

Dear Fellow AFS-FHS Members,

As the AFS-FHS President for the 2022-2023 term, I would like to express how honored and humbled I am to have been elected to this prestigious position. I am looking forward to serving you and the Section. I am fortunate to be a member of an organization with many members who volunteer and interact. Therefore the first thing I would like to do is thank and congratulate several individuals.

I wanted to thank Gary Marty for his dedication and efforts as the AFS-FHS President and Governing Board member last year. Gary was a great mentor to me and made my transition into the Presidency very smooth. Thanks, Gary! I would also like to thank all the members that served on the standing and ad hoc committees. The Section would not be as successful if not for you. I have contacted many of you about serving on non-elected committees. Still, I want to encourage those that wish to become more involved and want to volunteer to let me know. I am sure I can find a committee that interests you.

Next, congratulations to our new electees, Sasha Hallett as the new Vice President, John Drennan member of the Technical Standards Committee, Nora Hickey member of the Professional Standards Committee, Myron Kebus member of the Policy/Position Development Committee and Amber Johnson member of the Nominating and Balloting Committee. I appreciate your willingness to serve!

Now to focus on my goals as AFS-FHS President. First, I will continue the movement of updating the Blue Book. Past President Tom Loch assembled an ad hoc committee seeking funding to keep this initiative going. The committee members are all willing to do what it takes to obtain the funding, and I am sure they will be successful. I would also like to provide an update on the Blue Book. The Steering Committee has sent motions to the EXCOM for changes to the by-laws. The EXCOM is reviewing those changes and will send questions to the Steering Committee. Eventually, by-law changes will be sent to the membership for a vote. In the meantime, we must keep the Blue Book as up-to-date as possible so that it remains a relevant document. I will provide more information in future messages.

I will also follow the model initiated by Past President Guppy Blair and continued by Presidents Ben LaFrentz, Tom Loch, and Gary Marty. I will contact each committee chair to develop goals that can be reasonably completed this year. Chairs, please meet with your committees and develop these as quickly as possible. This request will be sent to the standing and ad-hoc committees.

Finally, it has been in the works for a while, but it is time for the Section to develop a Strategic Plan. The committee responsible will be the ad-hoc Long-Range Planning Committee. Developing short, medium, and longer-term visions for the AFS-FHS will help us with continuity.

In closing, thank you for all you do for the FHS. Thank you again for the privilege of serving as the AFS-FHS President. I am looking forward to an eventful year.

Kind Regards,

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