Communities of Practice (COP)- v3.0 -READY TO LAUNCH

Background

There have been several iterations since 2017 to establish an internal capability for SEA members to network and share information. Initially started as COPs, they transitioned to Communities of Change for several years, and then back to COPs in 2020. After 2022, which was year of major transitions for SEA, SEA is re-launching COPs as version 3.0. For a host of reasons, primarily a stable platform, we have not been able to provide a capability that allows our members to network and share information and are now fielding that capability with our new membership platform, Member Clicks.

As a way of background, Communities of Practice (COPs) are established by the Senior Executives Association (SEA) and are led by SEA members. COPs are under the supervision of the SEA Board of Directors, work collaboratively with SEA members and key stakeholders to share their unique experiences, seek guidance from peers across the federal sector, pursue job opportunities, and share programs and policies that improve the effectiveness of senior executives and other leaders. There are seven COPs: Acquisition/Logistics, Cyber/Security, Data, General Management, Human Capital, Intelligence, and Research/Scientific. Each COP is designed to be a secure platform from which SEA members and key stakeholders are able to effectively collaborate. The overall goal is to create an environment where SEA members and stakeholders are confident that their opinions are valued and could be included as part of the overall SEA policy and legislative agendas. **The SEA Board of Directors sees COPs as a major benefit to SEA membership and has made this capability as one of SEA's Strategic goals in the revised SEA Strategic Plan for 2023.**

Goals

1. Provide a forum in which SEA members can network and engage with one another professionally.

2. Advise the SEA Board of Directors about key policy issues affecting their respective Federal community.

3. Provide a platform from which SEA members can learn about practices and programs that will enable members to be more effective in their jobs and careers.

4. Share products that are educational for SEA members and helps inform SEA's policy and legislative agendas.

CoP Leadership, Membership & Structure

Ideally, a COP will be co-chaired by two SEA members who volunteer to be administrators in each COP. Their sole goal is to ensure that the members of the COP are engaged and sharing experiences. **While membership/active participation in a COP is strictly voluntary, SEA will assign all members to the General Management COP if members do not self-initiate actions to join a particular**

COP when they become members. Because of the communications that will be a major benefit to all members, the assignment to a COP will be automatic. If a member chooses not to be in a COP, they can self-eliminate by going to their SEA profile and de-selecting the COP. Membership can come from the following sources:

- SEA Members
- SEA Associate Members
- SEA Corporate Partners

As mentioned earlier, we are striving to have at least two administrators for each COP. A huge thanks for the administrators who have stepped up to help. We are still looking for volunteers to augment our current volunteers. Our current administrators are:

Acquisition/Logistics: Carla Hamilton, Doug Keeler
Cyber/Security: Jude Sunderbruch
Data: Margaret Myers, Tony Trenkle
General Management: Alica Luster, Andrew Rizkalla, Kimberly Tillman
Human Capital: Joel Spangenberg
Intelligence: Wanda Squirewell
Research/Scientific: Peter Reynolds

A critical member requirement is that you re-register your SEA membership in Member Clicks to have access to the COPs and the entire SEA website.

COP Meetings/Forums

There is no requirement for any regular meetings unless the COP determines that it would like to meet on a recurring basis. SEA will provide the CoP with resources to function, including an online collaboration platform that enables members to participate remotely.

Other Provisions

A COP will operate within the following guidelines:

- Any recommendations made by a COP are non-binding on the SEA until the SEA Board of Directors officially approves those recommendations
- The CoP cannot represent official SEA policy without the prior consent of the SEA Board of Directors.
- The CoP is not authorized to collect, expend or commit SEA resources without the prior consent and knowledge of the SEA President.

Launch Status

With the help of AMC, our support management contractor, and the Data COP Administrators, we are officially launching the Data COP at the end of June. Our plan is to follow Data with Cyber/Security and to have all of the COPs up and running by the end of Aug 2023. AMC will be working very closely with all of the other administrators over the coming weeks to organize their COP for launch.

Contacts:

SEA: Marcus Hill, mlhill757@gmail.com
          Bob Corsi, bcorsi@seniorexecs.org
AMC: Rebekah Arnits, rebekah@seniorexecs.org
          Greg Brooks, greg@seniorexecs.org