



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ACCESS, EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

Greetings and salutations AAAED!

As the President of the Board of Directors for the American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity, an organization established by practitioners to provide development, support and training to equal opportunity professionals, I am proud to tell you what is on the immediate horizon for AAAED.

This month, AAAED will be meeting with agency officials with the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs ("OFCCP"), Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. The purpose of our meeting is to learn of the agency's strategic initiatives, inform them of the concerns of AAAED members, and to find opportunities to collaborate in the future.

Also in September, the Board of Directors will be meeting to discuss the consolidation of our current regional structure. Our current structure was created to mirror the nine (9) geographic regions OFCCP established decades ago. Since the OFCCP has collapsed theirs into (6) larger regions, the Board is considering a proposal to, again, mirror OFCCP's structure.

Members of AAAED will also be seeking meetings with members of Congress to discuss the upcoming confirmation vote of Brett Kavanaugh, the plight of affirmative action and other shared initiatives such as our mutual effort to support employee diversity in the tech industry. Internally, we will be making our final appointments to the AAAED board, president's cabinet and other committees, including our conference planning and affirmative action in higher education committees.

Exciting things are on the horizon for AAAED but we cannot do this work without your input and help. One direct way you can help the organization is by renewing your membership. If you have not renewed your membership, or if you are a prospective new member, please go [here](#) to join us! We are launching a new membership campaign including a 20 percent discount on association dues.

Last, if you want to get involved with AAAED, the nation's foremost organization for the training and development of equal opportunity professionals, please send me an email at president@aaaed.org.

Thank you for your time. Let's do good work!

Richard Anthony Baker

Richard Anthony Baker, M.P.A., J.D., Ph.D.
AAAED President