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financial executives
international

new york city chapter



2018–2019 Board Directory

FEI New York | www.financialexecutives.org
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Advancing success through information, community and advocacy since 1931.

The New York City chapter is the premier organization for financial executives in New York City. The Chapter promotes the fellowship and interaction among its members and has active programs to enhance their professional knowledge and qualifications.

For more than 80 years, FEI has been connecting senior-level financial executives, providing a unique forum for finance leaders to: network and share best practices; engage in knowledge-building conferences and seminars; be represented in critical national and global policy debates; and be aligned with a culture that fosters ethical leadership.

The New York City Chapter, comprised of more than 350 professionals in the Finance field, is run by a Board of Directors – **Meet our Leadership!**



Nicholas Mitrakis, President/Director/VP Sponsorship
Member since 2002

Nicholas is currently Corporate Controller, USA at WSP Global a \$6B+ global engineering professional services consulting firm. He was previously the CFO and COO of K2 Partnering Solutions Ltd a global IT services firm based in London, UK. Prior to this, Nicholas was the Head of Global Transformation/Corporate Development and also CFO Americas at PageGroup a global specialist recruitment consultancy with \$ 2B in sales and 7,300 employees in 35 countries.

Nicholas began his career at global industrial conglomerate SIEMENS in New York City and Dallas, TX where he held positions of increasing responsibility rising through the ranks from operational audit to strategic planning and divisional CFO roles.

Nicholas speaks fluent German and Greek and is proficient in French. He holds a B.S. in Finance and International Business from Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business and an Executive Certificate in Strategy & Innovation from MIT's Sloan School of Business. He is an Advisory Board member of Fordham University's Alumni Association and is active in his community of New Canaan, CT where he resides with his wife and daughter.



Alex Kotlyarevsky, Vice President/VP Programming
Member since 2009

Alex is currently the Vice President of Finance at MAXX Properties. As finance and operations executive with expertise overseeing financial infrastructure, forecasting, and reporting, he has played key roles in business operations in real estate and retail industries.

Prior to joining MAXX Properties, Alex was the Vice President of Finance at AR Global overseeing financial and strategic planning, infrastructure, treasury, risk and asset management, M&A activities, profit improvement, and other special projects. Over the course of his career, he held various senior finance and operations positions in real estate and retail industries and spent a number of years at AR Global, Cushman & Wakefield, and Saks Fifth Avenue. Alex has an MBA in Financial Management and Public Accounting from Pace University. He resides with his wife and two sons in Woodbridge, New Jersey.



Nigyar Mamedova, Treasurer
Member since 2015

Nigyar Mamedova is an innovative, dynamic and strategic leader with 18+ years of progressive growth within Big 4 accounting firms, global Fortune 500 companies and accounting regulators in United States, Canada and United Kingdom. With expertise in SEC reporting, IFRS, US GAAP, financial and management reporting, audit, risk and innovative technology, and experience in dealing with complex operations and top C-level executives in global organizations, Nigyar was instrumental in re-engineering financial processes and operational controls for several Fortune 500 public companies including AIG, Prudential, Aviva, Citibank, Deutsche Bank, Nortel and Carter's. In her recent role as an accounting standard-setter and regulator, at National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, Nigyar Mamedova worked with the President and Board of Directors to develop and execute strategic initiatives to provide thought leadership to accounting bodies in 55 jurisdictions of the United States.

Nigyar is a CPA and holds an undergraduate degree in Mathematics and Statistics (with honors), holds Master's degree in Economics from Kansas State University and was trained in Data Analytics with Rutgers University. Nigyar has served as a Treasurer for New York Toastmasters club, largest Toastmasters club in New York, in 2015-2016, and has a passion for public speaking.



Graziella Lamot, VP Membership
Member since 2014

Graziella is an Executive Director with UBS. In this capacity she is supporting Group Finance, advising on and driving the execution of business and finance transformation initiatives globally. Previously she was VP Strategy & Process Improvement at American Express where she was leading the identification, planning and delivery of strategic initiatives for Corporate Controllershship. Prior to this, Graziella was the Head of Finance at Thomson Reuters Investors (business unit with \$1 billion in revenues and over 6,000 employees) where she drove finance transformation and cost efficiency initiatives. She began her career as a management consultant with A.T. Kearney in London, and Deloitte in New York.

