The President’s Pen

As I hand over the baton to Erin Machac, I can say that I have had an enjoyable year as President of the Gulf Coast Chapter. I took the chapter over at the International Conference in Portland last October where the Gulf Coast Chapter was well represented. The chapter had two members attend on Southern Region Education Foundation Scholarships. If you are a School District Member who has not had the opportunity to attend the International Conference this is a great tool and I would encourage you to participate next year.

There have been some major changes in the fee structure from International this year, which make the cost of joining CEFPFI more affordable to school districts. I would like to take this opportunity to ask that all our professional and vendor partners take the time when you meet with your clients to encourage them to join. The new fee structure was also unveiled for organizations other than institutions, thus making this fee structure attractive to join CEFPFI. I would like to have seen more done to encourage firms to bring in younger talent, but perhaps this can be brought forward by Erin.

Speaking of young talent, we also saw the introduction of the Emerging Professionals Focus Group headed up by Dillon Brady. This is a valuable opportunity for the younger members to network and socialize with their peers.

I hopefully will see all of you at our Annual Sporting Clay Event in November to raise funds for the Education Foundation. Also, we look forward to April when Houston will host the Annual Southern Region Conference. If you are not helping with this cause please contact Erin or myself so that we can include you in making this an outstanding conference highlighting the Gulf Coast.

Gary Hutton
President, Gulf Coast Board of Directors
5th Annual Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clay Outing

November 19, 2015

American Shooting Centers
16500 Westheimer Parkway
Houston, TX 77082
Phone: 281.556.8199 / Fax: 281.556.8403

BBQ Lunch Provided | 100 Round Shoot | Trophies for Top Teams and Top Guns

For map and directions visit American Shooting Centers website.

Registration & Lunch | 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Shooting Begins | 1:00 PM

Additional shooting games will be available before the shoot begins.

Pricing
5 Man Team: $800
Recently, the chapter tour the Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School in Pasadena, Texas. Presenting information on this unique student-centered learning environment were key members of the design team:

**Steve Fleming and Sarah Wrobleski** of Pasadena I.S.D.

**Calvin Powitzky, Stuart Campbell, Sylvia Hajo** and **Rachel Floyd** of IBI Group.

The presentation included a comprehensive overview of the design process that Pasadena went through in order to produce a new learning environment for the community. About 72 members attended the presentation and were given school tours by the student leaders.

To hear more about the story of the Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School, visit [IBI Learning+](#).
The 15th Annual Gulf Coast Chapter Golf Tournament was held under perfect weather and course conditions on November 9, 2015. Fifty golfers participated in the event at Northgate Country Club.

Thank you to the volunteers including Stephanie Foster (Tandus Centiva) and Rusty Deborde (Raba Kistner) for coming out and running beverages on the course to keep the players hydrated.

A special thanks goes out to our generous event sponsors that include:

**Beverage Carts:** Pfluger Associates, Raba Kistner Consultants  
**Lunch:** Alpha Testing - Houston, Tandus Centiva, VLK Architects  
**Hole Sponsors:** Alpha Testing - Houston, Armstrong World Industries, Durotech Builders of Integrity, Rice & Gardner Consultants, Salas O’Brien, SBWV Architects, Terracon Consultants - Houston, Upchurch Kimbrough, Westfall Construction

Congratulation to our event and skills competition winners:

**Longest Drives:** Heather Tito, Mark Willingham  
**Closets to the Pins:** Heather Tito, Kevin Pfeiffer  
**1st Place** (Score 53): Cory Junemann, Jason Traylor, Tom Wells, Joe Hartley  
**2nd Place** (Score 54): Bill Stice, Patrick Beecher, Jeff Windsor, Allan Patrick  
**3rd Place** (Score 55): Rick Scott, Peter McElwain, Tom Gunnell, Rayce Boyter

Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Southern Region Education Foundations and distributed as scholarships for recipients to attend training and organizational events.
This year’s CEFPI International conference was held in San Diego on October 22-26, 2015. The conference was well attended from all of the seven regions within the organization. There were opportunities to attend 3 hour workshops or hourly sessions. No matter which option one chose, there was great information exchanged and individuals left with inspirations to learn more about teaching and learning spaces.

One of the Southern Region highlights was when our own Mr. Brad Pfluger was awarded the 2015 International Lifetime Achievement Award. The Lifetime Achievement award is the most distinguished professional award bestowed to an individual CEFPI member. This award is designed to honor an individual who has distinguished themselves by making significant lasting contributions to the educational facility planning industry throughout their career.

Another Southern Region individual, Bill Stice was named to the International Executive Board as Chair Elect. He will serve on the executive board for four years. This means the Southern Region will now have two members on the Executive Board, as Scott Layne, Irving ISD, is the current Chairman of the International Board.

We’re excited about the recent rebranding and renaming of CEFPI to the Association for Learning Environments. Please note that as you navigate through the website you may find some references to the CEFPI name. We are working diligently to update this information over the next few weeks.
Gulf Coast Chapter Quarterly

2015–2016 Gulf Coast Chapter Officers

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