

# Annual Report to the Members Fiscal Year 2015-2016

September 15, 2016



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# **President's Message 2015-16**

#### Dear ACCI Members:

This is an exciting and challenging time to be a part of an organization with such a rich history of commitment to consumer interests. As this year's president, I had the privilege of overseeing three key initiatives that honor the history of ACCI while forging the path ahead.



The first initiative is our celebration of 50 years of the *Journal of Consumer Affairs*. What better way to mark that milestone than with an elegant reception at the Library of Congress! We are so fortunate to have so many of the people who contributed to its long history and success with us – editors, past and present, award-winning authors, and no doubt future authors and editors in attendance. It is humbling to stand among them. Thank you to Liz Dolan and the members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for your extraordinary efforts in organizing this historic event. And thank you to Sharon DeVaney for commemorating the milestone with a special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary virtual issue of the journal.

The second initiative focused on strengthening the connections between ACCI and other organizations with an interest in serving consumers. To that end, members of the Board met with several government agencies and private foundations to rekindle conversations and to foster future collaborations. As a result of these conversations, we held our first joint convening of ACCI researchers and members of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) to discuss the policy implications and future research needs. It is our goal that this convening open the door for future conversations that bring together researchers, practitioners, and policy makers covering a wide array of topics that impact the consumer. While the issues facing consumers may look different today than in 1953 when ACCI began, there is still a great need for scholarly research on consumer interests - whether it is conducted in universities, research institutes, or government agencies. ACCI is committed to being a part of that conversation.

The third initiative is a renewed commitment to the growth of the organization. This requires both a goal and a plan to implement it. This means reaching out to current members, so they know they have a place to share their work and to learn from others who share their interests. It means identifying new members, perhaps in organizations that did not exist in 1953, whose work and whose interests are compatible with the mission and goals of ACCI. And this reach must embrace the needs of consumers worldwide.

As a relative newcomer to the organization, I thank you for allowing me to serve as President of ACCI this past year. It has been a rewarding experience. I also want to thank the Board who worked so hard this past year to make this a successful conference, an historic celebration, and a very good year!

Sincerely,

Joyce Serido, ACCI President 2015-2016



Joyce Serido handing over the gavel to Irene Leech.

# **Executive Director – Here to help you**

Dear ACCI Members,

It is my pleasure to serve as your Executive Director, a role I have held since July 2012. Over the past four years, this role evolved. Perhaps it is time for an explanation and some history. It is my understanding that when ACCI was founded in the 1950's it was ably led by staff housed within the University of Missouri. As the association grew, the staff adapted to that growth and resources grew with the growth of membership and sponsorship.



Over time, as with many non-profit, member organizations, and university departments for that matter, there was a trend toward specialization, reorganization, and consolidation. ACCI is still focused on its core: food, health, housing and financial consumer interest issues. However, the number of associations that represent a single interest area has proliferated. Professionals still need to research, publish, and present at conferences, but funding and time limit how many they can attend. Specialization and credentialing may dictate which conferences get chosen. Generalized and collaborative associations such as ACCI serve a very important purpose in cross-pollinating these specialized fields.

Collaboration across these major consumer research areas remains very important. 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, known as the *Consumer Interests Annual*, is also often cited. And now ACCI is reinvigorating its relationship with sister organizations as well.

It is my job as Executive Director to keep all things ACCI running smoothly and to serve you, the members. Our office provides membership management, creation and maintenance of the website, 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 myriad other things.

ACCI is a small association and as such, hires me as your Executive Director through an association management company, Arden Solutions. We are hired part time at .75 FTE. However, we have added two additional staff to assist with ACCI as well as 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.

When I became your Executive Director, money and income were stable, but the administration needed a huge upgrade. Although ACCI is a charitable, tax-exempt organization, the 990 form (annually required by the IRS) had not been filed in three years. As a result, the tax-exempt status was lost. This required a reapplication and help from an association-knowledgeable attorney. This was accomplished, though expensive. A new association management system, MemberClicks, was acquired which allowed us to create a brand new website giving each member a login to reach members-only information. This includes a directory to other members who give permission for this. We are already in the second upgrade of this system so that it better serves you. Calls for conference proposals are now online. Almost all committees have a succession plan. Financials are kept in QuickBooks and reports are provided to the Treasurer and to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis. In short, because of the efforts of the ACCI Executive Director's office (the Management Company), the administration of ACCI is now stable. As a professional conference planner, I have brought expertise to the selection of venues, off-site events for networking, and celebration, as well as increasing revenue outside of registration fees. Conferences are now booked far enough ahead so that you can effectively plan your proposals and attendance.

