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**The President's Corner**

Steve Rosen

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and prosperity, as we all work to navigate our companies through very turbulent times. I'm writing this note having just watched some very interesting debates between leadership candidates both here at home and in the United States; the outcome of both these elections is likely to have significant impacts on us for the years to come.

Your chapter hopes to continue to help you in your career and business, by providing quality speakers and events on timely, relevant topics in a variety of

formats, while at the same time, providing a forum to build and strengthen your network. It's very easy to go 'heads down' when times are tough, and focus all your energies within your own company... but it is also more important than ever to ensure you have a broad range of support for information, career advice, and just general moral support! We hope your FEI membership and involvement can provide a major contribution in this area.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see descriptions of the wide variety of programs we offer... dinner meetings, luncheons, National Strategic partner breakfasts, career services, social events, etc. We are also partnering with our neighbours in the Hamilton chapter to deliver the first FEI Canada conference focused on small - and medium-size enterprises. It doesn't matter so much what you attend... just come to something! I promise you will come away from any event having learned something new, having met someone new, or both.

I would again like to commend all our volunteers, led by our hard-working and dedicated board. Without these people giving of their time, we would not have any of the great events that are available to us. If you would like to join any of our committees, please contact me or any of the board members or committee volunteers.

I look forward to seeing you all this year, and if you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Steve Rosen  
[steve.rosen.180@gmail.com](mailto:steve.rosen.180@gmail.com)  
416 599-7770 x267

## Program

by Fred Burke, Chair, Program Committee

The Program Committee is responsible for providing educational content to the FEI Canada, Toronto Chapter membership, mainly through scheduling speakers for our monthly lunch/dinner meetings.

### 2008-2009 Program

Dinner and lunch events for the fall of 2008 have now been confirmed. Thanks to the program committee members and to our chapter administrator Liz Bowell for arranging these events. Our first event, held on September 11 at the National Club, was very successful and included a presentation from Canada's CFO of the Year™ for 2008, **Bruce Waterman, Senior Vice President & CFO of Agrium Inc.**, who provided members with valuable insight on the changing role of the CFO in a world of evolving business expectations.

In addition to the events sponsored by FEI Canada, the Toronto Chapter's plans for the fall and winter program are well underway. See the Career Services section for additional events. For the fall of 2008, we are looking forward to presenting the following events:

**October 16, 2008** – tour Xerox Research Centre in Mississauga followed by speaker **Patricia A. Calkins**, Vice President of Environment, Health and Safety, Xerox - *Driving Sustainability in the Workplace*.

**November 13, 2008** – Dinner at the National Club. Speaker **Jonathan Wellum**, CEO, CIO & Portfolio Manager - *Global Imbalances and Wealth Transfer from West to East*.

**December 10, 2008** - Lunch Meeting, *2009 Economic Outlook* presented by **Dr. Sherry Cooper**, Executive Vice-President, Global Economic Strategist, BMO Financial Group; Chief Economist, BMO Capital Markets.

Other potential topics that we are pursuing for the remainder of the program year include: managing the “carbon footprint”, adjusting in the midst of the current global economic and financial crisis, evolving expectations of the CFO, board and audit committee, and offshore investments and trusts. Stay tuned for future announcements.

### Other Upcoming Chapter Events:

**October 24, 2008** - SME Conference, *Drive Your SME to Success - CFO Challenges in the SME Sector*

**November 7 & 8, 2008** - 3rd Annual Best in Class Invitational Case Competition, Rotman School of Management

**November 19, 2008** - 14th Annual November Social Evening

### Committee Members

All of the Chapter committees are run by member volunteers – it is a great way to make new contacts and to get the most from your membership. The Program Committee welcomes new volunteers for the committee or ideas you might have about speakers and topics. Please contact us if you would like to help out. The current committee members are as follows:

Fred Burke, Chair [fburke1@rogers.com](mailto:fburke1@rogers.com)

Ron Duke, Vice Chair

Patrick Doig

Sharlene Locke, Vice Chair

Jonathan Brindley

## Career Services

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FEI Canada, Toronto Chapter's Career Services Committee is open to being contacted by any member wanting to network or if you are in transition or thinking of making a change.

In addition to organizing and presenting the career workshops our committee believes "in transition" is really just being "between successes". Please feel free to reach out to any one or all of us and we will try to assist you as we have all been through changes during our careers.

