Communications Committee

June 12th, 2025 @ 4:00 p.m. ET

Chair: Dawn Palermo Vice Chair: Nate Mingo and Melinda Brooks

Attendees: Joseph D’Amico Phil Knox, Nate Mingo, Andra Moytka, Sean O’Sullivan, Dawn Palermo, Kent Pankey, Carlene Redmond, Creadell Webb, Patrick Whitehurst

1. Welcome and Intro
2. Communications Projects Updates
3. Website: Jeffrey Tsunekawa provided a report. The Document Library review is complete, and all bugs/requests from the to-do list have been fixed. NACM is prepping to launch the Library. Our maintenance provider is loading files into the staging environment. Looking into options for revising the homepage and giving it a refresh. Jeffrey is stepping down as Website Sub Committee Chair. NACM President will appoint a new Chair.
4. Podcasts: Peter Kiefer provided an update. The May episode explored the question “Are Your Policies & Training Ready for the Future of AI?” So far, there have been 190 clicks (view or listens). The June episode will be released on the 17th

It will explore Arizona’s experience expanding Access to Justice. The panelists will be Judge Sam Thumma from the Arizona Court of Appeals; Kip Anderson, Court Administrator of the Mohave Superior Court, and Kevin Ruegg, CEO of the Arizona Bar Foundation. The July episode will explore National Open Court Data Standards (NODS). The panelists will be Judge Brent Powell with the Missouri Supreme Court, Laura Ritenour, with the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts; and T.J. BeMent, Court Administrator in Athens, Georgia. We are still averaging over 325 clicks per episode and have had a total of 30,000 clicks since the podcast series started.

 Publications:

1. Court Manager – Joe D’Amico provided an update. Spring edition just came out. Tricia Knox will be gathering some statistics on access and will sharing with the committee. Next edition is being worked on now. It will include an article on designing court facilities, NACM 40th anniversary, AI and bias, and possibly a submission from a Duke University professor on master jury list and racial implications.

The committee discussed an idea of turning CORE Champion papers into a column that is published if we have one or eliminated if we don’t. The Committee liked the idea.

1. Court Express: Janet sent a report. The latest issue was published on April 22. The next issue will come out in mid-August (first issue after annual conference). Janet needs content by August 1 on the following: updates and sharing about committee work; a state/local association to profile on their events and activities; a NACM member to mention; a book review; and any other information of interest to our members.
2. Guides:

-AI Guide – Roger provided a report. A workgroup is necessary to assist Roger in editing the submissions for the AI guide. Advanced Robotics submitted a series of article that are all branded. They look like the type of material that would be published on LinkedIn. We are going to have to determine what material we want to extract and insert into the AI Guide. They also submitted multiple use cases which will obviously go into the use case section. The second submission requires a little editing and determination as to where to place it in the guide.

-New Guide/Revised Guide - The decision for a new guide or updating a guide would come during the fall board meeting. This Committee will need to organize a workgroup to work on the guide.

d. Social Media: Natalie and Sara continue to complete all requests for posts. They have several items lined up to post during annual conference.

e. Webinars: Tyler sponsored webinar will held August 7, 2pm ET – Transforming Courts with SaaS, Analytics, and AI. The schedule of planned webinars are as follows: September – DEI; October – CORE/Budget & Fiscal Management; October – International Committee and IACA; November 13, 2pm ET – Tyler Technologies Webinar.

3. Other Business

a. New Communications Chair – Today is Dawn’s last meeting at chair. We will not have a meeting in July due to the Annual Conference. The NACM President will be selecting a new Chair. The new chair will be in touch regarding meeting dates and times. Dawn thanked everyone for their service and stated she thoroughly enjoyed working with this group. Dawn will continue to be a member of the NACM Communications Committee.

b. Strategic Planning – Discussion took place on Communications projects and would Committee would like to work on next year. The committee discussed the following:

* Better engagement with members getting articles. Very hard to get people to write articles;
* Would like to have someone seasoned to co-author an article with someone who is new to writing;
* Have all NACM Committees share ideas for article topics;
* Ask conference presenters to write articles. Catch them at the annual conference;
* Have a regular CCPIO article;
* Need to engage the new members to write articles. Joe and Dawn will discuss at the next new member session. Joe will continue to ask ECP for some help;
* New idea to read portions of guides on podcasts to get a taste of the guide; and
* Expand the CORE webinars because the participation increases every webinar.

4. Other NACM Committee Updates:

a. Membership –July 10, 3PM ET New Member call. NACM swag on Amazon store. We have 1982 NACM members as of May 31.

b. CORE Committee –Designing technology curriculum survey that will be sent out to the members. Several CORE Unleashed state sessions are scheduled for the rest of this year.

c. Conference Development – Annual Conference July 20-24 in Omaha, Nebraska.

d. DEI Committee – Creadell provided an update. State of DEI was the topic of the last meeting and will continue to be discussed. The committee is gathering member’s opinions on changing the acronym for NACM but not getting rid of the actual work.

d. Governance – Wrapping up the State of the Profession draft and reviewing the Voice of the Profession survey.

Next meeting: August meeting on WebEx. New Communications Chair will determine date and time.