The Board has worked on better understanding membership as an association function, fundraising, and is again actively reaching out to sister organizations by exhibiting, inviting sessions and visiting offices to effect collaboration. These organizations include AAFCS, BLS, Rand, FLEC, CFA, CI, TADC, CFP Board, AFCPE, FTA, AFS and others. Fundraising is beginning again through Honor a Mentor, an important program whose funds are used to support students to attend the conference. The conference has been a focus of the Board of Directors, and we all hope that attendees find the general session speakers to be thought-provoking, the oral sessions more than interesting, and the new Featured Research session approach highly valuable. The celebration of 50 years of the *Journal of Consumer Affairs* was a real accomplishment!

In sum, the past four years have been focused on administration and meeting planning. – getting the ACCI house in order again and providing the basics that make an association run smoothly.

It is time to refocus the role of the Executive Director from secretary, financial record-keeper, and meeting planner to content and growth, ever striving to achieve ACCI's mission, vision and goals. The Executive Director's role in ACCI, as in most organizations, is one of both serving the Board, as well as leading it with association-specific awareness and knowledge, focusing on helping the Board Achieve the mission of the organization.

So please let me issue a warm invitation that is assumed but needs to be reiterated. It is critically important that if you have a question about the finances of the organization, why something is being done the way it is being done, or why volunteers are asked to read something from the podium, that you bring those questions up immediately. I welcome your questions, as do the Board Members, and if it is something that I cannot answer, it will be forwarded to the Board for consideration. An association cannot be strong if its members have concerns that cannot be answered because the question is not asked. 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,

Dr. Ginger Phillips, EDD, CMM

Jinger Phillips

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2840 West Bay Drive #141 Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770



Top Left: Executive Director, Ginger Phillips.

Top Right: Library of Congress, Special Event.

Middle: General session at conference.

Bottom Left: Vera Rita de Mello Ferreira and Rhoda Karpatkin, invited lecturers.

Bottom Right: This year's BOD.

# **Board Members 2015-16**



President

Joyce Serido
jserido@umn.edu



President-Elect
Irene Leech
ileech@vt.edu



Past-President

Cliff Robb
carob@wisc.edu



Swarn Chatterjee swarn@uga.edu

**Treasurer** 



Sophia Anong sanong@uga.edu



Patryk Babiarz pbabiarz@uga.edu



Karen Duncan karen.duncan@umanitoba.ca



**MJ Kabaci** mjkuga@gmail.com



Jodi Letkiewicz jodilet@yorku.edu



**Gianni Nicolini** gianni.nicolini@uniroma2.it



Rob Scharff scharff.8@osu.edu

# **Award Recipients 2016**

# Applied Consumer Economics Paper Award

- Joyce Norwood
- o Sherrie Rhine

#### CFP Board Financial Planning Paper

- Martin Seav
- Jodi Letkiewicz
- Kyoung Tae Kim
- Stuart Heckman

#### Distinguished Fellow

Elizabeth Dolan

#### JOCA Best Paper - Award announced at conference; nominees included

- o Shopping While Nonwhite: Racial Discrimination among Minority Consumers Winner
  - Aronté Bennett
  - o Ronald Paul Hill
  - o Kara Daddario White
- Experimental Evidence on the Effects of Financial Education on Elementary School Students' Knowledge, Behavior, and Attitudes
  - o Michael Batty
  - o J. Michael Collins
  - Elizabeth Odders-White
- Does "Banking the Unbanked" Help Families to Save? Evidence from the United Kingdom
  - Katie Fitzpatrick

