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Section Chair Message

First, I wish all our members and their families a very Happy New Year!! I trust you all safely survived your holidays and emerged recharged for the coming year.

As we close 2018 let's review the ASQ transformation activities and the impact on our section and its members. The transformation's primary objectives are member growth and retention and protecting the society's non-profit financial status.

The growth/retention roadmap for ASQ is to "hold onto members by increasing value and satisfaction" and "grow ASQ by elevating and accelerating a culture of excellence."

ASQ must develop an environment in which members realize and value the benefits offered by the society.

There have been some structural changes across ASQ; the most outward sign for members is the development of myASQ.org, the new site which is your pathway to quality content, communities and capabilities.

As the transformation implementation continues into 2019, we should see more activity shifting to the myASQ site including the hosting of our own section website. MyASQ will become your primary resource for engaging with the quality community.

Via myASQ, you will have access to subject matter experts, networking, learning resources and certifications. Don't wait to set up your user account and start building your presence on the site!

Financially, ASQ will centralize accounting activities at the corporate level in order to ensure compliance with federal regulatory requirements for non-profits.

The financial transformation activities have focused on developing a financial software platform that meets section requirements and facilitates compliance. At the section level the average member will see no impact. The section continues to be funded through member dues and this will continue in the future. (continued on page 6)

ASQ Transformation

ASQ continues its transformation through 2019. Regions have been consolidated, reducing their number making them bigger and giving more oversight responsibility to the regional Directors.

We are now in Region 2, West South Central. Our region is composed of 22 sections in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas,

and Louisiana. New Mexico has been moved to Section 6, the Mountain Section.

Our elected regional director Vijai Venkata, from the Houston area, has appointed 7 Deputy Directors including Norma Antunano from our section.

By July expect a complete revamp of our financial and banking processes.

Cash or Credit Card?

Cash used to be the preferred method of settling all debts, public and private. That is no longer the case as more and more firms go to credit or debit card or phone-based transactions.

The advantages are better recordkeeping, less time spent counting and depositing cash, and reduced risk for both buyers and sellers.

ASQ is going the same way. As the financial systems are transformed, cash is the least preferred way to pay for ASQ goods and services.

For some time now, the Austin Section has been using a cell phone-based credit card reader and online payment systems like Eventbrite and PayPal as means of accepting payment for event registrations.

We have found that although it costs a little more in service fees, it saves volunteer time traveling to and from the bank and reconciling cash accounts.

We expect to continue to accept cash or checks in 2019 but expect our membership to gravitate toward online payment methodologies in the future as the section itself is moving to pay more of its on bills using on line methodologies.

From the Treasurer

2018 Total spend: \$22,538
Member Value: \$14,755
Member Value % 71.5%
2019 Cash Balance \$22,748

The 2018 year is complete, and we finished the year with a healthy bank account and what is more important, spent 71.5% of our budget on member value activities.

Our budget expenditures are split into two categories. General and Allocated expenses cover the administrative costs of running the section. This is the cost of board meetings, web sites and services, webinar services, storage and board travel expenses.

Member Value expenses are the cost of putting on

general meetings, education events, social events, Young Quality Professional events and member awards,

For the past several years we have been hovering in the 65% to 69% range for Member Value spending and by careful planning and cost control we have finally achieved our goal to be above 70%. Kudos to the board and especially the 2018 arrangements chair, Ryan Cho, for finding ways to control costs and deliver member value.

As a not for profit organization we plan to spend all the money we receive and only keep a cash balance to act as a buffer against variations in inflow and outflows.

Our 2019 year will be a challenge as we transition our financial management and banking systems as part of the ASQ transformation. The transformation eventually will make it easier to do business and comply with the IRS nonprofit requirements.

There will be some extra work for the Secretary, Treasurer, and Section Chair to make the transition happen.

2019 Officers and Chairs

Section Chair: Pete Courtois

Pete continues in his second year

Secretary: Leonard (Doug) Shifflett

Doug is a long time ASQ member who has contributed in many ways to our section and has stepped up to be our Secretary

Treasurer: David Estes

David continues for his second year

Vice Chair: Melanie Berry

After two years as Secretary, Melanie steps into the role of Vice Chair

Programs Chair: Shoshana Bokelman

After stints on the publicity committee and as membership chair, Shoshana has stepped up to the Program Chair position.

