking down barriers that have traditionally impacted women and minorities. The Board approved the Fund and provided monies to cover 3 scholarships in 2023.

The final step was to give the Fund an official name. I wanted to ensure that the Fund was named in honor of a woman or minority that was a visionary and innovator ahead of their time. During this contemplation, I was contacted by Smedmore Bernard, MAI, AI Board of Director, Vice Chairman, Region III and Donald S. Boucher, SRA Third Director, Region VI to discuss honoring a local appraiser in the Washington, DC area. This led to a dinner meeting with the son of the potential honoree, Richard R. Harps, CRE, MAI, FRICS.

The dinner meeting was engaging and informative as Richard shared stories of the barriers his father had to break through in pursuit of entering the appraisal industry.



William S. Harps, MAI

One of the things I have learned over this year in providing solutions to increasing diversity is that representation matters. I remember learning about Harps & Harps as an African-American woman entering the field in the early 2000s. The father and son duo operated a commercial appraisal and litigation firm for over 47 years. Harps was the first Black man to earn the MAI designation. Harps was the first African-American President of the AIREA, a predecessor organization to the Appraisal Institute in 1981. I am also in great company as Harps was the first African-American President of AIDC as I conclude the year as the first African-American Woman President of the AIDC chapter. I am pleased to announce the official name of the Fund is The William S Harps Emerging Leaders Fund.

The creation of The Harps Fund is one of my proudest accomplishments and represents a full circle moment. As we come to the end of the year and are in the giving season, please consider a contribution to The William S Harps Emerging Leaders Fund. Take a moment today to continue his legacy and an investment in the next generation of appraisers. Please contact Tiffany Lewis at info@appraisalinstitutedc.org to make your contribution today.

Thank you allowing me to lead in diversity and equity commitments for our chapter. It has been a wonderful experience. Congratulations to our incoming President Matt Solomon and welcome to new Board Members Gregory Laikind, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS and Peter Sullivan.

Finally, I wish you all the best in 2023! Happy New Year!

2023 Education Planning is underway!

WE AIM TO BE YOUR #1 EDUCATION PROVIDER, OFFERING THE CLASSES AND SEMINARS WHEN AND HOW YOU WANT THEM. PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SURVEY TO GUIDE US!

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