



## **GENERAL SESSION & PANELIST SPEAKER BIOS**

### **CYNTHIA ARBUCKLE**

#### ***Development Coordinator – Special Events, Del Mar College Foundation***

Cynthia Arbuckle has served as Development Coordinator in charge of Special Events since October 2016. Currently, she plans and executes the following annual events: Bernie's Spring Bash, Stringers for Scholarships fishing tournament and Scholarship Reception. Prior to joining Del Mar College Foundation, the Corpus Christi native spent 18 years at the Corpus Christi Caller-Times – both as a journalist in the Newsroom in various editor roles and in the Marketing Department, representing the newspaper in the community and organizing events. Del Mar College is central to Cynthia's story. Her parents met as students at DMC. When Cynthia was attending the University of Texas at Austin in the late-1990s, her father took a second job – teaching night classes at Del Mar College – to pay for her education.

### **BRYAN ASHTON**

#### ***Vice President of Community Investment and Government Affairs, Trellis Company***

Bryan Ashton serves as the Vice President of Community Investment and Government Affairs at Trellis Company (formerly TG). Bryan is responsible for leading the organization's college and university support efforts, student support efforts (including student coaching, financial literacy and college access services), and higher education research efforts. Bryan is the Co-Founder and Managing Director of the Higher Education Financial Wellness Alliance which brings together organizations interested in removing financial barriers to student completion. Bryan joined Trellis from Ohio State University, where he led the university's financial wellness efforts. Bryan holds a BS in Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting from Ohio State University, and is currently pursuing a M.Ed, with a focus in higher education, from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

## **DR. KRISTEN BENNETT, CFRE, CFRM, CNLE**

### ***Executive Vice President of Advancement, Tarrant County College***

Dr. Bennett has over 20 years of professional fundraising experience in higher education and social service nonprofits in Kentucky and Texas. She has a deep-rooted passion to help the underserved achieve their dreams by bringing the philanthropic dreams of supporters and students needs together for an individual and societal impact for generations.

Prior to her current role, Dr. Bennett served as Vice President for Institutional Advancement/Executive Director of the Trinity Valley Community College Foundation and Grant Writer at Trinity Valley Community College, and prior positions including: Vice President for Advancement at St. Catharine College; Director of Development at Eastern Kentucky University; Development Officer at Lexington Public Library/Foundation; Director of Development/Grant Writer at Habitat for Humanity; Development Officer at Frontier Nursing University; and Planned/Major Gifts Officer at Christian Appalachian Project.

Dr. Bennett, a first-generation graduate, earned her doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at Eastern Kentucky University; MBA at Midway University; and BS in Communication and Information Studies from the University of Kentucky.

Kristen and husband, Alan, have five children, five grandchildren, and three dogs. She loves reading, family time, sporting events, showing their muscle and exotic car collection, and travel. In late 2019, she started her own company called Ophelia's Positive Prose @opheliasposprose and is currently writing a book about her journey from generational poverty to impactful success.

## **KRISTIN J. BOYER**

### ***Executive Director, Trellis Foundation***

Kristin Boyer leads Trellis Foundation's efforts to advance equitable post-secondary outcomes for low-income students and students of color across Texas. Prior to her appointment as Executive Director with Trellis Foundation, she directed the philanthropic program and activities for Trellis Company. She currently serves as an Advisory Committee member for the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, as a co-chair for the Latino Student Success Funders Group, and as a steering committee member for the Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative. Kristin holds BA degrees in English and Spanish from Friends University in Wichita, Kansas, and a MA in Communication from Wichita State University.

## **MATTHEW J. BUSBY, CFRE**

### ***Director of Development, Del Mar College***

Matthew J. Busby is the Director of Development for Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas. The fuel that drives him is witnessing amazing students overcome very real obstacles and impossibilities to achieve success...and helping facilitate the joy his donors experience through philanthropy.

His responsibilities include leading the six-person development team, guiding the current \$25M comprehensive campaign to success and enhancing the fundraising efforts in a sustainable fashion. Prior to joining Del Mar College in 2019, he spent ten years between College of the Mainland and Hill College, serving in financial aid, academic advising and fundraising positions.

A sixth-generation Texan, Matthew has a BA in Political Science from Baylor University in Waco, TX, and an AA from Temple College in Temple, TX. Outside of work, he loves spending time with his wife, family and friends, traveling, dancing, and genealogy. Matthew earned his CFRE in 2017, the same year he was elected as President & CEO of the Texas Association of Community College Foundations. During his two-year term, he led the state organization through an exciting period of strategic reinvention and growth. He is a member of AFP, CASE and TACCF, and has presented at district, state and national conferences for AACC, CASE, TACCF and NCMPR on both LinkedIn and fundraising strategies.

## **MICHELLE COBURN**

### ***Program Director, Texas Pioneer Foundation***

Michelle Coburn is the Program Director of Texas Pioneer Foundation, a private, independent foundation that supports innovative educational programs for underserved and disadvantaged areas in Texas that are sustainable and build capacity. Michelle received her Management of Nonprofit Organizations Certificate from the University of Texas and earned her Bachelor of Business Administration from LeTourneau University. Prior to working with Texas Pioneer Foundation, Michelle had a 15-year career in the federal student loan industry specializing in operations and business development. Michelle joined the Central Texas Higher Education Authority in 1995 and worked with the executive director and members of the board of directors to help create the Texas Pioneer Foundation in 2004.