Membership Chair: Surendra Patel

After 2 years as Program Chair, Surendra moves to Membership

Education Chair: Norma Antunano

Norma Continues for the 4th year

Certification Chair: Cheryl Tulkoff

Cheryl stepped in mid-year last year and continues in her role.

Publicity chair: Jack Hartnett

Jack is in his 3rd year as Publicity guru

Voice of the Customer Chair: Scott Berman

Scott has been doing this for as long as I can remember

Placement Chair: Megan Oertal

If you need to hire or need a job, call Megan.

Auditing Chair: Tony Perez

Long timer in this role

Internet Liaison: AJ Scotka

Our Wizard of the web

Arrangements Chair: TBD

Like to plan meetings? This job is for you! Contact Pete Courtois.

Re- Certification Chair: Rob White

With Re-certification going on line Rob says there is not much for him to do. Call him if you need help.

Young Quality Professionals Chair: Andrew Davison

Welcoming those new to quality as a profession

Newsletter Editor: Jim Johnstone

Like to write? Volunteer for this chair position. I am going on extended vacation soon.



2018 Recertifications



Recertification On Line

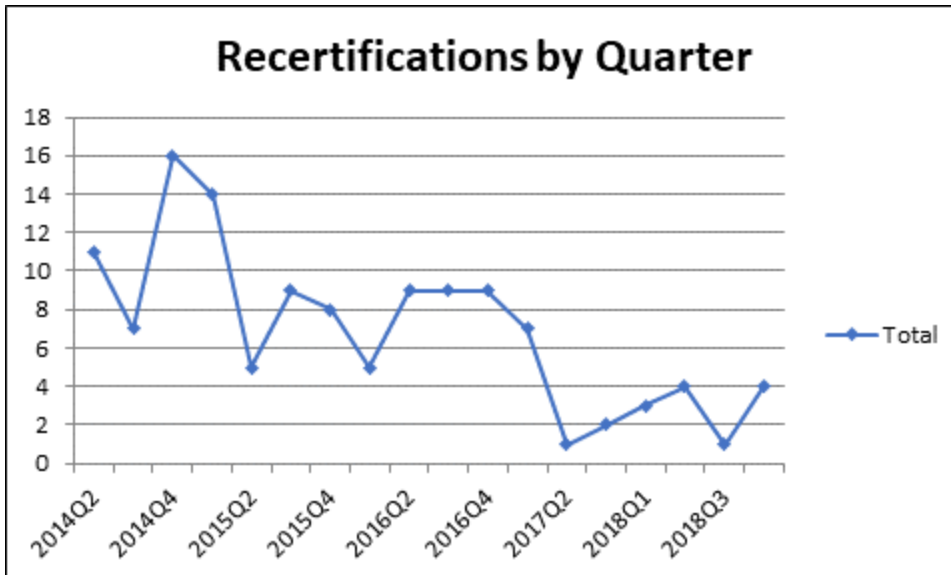
Do You Need to Recertify?

ASQ requires that you recertify every three years to ensure that you maintain the same level of knowledge demonstrated in your first exam.

To check your certification information, login to ASQ.org. Your certifications will display there. The information will include expiration dates, status of pending certifications, and exam result information for retakes.

At ASQ.ORG you can maintain an online recertification journal that you update as you complete various activities that earn RUs.

Alternatively, you can maintain a hardcopy journal that you mail in to ASQ.



Almost all ASQ certifications require you to recertify every 3 years.

In the past you submitted a recertification journal along with a body of evidence to your section's recertification chair who reviewed the data got clarifications and then, if everything was OK, approved your recertification package and forwarded it on to ASQ headquarters. In return for this work the section got a small reimbursement from the recertification fee.

In 2018 that process was changed to on line submission directly to ASQ and our section Recertification chair, Rob White reports that since the change his work has dropped off as the graph above shows.

