

## GFOA Candidates for President-Elect and the Executive Board

The Government Finance Officers Association is governed by an 18-member Executive Board, which consists of 15 at-large members, the current president, the past president, and the president-elect. At the association's annual business meeting on May 8, 2018, GFOA members will vote on the following slate of nominees for president-elect and new members-at-large, who are profiled here.



### **PRESIDENT-ELECT TERRY S. STONE**

Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations  
Hanover County Public Schools, Virginia

GFOA Member 19 years

GFOA Board Member 2015 to 2018

#### *Committees Served*

- Committee on Retirement and Benefits Administration (2015 to 2018)
- Committee on Treasury and Investment Management (2005 to 2013; chair, 2011 to 2013)
- Executive Board Nominating Committee (2013 to 2014)

**TERRY S. STONE**, president-elect, identified her goals for the upcoming three years: continuing to provide members with access to GFOA best practices and other resource materials; reinforce GFOA's position as a leader in the areas of federal advocacy and education; and build on GFOA's membership by attracting school districts and recruiting young professionals into the field of government finance.

As Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations at Hanover County Public Schools, Stone oversees areas including financial operations and budget, facilities and capital planning, risk management, long-range planning, pupil transportation, school nutrition, technology services, safety and

security, and the Hanover Education Foundation. She is also the primary liaison with the county government.

During her tenure as Director of Finance for Hanover County, the county received its first AAA rating from Fitch Ratings. Stone also led a committee that modified retiree health benefits and established an OPEB Trust to address the liability associated with GASB Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits other than Pensions*. As a result, Hanover County and Hanover County Public Schools' OPEB liability is fully funded. Stone is involved in GFOA's Alliance for Excellence in School Budgeting and has applied for GFOA's new Award for Best Practices in School Budgeting. Under her supervision, Hanover County also received GFOA's Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award in 2005 to 2008, when Stone was finance director, and in 1996 to 2000, when she was assistant finance director.

Stone served on the King William County Board of Supervisors (past chairman, 2015), King William County School Board (past chairman, 2004 and 2010), Virginia GFOA (past president, 2006), Virginia Association of School Business Officials (certification program instructor, 2014 to 2015), Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Virginia School Board Association (past insurance services supervisory board member, 2014), and the Bay Consortium Workforce Investment Board (2012 to 2013). She also served on the Family/Children/Youth Action Council of United Way Services (1999 to 2001). Stone has been a member of the American Institute for Certified Public Accountants since 1996. In 2014, Stone received the Distinguished Local Government Leadership Award from the Association of Government Accountants. In 2005, she was awarded "Top 40 under 40" by *Style Weekly* in Richmond, Virginia.



### **TINA TAPLEY**

Director of Finance, Innovation and Technology,  
and City Treasurer  
City of Fredericton, New Brunswick  
GFOA Member 11 years

#### *Committee Served*

- Committee on Canadian Issues (6 years)

**TINA TAPLEY** sees GFOA's primary objective as contributing to the development of high-performing government finance professionals by staying up to date with best practices, serving as a "best in class" resource center, encouraging professional standard financial management practices, identifying emerging issues and trends, and contributing to solutions.

Under Tapley's financial leadership, the City of Fredericton became the first municipality in New Brunswick to adopt public-sector accounting financial reporting standards. She created the city's first long-term financial plan, policies, and forecasting model, and was responsible for integrating asset management and a sustainable infrastructure funding strategy into a long-term financial plan, along with gaining buy-in and commitment from the chief administrative officer and council. Tapley also helped move Fredericton forward by introducing and implementing Budgeting and Governing for Results.

Tapley was a reviewer for GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards program (two years). She's a member of the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators, and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario. She has presented on topics of financial sustainability and resiliency, long-term financial planning, asset management, Lean Six Sigma continuous improvement, cultural shifts and transformative change, gaining political buy-in, and leadership. She is a board member for the city's wireless fiber telecommunications company, e-Novations, the Fredericton Convention Center, and the City's Shared Risk Pension Plan.



### **CYNTHIA EVANGELISTI**

Treasurer  
Chicago Park District, Illinois  
GFOA Member 13 years

#### *Committee Served*

- Committee on Treasury and Investment Management (2008 to 2013; chair of investment sub-committee, 2013; co-chair, 2010 to 2013)

**CYNTHIA EVANGELISTI** is focused on training, education, leadership, and networking. She sees GFOA's most important functions as continuing to provide: quality training and technical expertise that serves its members, including serving as a repository of educational materials (best practices, advisories, and publications); leadership by advocating for all finance officers from small, medium, or large governmental agencies on issues such as municipal bonds (SEC and IRS); and networking opportunities at the annual conference that allow delegates to share related financial strategies and job opportunities.