#### Mid-Career Award

o Rui Yao

#### Robert O. Hermmann Ph.D. Dissertation Award

o Travis Mountain

#### Stewart M. Lee Consumer Education Award

Jack Gillis

#### AARP Public Policy Institute's: Financial Services and the Older Consumer Award

- o Travis Mountain
- o Sherman Hanna

#### National Foundation for Financial Education (NEFE) Paper Award

- o Jing Jian Xiao
- Nilton Porto

#### Student Conference Scholarships

- Jordy Berne
- Sarah Burcher
- o Caroline Glagola Dunn
- o Dalisha Herring
- o Demitri McGee
- o Kathryn Carroll
- o Haidong Zhao
- o Congrong Ouyang
- o Madelaine L'Esperance
- Nadia Bahadori

#### **Journal of Consumer Affairs**

Please see the <u>Annual Publisher's Report for 2015</u>.

# Journal 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee

#### **Members**

- Elizabeth Dolan, Chair
- Jeanne Hogarth, Emcee
- Robin Henager-Greene
- Sharon Tennyson, Editor
- Ginger Phillips, Executive Director

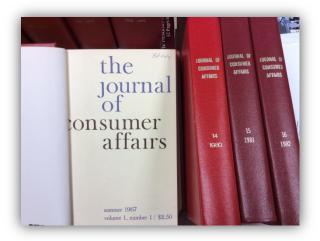
#### Report

This committee planned the celebration securing the location, structured the agenda, invited all former editors, created posters celebrating those editorships with photos and stories, as well as posters for the *Journal* Best Paper Awards which were displayed around the room. Jeanne Hogarth served as emcee and presented a historical narrative honoring all of the ACCI members who have contributed over time. The event was successfully held at Madison Hall, Library of Congress. One highlight was that Gordon Bivins, the first Editor, gave a talk about his experiences. Everyone had fun celebrating this wonderful ACCI milestone.

#### Appreciation of Editorial and Publishing Team - Sharon Tennyson, Editor

The editorial team has seen one change this year, with Associate Editor Cathleen D. Zick, Professor of Family and Consumer Studies at University of Utah, leaving due to administrative responsibilities at her University. We are extremely grateful to Cathleen for her service as an Associate Editor, and happy that she has agreed to serve as a member of the journal's Advisory Board.

Our remaining Associate Editor team of 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, Associate Professor of Marketing at Providence College; and Cliff Robb, Associate Professor of Personal Financial Planning at the University of Wisconsin, Madison continue to bring excellence in research quality and experience along with depth and 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 Editorial Board comprises the first-line reviewers of submitted manuscripts, and typically contribute several reviews per year. A total of 168 reviewers contributed one or more reviews during the year. Please see the list of reviewers, below.

#### JCA Editorial Board, 2015

Patryk Babiarz, University of Georgia Kenneth Brevoort, US CFPB Michael L. Capella, Villanova University Les G. Carlson, University of Nebraska J. Michael Collins, University of Wisconsin Stephan Dahl, Hull University Business School, U.K.

Sharon DeVaney, Purdue University Jessie X. Fan, University of Utah Michael S. Finke, Texas Tech University M. Paula Fitzgerald, West Virginia University

Jonathan J. Fox, Iowa State University Darryl E. Getter, Library of Congress Michal Grinstein-Weiss, Washington University in St. Louis

Ronald Hill, Villanova University
Jeanne M. Hogarth, Center for Financial
Services Innovation

Elizabeth Howlett, University of Arkansas Mariea Hoy, University of Tennessee Sandra Huston, Texas Tech University Colin Jevons, Monash University, Australia Phyllis Johnson, University of British Columbia, Canada

Hongjoo Jung, SKKU School of Business, Korea

Carol Kaufman-Scarborough, Rutgers University

Jeremy Kees, Villanova University Robert Kerton, University of Waterloo, Canada

Jane Kolodinsky, University of Vermont Steven W. Kopp, University of Arkansas Jeff Langenderfer, Meredith College Chung-Tung Jordan Lin, US FDA Cäzilia Loibl, Ohio State University Annamaria Lusardi, The George Washington University

Jayson Lusk, Oklahoma State University May O. Lwin, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Alan Mathios, Cornell University
Robert N. Mayer, University of Utah

Sue McGregor, Mount St. Vincent

University, Canada

Urvi Neelakantan, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Robert Nielsen, University of Georgia Janis Pappalardo, US FTC Geoffrey Paulin, U.S. Bureau of Labor

