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President’s Message 2017-18

Dear Fellow ACCI Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president of the American Council on Consumer Interests for the 2017-2018 year! This is how I started my letter last year as incoming president. I still stand by that statement – it has been a great honor and privilege for me.

This year was a very busy year for me and your board of directors. Let me share some of our work:

• The board took a very serious look at the mission and vision statements of ACCI in the fall to determine if both still work for us, as well as our current goals. A strategic planning task force was formed to address the board’s questions. This group of members has worked over the past year to obtain input from our membership and identify goals that can ensure member value, increase membership, and establish partnerships with other organizations with similar interests. As president, I set a goal this past year to “expand our reach” – the work of the strategic planning task force is a great start for this goal.

• Other task forces were created to address the restructuring of committees and the needs of the awards program. Each group includes board members and current members who have knowledge and experience with the specific needs and challenges being addressed. Their work is well underway. All of the task forces are short-term, but it is our expectation that the results will have a positive impact on ACCI for many years to come.

• This year, we welcomed our new editor of the Journal of Consumer Affairs – Ron Hill. He has been very active with our board to share his ideas, but also to listen to our ideas as well. Open communication between the board and the editor has been very important as we set plans in place for the Journal and promote its value to consumer well-being. This includes identifying fellow researchers, both domestic and international, who share a common interest in issues of importance to consumers and working together to produce and publish research that provides answers to questions, possible solutions, and policy implications.

• This year, the board set forth to increase communication with our journal publisher, Wiley, and identify growth opportunities for the Journal of Consumer Affairs. Last fall, several board members met with Wiley’s representatives in Boston to discuss these needs. The response from Wiley has been extremely positive, and we’re pleased to be working with our new Wiley representative, David Kim. Negotiations are now underway for renewing the publishing contract with Wiley.

ACCI has a legacy of promoting consumer well-being through research and education. As a board, we continue to identify opportunities to showcase the work of our members and communicate their research to policymakers emphasizing the importance of research, in general, and consumer/family research, specifically. We’re working with partners who share similar beliefs and values, through hosting meetings at our annual conference, agency visits, and sponsorships of awards and other conference events.

It has been such a great pleasure to work alongside the ACCI Board of Directors and Executive Director this past year. Without them, things would not be moving. Each of them has unique strengths, knowledge, and experience which they’ve shared to make our organization better and stronger. To each of them, I say, “thanks.”
As I wrote last year, ACCI is only as strong as our membership - we soar on our strengths. There are so many of you who are working to make our organization stable, strong, and successful. I’m appreciative of your support. So I’ll ask again— what are your strengths and how can you use them for ACCI? There are numerous opportunities to serve on committees and task forces, to honor fellow members through award nominations and donations or bequests, to participate in educational programs, and to promote ACCI through your institutions and other professional organizations. Let’s keep this momentum going!

It truly has been a great ride! Many thanks to everyone!

M.J. Kabaci
President
2017-2018
Dear ACCI Members,

It is my pleasure to serve as your Executive Director, a role I have held since July 2012. Over the past six years, ACCI has expanded its membership. It has been my pleasure to get to meet you at conferences and work with you virtually.

ACCI continues to remain true to its core values which includes a collaborative focus on consumer well-being. Your steadfast commitment as Members and Volunteers to ACCI is very important. As single-topic associations have proliferated, credentialing focused on sub-topics of the consumers’ interest, and while funding and time commitments at home and work have increased, professionals have had to make hard choices about their active memberships and participation. I remain convinced that collaborative associations such as ACCI serve a very important purpose in cross-pollinating specialized fields and keeping professionals networking and working together.

Collaboration across these major consumer research areas remains very important as together we work to share and communicate research. The rigorous peer review accorded ACCI conference proposals to present makes ACCI a sought-after opportunity. The Journal of Consumer Affairs is very highly regarded, and the journal is critical to the consumers’ interest. Conference proceedings, published in the Consumer Interests Annual, is often cited. In addition, ACCI has reinvigorated its relationship with sister organizations, NGOs, and governmental groups.

