

CAS Update: January 2018

Setting New Year's professional resolutions? Make a more intentional collection and use of assessment data a priority in 2018! One of the ways to do this is to strengthen your use of the CAS Standards. Since 1979, the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) has provided standards for a range of functional areas. These standards perform functions that help programs and services effectively operate, enhance infrastructure, and conduct assessment of their delivery.

CAS currently has 45 sets of standards including those for [Fraternity and Sorority Advising Programs \(FSAP\)](#). Through an agreement between AFA and CAS, the FSAP are available to all. AFA has a number of articles in [Perspectives](#) and [Essentials](#) that also focus on the use of CAS. Additionally, there have been trainings in [AdvanceU](#) on the use of the FSAP. [Annual Meeting workshops](#) over the years have covered the basics of CAS all the way up to how a full self-assessment and program review can be implemented. [Dan Bureau](#) and [Monica L. Miranda](#) are your AFA appointees to CAS.

Dan and Monica have worked with AFA Executive Director, Lynda Wiley, to develop an ambitious list of goals for 2018. One of the most important is to help members conceptualize how they would use the CAS Standards. To that end, we will use this CAS update each issue of the Association Update to walk members through a year in the life of a successful CAS Self-Assessment/Program review process. In the February edition, we will discuss the process of getting ready for a FSAP Self-Assessment/Program Review and how to launch the initiative. Throughout the year, we will almost simulate the process of conducting self-assessment and program review in these updates. We will use examples from across the field to highlight how this can be effectively achieved. If you have any ideas or wish to share your thoughts, please communicate with [Dan](#) and [Monica](#).