Statistics
Vanessa Gail Perry, George Washington

University

Ross Petty, Babson College Sherrie L.W. Rhine, US FDIC Nora J. Rifon, Michigan State University Maximilian D. Schmeiser, Federal Reser

Maximilian D. Schmeiser, Federal Reserve Board

Joyce Serido, University of Minnesota Marla Royne Stafford, University of Memphis

Inger Stole, University of Illinois Chuanyi Tang, Old Dominion University Charles R. Taylor, Villanova University Joyce M. Wolburg, Marquette University Jing Jian Xiao, University of Rhode Island JungSung Yeo, Seoul National University, Korea

Tansel Yilmazer, The Ohio State University Hye Jin Yoon, Southern Methodist University

# Reviewers Submitting Online Reviews for Manuscripts Received between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2015

Aikin, Kathryn Anders, Sven Babiarz, Patryk Baker, Andrew Benet, Suzeanne Beverly, Sandy Bias, Thomas

Birkenmaier, Julie

Bragg, Marie Burton, Scot

Capella, Michael

Carlson, Les Carter, Susan Caskey, John

Chan, Kara

Chancellor, Joseph

Chang, Hua Cheung, Tracy Cho, Soo Hyun

Christopher, Andrew

Collins, J Michael Cornwell, T. Bettina

Crocker, Robert

Cude, Brenda

D'Alessandro, Steven

Dahl, Stephan Dawsey, Amanda

Devlin, James Jim

Eccles, David

Edwards, Michael

Fan, Jessie

Fernandes, Daniel

Finke, Michael

Fitzgerald, Paula

Fletcher, Cynthia

Fox, Jonathan

Francia, Guillermo

Friedline, Terri

Gallopel-Morvan, Karine Ganglmair-Wooliscroft,

Alexandra

Gathergood, John

Gershenson, Seth

Getter, Darryl

Grable, John

Graham, Daniel

Grobe, Deana

Hanna, Sherman

Haynes, George

Heckman, Stuart

Hill, Ronald

Hoelzl, Erik

Hoffmann, Stefan

Hofmann, Eva

Hogarth, Jeanne

Hoy, Mariea

Huang, Jin

Hughner, Renee

Humphreys, Ashlee

Hunt, Robert

Joesch, Jutta

Jones, Lauren Eden

Joo, So-Hyun

Jung, Hongjoo

Kees, Jeremy

Kerton, Robert

Kilbourne, William

Kim, Jae-Eun

King, Karen

Kleinjans, Kristin

Kolodinsky, Jane

Kopp, Steven

Kuntze, Ron

Laczniak, Russell

Lambert, Aliette

Langenderfer, Jeff

Lee, Yoon

Letkiewicz, Jodi

Liljander, Veronica

Limbu, Yam

Lin, Chung-Tung

Lindamood, Suzanne

Loebnitz, Natascha

Loibl, Caezilia

Lown, Jean

Lusardi, Annamaria

Lwin, May

Makela, Carole

Mandell, Lewis

Mathios, Alan

Mathur, Anil

Mayer, Robert

Milne, George

Montalto, Catherine

Moschis, George

Moulton, Stephanie

Neelakantan, Urvi

Newman, Christopher

Newman, Kevin

Nicolini, Gianni

Niculescu, Mihai

Nielsen, Robert

Norberg, Patricia

Norvilitis, Jill

O'Neill, Barbara

Ozanne, Lucie

Peloza, John

Perry, Vanessa

Petty, Ross

Podoshen, Jeffrey
Powers, Elizabeth
Quilliam, Elizabeth
Rhine, Sherrie
Rifon, Nora
Rinaldi, Emanuela
Rohm, Andy
Rose, Gregory
Royne, Marla
Russell, Blair

