

ACI Board Elects New Leaders, Prepares for Uncertain Future Amid Pandemic

June 1, 2020



Lyn Bulman, left, and Angela T. Allen

The [ACI Board of Trustees](#) elected Lyn Bulman, retired executive vice president of global human resources, Fellowes, Inc., to a two-year term as board chair, effective June 1. Bulman, Oak Park, Illinois, has served as the board's Program Committee Chair. She was elected at the board's annual meeting May 15, held via videoconference because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The board also elected Angela T. Allen of Mitchell Titus, as treasurer and Finance Committee chair. She succeeds Clifton C. Fenton, who served several years in both roles. Fenton is a retired investment banker and will continue as a corporate trustee. The board's other officer, Dr. Jamel Wright, president of [Eureka College](#), remains in her role as ACI president.

Bulman succeeds Frank D. Cella, who was elected chair in 2017. Cella, managing director, Marsh USA, Inc., remains a corporate trustee of ACI. She thanked Cella for his service and noted that he had made important improvements in the way the board operates.

"I am delighted to be taking this role," Bulman told the trustees. "I think ACI is a great organization. I'm very proud of the work that we do, and I think there's a lot of great progress going on that we can continue."

Bulman also noted significant issues facing the organization and the board, starting with the pandemic and the uncertainty it has created for higher education and ACI. "We don't know what programs we can run in person or what we can't run at all. Nobody knows what the impact on charitable giving is going to be. So, we're going to definitely have to be adaptable," she said.

She cited a critical need for fundraising for scholarships and program support to assist students attending ACI member colleges and universities. Bulman also encouraged board members to be more engaged to help ACI be more successful.

New committee chairs, vice chairs elected

The ACI Board of Trustees elected chairs and vice chairs of its five standing committees. Each is elected to a two-year term, beginning June 1. Committee chairs serve as members of the board's Executive Committee. Chairs and vice chairs are:

- **Advancement:** Anthony LoBello, Chicago, chair, and Donald A. Campbell, Jr., retired from Campbell & Co., vice chair
- **Communications:** Angie Winschel, Almanac, Inc., chair, and Holly Bartecki, Jasculca Terman Strategic Communications, vice chair
- **Finance:** Angela T. Allen, Mitchell Titus, chair; Bradley Summers, Wells Fargo, vice chair
- **Program:** Debora L. Osgood, Hogan Marren Babbo & Rose, Ltd., chair; Justin Lee Allen, Chicago, vice chair
- **Trusteeship:** Jerry Murphy, retired from DeVry Education Group, chair; and Barry C. Mastin, Jr., Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., vice chair

Strategic plan, business plan and provisional budget approved

To fund ACI, trustees approved a provisional \$1.35 million budget, about \$160,000 less than the approved budget for the previous fiscal year, mostly due to the effects of the pandemic. Board leaders will closely monitor ACI's budget this next year and make adjustments as needed, said Board Chair Cella. The full board authorized its Executive Committee to act on budgetary matters as needed.

The board also authorized the Executive Committee to approve a revised three-year strategic plan, beginning June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2023, and business plan for the next year, June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021. The strategic plan is focused on two key drivers: building financial support and growing participation in ACI programs.

The business plan outlines the organization's action plans for the new fiscal year. The plan includes advancement, communication, operations and program activities, with goals, objectives, strategies and contingency plans for each area.

In a review of the current fiscal year ending May 31, ACI Executive Director Mick Weltman reported organizational achievements to the board:

- ACI had its largest professional development conference attendance, with almost 300 staff attending from member schools.
- ACI's second Career Development Conference and Employer Expo at North Central included 11 Fortune 500 companies
- Career development activities included two Saturday "boot camps," and its micro-internship program with Parker Dewey grew substantially, with 334 students bidding on 621 projects, winning 34 with \$9,000 in earnings. Funding was also secured for a new career mentoring program beginning this fall.
- To help with fundraising, ACI hired Campbell & Co., the second largest fundraising consulting firm in the country to help with a major gift program and development of a Leadership Council. ACI also hired a senior gifts officer, Michael J. Bates, CFRE.

- ACI launched its Member Employment Data web page, showing at least 23,875 alumni from ACI's [27 member colleges and universities](#) working in 148 top Illinois companies. It also updated data about member schools.