2026 GLOBAL UPDATE

HFTP ABOUT

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP®) is an international nonprofit association with a 70+ year history of empowering hospitality professionals in their career and professional development through:

ENGAGEMENT

Members join a robust, global community of thousands of hospitality finance and technology professionals, with year-round opportunities for network building, sharing insights and collaborating to overcome industry challenges.

EXPERIENCE

HFTP enlists the guidance of industry experts, leaders, practitioners and scholars to curate the best in professional development programs, events and opportunities. The association also has a long list of strategic partnerships with allied industry organizations.

EDUCATION

Members can expand their knowledge base through year-round programs offering world-class, comprehensive education at events such HITEC, Club Summit and the Annual Convention, plus through the HFTP Academy, the USALI, and more.

HFTP ABOUT

A global, nonprofit hospitality association for finance and technology professionals working in hotels, clubs and other hospitality-related businesses.

Provides first-class educational opportunities, networking and resources to members and industry stakeholders across the globe.

The only nonprofit association that produces hospitality finance and technology events globally.

Recognized as the spokes group for the finance and technology segments of the hospitality industry.

HFTP VISION

A global community of finance and technology professionals powering a thriving hospitality industry.

From the HFTP 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

HFTP MISSION STATEMENT

We advance technology and finance knowledge, and the performance of hospitality professionals globally, through creating standards and forums for innovation, learning, networking and belonging.

From the HFTP 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

HFTP GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- **Community.** Build a diverse, connected and engaged global community of hospitality finance and technology professionals.
- **Global growth.** Foster global growth by embracing local cultures, building trust and delivering solutions adapted to the marketplace.
- **Events and brand strategy.** Implement a brand strategy that connects and strengthens our portfolio of products and events, creating more awareness of HFTP.
- **Culture.** Evolve our culture to become a nimbler organization, optimize resources, increase accountability and expand leadership capabilities.

From the HFTP 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

HFTP manages a diverse portfolio of recognized industry brands including:

HITEC

ENTREPRENEUR 20X

USALI

HFTP ACADEMY

HospitalityUpgrade

HOTEL ONLINE

2025 Stats

4000+
Members and stakeholders worldwide

46
Countries represented by HFTP members

78
HFTP chapters
24 student, 55 professional

82
Session recordings in the Virtual Education Archives

53
Years of HITEC

200+
Certificates Issued through the HFTP Academy

2K+
Certifications Issued

119
Blog posts, news articles and press releases
Published in the past year

73
Years of HFTP

HFTP Board of Directors

2025–2026

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
James Bina, CHAE+, CHTP+

Vice President
Andrew Buwalda, CHAE

Treasurer
Barry Thomas, CHTP

Secretary
Shannon McCallum

Immediate Past President
Justin Taillon, CHTP, CHIA, MBA, PhD

Executive Advisor
Sherry Marek

DIRECTORS

Ajay Aluri, Ph.D.

