

Brenda Fischer, CPS/CAP
2010-2011 Alabama Division President
Incoming President's Speech

Good evening and welcome.

I want to thank all of you for being here tonight. I hope you have had as much fun and learned as much as I have during this weekend. I want to thank the Alabama Power Chapter for a wonderful job on the 2010 Annual Meeting. They have definitely shown a "Power to Commitment."

I did not wake up one morning and say, I want to be the President of the Alabama Division of IAAP." Tonight is the result of a lot of no, no, maybe, maybe, yes - and a little "gentle" arm twisting along the way. It is also the result of a lot of people having the faith in my abilities to lead this organization. Without the support of my fellow members and my family, I would not be up here tonight.

Being on both the Birmingham Chapter and Division boards has been a learning experience. However, participating in IDPC (Incoming Division Presidents' Conference) in Kansas City was the "wake up call." This is really happening. The great thing about attending IDPC was meeting all of the other incoming division presidents and learning that we are all facing the same problems.

At IDPC we were introduced to the 2010-2011 theme "Passion & Purpose." When I first saw this, I had a difficult time trying to put it together with IAAP. However, the more I thought about the theme, the more I realized how it relates to our organization.

To be successful in the administrative field, you have to be passionate about what you are doing. It cannot be just a job. It has to be a career. You also have to be passionate about belonging to IAAP. You cannot join and expect to receive benefits without contributing to your chapter, division and international. You have to give to receive.

The purpose of IAAP is to assist administrative professionals in advancement and success in their careers. In order to do this, we have to be passionate about:

- Membership – showing administrative professionals how belonging to IAAP will help their careers
- Networking – providing an arena for members to contact other professionals in the same field for input, guidance, suggestions, advice
- Education – making sure we provide up-to-date information and training on new trends and technologies
- Business – educating administrators on IAAP, certification, and how supporting their admins in IAAP will benefit their companies

None of this is easy. We have to continually work at being the best we can be.

During our daily lives, there are going to be times when we find our passion is fading and we no longer see the purpose of our careers or our participation in IAAP.

Tonight, I have given each of you your very own box of "Passion & Purpose." When you find your Passion & Purpose fading, take a break, open your box and refuel. Recapture that passion you once felt and again redefine the purpose of your career and membership in IAAP.

Tonight is not about the change in leadership of the Alabama Division of IAAP. Tonight is about the members of this Division and the ongoing growth and development of this organization.

I ask that you, the members, provide your support and input as the 2010-2011 Alabama Division Board goes forward with "Passion & Purpose" to make the Alabama Division the premier Division in IAAP.

Thank you.