Education

Norma Antunano, our Section's Education chair organized 4 webinars and one full day class during 2018.

In January 76 attended "Six Sigma Deployments that Last", a webinar featuring ASQ Fellow Forrest Breyfogle.

In March, 170 people attended the webinar "Statistics for Non-Statisticians", Jim Johnstone's tutorial for people just starting out to employ statistics and visual data to report performance and solve quality problems.

In June, attendees heard Dawn Ringrose from ASQ HD&L give an update on the state of Organizational Excellence

August featured a full day class taught by Dan Bauer the GD&T guru, on Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerencing. We sold out to our 40-student limit,

imposed in order to maintain a high quality of interaction between the students and the instructor.

The class moved briskly and before you knew it the day was gone. Covering so much material in one day was a challenge for both instructor and students but fortunately everyone got a large reference manual on GD&T principles that they could refer back to later.

The year finished with another provocative webinar attended by 50: "What if change was easy?" Featuring speaker Katheryn Leroy.

Webinars are a convenient and inexpensive way to gain knowledge and RU points for your recertification.

See ASQAustin.org for upcoming events.

"There is no Saturation Point in Education."

*Thomas J Watson, Sr.
IBM Founder.*

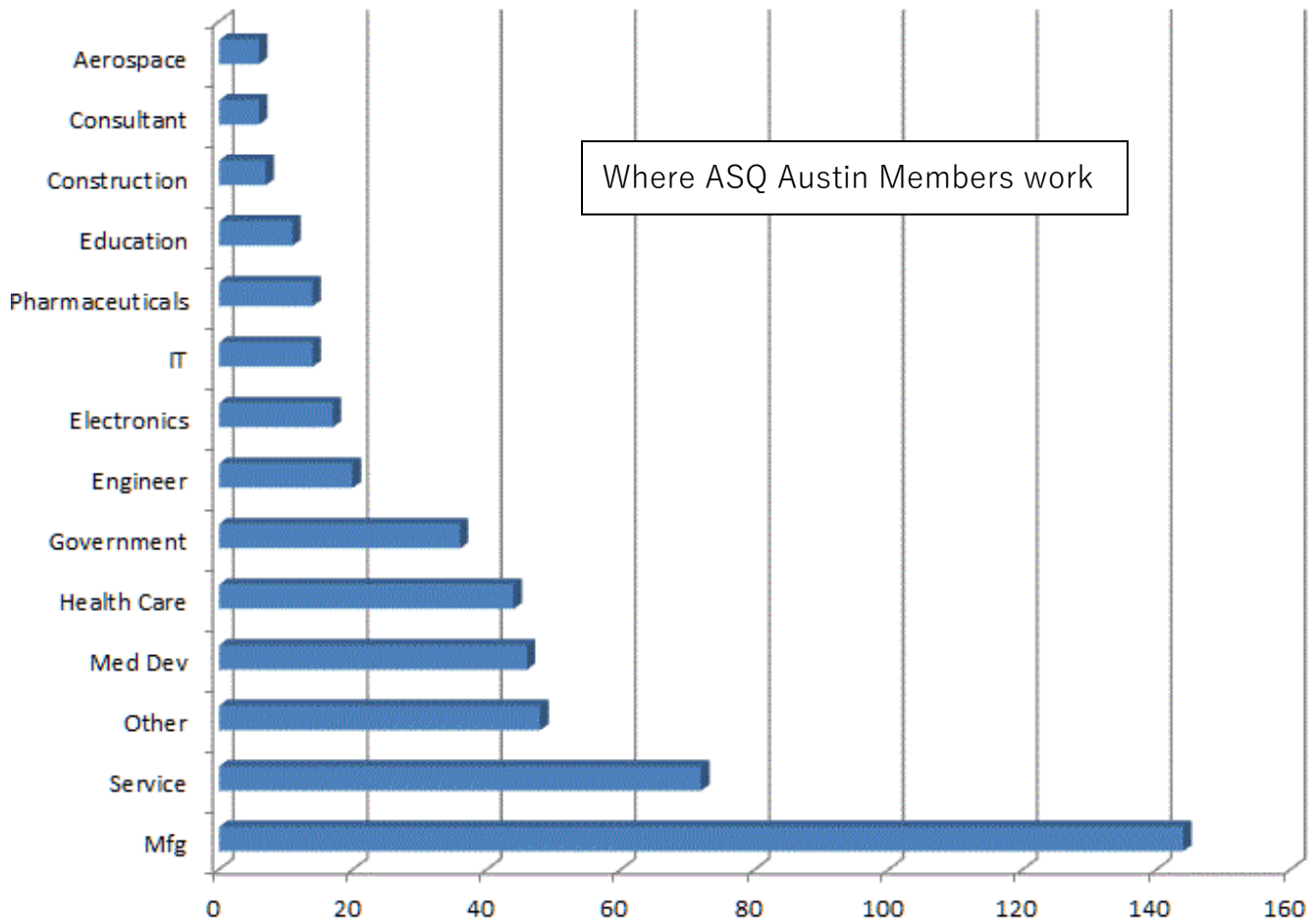
Certification Classes

2019 Spring Schedule

Course	Registration	Instructor	Day	Online?	Time	2019 Dates
Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB) (ACC course QCTC-1000)	ACC Course Link (CSSBB)	Brian Mitchell		Y	Online	Jan 22 – May 12
Certified Quality Auditor (CQA) (ACC course QCTC-1041)	ACC Course Link (CQA)	Doug Shifflett	Sat.	N	8:30AM – 12:30PM	Feb 2 – Apr 27
Certified Six Sigma Green Belt (CSSGB) (ACC course QCTC-1005)	ACC Course Link (CSSGB)	Brian Mitchell		Y	Online	Jan 22 – May 19
Certified Manager of Quality / Organizational Excellence (CMQ/OE) (ACC course BMGT-2031)	ACC Course Link (CMQ/OE)	Phil Flories	T, Th	N	6:00PM – 9:00PM	Feb 25 – April 29
