



AMERICAN
COLLEGE of
CARDIOLOGY®

Welcome to ACC

LEADERSHIP 2023

Your ACC leadership contribution is more valued and more important than ever. Use this document as an overview and reference guide to help you navigate your role. Inside you will find details around ACC's strategy and governance structure, important links and contact information, and more.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ACC LEADER?

The American College of Cardiology envisions a world where science, knowledge, and innovation optimize cardiovascular care and outcomes. As the professional home for the entire cardiovascular care team, the Mission of the College and its more than 56,000 members is to transform cardiovascular care and to improve heart health for all. The ACC bestows credentials upon cardiovascular professionals who meet stringent qualifications and leads in the formation of health policy, standards and guidelines. The College also provides professional medical education, disseminates cardiovascular research through its world-renowned JACC Journals, operates national registries to measure and improve care, and offers cardiovascular accreditation to hospitals and institutions.

As leaders in the College you play a principal role in making our Vision a reality. It starts with understanding the ACC Strategic Plan, then ensuring that priorities and goals for your Committee align with the overall ACC Strategy.

OUR MISSION

To transform cardiovascular care and improve heart health for all.

OUR VISION

A world where science, knowledge, and innovation optimize cardiovascular care and outcomes.

OUR CORE VALUES

In every decision ACC is Patient-Centered. We are stronger through Teamwork and Collaboration. We strive for Professionalism, Excellence, and Equity.

ACC 2019-2023 STRATEGIC GOALS (OR "PILLARS")

1. Increase relevance as the CV professional home
2. Generate and deliver actionable knowledge
3. Advance quality, equity and value of CV care
4. Ensure organizational growth and sustainability

More details are available on [ACC.org/StrategicPlan](https://www.acc.org/StrategicPlan)



UNDERSTANDING ACC GOVERNANCE

The ACC governance structure and processes are based on a set of 12 principles approved by the Board of Trustees (BOT) to ensure the College is nimble, strategic, accountable and inclusive of the diverse needs of the global cardiovascular community.

The College is governed by a small, centralized BOT that is strategically focused on the ACC's Mission to transform cardiovascular care and improve heart health for all. The BOT is supported by six standing committees, with additional committees and councils reporting up to these standing committees and responsible for tactical and operational decision-making related to College programs, policies and products.

ACC/ACCF GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES

I. GOVERNANCE FUNCTION

1. The Board is strategically oriented to support the Mission of the College.
2. The Board is the ultimate authority of the College.
3. Governance focus is on strategy and policy, and not on tactical, operational, implementation or management issues.
4. Governance shall operate on the principle of centralized authority and decentralized decision-making.
5. The Board must ensure it is aware of the needs and challenges of all of the members of the College as it relates to the Mission. It must have multiple mechanisms and avenues for membership voices to be heard at the Board level.

II. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

6. Board structure engenders and supports optimum governance function and efficiency. Therefore, Board size and other structural components shall be consistent with best practice evidence and thinking.
7. The Board establishes and maintains appropriate committees that have clearly defined roles, functions, authority and accountability, and the Board appoints the members of these committees, based on the recommendations from the Nominating Committee.
8. A majority of the members of the Board shall be members of the College.
9. The Board shall seek diversity in its membership including but not limited to: expertise; experience; gender; race; geographic location; practice type; and age.
10. There shall be a competency-based selection model for composition of the Board and all committees of the College. These competencies include subject matter expertise, leadership, technical and diversity competencies.
11. Board members shall not concurrently serve as chairs or members of non-standing committees of the College except as otherwise permitted in the Bylaws.
12. The Governance Committee shall facilitate an evaluation of Board performance and provide feedback regarding overall function and adherence to governance principles and practice.

NAVIGATING ACC: CENTRALIZED AUTHORITY AND DECENTRALIZED DECISION-MAKING

In order to effectively support and implement governance best practices under the ACC/ACCF Governance Principles, the College has developed a chart to illustrate how centralized authority and decentralized decision-making is operationalized at the ACC. The chart describes and clarifies roles and participation expectations through the use of the RACI Model. This document illustrates what the responsibilities are of each body of the College, along with who should be empowered to make decisions, while ensuring there is proper oversight over the ACC as a large, growing and diverse organization.

