

## President's Message

Thank you for your continued support of the Ohio Chapter of the Appraisal Institute (OCAI). I am honored to be the OCAI President and I'm looking forward to a productive and engaging 2024. I want to express my gratitude to Greg Williams, MAI, AI-GRS the 2023 President, the Board of Directors, the Committee Chairs, the volunteers, and everyone that contributed to making 2023 a successful year for the OCAI.

The focus for 2024 is to perpetuate the Appraisal Institute's strategic plan with education, community engagement, and promotion of the Chapter that advance the mission statement, core values, and the goals of the Appraisal Institute. The Appraisal Institute's mission statement is as follows:

Our mission is to empower valuation professionals through community, credentialing, education, body of knowledge and ethical standards.

The core values that guide the Appraisal Institute are detailed as follows:

- Dedicated to excellence, professionalism, ethics and integrity.
- Committed to leadership and innovation.
- Devoted to an inclusive and welcoming community.

Finally, the four (4) goals of the organizations are as follows:

1. The Appraisal Institute will protect and improve the value of affiliation
2. The Appraisal Institute will provide leadership toward a unified and inclusive profession with diverse perspectives.
3. Appraisal Institute professionals will be consistently sought out by users of valuation services.
4. The Appraisal Institute will improve the diversity of its affiliated professionals.

In addition to these guidelines, the Appraisal Institute Board provides the following approved strategies to formulate Chapter goals for 2024:

- Modernize AI's education delivery system and products
- Modernize technology, such as social media and communication methods, and a review of the website
- Develop a plan to recruit and retain AI professionals
- Implement AI PAREA
- Develop a diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) action plan

- Identify targeted opportunities to develop and/or enhance relationships with institutions of higher learning to expand awareness of the appraisal profession

I pledge to work within the Appraisal Institute's framework to guide the OCAI to a successful 2024.

## **Education**

Our educational goals in 2024 are well underway with 2024-2025 7 Hour USPAP Update Course being the early focus. The 2024-2025 7 Hour USPAP Update Course was held at Ohio University - Dublin Integrated Education Center in Dublin, OH on December 15, 2023 (with 37 attendees), at University of Cincinnati - Lindner College of Business in Cincinnati, OH on January 24, 2024 (with 31 attendees), and at the AECOM Building in Cleveland, OH on February 16, 2024 (with 42 attendees). The final 2024-2025 7 Hour USPAP Update Course offering was presented in Toledo, OH on March 15, 2024 (with 8 attendees in person and 27 virtual attendees) with a synchronous livestream option.

The Appraiser Diversity Initiative (ADI) program continued with 2024-2025 15 Hour USPAP Course at Hyatt Place Columbus/Polaris in Columbus, OH on February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. ADI is a flagship program led by the Appraisal Institute (OCAI is an advisor sponsor) in conjunction with Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and the National Urban League - designed to attract new entrants to the real estate appraisal field while fostering diversity in the profession.

The remaining slate of educational offerings planned to date are as follows:

1. Fair Housing and Ohio Law Supervisor Training - (tentatively in May 2024)
  - Instructor – Lisa Meinczinger
  - 3 hours of Fair Housing
  - 4 hours of Ohio Law/5 hours with the exam
2. Business Practices & Ethics – May 9, 2024
  - Instructor – Mark Smeltzer
  - Virtual Offering
3. Bias Seminar in conjunction with AI CEO Cindy Chance visit – (tentatively in July 2024)
  - 3-hour offering

The Educations Committee also has the following offerings in the works:

1. Bank Panel
2. Property Tax Appeal Panel
3. Complex Valuation
4. Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain and the Metaverse: Implications for Valuation
5. Drone Seminar

The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Economic Seminar to include both a live and virtual offering will complete the 2024 educational calendar on November 22, 2024 at The Exchange at Bridge Park in Dublin, Ohio.

Please follow up with Kelly Fried, MAI and the Education Committee if you have recommendations or thoughts on future educational offerings.

