



Professor of Civil Engineering

Dulcy M. Abraham received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1990. She is a Professor with the School of Civil Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Her current research and teaching interests include infrastructure assessment and rehabilitation, value-added delivery of capital-intensive projects, project and program controls, innovative financing for infrastructure projects, mitigation and post-disaster recovery planning, construction safety and global issues in engineering and construction. Professor Abraham served on the American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE) Construction Research Council (CRC) Executive Committee from 2005–2008 (secretary, vice-chair and chair). Other national committee assignments include the ASCE Committee on Construction Equipment and Techniques Committee, the ASCE Water Infrastructure Security Enhancements (WISE) Committee, the ASTM Committee on Technology and Underground Utilities, and the WERF (Water Environment Research Foundation) Project Committee on the Examination of Innovative Methods Used in the Inspection of Wastewater Collection Systems.

A Chat with

Butler Center
Mentor

Dulcy Abraham

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BE A BUTLER CENTER MENTOR AND HOW WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE PROSPECTIVE BUTLER CENTER MENTEES?

I got involved with Butler Center Mentoring Triads because I've been blessed with good mentors in my life who bring different perspectives. Now, I'm blessed to be a blessing to others. The Butler Center offers the opportunity to gain diverse perspectives with respect to career, work-life balance, dealing with challenging situations, and more. Having the opportunity to avail these resources is very beneficial and the Butler Center has an already-established network of individuals and resources so that you do not have to navigate it all by yourself. This is particularly important for new faculty on campus trying to find where these resources are.

HOW HAS MENTORING HELPED YOU TO BE SUCCESSFUL?

Mentoring has helped me learn how to listen and listen well. It has also helped me to learn about different perspectives. Many of my mentees are not in my discipline so I get to learn about the cool things different folks are doing and the impact their work is having on students, people, and society as a whole. Some of my students are now becoming excellent mentors. I tell my students that they will have a great impact through what they're doing and the people they're working with. That is multiplying - I can see my former students multiplying through their students.