Connecting and Cultivating Women:
Mentorship, Career Paths and Development Panel

September 10th 3:45 – 4:30

Panel Format/Outline:

AH to open with introduction of Panel Topic and Moderator Colleen Leonardo

- Intro:
  o Panel on mentorship, career paths and development really stems from the questions we all have at one point or another (especially when we are listening to a speaker at an event like this) ....
    ▪ How did she get to be president of their company?
    ▪ I wonder what path she took to become a senior vice president of that company, but still be able to manage a family?
    ▪ Wish I could get some advice on my career? Or who and when do I ask for some guidance within my company or from outside my company

- Brief Intro and One unknown fact about Colleen:
  o Colleen’s rail career started doing track work in 2008, during high school breaks, on the Toronto Terminal Railway.
  o Colleen is now a project coordinator for PNR Railworks Inc where she spends her days coordinating the massive project of upgrading a 1920’s signaling system in Toronto.
Colleen’s favorite part of her job is **having a new challenge each day**.

Colleen’s least favorite part of her job is **not being in the field as much as I would like to be**.

One unknown fact/skill about Colleen is that her entire family, Mum, Dad, Sister and Brother are all in the Rail Industry, so you can imagine what her dinner conversations entail.

Please read Colleen’s bio to get additional information on either her or the various volunteer organizations she dedicates her time to, but now I will turn things over to Colleen.

Moderator CL will provide a brief introduction of each panelist

- Brief Intro and One unknown fact about each panelist is willing to share
  - Anna Albers - Amtrak
  - Lauren Sullivan - UP
  - Erica Sander - Trinity

General Panelist Questions:

1. **What do you think is the most significant barrier to female leadership in the rail industry?**
2. **What event brought you into the rail industry? And is/was there something that keeps you involved?**
3. **Has there been “a person” who has influenced or is still influencing your career path - outside of a formal mentorship program?** Any concrete examples of how they have influenced,
challenged, pushed or suggested ways to challenge your career path?

4. What has/is your biggest obstacle in achieving success? How or who do you call for help during this process?

Specific Panelist Questions:

**Anna**

1. What is one thing you wish people understood about working in a male-dominated industry?
2. Similarly, what is one thing you wish your male counterparts knew about how to provide more equality in the work place?

**Lauren**

1. What is your greatest achievement?
2. How do you stay positive and motivated when it seems like demands continue to pile up and you can't seem to get ahead?

**Erica**

1. What has aided you to get where you are today? And what advice would you have for others who want to set off in a similar direction?