Sass, Steven Schmeiser, Maximilian

Son Mortin

Seay, Martin

Ruth, Julie

Serido, Joyce Singh, Sangeeta

Soo, Cindy Stewart, Hayden

Stum, Marlene Sun, Tao

Swasy, John

Tangari, Andrea Thomas, Veronica

Thyroff, Anastasia Vaala, Sarah

Vail, Kenneth

Van Campenhout, Geert

Van Reijmersdal, Eva

van Rooij, Maarten

Veronesi, Marcella

Volpe, Richard

Walstad, William

Wolburg, Joyce

Wolfinger, Nick

Wonneberger, Anke

Xiao, Jing Jian

Xu, Yilan

Yi, Youjae

Yilmazer, Tansel

Zamarro, Gema

# **Membership**

# **Membership Statistics and Overview**

Membership Dashboard	Prof	Retire	Stu	Paid	Life	Comp	Basic	Inactive	% of the month
									before
8/1/2016	208	6	67	281	7	13	1466	154	104%
7/1/2016	200	6	65	271	7	13	1470	150	106%
6/1/2016	188	7	60	255	6	13	1471	148	106%
5/1/2016	178	7	56	241	6	9	1471	145	102%
4/1/2016	175	7	54	236	5	9	1465	135	105%
3/1/2016	174	7	44	225	5	9	1469	125	99%
2/1/2016	172	7	48	227	5	7	1471	111	109%
1/4/2016	158	8	43	209	5	9	1463	108	105%
12/1/2015	151	8	41	200	5	9	1432	111	103%
11/1/2015	146	7	41	194	4	9	1424	112	98%
10/1/2015	147	8	42	197	4	9	1425	112	99%
9/1/2015	151	8	41	200	4	9	1196	108	102%

#### **Membership Committee Report:**

#### **Members**

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

#### **Committee Report**

This Committee met five times and had the following accomplishments: (1) Developed a recruitment strategy document that identified avenues to pursue to increase membership; (2) Recruitment targets included JCA past authors, government contacts, journal authors of related associations, and lapsed ACCI members; (3) a student worker was hired to research and increase our contact list. Additionally, this committee worked cooperatively with the International Committee, and Shinae Choi attended both committee's meetings for cross-communication.

#### **Other Important Accomplishments**

The Committee reviewed and the Board of Directors approved a tiered membership fee strategy based on the World Bank Classification of Countries by financial status. Thus, depending on the country in which the potential member resides/works, the ACCI membership fee may be discounted.

#### **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 which is reviewed carefully 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 and it is presented to the full Board of Directors for approval at a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

ACCI's operational funds are managed through JP Morgan Chase, a regional bank, and Wells Fargo, which is a national bank, and our restricted accounts are invested in Schwab under the watchful eye of the Treasurer and the Investment Committee. The JP Morgan Chase account is being phased out in lieu of Wells Fargo since it is more accessible for changing signatories as officers change. 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 provided to the Treasurer first for careful review and questions, and then provided to the full Board of Directors for review, discussion, and approval. Right now, the annual income and expenses of ACCI are approximately \$220,000 per year. Reserve levels are only about half that amount to address that shortfall, over the next fiscal years, it would be prudent to plan to add at least one year's full operating expenses to the reserves, and two years' worth would be even more prudent. The Board is working on this action. 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 you may hear more about this opportunity in the near future.

The end-of-year balance sheet is included in this Annual Report.

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 2015-16 as of 8/31/16

View the Balance Sheet appended at the <u>end of this document</u>; it is also located on the Website here: http://www.consumerinterests.org/assets/docs/AnnualReports/balancesheet083116.pdf .

#### **Invested Funds**

ACCI's temporarily and permanently restricted funds are invested and tracked by the Treasurer and an Investment Committee. These funds are balanced in the ACCI QuickBooks account monthly.

- On September 1, 2015 (the first day of the ACCI fiscal year) the funds totaled: \$244,789.16.
- o On August 31, 2016 (the last day of the ACCI fiscal year) the funds totaled \$268,651.05.
- o This represents a net gain of \$23,861.89 or a 9.75% gain over the FY 2015-16.
- The restricted funds accounts were individually increased by direct contributions to specific project (such as Colston Warne, or Stewart Lee Awards) plus they were increased by 9.75% each for the start of the 2016-17 FY record. Note that this is the amount of invested fund gain over the year.

