



# Meet the Candidate Advocate Working Group (CAWG)

## Overview

The Candidate Advocate Working Group (CAWG) serves as a direct point of contact for candidates to engage with the CAS and admissions working groups by sharing their thoughts and feedback. The CAWG advises candidates of resources available to them, serves as the voice of the candidates to the CAS and authors the quarterly *Future Fellows* newsletter to engage candidates and provide information on topics of importance.

## How does the CAWG support the CAS membership?

The CAWG supports candidates as they work towards achieving CAS credentials. Our working group focuses on the current candidate cohort. We help candidates learn more about the CAS and stay up to date by publishing a quarterly newsletter authored by our working group members to enhance the candidate experience. We also conduct a bi-annual survey and have a standing email address ([CAWG@casact.org](mailto:CAWG@casact.org)) as a means for candidates to reach out and share feedback. We make sure we share candidate questions and concerns with the CAS as future CAS members.

We also serve as a proxy for the candidates when approached by CAS on topics of importance. We share our reactions and suggestions so that the CAS has a candidate voice on emerging issues and proposed changes.

## From the Chairs



“Being the voice of the candidates through the CAWG is extremely rewarding. Not only have we taken meaningful action with the CAS on topics of importance to candidates, but we’ve also made amazing connections with individuals along the way. By authoring *Future Fellows*, we’ve had a chance to share important information to candidates while honing our writing skills. Through everything that we do on the committee, we are helping candidates who are the future of the CAS.

– Mindy Moss,  
CAWG Volunteer Chair  
& Laura Hemmer,  
CAWG Volunteer Chair 2020-2023

“Our primary goal is to foster a robust and enduring connection between candidates and CAS, beginning well before they attain full membership. It is crucial to ensure that the candidates’ voices are represented, and we are fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers supporting this mission.

–Stephanie Litrenta, CAE,  
Candidate Engagement Manager

## Who is the CAWG?

The CAWG reports to the CAS Marketing and Communications Advisory Council.



Mindy Moss, *Volunteer Chair*

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Ildiko Ban     | John Varnas       |
| Celeste Bremen | Jack Richards     |
| Dan Watt       | Daniel Drabik     |
| Nitai Patel    | Shannon Osterfeld |
| Dallin Biorn   | Liya Zhang        |
| Curt Glatz     | Jessica Ackley    |
| Emily Miske    | David Idoux       |
| Mark Maenche   | Matt Beine        |

Stephanie Litrenta, *Staff Chair*

