

A Letter from the President



Greetings:

I hope the new year has started out well for you, both professionally and personally. Our chapter new year started out strong with an outstanding Career Management Luncheon and Dinner Meeting. We have a number of excellent events

coming up soon that you won't want to miss.

- February 19 – As is our tradition, we will be hosting our student scholarship award winners at our February dinner. During the day, the students will take a tour of a Baker Hughes facility and participate in panel discussions with Senior Financial Executives and recently hired professional staff who will share valuable insights with the students about pursuing a successful career in Finance.

Our Professional Development session at our February dinner will be presented by our Platinum sponsor Alvarez & Marsal. Arthur Forbus of A&M will moderate a panel including Cody Chenault of A&M, Brad Hairston of Blue Prism and Scott Stern of OneStream Software. The topic will be *"The Digital Inflection Point. The Opportunity to Transform the Office of the CFO and Thrive."*

Our dinner speaker will be Brian Cothran, Baker Hughes' Commercial Leader for North America. Brian will speak on emerging technologies and the next big frontier in oil and gas and LNG production in the US and around the world.

- February 27 – Our next Happy Hour social will be at Brenner's on the Bayou. Come network at this beautiful location. Don't forget to bring a colleague.
- March 5 – Our next Leadership Luncheon will be at the Federal Reserve Bank of Houston. Our program will be presented by Curt Ross of Russell Reynolds and Anne Taylor, former Vice Chair and Managing Partner of Deloitte's Houston office. Curt and Anne will talk on "Becoming an Influential and Multifaceted Leader". Those of you who have attended our luncheon events in the past know they are not to be missed events. If you haven't been to one, make this the first, and I know you will become a regular. Don't hesitate to invite a colleague to come with you.

More details and registration for all of these events are available at our website www.feihouston.org.

Call for Nominations and Committee Membership –

Nominations for Director positions on the FEI Houston Board of Directors for the three-year term beginning July 1, 2019 are now open. Please contact Frances Powell-Hawes at fhawes@hawesinterests.com with your recommendations.

Participation on our Board or a chapter committee is one of the best ways to get the most out of your membership. If you would like to participate on a chapter committee, please contact John Briscoe at jnbriscoe@aol.com. The time investment is minimal and the payoff is well worth it.

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Evening Meeting

February 19, 2019

Houston Country Club

4:00 Beat the Traffic Social

4:30 Professional Development Session

5:30 Social Hour

6:30 Dinner & Presentation

Register online by Feb. 15th. feihouston.org

Sponsored by:



Want to win a gift basket?

Attend the Monthly Meeting's Professional Development Session to be entered for our prize drawing. Must be present to WIN!

Look forward to seeing you at the next Professional Development Session!

FEI Houston Chapter Newsletter

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February 19, 2019 Dinner Meeting

MEETING

"Title"

DINNER SESSION

Brian Cothran, Vice President, Commercial, Baker Hughes, a GE company

Brian Cothran is the Commercial Vice President for BHGE's Oil Field Equipment business. In this role, he is responsible for all commercial activity for the business globally.

Brian joined GE in 1998 and has held several operating and commercial roles including President of GE Oil & Gas' North America Region; Royal Dutch Shell Global Account Vice President; General Manager of GE Oil & Gas' Flow & Process Technologies business; and General Manager of GE Energy's service franchise in Russia, CIS and Eastern Europe.

Brian earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Berry College and is a certified Six Sigma Master Black Belt. Throughout his career he has lived and worked in seven countries. He and his wife have two children and live in Houston, Texas. Development" with Columbia University Press.



"The Digital Inflection Point for Finance" "The Opportunity to Transform the Office of the CEO and Thrive"

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Technological advances and its growing acceptance are pointing to an inflection point, a disruption for both consumers and businesses.

This disruption is among the top considerations for the executive suite over the next few years and is creating opportunities to reduce cost and simplify processes while increasing insights through cloud-based solutions, smart automation, blockchain, AI and machine learning.

From a financial systems and performance management perspective, digital transformation refers to organizations digitizing their FP&A, financial close, reporting and analytic processes. They will do so by accepting and deploying these emerging technologies, better integrating their

on-premise and off-premise applications with cloud solutions, and most importantly, transforming business processes.

CFOs and CIOs alike are moving their mission-critical applications to the Cloud and implementing next-generation solutions that support their transactional accounting, financial close & consolidation, modeling & planning, and reporting &

analytics to initiate transformation.

This month's professional development session will feature Arthur Forbus of Alvarez & Marsal (A&M). He is a Managing Director at A&M and leads its Southwest Region CFO Services practice. Arthur will be joined by a distinguished group of panelists that are deploying digital technologies and processes as well as developing and marketing leading digital solutions.

