

Last year I had the honor of leading the Symposium Planning Committee. This year that privilege goes to President-Elect Brooke Arnone. I learned so much about planning this meeting, and especially the work that goes into ensuring a high quality product for the membership. The 2019 Symposium is fast approaching! The Symposium Planning Committee has done a great job again. I hope you have made plans to attend. If not, you should reconsider because the information is going to be important and St. Louis is a fabulous location for networking with colleagues.

Along with several great days of education and training at the symposium, we will also have our annual business meeting on Thursday, May 23rd, where we will welcome new members to the organization, elect 3 new Board Members, and vote on proposed changes to the organization's Bylaws.

The Membership Committee approved a total of 86 membership applications for the Board to consider at their meeting in May 2019.

The breakdown of membership categories is as follows:

- Emeritus Members – 1
- Retired Member applications - 11
- Regular Member applications - 73
- Academic Member applications – 1

Please review the list of the [2019 ASCLD Membership Candidates](#)

If there are any concerns or questions regarding the membership applications, please contact Membership Chair Jennifer McNair at jmcnair@utah.gov.

We are thrilled to have 4 outstanding candidates for the Board of Directors for consideration this year. Candidates will be very active at the meeting, serving as moderators during plenary blocks and making themselves available for any questions and discussions to help you know them better. Candidate information, qualification and some questions and answers are available as follows:

[Anthony Tessarolo](#)

[Jeffrey Nye](#)

[Lisa Burdett](#)

[Mary Beth Karr](#)

Last, but most importantly, we have 4 bylaw changes for your consideration and vote. These have been posted 30 days in advance of the meeting to enable your review, discussion and debate. These are the proposed changes to the Bylaws: 1) Everywhere it says “Board” to change to “Board of Directors” because it wasn’t defined at the beginning. Since there are instances where it does say “Board of Directors”, instead of defining at the beginning and changing them all to say “Board”, it will be easier to replace all instances of “Board” with “Board of Directors”. 2) In Article IV, Section 6, paragraph d the wording “except serving on the Board of Directors” is added to academic and retired affiliates so there’s no contradiction and no confusion. 3) The paragraph about meetings is moved from Article VII, Section 3, which is Term and Election, to Article VII, Section 8, which is Meetings. Language for executive session is also added to the paragraph. 4) All instances that say “Chairman” are changed to say “Chair” to conform with gender neutrality. Please review the proposed [Bylaw](#) changes.