While reviewing the **Authority Matrix**, please note that there will be widespread and bi-directional channels of communication for all member constituents listed. It can be understood that all member groups will have open lines of communication, but columns remain empty because authoritative actions are not required. Thus, this document serves as an authority matrix and not a communication matrix. Although this Authority Matrix provides for decentralized decision-making, applicable law requires that all corporate powers must be exercised by or under the authority of the BOT, and the activities and affairs of ACC must be managed by or under the direction of, and subject to the oversight, of the BOT. Accordingly, the BOT retains the ability to overturn or modify actions approved pursuant to the Authority Matrix as required to comply with applicable law, the mission and purposes of ACC, or where the BOT otherwise reasonably determines such action is necessary.

For more information, please view the **Authority Matrix** on ACC.org.

ACC LEADERSHIP AND MEMBER-LED GROUPS

SIX STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Audit and Compliance
- Executive
- Finance
- Governance
- Membership
- Nominating

ELEVEN MAJOR OPERATING COMMITTEES:

- Accreditation Oversight Committee
- Assembly of International Governors
- Board of Governors
- Digital Transformation Committee
- Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Health Affairs Committee
- Lifelong Learning Oversight Committee
- NCDR Oversight Committee
- Scientific Publications Committee
- Science and Quality Committee
- Section Steering Committee

ACC/ACCF DEFINITIONS

While reviewing the responsibility matrix as it currently stands, please note the following working definitions regarding columns within the matrix:

Approve: Initiate, review and either adopt, amend, disapprove or send back for further consideration

Recommend: May initiate action for consideration or a decision

Consult: Must be sought for advice or information before a decision; others might be sought for advice or information

Inform: Must be informed of action after a decision and before distribution

LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES: SERVING AS AN ACC LEADER



23 Member Sections
48 Domestic Chapters,
including Puerto Rico
42 International Chapters
...and more!

Learn more at
[ACC.org/About-ACC/Leadership](https://acc.org/About-ACC/Leadership)

FIDUCIARY DUTIES AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members owe fiduciary duties of care, loyalty and obedience to the College.

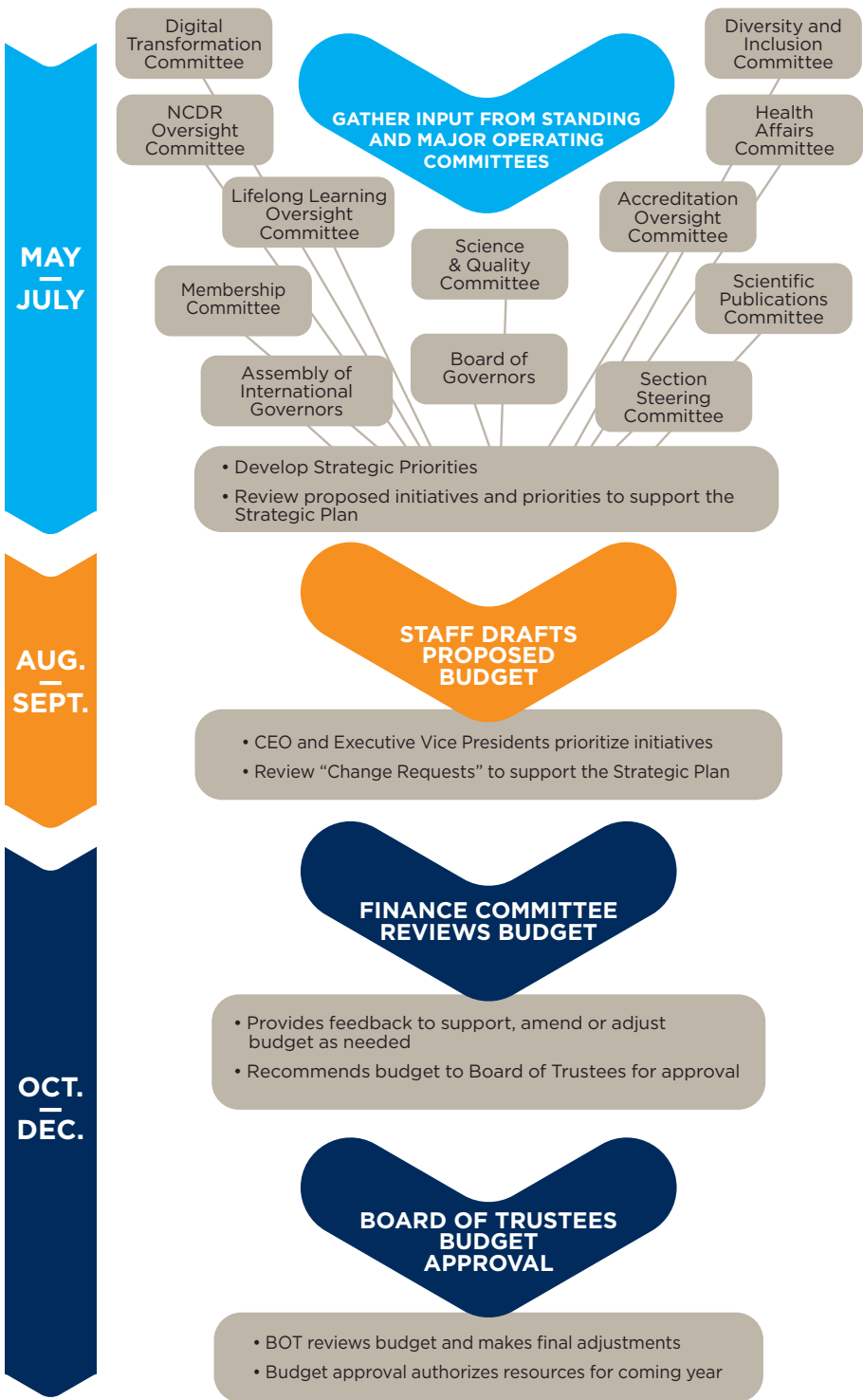
This means that volunteer leaders must act in good faith, in a manner the individual reasonably believes to be in the best interest of the College, with the care that a person in a like position would reasonably believe appropriate under similar circumstances, and in a manner that ensures that the College complies with applicable law and acts in furtherance of its mission.

