

Sections Committee November 2006

Following the direction taken at the Sections' Chairs-CPA Board Meeting in June 2006, Section Chairs were invited to participate in the strategic planning process of the Board scheduled for the November Board meeting by making suggestions for ways in which Sections could contribute to the ongoing development of CPA as a whole by improving Sections as individual groups. Several Section Chairs responded to this request, and their suggestions could be grouped into two types: operational issues between Sections and CPA, and more visionary planning issues with Sections and CPA working in unison.

To address the operational issues, it was suggested that a mechanism be developed for regular monitoring of operational issues between CPA and Section Chairs. This would free the Section Chairs and Board members to engage in a productive and forward thinking dialogue when they do meet face-to-face at the Convention.

At present, many of the operational issues being mentioned involve websites, journals, Section membership lists and finances, and Convention issues. Many of these issues are being directly dealt with by John Service, as was his suggestion at the last Chairs/Board meeting. Although John has final responsibility for the operations of CPA, it seems unrealistic and impractical to ask him to address every operational issue personally. As an alternative, I would like to suggest the following structure:

- The Director responsible for Sections, in conjunction with the Section Chairs and the Board of Directors and CPA Staff, will develop a standard questionnaire/report card to be completed by Section Chairs throughout the year.
- Prior to each Board meeting, the Director responsible for Sections will send out the questionnaire to each Section Chair for completion. This will provide information for the Board and a regular venue for Sections' concerns to be heard by the Board in a structured manner.
- Operational issues will be directed to the appropriate CPA staff member/Board member for their attention/action/response, with a copy to John Service.
- The response to the concern will be sent to the Section Chair, with a copy to John Service, by the CPA staff member/Board member involved.
- The resolution to the issue will be shared with all Section Chairs, if appropriate.

The agenda of the annual CPA Board/Section Chairs' meeting would be reserved for strategic planning to enhance the development of CPA through the actions/development of Sections.

Submitted by:

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Director responsible for Sections