



Sophia T. Anong, Ph.D.

Candidate for Board Member – three-year position

Current Position

Assistant Professor, Financial Planning and Consumer Economics

Statement of Goals for Office

One of my goals in serving on the ACCI Board is to fill in a role on the Board where there is the greatest need while channeling my experiences in academia as well as my background and international experiences. By engaging in Board committee work, I aim to see ACCI increase its national and international visibility and relevance to other groups and agencies through its meetings, publications, and awards and see it embrace increased diversity in topics and globalization of issues that affect consumers.

My other goal is to increase ACCI's support for graduate students and junior faculty. I believe there is room to expand beyond financial support and award recognition, which have been great tools to encourage young member participation. Expanding professional development mentoring avenues and facilitation of student-mentor collaboration and career networking at and in-between meetings and incentivizing student contributions to ACCI's publication channels will be my goals.

Academic Background

Ph.D. Family and Consumer Economics, Purdue University, 2006

M.S., Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, 2003

B.S. Agriculture and Natural Resources, Africa University, Zimbabwe, 1997

ACCI Activities

ACCI member, regular attendee and presenter at annual meetings

Contributor to *Consumer Interests Annual* and *Journal of Consumer Affairs*

Committee member, Stewart M. Lee Consumer Education Award, 2013 - present

Attend business and planning meetings e.g. International Committee, Volunteer meeting during annual meetings

Faculty advisor for graduate student ACCI presentations (only students from my institution)

Other Professional Activities and Honors

International Federation of Home Economics

Reviewer: Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal, International Journal of Consumer Studies, International Journal of Home Economics, Journal of Consumer Affairs, Journal of Economic Psychology, International Journal of Home Economics, Journal of Poverty, Journal of Financial Counseling and Planning, ACCI, FERMA proposals for annual meetings, Routledge book proposals

Faculty advisor, Peer Financial Counseling program, University of Georgia

Faculty mentor, Young Scholars Program, University of Georgia

Faculty mentor, AFCPE

FERMA presenter, discussant, and 2016 conference program co-chair

Western Family Economics Association 2007 Dissertation Award

Best paper finalist, International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) 2012 World Congress

Memberships

ACCI; AAFCS; AFCPE, FERMA

South African Association of Family Ecology and Consumer Science (SAAFECs)

IFHE-USA and IFHE-Global

Awards

College of Family and Consumer Sciences 2015 Faculty Outstanding Undergraduate Advisor of the Year, University of Georgia

Sarah H. Moss Fellowship, University of Georgia (twice, 2012, 2014, both completed in Africa)

Contribution to Graduate Career Development, UGA Career Services

Research Interests

Mobile banking and innovative financial services, and consumer protection for the underserved, and low-income in the US and in African countries

Financial education, financial capability, and financial well-being

Health care financing and health status

Teaching Interests

Introduction to Personal Finance; Retirement Planning, Wealth Management, Comprehensive Financial Planning; Service-Learning in Financial Planning

Flipped classroom approach; Online pedagogy (Certified Online Instructor)