Graziella speaks fluent French and is proficient in Italian. She holds a B.S. in Commercial Engineering from the University of Louvain (Belgium), a postgraduate degree in Finance (CFA) from the University of Leuven (Belgium) and an MBA in finance and manufacturing from the Johnson School (Cornell). She earned certificates in The Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence given by MIT Management Executive Education.



Alyssa Gelbard, Career Management Chair
Supporter since 2015

Alyssa is the Founder and President of Point Road Group, a global career consulting and personal branding firm that helps executives market themselves confidently to achieve their career goals. Point Road Group works with individuals seeking a new job, board role or stronger professional visibility to drive business success, and partners with organizations for customized corporate programs.

She oversees Point Road Group's business strategy and operations and is known for her personalized and strategic approach when working directly with executives. Alyssa has been working with CFOs and senior finance professionals for almost 15 years. A highly sought-after expert and speaker on careers and personal branding, Alyssa delivers presentations to Fortune 500 companies, small to mid-sized businesses, professional associations, nonprofits and universities.

Her unique perspective as a career expert comes from a background in strategic marketing and branding, as well as extensive experience hiring and managing staff throughout her career.

Alyssa is an instructor at the renowned 92nd Street Y and a recurring featured speaker at the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development. She is the Career Management Chair of the NY Chapter of Financial Executives International and an Advisory Board Member of the Masters in Sports Administration Program at Endicott College. Alyssa is an elected member of the Tufts University Alumni Council and co-chairs the Career Services Committee. She also co-chairs the Tufts Women's Network NY and is a member of the Paley Media Council.

Her expertise in career advancement and personal branding has been featured in The Wall Street Journal, Fast Company, Inc., Huffington Post, Forbes, Business Insider, CIO, The Street and eFinancial Careers, among many other publications.

Alyssa has an MBA in Marketing from NYU's Stern School of Business and a BA in Sociology from Tufts University.



Mitch Peipert, Director/Secretary
Member since 2006

Mr. Mitchell Peipert has been Thomas Publishing's Vice President-Finance & Chief Financial Officer since November 2006. He oversees finance and information technology and provides strategic vision to executive management.

Prior to joining Thomas, Mr. Peipert was Vice President-Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer at CSI, a publicly held information technology consulting company. He held that position from January 2001 through October 2006. In addition to taking the company public, he took the lead role in five successful acquisitions in three years.

From April 1992 until January 2001, Mr. Peipert served as Senior Vice President of Operations and Controller of TSR Wireless LLC, where he directed the finance, operations and human resources functions. He also assisted the Chief Executive Officer in strategic planning, capital raising and acquisitions. Prior to his employment by TSR, he held various managerial roles for Anchin, certified public accountants, Merrill Lynch and Grant Thornton.

Mr. Peipert is a CPA and attained his MBA in financial management from Pace University. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the New York State Society of CPA's. He is also a Board Member of Industrial Media and is on the Board of Advisors of Boomerang.org and KidBacker.



Glenn Tyranski, Director/University Relations Chair
Member since 1998

Glenn Tyranski is a Managing Director at FTI Consulting and is based in New York. Mr. Tyranski is in the Forensic Accounting & Advisory Services practice within the Forensic & Litigation Consulting segment specializing in activism and M&A solutions.

Mr. Tyranski brings extensive experience in financial regulation, financial communications, compliance, risk assessment, auditing issues, policy, corporate governance, crisis management and shareholder and board of director engagement. Drawing on his professional background Mr. Tyranski brings to the Activism and M&A Solutions groups his many relationships and engagement and project experiences.

Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Mr. Tyranski worked as an Executive Director in Ernst & Young's Financial Accounting Advisory Services practice supporting the policy & governance as well as transaction readiness efforts. Previous to his Ernst & Young role, Mr. Tyranski was Senior Vice President, Financial Compliance at the New York Stock Exchange. In this role he was the co-Chair of the NYSE's Listings & Compliance Committee and reported directly to the Exchange's Chief Regulatory Officer and the NYSE Regulation Board of Directors. Mr. Tyranski managed the financial oversight of all global listing candidates as well as the Exchange's entire listed company population. He consulted and provided oversight on a range of listings, disclosure, compliance, governance and policy issues with various external parties and advisers in the capital markets. Mr. Tyranski began his career as a senior manager in the assurance practice at KPMG.

Mr. Tyranski holds a B.S. degree in Accounting and Computers and Information Services from King's College. He is a Certified Public Accountant in the state of New York and a member of the American Institute of Public Accountants. Mr. Tyranski serves on the board of directors for various Not-for-Profit organizations and is an active committee at King's College, Long Island Children's Museum, Tomorrow's Hope Foundation and Financial Executives International's New York City Chapter.

Mr. Tyranski has been a speaker, moderator or panelist at varying organizations and societies throughout his career on issues surrounding regulations, disclosure and capital markets. He has also had selected articles published in various trade and industry periodicals. He is also an active member/advocate of FEI, NACD and NIRI.



Matt Cooley, Director/Nominations Chair
Member since 2014

A transplant from Silicon Valley, Matt is a Business Controller at Ericsson where he is responsible for group strategic financial planning and analysis, staff development of Ericsson's global Business Controller community, and support of multiple digitalization initiatives. Matt's background includes finance, operations and M&A roles at Ericsson, RedBack Networks, BackWeb Technologies, Oracle and the Pacific Stock Exchange where he began his finance career. He has co-founded two companies in customer care and apparel, and is currently aiming to become an evangelist for Ericsson's 5G technologies.

Matt has a MBA from San Francisco State University, and a Bachelor of Science in International Business from California State University, Sacramento. He resides with his wife and son in New Jersey.



Alvin Fenichel, Director
Member since 1976

Al was Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer of AXA Financial upon his retirement in 2012. During his 25 years with AXA, his responsibilities included traditional controllership functions of an SEC registrant and maintenance of financial reporting and financial management information on US GAAP, IFRS and insurance statutory accounting bases. Additionally, Al partnered with product, distribution, service, investments, risk management and IT business areas in support of critical strategic initiatives and growth opportunities. Prior to joining AXA, Al was with CBS Inc. for 15 years serving in financial positions including officer responsible for worldwide Internal Audit and senior financial officer for the consumer products group with extensive involvement in mergers and acquisitions. Al began his career with Coopers and Lybrand after graduating from Rider University. He received his MBA in Executive Management from Pace University.

Al is currently a member of the Board of Advisors of H. S. Grace & Company, a litigation consulting firm. Additionally, Al serves on the Town of Greenburg (NY) Water Advisory Board and provides financial and operational assistance to the Town Supervisor. Al is a member of the American Institute of CPA's and the Accounting Advisory Board of Rider University. He resides with his wife in Scarsdale, NY and has two children and two grandchildren.



Kevin Hanrahan, Director
Member since 2014

Kevin is Chairman and CEO of TranSigma Worldwide Inc. He is an entrepreneur and board member of high-tech start-ups, consulting and software development companies. With over 30 years leadership experience in industry and management consulting, he is an expert in driving agile digitization throughout an enterprise.

Kevin is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt, Certified Project Management Professional (PMP), Certified Scrum Master (CSM) and Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP). He is a member of Financial Executives International (Manhattan Chapter), the Ohio Society of CPA's, American Institute of CPA's, Information Systems Audit and Control Association, the Risk Management Association and the Project Management Institute. Kevin graduated summa cum laude with a degree in Accounting from Xavier University. He also received a Masters in Finance and Tax from Xavier.



Robert Kane, Director
Member since 2012

Robert has more than 30 years of broad based Public, Private and Non-Profit business experience. During his distinguished career he has held a series of financial management and executive level positions at Exxon Corporation, PepsiCo, Southwire Company, WestPoint Home, Educational Records Bureau and currently serves as Innocor Inc's Corporate Controller.