Over the course of her career, Evangelisti has managed and closed more than \$23 billion in bond transactions, spanning multiple credits. She played a pivotal role in the Park District's achieving upgrades from rating agencies and the creation and development of the agency's debt policy and procedures, banking due diligence, and the continued diversification of its investment portfolio.

Evangelisti served on GFOA's Local Conference Committee for the 2012 annual conference in Chicago, Illinois. She participated in GFOA's Advanced Government Finance Institute in 2008, and served on the Special Review Committee for GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Awards Program (2006 to 2007) and as a reviewer for GFOA's Popular Annual Financial Reporting Awards Program (2009 to present). She is a member of organizations including Women in Public Finance (emeritus director and treasurer, 2004 to 2006), Chicago Chapter of Women

in Public Finance (vice president of operations, 2018, and past treasurer, 2016), and the National Association of Bond Lawyers — Paralegal Section (member). Evangelisti was a finalist for the City of Chicago's Kathy Osterman Award for Public Service in 2008.



**CATHERINE BRUBACHER**

General Manager of Corporate Services and City Treasurer  
City of Brantford, Ontario

*GFOA Member 15 years*

*Committees Served*

- *Committee on Canadian Issues (10 years; co-chair, 2016)*
- *GFOA Executive Board (appointed to fill a vacancy from 2016 to present)*

Given the coming wave of retirements, **CATHERINE BRUBACHER** noted that it is more important than ever for GFOA to remain a technical resource for new and experienced finance professionals, and to attract new professionals into government finance.

As General Manager of Corporate Services for the City of Brantford, Brubacher is responsible for the general management of the division, including Finance, Legal, Real Estate, Human Resources, IT, and Clerks departments. She is also responsible for establishing policy, procedure, and guidelines for the corporate budget and all financial issues, in accordance with direction from the city council. She created an "Efficiency Team" that has saved money for the corporation, and has sparked creative ways of accomplishing goals throughout the city. Over the course of her career, Brubacher has been involved with several city council/senior management task forces that were charged with developing and implementing policies to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of municipal programs. Brubacher wrote task force reports; communicated with the public; acted as a liaison

with municipal, regional, and provincial governments; provided computer modeling; and made presentations. Under Brubacher's supervision, Brantford won GFOA's Canadian Award for Financial Reporting and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award four years in a row.

As co-chair of GFOA's Committee on Canadian Issues, Brubacher's goal is to attract more members and, in turn, encourage members to run for GFOA's Executive Board. She played a major role in planning activities for Canada Day at GFOA's 2016 annual conference in Toronto, Ontario. She is also a board member for the Municipal Officers Association of Ontario and the Municipal Finance Officers Association.



**AMELIA MERCHANT**

Director, Finance  
City of Roanoke, Virginia

*GFOA Member 12 years*

*Committee Served*

- *Committee on Governmental Budgeting and Fiscal Policy (6 years)*

**AMELIA MERCHANT's** goal for GFOA involves remaining a resource for professional development. She believes that GFOA has a responsibility at the local level to train young professionals and help "light the spark" that will sustain them in the field for the future, so the organization's focus should be on inspiring and attracting the next generation of finance and budget professionals.

Merchant is creating a new finance department that will merge the city's finance and budget functions. The new department will achieve greater efficiency by cross-training staff in key areas and create an internal culture that will allow for open communication and the effective use of staff talent. Previously, Merchant successfully implemented Budgeting for Outcomes with an in-house system developed by Roanoke's

department of technology. The process, which took approximately eight months to build, is still in use five years later.

Merchant has been a GFOA trainer on the topic of Budgeting for Outcomes/In-House System Development and Implementation. She is actively involved in the Virginia GFOA, serving on the Education and Conference Committees (2015 to 2018). Merchant spoke to newly elected officials about budget principles for the Virginia Municipal League (2018) and to Danish delegations in New York about Budgeting for Outcomes (2015 to 2018), as well as a speaking engagement in Sweden in 2015 at the Swedish National Association of Municipalities conference.



**TERRI VELASQUEZ**

Director of Finance  
City of Aurora, Colorado

*GFOA Member 18 years*

*Committees Served*

- Committee on Retirement and Benefits Administration (2008 to 2013)
- Executive Board Nominating Committee (2015 to 2017)

**TERRI VELASQUEZ's** goal for GFOA is to encourage the growth and engagement of GFOA's membership through social media and other methods. She will continue to look for ways to reach out to governments of all types and sizes to encourage participation in GFOA's annual conference, learning opportunities, committees, legislative action, and research.

