

Council of Competitive Intelligence Fellows

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CI FELLOWS ELECT NEW COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

The Council of Competitive Intelligence Fellows (CI Fellows), an international group of professionals recognized by their peers for leadership in the discipline of competitive intelligence, have elected new Council Leadership for 2023:

President: Derek Johnson (Aurora WDC)

Vice President: Claudia Clayton (Expedient)

Treasurer: Terry Thiele (Synfiny Advisors)

Secretary: Craig McHenry (The ABIS Group)

Immediate Past President: August Jackson (Deltek)

“The Council plays a significant role in the competitive intelligence field, one such role being to lead the evolution of the practice. There’s no doubt the incoming Executive team will continue doing that with excellence,” said August Jackson, CI Fellows Immediate Past President. “This leadership team will guide the Fellows with experience and passion. We couldn’t be in greater hands.”

Derek Johnson, newly elected President, echoed the sentiments. “August led the Fellows with clarity and strength as the world navigated through another tumultuous year. I assume responsibility by following his example with a sense of both duty and admiration. On behalf of the Fellows and the CI community, we thank him for his dedication and promise the incoming team will build upon what’s already been accomplished.”

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Derek Johnson (President) - As Chief Executive Officer of Aurora WDC, a Madison, WI-based competitive and market intelligence agency founded in 1995. Derek invests most of his time guiding the overall strategy of the business and directing the firm’s external consulting opportunities with clients. He was appointed CEO in March 2010, and served the prior seven years as Chief Operating Officer and Director of Research with the firm. Prior to joining Aurora in 2003, Mr. Johnson was in the Investment Management industry as an account and portfolio manager. One of Derek’s proudest professional accomplishments was being inducted into the Council of Competitive Intelligence Fellows in 2015, and

now he is honored to serve in this role as President to help the Council continue to drive forward on important strategic and tactical initiatives.

Claudia Clayton (Vice President) - Claudia Clayton is the Managing Director of Expedient, leading and conducting market intelligence and research assignments over 15 years for clients in a range of industries. Previously Claudia developed new products and programs for clients including AIG, American Express, Visa, MasterCard, Allianz & Assurant. Her background includes executive positions with GE Capital and Citicorp in Corporate Affairs, Financial Services & Insurance, and Technology. Claudia has experience leading workshops and sessions on CI topics at industry conferences, is a recipient of the SCIP Catalyst Award, and Chaired the Education Committee at SCIP. She served in multiple roles with SLA's CI Division including President & Conference Director and was the Council of CI Fellows' Treasurer in 2022.

Terry Thiele (Treasurer) - Terry Thiele has spent over forty years helping government officials and corporate officers with, and teaching graduate students about, strategic planning and issues advocacy. He has authored a book applying strategic planning methodologies to explore the future survivability of our species *Our Fourth Age: A village elder's story for young Homines sapientes about surviving their future history*. In 2017 he received the G2 Lifetime Achievement Award given by the RECONVERGE Network to a practitioner and leader who has had a disproportionate impact on the intelligence field. Thiele received his B.A. magna cum laude from Princeton University and his juris doctorate from the New York University School of Law. He is a graduate of the National War College. Thiele served for 15 years in the U.S. Army Reserve, Judge Advocate General Corps, honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

Craig McHenry (Secretary) - Craig McHenry is currently the Senior Director of New Business Development for The ABIS Group, an intelligence boutique located outside Chicago in Northwestern University's Research Park. Based out of the Philadelphia, PA area, Craig is a bio-pharmaceutical intelligence professional with a record of providing decision makers with insights and information so they have the luxury of time to choose and act wisely. With over two decades of intelligence and analytics experience, his career includes several positions of increasing responsibility and contributions in Global Business Development, New Product Development Market Research, and a key role in forming Wyeth's first Business and Competitive Intelligence function.

August Jackson (Immediate Past President) - August Jackson is the Vice President of Market Intelligence and Competitive Strategy at Deltek. August spent 6 years at Ernst & Young, and over 10 years in the telecommunications industry with Verizon, AT&T, and British Telecom. August is a recognized expert in applying emerging technologies to market and competitive intelligence, is a past chair of the Strategic and Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP), and produced and hosted the first podcast on Competitive Intelligence.

For more information visit www.cifellows.com

ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE FELLOWS

The Council of Competitive Intelligence Fellows is a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit organization. Our mission is to sustain and foster the CI discipline in two fundamental ways: in service to the profession and in service to the professional in commercial, non-profit and educational establishments. Through roles as Ambassadors, Champions, Mentors, and Educators, the Council's Fellows provide thought leadership, educational guidance, and awareness of sound intelligence practices to competitive intelligence and related fields to support and propel our industries, organizations, and professional communities. Our Fellows span the globe, across the Americas, EMEA, and Australasia. For over 30 years, CI Fellows are nominated and selected annually based on their contributions towards the advancement of CI practices and the CI discipline.

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