



May 8, 2017

Training

Check calendar and register on-line.

Employment Opportunities

See openings or add an announcement.

VGFOA Certificate Program

Course content & requirements.

Membership Directory

Contact someone, or update your information online.

VGFOA Board

Meet your Board, see committee assignments, and make contact.

Do you have a story to share?

Submit an article to the **Editor** for a future newsletter.

VGFOA's Strategic Plan

Directions for the future.

Renew Membership

President's Message

Have you had opportunities to build relationships since we started this VGFOA year together? The VGFOA Board has built new partnerships for education opportunities for our members through Virginia Tech's School of Public & International Affairs (SPIA) and Office of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) to design and deliver a new series of educational programs. The first class, Capital Improvement Planning, was in Roanoke in April. Our long-term relationship with Bruce Chase and Radford also continues to offer great opportunities for the Certificate Program and CPFO review classes.

VGFOA also has a new partnership with The Main, a Hilton property in Norfolk, for our Spring conferences for 2018-2020. This is an exciting new venue that will serve both our members and exhibitors as we grow for the future. Let's celebrate the successes that we have had with the Hilton Virginia Beach location and enjoy this year's conference. The conference committee is working very hard to present great speakers and topics. If you haven't registered yet, there is still time. If you are a new member or first-time conference attendee, we hope to have an opportunity for you to meet the Board members and learn more about how you can get involved with VGFOA.

If you are busy with Budget or other things on your plate this time of year, we are going to have other opportunities for interaction with your peers. There was a good turnout for the first Member conference call in February. This gave members an opportunity to ask questions of the Committee Chairs and those of us on the call appreciated hearing ideas and suggestions from the membership. We plan another Q & A with Committee Chairs in August.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Conference. Please let me know or any of our VGFOA Board how we can continue to support you.

Thanks, Kathy

Committee Structure Modified

[VGFOA Announcements & News](#)

See the latest updates and news.

[National GFOA on the Web](#)

Visit now.

Join the conversation at:

LinkedIn® or

[VGFOA Listserv](#)

Discuss and exchange information with the membership

[Communications Committee](#)

[Andrea F. Trent, Chair](#)

[Greg Akers](#)

[Belinda Deal](#)

[Deidre Jett](#)

As the Executive Board closes out 2016 and begins 2017, efforts to support the updated strategic plan are underway. The updated committee structure, with their chairpersons and committee members, are working to support the three key initiatives:

1. Providing a robust educational program,
2. Providing robust mentoring and networking opportunities, and
3. Broadening VGFOA's "Finance" umbrella.

Each committee chair is actively seeking volunteers to participate in their respective activities, accountabilities, and goals for the year.

[Associate Member Relations Committee](#)

Committee Purpose: To ensure associate members and prospective vendors for membership are provided with pathways to illustrate their goods/services, provide educational and technical resources, and contribute appropriately for such access to the full membership. This committee coordinates and helps promote the exhibit booths and sponsorship opportunities available for the spring and fall conferences.

[Communications, Legislative & Standards Setting Committee](#)

Committee Purpose: To provide oversight for content of communications to the VGFOA Membership (including e-mail distributions, VGFOA Newsletters) and the technical manner in which such content and other information can be maintained on the Website.

To remain apprised of State and Federal legislation impacts, particularly items with significant fiscal impact and/or any other impacts that may be imposed upon governmental entities. This committee formulates education and communication strategies to keep the membership informed of these updates.

To remain apprised of activities of standard setting authorities (e.g., GASB) that may impact governmental entities. This committee conducts research to enable VGFOA to formulate a position on standards and supports formulation of education and communication strategies to best inform members in a timely manner. The committee reviews Exposure Drafts and formulates an official VGFOA response by the comment deadline.

[Fall Conference Committee](#)

Committee Purpose: To provide oversight for the fall conferences, including securing the event location and formulating the agenda. This committee provides recommendations to the Executive Board for the fall

conferences regarding location, facility arrangements, conference fees, keynote and session speakers, CPE credits offered, accommodations for speakers, and reimbursable expenses.

