



# Arkansas

Economic Developers &  
Chamber Executives

## 2017 Annual Conference Program

August 27 - 29, 2017

Hot Springs Convention Center

Keynote Speaker:

*Elise Mitchell*

CEO Mitchell, CEO Dentsu Aegis PR  
Network, Author *Leading Through the  
Turn: How a Journey Mindset Can Help  
Leaders Find Success and Significance*

Keynote Event Sponsored By:



### Arkansas Economic Developers & Chamber Executives

1200 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

(501) 210-4206 | [shelley@aedce.org](mailto:shelley@aedce.org) | [www.aedce.org](http://www.aedce.org)

 Arkansas Economic Developers & Chamber Executives

 AREconDev&Chamber | #AEDCE2017

WiFi Password: Desoto1541

Program design by: Kari Beesley | [karimbeesley@gmail.com](mailto:karimbeesley@gmail.com)

*Sunday, August 27*

1:00 PM **Golf Tournament**  
*Hot Springs Country Club*

7:00 PM **AT&T Hospitality Suite Opens**

Sponsored by:



*Monday, August 28*

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM **Registration/  
Continental Breakfast**

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM **General Session 1  
Living Your Best Life**  
*Rooms 207 - 209*  
Matt Knight  
Mid-South Health Systems

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM **Networking Break**

Sponsored by:



10:30 AM - 11:45 AM **General Session 2  
Site Selector Session  
Prepared Communities Win**  
*Rooms 207 - 209*  
Lindsey Cannon  
McCallum Sweeney Consulting

Sponsored by:



12:00 PM - 1:15 PM **AEDCE Awards Luncheon**  
*Horner Hall*  
Governor Asa Hutchinson

Sponsored by:



*Entergy*

THE POWER OF PEOPLE



Mississippi  
County  
ARKANSAS  
Our Greatest Industry is Hard Work



LITTLE ROCK  
REGIONAL  
CHAMBER

*Monday, August 28 continued*

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM **Chamber Breakout Session**  
*Concurrent*  
**Using Data to Impact  
Membership**

*Rooms 203 - 204*  
Kelle Marsalis, CCE IOM  
Dallas Regional Chamber  
OR

**Economic Development  
Breakout Session**

**Be the Site Selector  
Site ID Exercise**  
*Rooms 207 - 209*

Lindsey Cannon  
McCallum Sweeney Consulting

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM **Networking Break**

Sponsored by:



2:45 PM - 4:00 PM **General Session 3  
AR Legislative Update**  
*Rooms 207 - 209*

*Entergy Site Selection Center  
Video Presentation*

*Amendment 97*  
Ryan Bowman  
Friday Eldredge & Clark

*Amendment 98*  
Jennifer Chang  
Cross, Gunter, Witherspoon &  
Galchus

*General Legislative Update &  
SJR8-*  
Randy Zook

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM **CEO Roundtables-  
Membership 500+**  
*Rooms 207 - 209*

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM **CEO Roundtables-  
Membership under 500**  
*Rooms 203 - 204*

Monday, August 28 continued

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM **AT&T Hospitality Suite Opens**

Sponsored by:



5:30 PM - 7:00 PM **Network Building Reception**  
*Rolando's Restaurante*  
**210 Central Avenue**  
**Hot Springs**

Sponsored by:



8:00 PM **AT&T Hospitality Suite Opens**

Sponsored by:



Tuesday, August 29

8:15 AM - 9:30 AM **State of the State Breakfast & Membership Meeting**  
**Horner Hall**  
*Mike Preston*  
*Arkansas Economic Development Commission*

Sponsored by:



9:30 AM - 10:30 AM **General Session 4**  
**Imagining the Future Workforce**  
**Rooms 207 - 208**  
*Ted Abernathy*  
*Economic Leadership LLC*

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM **Break**

Tuesday, August 29 continued

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM **Chamber Breakout Session**  
*Concurrent Breakout Sessions*  
**Marketing/Communications Leveraging Your Brand**  
**Rooms 203 - 204**  
*Annette Medlin, IOM*  
*Greater Augusta (VA)*  
*Regional Chamber OR*  
**Economic Development Breakout Session**  
**What's New with AEDC?**  
**Rooms 207 - 208**  
*Clark Cogbill & Whitney Burgess*  
*Team SI- AEDC Social Media*  
*Tom Chilton*  
*AEDC Science/Technology*

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM **Talk Business & Politics Luncheon**  
**Horner Hall**  
*Elise Mitchell*  
*CEO, Mitchell*  
*CEO, Dentsu Aegis PR Network*

Sponsored by:



## Conference Speakers & Presenters



### **Ted Abernathy** **Managing Partner** **Economic Leadership LLC**

Born in Dallas, NC, Ted received his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; his Master's from Johns

Hopkins University, is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute and is an Eisenhower Fellow for global economics.

