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CHAPTER ADMINISTRATOR

For assistance or additional information about FEI, please contact our Chapter Administrator, **Melanie Batcheller**, at 407-277-8383 or melanie@fei-centralflorida.org.

MEETING REGISTRATION

We request that all members register and pay for meetings online by credit card, if at all possible.

President's Letter

March 5, 2008

To Our Members, Sponsors and Friends,

Happy March!!! Welcome to the Ides of March with Financial Executives International. Our Chapter and membership meetings are continuing our exciting programs for 2008. Our committee chairs have been active planning excellent programs, meetings, and member services. You'll learn more about our plans in this Newsletter.

We had a great membership meeting in February. There were over 100 members, sponsors, and guests attending **Jay Freeland's** presentation on **FARO Technology** sponsored by **Robert Half**.

This month promises to be just as exciting. Our speaker will be **Jacob V. Stuart**, President and CEO of **Central Florida Partnership**. This meeting promises to be interesting and entertaining since we're also presenting our Financial Executive of the Year Award. Thank you to our Platinum and Gold sponsors for organizing the award Financial Executive of the Year Award (with the guidance of Wanda Evans).

Your Chapter now has 130 members. We have one of the highest new member recruiting percentages of all FEI chapters and we continue to grow every month. Of course, as we grow, everyone benefits. There is no other professional organization that can match your local Chapter; however, your involvement is necessary to maintain this leading position.

As with all professional organizations, our success is dependent on the active involvement of the Members and Sponsors, so we encourage your participation. If you would like to become more involved, please contact me.

Enjoy the evening with **KPMG** as our Platinum sponsor. Thanks to **KPMG** for sponsoring our cocktail hour as well. The Central Florida FEI Chapter Board of Directors and Sponsors appreciate your participation in the Chapter's activities and many thanks for your continued support of our chapter.

With best regards,

Dr. Stuart Michelson

Dr. Stuart Michelson

President – FEI Central Florida Chapter 2007/2008

CFO FOUNDTABLE

Ann Graham, Chair

We extend our thanks to **Steven Douglas Associates** which sponsored our **CFO Roundtable** on February 28th at the Citrus Club. This roundtable focused on benchmarking the finance organization - including best practices in working capital management and outsourcing.

We also want to thank those who participated. We had over twenty participants who represented companies in a variety of industries and stages. We discussed metrics for financial organizations, outsourcing, and how a financial manager can measure and influence the profitability of their company.

Look for our next roundtable later this spring with another relevant topic.

FINANCIAL EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Wanda Evans, Program Committee Co-Chair

The Central Florida Chapter of Financial Executives International announced its Financial Executive of the Year Award for 2008 on March 6th. Nominations were open to all current members of FEI, men and women who demonstrated outstanding performance as a financial executive in service to their company, their community and their profession.

Nominees exhibited qualities such as:

- **Significant leadership.**
- **Assumption of broad new responsibilities.**
- **Made major contributions to his/her company**, such as helping the company go public (or private), significant expansion or growth, major profit improvements, significant system implementations, reinvigorated a troubled operation, etc.
- **Actively involved in demonstrating growth as a financial or accounting professional** through professional certifications, continuing education or publication of education materials, and participation in professional organizations.
- **Demonstrated commitment to our local community** through leadership or participation in civic or charity endeavors or personal activism.

As we gather on March 6th to celebrate this award, we congratulate all nominees for the difference they have made in the lives of others.

MEMBER PROFILE

Meet

Debbie Adkins

Partner, Forensic Accounting & Litigation Services

Cross, Fernandez & Riley, LLP

If you could brag on one aspect of your company, what would that be? **We're the largest locally-owned accounting firm and are consistently voted as one of the best places to work in Orlando**

When did you join FEI? **1997**

What three business books have had a significant influence on your professional life? **Occupational Fraud and Abuse (Wells), Investigations in the Workplace (Ferraro), and Advanced Forensic Accounting (me!)**

Play a musical instrument? **Piano, organ, clarinet**

First car you owned? **1965 Mustang with front disc brakes, power steering, automatic transmission and A/C**

Mountain or beach? **Beach!**

Coke or Pepsi? **Coke**

Dog or Cat? **I have both**

JOIN PAT WILLIAMS OF THE ORLANDO MAGIC ON ACADEMIC NIGHT—APRIL 3RD

Our next meeting, April 3rd, is our annual **Academic Night** where we honor excellence in our local students. Over the last five years, FEI of Central Florida has provided nearly \$50,000 to students at seven area colleges and universities. Your dues and sponsorships help support the next generation of finance/accounting leaders.

This year's evening, sponsored by **Gray Robinson**, is an exciting program with **Pat Williams, Senior Vice President of the Orlando Magic**. Pat is widely recognized throughout the sports world as a consummate promoter and astute talent scout. He has also authored a number of motivational books offering inspiration and wit. A word of thanks to fellow FEI member **Jim Fritz** at the **Orlando Magic** for connecting us with Pat.

\$10,000 in scholarships will be awarded on this evening to very deserving local university students, with medallion awards given to five high performing seniors. Join us in supporting the future of financial excellence!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**Eric Morris, Chair****NEW MEMBERS**

Central Florida continues to be one of the fastest growing chapters in its class. Look for this year's new members at the monthly dinner and introduce yourself. New members have pink name tags.