## **Community Engagement**

The University Relations Project Team has been planning and actively engaging with students, administrators, and alumni at colleges and universities throughout Ohio.

- Kelly Fried, MAI and numerous other OCAI professionals attended an after class social and networking event with UCREA (UC Real Estate Association) after 2024-2025 7 Hour USPAP Update Course at University of Cincinnati - Lindner College of Business in Cincinnati, OH on January 24, 2024.
- Megan Glosser, MAI and I attended a career fair at The Ohio State University on February 6, 2024.
- Abbey Clark, Jeff Shoykhet, MAI; and Tim Jackson, MAI, SRA attended a career fair at Cleveland State University on March 6, 2024

The objective is to spread awareness of the appraisal profession and encourage students to become student affiliate members (free).

Our college and university outreach efforts include collaborating on educational initiatives, so Real Estate Degree educational hours could count towards AI qualifying education – this is being contemplated currently at the University of Cincinnati.

We will continue to schedule networking/special events throughout 2024 (both in person and virtual) to encourage connectivity and camaraderie for existing and potential OCAI professionals. The Q1 2024 OCAI Business Meeting at the Winking Lizard after the 2024-2025 7 Hour USPAP Update Course in Cleveland, OH included many stimulating conversations before and after the meeting.

OCAI will continue to partner with other real estate organizations (Ohio Coalition of Appraisal Professionals & Ohio Realtors) to team on programming and mutually beneficial initiatives.

OCAI will offer a more holistic approach to guide Candidates, Practicing Affiliates, and Student Affiliates toward state certification and designation. Not a change in the structure or leadership (thank you Lisa Meinczinger, SRA, AI-RRS) of the Candidate Guidance Committee but including more people (recent designees, current Candidates Practicing Affiliates, and Student Affiliates) in the conversation.

## **Promotion**

OCAI will continue “expanding the room” through diversification of membership. In addition to the previously noted outreach efforts, we will continue promoting OCAI scholarships (Diversity Scholarship & Amy K. Kuhn, MAI Memorial Scholarship) and AI scholarships (The Appraisal Institute Education and Relief Foundation Scholarship & Appraiser Diversity Initiative).

OCAI looks to continue strengthening our connection with the AI through participation in Region V & National meetings and leadership. Our tentative meeting with Chief Executive Officer of the AI - Cindy Chance, Ph.D. provides OCAI professionals the opportunity to meet and interact with AI national leadership.

OCAI will also explore and increase social media presence through X (formerly Twitter), LinkedIn, etc.

In closing, I would like to present and recognize the 2024 OCAI Board of Directors:

**Officers**

- Christian Smith, MAI, AI-GRS (President)
- Jeff Shoykhet, MAI (1st Vice President)
- Katie Rambo, MAI, AI-GRS (2nd Vice President)
- Megan Glosser, MAI (Treasurer)
- Kim Eilerman-Lee, MAI (Secretary)
- Greg Williams, MAI, AI-GRS (Immediate Past President)

**Directors**

- Tim Jackson, MAI, SRA (2024)
- Shannon Weaver, MAI (2023–2024)
- Tom Sherick, MAI (2024-2025)
- Daylea Smith (2024-2025)
- Lisa Meinczinger, SRA, AI-RRS (2024–2026)
- Jason Vantell, MAI, SRA (2024–2026)

**Committee Chairs**

- Fred Petrie, SRA (Bylaws)
- Lisa Meinczinger, SRA, AI-RRS (Candidate Guidance Co-Chair)
- Colin Fisher, MAI (Candidate Guidance Co-Chair)
- Kelly Fried, MAI (Education Chair)
- Aaron Wright, MAI, AI-GRS (Government Relations)
- Katie Rambo, MAI, AI-GRS (Public Relations)
- Michael Hunter, MAI (Scholarship)

If you are interested in getting more involved in the chapter or would like more information about upcoming events or education, please email me at: [christian.smith@colliers.com](mailto:christian.smith@colliers.com).

Sincerely,

Christian Smith, MAI, AI-GRS  
President  
2024 Ohio Chapter of the Appraisal Institute