Encompassed within the duty of loyalty is an obligation for the volunteer leader to put the interests of the College ahead of the leader's personal and/or professional interests when making decisions on behalf of the College.

In order to fulfill this duty and comply with applicable law, volunteer leaders must disclose all financial, personal, volunteer and professional interests and relationships (including those of spouses, other immediate family members and/or business partners) on an annual basis and as such conflicts arise, in accordance with the College's Conflict of Interest Policy.

In the event that an existing interest or relationship of a volunteer leader will prevent that individual from acting impartially and in the best interests of the College, the individual should recuse him or herself from any deliberation or decision-making with respect to the matter with which the individual has a potential conflict, and the matter should be determined in good faith by vote of the disinterested volunteer leaders.

THE ACC BUDGET PROCESS



ACC ANNUAL REPORT

Each year, the ACC Annual Report provides a snapshot of the College’s revenue and expenses and highlights the many ways the ACC community is rising to the challenges of today, building community, empowering the next generation of leaders and harnessing innovation to transform the future of cardiovascular care. Download the current report at [ACC.org/AnnualReport](https://www.acc.org/AnnualReport).

HOW ARE ACC’S GOVERNING BODIES DEFINED?

COMMITTEES

Committees address the ongoing work of the College at the request of the BOT.

WORK GROUPS

Work groups report into committees or councils to work on focused projects initiated by that committee or council.

SECTION

A section is made up of members who actively align themselves around an area of clinical or professional interest. Each Section is represented by the overarching Section Leadership Council.

BOG/AIG

The Board of Governors (BOG) and Assembly of Governors (AIG) are the leadership bodies for ACC’s domestic and global Chapters. They serve as the on-the-ground eyes and ears in states and countries around the world.