Our most important focus is you, ACCI’s members. We love it when you call us! However, it is my job as Executive Director to keep all things ACCI running smoothly and to serve you, the members. Our office, including Jennifer Bijaczyk and Tiffany Legan, provides membership management, website maintenance, support to the Board of Directors including governance issues, corporate documentation, insurance, filing taxes, financial recordkeeping, providing professional meeting planning expertise for the conference, liaising with the editor of the journal, and answering the phone when you call, among a myriad of other things.

ACCI is a small association and as such, hires me as your Executive Director in an association management company model. The company is Arden Solutions. Collectively, staff work part time for ACCI, and part time for other clients. The advantage of an association management company is to serve multiple clients very efficiently and inexpensively by sharing computers, software programs, staff and physical space. Thus, ACCI’s management money is conservatively spent.

It is fun to look back on this past year and note some accomplishments:

- Membership is steady at around 300 voting members, and organizational membership has increased slightly, bringing savings and free student membership to five organizations;
- Wiley, the publisher of the Journal of Consumer Affairs, invited ACCI leadership to an Executive Seminar and hosted a strategy meeting at their headquarters to increase collaboration among the editor, the ACCI office, and the publisher;
- Committees and Task Forces were employed to review current volunteer and project structures resulting in changes to program functions;
- A close look at the restricted accounts such as the Colston Warne and Ester Peterson accounts has resulted in a better understanding of what these are, how they are managed, and how these will be utilized to support ACCI activities;
- President MJ Kabaci led a year-long, deep dive into strategic planning;
• A successful annual conference held in May was joined by the FERMA Biennial Conference as well as the annual meeting of the research project, Nc2172. Opportunities exist for other groups to partner with ACCI;
• The *Journal of Consumer Affairs* publishing contract is expiring, and during this FY, a consultant was engaged, and a publisher review was initiated;
• In light of GDPR privacy rules in the EU, ACCI has updated its privacy policy;
• The Thomas Brooks Best JCA Reviewer Award was created; donations are encouraged.

Please join in the work of this important professional organization by volunteering for a committee and attending the conference. Bring your students to this welcoming and supportive association as together we work to help them succeed. Submit articles to the *Journal of Consumer Affairs* and consider contributing financially to the work of this charitable organization. The Board and I have worked very hard on transparency. It is our job to serve you to the best of our ability, and I invite you to be a partner in that process. In this, I promise to give you and ACCI my very best!

Warm regards for a successful and healthy ACCI,

Ginger Phillips-Schiller, EDD, CMM
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2840 West Bay Drive #141
Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770-2620
gphillips@consumerinterests.org
Office: (727) 940-2658 x 2002
Mobile: (727) 510-9116
Board Members 2017-18

President
MJ Kabaci
mjkuga@gmail.com

President-Elect
Rui Yao
yaor@missouri.edu

Past-President
Irene Leech
ileech@vt.edu

Treasurer
Stuart Heckman
sheckman@ksu.edu
Award Recipients 2018

Richard L. D. Morse Applied Consumer Economics Award – Professional Paper
  o Hua Zan
  o Su Hyun Shin

Consumer Movement Archives Applied Consumer Economics Award – Student Paper
  o Guopeng (Kevin) Cheng
  o Rui Yao

CFP® Board’s ACCI Financial Planning Paper Award
  o Michael A. Guillemette
  o Jesse Jurgenson
  o Deanna Sharpe
  o Xianwu (Sean) Zhang

*Journal of Consumer Affairs* Best Article Award
  o *The Relationship between the School Breakfast Program and Food Insecurity*
    o Jason M. Fletcher and David E. Frisvold

Richard L. D. Morse Early-Career Award
  o Martin Seay

Robert O. Herrmann Ph.D. Dissertation Award
  o Derik Tharp

Stewart M. Lee Consumer Education Award
  o Roberta Riportella

National Foundation for Financial Education (NEFE) Paper Award
  o Melody Harvey
  o Jeremy Burke
  o Joyce Serido
  o Soyeon Shim