Christopher Begley, CHTP

Arthur Burger, CHAE+

Jeff Dekruif, CCM, CHAE, PGA Associate

Asif Ehsan, EMBA, CHAE

Bryan Hammer

Tessa Leverett

Robert Mandelbaum

Neal Patel, CHO, CHIA

Tariq Valani

Kevin Yarnell

Ex-Oficio:
Frank Wolfe, CAE

HFTP MEMBERSHIP

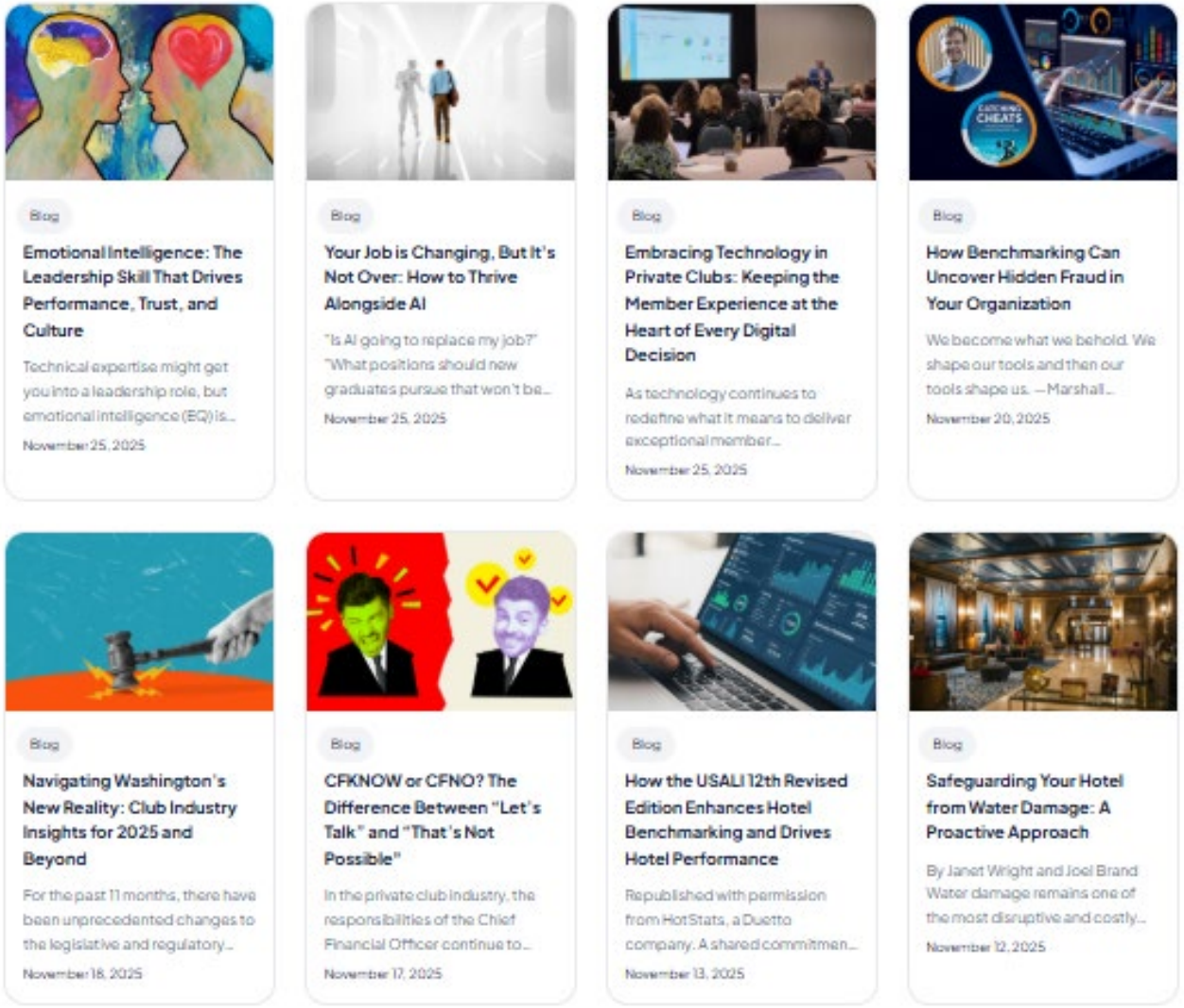
- HFTP members range from students and young professionals to C-level executives.
  - The association offers a variety of membership types to meet the specific needs of each stage of the professional journey.
- Titles include CFO, CIO, Controller, Director of IT, Accountant, Account Manager, etc.
- Sectors represented include hotels, clubs, management companies, resorts, consultancies, suppliers, academics, etc.

HFTP Corporate Allied Sponsors

(as of January 2026)

HFTP Content Channels

HFTP's blog page regularly features content from a variety of perspectives on hot topics in hospitality finance and technology, current events, the latest research and more.



HFTP Content Channels

HFTP News is the association's official news feed that aggregates press releases, news articles and blog posts created by HFTP. Get the latest news and content when you visit the HFTP website.

Press Release

Rosen College Announces Dr. Mehmet Altin as HFTP Professor of Hospitality Financial Management and Technology

Rosen College is expanding its leadership in hospitality analytics and technology through the...

November 19, 2025

Opinion

How the USALI 12th Revised Edition Enhances Hotel Benchmarking and Drives Hotel Performance

Questions are commonplace in any hotel business. Who hasn't been in a budget meeting or...

November 7, 2025

Press Release

HFTP Announces 2025–2026 Global Executive Committee and Board of Directors

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP®) has announced its 202...

November 4, 2025

Press Release

HFTP Announces 2026 HITEC North America Advisory Council

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP®), producer of HITEC, is...

October 30, 2025

Press Release

2025 HFTP Annual Convention Showcases the Best of the Association: Professional Education, Leadership, and Networking

Last week, Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP®) hosted its signature...

October 28, 2025

Press Release

HFTP Announces 2025 Paragon Award Recipient – Chris Garland

Christopher Garland was selected as the 2025 Hospitality Financial and Technology...

September 29, 2025

Press Release

HFTP 2025 Annual Business Meeting Scheduled for Thursday, October 23 at Annual Convention

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP®) has scheduled its 2025...