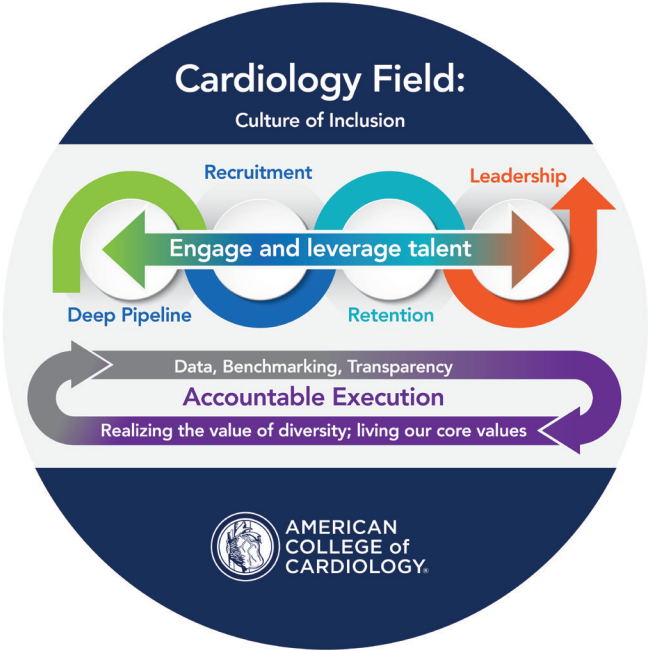
SECTION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Each member section is governed by a Section Leadership Council.

BOT TASK FORCE

Task Forces are established by the BOT to address time-specific needs of the College.

ACC’S COMMITMENT TO INCREASING DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN THE CV WORKFORCE



RESOURCES FOR ACC LEADERS

The resources below will help you navigate your role. You will receive additional details and documents to assist with your specific leadership role and responsibilities. Please contact your staff liaison with any questions regarding your leadership position.

GENERAL QUESTIONS OR LOG-IN INFORMATION

ACC Member Care

Phone: 800-253-4636
or 202-375-6000

E-mail: membercare@acc.org

Fax: 202-375-7000

WHAT TOP ACC COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD I LOOK OUT FOR?

ACC Update: Weekly newsletter to all ACC members

ACC.org: Provides clinical topic collections and member section pages to tailor news to your interests or specialty

CV News Digest: Daily e-mail for members with research news, clinical updates, health policy and practice management news

Leadership Alert: Ad hoc email from ACC Communications Team

Cardiology: The College's monthly member magazine that is mailed to all U.S. members and available online at ACC.org/Cardiology

Social Media: Follow official ACC Social Media Accounts:

Facebook: facebook.com/AmericanCollegeofCardiology,
facebook.com/JACCJournals

Twitter: @ACCinTouch, ACC's Main Account, @JACCJournals, JACC Journals Content, @Cardiology, Advocacy-only content from the College, @ACCMediaCenter, ACC Media Relations Content

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/american-college-of-cardiology

Instagram: instagram.com/americancollegeofcardiology/

YouTube:
[@AmericanCollegeofCardiology](https://www.youtube.com/AmericanCollegeofCardiology)

ACC QUICK LINKS:

Member Leadership Development Hub:

ACC.org/Membership/Current-Members/Member-Leadership

Leadership Portal for BOG:

ACC.org/BOGPortal

Leadership Portal Slides and Talking Points (all member leaders):

ACC.org/LeadershipSlides

Disclosures: <http://disclosures.acc.org/>

(Note: As a member leader, the completion of your timely and accurate disclosures is essential to enabling the ACC to maintain its commitment to balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor for all activities.)

About ACC (Strategic Plan, History, Leadership and More): ACC.org/About

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Hub:

ACC.org/Diversity

Clinician Well-Being Portal:

ACC.org/ClinicianWellBeing

Authority Matrix: ACC.org/AuthorityMatrix

Renew Your Membership:

ACC.org/Renew

Make a Donation: ACC.org/Support

Manage Newsletter Preferences:

ACC.org/My-ACC/My-Privacy-and-Notifications

Chapters: ACC.org/Membership/Chapters

Collaborative Maintenance

Pathway Hub: ACC.org/CMP

ACC Advocacy: ACC.org/Advocacy

Apps and Mobile: ACC.org/Apps

CardioSmart: CardioSmart.org

COVID-19 Hub: ACC.org/COVID19

JACC Journals: JACC.org

Quality Improvement for Institutions:

cvquality.ACC.org (NCDR, ACC Accreditation Services and Quality Campaigns)

ACC Global Hub: ACC.org/GlobalHub