

## The New METRO Experience: Managing a Public Agency's Finances in an Era of Scarcity, Transparency, Openness and Nobody Wanting to Pay.

NOV. 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING:

**George Greanias**, President & CEO of Houston Metro



**George Greanias**

**Strategic planning and building an integrated transportation network is challenging and extremely complex. Funding it is even more difficult! George Greanias will describe the Metro planning process for the fourth largest city in America. He will explain the management process he used to turn the Agency around and get it back on track.**

**George Greanias** has an extensive professional career in both the private and public sector. Since May 2010, he has served as Houston METRO's President & CEO, overseeing a public transit agency with 3,500 employees and a \$1.3 billion annual budget. In his short time at the helm, George has already established an ambitious agenda that includes finishing the build out of Houston's light-rail system, improving customer service and making METRO more transparent to the public it serves.

Prior to joining METRO, George served as a partner at CLG, one of America's leading behavioral management firms, where he specialized in helping complex organizations develop the behaviors needed to generate sustained long-term success. From 1982 through 1987, George was a member of the Houston City Council, representing the more than 270,000 residents of District C. Following his tenure on council, George served as Controller for the City of Houston until 1995.

## Improving Working Capital Management and Cash Flow Intelligence

NOV. 17<sup>TH</sup> PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION:

**Linda Lindeman**, CAPP, Managing Director, Protiviti



**Linda Lindeman**

In January 2011, APQC and Protiviti released a best practices report titled "Improving Working Capital Management and Cash Flow Intelligence," showcasing how organizations have developed effective strategies and processes to reduce working capital requirements and optimize cash used to fund operations. The report identifies 14 key best practice findings and features examples of exceptional performance and approaches around working capital management.

Each of the 14 key findings will be summarized with insight provided as to how organizations can improve processes related to working capital management and what executives and managers can do to strengthen their company's working capital management capabilities.

**Linda Lindeman** is a Managing Director in Protiviti's Seattle office. Linda has over 18 years of experience in finance, operations, and resource management roles. She has spent the past 8 years providing consulting services using data analysis tools that assist in the evaluation of an organization's spend management, working capital optimization, audit and profit recovery.

## Monthly Meeting & Professional Development Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011

LOCATION:

**Houston Country Club**

1 Potomac Drive  
Houston, TX 77057

» [map to location](#)

AGENDA:

**Professional Development Session (4:30pm)**

**Social hour (5:30pm)**

**Dinner (6:30pm)**

MEETING SPONSORS:



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### FEI Houston Chapter

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info@feihouston.org

Chapter Administrator: Terry K. Newton

# A letter from the president



Welcome! We had a wonderful meeting in October with 123 members attending. See all the great pictures thanks to our official photographer, Graham Baker!

David Leathers' PD session on Hot Topics in Corporate Disputes and Investigations was excellent and we had a record attendance. Michael Hanson, Sr Economist from NYC was really interesting as he provided his thoughts on the economic forecast for the next year. Everyone needed a stiff drink after his speech!

**George Greanias**, President and CEO of the Houston Metro, will be our next speaker on **Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**. *Please note the change from our usual day!* He will be speaking on "The New METRO Experience: Managing a Public Agency's Finances in an Era of Scarcity, Transparency, Openness and Nobody Wanting to Pay." Since George became CEO, he has gotten the Metro back on track, moving forward, and funded. This should be a very interesting and timely session that you won't want to miss.

Last weekend, seven of your FEI officers attended the SW Area Leadership Board meeting in San Antonio. Our own Debbie Clark, SW Area VP, led a great session sharing best chapter practices with leaders from other Texas and Oklahoma chapters. It was very motivating and informative. Great job Debbie!

The Platinum sponsor for our next meeting is **Robert Half**, the world's largest specialized staffing company. They have been a significant sponsor to FEI National and we are very proud to have them as a sponsor of our local chapter. They are currently sponsoring the 3rd annual Benchmarking the Finance Function survey along with FERF. Be sure to participate when you receive the survey form. Linda Lindeman, Managing Director in Protiviti's Seattle office will be the PD speaker.

The **Rand Group** is our Gold sponsor. Their motto is "Better Business with Technology." TRG delivers business solutions for a wide range of industries. This is their first year as a sponsor, so please welcome them to our chapter.

If you are interested in participating in one of the many committees that make this a great chapter, please contact me or any of the other Officers. Your active participation will broaden your network and make this a better organization. Remember to bring a friend and potential member to the meeting with you!

And please let Robert Half and The Rand Group know how much we appreciate their sponsorship.

**Chuck Fischer**

## FEI Houston Officers and Committee Chairs

### President

**Chuck Fischer**, Hewlett-Packard Co.

### President-Elect

**Eric Khan**, BIS Tepsco, Inc.

### V.P. – Programs

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**Joe Abell**, TETRA Technologies

### V.P. Membership

**Elizabeth Wilkinson**

**Tony Van Slyke**, Goodwill Industries of Houston

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**Mark Vise**, Intertek

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**Terry Sanford**, Carriage Services

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### Scholarship Endowment Chair

**Kathy Lynn**, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp.

### Social Events Co-Chairs

**Fred Bruning**, Noble Energy Inc.

**Todd Ruden**, Cardtronics, Inc.

### FERF Liaison Chair

**Dawn Smajstrla**, Goodrich Petroleum Inc.

### Member Career Svcs Chair

**Kevin Hanratty**, Darbridge LLC

**Joe Saporito**, Wynden Group LLC



## Save the date! 2012 Annual Valentine's Dinner

The annual Valentine's Wine Dinner for Houston FEI members with their spouse/guest is scheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2012 once again in the exclusive Skyline Room at the top of the Hilton Americas Hotel. Enjoy great food and beverages along with the breath-taking and romantic view of the downtown Houston skyline. More details of this black tie optional event at a later date.