September 26, 2025

Press Release

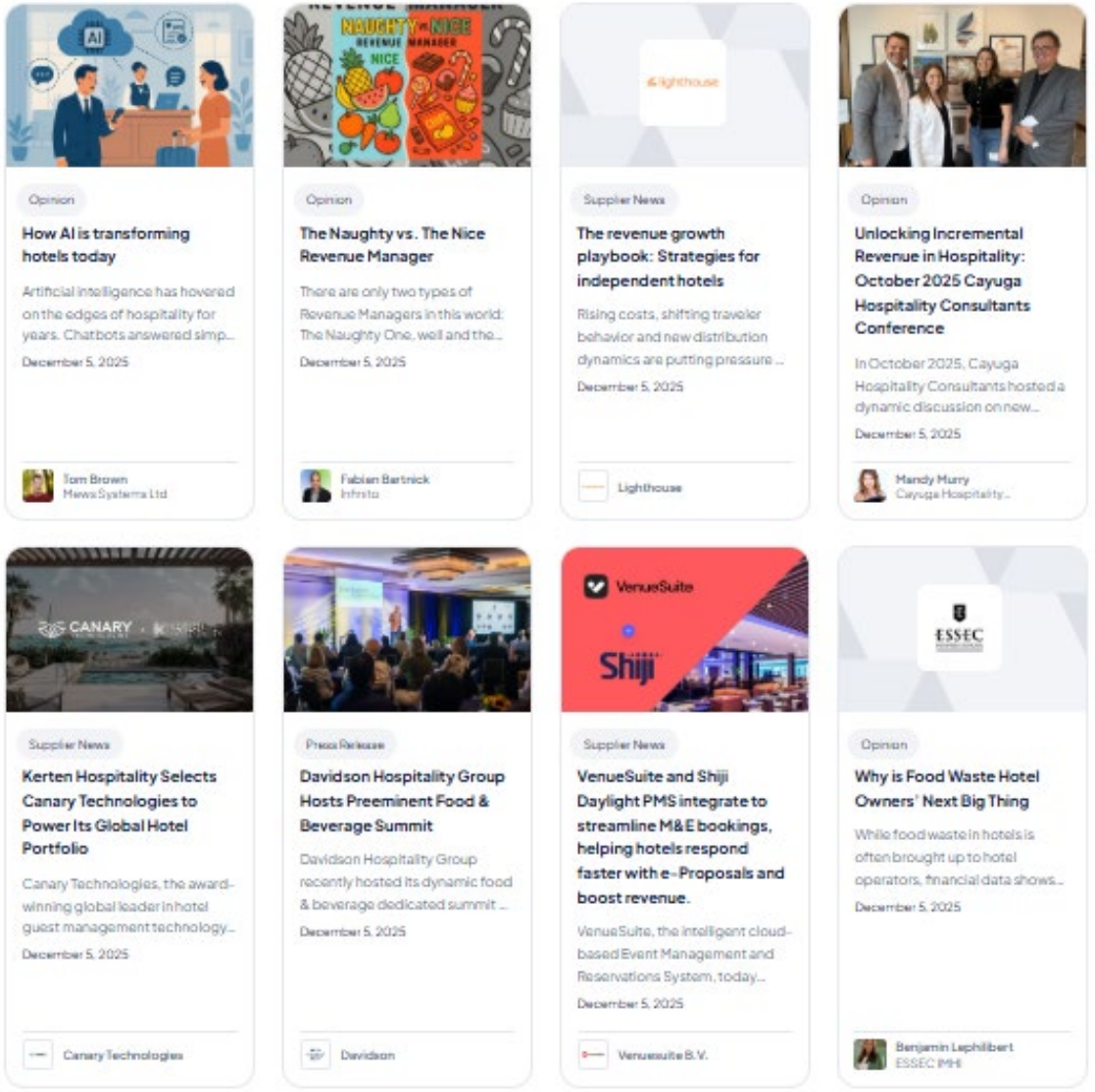
HFTP Dubai Chapter Hosts Insightful Session on USALI 12th Revised Edition

This week, the HFTP and the HFTP Dubai chapter successfully hosted an event at the Hilton...

September 26, 2025

HFTP Content Channels

The **Industry News feed** aggregates content into a **feed** that can be **customized** and **filtered by various categories** in hospitality finance, technology, clubs, food & beverage and more. It can also be **filtered by content type** including reports, opinion articles, press releases, podcasts, case studies and more.

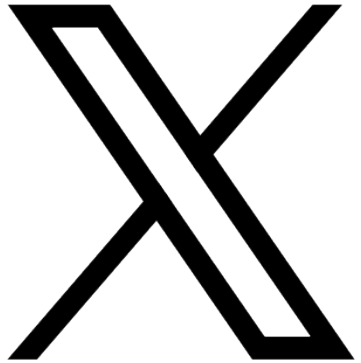


HFTP Social Media

Follow HFTP on popular social media channels like Facebook, LinkedIn and X *(formerly Twitter).*