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

# Thanks to ACCI Volunteers – Committee Reports

#### **Awards Committee**

## **Awards Committee Coordinating Chair**

Rui Yao

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i ap	CI Awaius

#### **Members**

#### AARP's Public Policy Institute Financial Services and the Older Consumer Award

- Sharon DeVaney, Chair
- o Elizabeth Costle
- Haejong Kim

#### **Applied Consumer Economics Award**

- o Melissa Wilmarth, Chair
- o Travis Mountain
- o Nilton Porto

# CFP® Board's ACCI Financial Planning Paper Award

- o Suzanne Bartholomae, Chair
- Charles Chaffin
- o Jae-Min Lee

#### **Journal of Consumer Affairs Best Article Award**

- o Sharon Tennyson, Editor
- Associate Editors
  - o Debra Desrochers
  - o Dan Horne
  - o Cliff A. Robb
  - o Robert L. Scharff

Student Awards \_\_\_\_\_

#### Robert O. Herrmann Ph.D. Dissertation Award

- o Patryk Babiarz, Chair
- Stu Heckman
- o Tansel Yilmazer
- Yunhee Chang

#### **Student Conference Scholarships**

- o Soo Hyun Cho, Chair
- o Jae-Min Lee
- o Shan Lei

# **Distinguished Fellow Award**

o Irene Leech, Chair

#### **Mid-Career Award**

- o Cliff Robb, Chair
- o John Grable
- Tansel Yilmazer

#### Stewart M. Lee Consumer Education Award

- o Debby Haynes, Chair
- Holly Hunts

#### Report

- Successfully recruited sub-committee chairs and members;
- Effectively communicated deadlines and selecting criteria to each subcommittee chair;
- Submitted award nominations timely;
- Successfully invited and confirmed sub-committee chairs (members in some cases) to present awards at 2016 ACCI.

#### **Audit Committee**

#### Members

- Swarn Chatterjee, Chair
- Irene Leech
- Jodi Letkiewicz

#### Report

Successfully obtained a clean audit. See the Audit Report.

#### **Conference Committee**

#### <u>Members</u>

- Robert Nielsen, Chair
- Karen Duncan, Past Chair / Board Liaison
- Robin Henager-Greene, CIA Chair
- Rob Mayer
- Irene Leech
- Sherrie Rhine
- Ann Woodyard

#### Report

- Proposal Submissions: 101 proposals were started and 94 submitted.
- The conference presentation agenda included:
- One preconference
- Five general sessions with three named lectures
- Three presentations by the nominees for the Journal Best Paper Award

- Three invited sessions
- Three symposia
- 47 oral concurrent sessions
- 31 poster presentations
- Annual Business Meeting and installation of officers for 2016-17
- Presentation of Awards
- There were 144 attendees registered for the conference
   There were four exhibitors and two take-one tables

# Reviewers

Thank you for your service to ACCI!

b

## **Consumer Policy**

#### Members

Irene Leech, Chair

#### Report

As a member of the Consumer Federation of America (CFA), ACCI has the opportunity to participate in the annual policy process. The work is done via email and conference call between January and early March each year and does not require travel. Representatives of member organizations who join policy subcommittees receive the current policy statement for the subcommittee and have the opportunity to review it and submit proposals for change. Subcommittees with proposals submitted by mid-February meet via conference call, generally for less than an hour. We need ACCI members willing to serve on each of the policy subcommittees. The call for members comes in December to early January each year.

#### **Contracts Committee**

#### **Members**

- Cliff Robb, Chair
- Joyce Serido
- Note that all Members of this Committee are required to be Board Members

#### Report

Reviewed conference hotel contracts with assistance of Executive Director. Reviewed and renewed association management contract with Arden Solutions.

#### **External Relations Committee**

# <u>Members</u>

- Joyce Serido, Chair
- Swarn Chatterjee
- Irene Leech
- Cliff Robb

#### Report

The consumer research landscape has changed and ACCI needs to establish active relationships with organizations and institutions beyond academic colleges and universities. This means seeking connections with organizations that conduct research to inform social and economic policy. Committee members as well as other Board members met with representatives of several government and research institutes to open up doors for communication and potential collaboration. As a result of these discussions, ACCI and Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC) hosted a joint convening of experts on June 7, 2016, as a step in establishing an ongoing working partnership. In addition, both FLEC and Pew Research Institute presented at the 2016 ACCI conference.