Robert's career track did not follow a traditional linear path to Corporate Treasury or the C-Suite. The first half of his career was largely spent in the Accounting, FP&A and Strategic Planning world. Over the last fifteen years he has held senior leadership positions in Manufacturing Operations, Planning and Analysis, Corporate Treasury and ultimately the C-Suite. Now that he finds himself firmly "on the back nine" of his career he can proudly look back and say paraphrasing Robert Frost, "I took the road less traveled by and ... it has made all of the difference".

Education: BBA, Accounting, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta Georgia; MBA, Executive MBA program, Georgia State University, Atlanta Georgia; Certification: CMA Certified Management Accountant



Robert MacKay, Director
Member since 1992

Rob MacKay has 30 years' experience in corporate finance. Currently, he serves as Senior Vice President & Controller and Chief Accounting Officer for S & P Global, located in New York City. In this role, Rob's responsibilities also include managing the Global Tax Department, Global Real Estate, Procurement and Global Shared Services. From August, 2016 through November, 2016, he served as Interim Chief Financial Officer for S&P Global.

Prior to joining S&P Global, he spent 18 years at PepsiCo. Here, he served as Senior Vice President & Controller for PepsiCo Americas Beverages from 2011-2015, Senior Vice President & General Auditor from 2007-2011, and Vice President & Controller for PepsiCo International from 2003-2007 in New York. Before that, Rob was located in Texas where he was Controller for Frito-Lay International's (FLI) Latin America and Asia regions and responsible for world-wide FLI financial reporting, a role he assumed in 2000. Prior to this assignment, he served in Mexico City as Controller for FLI's Latin America Region. Rob joined PepsiCo in 1997 after working three years as Director of Finance for Mercedes-Benz Leasing in Mexico City and as a Senior Manager at KPMG in its Mexico City and San Diego offices.

Rob holds B.B.A in Accounting from the University of San Diego (USD) and received his Certified Public Accounting Certificate in the State of California. While at USD he was a member of the men's tennis team serving as Captain in 1988. Rob is a member of the University of San Diego Business School Board of Advisors. In 2009, the University of San Diego awarded Rob with the "Author E. Hughes Achievement Award" for Professional Career Achievement. He is also a Director for Jesuit Refugee Service in Rome, the Claudio Reyna Foundation and a founding member of the J. Collins Memorial Youth Tennis Scholarship Fund in San Diego.



S. Colin Neill, Director
Member since 1992

For the past twenty years, Colin was involved in the biotechnology industry, serving as President and CFO of Pharmos Corporation, and earlier as CFO of Axonyx Inc. and ClinTrials Research Inc. Before moving into the biotechnology industry, Colin gained experience as Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer of BTR Inc., a \$3.5 billion US subsidiary of BTR plc, a British diversified manufacturing company, and Vice President Financial Services of The BOC Group Inc., a \$2.5 billion British owned industrial gas company with substantial operations in the health care field. Colin served four years with American Express Travel Related Services, first as chief internal auditor for worldwide operations and then as head of business planning and financial analysis.

Colin began his career in public accounting with Arthur Andersen LLP in Ireland and later with Price Waterhouse LLP as a senior manager in New York City. He also served with Price Waterhouse for two years in Paris, France. Colin graduated from Trinity College, Dublin with a first class honors degree in Business/Economics and he holds a master's degree in Accounting and Finance from the London School of Economics. He is a CPA in New York State and a Chartered Accountant in Ireland.



Kevin Neylan, Director
Member since 2012

Kevin is the Chief Financial Officer and a Senior Vice President of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York. He joined the bank in 2001 and has been in his current role since 2012. In addition to leading the bank's accounting and reporting functions, Kevin chairs the bank's ALM Committee and is responsible for developing the bank's business strategy. Earlier in his career with the bank, he was responsible for overseeing the human resources and legal functions.