CHALLENGE FROM THE CHAIR

We have a 12% net increase in net new Membership since FEI's fiscal year began in July. That is a good effort, and I extend my thanks to all of those individuals who have helped with the recruiting efforts thus far. Yet Good is the enemy of Great.

Our chapter has been distinguished on several different occasions as an Outstanding Chapter and a role model for other chapters. As an Outstanding Chapter what we need is Great Effort, not just a good effort.

I challenge each member and each sponsor to give the Membership Committee the contact information for at least one prospect. With 130 members and 60 sponsors, that means the Membership Committee will have over 190 prospects to chase down before the fiscal year ends. All we are asking is one prospect from each individual. History has taught us that the contacts of existing members and sponsors are the most fertile source of new members.

If you provide the names, the Membership Committee will provide the follow-up. Contact me at emorris@waynfire.com.

Thank you in advance for propelling us from Good to Great recruiting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

- **Dr. Stuart Michelson**
Chapter President
Professor of Finance
Stetson University
- **Deborah S. Adkins**
Chapter Vice President
Partner, Forensic Accounting and
Litigation Services
Cross, Fernandez & Riley, LLP
- **Jim Bria**
Chapter Treasurer
Controller, The Trane Company

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- **Milan Bendik**
Director-Finance Services
Disney Shared Services
- **Mark A. Bennie**
Controller
Siemens Power Generation, Inc.
- **Renato C. Carrasco**
CFO
Primrose Center Inc.
- **Mike Eggett**
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- **Wanda Evans**
Partner
Tatum LLC
- **Ann Y. Graham**
CFO
OmniTickets Network, Inc.
- **Stuart W. Jones**
President & CEO
Professional Management Co, LLC
- **Halil Kiyamaz**
Associate Professor of Finance
Rollins College
- **Karen Lane**
Director of Internal Audit
Siemens Power Generation, Inc.
- **D. Eric Morris**
CFO & Treasurer
Wayne Automatic Fire Sprinklers
- **Thomas Pennison**
CFO
Ruth's Chris Steak House, Inc.
- **Bryan R. Roub**
Retired CFO
Harris Corporation

PROGRAM COMMITTEE**Debbie Adkins, Chair****SPRING 2007
SCHEDULE OF
EVENTS**• **March 6, 2008****FEI Financial Executive
of the Year for 2008**

Speaker:

Stuart V. Jacob
*President and CEO of
Central Florida Partnership*
Sponsored by: **KPMG**

• **April 3, 2008****Academic Night**

Pat Williams
*Senior Vice President of
Orlando Magic*
Sponsored by:
Gray Robinson

• **May 1, 2008**

Chapter Dinner Meeting
Sponsored by:
Resources Global

MENUS• **March 6, 2008**

- Hearts of butter lettuce** with diced apples, grape tomatoes and blue cheese vinaigrette
- Filet Mignon** with Roasted mushrooms and burgundy demi reduction
- Raspberry chocolate cheese cake** with betty coulis

All 2007 – 2008
**Financial Executive International -
Central Florida Chapter**
Dinner Meetings will be held at the
Grand Bohemian Hotel
325 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando
Telephone: 407.313.9000

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Mark Bennie, Chair
Halil Kiymaz, Co-Chair
Karen Lane, Co-Chair

Internships

The summer internship program is currently in progress. We have received over 25 student resumes from four area colleges and we have submitted these resumes to six FEI member firms participating in the program this year.

Currently interviews are underway and the intern selection process should be completed by the end of March. This is an excellent program to provide outstanding students with solid work experience while also benefiting the sponsoring firm. Contact Karen Lane (Karen.Lane@siemens.com) if your firm would like to get involved.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Stuart Jones, Chair
John Webb, Newsletter Co-Editor

Personal Member Profiles And Reader Content

We want to help members know each other even better. Look for an email and phone call to help us know you more personally.

Also we'd love to have **YOU** contribute. Space is available to sponsors and members for information helpful to our readers. Send submissions to:

jwebb@strombeck.com

PLATINUM PARTNER



Stephen P. Elker, Managing Partner
 407.563.2228 · selker@kpmg.com

GOLD PARTNERS



Philip V. Armand, Vice President — Commercial Banking
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Jason A. Johnson, CIMA, ARPC, CFM
 Vice-President, Wealth Management Advisor



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Noel Tiell, Division Director
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Denise Bennett-Walls, Managing Partner
 407.712.7878 · dwalls@vaco.com

CAREER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Mike Eggett, Chair

Career Services exists to help those members in transition. Here are some opportunities for you:

Networking Conference Call

Our next networking meeting will be held by **conference call** on **Wednesday, March 19th**, at **noon**. The call in number is 605-990-0700, access code is 117608#.

If you have any questions or would like to become involved with the committee, contact **Mike Eggett**, **407-760-5905** or email eggettm@bellsouth.net.

Job Postings

If you're in transition, be sure and log in to the FEI National Website for opportunities. Currently there is a listing in the Central Florida area for:

- VP Finance

TREASURER'S REPORT

Continued thanks to all members who paid their 2007-2008 local and national dues — and thanks as always for the ongoing support of our sponsors.

Finance continues to be in excellent position relative to budget and prior years. Your timely dues and sponsorships allow us to effectively provide member services and give us a strong base for our annual scholarships.

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 BKHM, P.A.
 Brown & Brown of Florida, Inc.
 CoAdvantage Resources
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 Searce, Satcher & Jung, PA
 Sihle Insurance Group
 Spherion Interim Executives

Steven Douglas Associates
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