



# **AOC Educational Foundation Strategic Planning**

- **March 13th 2025 - BOD/BOG**
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# 2025 AOC Foundation Strategic Planning Team

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- **Myles Murphy**
- **Larry Rzepka**
- **Mick Riley**
- **Mark Schallheim**
- **Keith Everly**
- **Ken Dworkin**
- **Nino Amoroso**
- **Shelley Frost**
- **Jim Utt**
- **Dennis Monahan**

# 2025 AOC Foundation Strategic Planning Subcommittees

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<u>Subcommittee</u>	<u>Subcommittee Chairs/Staff Liaison</u>
Scholarships	Mick Riley/Larry Rzepka
EMS/STEM	Mark Schallheim/Larry Rzepka
Community Education	Keith Everly/Larry Rzepka <sup>3</sup>
Development	Nino Amoroso/Larry Rzepka

*Subcommittees Meet Quarterly to Discuss Strategy and Progress*

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# AOC Educational Foundation Overview of 2025 Operating Plan Goals & Progress

# Our Strategic Goals -- Building the AOC Foundation 2029

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## Our strategic priorities for the next five years include:

- Establish a robust fundraising program to ensure the sustainability and growth of our scholarships and educational initiatives.
- Expand and enhance our scholarship programs to provide financial support to aspiring EMSO professionals
- Support and enhance EMS STEM activities on the electromagnetic spectrum for youth engagement across Chapters and with other organizations to expose young students to the exciting possibilities within the EMSO domain.
- Broadening opportunities for learning and talent development to ensure a steady pipeline of skilled professionals entering the EMSO workforce.

## 2025 Q1 Progress: Establish a Robust Fundraising Program

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- Full-time director w/fundraising experience hired in January 2025.
- Organizational gift acceptance policy developed, 2025 annual giving pledge form designed, AOC Foundation Giving Society Levels established, charters for ALL subcommittees written, six different funds being created for potential restricted gifts, major review of all Foundation governance documents completed.
- Application to be included in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) submitted; awaiting approval.
- Review of database modules/donors and completion of initial fundraising training module.

## 2025 Q2/Q3 Projections: Establish a Robust Fundraising Program

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- Recruitment of fundraising committee volunteers and launch Phase 1 of our Annual Giving Campaign.
- With access to the necessary research tool for prospect research, should complete our first Grant Submission Calendar in early Q2 and be starting to submit our first round of proposals.
- Working in hand with AOC's Marketing/Communications Department, we will be launching a new revamped AOC Educational Foundation web page and features in early Q2.
- By the end of Q2, we should be developing our *Corporate Advisory Council* – a non-governing body of invited corporations (who are also donors) to look at the effectiveness of our programs and work with us on new concepts/programs.

## 2025 Q1 Progress: Expand and Enhance Scholarship Programs

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- Onboarding and transition of the STEM Student of the Year Award and Future 5 program being handed over to the staff of the Foundation.
- Participated in review of the new electronic application process being rolled out for the AOC awards program – Stem Student of the Year opens May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A new scholarship fund has been established to accept restricted donations from individuals, corporations and foundations to this specific area.

## 2025 Q2/Q3 Projections: Expand and Enhance Scholarship Programs

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- After initial prospect research conducted in Q2, hope to identify five major gift prospects to approach about a matching scholarship gift equivalent to Raytheon's donation.
- If at least one other major corporation comes on board, would like to launch our *AOC Educational Foundation Scholars Program* – details to be determined.
- With the creation of our new scholarship fund, even at a nominal level, I hope to have the Scholarship Committee develop a new pilot program for students to receive regional scholarship awards utilizing our chapters both nationally and internationally.

## 2025 Q1 Progress: Support/Enhance EMS STEM Activities for Youth Engagement

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- Met with the *Society for Science* and have agreed to come on board as a Special Award Organization for their international 2025 International Science and Engineering Fair in Columbus, Ohio from May 10-16.
- Met with representatives of the *World Robot Olympiad* from North American and Latin American districts who are interested in pursuing a potential partnership with the Foundation. Possibility exists to have an electromagnetic spectrum competition<sup>10</sup> demonstration at several of their international finals.
- Through one of our chapters, met with another nonprofit, “*STEM for Her*” in the DMV area (DC, Maryland, Virginia) who are interested in a possible relationship with us and our local chapters.
- A new EMS/STEM fund has been created to accept restricted donations from individuals, corporations and foundations to this specific area.

## 2025 Q2/Q3 Projections: Support/Enhance EMS STEM Activities for Youth Engagement

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- Planning to have the Foundation/local chapters attend the *STEM for Her: “Elevate Her Gala”* in Reston, Virginia supporting the next generation of women in STEM scheduled for April 24, 2025.
- EMS/STEM Committee will be participating in the 2025 International Science and Engineering Fair in Columbus, Ohio from May 10-16.
- Identify and solicit at least five major corporations to support our STEM-related activities and programs.

## 2025 Q1 Progress: Broaden Opportunities for Learning and Talent Development

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- Will be attending the *National Science Teachers Association* annual meeting in Philadelphia on March 26-29 to network with the science teachers, museums, and exhibitors/donors to develop a relationship for not only potential revenue but also programming and presentation opportunities for our chapters nationwide. In addition,
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- A new community education fund has been established to accept restricted donations from individuals, corporations and foundations to this specific area.

## 2025 Q2/Q3 Projections: Broaden Opportunities for Learning and Talent Development

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- Develop promotional campaign to reach out to research universities and other science museums to establish a working relationship to promote accomplishments and available careers throughout the global electromagnetic warfare (EW) and spectrum operations community.
- Identify at least five different foundations for funding opportunities to increase our community education efforts.

# 2025 Budget Amendment Request

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- Two different budget amendment requests have been submitted seeking an additional \$11,600:
  - ❑ \$1,599 for an annual subscription to the *Foundation Directory Online* to have the capability to conduct prospect research for major grants from individuals, corporations, the Federal Government and private foundations;
  - ❑ \$10,000 for a travel budget to enable the Director to attend mission-related conferences and meet with potential partners, donors and future committee members.

# 2025 AOC Foundation Subcommittees

## Upcoming Meetings



<u>Subcommittee</u>	<u>Scheduled Meeting</u>
Development	April 23, 2025
EMS/STEM	March 20, 2025
Scholarships	April 8, 2025
Community Education	April 16, 2025