Over the course of her career, Velasquez has implemented complex technology solutions for human resources, payroll, and finance. She assisted city leaders with balancing the budget while facing the most difficult budgetary decisions during the Great Recession, and she developed sound financial practices and policies, including recommending

an affiliation with the State of Colorado Fire and Police Pension Association that resulted in significant financial savings and improved service to plan participants. Velasquez testified before the state legislature regarding the affiliation. Through strong financial leadership, the City of Aurora has received GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 31 consecutive years and for 41 years total (currently the highest number of years for the award for entities in Colorado) and the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 19 years.

Velasquez is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Colorado GFOA, Colorado Society of CPAs, and the International City/County Managers Association. She has served on boards and committees including the Colorado Public Plan Coalition Committee (January 2018 to present), ICMA-RC Public Employee Memorial Scholarship Fund (June 2016 to present), ICMA-RC VantageTrust Company Board (July 2008 to June 2016), Colorado Technical University – Accounting Advisory Board (February 2007 to May 2011), and the Girl Scouts of America – Colorado Springs Finance Committee (May 2005 to September 2007). Velasquez is a certified public finance officer and a certified public accountant.



**DIANE REICHARD**

Chief Financial Officer  
City of Plant City, Florida

*GFOA Member 21 years*

*Committees Served*

- Committee on Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting (2013 to 2018)
- Women's Public Finance Network (2013 to 2018)

Having been involved in the field of government finance for more than 30 years, **DIANE REICHARD** understands the importance of being proactive about issues and challenges.



Her goals for GFOA are to: prepare and update best practices to help finance professionals in establishing policy; stay abreast of market and political public-sector changes to remain on the cutting edge of accounting standards; evaluate the potential impact of new legislation on the accounting profession; provide professional development and networking opportunities to strengthen members and attract emerging finance leaders; be a technical resource related to challenges and new GASB statements; and offer publications and periodicals that provide technical assistance.

Reichard works directly with the city manager to implement policy improvements and oversee the operation of the finance department, which encompasses budget, audit, treasury, debt, accounting and reporting, procurement, contracts, and financial policies and procedures. She has reviewed and provided input related to several responses to GASB exposure drafts and implementation guides. In 2016, Plant City won

GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the first time. When Reichard was with the City of Ocala, Florida, it won both awards twice (2013 to 2015); the City of Temple Terrace, Florida won nine times under her supervision (2005 to 2013), and the City of Leesburg, Florida, won seven times (1998 to 2005).

She is active in the Florida GFOA (past president, 2013 to 2014; past board member, 2005 to 2013) and the Central Florida Chapter of the Florida GFOA (past president, 2003 to 2004; past board member, 1998 to 2003). She has taught three of the five parts for the state certification program (CGFO) as well as a "boot camp" for employees who are new to government. Reichard also teaches courses on public financial administration and government and not-for-profit accounting at the University of South Florida. She is a certified public finance officer.

## Building partnerships since 1895



**Piper Jaffray (NYSE: PJC) is a leading investment bank and asset management firm with 50+ offices nationwide.**

Our broad capabilities in public finance investment banking and municipal bond distribution ensure that you receive a creative, tailored approach to your transaction. With our national reach and deep understanding of your industry, region and community, we have the expertise needed to help you meet your financial goals.

Our experience in fixed-income investing for public entities helps us to understand your needs and provide the best options available.

- Experienced specialists providing investment advice and services tailored to your needs
- Access to our trading professionals
- Investment strategies for public funds
- Serving public entities with expertise in institutional investing, strategy and public finance:
  - Money market securities
  - Agency securities
  - Treasuries
  - CDs
  - Agency mortgage-backed securities
  - Municipal bonds
  - Corporate bonds

To learn more, find us at booth #318 at the GFOA 112th Annual Conference in St. Louis, Missouri (May 6-9, 2018), or visit us online at [piperjaffray.com/publicfinance](http://piperjaffray.com/publicfinance) and [piperjaffray.com/fixedincomeservices](http://piperjaffray.com/fixedincomeservices).

**Minneapolis Headquarters**  
800 Nicollet Mall, Suite 1000 | Minneapolis, MN 55402  
800 333-6000

Since 1895. Member SIPC and NYSE.  
© 2018 Piper Jaffray & Co. 2/18 CM-18-0131

**PiperJaffray**

REALIZE THE POWER  
OF PARTNERSHIP®