financial executives international
houston chapter
www.feihouston.org

FEI Houston Chapter Newsletter

September 2019

FEI: The primary resource for financial executive education and leadership development and the principal avenue to influence financial matters in Houston

A Letter from the President



Summer is officially over and FEI is now into full swing with our fall programs. I hope you enjoyed the Summer Breakfast Series. We had great turnout at each event and our last event on China, Trade and Tariffs gave great insights, but the final outcome on this topic is still as uncertain as it was on August 21.

As I speak to peer CFO's, CEO's and other business leaders it is clear the CFO role has never been more demanding. In addition to mastering everything finance, many CFO's also have significant operations, HR and IT roles and don't forget you are expected to be a legal expert as well. You are not expected to be "just" the CFO but to be the "Strategic CFO". The goal for our Chapter programs is to provide interesting and thought-provoking topics as well as help you master these additional demands on the CFO role. Our dinner speakers for our fall programs are all set as well as Leadership and Executive Development Lunches in September, October, November and January with each of them focused on important topics or information that I hope you will find interesting.

Our dinner programs kick off on September 17 with Ellen Coopersmith leading a presentation on Unlocking Organizational Decision-Making Potential. Ellen works with large energy, defense and pharmaceutical companies using a practical decision quality process to address complexity, ambiguity and uncertainty inherent in many investment decisions and also improve decision making. The PD session is presented by Jay Thompson with Protiviti and titled The New Labor Model for Finance: How CFO's are Sourcing Talent in the Digital Age. You can register for the September dinner and PD session here. October 15 our dinner speaker is James Scott, associate professor of Statistics at UT Austin and author of AIQ – How People and Machines are Smarter Together. James will give us some practical insights into the future of artificial intelligence and debunk a few myths along the way. This is not the statistics you remember from college days and I guarantee it will be lively, interesting and you will improve your AI, IQ (AIQ). October 15 registration link is here.

The 2019 – 2020 dinner meeting schedule is set, and registration for all dinner meetings is open on FEIHouston.org.

- September 17, 2019
- October 15, 2019
- November 19, 2019
- January 21, 2020
- February 18, 2020 (50th anniversary Academic Honors Day)
- March 31, 2020
- April 21, 2020
- May 12, 2020

On September 25 we kick off our lunch programs with Barbara Stewart presenting on Emotional Intelligence: Why Emotional Intelligence Matters. Barbara is an executive coach and her presentation will help you be a better leader, build more effective teams, handle conflict and influence others, whether direct reports, peers or your CEO. On October 10 our lunch is focused on the current best-selling topic StrengthsFinder and on October 24 we

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Dinner Meeting

September 17, 2019

The Junior League of Houston

4:00	**Beaqt the Traffic Social**
4:30	**Professional Development Session Speaker**
5:30	**Social Hour**
6:30	**Dinner & Presentation**

Register online by Sep. 13th. feihouston.org

Sponsored by:

Robert Half

STOUT



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!

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September 17, 2019 Dinner Meeting

MEETING

Unlocking Organization Decision Making Potential

DINNER SESSION

Ellen Coopersmith, President, Decision Frameworks, L.P.

Ellen Coopersmith is an expert in decision quality and decision analysis implementation and its practical application in multiple industries. She consults, facilitates and trains organizations across the globe, utilizing her extensive experience in strategy development, scenario planning, decision framing, facilitation and value of information. An engineer by degree from The Colorado School of Mines, Ms. Coopersmith has specialized in decision analysis for the last 25 years. As of 2019, she's trained over 7,000 professionals while assisting companies with both corporate and project level strategic decisions. Ms. Coopersmith is the president of Decision Frameworks, a decision quality enablement firm providing consulting, training and software around globally. She was the 2017 – 2018 president of the Society of Decision Professionals (SDP), is a published speaker on decision analysis, a Professional Engineer and SDP Fellow and board member.



2019-2020 Season

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 17 - Dinner Meeting

Sep 25 - Executive Career Management

Oct 10 - Executive Career Management

Oct 15 - Dinner Meeting

Niall McCormack, VP Exploration & Appraisal, BHP

Niall McCormack is responsible for all elements of access, exploration, appraisal, innovation and commercial supporting organic growth of BHP's petroleum business. He holds a bachelor's degree in Geology and a PhD in Geology from Trinity College and has more than 20 years of industry experience. Before joining BHP in 2012, Niall worked at BP, GNS Science, Hess Corporation and Afren Plc., holding various management positions in exploration and geoscience across the US, South America, Europe, Middle East and Africa.



About the Presentation

Decisions in any organization are difficult to varying degrees due to organizational complexity (multiple stakeholders, multiple objectives), analytical complexity (technical and commercial risk and uncertainty) and human biases. Combined, these often lead to decision traps which destroy value and create inefficiency in decision-making. As a result, poor quality decisions are endemic in many organizations today.

