It is hard to believe it has been six months since we were together in Orlando at Treasury Symposium! Or, that the Fall semester is just around the corner. As such, I wanted to update everyone on some of the things happening at The Treasury Institute for Higher Education.

This year's Treasury Symposium held at Lake Buena Vista Florida celebrated the Institute's 25<sup>th</sup> Symposium, a significant milestone for all participants involved in our history. What began as a concept to bring financial strategic discussions to higher education, has grown to become a foundation for senior financial officers to share practitioner-driven content that connects people, ideas, and solutions. With the support of our partners, practitioners, and supporters, the Institute has grown to become an integral component of all our jobs. As we begin the next quarter of a century, we will host our next Treasury Symposium at the Hyatt Regency San Antonio on January 25<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup>. The Institute's Program Committee has already begun its work to develop a thought-provoking program. This year's theme *Treasury at a Turning Point: Navigating a New Frontier* explores how treasury can play a strategic role in advancing institutional resilience and mission by building strong internal and external partnerships. Through collaboration, treasury helps drive innovation and navigate financial uncertainty. I hope to see all of you there!



This past year we continued the important Senior Financial Officer Roundtables, both virtually and on-site in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. I led those discussions as the group addressed the challenges facing large universities. The Institute also committed financial resources last year so that the Treasury Management Leadership Group could facilitate their on-site roundtable at the University of Washington. I am excited to see the Institute expand its role promoting and expanding network opportunities in higher education.



To assist us as we enter the next quarter of a century, we introduced an important initiative at Treasury Symposium 2025. The Participant Survey began a process that will assist the Institute in formulating a direction that meets the challenges ahead of all of us. The Board and Staff thank all who took the time to participate in the survey. Your feedback is being analyzed, and the Board has already begun building "next steps" in response. One clear message from the responses was the need for additional programing, and the first priority is bond compliance education. Last month as a first step we reached out to BLX/Orrick to broaden their virtual program to accommodate higher education participants. Our understanding is that over 100 higher education participants joined that webinar. Going forward, the Institute will evaluate and develop more higher education focused programs, in bond compliance education and other areas identified by the survey responses.

This summer we will again partner with SACUBO's CBMI program at the University of Kentucky to facilitate the annual Treasury Track. The week-long program continues to grow in participation and in content, encompassing twenty-four hours of treasury education giving financial officers a solid knowledge of treasury management. There is not a pre-requisite for the Treasury Management Track at CBMI. You may register for just this program. As part of our commitment to grow peer group networks within higher education finance, the Institute provides funding for ten full scholarships to students in the Treasury Track.

The Institute continues to be governed by a strong and committed Board. This year Julie Richardson from University of Virginia joined our Board. Julie has long been an active participant of Treasury Symposium, part of our program committee and a member of the Treasury Management Leadership Group. We look forward to her leadership and guidance as the Institute continues to evolve into the future. The Institute was also able to solidify and grow its staff by welcoming Al Rodack back to the Institute as an Associate Director responsible for supporter relations. Al was part of the Institute's original Board and its first Chair. His experience and passion for the Institute will be an integral part of our success moving forward. I also need to recognize Jenn Kirkwood, our meeting planner, who oversees our programs and makes sure things run smoothly in a way that looks seamless. Our team has once again managed important programs at a very high level of guality. Thank you, Jenn!

I would be remiss without acknowledging the boots on the ground leadership provided by Jon Speare, Executive Director and Susan Krauss, Managing Director. Their vision and insight are truly irreplaceable!

Lastly, we spent a lot of time and effort to find a "new Look" for the Institute. As we look ahead, it was time for a change and we're confident that our "new look" will serve us well into the next quarter century.





To all our partners, practitioners and supporters who make the Institute successful, all the best and enjoy the summer!



Kelli D. Shomaker Chair, The Treasury Institute for Higher Education