@HFTP

@HFTP



#HFTP

HFTP Resources

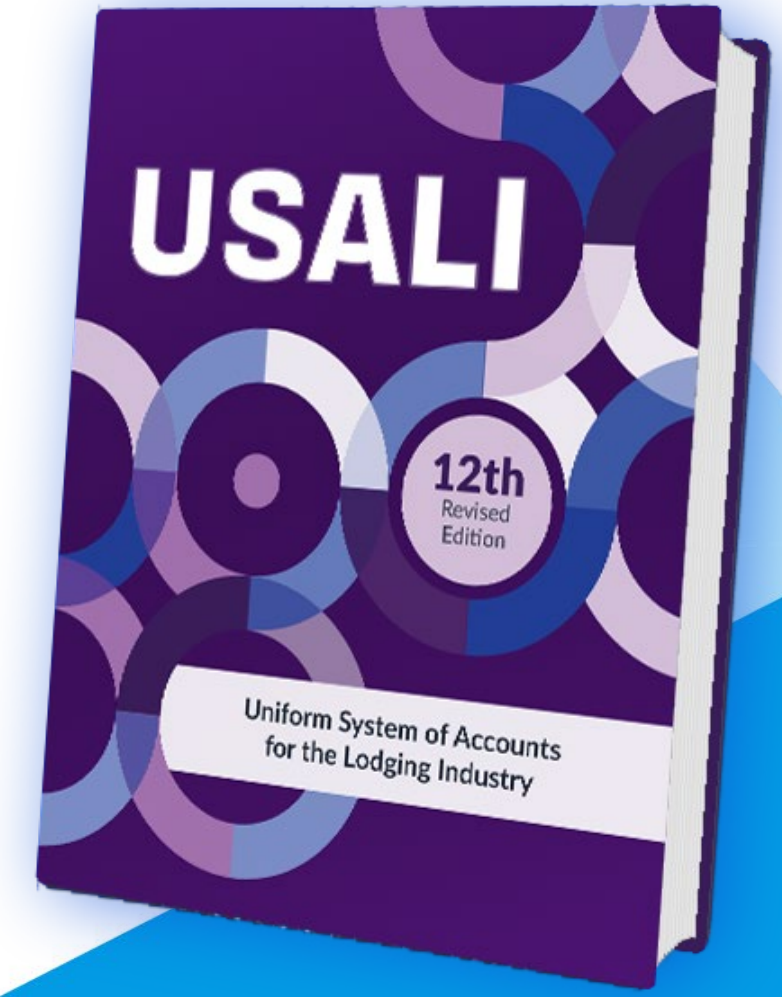
HFTP members receive information on the latest industry trends, solutions, best practices and emerging business practices through a variety of resources.

HFTP Resources

The Uniform System of Accounts for the Lodging Industry (USALI®) is a leading publication with operational information pertinent to the lodging industry. The 12th edition is available as a soft cover book or digital subscription.

HFTP members get a free digital subscription.

In 2025, the 12th Revised Edition was published and has a focus on increased reporting transparency.



Learn more at usali.hftp.org.

The digital subscription also includes access to **the USALI Revenue and Expense Dictionary** and other supplemental materials and references.

HFTP Foundation

As HFTP's philanthropic arm, the HFTP Foundation assists HFTP to secure nonprofit funding for hospitality and travel industry-related research, educational projects and scholarships. The HFTP Foundation also oversees the HFTP Research Center.

As of September 7, 2018, the HFTP Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For US Federal Income Tax purposes, donors may be able to deduct their donation(s) as a charitable contribution. For more information, please consult with your tax advisor. Tax ID: 83-2255073

Now Open

2026

HFTP

Compensation & Benefits Survey

RESPOND TODAY.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL.

A biennial survey for hospitality finance and technology professionals.

Go to survey

HFTP Special Reports

At the 2025 Club Summit, HFTP convened the Club Corporate Digital Responsibility (CDR) Task Force to develop a dedicated CDR Code of Conduct for Clubs, in collaboration with the Hospitality Analytics and Innovation Lab at the Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership at the University of Houston. These efforts culminated in the drafting of a code, which was subsequently refined into the "Five Pillars of Excellence." The best practices shared by experts are summarized under each pillar and have been published in a digital guidebook, *available now*.

Download the Best Practices Guidebook on HFTP.org

HFTP Research

HFTP/MS Global Hospitality Business Graduate Student Blog Competition

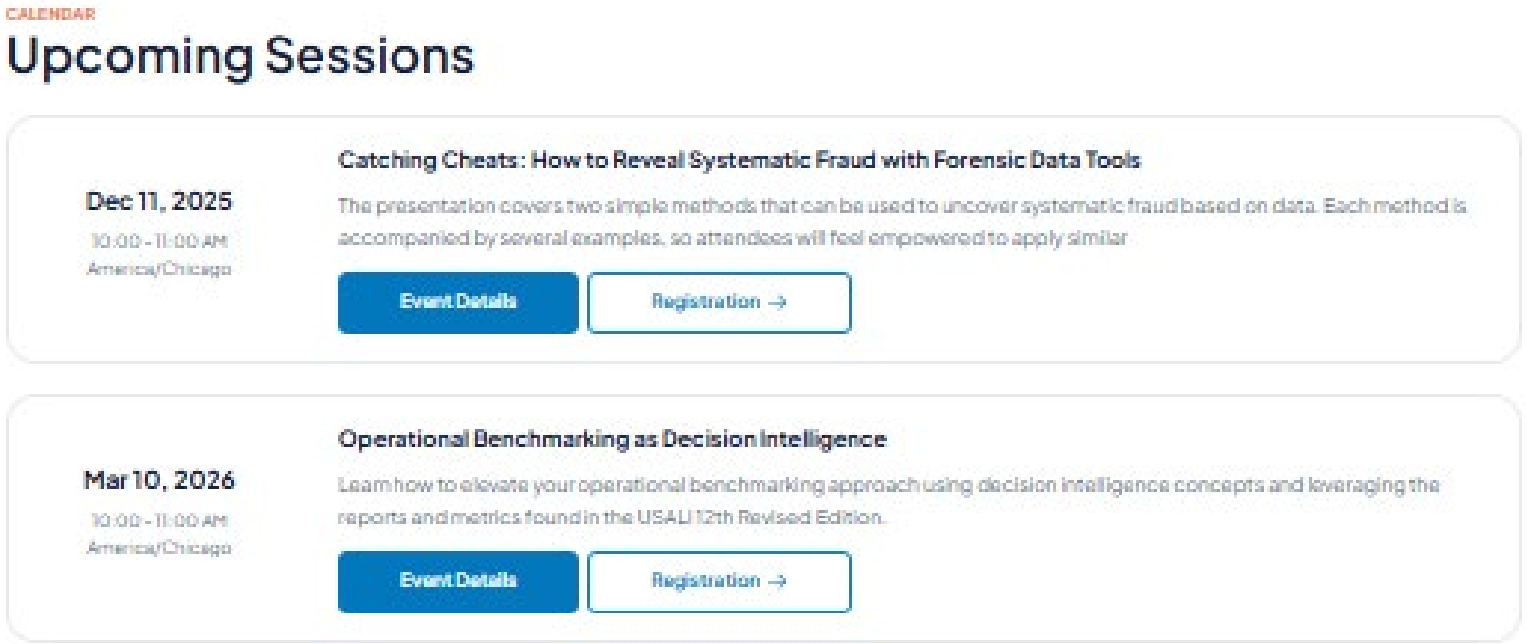
This project is sponsored each academic semester by the HFTP Foundation for students in the Master of Science in Global Hospitality Business program, a partnership between the Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership at the University of Houston, the School of Hotel and Tourism Management at Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the

