TO: Executive Committee  
FROM: Maria Fernandez-Porrata, Chair 
SUBJECT: Diversity Committee Quarterly Activities Report  
DATE: August 4th, 2011

REPORT OF DIVERSITY COMMITTEE  
Many Faces of APWA

The APWA Diversity Committee is pleased to make its quarterly report to the FAPWA Executive Committee. The Committee is comprised of Maria Fernandez Porrata Chair and National Liaison, Jorge Corzo, Mike Adeife, Mark Collins, Denise Yoezle and Eric Carpenter, Linda Adejumo, and Carsey Patrick. We are in the process of bringing new member and we will have those names added to this committee after our August conference call.

Quarterly Achievements

The Diversity Committee met one times (from our last meeting) by conference call to work on the activities of their work plan. Somehow, due to conflicting schedules, member’s family vacations, and new member’s acceptance to the committee, we have not been as active as usual, but, are planning a full calendar for the 2011-2012 year. Accomplishments over this quarter have been slow and include:

1) The Tampa Bay Branch area and the South Florida Branch will star recruiting mentors again as soon as school starts for the formation of our “2011-2012” Future City Teams. These teams will be composed of a teacher, an engineer mentor and three students from junior high school (6th, 7th and 8th grades included). The idea is to attract the junior high students to engineering and science. It is an excellent program and our industry (Public Works) to be the best mentor pool for it! This activity will be joining a great national program and endorsed at the National Competition in DC by the APWA. Visit www.futurecity.org for detailed information. Our teams will have a chance to compete at the Tampa Bay Area or in Miami at the “Florida Region Competitions”. A winning team will be selected from each of these two regions/branches within Florida and will be representing the State of Florida at the National Competitions in DC during engineer’s week during February 2012.

2) We will continue working on the “Public Works Poster Contest” as soon as the new school year begins. We need more participation from different municipalities across the state, please pass the news and join us.

Details: The poster rules remain the same as previous years. We will have a description and application form submitted to Tracy Quintana to be included in the web site. There will be three selected statewide finalists and we will award them during the Awards Luncheon at our Trade Show. The winners will receive special prices, awards and trophies, including a FAPWA Certificate of Appreciation. The Committee will try to find sponsors for all the costs related to this activity. As a back-up the committee will request inclusion
of this item on the FAPWA budget for the three finalists. Local activities related to this item should be covered by all local branches. We hope to have statewide participation in 2011-2012 and in the future.

3) Continued to participate in the National Diversity Committee and the Subcommittee on Generational Issues, as well as the Progressive Women in PW. As in the previous reports, we have set three goals that we would like to ask this executive committee to help us work towards the implementation of these goals in Florida:
   ▪ Develop mentor programs targeted towards college students and young professionals.
   ▪ Attract college students and young professionals into APWA, as members.
   ▪ Engage seasoned retired APWA members to mentor college students and young professionals as they become members of APWA.

The Diversity Committee would like to participate and coordinate in a statewide project to attract more members to our committee by volunteering for special events with all the different branches. We are also asking all members of the FAPWA to try to volunteer at least in one activity within community during this year.

4) We attended the May, June & July- Miami Dade & Broward- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)- Young Members Forum and delivered membership applications for APWA. The Miami Dade Branch hosted a happy hour again and agreed to provide us with a courtesy-membership table for the APWA. We had a table displaying the FAPWA “Public Works Video”, (continuously running) with another lap top displaying the APWA web site; we also had membership applications, the diversity brochure and other promotional materials about APWA. We would like to repeat this in the future as ambassadors of the FAPWA. We are please to inform that Maria Fernandez-Porrata will be installed as the President of the Miami Dade ASCE on August 25th and continue to enhance the interaction between the sister organizations highlighting “Diversity”.

We would welcome your ideas and would like to bring in more members from all over Florida. If you like to join us, please contact Maria Fernandez-Porrata at 305-345-6946 or e-mail at mfporrat@marlinengineering.com.