Student Conference Scholarships
  o Ilyar Heydari Baradehi
  o Morgan Bryant
  o YoungJoo Choung
  o Ethan Haley
  o Melody Harvey
  o Xihao Huang
  o LaShawn Jones
  o Yi (Bessie) Liu
  o Zhikun Liu
  o Youngwon Name
  o Dominik Piehlmaier
  o Miranda Reiter
  o Gaurav Sinha
  o Guangyi Wang
  o Weipeng Wu
  o Zheying (Anthea) Yao
  o Xianhua Zai

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition
  o Rajashri Manjunath

Honor A Mentor
  o Sharon DeVaney – Master Mentor
  o Rui Yao – Mentor
Journal of Consumer Affairs (JCA)

Please see the Annual Publisher’s Report, the latest one of which is for calendar year 2017. There is a great deal of information in this report. The 2018 report will be available in early 2019 and will be posted at that time.

A special issue on Consumer Issues in Food Security, co-edited by Craig Gundersen of University of Illinois and David Just of Cornell University, was published in the Fall 2017. A special issue and symposium in collaboration with the Financial Literacy Education Counsel (FLEC) is underway with publication intended for Spring 2019.

Of note, the ACCI Logo is now a fixture of the front cover of the journal and the inside back cover has contact information for the ACCI office. ACCI owns JCA and the Board of Directors of ACCI has responsibility for it as a business feature of the association.

The year 2017 was the last year of the Editorship of Sharon Tennyson. The new editor is Ronald Paul Hill of American University, who will serve through 2020.

JCA was supported by a team of four Associate Editors: Debra Desrochers, Senior Lecturer of Marketing at the University of Westminster in London U.K.; Robert Scharff, Associate Professor of Human Sciences at Ohio State University; Daniel Horne, Professor of Marketing and Associate Dean at Providence College; and Cliff Robb, Associate Professor of Consumer Science at University of Wisconsin. These steadfast and hard-working volunteers continue to bring excellence in research quality and experience, along with depth and a variety of fields, to our editorial efforts.

The Editorial Board and external reviewers play a very important role in the editorial process, and we are extremely grateful to them for volunteering their time and expertise to support the journal. The distinguished scholars on the Editorial Board serve as the first-line reviewers of submitted manuscripts, and typically contribute several reviews per year. The names of Editorial Board members and external reviewers who contributed one or more peer reports of manuscripts during the year are shown below. Arden Solutions continues to provide editorial assistance to the journal, with Jennifer Bijaczyk serving as Editorial Assistant in charge of ScholarOne functions and Melissa Steward providing copy-editing support for part of the year.
JCA Editorial Board, 2018

Natalie Adkins, Drake University
Kathryn Aikin, Food and Drug Administration
Craig Andrews, Marquette University
Cortney Baker, University of North Florida
Paul Ballantine, University of Canterbury
Aroncé Bennett, Villanova University
Lauren G. Block, Baruch College/CUNY
Lisa Bolton, Penn State University
Sterling Bone, Brigham Young University
Melissa G. Bublitz, University of Wisconsin

Oshkosh
Michael Capella, Villanova University
Lan Chaplin, University of Illinois Chicago
Helene Cherroir, RMIT University
Lorna Christie, University of South Africa
Michael J. Collins, University of South Carolina
David Crockett, University of South Carolina
Brenda Cude, University of Georgia
Joshua Dorsey, Cal State University
Stacy Finkelstein, Stony Brook University
M. Paula Fitzgerald, West Virginia University
Jonathan J. Fox, Iowa State University
George Franke, University of Alabama
Monroe Friedman, Eastern Michigan University
Roland Gau, University of Texas at El Paso
Darryl E. Getter, Library of Congress
Sonya Grier, American University
Michal Grinstein-Weiss, Washington University
in St. Louis
Gregory Gundlach, University of North Florida
Anne Hamby, Hofstra University
Drew Hanks, Ohio State University
Sherman D. Hanna, Ohio State University
Geraldine Henderson, Loyola University
Paul Hill, Dartmouth Hancock Hospital
Janet Hoek, University of New Brunswick
Jeannie M. Hogarth, Center for Financial Innovation-Retired
Dan Horne, Providence College
Maria Hoy, University of Tennessee
Easwar Iyer, University of Massachusetts
Chung-Tung Jordan Lin, Food and Drug Administration
Carol Kaufman-Scarborough, Rutgers University - Camden
Jeremy Kees, Villanova University
William Kilbourne, Clemson University
Jane Kolodinsky, University of Vermont

