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CALL TO CONFERENCE:

Sustaining a World Class CHRO

November 8-10, 2021

Registration has reopened
on our website:

aru-hrinstitute.org

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From the President



Dear Colleagues!

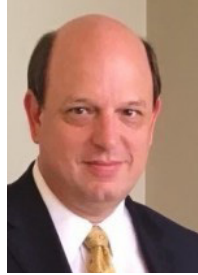
Many members said I will come to our conference if it's virtual. And so we are! The ParkLane Hotel has agreed to be our site in 2023. Our contract will roll forward. Registration has reopened on our website:

aru-hrinstitute.org. We want all our members to register and attend. As you know, we do not have membership dues or fees as an organization. Our revenue is from our conferences and our sponsors. Our sponsor contracts are for in person conferences so this revenue is reduced significantly for two years now. We have bills to pay such as our services contract with CUPA-HR, as an independent organization we are audited and other contractual services that add value through our programs. We had reserves to carry us through last year. These have dwindled. So our board of directors kept our registration fee at \$850 out of financial necessity. We look forward to your participation as we continue to grow our programs to serve you, the preeminent peer group in higher education HR. Our conference is designed by members to be of high value to you. Registration is open now until November 5.

As always, I remain available for your questions and comments.

In service,
Laurita

Welcome New Members / Members in New Places



JEFF RISINGER

Dr. Jeff Risinger will serve as Ohio State's next senior vice president of talent, culture and human resources, effective Monday, August 16.

Dr. Risinger has a deep background shaping cultures and leading higher education, government and corporate human resources organizations. He will join us from Texas A&M University, where he serves as vice president for human resources and organizational effectiveness. At Texas A&M, Dr. Risinger has led efforts to increase diverse recruitment for faculty and staff, created new leadership development and coaching programs, and established human resources as a university-wide strategic partner. He previously served as chief human resources officer and vice chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, chief human capital officer at the Federal Housing Finance Agency, and chief human capital officer at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Overall, he brings nearly three decades of experience building strategic talent and culture groups to become important partners in their organizations.

("Jeff Risinger" continued on page 3)



DAMON SLAYDOR

Texas A&M University has named Damon Slaydon vice president for the Division of Human Resources and Organizational Effectiveness (HROE). He will assume the role on Aug. 16.

Slaydon was most recently the executive director of human resources and payroll for Texas A&M Engineering, directing services for faculty, research and administrative staff, graduate assistants and student employees of the College of Engineering, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service and Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

After earning his bachelor's degree in animal science from Texas A&M in 1992, Slaydon began his career with the Texas Department of Agriculture as a lead food safety and customer service inspector. He then became deputy director for consumer and commodity programs, contributing to the development

("Damon Slaydor" continued on page 3)



MARIE WILLIAMS

Marie Williams, a leader in strategic human resource innovation and development with more than two decades of experience in higher education, was appointed as Brown University's vice president for human resources in July 2021.

In her role, Williams provides strategic leadership for human resources, working collaboratively across campus to recruit and retain staff of the highest expertise, position Brown as an employer of choice and support members of the University community in areas such as benefits and compensation, employee relations, wellness and professional development.

Williams comes to Brown from North Carolina State University, where she has served as associate vice chancellor for human resources since 2016. In that role, she has been instrumental in working with human resources, university leadership and campus partners to lead a major strategic, cultural and operational transformation of human resources operations, including the creation of an innovative agile HR operation for the university.

Prior to joining NC State, Williams served as associate vice president for human resources and administrative services at Ball State University, where she led initiatives that included

("Marie Williams" continued on page 4)

Thank you
TO OUR SPONSORS:



Congratulations!



John Whelan, vice president for human resources at Yale University, is the recipient of CUPA-HR's 2021 Donald E. Dickason Award.

John Whelan, vice president for human resources at Yale University, is a higher ed HR leader whose service to CUPA-HR has had a deep and powerful impact on the work of the association.

Since 2014, Whelan has held several leadership roles with CUPA-HR, including on the national board (chair, chair-elect, past-chair, at-large director), the learning and professional development committee, the budget and finance committee, the executive committee, as a guide and mentor for the CUPA-HR Wildfire program (a year-long immersive professional development experience for early-career higher ed HR professionals), and as an annual conference ambassador and presenter. Additionally, his work on the public policy and research advisory committees has helped shape the higher ed HR industry's response to several legislative considerations and actions over the past several years. Not stopping there, he also facilitated and co-designed CHRO Summit experiences at past CUPA-HR annual conferences.

By contributing his knowledge and experience to CUPA-HR, Whelan helps drive discussion among higher ed HR professionals. During a past CUPA-HR Association Leadership Program (ALP), he shared data from Indiana University's employee engagement surveys — data that continues to guide CUPA-HR today. His sessions at the ALP were described as highly interactive and effective to help all CUPA-HR leaders think about engaging CUPA-HR members and those back on their campuses. Whelan is not only praised by colleagues for sharing his expertise to help them understand industry issues and topics of importance, but for how he shares it — with positivity and an eye toward having fun during the learning process.