EHL Hospitality Business School.

HFTP Virtual Education

HFTP virtual education sessions are free to HFTP members, offering hospitality-focused education on current topics of interest, led by expert presenters. These sessions cover topics related to hospitality finance and technology, human resources, leadership, ethics and more.

Upcoming sessions are listed on the HFTP website. Previously recorded sessions from the past three years are also available online for members only in the Virtual Education Archives.



HFTP Book Club

There are thousands of pages of valuable insight on our shelves, sharing leadership pathways, business best practices, lessons learned and more. But once you close that cover, *what do you do with the information provided?*

Join HFTP members in its book club and take an additional step to make what you read actionable.

The **HFTP Book Club** will feature three professional-minded books each year. Participants will concurrently read the books and interact as they read via a private LinkedIn group and wrap-up with a moderated, interactive webinar.

HospitalityUpgrade

A service of HFTP

Hospitality Upgrade is the dominant technology publication in the industry known for providing industry technology news, trends, and insights to hospitality professionals worldwide.

This includes the print and digital magazine, the Watercooler newsletter, social channels and annual events. The CIO Summit and Executive Vendor Summit are premier C-level events that provide a unique networking opportunity and program designed specifically for top industry executives.

Learn more at **hospitalityupgrade.com**

HOTEL ONLINE

A B2B NEWS SOURCE FROM HFTP

Hotel Online is the hotel industry's longest-running online news source, with a prolific repository that has grown to over 140,000 articles since its founding in 1995. This daily email and news site provides hospitality leaders with the latest and most relevant global news, trends and more. In addition to a daily e-newsletter, the website provides information about products and services to enhance, streamline and improve hotel operations.

Be sure to subscribe to the daily e-newsletter today.

Learn more at **www.hotel-online.com**

HFTP Partnering Organizations

American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA)
American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA)
The BoardRoom Magazine
Boutique Lifestyle Leaders Association
British Hospitality Association
Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association
China Hospitality Technology Alliance (CHTA)
Club Management Magazine
Club Management Association of America (CMAA)
Club Management Association of Europe
Conrad N. Hilton College, University of Houston
Cornell Center for Hospitality Research
eHotelier
European Hotel Managers Association
The Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India
Global Hospitality Resources Inc
International Hospitality Information Technology Association
Hotel Asset Managers Association
Hotel Asset Managers Association of Europe
Hotel Controllers and Accountants Association of HK (HCAA)
HOSPA (Hospitality Professionals Association)
HospitalityNet
Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMAI)
Hospitality Upgrade
IHG Owners Association (IHGOA)
Institute of Hospitality
The Hotel Association of Canada
Hotel Business
Hotel Management
Hotel Management International
HOTELS Magazine
International Council on Hotel, Restaurant & Institutional Education
International Hotel & Restaurant Association
International SPA Association
LODGING Magazine
National Club Association
OpenTravel
Singapore Hotel Association
Women Leading Travel & Hospitality

HFTP benefits from a long list of strategic partnerships with allied industry organizations and publications from across the world to expand our offerings and better serve our stakeholders.

Check out the full directory on the HFTP website:
https://www.hftp.org/about/partners

HFTP Job Board

The member-exclusive Job Board is a central repository for job opportunities in hospitality finance and technology. Posting a job is available to all (members and nonmembers), but only HFTP members can search the job listings.

Access the Job Board on the HFTP website. A My HFTP Portal login is required to post or view a listing.

Sample Job Descriptions

With assistance from the Hotel Finance and Club Advisory Councils, the HFTP Research Center developed sample job descriptions in hotel accounting and IT, and club accounting and IT. These descriptions are available online.