Moderator:

Arthur Forbus, Managing Director, Alvarez & Marsal

30+ years helping CFOs & CIOs improve planning, accounting, reporting and analytics processes and enabling technology

Driving vision, strategy and roadmaps for performance management and analytics transformations

Vendor evaluations and software selection

Planning, accounting, reporting and analytics implementations

Regional leader of A&M's CFO Services practice and advisor to numerous Global 1000 organizations



Prosci-certified Change Management professional and CPA with TX license inactive status

Panelists:

Cody Chenault, Managing Director, Alvarez & Marsal

Focuses on improving companies back-office functions, with a specialty in shared services, Finance transformation, and globalization projects

Including organizational design, process redesign and digital strategies

Shared services implementations and performance optimization

Extensive experience in performance



2018-2019 Season UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 19 - Dinner Meeting

Feb 27 - Membership Happy Hour

Mar 5 - Leadership Series

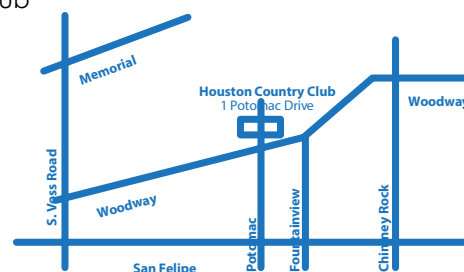
Mar 26 - Dinner Meeting

Meeting Directions

Houston Country Club
1 Potomac Drive
Houston, TX 77057

Register online:
feihouston.org

Registration closes
February 15, 2019.



February 19, 2019 Dinner Meeting (continued)

benchmarking and developing strategies to improve a company's finance function.

Currently focused on integration of new digital technologies into long-standing set of best practices for the Finance function.

Brad Hairston, Advisory Alliance Director, Blue Prism

Advisory Alliance Director for the global leader in robotic process automation (RPA) software

Helps the top management consulting firms understand the digital workforce opportunity and its various use cases

Leveraging RPA capability to enable digital transformation and cost takeout engagements with clients



Over his consulting career helped clients utilize technology as a strategic enabler driving successful performance and value of business transformation initiatives

Covering diverse industries, including retail, CPG, consumer services, financial services, higher education and non-profit

Scott Stern, Director Product Marketing, OneStream Software

Director of Product Marketing with 15+ years of experience leading and transforming finance groups

With a background in corporate finance and FP&A for enterprise businesses

Including experience with MetLife, Catalina Marketing and Masonite International



Operating executive within HIG Capital portfolio businesses

Most recently, Sr. Director of Sales Effectiveness and Strategic Alliances for Prevedere, a leading provider of predictive analytics software



A Letter from the President (continued)

National Resources

Remember that our FEI National website has many resources these can be very helpful in supporting your needs and staying current on important news, gaining advice from others, and access to in-depth research. Some of these resources include:

- Curated articles focused on topics of interest to financial executives provided in the weekly FEI Daily newsletter. Articles include selections from national publications as well as articles written specifically for FEI.
- Interact with other FEI members nationally through FEIConnect. FEIConnect is a private member's only forum where you can gain advice from the experiences of the FEI members throughout the nation. You can start your own discussion thread, join an existing one, or just follow other discussions. This is a very active forum that many members find very useful.
- The FinancialExecutives.org site also provides you with access to in depth research reports prepared by the Financial Executives Research Foundation (FERF), such as a recent report on "2018 Audit Fee Survey Report" prepared in conjunction with Workiva.
- Access member directory. You can access the Houston Chapter and National member's directory through a link at the bottom of the www.financialexecutives.org page. Set up a bookmark on your computer or phone to always have easy access to our member's directory.
- Visit www.financialexecutives.org to learn more.

Follow us on LinkedIn –

Don't forget to follow the chapter LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/financial-executives-international-fei-houston-chapter/> and share our content with your LinkedIn network. This is an important part of our efforts to extend the FEI Houston brand.

As always, on behalf of your chapter leadership team, we thank you for your support and participation in our chapter. If you have any suggestions don't hesitate to contact me at robertmschmitz77@gmail.com.

Best wishes and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming chapter event.

Rob Schmitz
FEI Houston Chapter President 2018-19

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2018-2019 FEI Houston Mission Statement & Goals

MISSION:

FEI's mission is to advance the success of senior-level financial executives, their organizations, and the profession.

GOALS:

- Maintain and enhance the value of the FEI brand by focusing on quality – quality members, programs and sponsors
- Be relevant to members
- Offer high quality programs and resources that help develop current and future financial officers
- Develop high quality and engaged sponsors to assist the Chapter financially, help identify programs and speakers, and help recruit new members
- Make FEI relevant and known in the community through involvement in Houston financial matters; be the voice of the financial community
- Run an effective, professional, and fiscally sound Chapter operation
- Give back to the community through our own foundation and in other ways in which our members personally choose



NEW MEMBERS

Ivan Garcia

Kara White

2018-2019 STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Secure your FEI Sponsorship today!
Contact: Tony Maresca, tmaresca@bepms.com

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PWC

FEI Houston Scholarship Foundation

Want to make a donation to the Foundation, review audited financials or see scholarship recipients for this year?

View our website at

<http://feihoustonfoundation.org>



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