In board meetings and conference rooms, where important decisions are made, decision makers are not always provided the information they need to make quality, informed decisions on a regular basis. Why? Many organizations do not have decision processes in place to drive that quality.

Fortunately, we ride the coattails of thought leaders, the likes of Ron Howard at Stanford University and Howard Raiffa at Harvard University, who over the last 50 years took centuries of decision theory and developed a practical framework to enable better quality decisions on a repeatable basis. This in turn created the decision quality movement which many organizations around the globe in energy, pharmaceuticals, tech, and manufacturing, to name a few, have embraced to address this unmet need.

This evening's speakers will facilitate an interactive discussion on the key elements of decision quality, the executive's perspective of the value it brings, and the approaches companies are taking to make decision quality their way of working in their organizations.

The New Labor Model for Finance: How CFOs are Sourcing Talent in the Digital Age

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Jay Thompson, Managing Director, Business Performance Improvement, Protiviti

Jay Thompson is one of the founding managing directors of Protiviti and has filled various leadership roles since its inception. He has over 25 years of finance, IT and operations consulting and industry experience in energy, manufacturing, consumer products, financial services and retail industries.

Currently, Thompson's role at Protiviti includes leading its Managed Business Services for the firm. These services offer clients business improvements by deploying a combination of consulting and operations professionals.

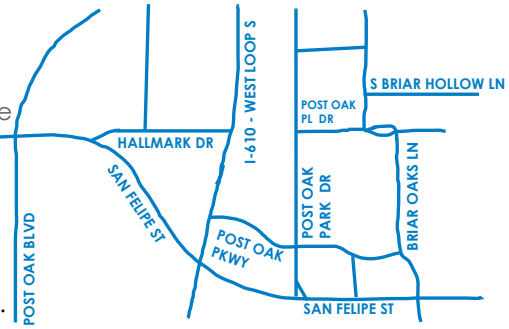
Thompson holds leadership roles in the firm's Business Performance Improvement services practice. His consulting experience includes business and finance transformation, corporate strategy, business intelligence, IT strategy and enterprise resource management. He also established Protiviti's global innovation program.

Meeting Directions

The Junior League
of Houston
1811 Briar Oaks Lane
Houston, TX 77027

Register online!

Registration closes
September 13, 2019.



September 17, 2019 Dinner Meeting (Continued)

Thompson holds an MBA from the University of Dallas and a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Central Oklahoma. He is a frequent speaker on topics ranging from innovation, corporate performance management, business and competitive intelligence to emerging trends.



A Letter from the President (continued)

will have our first ever lunch in the Woodlands on Remote Process Automation. Click here to see the full FEI events calendar.

If you know a peer senior finance executive that will enjoy these programs and membership in FEI, I encourage you to invite them to an event as a prospective member. They will enjoy networking with peers, presentations and topics they won't see at other venues. We will have over 30 events this fiscal year, all free to members, and provide over 40 hours of CPE.

I want to extend thanks to our many strategic partners for their ongoing support and encourage you to consider them when you have an opportunity for professional services. I also want to welcome Vistra (Gold) as a new strategic partner to the Houston Chapter. If you have a need but don't know the contact, I am glad to facilitate an introduction to any of our strategic partners.
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National Topics:
FEI National is also ramping up with in-person PD opportunities on financial reporting, employee benefits and SEC reporting. There is also a new CFO Series Course that is a one-stop way for CFO's or aspiring CFO's to build effective organizational leadership skills and add strategic value to their businesses in a five-day course in Philadelphia. There are also 12 National webinars scheduled in September. You can find all of the National in-person programs and webinars by following this link.

Follow us on LinkedIn:
We now have 250 followers on LinkedIn and 60,000 LinkedIn members have viewed FEI Houston content and events. When you follow the Chapter LinkedIn page you now have a connection with other members through this important networking tool. You can follow the Chapter LinkedIn page here. Also, when you share or like a LinkedIn post on the FEI Houston company page you spread the word with your LinkedIn connections about FEI Houston and our programs.

U of H Mentorship Opportunity
As I mentioned last month there is a mentorship opportunity for FEI members to mentor University of Houston MBA students. There is a kick-off luncheon on October 18 so you're your calendar if you are interested and watch your email for more info on this opportunity.

Finally, on August 30 all members should have received an email to a Member Value Proposition Survey. This will be an annual survey that we will use to track membership profile and views over a multi-year period. The survey is anonymous unless you chose to provide your name. You can also win a $250 gift card by completing the survey. If you can't find it in your email a link to the survey is here.

On behalf of your Chapter leadership team, I thank you for your support and participation in our Chapter during the upcoming year. If you have any suggestions comments or just want to get together don't hesitate to reach out to me at jhbriscoe@aol.com.

John Briscoe
FEI Houston Chapter
President 2019 – 2020







MEETING



2019-2020 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

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NEW MEMBERS

Donal Antill
Baker Hughes, a GE Company

Chris Harrison
AccuFleet International

Chris Yacoub
Baker Hughes, a GE Company

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

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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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