



David Allen

Thank you for the opportunity to run for the Board a second time. During my first term, I have served as Chair of Programming, Vice Chair, and currently serve as Chair. I have been honored to be entrusted with these important positions, and hope to serve for another three years on the Board.

Professional Background & Qualifications

I've been fortunate to have had several different careers since I graduated with an Econ degree in 1987. I wouldn't say that I am "uniquely qualified" to be on the Board, but my professional experience has spanned many parts of our financial system:

- FX trader in NYC at several investment houses during the first 1/3rd of my career.
- Two fintech start-ups, Abacus Payments Systems and Carepool.
- Nearly twenty years selling asset management services (at AB and Schrodgers).
- Recently founded Octane Investments, a boutique asset management firm focused on the traditional energy sector.

I believe that these experiences give me a strong background to understand the financial markets and the financial services ecosystem in which most of our membership works.

Strengths I Bring to the Board

As mentioned above I bring a spectrum of experience and knowledge to the Board. This matters when we think about how we organize volunteers, how we create and deliver content, and how we can improve.

Also, as an example, our Society has suffered from a terrible cycle of turnover in the CEO position over the last seven years. I have worked hard through day-to-day actions and through our Strategic Plan so that the CEO position is treated appropriately by all Board members, and that the current CEO feels free (from Board machinations) to do his job.

I believe this example shows that my interpersonal skill set can be useful to the Board and our Society in the future.

Why I Am Running for the Board

Our work is far from finished: as we continue to work on the Strategic Plan, I hope to fulfill the "vision" of my time on the Board by realizing its goals: to build Engagement, Retention, and Growth. We are very close to finalizing the blueprint, and I hope to be on the Board to support the plan's execution stage.

I also hope to be the embodiment of good governance by encouraging newer Board members to join, to give them larger responsibilities, and to mentor them so that they can lead effectively when I step down as a Board member.

Respectfully submitted,
David W. Allen, CFA