Ted is the Managing Partner of Economic Leadership LLC, a consultancy that is currently working in more than a dozen states to develop economic strategies. Ted has 35 years of experience in directing economic development and workforce development programs. In the past two years Ted has worked with state Chambers of Commerce in North Carolina, Arkansas, Missouri and Kentucky to develop economic development plans and with another dozen regions, counties and organizations on strategic plans and has served as economic development policy advisor to the Southern Governors Association. From 2008-2013, Ted was the Executive Director of the Southern Growth Policies Board, a 42-year old public policy think tank that provided economic development research, strategy and marketing advice, to states and communities across the South. Before coming to Southern Growth, Ted was a practicing economic developer for 28 years.

From 2000-2008, he served as Executive Vice President and COO for the Research Triangle Regional Partnership. During his eight years directing RTRP's operation he worked with hundreds of clients and helped generate 65,000 new jobs and almost \$10 billion in investment.

Ted's current projects include developing a new rural economic strategy for the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, helping the Missouri Chamber Foundation implement their 15-year competitiveness strategy that Economic Leadership developed, assessing the State of Technology in North Carolina and assisting the Delta Regional Authority to Reimagine Workforce Development.

Over the past three years Ted has developed economic development plans for the 8 states that comprise the Mississippi Delta, created new economic strategies in North Carolina for the Research Triangle

Regional Partnership and the Piedmont Triad Partnership, conducted a national citizen input process on building community economic vitality, developed best practices in manufacturing and innovation for the U.S. Economic Development Administration and helped the Organization for International Investment create an economic development coalition to better attract foreign investment.

As a nationally known economic futurist, Ted speaks to about 100 groups annually on topics ranging from global trends to state and community economic competitiveness.



### **Ryan Bowman** **Partner** **Friday, Eldredge & Clark,** **LLP**

Ryan Bowman, a partner at Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP, has practiced exclusively in the

area of public finance since 2000. Mr. Bowman's bond practice has an emphasis in financing public projects throughout Arkansas. These include revenue bonds, voter-approved bonds secured by local sales and use taxes and school district bond issues. These financings have included bonds sold through underwriters on a negotiated basis, bonds issued by State agencies, bonds placed with the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission and local banks, bonds sold at public sale, bonds that were rated by national rating agencies and bonds that were insured. The bond issues have been structured as new money issues, refunding issues (advance and current) and a combination of new money and refunding issues.

Mr. Bowman is recognized by being listed by The Best Lawyers in America for his work in public finance law. He is also listed in Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for municipal bonds.

## Conference Speakers & Presenters



### **Whitney Burgess** **Senior Account Executive** **Team SI**

Whitney Burgess is an experienced and enthusiastic digital strategist who consults with clients to maximize impact in the digital

space. A Senior Account Executive at Team SI, Arkansas's largest and fastest-growing digital technology company, Whitney serves on the Senior Strategy Team dedicated to new business generation and client growth, and is a lead instructor for Social Innovation University, a digital marketing training program for employees and clients. Whitney is known for bringing passion, creativity and results to her clients, including Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC), J.B. Hunt, and Bank of the Ozarks.

A Dean's List graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock with a bachelor of business administration in marketing, Whitney has counseled clients in all facets of digital marketing, including social media and blogging, online media strategy, influencer and content marketing development. Specializing in inbound marketing strategy, she is data-driven in her decision making and maintains certifications in Google Analytics, Google AdWords, Google AdWords Mobile, HubSpot Inbound, and HubSpot Email Marketing. Whitney is an active member of the Rotaract Club of Little Rock and lends her digital expertise to a variety of community organizations including Riverfest, Camp Aldersgate and The Hat Club.



### **Lindsey Cannon** **Principal and Director,** **Economic Development** **Services** **McCallum Sweeney** **Consulting**

Lindsey Cannon is a principal and director of economic development and director of economic development services with McCallum Sweeney Consulting (MSC) which provides site selection services and economic development consulting to companies and organizations worldwide.