Steve Kopp, University of Arkansas
Cait Lamberton, University of Pittsburgh
Jeff Langenderfer, Meredith College
Don Lehmann, Columbia University
Jodi Letkiewicz, York University
Cäzilia Loibl, Ohio State University
May O. Lwin, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Marlys Mason, Oklahoma State University
Alan Mathios, Cornell University
Martin Mende, Florida State University
Elizabeth Miller, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
George Milne, University of Massachusetts
Elizabeth Minton, University of Wyoming
Elizabeth S. Moore, University of Notre Dame
Maureen Morrin, Temple University
Rick Netemeyer, University of Virginia
Chris Newman, University of Mississippi
Julie Ozanne, University of Melbourne
Janis Pappalardo, Federal Trade Commission
Michael Polonsky, Deakin University
Justine Rapp Farrell, University of San Diego
Rebecca Walker Reczek, Ohio State University
Nora J. Rifon, Michigan State University
Debra Ringold, Willamette University
Cliff Robb, University of Wisconsin
Herbert Jack Rotfeld, Auburn University
Linda Salisbury, Boston College
Robert Scharff, Ohio State University
Clifford J. Schultz, Loyola University Chicago
Maura Scott, Florida State University
Kathleen Seiders, Boston College
Joyce Serido, University of Minnesota
Srinivan Sridharan, Monash University
Laurel Steinfield, Bentley University
Lisa Szykman, College of William and Mary
Charles R. Taylor, Villanova University
Sharon Tennyson, Cornell University
Beth Vallen, Villanova University
Madhu Viswanathan, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Kristen L. Walker, California State University Northridge
Melissa G. Wilmarth, University of Alabama
Jing Jian Xiao, University of Rhode Island
Marie Yeh, Loyola University in Baltimore
Tansel Yilmazer, Ohio State University
Cathleen Zick, University of Utah
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<td>211</td>
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**Membership Committee**

**Members**
- Sophia Anong, Chair / Board Liaison
- Soo Hyun Cho
- Shinae Choi
- Donna Danns
- Fei Men
- Melanie Mendiola
- Robert Scharff

**Report**

This committee met several times, working on questions of increasing member benefits and services. The committee suggested that it may be time to consider research on members’ needs, thus the Committee focused on mining the ACCI member, lapsed member, and prospective member databases for trends and descriptions.

**Financials**

**Financial Overview**

The financial reports of ACCI are open for review by any member upon request. As a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization, our 990 annual IRS report is available on Guidestar.com for anyone to see. Our fiscal year is September 1 through August 31. The Executive Director prepares an annual budget based not only on last year’s expenditures, but also on Board and Committee requests. This budget is carefully reviewed by the Treasurer and then presented to the full board for review, questions, and approval through a formal vote. The conference budget predicts the registration fee needed based on the venue and local area prices (it is more expensive in the Washington DC area than in the Midwest, for instance). The Conference Chair and Conference Committee carefully review the conference budget as well.

ACCI’s operational funds are managed through Wells Fargo, and our restricted accounts are invested in Schwab under the watchful eye of the Treasurer and the Investment Policy Committee. Reserve Funds are also located in the Schwab account. Membership fees, Journal submission fees, conference registration fees and income from the *Journal of Consumer Affairs* are the primary sources of income.

The accounts are balanced monthly and those reports are first provided to the Treasurer for careful review and questions, and then provided to the full Board of Directors for review, discussion, and approval. The annual income and expenses of ACCI are approximately $220,000 per year. Reserve levels are at about half of one year’s budget. Given our current levels of membership and income, the Executive Director and the Board are considering a fundraising effort. ACCI has a history of fundraising in the past, which has been somewhat dormant recently. One potential option is legacy giving and members may learn more about this opportunity in the near future.

The ACCI office strives to be transparent about finances to its members. This report is designed to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and look toward to the future as well. Please feel free to contact the office at any time. We will be glad to answer your questions to the best of our ability.

