

Press Release

Contact: Eric M. McKeeby
Communications Manager
301.770.2920, ext. 245; emckeeby@raps.org

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RAPS Executive Director Lends Expertise to Historic Study, Results Published in New Book

Rockville, MD— A historic study of successful nonprofit organizations by a task force that included the executive director of the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) is showcased in a book unveiled this week in Boston.

RAPS Executive Director Sherry L. Keramidas, PhD, CAE, lent her expertise as a member of the Measures of Success Task Force, which, after four years of intense research, recently completed a study aimed at identifying characteristics that make remarkable nonprofit organizations. The results of the study, undertaken by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) & The Center for Association Leadership, were compiled in the book, *7 Measures of Success: What Remarkable Associations Do That Others Don't*, and released this week at the 2006 ASAE Annual Conference in Boston.

7 Measures of Success contains knowledge essential to association executives in planning the futures of their organizations. Based on 15 years of data and original, objective research tailored to the association community's needs, *7 Measures of Success* provides empirical data and seven success factors common among visionary nonprofits.

“Successful associations adapt quickly and profoundly to circumstances as they unfold, while others may never see the change coming,” notes the book.

ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership's Measures of Success project was undertaken with the guidance of author Jim Collins.

Using the methodology Collins employed in the books *Built to Last* and *Good to Great*, the Measures of Success Task Force surveyed more than 1,000 CEOs and senior staff of associations around the country to find which organizations should be eligible for the study.

The task force then whittled the list down to 18 organizations for detailed field investigations. Nine of the organizations were part of a study group of visionary associations that demonstrated strong fiscal performance as well as exceptional member retention over a 15-year period. The remaining nine were selected to serve as a control group.

Intense scrutiny of 15 years of financial, membership, organizational and operational data from these pairs led to the seven measures as well as many other findings that challenge some traditional conventions while confirming others.

~More~

Keramidas has served as RAPS Executive Director since 1996. She was on the Board of ASAE and the Center for Association Leadership and is a fellow of ASAE.

7 Measures of Success: What Remarkable Associations Do That Others Don't is available for purchase in ASAE's online bookstore, www.asaecenter.org/bookstore.

About RAPS

The Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society (RAPS) is the leading worldwide member organization devoted to the health product regulatory profession. With more than 10,000 individual members from industry, government, research, clinical and academic organizations in more than 50 countries, RAPS develops professional standards for knowledge, competency and ethics and is the leading source of information on the scope of practice of regulatory professionals and their critical roles in the health sector.

Founded in 1976, RAPS advances learning and fosters knowledge exchange in regulatory, scientific, business, legal and other areas essential to effective product development and regulation. RAPS administers the only recognized credential for the profession—the Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC).

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