With more than 10 years of experience in site selection and economic development, Ms. Cannon assists companies in identifying, evaluating, and selecting

the optimal location for their capital investment. She provides specialized skills and services to clients in the areas of detailed site evaluations including sites, infrastructure, transportation, labor and demographics, state and local taxes, and incentives. Most recently, she assisted BMC with their headquarters relocation.

In her role as director of economic development services, Ms. Cannon oversees MSC's services and programs for states, utilities, communities, and private landowners to increase the attractiveness of their community and/or property to industrial prospects. These services include site evaluations and certifications, site identification, strategic planning, target industry analysis, and workforce/labor evaluations. Currently, she is actively managing evaluation and/or certification programs for the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Duke Energy Florida, and TVA.

Ms. Cannon has completed numerous certification programs including AEP's Quality Site Program, Dayton Power and Light's Certified Sites Program, Gulf Power's Florida First Sites, Mississippi Power's Project Ready Program, and Wyoming Business Council's Certified Sites Program. In addition, she has worked on a feasibility study for a siting project in Europe, completed an incentives evaluation study for Jacksonville, Florida, and managed a target competitiveness study for the State of Florida. She also has worked on a headquarters relocation for SunCoke Energy, a manufacturing project for Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, and assisted with the site analysis for the permanent jamboree site for the Boy Scouts of America. She also worked on the target industry studies for the Upstate SC Alliance, Charleston Regional Development Alliance, the Beacon Council (Miami, Florida), and JAXUSA.

Before joining McCallum Sweeney Consulting, Ms. Cannon served as a research analyst and tax and incentives consultant for the South Carolina Department of Commerce. Ms. Cannon's professional background also includes positions with Charleston Area Federal Credit Union and Sodexo/Carolina Dining Services as well as an internship with Miller Brewing Company.

Ms. Cannon has earned a Masters of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, both from the University of South Carolina (USC). She is currently pursuing a Master of Corporate Real Estate (MCR) through CoreNet



## Conference Speakers & Presenters

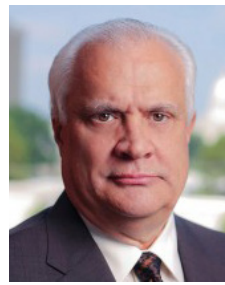
Global. In 2016, she received the “Rising Star” award from CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) Upstate and completed a Certificate in Leadership from CREW Network. She is currently serving as the President of CREW Upstate in addition to serving on the USC Moore School of Business Young Alumni Board. Previously, she has served on the board for the Upstate USC Moore School of Business Alumni, the Greenville MyCarolina Alumni Association, and PULSE. She is also a graduate of Leadership Greenville Class 38.



**Jennifer Chang**  
**Associate Attorney**  
**Cross, Gunter, Witherspoon & Galchus**

Jennifer S. P. Chang, is an associate attorney in Cross, Gunter, Witherspoon & Galchus, P.C.’s Little Rock office, where she practices civil and business litigation, employment law, and health law. She represents and advises clients in a wide range of employment and traditional labor-related matters, including creating policies and practices that comply with the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Amendment. Jennifer and other members of CGWG co-drafted a bill to clarify the Amendment’s employment provisions, which was enacted as Act 593 of 2017. Jennifer also assists healthcare organizations with compliance issues, including credentialing.

In addition to her practice, Jennifer frequently speaks and publishes on current labor and employment law matters for human resources professionals. Jennifer is a member of the Labor & Employment Section of the American Bar Association, the Arkansas and Oklahoma Bar Associations, the Arkansas Association of Women Lawyers, and VOCALS – Volunteer Organization, Center for Arkansas Legal Services. She is a graduate of the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, where she received a full-tuition scholarship. Prior to law school, Jennifer attended the University of California at Berkeley and earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology and a minor in English.



**Thomas Chilton**  
**Director of Science & Technology**  
**Arkansas Economic Development Commission**

Thomas Chilton is the Director Science and Technology for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. He has served for 12 years at AEDC in various technical roles at the Agency. Before coming to AEDC he was the Director Service Sales and Support for North America at Cisco Systems of San Jose, California. He also was employed at Alltel Corporation for 10 years in various sales and operational positions. He has a Juris Doctor Degree from the University of Arkansas Little Rock. He has been a member of the Arkansas Bar since 1997.