**Balance Sheet – FY 2017-18**

View the Balance Sheet appended at the end of this document; it is also located on the Website here: [http://www.consumerinterests.org/annual-reports-business-meeting](http://www.consumerinterests.org/annual-reports-business-meeting).

**Invested Funds**
ACCI’s temporarily and permanently restricted funds are invested and tracked by the Treasurer and Investment Policy Task Force according to the Investment Policy in the ACCI Handbook (http://www.consumerinterests.org/handbook). These funds are reconciled in the ACCI QuickBooks account monthly.

On September 1, 2017 (the first day of the ACCI fiscal year) the funds totaled: $291,965. On August 31, 2018 (the last day of the ACCI fiscal year) the funds totaled $319,492. This represents a net gain of $27,527 or a 9.43% gain over the previous FY.

Restricted funds accounts are increased by direct contributions to each specific project (such as Colston Warne, or Stewart Lee Awards). Each fund is annually increased by the percentage it represents among the total invested funds, based the gain on the overall invested funds accounts over the fiscal year. That is, if the fund represents 25% of the invested funds, and the invested funds gain 6% over the year, 25% of that 6% gain is added to that account. Of course, direct contributions to an account accrue to that account’s total.

In summary, the invested funds are well invested and healthy.
Committee Reports

Awards Committee

Awards Committee Coordinating Chair
Soo Hyun Cho

Awards Committee Members

Paper Awards

Richard L. D. Morse Applied Consumer Economics Award (Professional Paper)
  - Melissa Wilmarth, Chair
  - Yilan Xu
  - Jane Kolodinsky
  - Jane Schillie

Consumer Movement Archives Applied Consumer Economics Award (Student Paper)
  - Melissa Wilmarth, Chair
  - Kathryn Carroll
  - Yunhee Chang
  - Jane Schillie

CFP® Board’s ACCI Financial Planning Paper Award
  - John Grable, Chair
  - Charles Chaffin, CFP® Board
  - Sarah Asebedo
  - Abed Rabbani

National Endowment for Financial Education Paper Award
  - Nilton Porto, Chair
  - Joyce Serido
  - Swarn Chatterjee

Journal of Consumer Affairs Best Article Award
  - Ron Paul Hill, Editor
  - Associate Editors
    - Debra Desrochers
    - Dan Horne
    - Cliff A. Robb
    - Robert L. Scharff

Student Awards

Robert O. Herrmann Ph.D. Dissertation Award
  - Tansel Yilmazer, Chair
  - Travis Mountain
  - Jae Min Lee

Student Conference Scholarships
  - Shan Lei, Chair
  - Lu Fan
  - Wookjae Heo
Undergraduate Student Poster Competition
  o Axton Betz-Hamilton, Chair

Service Awards

Distinguished Fellow Award
  o Rui Yao, Chair
  o Sharon DeVaniey
  o Carole Makela
  o Monty Friedman

Richard L. D. Morse Early-Career Award
  o Suzanne Bartholomae, Chair
  o Hyungsoo Kim
  o Jane Schillie

Richard L. D. Morse Mid-Career Award
  o Yoko Mimura, Chair
  o Patryk Babiarz
  o Robb Nielsen
  o Jane Schillie

Stewart M. Lee Consumer Education Award
  o Jodi Letkiewicz, Chair
  o Hua Zan
  o Kathryn Lee

Honor a Mentor Award Chairs
  o Sophia Anong, Chair for Honoree Sharon DeVaney
  o Hua Zan and Eric Park, Chairs for Honoree Rui Yao

Awards Committee Report
The ACCI Awards process is complex, in which many volunteers help by making nominations and providing reviews of papers, nominations for services awards, as well as student scholarships. The guidelines for each award are contained in the Handbook, and this process was reviewed this year to make the information even more consistent as well as to make award criteria clearer. This Award year went very well utilizing effective email communications with individual subcommittees, deadlines, and selection process. Timely review of nominated papers and individuals generally takes place during January and February. The awards ceremony at the 2018 annual conference was effective and successful. The awards process involves the Coordinating Chair/Board Liaison, Soo Hyun Cho, the ACCI Executive Director and office staff, as well as the full Board of Directors.