HFTP Member Directories

HFTP's searchable directories serve as valuable resources for HFTP members and others in the hospitality industry.

These directories include:

- **HFTP Members.** *This directory is exclusively available to active HFTP members. You must be logged into your HFTP online account to access.*
- HFTP Corporate Allied Sponsor (CAS) Members.
- HFTP Member Consultants.

HFTP Academy

The **HFTP Academy** provides opportunities for hospitality professionals to enhance their careers with globally recognized, hospitality-specific certifications and certificates.
Members can take advantage of special discounts on HFTP Academy offerings.

Certifications include the Certified Hospitality Accountant Executive (CHAE®)
and Certified Hospitality Technology Professional (CHTP®).

Certificates include:

- USALI Courses — Theory and Bridge
- Hospitality Benchmarking
- Club Finances: Essentials and Analysis
- Certificate of Hospitality Applied Technology (CHAT)
- Certificate of Hospitality Applied Finances (CHAF)
- 21st Century Skills

Take advantage of CAP

THE CERTIFICATION ADVISORY PROGRAM

A service of HFTP

WHAT IS CAP?

CHAE Certified Hospitality Accountant Executive

The CAP program brings together CHAE and CHTP certification exam candidates with experienced advisors who support each candidate in one-to-one interactions as a supplemental review for the certification exam.

CHTP Certified Hospitality Technology Professional

Ready to take the CAP advantage?

Email certification@hftp.org.

Requirements for becoming a CAP advisor can be found on the HFTP website. Qualified professionals must submit the CAP application to be considered.

HFTP 2026 Events

Club Summit
March 23-24
Austin, TX USA

Executive Vendor Summit
March 25-27
Fort Worth, TX USA

CIO Summit EMEA
April 16-17
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

HITEC MENA
June 2-4
Dubai, UAE

HITEC North America
June 15-18
San Antonio, TX USA

Entrepreneur 20X (E20X)
June 17
San Antonio, TX USA

CIO Summit
September 9-11
Milwaukee, WI USA

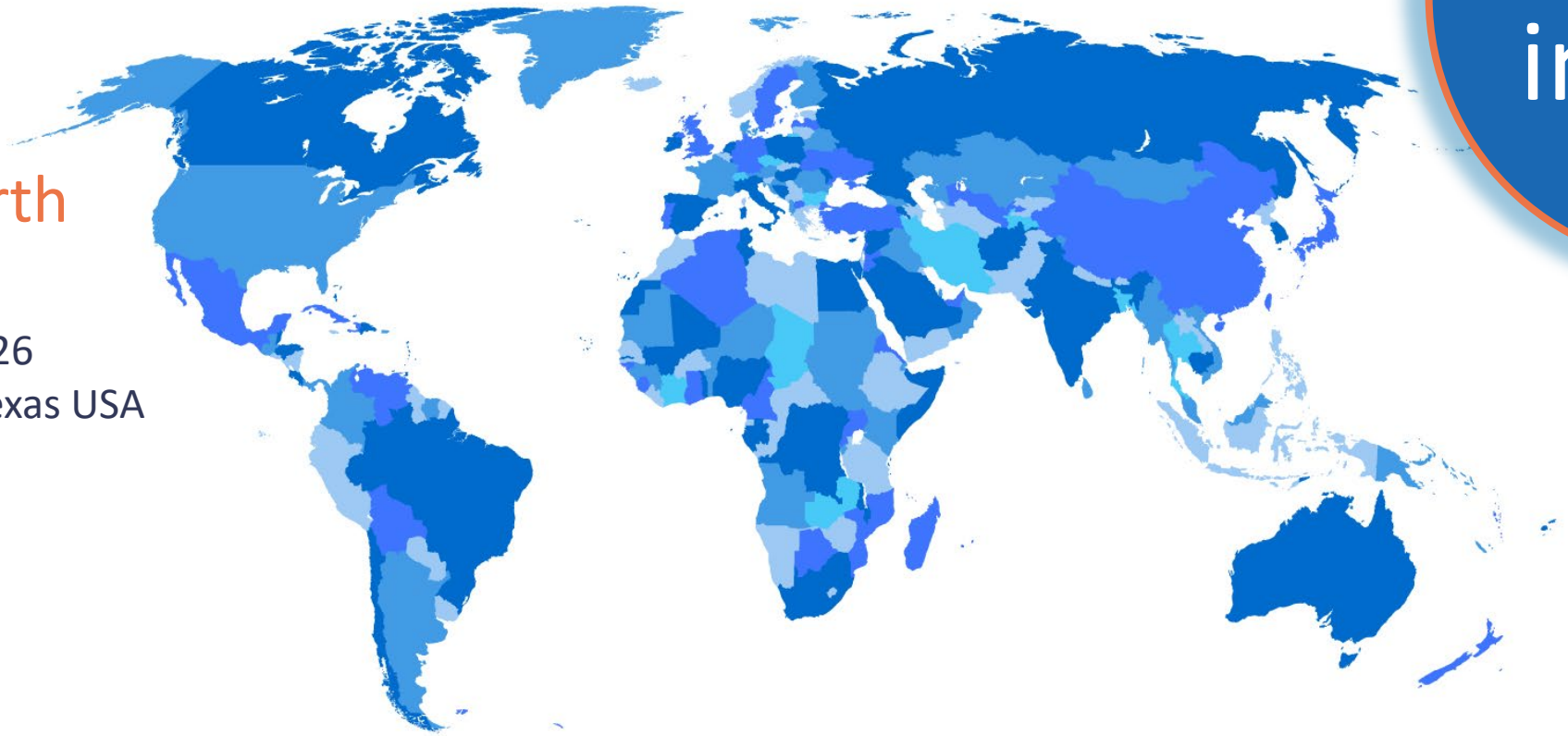
Annual Convention
September 22-24
Reno, NV USA