**Clark Cogbill**  
**Director of Digital Marketing**  
**Arkansas Economic Development Commission**

Clark Cogbill is the Director of Digital Marketing for Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC). In that role, he oversees digital strategy, including digital media, social media, content and marketing automation, to target and attract target industries to the state. Prior to joining AEDC, he led ecommerce and digital marketing at WESCO and Windstream. Clark’s professional experience also includes product management, public relations and advertising. He holds a BA in economics and business from Hendrix College and an MBA from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He serves on the board of directors of Arkansas Foodbank and is a member of Asbury United Methodist Church. He and his wife Kay live in Little Rock and have two children.

## Conference Speakers & Presenters



### **Governor Asa Hutchinson** **Governor** **State of Arkansas**

Asa Hutchinson was sworn in as the 46th Governor of Arkansas in January 2015, and immediately set in motion his plan to bring more

jobs and economic growth to his native state.

Governor Hutchinson kept a major campaign promise by working to pass the biggest income tax rate cut in state history. His initiative to require computer-coding classes in every public high school makes Arkansas a national leader and signals to businesses everywhere that our students will be prepared for the 21st century economy.

In addition, the Governor's emphasis on government efficiencies — including a hiring freeze instituted on his first day — have resulted in taxpayer savings and better focused state services.

As part of his strategy to market Arkansas and attract more jobs and businesses to the state, Governor Hutchinson already has met with CEOs of major industries across the globe from Silicon Valley to Germany, China and Cuba.

On the national stage, Governor Hutchinson has been a key leader on energy, security and education.

The Governor is chairman of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC), chairman of the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB), and chairman of the National Governors Association Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee. He is the former chairman of the Southern Regional Education Board.

Before being elected governor, Asa Hutchinson served as Director of the Drug Enforcement Administration and as the first Undersecretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Voters in Arkansas's Third District also elected him to Congress three times.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas law school, Asa Hutchinson, at age 31, was appointed by President Reagan as the nation's youngest U.S. attorney.

He and his wife Susan have been married 43 years.

They have four children and six grandchildren.



### **Matthew Knight** **Director of Marketing and** **Public Relations** **Mid-South Health Systems**

For the last fifteen years, Matthew Knight has worked in education, public relations, and marketing for

Mid-South Health Systems, an Arkansas Community Mental Health corporation. He develops and provides a variety of training programs for business, industry, and educational groups as well as Mid-South staff. In addition Matthew handles much of the public relations and marketing in Mid-South's thirteen county area. Prior to his current position, Matthew was director and therapist at Mid-South's Paragould Outpatient Clinic for three years.

As a Licensed Professional Counselor, he has thirty years experience in mental health services. He provides education, consulting, and motivational presentations across the U.S. In addition he has been a junior and senior high public school teacher, the administrator of a private school, started two businesses, written music in Nashville, produced an award winning motion picture, and traveled extensively. His first book, *Leaving Fingerprints*, will be out May, 2017.

As a Licensed Professional Counselor, he has thirty years experience in mental health services. He provides education, consulting, and motivational presentations across the U.S. In addition he has been a junior and senior high public school teacher, the administrator of a private school, started two businesses, written music in Nashville, produced an award winning motion picture, and traveled extensively. His first book, *Leaving Fingerprints*, was released in May, 2017.

Matthew completed his bachelor's degree in education at Arkansas State University, a master's degree in counseling psychology and family studies at the University of Tennessee, and pursued post graduate studies in psychology at ASU.



## Conference Speakers & Presenters



**Kelle Marsalis, CCE IOM**  
**Vice President of**  
**Strategic Initiatives**  
**Dallas Regional Chamber**

Kelle serves as the Vice President of Strategic Initiatives at the Dallas Regional Chamber. In this role, she is responsible for managing relationships with the Board of Directors, as well as organizational strategy for governance, strategic planning and diversity. Previously at the DRC, Kelle worked for five years as the Managing Director of Member Services, directing small business programs, retention strategies and customer service.

Kelle is a 2010 graduate of the Institute for Organization Management and currently serves as the Chair for the West IOM Board of Regents. Kelle also serves as Chair of the Membership Development Division of ACCE and is a member of the ACCE Board of Directors and Executive Committee. In 2007, Kelle, while serving as Vice President, led the Stillwater (OK) Chamber of Commerce to be named Chamber of the Year by ACCE.

Kelle has worked in membership, talent and economic development roles for more than 10 years, including the Plano (TX) Chamber of Commerce, Rockford (IL) Chamber of Commerce and the Stillwater (OK) Chamber of Commerce. Kelle and her husband, Van, reside in Dallas. They are Foster parents and both graduates of Oklahoma State University.