The long-standing AARP award was not funded in 2018. The challenges of defining clearer criteria and guidelines for the award review process resulted in a Task Force to address this and the ACCI Handbook is in the process of being updated. There is a continual need to develop and maintain a closer communication among sub-committees, the award coordinating chair, and the executive director across the award process.
Audit Committee
Audit Committee Members
 Stuart Heckman, Chair and ACCI Treasurer
 Rob Scharff
 MJ Kabaci

Audit Committee Report
Successfully obtained a clean audit. See the Audit Report.

Conference Committee
Conference Committee Members
 Sheri Worthy, Chair
 Robin Henager-Greene, Board Liaison
 Lorna Saboe Wounded-Head, CIA Chair
 Andrew Schumulow
 Kristi Warren Scott
 Ann Woodyard
 Jessica Parks

Conference Committee Report
• Accomplishments: A successful conference was held May 17-19, 2018, at the Sheraton Sand Key in Clearwater Beach, FL. For the full agenda, please go to https://acciconference2018.sched.com/. To see the summary webpage, please go to http://www.consumerinterests.org/conference-2018-follow-up.
• 101 proposals were submitted.
• The conference presentation agenda included:
  o 4 general sessions with 2 named lectures and 1 invited panel
  o 1 international committee meeting
  o 3 symposia
  o 56 oral concurrent sessions
  o 32 poster presentations
  o 1 post conference session
• Annual Business Meeting and installation of officers for 2017-18
• Presentation of Awards
• There were 139 attendees registered for the conference
• Challenges: The planning process for this year’s meeting ran very smoothly. Ginger Phillips was instrumental in coordinating meetings and carrying out the decisions of the conference committee. Our biggest challenge was finding a time to meet that could accommodate all committee members’ schedules since our international representative was located in Australia.

Reviewers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewer</th>
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<th>Reviewer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun Young Ahn</td>
<td>Tim S. Griesdorn</td>
<td>Catherine P. Montalto</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Allen Ammerman</td>
<td>Clinton G. Gudmunson</td>
<td>Gianni Nicolini</td>
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<td>Somer G. Anderson</td>
<td>Michael Gutter</td>
<td>Robb Nielsen</td>
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<td>Sophia Anong</td>
<td>Sherman Hanna</td>
<td>Barbara M. O'Neill</td>
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<td>Kristy Archuleta</td>
<td>Marlene Haupt</td>
<td>Tae-Young Pak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patryk Babiarz</td>
<td>Deborah C. Haynes</td>
<td>Jessica M. Parks</td>
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<td>Axton E. Betz-Hamilton</td>
<td>George Haynes</td>
<td>Derek Potter</td>
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<td>Stuart J. Heckman</td>
<td>Erika Rasure</td>
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<td>Robin Henager-Greene</td>
<td>Cliff A. Robb</td>
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<td>Sarah A. Burcher</td>
<td>Wookjae Heo</td>
<td>Jorge Ruiz-Menjivar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yi (Tom) Cai</td>
<td>Jeanne M. Hogarth</td>
<td>Lorna Saboe-Wounded Head</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathryn A. Carroll</td>
<td>Holly Hunts</td>
<td>Robert Scharff</td>
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<td>Lekhnath Chalise</td>
<td>Russell N. James</td>
<td>Kristi Scott</td>
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<td>Carrie L. Johnson</td>
<td>Martin Seay</td>
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<td>Anne Spencer Duke</td>
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<td>Yilan Xu</td>
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<td>Karen A. Duncan</td>
<td>Linda Leitz</td>
<td>Rui Yao</td>
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<td>Lu Fan</td>
<td>Yiting Li</td>
<td>Tansel Yilmazer</td>
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<td>Janet E. Fast</td>
<td>Suzanne Lindamood</td>
<td>Velma Zahirovic-Herbert</td>
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<td>M. Paula Fitzgerald</td>
<td>Cäzilia Loibl</td>
<td>Hua Zan</td>
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<td>Cindy Needles Fletcher</td>
<td>Carole Makela</td>
<td>Lini Zhang</td>
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<td>Jonathan Fox</td>
<td>Xiangyi Meng</td>
<td>Haidong Zhao</td>
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<td>Martie Gillen</td>
<td>Katherine S. Mielitz</td>
<td>Virginia Zuiker</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Grable</td>
<td>Yoko Mimura</td>
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</table>
**Consumer Policy Committee**

