

Board of Directors Announcement of Executive Director Departure



It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that the Board of Directors announces Vanessa LaClair, CAE, CMP forthcoming departure as ESSAE's Executive Director. Vanessa's last day will be Friday, September 2, 2022, at which point a successor or interim Executive Director will be named.

The Board congratulates Vanessa on her outstanding leadership and wants to thank her for her dedicated service that has led to numerous successes for the organization.

Vanessa joined ESSAE as its Executive Director in 2016. Since then, she helped usher in a new strategic plan, built new important strategic partnerships, helped improve and stabilize operations and organizational processes, among many other accomplishments.

Her management, policy, and partnership building skills have created a foundational structure that will serve ESSAE for years to come and are a true testament to Vanessa's skillset as a leader. We cannot thank Vanessa enough for the commitment, passion, creativity, and enthusiasm she has given ESSAE during her tenure.

Vanessa leaves ESSAE in a strong position for continued growth and we sincerely thank her for her contributions and leadership in her time here. She will be greatly missed by the Board, members, and partners alike.

“

After six years at the helm of ESSAE, Vanessa has left an indelible mark on the Society. It is truly bittersweet to see Vanessa taking this next step in her professional journey. The Board, membership and organizational partners owe Vanessa a debt of gratitude for her years of distinguished service.

Jeremy Johannesen, CAE, ESSAE Board Chair

”

While transitions are difficult, change is constant. ESSAE's Board has already sprung into action and will oversee the process of permanently filling the position.

We are confident that this will be a smooth transition for the membership, partners, and volunteer leadership. Over the next few months, we will be conducting a search to find the new ESSAE Executive Director. During this transition period, it is our priority to find the best individual to lead, while still maintaining a stable and effective organization. We will share the job announcement soon and ask for your help in identifying candidates who can help ESSAE continue along this successful trajectory.

The ESSAE Board of Directors stands ready to lead the organization and ensure that it maintains its stability through the transition in anticipation of a new leader to take the reins.

We wish Vanessa the very best of luck in her future professional endeavors and look forward to continuing to collaborate with her.

“ It has been my honor to serve as your Executive Director since 2016 and lead this organization. I am so proud of the accomplishments we have made together to advance this Society and will hold this organization close to my heart. I want to express my profound gratitude to all who have been so supportive of the organization and of me personally over the years: members, volunteers, board members, and our network of partners. Without you, the organization would not be as strong and vibrant as it is.

I am excited for ESSAE's future and will watch with anticipation as it continues to make strides to advance the association community. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Executive Director through a transformational period in its long history and for trusting in me and supporting our work over the years.

Vanessa LaClair, CAE, CMP ”

A celebratory gathering is being planned with details to follow.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me at jjohannesen@cosla.org.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Johannesen, CAE
Board Chair
Empire State Society of Association Executives, Inc.

Upcoming Events & Webinars

[Best Practices of Digital Marketing for Your Organization](#)

June 15, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[Digital Strategy Case Study: How to Integrate Your Organization's Strategic and Technology Goals](#)

June 22, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[How to Validate Your Market for Educational Products](#)

July 13, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[Negotiations: Is it different in a Pandemic?](#)

July 27, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[Mitigating Burnout & Preventing Attrition: Bypass the Great Resignation](#)

August 10, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[Competing for Quality: Strategies to Become a Top Talent Magnet](#)

August 31, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[5 Steps to Find Your Value Proposition](#)

September 27, 2022 @ 1:30 PM - Eastern

[Association Leadership Academy](#)

Six Part Program Begins October 14, 2022
Latham, NY

About Us

ESSAE comprises over 465 association and supplier members and represents executives employed by trade, business, and professional associations. ESSAE provides its members a means to exchange ideas and encourages high professional standards through educational forums, publications, industry resources, and networking luncheons.

Contact Us

Empire State Society of Association Executives, Inc.
1A Pine West Plaza
Albany, NY 12205
(518) 463-1755
www.essae.org
vanessa@essae.org

Let's Get Social:

Facebook

Twitter

LinkedIn

Instagram

YouTube