Find a complete events calendar, including event details and registration information, at www.hftp.org.

HITEC® in 2026

HITEC MENA

June 2-4
Dubai, UAE



HITEC North America

June 15-18, 2026
San Antonio, Texas USA

Visit www.hitec.org to learn more.

Entrepreneur 20X (E20X) Competition

HFTP's wildly popular startup pitch competition returns to the stage in 2026.

Hospitality startups have been invited to present their innovative business and tech solutions to a panel of expert judges, roomful of industry attendees and potential investors.

Don't miss E20X in 2026 at:

- HITEC San Antonio | June 17

HFTP Annual Convention 2026

September 22-24, 2026 ▸ Peppermill Resort, Spa & Casino ▸ Reno, Nevada USA

Why Attend?

- Put together by the Annual Convention Education Advisory Council, the comprehensive education lineup features over 20 education sessions, centering on the biggest topics and best practices in hospitality finance, technology, leadership, and much more.
- Get an in-depth overview of products and services from industry-leading solution providers at the table-top exhibits.
- Join hundreds of hospitality finance and technology professionals for three days of networking and build a robust industry network.

Register to attend at HFTP.org

HFTP Chapter Events

Upcoming chapter events are listed on the **HFTP website**.

Feb 3, 2026
5:30 - 8:00 PM

SOUTHERN CA DESERT

HFTP CSUSB Student Chapter and HFTP SCDC Partner to host Sip & Savor Versailles

Wally's Desert Turtle —

HFTP CSUSB Student Chapter and HFTP SCDC Partner to host Sip & Savor Versailles, a Student-Led Networking Event at Wally's Desert Turtle (3 paired courses). Email Michelle.Russen@csusb.edu t

Organized by the Southern California Desert (Palm Springs) Chapter

Mar 2 – Mar 4
2026

SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

HFTP Chapter Event-Pabian Law H-2B Workshops (2026)

Join Keith Pabian, Founding Partner of Pabian Law, for a 2-hour breakfast with programming about H-2B visas. Keith will discuss H-2B Program Basics and Updates; Trends, Best Practices, and Keys to Su

Organized by the South Florida Chapter

Registration →

Apr 16, 2026
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SOUTH FLORIDA (MIAMI) CHAPTER

Tech Day @ the Bay: Where Hospitality Meets Tomorrow's Technology

FIU Biscayne Bay Campus —

FIU Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management & HFTP South Florida Present: Tech Day @ the Bay Where Hospitality Meets Tomorrow's Technology

Organized by the South Florida Chapter

HFTP Regional Events

Regional conferences are hosted by HFTP chapters and bring together industry professionals in various regions for continuing education and networking.

Events in 2026

Mid-South Atlantic Regional Conference

February 25-27 ▸ Ballantyne Hotel ▸ Charlotte, NC USA

A joint effort by the HFTP chapters in North & South Carolina and Virginia

EVOLVE Texas Regional Conference

May 6-8 ▸ Texican Court ▸ Fort Worth, TX USA

A collaboration between the HFTP chapters of North Texas, Greater Houston, and Greater Austin

Florida Regional Conference

August 12-14

Hosted by the HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter

HFTP Awards

Recognizing Association and Industry Excellence

HFTP awards outstanding achievement by hospitality professionals in several categories. These industry-leading award recipients are selected by a council of industry colleagues and peers. HFTP offers its deepest congratulations to all its award-winners.

Awards presented by HFTP each year include:

- **HFTP Paragon Award.**
- **HFTP International Hospitality Technology Hall of Fame.**
- **CHAE and CHTP of the Year Awards.**
- **Chapter of the Year Awards.**
- **President's Award.**

HFTP Staff

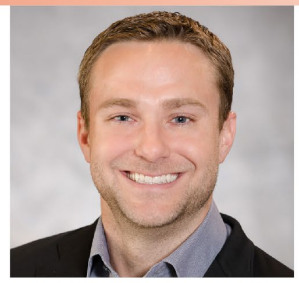
We are here to assist.