**Annette Medlin, IOM**  
**President/CEO**  
**Greater Augusta (VA) Regional**  
**Chamber of Commerce**

Annette has been in nonprofit management for over 20 years beginning in the Fine Arts and currently as a Chamber of Commerce Executive. She is a skilled collaborator, that topic being one of the courses she has taught in her role as faculty for the US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management.

As President/CEO of the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce she facilitated a merger of the 100 year old Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce and the 78 year old Corpus Christi Hispanic Chamber

of Commerce. It was a challenging undertaking considering the need to combine cultures and chamber traditions into a format that would move the business community forward in a truly unified effort. Work was successfully done to create a new organization, establish the new brand and fully integrate the finances, assets, memberships, staff and operations of two Chamber offices into one.

As a chamber consultant Annette worked with Chambers all over the U.S., Canada and South Asia. She has a quick eye for assessing the organization, its challenges and obstacles and identifying solutions for new efficiencies and success. When meeting with diverse organization constituencies from board leadership and community leaders to event volunteers and staff she is able to fluidly adapt to the audience and to deliver the organization message appropriate to the situation.



**Elise Mitchell**  
**CEO**  
**Mitchell**  
**Dentsu Aegis PR Network**

Elise is an accomplished strategic communications professional and business leader whose entrepreneurial spirit helped build Mitchell from scratch into one of the top 10 fastest-growing firms globally, a two-time Agency of the Year winner and Inc. 500/5000 Fastest Growing Company. The company's client portfolio includes well-known brands such as: Walmart, Procter & Gamble, Hilton Worldwide, Kraft, Del Monte, Canon, Merck and others.

Under her leadership the company grew more than 500% in five years. In recognition of her accomplishments, Elise has received numerous national awards including Agency Professional of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, and a Top 50 Power Player.

At the end of 2012, Elise sold Mitchell, and today it is the leading PR agency brand in the world's fastest growing marketing communications companies, Dentsu Aegis Network. In addition to her role at Mitchell, Elise is leading efforts to build a global PR brand for the network.

Prior to founding Mitchell, Elise worked on both the agency and corporate sides of the business serving



## Conference Speakers & Presenters

as the top public relations executive for Promus Hotel Corporation and holding various leadership roles at three advertising and public relations agencies.

Elise received a master's degree from the University of Memphis and a bachelor's degree from Abilene Christian University. She is also a graduate of executive education training at Dartmouth College and Harvard Business School.

Elise is also a wife and mom, and a passionate advocate for women entrepreneurs. She serves on several national boards, is a regular contributor to Entrepreneur.com and has a social reach of 18 million.

Elise wrote *Leading Through the Turn: How a Journey Mindset Can Help Leaders Find Success and Significance* (McGraw Hill, January 2017). She is a frequent keynote speaker on leadership and the secret to savoring the journey of life.



**Mike Preston**  
**Executive Director**  
**Arkansas Economic**  
**Development Commission**

Governor Asa Hutchinson appointed Mike Preston executive director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission in March 2015. Preston is widely regarded as a leading advocate for economic development.

Before joining AEDC, Preston served six and a half years as the Vice President of Government Relations for Enterprise Florida. While in Florida, he secured hundreds of millions of dollars for the organization, the state's economic development toolkit, international trade initiatives and capital programs. During his tenure at Enterprise Florida he was part of the team that helped create more than 147,000 jobs paying an average wage of \$56,437 and generating \$10.07 billion in capital investment.

In his first year with AEDC, Preston and Governor Asa Hutchinson made business recruitment trips to Cuba, Japan, China, France, Germany, New York City, and Silicon Valley. The trips played an important role in helping more than 100 companies locate or expand operations in Arkansas, investing \$2 billion

and creating 6,000 new jobs. Among these companies were J.B. Hunt in Lowell (more than 1,000 jobs), Bad Boy Mowers in Batesville (160 jobs) and leading mobile app developer Metova (three locations totaling 190 new jobs).

In addition to his business recruitment efforts, Preston led AEDC as the agency merged with two other state agencies, the Arkansas Department of Rural Services and the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority. The merger resulted in the savings of hundreds of thousands of dollars without one lost job. He is also leading the way as AEDC undergoes a new brand awareness campaign, Arkansas Inc., aimed at out-of-state decision makers looking to expand their businesses.

He also has experience working in the state legislature. Before joining Enterprise Florida he was the Chief of Staff to a State Senator and a Legislative Assistant to a State Representative.

He is a 2005 graduate of the University of Florida. He and his wife Anne are happy to call Arkansas home.



