

Wendy W. Kavanagh, CAE



Wendy W. Kavanagh is the President of the Georgia Society of Association Executives, a position she has held since 2005. Ms. Kavanagh reports to the Board of Directors and is responsible for its overall operation. As president, she serves the membership and community by furthering the mission of the organization to advance the profession of association management and to enhance the professionalism of association executives. During her tenure, GSAE launched the highly-regarded Leadership Academy, celebrated its 90th and 100th anniversaries, implemented a significant branding and membership marketing campaign, and created a Supplier Council for the corporate member constituency.

Ms. Kavanagh has been a nonprofit manager since 1995 and previously owned and operated Tessera Association Management, an association management company. Her prior work experience includes positions with the International Association for Financial Planning, Phi Mu Fraternity and the Institute of Industrial & Systems Engineers. She earned her Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation in June, 2002.

Ms. Kavanagh is a past chair of the Association Societies Alliance, a voluntary membership organization comprised of local, regional, multi-state, independent, and autonomous societies of association executives. She is the State Director for Associations Advance America Day. In 2018, she received ASAE's Association Political Leadership Award. Locally, she is a foster for Furkids, the largest no kill shelter in the state. She was a member of the St. Pius X Catholic School's Annual Fund Committee and the lead parent volunteer for the girls' lacrosse program. She served as President of Grady High School's Robotics & STEM Alliance, the booster club of the G3 Robotics Team, and volunteered on Georgia PTA's Legislative Team for many years. In both 2012 and 2014, she received Grady High School's "Parent Plus Award" for service and dedication. Prior to her acceptance of the role as President of GSAE, Ms. Kavanagh was a director on the GSAE Board of Directors and Chair-elect of the GSAE Foundation Board of Trustees.

Ms. Kavanagh earned a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. She lives in Lake Claire with her husband, two permanent cat residents, a variety of foster cat visitors, and a gecko. Their college-aged children are a Bulldog and a Volunteer, respectively.