### Members of the FEI Career Committee

Chair – **Leslie N. Markow**, CA, CPA (Illinois) – Past President 2007-2008, Toronto FEI Canada Chapter; Director and Audit Committee Chair, Jemtec Inc; Director of Client Service - Resources Global Professionals 416 682-3372

[leslie.markow@resources-ca.com](mailto:leslie.markow@resources-ca.com)

Vice Chair – **George Chiarucci**, CA – CFO, Atlantis Systems Inc. 647-282-5536 [gchiarucci@atlantissi.com](mailto:gchiarucci@atlantissi.com)

**David Farmer**, MBA – VP & Underwriter Corporate Finance Loan Syndications, Bank of Montreal 416 643-4216

[david.farmer@bmo.com](mailto:david.farmer@bmo.com)

**David Minas**, CA – Chief Financial Officer, Prism Medical Ltd. 905-850-0093 x 242 [dminas@prismmedicaltd.com](mailto:dminas@prismmedicaltd.com)

**Kurt Kroesen**, CMA, MBA – Senior VP & CFO, Canadian Diabetes Association 416-408-7010 [kurt.kroesen@diabetes.ca](mailto:kurt.kroesen@diabetes.ca)

**Kriss Bush**, CPA, CFP - Associate Director, Scotia Capital (Scotia McLeod Wealth Management Division) 416 865 2075 or 416 399-3959 [Kriss\\_bush@scotiacapital.com](mailto:Kriss_bush@scotiacapital.com)

**Alysia Carter**, CA, CMA – CFO, Ainsworth Inc. 416-750-6811 [alysia\\_carter@ainsworth.com](mailto:alysia_carter@ainsworth.com)

### Agenda 2008-2009

**September 23** – Speed networking – 20 FEI Toronto members became very well connected with each other by participating in this event hosted by Leslie Markow

**Wednesday, October 22** – Speaker: **Paul Copcutt** on *Branding – How to stand out during difficult times*. Hosted by David Farmer.

**Tuesday, November 25** – Speaker: **Mark Bowden** on *Effective Presentation skills/large group presentation skills*. Hosted by David Minas

**Tuesday, January 27** – Speaker: **Helen Roditis** on *How to manage stress, coach, motivate, support and build your accounting team during changing times*. Hosted by Alysia Carter

**Tuesday, February 17** – *Recruiters Panel* (3-5 senior recruiters on a panel) – Kriss Bush will moderate and host this event.

**Tuesday, March 31** – *Executive Compensation* (compensation lawyer to present) hosted by George Chiarucci

**Tuesday, April 28** – *Transition from CFO to COO or CEO* (A panel of Financial Executives who were VP Finances and CFO's who are now COO's and CEO's) hosted by Kurt Kroesen

## Membership News- October 2008

*By Russ Wong, Membership Committee Member*

### 2008

The 2007-2008 season ended strong with 94 new members joining the Toronto chapter. We ended the year at 719 members, up 53 members from the prior year (net of reinstatements, transfers and resignations). For the first three months of the 2008-2009 year, we are pleased to report that we have recruited 13 new members to the Toronto Chapter. The 2008-2009 goal is to be +61 net new members for a total of 780. This is a challenging goal that represents an increase of 8.5% y/y.

The membership committee of Atul Mahajan (Chair), Sharlene Locke (Vice-Chair), Kay Brekken, Anne Bell, Noel Muttupulle, Amit Loomba, Leah Halpenny, and Russ Wong has many plans for the upcoming year, including mailings, a membership drive, and hosting several networking receptions in various locations in the GTA. Stay tuned for more details.

As always, the health of our chapter depends on you. As we continue in the 2008-2009 year, I encourage every member to become active and help build our chapter. Maximize your membership! If you have any ideas for recruiting, or would like to join our committee, please contact Atul Mahajan at [amahajan@opuc.on.ca](mailto:amahajan@opuc.on.ca), or (905) 743 5210.

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**We are pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined during the June through September period:**

#### New Members:

- Ms. Anne Burpee, Chief Financial Officer, South Western Insurance Group Limited
- Ms. Nancy Campbell, Director of Finance & Administration, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
- Ms. Anastasia Chodarczewicz, Chief Financial Officer, Sirit Inc.
- Mr. Jens Ehlers, Assistant Vice President, Finance, Home Trust Company
- Mr. Gaetano Franceschi, Chief Financial Officer, Amex Bank of Canada
- Mr. Lee Grimshaw, Managing Director, BMO Capital Corporation
- Ms. Sandra Pessione, Deputy Director, Business Services & Chief Financial Officer, Toronto Catholic District School Board
- Mr. Martin Ritchie, Chief Financial Officer, Greta Energy
- Ms. Pamela Steer, Vice President, Finance, Redknee Inc.
- Mr. Murray Thomas, Head of Corporate FX Consulting, OANDA Corporation
- Mr. Andreas Tillmann, Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc.
- Ms. Helene Vukovich, Associate Dean, George Brown College
- Mr. Joseph Wilke, Vice President, Finance, Workopolis

#### Transfers in June through September 2008

- Ms. Lynn Hampson, Area Vice President - Commercial Banking, Bank of Nova Scotia

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## FEIC Toronto Chapter Announces 3rd Annual Best in Class Invitational Case Competition

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It is with great pleasure that the Toronto Chapter of the Financial Executives International, North America's leading business organization, announces the 3rd Annual Best In Class Invitational Case Competition to be held on November 7-8, 2008 at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto.

FEI Canada Toronto Chapter, with the generous support of its sponsors, is very proud to be supporting business education in Canada with this unique case competition. The case is based on an existing public company with company executives in attendance and presented to a live audience.

Now in its third year, invitations to the Best in Class competition were extended to ten of the top ranking MBA schools across the country. Teams representing the Alberta School of Business, Desautels Faculty of Management, Haskayne School of Business, HEC Montreal, Richard Ivey School of Business, Queen's School of Business, Rotman School of Management, Sauder School of Business, Schulich School of Business and the Sobey School of Business, will all be participating in this year's event.