About the Donald E. Dickason Award:

The Donald E. Dickason Award, named after CUPA-HR's founder, is the association's highest honor, recognizing an individual for exceptional leadership and service to CUPA-HR. Thanks to support from TIAA, the award comes with an \$8,000 contribution to the recipient's institutional endowment or a scholarship fund.

Jeff Risinger *(continued from page 2)*

As Ohio State's top advisor on workplace and human resources issues, Dr. Risinger will provide leadership across the university to support our values, help advance our diversity and inclusion efforts, and continue to foster a Buckeye culture that positively impacts our entire community. His appointment is pending approval by the Board of Trustees.

Our thanks go to the university's search committee of faculty, staff and students led by Senior Vice President and General Counsel Anne Garcia. Their work has led to the best possible choice for this position and our university moving forward. I also want to thank Mr. Paul Patton, who has served as our interim human resources leader for the past several months. We are grateful for his leadership and look forward to his continued guidance as senior advisor to the president.

Our community will have many opportunities to meet Dr. Risinger in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please join me in welcoming him to our Buckeye family!

Daymon Slaydor *(continued from page 2)*

of policies, procedures and innovative methods for program execution. After seven years with the department, Slaydon joined TEES as a policy administrator in 2000. Soon after he became the director of human resources for engineering, a position he held for 19 years. In October 2019, he was named the executive director for Engineering Human Resources and Payroll.

In his new role as VP for HROE, Slaydon will be responsible for the university's workforce, leading the charge to sustain Texas A&M's distinction as a preferred employer and supporting the division's goal of attracting, developing and supporting talent who will further the university's mission.

"I am eager to capitalize on the opportunities that exist to align the skills, strengths and abilities of our valued human resources across the university to effectively and efficiently fulfill the vision of President Banks," Slaydon said. "Each day we are surrounded by quality individuals that I sense are also excited about embracing true organizational effectiveness through leadership, accountability and communication strategies. This is a tremendous honor that I take very seriously and I look forward to working with our HR team to help ensure that we focus on an engaged approach to service and affirmative impact on the lives of our employees."

His past honors include the Key Contributor Award from Texas A&M Engineering (2018) and the Wayne Smith Award from the City of College Station (2016). He has a record of distinguished service to the community, including his roles as president and board member for College Station Little League (2007-2016) and on the Twin City Mission board of directors (2008-2012). His professional affiliations include the Society of Human Resource Management; the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources; and the Texas Higher Education Human Resources Association.

This year, he was nominated for The Texas A&M University System Regents Fellow Service Award by John Hurtado, interim vice chancellor and dean of the College of Engineering and interim agency director for TEES. In his nomination letter, Hurtado said Slaydon is "a respected leader, a positive influence and a champion for promoting employee engagement across diverse employee constituencies."

Slaydon said he cherishes the opportunity to continue serving his alma mater.

"I consider it a privilege to be in a position to convey to those I encounter the deep-rooted passion of what the Spirit of Aggieland has meant to me over my lifetime," he said. "As an Aggie, the sense of pride that is felt in sharing a unique bond captured in our core values of respect, excellence, leadership, loyalty, integrity and selfless service is second to none."

Slaydon said Aggies are synonymous with vision, integrity and leadership, "and by working at Texas A&M, I am able to enhance service models and opportunities to help ensure that our employees and students may continue to focus on contributions which positively influence our world."

Slaydon takes over the HROE leadership position from Jeff Risinger, who has accepted a position at The Ohio State University.

Transitions

You will be missed, thank you for your service in ARU-HRI. Best wishes in your next venture.

Jeff Risinger is no longer at Texas A&M University.

Charlotte Katherine Erwin has retired from the CHRO role at the University of Colorado Boulder. Please contact Executive Aid to the CHRO Lauren Thompson at lauren.c.thompson@colorado.edu or 303-735-7606 to have your email redirected.

Kim Harrington, CHRO, Georgia Tech, will move into another role at the University when her current position is filled. Best wishes Kim!

Welcome – We look forward to working with you!

Texas A&M University has named **Damon Slaydon** vice president for the Division of Human Resources and Organizational Effectiveness (HROE).

Dr. Jeff Risinger will serve as Ohio State's next senior vice president of talent, culture and human resources.

Marie Williams *(continued from page 2)*

implementing more effective and efficient processes, utilizing technology to automate key personnel actions, and enhancing engagement with campus stakeholders by promoting a customer-centric culture. She previously served at Fisk University, a renowned historically black university in Nashville, Tennessee, in various roles, including as the vice president for finance and administration, vice president for administrative services and chief human resources officer.

The depth of Williams' work in human resources at higher education institutions, coupled with her breadth of experiences, which include positions in the financial and hospitality sectors, have uniquely equip her to lead successful initiatives that leverage a full range of campus resources to achieve HR excellence.

Williams, a native of England, earned her Master's degree in business administration from Georgia Southern and earned her bachelor's degree in business administration and enterprise from the University of Central England.

Williams' professional affiliations included serving as the Past Chair, Chair, Chair-Elect and as an at-large board member for the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR). Williams is an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow Class 2009-10, HERS Women's Leadership Institute alumna and an ARU-HR member.