

THE RED STICK TIMES

(225) 766-8595

4273 HIGHLAND ROAD

GSBSLU.ORG | @GSBSLU

Freshmen Nominations Reminder

We currently have **one nomination**, or *front runner*, however you want to view it. It takes at least 5 nominations to have a race on our hands so this is your reminder to head to the **“Nominations & Election”** page on Canvas to nominate someone. You have until **1pm on Friday** to do so and then the election process begins.

The class officer role should not be taken lightly, as it is a true service to your fellow classmates and GSB. A good class officer is organized, a good communicator, trustworthy, positive, willing to work hard to make the GSB experience better for their fellow students.

Nominations as of 5/20:

- **Courtney Hopper**, TN Department of Financial Institutions | Milan, TN



TODAY AT GSBSLU

- * **11:30AM-1:00PM**
LUNCH
- * **4:45PM**
FR/JR CASE GROUPS
- * **5:30PM-7:00PM**
DINNER
- * **7:00PM** *Mandatory Attendance

LEADERSHIP SPEAKER



Tonight!



LEADERSHIP SPEAKER | MIKE RICHARDSON

Mike began his career in higher education development before transitioning into banking and wealth management, building experience across institutions including Bank One, Fifth Third Bank, Edward Jones, and Chain Bridge Bank. Since joining Chain Bridge in 2011, he has advanced to Senior Vice President & Chief Commercial Banking Officer, where he leads commercial banking operations, drives innovation in digital and AI-driven processes, and oversees key growth initiatives. Beyond his professional achievements, Mike is actively engaged in community service and leadership development, supporting organizations focused on housing and youth well-being. A dedicated Mississippi State University alumnus, he has also contributed to alumni and academic advisory efforts and is recognized for his leadership through speaking engagements and his blog, Coffee Cents Lead-spresso Shots.

GSBSU LEADERSHIP

At a macro level, GSBSU is governed by a Board of Trustees (BoT), which is composed of the heads of (or designees from) the 15 state bankers associations within the school’s “footprint,” 15 Appointed Trustees (graduates of the school who are active bankers in their states), the Board President, President-Elect, Vice President, & Immediate Past-President of the school, and the Executive Director.

At a more micro level, the school is governed by its Executive Committee; a nine-member body that includes the Chairman, Chairman-Elect, & Vice Chairman & Immediate Past Chairman of the BoT, the Board President, President-Elect, Vice President, Immediate Past President, and the Executive Director.

For more information: gsblsu.org

Your current Executive Committee members are:

- Chairman** – Gordon Fellows
- President** – Scott Cocanougher
- Chairman-Elect** – Kathy Kraninger
- President-Elect** – Ryan Earnest
- Vice Chairman** – Peter Gwaltney
- Vice President** – John Griggs
- Past Chairman** – Ginger Laurent
- Past President** – Sherri Sackett
- Executive Director** – John Naughton



L to R: Fellows, Earnest, Griggs, Kraninger, Cocanougher, Gwaltney, Laurent, Sackett, Naughton



WITH ADAM SCHLESINGER

Adam Schlesinger is the Founder and Managing Partner at LeapFI.ai. He currently serves as an Executive in Residence at Inovia Capital, a \$3.3B Venture Capital firm, where he advises mid to late-stage startups on AI and digital innovation. Adam leads Blynk Capital and LeapFI, advising bank and Fintech CEOs on emerging trends in AI, tokenization and stablecoins, and serves as an independent board director for an OCC chartered U.S. Bank.

Previously, he was the Chief Transformation Officer at First Republic Bank and served as Executive Leader MD of Breakout Ventures at National Bank of Canada. His tenure at National Bank of Canada also included roles as the inaugural Global Chief Data Officer and Vice President of Digital, Data, and Emerging Payments, where he led AI innovation initiatives and transformed corporate data platforms.

With over 25 years of leadership experience, Adam has a proven track record of scaling technology businesses, including serving as CEO of Bench (acquired by Employer.com).

During a 10-year tenure at Microsoft Corporation, he drove over \$1.5B in revenue and oversaw the Financial Services P&L for Microsoft Canada. Throughout his career, he has successfully built and scaled multiple startups with exits to Zoom (Kites) and Bumble (Official), as well as via IPOs on the TSX, Nasdaq, and NYSE.

Adam is a recognized leader in the AI space, serving on numerous AI startup advisory boards and managing his family office’s private equity funds. He is a faculty member teaching AI for Bankers at the Pacific Coast Banking School and the LSU Graduate School of Business. His technical expertise is supported by his published work on real-time monitoring and his role as co-editor of Six Sigma for IT Management.

He earned a Master of Engineering from MIT and a Bachelor of Commerce from McGill University. Adam currently splits his time between Miami, Los Angeles, and Montreal.