March 2018

ISCEBS RICHMOND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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President's Message

Welcome to 2018! It's hard to believe that it is already March as it seems like just yesterday we were having our annual meeting and learning some fascinating information about Hollywood Cemetery. How many of you have gone to visit it since then?

This year has started off with a bang. We have had multiple snow "storms" and tax reform. Wow, that is a lot! Hopefully, many of you attended our first educational session on the 2017 Tax Cuts and Job Act on February 8th. We were excited to have 2 accountants from Keiter to come and help us all get a better understanding of the recent tax act and its changes. Please put our next session on your calendars as we are privileged to have Jim Gregware give us our annual summary of the Mercer Survey on April 12th. Don't miss it, it's a real treat!

As we look at 2018, we are excited about planning our educational sessions for the year. We may be reaching out to you for your expertise to be a presenter or as a corporate sponsor. Please let us know if you can assist us in any way as we continue our mission to be a source of education for Benefits Professionals in Richmond. We are also excited to update our website this year. Log in to the site and you will see a fresh new look for the Richmond Chapter thanks to the efforts of Craig Rupert. This new site is also mobile friendly.

Hopefully, you have all renewed your memberships for 2018, but if you haven't done that yet, there is still time. Please choose to renew your local chapter membership dues, too. We use the funds from your local chapter dues to provide these excellent educational presentations so please renew. As we say goodbye to our Past President, Jean Robinson, and Secretary, Julie Harrison, as they leave the Board this year, we are welcoming two new members to the Board. We are excited to have Caroline Sage (Willis Towers Watson) and Sarah Faulkner (Virginia Physicians for Women) on the board as Secretary and Membership Chair. I also want to thank Rebecca Felts for her work as the Chapter President in 2017.

If you are looking to get involved with our chapter, just speak with any member of the Board at any of our meetings. Do you know anyone that is taking exams or would like to start working towards their certification? Bring them to a meeting, we would love to meet them. If you haven't come to see us in a while, make this your year to reconnect. What a great way to network with your peers, learn something new or a chance to share something that you are passionate about with other Benefits Professionals. If you cannot get to an educational session, please watch for the date of our upcoming Chapter Social in May. That is always a fun time to connect with your Benefits peers. Look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Sharon

Sharon Jahn, CEBS, CMS President, Richmond chapter ISCEBS

Upcoming 2018 Events		
Dates and Times	Topic	Venue
April 12 from 7:30 am to 9:00 am	Mercer Survey Results	Westwood Club
May TBD	Member Social	Fun Richmond Venue TBD
June 21 from 7:30 am – 3:00 pm*	Focus on Health and Welfare Topics	Westwood Club
September 13 from 7:30 am – 12:00 pm	Focus on Finance Topics	Westwood Club
November 8 from 7:30 am – 9:00 am	To Be Announced	Westwood Club

^{*}The board is looking for feedback from our membership about this June date. We recognize that it may conflict with travel plans for those returning from the national SHRM conference. Please send a message to ISCEBS.Richmond.Secretary@gmail.com if you do not expect to be able to attend due to SHRM. If a number of chapter members are unable to attend due to the conference, the board will consider moving the date of the all-day session.

Please Join Us for the April 2018 Education Event		
Topic	Mercer Survey Results Application for CE Credits is pending	
Speaker	Jim Gregware, Mercer	
Date and Time	Thursday, April 12, 2018, from 7:30 am to 9:00 am Breakfast provided	
Location	Westwood Racquet Club 6200 West Club Lane (804) 288-6028	
Cost	\$35 (\$20 for members of the Richmond Chapter of ISCEBS)	
R.S.V.P.	Register and pay online here	

Membership Update

As of today, the Richmond Chapter has 46 members!

Our chapter appreciates the continued support of those who have renewed their membership for 2018. We also ask you to spread the word about our chapter! Current members are encouraged to invite friends and colleagues to upcoming education events as a personal invitation is usually more meaningful. It's also nice to attend a session if you know there will be one familiar face in the room! If you have any questions about the benefits of membership, please contact Sarah Faulkner at sarah.faulkner@vpfw.com

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Member Spotlight Sarah Faulkner, CEBS 2018 ISCEBS Richmond Chapter Membership Chair



Current **Employer:** Virginia Physicians for Women

Background:

After graduating with a bachelor degree in Human Resources from JMU and master's in Labor Relations from WVU, I started my career in employee benefits by consulting to multiple small to mid-size companies in the Washington DC area. I spent a majority of my time educating and processing open enrollment for a dozen companies who did not have onsite human resources departments.

Favorite Richmond

I am a Southside girl who stays on my side of the river a majority of time! Sunday Park Boathouse, Made in Asia and restaurants: LaCucina.

Activities, **Interests:**

I enjoy local and Charlottesville's wide selection of wineries, kayaking on the reservoir, working out with my husband and spending time with family and friends.

What got you into the benefits field?

I have always wanted to be in healthcare field but knew I could not stomach the clinical aspect. With a strong interest in operations and human resources, I began to really enjoy my increasing knowledge of how employee benefits can play a critical role in recruitment and retention. Since I knew I couldn't succeed as a nurse or physician, why not support the healthcare field from a business perspective!

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

I have gained more in-depth exposure to the world of employee benefits and retirement savings that allows me to make strategic decisions for my company and educate employees on effective choices and utilization.