Spring Conference Committee

Committee Purpose: To provide oversight for the spring conferences, including securing the event location and formulating the agenda. This committee provides recommendations to the Executive Board for the spring conferences regarding location, facility arrangements, conference fees, keynote and session speakers, CPE credits offered, accommodations for speakers, and reimburseable expenses.

Education Committee

Committee Purpose: To formulate a structured educational training schedule that includes the Virginia Government Finance Officers Certificate Program (Certificate Program), the Certified Public Finance Officers Program (CPFO Program), and the Professional Development Program.

Mentorship and Awards Committee

Committee Purpose: To provide support to VGFOA members interested in developing their leadership abilities and enhancing their technical skills in government finance, and to provide oversight over an awards program recognizing both individual members, their organizations, and providing scholarships for future members.

Getting to know you

The Executive Board and Committee Chairs hosted a conference call in February. A second call will be scheduled for August for the remaining allowing members to meet and speak with us. In our efforts to broaden our umbrella, we are looking forward to speaking with members who may be interested in joining committees. Our first conference call will feature information on the following committees:

1. Conference Committees, and
2. Associate Member Relations

More details to follow.

2017 VGFOA Spring Conference

Join over 250 of your peers from across the Commonwealth in Virginia Beach, May 10-12!!

Don't miss the opportunity to earn up to 15 continuing education credits towards your professional certification, socialize with local government finance directors, and learn best practices from top speakers! This year will feature a County Administrator's panel where several recently retired County Administrators will present lessons learned. Along those lines, a panel of seasoned Finance Directors will host a roundtable where Finance Directors will speak on the good, bad, and ugly in local government finances. Both panels will offer an opportunity for interaction with the attendees including a question and answer session. Other presentations include a presentation from the three credit rating agencies, GASB updates, LODA update, health care reform and more! Registration is still open, so sign up today!!

Ethics will also be offered on Friday, May 12 for a separate fee of \$65. Visit the VGFOA 2017 Spring Conference website for all of the details.



VGFOA Scholarships & Awards

One of the ways the VGFOA gives back to its membership is through its many scholarships and awards opportunities. The Mentorship and Awards Committee is currently reviewing applications for the GFOA Advanced Government Finance Institute Scholarship and the Pettigrew Scholarship. Those awards will be presented at the Spring Conference in Virginia Beach. Many more scholarship and award opportunities are available to be presented at the Fall Conference in Roanoke. Those applications are targeted to be posted on the website around June 30.

Stay tuned for email blasts notifying of their availability.

Strategic Initiative Mentorship Program

VGFOA hosted its first formal mentorship event on March 23, 2017, with its Mentorship Workshop in downtown Richmond. Tracey Cairnie, who provides professional coaching to senior level executives, led the interactive session on mentoring. The event provided an opportunity for participants to reflect on themselves and also to network with fellow government finance professionals.



Participants engage in small group discussion at the Mentorship Workshop in Richmond

If you are interested in participating in the Mentorship Program as a mentor or mentee (and have not previously submitted a sign-up card), please email Stephanie Jones, Chair of the Mentorship and Awards Committee. Pairs have not been established yet, so this is a perfect time to express interest in participating. As VGFOA develops its Mentorship Program, the Executive Board invites any suggestions from the membership at any time.

Education Committee

The Education Committee is excited to announce that a contract has been signed with Virginia Tech for the Professional Development Program. The first workshop scheduled at the Roanoke Higher Education Center focused on Capital Improvement Planning. The first webinar has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 26; stay tuned for more details.

During the first program year, we will offer four in-person workshops around the state and four WebEx webinars.

2017 VGFOA Certificate Courses

The 2017 Certificate courses are open for registration. Registration fees for 2017 are \$225 for Members; \$275 for non-Members. Online registration is available by [clicking here](#).

Date	Course	Location
June 15 - 16	How to Prepare a CAFR	Henrico
July 6 - 7	Operating and Capital Budgeting	Roanoke
July 17 - 18	Advanced Governmental Accounting	Newport News
Aug 3 - 4	Issuing Public Debt	Fairfax
Aug 3 - 4	Cash Management and Banking	Hanover
Sept 14 - 15	CPFO Treasury and Investment Management Review	Roanoke
Sept 14 - 15	Intermediate Governmental Accounting	Fairfax
Oct 30 - 31	Short-Term Investments	Newport News
Nov 30 - Dec 1	Advanced Governmental Accounting	Roanoke

Drum roll please.....

