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ACCT Professional Board Staff Network

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## Driving Change, Leading with Care: Where Vision Meets Compassion

BY REATHA BELL  
PBSN PRESIDENT

AS WE ENTER SPRING 2026, I EXTEND WARM GREETINGS ON BEHALF of the **Professional Board Staff Network (PBSN) Executive Committee** to the dedicated professionals who support presidents, boards of trustees, chancellors, and administrators at their institutions.

This year, our theme — **“Driving Change, Leading with Care: Where Vision Meets Compassion”** — reminds us that leadership is most effective when guided by both foresight and empathy. PBSN members, as executive assistants and liaisons to presidents, boards and trustees, and chancellors, are trusted partners who facilitate communication, coordination, and continuity. Your work ensures that institutional governance is both visionary and compassionate, benefiting leaders, campuses, and communities alike.

PBSN is committed to **strengthening professional support** in higher education through regional sessions and development opportunities at the **ACCT Annual Conference**. These programs enhance members’ ability to serve with excellence, integrity, and foresight, equipping you to support leadership that drives positive change while caring for the people it affects.



Learn more at [www.acct.org/membership/PBSN](http://www.acct.org/membership/PBSN).



The PBSN Executive Committee provides strategic guidance for our network. We appreciate the dedication of our committee members:

- **President:** Reatha Bell
- **Immediate Past President:** Shelby Foster
- **Vice President:** Andrea Wittig
- **Secretary:** Katie Riggs
- **Communications Coordinator:** Venissa Earhart
- **Central Region Coordinator:** Benita Duncan
- **Northeast Region Coordinator:** Evelyn Cordova
- **Pacific Region Coordinator:** Chelley Sadowsky
- **Western Region Coordinator:** Denise Wilson
- **Senior Advisor to the President:** Cynthia Gruskos

Their leadership ensures PBSN remains a vital, forward-thinking network that empowers members and strengthens the institutions we serve.

We look forward to gathering at the **ACCT Annual Conference in Chicago** in October 2026, offering PBSN members opportunities for professional growth, networking, and meaningful dialogue with higher education professionals nationwide.

Throughout Spring 2026, let us continue **driving change and leading with care**, building stronger support systems that empower our leaders, uphold our institutional values, and enhance the impact of governance in our communities and colleges.

We anticipate a productive and inspiring quarter ahead.



PBSN Executive Committee. Not pictured: Cynthia Gruskos.