

## Maintaining Active Committees

**Opportunity:** Committees are a major part of growing SEA. When they become stale, the SEA suffers. However, when they are vibrant, members want to get involved and the MO is much more effective at achieving its mission. Revitalizing committees and keeping them actively engaged is worth a concerted effort and can ultimately be a big positive opportunity for SEAs.

### Solutions

- **Utilize ad hoc committees**
  - A great tool to get a targeted task done quickly
  - Doesn't require a long-term member commitment
  - If time sensitive, call firm's Principals and ask for an assigned individual
- **Young member participation**
  - Invite YMs to attend committee meetings as guests
  - Involvement ensures succession and helps to take away natural intimidation
- **Communicate**
  - Ensure a clear set of goals between Committee and Board and establish deadlines
  - Let the membership know what the committees are doing whenever possible
  - Communicate where help is needed and tell individuals what specific tasks are required
  - Make sure the Board shows appreciation.
  - Have Committee Chairs join NCSEA Committee as a Corresponding Member
  - Reach out to other SEAs to share ideas, combine efforts, and generate enthusiasm
  - Make sure NCSEA communicates what their committees are doing
  - Have active Board liaisons to each committee
- **General**
  - Provide leadership training to committee chairs as well as the Board
  - Know what other MO and Board-level committees can be resources
  - Have a succession plan for committee chairs
  - Consider having liaisons to other related organizations like AIA
  - People want to join committees that are 'accomplishing things'
  - Consider having committees meet before/at the Board meeting
  - Combine forces with other committees in the region on certain topics

For additional information see: **"Successful Volunteer Relationships Start With Creating the Right Fit"**