

ACCE Board Update

February 1, 2019

New Hires

We're pleased to announce three new hires joining the ACCE team:



Beth Bronder



Bethany Orban



Sarah Amoyaw

Beth Bronder, VP Development and Partnerships joins us with 20+ years of development and organizational management experience. She spent several years consulting for the National Governors Association and held a leadership role at CQ Roll Call/The Economist Group. She also held senior-level positions at a number of companies including Bloomberg and Unisys. She can be reached at bbronder@acce.org.

Bethany Orban joins ACCE on February 25 as marketing and communications manager. She will lead ACCE's efforts to revamp the association's communications strategy to more effectively showcase the evolving role chambers play as catalytic community leaders. Bethany joins the team after two years managing communications and programs for the Maury County Chamber and Economic Alliance: borban@acce.org

Sarah Amoyaw joins the team February 4 as the community advancement and communications coordinator. In this role, Sarah will coordinate professional development activities for ACCE members and develop original content to highlight best practices, industry trends and community impact. Sarah is at samoyaw@acce.org.

New Sponsor

We're excited to announce our new corporate-level gold sponsor [Vistage](#). They will support our organization and members year-round. The company offers CEO peer group development sessions and customized coaching, as well as white papers on topics like leadership, financial management, productivity and more. Resources will be available to our members, and your chamber members. More details coming soon.

Strategic Plan Update

Staff is hard at work implementing many aspects of the plan. The team is building a progress report to be shared with the board as well updates for the general membership. The plan's launch will be in the next edition of Chamber Executive magazine.

Partnerships & Community Engagement

ACCE has agreed to partner with **W.A.C.E.** to host their political action boot camp during our convention in Long Beach. This is an opportunity for our organizations to work together to mutually benefit the chamber industry.

National League of Cities has written ACCE into one of its grants with Mott Foundation. Sheree Anne spoke at a NLC meeting in November on postsecondary education and career pathways. This is an early-stage partnership with a lot of potential. (NLC panel photo, right)



ACCE launched a new two-year partnership with the **National Skills Coalition** and its Business Leaders United program to create a network of chamber-led state coalitions in 15 states to elevate the voice of employers in workforce policy discussions. The goals of this new coalition are to:

- Develop state skills policy proposals that align with the needs of employers
- Increase the number of states adopting skills policies that directly connect to the needs of industry
- Drive federal policy innovation by showcasing successful state policies promoted through a network of affiliated business coalitions

Sheree Anne has been named to the **World Chamber Federation's** (WCF) executive committee, which is a two-year appointment. She will work in conjunction with Tim Guiliani, executive committee partnership liaison, Greg Durocher, international executive committee seat holder, and Jay Byers, board member of WCF to try to build more engagement and partner opportunities.

The **U.S. Chamber of Commerce** Chamber Committee of 100 has invited Sheree Anne to join as a member.

Executive Leaders Radio interviewed Sheree Anne for its national show, which will air Sunday, February 3 from 10am - 11am (EST) on Radio America, stream live on www.radioamerica.com in addition to broadcasts on iTunes, iHeart Radio and many local radio stations.



ACCE Chair, **Nancy Keefer** and Sheree Anne were featured along with executives from the Pistoia-Montecatini Chamber of Commerce on a panel discussion about the role of chambers. The event was featured on an Italian television news program. (Photo left)

ACCE will send a **member engagement interest form** to our community in February to increase member participation across a host of activities. This will also assist staff and volunteer leaders in identifying members interested in serving in a governance capacity.

Programming and Services

ACCE's **Education and Talent Development Division** hires a third-party evaluator to review programs and services. The latest evaluation is our most positive to date. Key stats:

- Since working with the division, 83% agree that their chamber's strategic plan has placed a greater emphasis on education and/or workforce development.
- 78% of chambers active in the division have been able to engage a greater number of businesses in education and/or workforce development initiatives.
- "The fellowship was one of the most meaningful professional development experiences that I've ever had in my life. In terms of the set-up, how much material was conveyed at each of the meetings, working in a cohort dynamic – it was a terrific experience."
- "I think it's very powerful. I think we could be an extremely powerful voice in shaping all sorts of education and workforce policy and opinion, and ETD can easily be the convener and champion for that."

ACCE launched the **Healthy Communities Program** to help 10 chambers of commerce lead community health initiatives and demonstrate the leadership role chambers in smaller communities play to strengthen quality of life and support equitable prosperity. Participating communities were selected because the chambers had an established health and wellness agenda, developed meaningful collaboration with at least one dedicated community partner, and represented a community with fewer than 250,000 residents. Photos from the kickoff:



An **Events Division** has been launched to better serve chamber professionals whose portfolio focuses on events and programs.

Data collection for the **ACCE Operations Survey** for FY 2018 is underway in our **Dynamic Chamber Benchmarking** (DCB) platform. Those who complete the survey by March 31 will be entered in a drawing to **win a free registration** to the 2019 ACCE Annual Convention. The 15th annual operation trends publication will have a new and streamlined look. Results are sent for free to Horizon Investors and All ACCEss Pass members in May. That report will be available to all members through our bookstore for \$199.

Awards Deadlines & Convention: **Chamber of the Year** applications are due March 1. **Life Member** nominations are due February 1. Awards for Communications Excellence (**ACE Awards**) have an early-bird deadline of March 22 and final entry due date of April 15.

If you have not yet booked your hotel room for the **ACCE Convention** July 14-17 in Long Beach, we recommend you do so soon as hotels will sell out. If you know of groups who may be potential sponsors or exhibitors, feel free to share our [convention prospectus](#).