



National Association of Government Communicators

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NAGC Installs New Officers *Chris O'Neil Sworn in as President*

June 22, 2018 (Falls Church, Va.) – The National Association of Government Communicators installed new officers during its annual business meeting held in conjunction with the 2018 NAGC Communications School, in Ft. Myers, Florida, June 19-21, 2018.

Assuming the role of president is **Chris O'Neil**, who is the chief of media relations for the Office of Safety Recommendations and Communications at the National Transportation Safety Board. He has served NAGC in many roles including serving two terms as communications director. He was elected as president-elect in 2016. Past President Kathryn Stokes swore in Chris.

Also sworn in were the following officers who were named in the most recent election:

- **President-Elect Sabra Brown.** She will assume the role of president in 2020 following Chris O'Neil's tenure. Brown is chief, strategic communication for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Department of Defense.
- **Competitions Director Rachel Crist.** She is senior public information specialist, City of Austin.
- **Membership and Volunteer Director John Nixon.** He is marketing and communications manager, Austin Parks and Recreation, Austin, Texas.

All newly installed Board members will serve a term of two years.

Continuing on the Board of Directors are:

- **Immediate Past President Kathryn Stokes**, strategic affairs officer, Mississippi Department of Employment Security.
- **Treasurer Donna M. Harris**, public information representative, U.S. Postal Inspection Service.
- **Communications Director Scott Thomsen**, senior strategic advisor, Communications Division, Seattle City Light.
- **Marketing Director Laura Kirkpatrick**, adjunct professor, New Jersey City University.
- **Education Director Maria VanderKolk**, communications manager, City of Arvada, Colorado.
- **Professional Development Director Bethany Hornbeck**, marketing and planning administrator, AECOM.

The National Association of Government Communicators is dedicated to advocating, recognizing and promoting excellence in government communication in federal, state, local and tribal government.

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NAGC: Good Communication ... Good Government