



ACES Alumni Association Board of Directors

Responsibilities and Expectations

Mission Statement

The mission of the University of Illinois College of ACES Alumni Association is to inspire meaningful engagement and advocacy amongst the ACES family to advance the College of ACES.

This commitment to the Association's alumni, friends, current students, other interested persons, and the College is expressed and accomplished in a quality, cost-effective and efficient manner is accomplished through our three priorities: alumni engagement, student engagement, and alumni recognition through awards.

Board Member Expectations

Commitment & Participation

- Serve a minimum of one 2-year term, with the opportunity to renew for additional terms (maximum 6 years).
- Actively participate in at least 75% of board meetings and committee meetings each year.
- Complete the annual Board Member Self-Assessment to support accountability and continuous improvement.

Strategic Engagement

- Contribute to the implementation of the board's strategic plan, helping set and advance goals and tactics that support the Association's mission.
- Review progress on board goals and metrics by reporting activities and utilizing data throughout the year and participate in periodic strategic reviews and planning sessions.
- Serve as an active advocate for the College of ACES by representing the alumni voice in college initiatives, programs, and communications.

Committee Involvement & Leadership

- Serve on at least one standing committee and actively contribute to its projects and initiatives.
- Support committee chairs by preparing materials on time, responding promptly to communications, and helping to achieve committee objectives.
- Mentor potential future leaders by supporting the development of the leadership pipeline for committee chairs and executive roles.

Alumni & Student Engagement

- Host or attend alumni events annually, bringing at least one previously unengaged ACES alum to an event each year.
- Participate in at least one structured student engagement activity per year (mentorship, speaking, networking, or event support).
- Support efforts to broaden alumni engagement by leveraging personal networks, professional connections, and social media.



Recognition & Advocacy

- Nominate and help identify diverse, deserving alumni for awards, ensuring broad representation across ACES departments, career paths, geographies, and identities.
- Celebrate alumni and board member contributions through storytelling, recognition, and participation in awards and recognition events.
- Partner with ACES communications through the ACES Alumni Office to share and amplify the Alumni Board's impact through digital and print channels.

Professionalism & Stewardship

- Prepare in advance for board and committee meetings to ensure informed and strategic discussions.
- Respect the confidentiality of board business and uphold the highest standards of integrity and professionalism.
- Personally fund travel and participation in board functions, unless otherwise supported.
- Contribute to a positive, collaborative, and inclusive board culture, with a goal of strong member satisfaction.

Recruitment & Pipeline Building

- Actively identify, recruit, and help onboard new board members who reflect the diversity, talent, and passion of the ACES alumni community.
- Serve as a "board buddy" or mentor for new members to ensure effective onboarding and engagement.
- Contribute to maintaining a robust pipeline of future alumni leaders to sustain the Board's long-term success.

Role-Specific Expectations

- **District Directors**
 - Utilize your district to help accomplish the goals of the Board.
 - Promote the College of ACES within your local district as a visible ambassador to alumni and industry.
 - Identify and connect with employers and alumni groups in your district to support the goals of the board.
 - Share district-level insights, needs, and opportunities with the Board to inform planning and decision-making.
- **Vocational Directors**
 - Utilize your vocational and departmental connections to further the goals of the Board.
 - Maintain regular communication with your assigned ACES Department Head to share alumni activities and insights.
 - Provide updates to the Board on departmental initiatives and opportunities for alumni involvement.
 - Partner with departments and your vocational connections to further goals of the board and provide speakers, mentors, or hosts for students and alumni.
- **Liaison Directors (Extension, Young Alumni, Chicago Young Alumni)**
 - Serve as the bridge between the ACES Alumni Association and your liaison group. Utilize your connections to further the goals of the Board.
 - Facilitate two-way communication: bring updates from your group to the Board and share Board activities back with your group.