# **International Committee**

# <u>Members</u>

- Gianni Nicolini, Chair
- Marlene Haupt
- Sophia Anong
- Yoko Mimura
- Nilton Porto
- Shinae Choi

#### **Report**

The International Committee met five times or bimonthly. Accomplishments included: (1) Sought and recommended an international speaker for the 2016 ACCI annual conference; (2) Developed a proposal to stimulate research project across the ocean; (3) Planned and hosted a Pre-conference; (4) Increased the number of ACCI members from abroad (outside the US) and (5) Increased the participation of foreign participant at the annual conference.

# **Investment Policy Task Force**

#### Members

- Swarn Chatterjee, Chair
- John Grable
- Sherman Hanna
- Stuart Heckman

#### Report

This group meets two times a year to review the existing policy. The funds are invested in a Schwab account which is monitored monthly.

#### **Honor a Mentor**

# **Report**

This fundraising activity which benefits student scholarships to attend the conference, resumed this year, raising a total of \$8,500 to honor: Brenda Cude, Loren Geistfeld, Sally Manning, and Deanna Sharpe.

#### **Marketing Committee**

#### **Members**

- Nilton Porto and Jodi Letkiewicz, Co-Chairs
- Yunhee Chang
- Irene Leech
- Barbara O'Neill
- Hua Zang

#### Report

This Committee met three times and (1) Established Facebook and Twitter accounts and (2) Assigned tasks for social media postings accomplishing over 50 *likes* on Facebook.

#### **Nominations and Elections Committee**

#### **Members**

- Cliff Robb, Past President, Chair
- Gong-Soog Hong
- Margaret Fitzgerald
- Liz Dolan
- Jessie Fan

#### Report

The committee assembled a single slate for two vacant board positions and the position of president-elect. Selections were based on nominations from the membership as well as the leadership board. Each potential candidate was approached to assess willingness and interest in serving. The process was a bit later than usual due to the late conference date, though the election process went smoothly.

#### <u>Publications Committee</u> <u>Members</u>

- Teresa Mauldin, Chair
- Patryk Babiarz, Board Liaison
- Martie Gillen
- Hyungsoo Kim
- Kaylee Ranck

#### Report

This committee met three times by conference call. The committee received the charge to discuss the content of the newsletter, plan for approaching the RFP process for the Journal publisher, outline process for JCA editor search, and address potential for listserv and community forums. The Board made decisions that removed the RFP process and JCA editor search from the committee's agenda this year. The committee's primary discussion focused on the need for a newsletter and what purposes it might serve. However, the committee could not come to any clear conclusions. While it is clear that the membership needs information items, there was no clear consensus as to the need for a more formal content based newsletter. There was some feeling that the website and social media links serve some of the purposes that the traditional newsletter use to serve.

# <u>Undergraduate Student Consumer Policy Research Competition</u> **Members**

- M.J. Kabaci, Chair and Board Liaison
- Swarn Chatterjee
- Judges: Patryk Babiarz, Axton Betz, Sherrie Rhine

#### Report

The board agreed at the 2015 Annual Meeting to launch the Undergraduate Student Consumer Policy Research Competition. *Student Loans* was selected as the topic for the competition. An informational brochure was developed and sent to all ACCI members in August; in addition, it was placed on the ACCI website and mentions of the competition were placed in ACCI newsletters and Facebook. One team indicated it would participate. Members of the lone team were not able to complete the written submission in time to be judged. There was not a presentation at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

# **Looking to the Future 2016-17**



Dear Fellow ACCI Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to lead our organization as president in the coming year. It is an honor and a privilege.

Our celebration of the *Journal of Consumer Affairs* in June reminds us of the important role it plays. Rhoda Karpatkin challenged us to be relevant today. Other speakers reminded us of the opportunities before us. How will we respond?

During the next year there are several things I want your help to accomplish. Our work is only useful if it is available to those making critical decisions. One way for us to do that is to strengthen our relationships with policy makers. My Congressman, Morgan Griffith, joined us at the Journal celebration. I have nurtured our relationship for many years since he was elected as my state General Assembly Delegate, rose to Majority Leader in the House of Delegates, and is now my Congressman. There are many things we view differently, but we have worked hard to keep communication open.