Certified Quality Engineer (CQE) (ACC course QCTC-1043)	ACC Course Link (CQE)	Phil Flories & Mike Harkins	M, W	N	6:00PM – 9:00PM	Mar 12 – May 23



ASQ Austin, Texas Residents by Industry



Chair Message (continued)

Financial software development continues as we enter 2019 with full implementation expected in the last half of the year. The Austin section's financial status is very good with full funding for our planned activities in 2019.

Looking Forward to 2019

The section's member leaders are developing the program for the beginning of the year. We continue to offer monthly professional development sessions on quality topics of interest to our members. Norma, our Education Chair is planning a one-day training event on ISO for the spring. And, we plan to have another summer social event, since the Dinner Cruise was a big hit. As always, details will be posted on our section website, ASQAustin.org.

My focus for 2019 will be to offer value to our members through our monthly program and other planned events.

I encourage members who were not able to participate in section activities in 2018 to give it a try in 2019. Resolve to increase your participation by joining us for one of our monthly meetings.

You can also participate through a webinar or one of many community forums on myASQ.org.

See you in 2019!

Pete Courtois, Section 1414 Chairman

Social Events Facilitate ASQ Networking

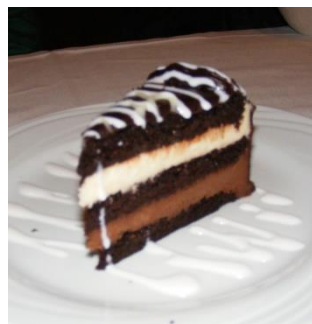
During 2018 we had four social events. Two specifically aimed at people new to the quality profession, our summer River cruise and December banquet.

Our Young Quality Professional Chair, Andrew Davison, held two events in order to facilitate networking and connection with mentors and expand on the member value that ASQ offers. These events feature refreshments and some kick-starter activities to launch conversations and build relationships.

If you are new to the quality profession or would like to mentor those who are, connect with Andrew and attend one of these events in 2019.



ASQ Annual Banquet attendees having a good time.



Fogo de Chao – This was the venue and a great bargain for ASQ members

All you could eat meat and veggies and sweet things, too!