ADMINISTRATION

Thomas Atzenhofer, CPA
Deputy CEO

Caroline Palmer
Special Projects Manager

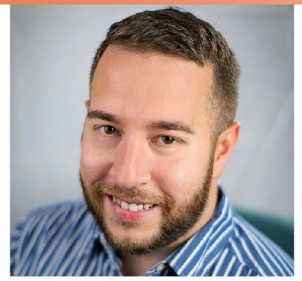
Frank Wolfe, CAE
CEO



Lyle Worthington, CHTP
EU Operations Advisor

ACCOUNTING AND TECHNOLOGY

Mark Pate, CHAE+, CHTP+, MBA
Controller



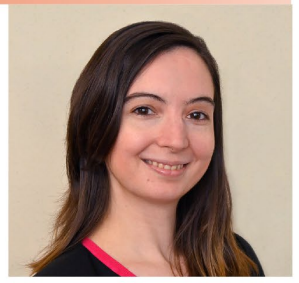
Will Rohde
Database Administrator

Rosalyn Villanueva
Accounting Manager

LEARNING

Waneta Hebert, Ed.D.
Director of Learning

Arlene Ramirez, Ed.D., MBA, CHAE, CHE, CHIA, CAHTA
SVP, Learning



Laura Resco, CHIA
Director of Career Development

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

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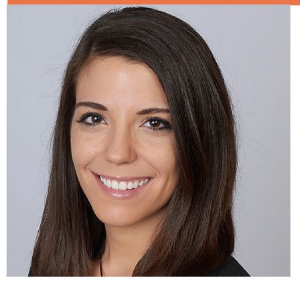
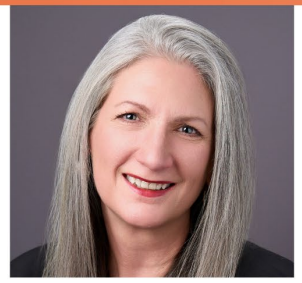


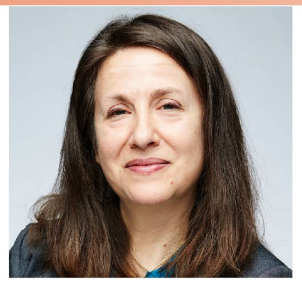
Briana Gilmore
Website Manager



Amy Hellen
Managing Editor, Hotel Online

Umna Khan
Marketing Manager

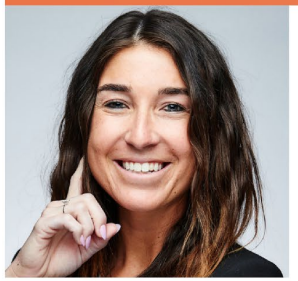
Tara Pizzoferrato
Communications & PR Coordinator



Eliza Selig
Chief Marketing Officer

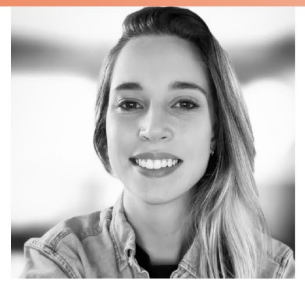
Ashley Wood
Mktg. and Design Manager

MEDIA

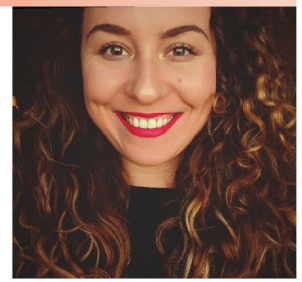


Brittany King
Publications Manager

Geneva Rinehart
SVP, Media Division

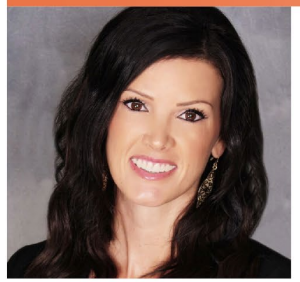


Elizabeth Vogan
Media and Publications Manager

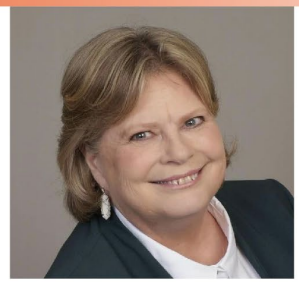


Christina Van Allen
Publications Manager

MEMBERSHIP



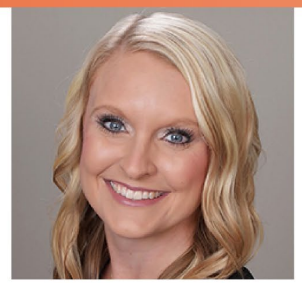
Tawney High
Chapter Relations Coordinator



Connie Harris
Membership Outreach Coordinator

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Linnet Baskett
VP, Clubs



Alison Lockett
Meetings and Events Manager

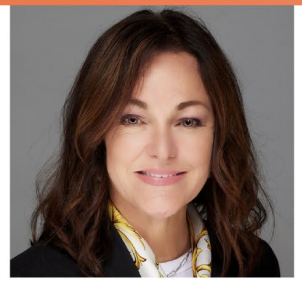
Jennifer Papa
Meetings Coordinator

Bryan Wood
Chief Meetings and Events Officer

Fritz Johnson
Director of Membership

SALES AND EXHIBITS

Drew Bechdolt, MBA
Global Sales Manager



Debra Cukjati-Lineberry
SVP, Global Sales

Kim Delaney
Global Sales Manager

Jade Vang
Sales Coordinator

Callan Warfield
Exhibits Manager