**Consumer Policy Committee Members**
- Irene Leech, Chair
- Rob Mayer

**Consumer Policy Committee Report**
ACCI is a member of the Consumer Federation of America (CFA), the FCS Alliance, and a member of Consumers International (CI). News items and access to opportunities offered by these two organizations are shared with ACCI members through email news.

**International Committee**

**International Committee Members**
- Nilton Porto, Chair
- Emiko Amano
- Shinae Choi
- Marlene Haupt
- Yoko Mimura
- Gianni Nicolini

**International Committee Report**
- **Accomplishments:** Research collaborations among the international affairs committee members (Identification of topics, research planning, etc.). Attempts to enlarge the international committee by sending personalized emails to all non-American members. Discussion about the role of international members in the ACCI (to figure out what is more interesting for non-US based members). Annual Conference - organization of international participants' dinner.
- **Challenges:** Committee members attendance to conference calls is problematic due to different time zones involved. Few international scholars are habitual ACCI annual conference attendees. Difficult to attract new members and increase the impact of the international committee.

**Investment Policy Task Force**

**Investment Policy Task Force Members**
- Stuart Heckman, Chair and ACCI Treasurer
- John Grable
- Sherman Hanna
- Cliff Robb

**Investment Policy Task Force Report**
The Investment Committee Task Force reviewed and discussed the investment portfolio in light of the Board’s reserve goal and restricted accounts. The task force recommended reducing the equity allocation to 60% from nearly 70% and also recommended changes to the target allocations to include small cap and international stock. Specifically, the CD target allocation was reduced from 50% to 40% and the strategic allocations for domestic small cap stock and foreign developed large cap stock were each increased from 0% to 5%. The Board approved the recommendations at the May 2018 Board meeting. The task force also recommended a simpler investment strategy to be implemented once the new brokerage account is open and Stuart has access to trade in the account.

**Compensation and Contract Review Committee**

**Compensation and Contract Review Committee Members**
- MJ Kabaci, Chair
- Robin Henager-Greene
- Rob Scharff
- Jonathan Fox
- Rui Yao
- Tom Cai
- Karen Duncan
Compensation and Contract Review Committee Report

- Accomplishments: reviewed and approved 1-year contract with Arden Solutions

Nominations and Elections Committee

Nominations and Elections Committee Members
- Irene Leech, Past President, Chair
- Brenda Cude
- Sharon Devaney
- Cathy Montalto
- Jonathan Fox (replaced Sherri Rhine who retired)

Nominations and Elections Committee Report
This committee met several times and recommended a single slate of nominees, which the ACCI Board of Directors approved. Members were messaged three time to encourage them to vote. At the time of voting, there were 265 paid-up members who had the privilege of voting.

The slate of members newly elected to the ACCI Board for 2018-19 is:
- President Elect: Karen Duncan
- Board Members: Yoon Lee, Angela Fontes, Cäzilia Loibl, and Hyungsoo Kim
- Nominations & Elections Committee: Margaret Fitzgerald and Jodi Letkiewicz

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition Members
- Axton Betz-Hamilton, Chair

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition Report
The 2018 ACCI Undergraduate Student Competition review committee received three submissions this year. These submissions were evaluated by five reviewers: Sophia Anong of the University of Georgia, Vibha Bhargava of the University of Georgia, Robert Ganem of FINRA, Gary Mottola of FINRA, and Hua Zan of the University of Hawaii. Axton Betz-Hamilton of South Dakota State University served as chair of the review committee. ACCI thanks the FINRA Foundation for funding this award and student travel to the ACCI annual conference.

Rajashri Manjunath of the University of Georgia was the first-place recipient of the 2018 ACCI Undergraduate Student Competition award. Suzannah Ingram of the University of Alabama was the second-place recipient of the award.