Prior to joining the bank, Kevin was a Partner in the consulting practice of KPMG, and worked for several other consulting firms. He consulted with a variety of U.S. and global financial services clients, specializing in business strategy, organizational design and financial performance matters. Kevin has also worked at an internet start-up and a global property casualty insurer. He holds a master's degree in Corporate Strategy from the MIT Sloan School of Management and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from St. John's University (NY). Kevin is currently the chair of the board of the MIT Sloan alumni club of New York. He and his wife reside in Westfield, NJ and have three children.



Dana Price, Director
Member since 2011

Dana is VP of Mergers & Acquisitions at McGraw-Hill Education and has been in that role since 2013. She is involved in deals across the entire company as well as capital markets transactions and other special projects. She is also part of the company's mentor program.

Prior to joining McGraw-Hill Education she held several Chief Financial Officer roles and spent a number of years at Primedia in an M&A capacity. Dana has worked on over 100 transactions both on the buy and sell side including the integration of acquisitions. She has also spent two years in the tech startup world.

Dana began her career at Deloitte, she is a CPA and holds a bachelor's degree from Binghamton University and a MBA from Cornell University. She is a member of the New York State Society of CPAs and is also on the Board of the Cornell Johnson Club of NYC.



Christina Spade, Director
Member since 2012

Christina Spade is the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, CBS Corporation, overseeing all financial operations including treasury, tax, accounting, internal audit, information security and real estate. She previously served as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Strategy for Showtime Networks Inc. (SNI) since February 2013, responsible for all financial matters relating to Showtime Networks' businesses. Previously, she was Senior Vice President, Affiliate Finance and Business Operations for Showtime Networks Inc., where she led the financial and business operations' management of distribution revenue and sales, marketing and creative expenses for SNI. Spade has worked in different capacities at Showtime Networks during her over 22 years with the Company, including programming finance leadership and as a key steward of the successful implementation of various financial, operational and reporting systems. She also was a member of the Board for Smithsonian Channel.

Prior to joining Showtime Networks, Spade was an Audit Manager with PricewaterhouseCoopers in the Entertainment, Media and Communications practice.

She is an Executive member of the T. Howard Foundation Board of Directors, as Treasurer. She is Founder and President of ATR Children's Foundation.

She is a CPA and holds a B.S. in Accounting from St. Joseph's University.



Linda Zukauckas, Director
Member since 2002

Linda is Executive Vice President and Deputy CFO of American Express. She leads all Business CFO activities and the Finance transformation and technology team. Her team encompasses more than 500 employees in over 10 markets and serves as the CFO business partner for all American Express businesses globally. The team's responsibilities include planning, forecasting, investment analysis, deal support, and pricing/margin analysis. Her team also provides finance support for global credit and loyalty programs, global technology, global servicing, and other corporate functions. In partnership with other finance leaders, Linda has a leadership role in driving the ongoing transformation and change agenda for finance, maximizing automation, robotics, big data, dashboards and analytics. Linda joined American Express in 2011 and her prior roles include Corporate Controller, Chief Accounting Officer and Finance Leader for Global Tax. Linda is the executive sponsor of the Company's Global Women's Interest Network.

Since its establishment in mid-2014, Linda has served on the Board of Directors of American Express Global Business Travel (GBT), a 50/50 JV between American Express and third-party investors. Linda is on the Compensation Committee and the Audit Committee of GBT.

Prior to joining American Express, Linda held various senior leadership roles at Ally Financial (formerly GMAC Inc), including Managing Director Corporate Strategy, Chief Financial Officer of North America Auto Finance, Group Vice President Finance and Corporate Controller. She also served on the Board of Directors of Ally's wholly-owned mortgage subsidiary, ResCap, from April 2005 – June 2008. Prior to joining GMAC, Linda held senior leadership roles at Deutsche Bank/Bankers Trust, in both New York and in the Asia Region, during which time she was based in Singapore. She began her career at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Linda is the incoming Chair of the Board of Directors of Financial Executives International (FEI). She is a Past President of the New York City Chapter of FEI and a former member of FEI's Committee on Corporate Reporting. Linda holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting) degree from Texas Tech University. Linda and her husband reside in New York City.