The competition will be fierce as teams from each of the participating MBA schools vie for the \$10,000 first place prize and an invitation to attend the FEI Canada Annual Conference in Montreal in May 2009. Business leaders selected by FEI Canada Toronto Chapter will form the esteemed panel of judges for the event.

The competition will end with a reception and awards dinner at Osgoode Hall, Toronto. Individual tickets (\$85 per person) or corporate tables (Tables of 8 - \$600) for the evening reception and awards dinner are available for purchase by FEI members, event sponsors, participating MBA schools and their alumni.

There is no charge or pre-registration required to attend the competition during the day. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and support Best in Class and the student participants at this stimulating event.

Please join us for some or all of the activities on Saturday, November 8, 2008 and be inspired by Canada's best and brightest MBA students!

### **Saturday, November 8, 2008**

#### **Team Presentations**

**Time:** Semi Finals 8:00am – 1:30 pm  
Finals – 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

**Location:** Fleck Atrium, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto,  
105 St. George Street, Toronto

**Cost:** No charge

#### **Reception & Awards Dinner:**

**Time:** 6:00 - 9:30pm

**Location:** Osgoode Hall, 130 Queen Street West, Toronto

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## Best in Class Invitational Case Competition (continued from page 5)

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Advance registration is required for the reception and awards dinner only. For further information or registration, please contact Liz Bowell by email at [lb@passport.ca](mailto:lb@passport.ca) or by telephone at (905) 936-5422.

This event would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors which we gratefully acknowledge:



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## FEIsters

By Fred Silk, FEISTERS Board Representative

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“FEIsters” is a group of retired FEI Canada members who meet for lunch every other month (usually the last Thursday) in the Forest Hill Room at the Bay (Arcadian Court - Simpson Tower, Bay Street at Queen, 9th floor).

FEIsters arrange interesting speakers, followed by a lively question period and feature a preceding reception with a chance to converse with the former deans of finance in the GTA. Our first luncheon speaker was Peter Gibson, Vice-Chair of Desjardins Securities, on September 25 on the subject of **“Surviving an Economic Crisis”**.

Each lunch is \$30 (cash) and includes one drink. Retired FEI Canada members, especially those reasonably close to the Greater Toronto Area are encouraged to join FEIsters to stay in touch with our interesting and active members. Many FEIsters share their expertise in various ways within their respective communities, hence are a good source of personal and entertaining contacts.

Annual membership dues of \$15 are a bargain and may be increased soon. Dues are payable to FEIsters c/o Jim Meiklejohn, 1403-2045 Lakeshore Blvd West, Toronto M8V 2Z6. Do consider joining with us.

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## Toronto Chapter 2008/2009

### Board of Directors

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#### Executive Committee

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**Steve Rosen** President & Chair – Executive Committee, [steve.rosen.180@gmail.com](mailto:steve.rosen.180@gmail.com)  
**Kay Brekken** Vice President, [kbrekken@indigo.ca](mailto:kbrekken@indigo.ca)  
**Naresh Khosla** Secretary & Treasurer, [khoslan@rogers.com](mailto:khoslan@rogers.com)  
**Leslie Markow** Past President & Chair - Career Services Committee, [leslie.markow@resources-ca.com](mailto:leslie.markow@resources-ca.com)

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**Fred Burke** Chair – Program Committee, [fburke@smfulc.com](mailto:fburke@smfulc.com)  
**George Chiarucci** Member – Career Services Committee, [gchiarucci@atlantissi.com](mailto:gchiarucci@atlantissi.com)  
**Ron Duke** Vice-Chair – Program Committee, [ron.duke@lavalife.com](mailto:ron.duke@lavalife.com)  
**Atul Mahajan** Chair – Membership Committee, [amahajan@opuc.on.ca](mailto:amahajan@opuc.on.ca)  
**Judy Munro** Chair – Academic & Social Committees, [judy.munro@rogers.com](mailto:judy.munro@rogers.com)  
**Brian McAskill** Co-Chair – Sponsorship Committee, [brian.j.mcaskill@marsh.com](mailto:brian.j.mcaskill@marsh.com)  
**William Ross** Chair – Communications Committee, [bill.ross@enbridge.com](mailto:bill.ross@enbridge.com)  
**Farhad Sethna** Co-Chair – Sponsorship Committee, [fsethna@shepherdvillage.org](mailto:fsethna@shepherdvillage.org)  
**Fred Silk** FEIsters Liaison, [fczsilk@hotmail.com](mailto:fczsilk@hotmail.com)  
**Darla Sycamore** Chair – Technical Committee, [darla.sycamore@sympatico.ca](mailto:darla.sycamore@sympatico.ca)  
**Cliff Truax** Chair – Distinguished Service Award Committee, [c.truax@HydroOne.com](mailto:c.truax@HydroOne.com)

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**Liz Bowell** Chapter Administrator, [lb@passport.ca](mailto:lb@passport.ca)

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