Strategic Planning Task Force

Strategic Planning Task Force Members
- MJ Kabaci, Chair
- Rui Yao
- Jane Kolodinsky
- Karen Duncan
- Sarah Burcher
- Gianni Nicolini
- Robert Nielson
- Robin Henager-Green
- Tom Cai
Strategic Planning Task Force Report

- Accomplishments: collected opinions from membership at Annual Conference; identified conferences where ACCI wants presence; identified three goals for board to address: 1) international; 2) member value; and 3) ACCI friends.
Dear Fellow ACCI Members,

Thank you for your membership and loyalty to the American Council on Consumer Interests for another year!

This year, our goals are to add value and promote excellence to our membership. You pay an annual fee to be a member. Our challenge is to ensure that you get the maximum benefit that the organization can provide for what you pay. In addition, it is a symbiotic relationship between ACCI and each one of us. ACCI cannot prosper without its membership prospering along the way. So, another challenge we have is to ensure that we all grow professionally and be the best we can be.

In order to reach these intertwined goals, we will revive the Membership Committee with the main charge of identifying membership value and exploring ways to best provide the value to the membership. An example of adding value could be helping members conduct quality research that matters to consumers, enhances consumers’ well-being, and is published in the best journals. Another example could be to identify and invite high-profile researchers to be speakers at our 2019 annual conference in Washington, DC. This would not only provide value and promote excellence to our current membership, but also attract future members to join us. Our organization and our journal, Journal of Consumer Affairs, desire to have a more global and significant footprint. In order to accomplish this objective, we could identify and reach out to international organizations that share the same mission. During the upcoming year, I want us to leverage our strength, which is research, the foundation of our activities, to seek value and pursue excellence so we can accumulate incremental improvements to transform. We are competitive, but I want us to be more competitive. I want us to be leaders in our fields and continue to seek greater achievements.

A year from now, I would like to see an increasingly vibrant ACCI, greater membership, higher conference attendance, support for publishing more and better, engaged volunteers, and continuing outreach to potential strategic partnerships. No one person can do it all. It is a collective effort for all of us. So, this is my challenge to myself and one I pass to you as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as the President of the American Council on Consumer Interests for the 2018-2019 year. I look forward to working with you all! Please feel free to get in touch with myself, the Board, or our Executive Director if any of us can be of any assistance to you.

Rui Yao  
Incoming President  
2018-2019
# Annual Calendar of ACCI Events

## Call for Proposals
- Open at conference; Due October 31; Review Nov-December; Announce January 1

## Awards
- Call for Nominations for Service Awards. Open Nov 1; Due December 1; Distributed to Committees December 15 with decisions by Jan 15; Announce all no later than February 1
- Student Scholarships: Open Nov 1; Due December 1; Announce January 1
- Journal Best Paper awards Due January 31

## Board / Officer Nominations
- Open November 15; Due December 15; vote January 10-20; Announce January 31
- New Board Member Orientation February

## Journal: Lists Due / Pay Editor, Pricing Letter
- October 31, Feb 28, June 30
- Pricing letter from Wiley comes in May

## Financial & Corporate
- Budget Preparation - June - July; Budget decision August 31
- IRS 990 - to CPA Oct 15; Audit to CPA Nov 17 or to follow taxes
- 1099's by end of January
- Annual Corporate Renewal - February

## Conference
- Open Registration early January; Early Bird Ends 1 month before start date or Hotel Cut Off date
- Keynotes for next year confirmed: January 1 previous year

## Board Retreat- October or early November

## Committees
- Board Committee Membership
  - Decided by the Saturday Conference Board meeting when the next year’s Members take office (President appoints)
- Award Committee Membership
  - coordinating Chair recruits and complete the list of Chairs by September 31
- Sub-committee chairs recruit and fill by October 31
- Other Committee Membership
  - By President by August 31
  - Posted to website by September 15
## American Council on Consumer Interests

### Balance Sheet

**As of August 31, 2018**

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<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Opening Balance Equity</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Permanent Restricted Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Temp Restricted Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thomas Brooks Best Reviewer Awa</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Temp Restricted Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td>399,439.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>399,787.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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