As we sought to include policy makers in our celebration, it became obvious that few of us have relationships with policy makers. I try to have relationships with policy makers of both major political parties. In three years, we will return to the Washington, DC area for our conference. I challenge you to begin now to develop a relationship with at least one of your policy makers at the national or state level. It is not necessary to be political or to cross the lines many of us face in our jobs to have these relationships. Some would discourage us from such activity, seeking to make us to be fearful and to avoid it, keeping us from being as effective as we can and should be. Please contact me if you have questions about this. I will be glad to discuss your ideas and concerns.

ACCI has long been a member of the Consumer Federation of America. Each year it reviews its policy positions, involving members across the consumer movement. We have not been active in this process but it is now very easy. The subcommittees meet via email and telephone conference. It is a way that you can get to know others involved in the consumer movement with whom you would not normally meet. You can learn about current issues that may be beyond your normal work, but impact all of us. This is a way to apply your knowledge about consumer issues you research. One of the messages in our conference evaluations is that our programming lacks diversity of topics. Maybe if we engage in the broad-based review of consumer policies led by CFA, it will help us find ways to broaden. Look for a call for participation in late fall and plan to participate between January and March 2017. We will inform you with an ACCI newsletter and on the front page of the ACCI website.

At my university the new administration is increasingly moving toward using externally collected data to make decisions on everything, including base budget. They seek to compare us to peer

institutions in many ways. Given all of the restructuring and adjusting that has occurred in our programs and departments, few of us are exactly alike. New programs are being created, sometimes including part of our work. In fact, there is no CIP code in the federal system that effectively represents my department. I suspect many face this challenge. I'd like for us to explore how ACCI can help our academic programs be better positioned in this age of emphasis on data. Please let me know if this is of concern to you and if you would like to help consider our challenges and possible actions to strengthen our programs.

Finally, we need to work on broadening our membership. Historically, ACCI has had a strong contingent of members from business programs, especially those in marketing. We have realized that there are few such members today and recognize a need to reconnect. We need to reengage practitioners, including extension professionals, and other educators who use our research. We need your help recruiting and involving new members. Please talk about ACCI with those you know, seeking to recruit them. Encourage them to submit to the Call-For for the 2017 conference in Albuquerque, NM, USA, April 21-23, 2017, as well as the Journal. Also share ideas with the ACCI Board, and I welcome discussions about membership.

Please consider these thoughts and how you can join us in moving ACCI forward during the next year. I have found that I get the most from membership when I am involved in the organization. Each of us has many obligations, but many hands make the job light, so please decide what you can do to contribute this year, helping both our profession and yourself.

I look forward to hearing from and working with you!

Irene Leech President, ACCI 2016-17



Library of Congress Special Event for the Journal of Consumer Affaris 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## **Annual Calendar of ACCI Events**

#### Call for Proposals

- Open at conference; Due October 31; Review Nov-December; Announce January 1
- Call for Late-Breaking Posters January 2; Due February 15; Announce February 28

#### 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 (hold two back for late breaking posters)
- 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 Septeember 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, 2016

	Aug 31, 16
ASSETS Current Assets Checking/Sovings	
Checking/Savings Charles Schwab Chase Checking Chase Savings Petty Cash	268,651.05 9,016.86 5,044.34 1,329.35
Wells Fargo Checking Wells Fargo Savings	25,030.62 25,017.71
Total Checking/Savings	334,089.93
Accounts Receivable Accounts Receivable	3,225.69
Total Accounts Receivable	3,225.69
Total Current Assets	337,315.62
TOTAL ASSETS	337,315.62
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Accounts Payable	0.400.55
Accounts Payable	2,183.55
Total Accounts Payable	2,183.55
Credit Cards Chase Ink	919.90
Total Credit Cards	919.90
Total Current Liabilities	3,103.45
Total Liabilities	3,103.45
Equity Investment Investment Earnings Investment loss Investment - Other	41,506.27 -24,099.88 2.31
Total Investment	17,408.70
Permanent Restricted Net Assets Unrestricted Net Assets Net Income	97,656.87 235,265.45 -16,118.85
Total Equity	334,212.17
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	337,315.62