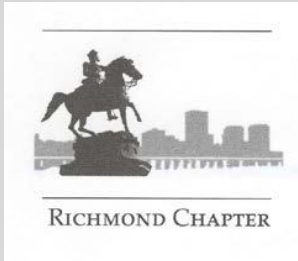




INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SPECIALISTS

April 2016

ISCEBS RICHMOND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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President's Message

The great harbingers of spring—robins and pollen—have arrived. Now if we can just get the warmer weather to arrive as well! When spring arrives, we feel re-energized after a long winter and are anxious to get outside and get active. This is also a good time to re-energize our efforts to stay current in our careers in employee benefits.

The Richmond Chapter of ISCEBS will offer many opportunities to help you do just that. Our next session on April 14 with Laura Bondurant from Media General will focus on customer communications. I think we all struggle with finding the right balance when communicating to employees. We hope that you will join us for this presentation that will be applicable to all of us.

On May 12, our Chapter social at Ardent Craft Ales, one of Richmond's newer breweries in Scott's Addition, provides you with a chance to network with our members and guests. You can bounce ideas off of one another—or just have a fun evening! Be sure to mark your calendar for this event.

You also won't want to miss the half-day Health and Welfare Session on June 9 and the full-day Retirement and Compensation Session on September 8. We have an interesting line up of speakers with some topics we haven't covered recently. We are applying for continuing education credits for both of these events.

We are fortunate that the premiere ISCEBS event and learning opportunity of the year—the Symposium--will be held in Baltimore September 18-21. Since this is so close to us, we hope to have a very large presence from our Chapter at the Symposium. I have been privileged to attend two Symposiums recently, and found them to be very worthwhile. Many different education seminars are available, and you choose the sessions that you wish to attend. Get new ideas for the work that you currently do, or learn about something new.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2016 yet or you would like to join the Richmond Chapter so that you can take advantage of all that ISCEBS and Chapter membership has to offer, it isn't too late. More information on membership is found at our Chapter website, <https://iscebs-richmond.org>, or you may contact me or Dustin Shuman, our membership chairperson.

Jean S. Robinson, CEBS
President, Richmond Chapter ISCEBS

Membership Report:

Thank you to each and every one of our renewing members. We applaud your continued support and the value you see in the tools and programs provided by the International Society and Richmond Chapter. If you have not yet renewed, you can still do so simply and quickly on the [ISCEBS website](#) (of course, new members can also join at any time!). Don't forget there are discounted rates for students as well as those who are unemployed or retired.

We are also very excited to open membership for the very first time to those who are considering the designation but have not yet scheduled their first test. [This membership](#) only applies to the chapter and only charges the chapter dues (\$40). Again, anyone is now able to join the chapter, even if they've never taken a test!

Finally, we are always looking to grow our membership, so invite a coworker to the next event and bring the entire office to our social in May!

Dustin Shuman
Membership Chair

Mark Your Calendars for Richmond Chapter ISCEBS**Upcoming Events:**

| |
|---|
| Chapter Social- Ardent Brewery Thursday, May 12 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. |
| Half-Day Health & Welfare Session Thursday, June 9 Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. – Noon 4 Hours- CE |
| Full-Day Retirement and Compensation Session Thursday, September 8 Breakfast and Lunch: 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 6 hours- CE |
| Thursday, October 13 Affordable Care Organizations Lunch: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. |
| Annual Meeting Thursday, November 10 Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. |

Thank you to our sponsors! We could not provide these valuable educational events without your support.

Cigna, RCM&D, Mercer, MetLife, Standard Insurance Company, Aon, Anthem



Richmond Chapter ISCEBS
Richmond, VA, USA



Please Join Us for the April 2016 Educational Event

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Topics | The Changing Face of Media and Communication Speaker- Laura Bondurant <i>Media General</i> |
| Date and Time | <i>April 14, 2016 from 7:30 am to 9:00 am</i> <i>Breakfast provided</i> |
| Location | Westwood Racquet Club 6200 West Club Lane (804) 288-6028 |
| Cost | \$30 (\$20 for members of the Richmond Chapter of ISCEBS) Make checks payable and mail to: Richmond Chapter-ISCEBS P.O. Box 6513 Richmond, VA 23230 <i>You also may pay at the door if you have responded (see below)</i> |
| R.S.V.P. | Please respond by to Hillary Keeton: hkeeton@bandt.com or (804) 678-5067. <u>Register and pay online here</u> |
| | |

Member Spotlight

Dustin Shuman



**Current
Employer:
Background**

Mercer Health & Benefits, LLC

Earning a Bachelor's degree in classical music, my life took an unexpected but exciting turn first as the Benefits Coordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, serving over 3,000 religious and lay employees across the Commonwealth. In 2014, I joined Mercer's Health & Benefits consulting team and collaborate with clients across the country as a trusted analyst and advisor in employee engagement, vendor management, and federal regulations.

**Favorite
Richmond
Restaurants**

Impossible choice in such a great foodie town! Newest favs include C'est le Vin, Sally Bell's, and Proper Pie Co.

**Activities,
Interests**

Performing as much as I can, currently with the Richmond Men's Chorus, previously with the Richmond Symphony and at Richmond's Cathedral; Traveling, especially to one of many great Virginia vineyards; and, sampling a new RVA restaurant!

**What got you
into the benefits
field?**

Like many, while it may not have been considered for my "when I grow up" list from Kindergarten, benefits instantly became a lifelong career. Also like many, I fell into my first opportunity, and it is there I learned that making employees whole through the incredible value and necessity of benefits are my lifelong calling.

**How has the
CEBS
designation
helped you?**

Even in the formative years of my benefits career, the local chapter has extended an amazing and far-reaching network of seasoned professionals who inspire and provide significant collaborative opportunities. With a love for learning, working toward the designation earns a knowledge base of the latest data and trends affecting the landscape, leading to forward-thinking and innovative strategies with clients and even for my career.