

5101 South 11th Street • Arlington, VA 22204 USA • www.steadystate.org • info@steadystate.org • 541.602.3097

Guidelines for CASSE Chapters

What is a CASSE chapter? A CASSE chapter is a local group that provides an opportunity for people to formally collaborate with CASSE on activities to advance the steady state economy. A chapter can cover one of a variety of geographic scales from a college campus to a small nation. Large areas, however, will typically have many chapters. CASSE occasionally appoints a "Director of Operations" for large nations or continents.

How is a CASSE chapter administered? Each CASSE chapter has a volunteer who serves as a chapter director. CASSE has few resources for coordinating chapters, and chapter directors initiate most chapter activities independently. CASSE maintains a <u>chapter list</u> with contact information for directors on the CASSE website. Directors are free to pursue projects that will spread awareness of the steady state economy. We only ask that chapters and their directors stay true to the <u>mission of CASSE</u>, our <u>position statement</u> on economic growth, and our <u>briefing papers</u>. Also, as a non-profit organization subject to the laws of the USA, CASSE does not formally endorse political parties or candidates or lobby for legislation. Please keep that in mind as you develop your outreach activities.

Who do CASSE chapters affiliate or network with? At CASSE, we work hard to avoid political labeling. CASSE is a non-partisan organization, and CASSE does not endorse any particular model of political economy, such as "capitalist democracy," "socialist democracy," or "communism." (Models of political economy are a common topic for discussion, however.) We are all about getting the steady state economy adopted as a policy goal; how that goal is pursued is up to the political state in question. CASSE also avoids any identification with racist, sexist, or other prejudiced individuals, organizations, or movements.

Do CASSE chapters have separate chapter "members?" Not in a formal sense, although CASSE may develop chapter membership charters in the future. For now, chapter directors should help foster at-large <u>CASSE membership</u>. (Membership dues help to support CASSE operations, and a membership list helps to empower steady state policies in the political arena.) CASSE chapters are comprised of at-large CASSE members, signatories, and other participants from a common geographical area. These chapter participants are mobilized and led by a chapter director.

How do chapter directors identify themselves? Chapter directors are encouraged to use their CASSE affiliation in email signatures, letters to editors, blogs, resumes, etc. This helps propagate the term "steady state economy" and awareness of CASSE. For example, an email signature may appear as:

Jane Doe, Greenville College Chapter Director Center for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy <u>www.steadystate.org</u>



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What do CASSE chapters typically do?

- CASSE's principal tool for advancing the steady state economy is our <u>position on economic</u> <u>growth</u>. The position provides an "instant project" for chapters to adopt; chapters can seek individual signatures and organizational endorsements of the position. The CASSE position has numerous <u>values and purposes</u>.
- The <u>Daly News</u> is CASSE's blog. It is picked up by the *Energy Bulletin* and several other online news sources. Chapter directors should invite readers to the *Daly News* via <u>subscribe via email</u> or via <u>RSS feed</u> (links available at the *Daly News*).
- CASSE publications most notably *Supply Shock* and *Enough is Enough* are suitable for discussion among chapter members and may provide the material for local symposia, short courses, workshops, etc.
- CASSE has a <u>Speakers Network</u>, and members regularly provide public presentations. Chapters can help to arrange CASSE speaking engagements. Chapter directors may also give formal presentations on behalf of CASSE after notifying the Executive Director.
- CASSE has a set of <u>outreach materials</u> that chapters can use to engage the public.

Other possibilities include setting up book groups, arranging debates, setting up movie screenings, developing additional outreach materials, recruiting CASSE members, and developing college courses.