Pat Weiler, a past president, was the first to receive the VGFOA-RU certificate. She was also in attendance and assisted with the presentation of the certificate at the conference to the 100th certificate recipient. Pat will again be in attendance this spring where we anticipate presenting the 200th certificate.

On-Line Courses! Registration is Now Available for 2017

Don't forget - our online courses are offered year round! Registration fee is \$125 for online courses. Online registration is available by [clicking here](#).

Date	Course	Location
2017	Cash Management & Banking 2017	On-line
2017	Debt Management for Public Finance Officers 2017	On-line
2017	Intermediate Governmental Accounting 2017	On-line
2017	Internal Controls, Auditing & Fraud 2017	On-line

2017	Introduction to Governmental Accounting 2017	On-line
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Cancellation/Refund Policy

In order to qualify for a refund, notice of registration cancellation must be received at least 7 business days prior to the event. Substitution of attendee may be made at any time.

New Certified Public Finance Officers (CPFO)

The CPFO Program of GFOA is a broad, educational self-study program designed to verify knowledge in the disciplines of government finance. Attaining certification is a mark of excellence in government finance. To earn the CPFO designation, candidates must pass a series of five examinations covering the major disciplines of public finance.

Congratulations to the following individuals from Virginia who recently achieved the CPFO designation in 2016:

- Jennifer Brody, Accountant, Fredericksburg, Virginia
- Barbara Horlacher, Accountant III, Hanover County Public Utilities,
Virginia
- Christopher Pietsch, Director of Finance, Fairfax County, Virginia
- Ann Shawver, Assistant Professor of Accounting, Radford University,
Virginia
- Gary Swink, Finance Director/Assistant City Manager, Lexington,
Virginia
- Kendal Williams, Interim Director of Budget & Finance, Washington,
Virginia
- Susan Worrell, Chief Accountant, County of Albermarle, Virginia

GFOA Update

GFOA Announces Christopher Morrill as Next Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Christopher Morrill, City Manager from Roanoke, Virginia, since 2010, as its next Executive Director. Mr. Morrill succeeds Jeff Esser, who is retiring after 35 years of distinguished service as GFOA Executive Director on June 30, 2017. Mr. Esser joined the Washington, D.C. office of GFOA in 1979 when the membership of GFOA was 9,000 and today it is 19,000.

GFOA Denver, CO

VGFOA is sponsoring a breakfast at the GFOA Conference in Denver. It is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center from 7:00 am to 9:00 am, in the Capitol Ballroom 5 on Level 4. A buffet will be served, so please plan to stop by and visit with your fellow Virginians.

GNAC Update

Radford University's Governmental and Nonprofit Assistance Center (GNAC) has named Michelle Flynn as its associate director.

Flynn begins her new role on March 10. She will be responsible for promoting and expanding the GNAC's outreach programs.

Flynn brings to the center 19 years of experience in education. She has been a business teacher, department chair, assessment coach, assistant principal, director of student services, and program manager of health and medical sciences programs.

Flynn earned Master of Education and Bachelor of Science degrees from the State University of New York at Oswego. Before coming to Radford University, she served as program manager for health and medical sciences in the instructional services department at Fairfax County Public Schools.

"I am so excited to be joining the Radford University family in the role of Associate Director of the GNAC", said Michelle. "The GNAC is a unique program of excellence; and, I look forward to promoting the great opportunities that the program provides while exploring growth potential moving forward."

Michelle will be at the spring conference. Please take time to welcome her to the VGFOA.

In Memory of.....

Diane D. Hyatt, with a 30-year career of service, left an indelible mark on her peers, coworkers, staff and community. With her financial planning expertise, personal integrity and calm, collaborative leadership style, Diane left her imprint on numerous construction and development projects. Hyatt passed away, March 5, 2017, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Virginia Government Finance Officers' Association's mission is "...to foster financial excellence in government by creating opportunities for professional development."