President's Message

Dear Fellow MISAC Members, Partners and Friends,

There are lots of things I love about volunteering for MISAC: the relationships with our members and past and present colleagues on the State Board, the professional development and networking, the learning and collaborative problem-solving, and the opportunities to give back to an organization that has given me so much. I also volunteer to further my personal goal to elevate the recognition of and respect for both municipal information technology and the professionals who comprise MISAC’s membership.

Please join me and our State Board and Southern, Northern and Central Chapter leadership as a MISAC volunteer. You have the potential to contribute invaluable wisdom and experience as we continue our efforts to build relationships, enhance resources, provide quality education and advocate for our field. It’s an exciting time for information technology and an exciting time for MISAC. Please help us continue to meet our goals and drive our momentum.

One of the best parts about volunteering for MISAC is that you can customize your service based on your interests, experience and availability. Please reach out to secure your spot on one of our committees:

- The Awards Committee, chaired by Mitch Cochran (City of San Bernardino), establishes criteria and reviews submissions for MISAC’s Excellence in Information Technology Practices Awards, which recognize outstanding member contributions, exemplify best practices and foster achievement in governance and operations.
- The Communications Committee, co-chaired by President Tim Williamsen (City of Petaluma) and Secretary Tim Ranstrom (El Dorado Irrigation District), meets monthly to develop articles and features for our quarterly and weekly publications. The committee also is responsible for strategic direction of MISAC’s website, listserv, social media content and speakers bureau.
- Chaired by Vice President Helen Hall (City of Fullerton), the Conference Committee is responsible for developing the theme, planning the schedule, selecting speakers and choosing activities for this year’s Annual Conference, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2018, at the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa, Rancho Mirage.
- The Education Committee, chaired by Bryon Horn (City of Fresno) is responsible for developing and executing MuniTech Academy offerings, including selecting classes, choosing trainers and managing logistics for online and in-person coursework.
- As MISAC engages more actively in state and local municipal initiatives and information technology-related legislation, the Legislative Committee, chaired by Hong Sae (City of Roseville) has become increasingly important. This group works closely with the League of California Cities and the California Special Districts Association.
- The nascent Security Committee, chaired by Robert Lee (Town of Windsor), offers an opportunity to lend some of your creativity to shaping this new effort. Security remains a growing field, deserving of our attention.

You also may sign up to support one of these short-term, project-focused task forces for 2018:

- The Mentoring Task Force, chaired by Jeff Lewis (City of Concord), is working to establish a means of helping newer or less-experienced members and mentoring up-and-coming municipal information technology professionals to become better leaders and, ultimately, sought-after chief information officers.
- The Policies & Procedures Task Force, chaired by Ken Desforges (City of Diamond Bar), represents an effort to develop a paper trail for future leaders, with policies that define our goals and limits for assets ranging from finances to graphics.
- Bryon Horn (City of Fresno) and Gaurav Garg (City of Santa Clara) are co-chairing the Smart Communities Task Force, assigned to develop information and to provide a vehicle for collaboration on this trending topic.

If you are interested in working on one or more committees or task forces, please contact MISAC Executive Director Brad Walker and let him know of your interest. He will pass your name and information on to me and/or the committee chairperson. I also welcome your ideas for additional ways to involve members and retired members.

Thank you, again, for this opportunity to help MISAC grow in numbers and visibility and as a platform for education and information exchange, and to serve as your president and continue my efforts to elevate our profession and its practitioners.

</Tim Williamsen, P.E.>

P.S. Please mark your calendar for MISAC’s Annual Conference, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2018, at the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa, Rancho Mirage. The State Board is meeting on site; it’s a fantastic facility and I can’t wait for you all to see it!