## Upcoming Events

### Conferences:

#### Nov 14 **Current Financial Reporting Issues Conference 2011**

Marriott Marquis Time Square | 1535 Broadway, New York, NY 10036  
Earn up to 28 CPE credits

#### Nov 16 **IFRS Boot Camp 2011**

Marriott Marquis

#### Dec 6 **XBRL and Disclosure Management. A Headache That Won't Go Away**

Executive Conference Center | 1601 Broadway, New York, NY

### Save the date

#### May 20 **Summit 2010**

May 20-22, 2012 | Disney's Contemporary Resort | Orlando, FL

### Webcasts

#### Nov 16 **Cloud User's Showcase: Cloud Technology In Action**

12:00 p.m. Eastern | 60 Minutes | No CPE credit(s) available | Questions? Contact Bryan Nella, BNella@tradecard.com

#### Nov 16 **Member Benefits 101: Getting to Know Your FEI!**

2:00 p.m. Eastern | Financial Executives International This 45 minute webcast will give new members an insight into their FEI membership benefits and career services as well as updates from our Government Affairs and Accounting Policy activities, and new research efforts from FERF (Financial Executives Research Foundation).

#### Dec 7 **Working with Executive Search Consultants in the Finance Sector presented by BlueSteps and FEI**

Financial Executives International Working with Executive Search Consultants in the Finance Sector presented by BlueSteps and Financial Executives International (FEI) 2:00 p.m. Eastern | 1 CPE credit pending approval. Questions? Please contact Nancy Ehlers at 973-765-1049 or nehlers@financialexecutives.org.

## FEI Houston Chapter Directors

Frances Powell Hawes, Hawes Interests  
Bruce Misamore, Yukos Oil Company  
Kevin Dartez  
Jeff Curtiss, KBR  
Chris Brewster, Cardtronics, Inc.  
Michael J. Vitek  
M. Colleen Estes, Sirius Solutions LLLP  
Chris Matlock  
James R. Storfer, Noble Energy, Inc.

Debbie Clark, FEI Area Vice President  
Tony O'Dell, FEI SW Area Leader

## January meeting

### Tuesday January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

#### Emerging Financial Issues From the SEC

John Woodcock, Regional Director, SEC Regional Office

### Reminder:

HCC Dress Code after 6 pm for men is coat and tie. Cell phone use allowed in the phone room only or outside.

## New Members - Nov. 2011

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David Young, Honorary member of Houston Chapter acknowledged for his service as FEI National Chairman with Jim Storfer & Debbie Clark

**Beverley Babcock**

ExxonMobil

**Cliff Haigler**

**Jennifer Hazelton**

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

**Vinod Krishnan**

**Stacy Owens**

Texas United Corporation

**Javier F. Suarez**

CEMEX USA

**Brian C. Voegelé**

**Harold Winfield**

CapRock Communications

**Gary Wojtaszek**

Cincinnati Bell/Cyrus One



Shishir Khetan, David Miller, William McCormick, Antonio Morales



Lynn Willis & Marcia Kendrick

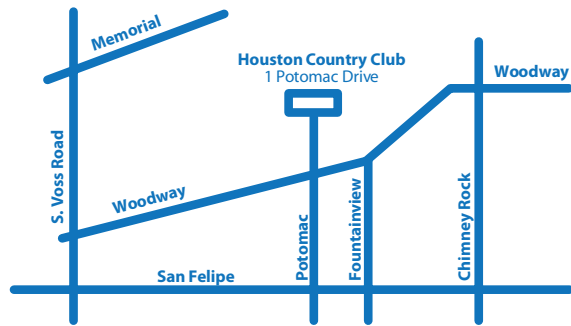


Vinod Krishnan & Bob Foley

## Career Services - November 2011

Career Services will be trying some different ways this year to assist our members in transition. With the help of my co-chair, Joe Saporito, we want to expand our activities beyond networking with executive recruiters. We believe our best source of referrals is our extensive network of existing members. We will be exploring ways to match job opportunities our members know about with our members in transition. In addition, we want to keep abreast of members that have taken new positions, whether through promotions or by changing companies. If you take a new position, or as always, if you know about a position, please let us know. We can be reached at [kevin@darbridge.com](mailto:kevin@darbridge.com) for Kevin Hanratty and at [jsaporito@wyndengroup.com](mailto:jsaporito@wyndengroup.com) for Joe Saporito.

## Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> meeting information



### LOCATION: Houston Country Club

1 Potomac Drive  
Houston, TX 77057

### AGENDA: Professional Development Session (4:30pm) Social hour (5:30pm) Dinner (6:30pm)

## 2011-2012 Strategic Partners

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## Secure your FEI Sponsorship today!

### Contact:

Brett Clappsaddle  
brettclappsaddle@imi-houston.com  
or  
Rebecca McCulloch  
rebecca.mcculloch@us.hsbc.com



## Meeting Fax/Mail Reservation Form

### Register online at <http://www.feihouston.org>

**Mail to:** P.O. Box 631206, Houston, TX 77263-1206 or Fax to: 713.776.1308  
One form per registrant please, photocopy as necessary. **Reservations Required** by 3:00 pm  
2 business days before the meeting. may be canceled without cost as late as noon the day  
before the meeting. **"No-shows" will be billed \$90.**

**Meeting Cost:** No charge for Chapter Members and 1st time prospective members. Guests  
-\$90/person (guests & prospective members must be accompanied by member)

Attendee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select one:**  Chapter member  1st time prospective member

Spouse (name): \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment method:**  MasterCard  Visa  Amex

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date (Month/Year) \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address (street address, city, state and zipcode) \_\_\_\_\_