**Randy Zook**  
**President/CEO**  
**Arkansas State Chamber of**  
**Commerce**  
**Associated Industries of**  
**Arkansas**

Randy Zook is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and the Associated Industries of Arkansas. Prior to taking the helm of the State Chamber/AIA, Randy was the Deputy Director of Administration and Finance for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. For 34 years, he worked for Atlantic Envelope Company of Atlanta, Georgia, a \$200-million manufacturer of custom-printed envelopes and business products, serving as President and CEO of the company from 1989 to 2004. He is currently serving on the boards of KIPP Schools in Helena-West Helena, Junior Achievement of Arkansas and McGehee Farm & Real Estate Co. He and his wife, Diane, have three grown children and five above-average grandchildren.

## Upcoming Training & Conferences

### 2017

September 17 – 20  
**IEDC Annual Conference**  
*Toronto, Canada*

September 24 – 26  
**Area Development Women in Economic Development**  
*Chicago, Illinois*

September 25 – 27  
**Site Selectors Guild Fall Forum**  
*Seattle, Washington*

October 17  
**AEDCE Government Affairs Conference**  
*Little Rock, Arkansas*

October 24  
**Arkansas Community Development Society Annual Conference**  
*Conway, Arkansas*

November 2  
**Arkansas State Chamber Tax Conference**  
*Little Rock, Arkansas*

November 5 – 9  
**OU EDI**  
*Ft. Lauderdale, Florida*

November 8  
**Arkansas State Chamber Annual Meeting**  
*Little Rock, Arkansas*

December 4 – 6  
**Area Development Consultants Forum**  
*St. Petersburg, Florida*

### 2018

January 3 – 7  
**IOM Winter Institute**  
*Tucson, Arizona*

January 18  
**AEDCE Environmental Permitting Workshop**  
*Little Rock, Arkansas*

February 28 - March 2  
**Center for Chamber of Commerce Excellence**  
*Dallas, Texas*

March 19 – 21  
**Site Selectors Guild Annual Conference**  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

April 15 – 17  
**MAKO 2018**  
*Branson, Missouri*

April 29 – May 3  
**OU EDI**  
*Fort Worth, Texas*

June 3 – 7  
**IOM Midwest Institute**  
*Madison, Wisconsin*

June 24 – 28  
**IOM Southeast Institute**  
*Athens, Georgia*

July 8 – 12  
**IOM West Institute**  
*Los Angeles, California*

July 17 – 20  
**ACCE National Annual Conference**  
*Des Moines, Iowa*

July 29 – August 2  
**IOM Northeast Institute**  
*Villanova, Pennsylvania*

September 30 – October 3  
**IEDC Annual Conference**  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

November 4 – 8  
**OU EDI**  
*New Orleans, Louisiana*

# AEDCE Officers & Directors

---

## Officers

### President

**Sue McGowan**

*Paraould Regional Chamber of Commerce*

### 2nd Vice President

**Tim Allen**

*Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce*

### 1st Vice President

**Mike Harvey**

*Northwest Arkansas Council*

### Secretary/Treasurer

**Katherine Holmstrom**

*Arkansas Economic Development Commission*

## Directors

### 1st Congressional District

**Chris Clifton**

*Wynne Economic Development Corporation/  
Cross County Chamber of Commerce*

**Crystal Johnson**

*Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce*

### At Large

**Perry Webb**

*Springdale Chamber of Commerce*

**Jeff Pipkin**

*Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce*

### 2nd Congressional District

**Brad Lacy**

*Conway Area Chamber of Commerce*

**JD Lowery**

*Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas*

### Ex-Officio

**Randy Zook**

*Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/  
Associated Industries of Arkansas*

**Mike Preston**

*Arkansas Economic Development Commission*

### 3rd Congressional District

**Travis Stephens**

*City of Bella Vista*

**Raymond Burns**

*Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce*

**Ivy Owen  
(SEDC Representative)**

*Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority*

**Joe Bailey  
(Immediate Past President)**

*Entergy Arkansas*

### 4th Congressional District

**Cammie Hambrice**

*Magnolia Economic Development Corporation*

**Nita McDaniel**

*Monticello Economic Development Commission*

### Executive Secretary/Director

**Shelley Short**

*Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/  
Associated Industries of Arkansas*



Sponsors

AEDCE Awards Luncheon



Site Location Consultant



Networking Reception



Talk Business & Politics Luncheon



State of the State Breakfast



Networking Break



Platinum Level



Gold Level



Silver Level

