



from the PRESIDENT

After almost three years, and somewhere past the midpoint of my tenure as FEI President, I still marvel at the strength and potential of our association. Before joining the staff, I was an active member of FEI, thriving on my fellow members' brainpower and experience. Better to borrow a successful idea from a smart and experienced professional than chart a course through unknown waters on my own. On top of the practical benefits, the people in FEI are unmatched. To deal with smart people with high aspirations, look no further than our roster.

But the art and science of business management keeps taking the individual manager to new peaks. The mundane job tasks continue to diminish. The challenges are more about performance management, value building and innovation. Enabled by technology, we scramble to see beyond the next bend in the swift-moving river. The pace is incredible and the challenges unrelenting.

For all these reasons, FEI should be very valuable to you. FEI is the hub or connection point to the people and information you need. Still, I want us to do more for our members. Helping you achieve your personal objectives and company objectives is our greatest reward.

Given all that, here are the best ways I can think of (with low or no cost as a key criteria) that we can help you almost immediately:

Contact the FEI staff the next time you have a professional or technical question. Reach Dean Krogman, Vice President of Technical Activities, at dkrogman@fei.org, 973.898.4607 or Marla Bace, COO of the FEI Research Foundation, at mbace@fei.org, 973.898.4652.

Join one of FEI's technical committees. This is where the future of the profession emerges. Corporate Finance, Private Company Finance, Benefits Finance, Corporate Reporting, Taxation, Information Technology and Government Business are some of the topical areas from which you and your company can benefit.

Use the FEI Washington office for help with government affairs. Want to influence legislation or emerging regulations? Need to develop a dialogue with your Congressman or Senator? Contact Grace Hinchman, SVP of

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Public Policy, at gbinchman@feidc.org, 202.457.6203.

Send a rising star on your staff to an FEI conference. Let them build their knowledge and network for the future. You and your staff can also take advantage of any of our teleconferences, featuring expert speakers, held several times each month on timely topics in finance.

Use the FEI Web site to your advantage. Our site gets great reviews and traffic these days. It is built and managed to

help you do your job more efficiently and effectively. There are financings sources, like the GE Capital credit line calculator, accounting resources and news, models, job postings and even a Yellow Pages of vendor listings. Our File Library archives presentations and executive summaries from leading experts. The newest addition to the site is a resume bank where members can post their resumes for viewing by companies and recruiters.

The FEI Research Foundation continues to identify and develop more proactive and targeted products. Scan the latest offerings at www.fei.org/rf/publist.cfm. Have a question? Get an immediate answer from "Ask An FEI Researcher" at www.fei.org/rf/researcher/default.cfm, an interactive Web-based research tool.

And read *Financial Executive Online Exclusives*, timely articles not in the magazine, brought to you by the editors of *Financial Executive*.

Go a chapter meeting, or better yet, get involved in chapter leadership. See what your local chapter is up to by visiting the chapter events section of the FEI Web site at www.fei.org/chapter/.

Put *Financial Executive* magazine in your briefcase before the next plane ride! It's a good read and targeted to our memberships' needs and challenges. Or consider authoring an article for an upcoming issue on a subject of personal expertise. Contact editor Jeff Marshall at jmarshall@fei.org or 973.898.4624 to suggest an idea.

These thoughts are additional tools for your consideration. FEI will, of course, continue to focus on advocacy, networking, professional development and research activities. As always, you can reach me anytime with your thoughts, feedback, criticism, requests and ideas. Contact me at plivingston@fei.org or 973.898.4601.

By Phil Livingston
plivingston@fei.org