## **CARA CROWLEY**

### ***Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Amarillo College***

Cara Crowley currently serves as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives for Amarillo College. Her leadership focuses on leading institution-wide initiatives targeting a systemic approach to poverty; creating a data ecosystem that drives policy and process reformation; and, alignment of grant development and management to strategic planning.

In her career, she has led institution-wide projects addressing student poverty barriers hindering academic success; general education course redesign efforts; and, creating an environment that is student-driven and data-informed.

Cara received her Master's in Business Administration (2006) and Master's in American History (2001) from West Texas A&M University.

## **ADORA CURRY**

### ***Advancement Marketing Manager, Pulaski Tech Foundation***

Adora Curry joined the Pulaski Tech Foundation team in 2017 as the Advancement Marketing Manager where she oversees fundraising initiatives including the renowned cooking competition, Diamond Chef Arkansas, and leads the UA-PTC Alumni Association. Adora previously served as the Director of Marketing for Arkansas Baptist College (ABC) where she led the Department of Institutional Advancement. In her role as director, she managed all aspects of media communications at the College including print publications, television and radio marketing, and social media campaigns.

Adora also delights in event planning as evidenced by her many years in leadership roles on planning committees for fundraisers throughout the state of Arkansas including ABC's Supper & Soul Gala, Center for Youth & Family's Evolve, and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's Chancellor's Benefit for the Arts, to name a few. She has a heart for philanthropy and supporting causes that make life better for mankind.

She is committed to causes that promote diversity, equity and inclusion within professional workspaces. This is evidenced by her work as a board member for the Council of Advancement and Support of Education where she presents workshops and mentors professionals on the topic of inclusion. She also serves on the board as the VP of Membership for the Council of Alumni Marketing and Membership Professionals to ensure there is always a seat at the table for professionals from diverse backgrounds. Recently, Adora became a board member for the Arkansas Fundraising Professionals - Arkansas Chapter, where she participates on the education, membership and IDEA committees.

In 1999, Adora earned her BA in Radio/Television/Film from Howard University. She is also a proud 2012 alumna of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She obtained her MA in Professional and Technical Writing.

Adora recently launched Women Gather AR with two friends. The mission is to provide a platform for women from all backgrounds and all stages a life to engage, empower and equip one another with the tools needed to live a fulfilling life. Their motto is, "there's always space at our table for you."

Adora resides in Little Rock, Arkansas. She describes her greatest joys as living in the country with her parents and being a SUPER SINGLE MOM of two energetic sons, Dominic and EJ.

## **AARON DEMERSON**

### ***Commissioner, Texas Workforce Commission***

Aaron Demerson currently serves as the Commissioner Representing Employers for the Texas Workforce Commission. Governor Greg Abbott appointed him to the three-member Commission on August 20, 2019. In his role, Commissioner Demerson serves as an advocate for over 565,000 Texas employers and over 2.6 million small businesses.

Prior to his appointment, Commissioner Demerson served as Director of the Office of Employer Initiatives at the Texas Workforce Commission.

Prior to employment at the Texas Workforce Commission, he served as a Senior Advisor to Governor Rick Perry and Executive Director of the Economic Development & Tourism Division leading a team that marketed the State of Texas as a premier destination for both business and travel.

Commissioner Demerson has a BBA in Finance from Texas A&M University-Kingsville. He also received a general banking diploma from the American Institute of Banking and is a 1991-1992 graduate of Leadership Austin.

## **SHEILA MARLOW DUE, CFRE**

### ***Executive Director, Alamo Colleges Foundation***

Sheila Marlow Due is a results-driven nonprofit executive with 25 years fundraising and administrative experience adept at transforming under-performing nonprofits into thriving and financially successful entities, and leading organizations to their next chapter of growth and long-term success.

Sheila assumed her duties as the Executive Director of the Alamo Colleges Foundation in July 2018. Due provides strategic vision to the district's fundraising and donor engagement efforts. As the Executive Director for the Foundation, Due assumed the oversight for an asset base of \$26M, and now, thanks to a \$20M gift from MacKenzie Scott and other generous donors, the base has grown to over \$53M.

Prior to joining the college district, Due served as CEO of the Center for Health Care Services Foundation. The majority of her career was spent in Dallas where her nonprofit leadership and fundraising talents served a variety of local regional and national organizations, including Chief Advancement Officer for the National Council on Family Violence in Austin, Vice President of Community Relations and Regional Executive Director for Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star in Dallas, and Senior Development Officer and co-chair of Texas Woman's University's \$55M capital campaign to bring a new state-of-the-art health sciences campus to the heart of Dallas' medical district.

## **ASHLEY GATEWOOD**

### ***Communications and Marketing Director, CFRE International***

Based in Baltimore, Ashley Gatewood is passionate about the nonprofit sector and membership associations, having spent the bulk of her career in these areas. She loves talking about the CFRE certification and how it can help elevate fundraising professionals' careers. She believes bringing a higher degree of professionalism and ethical accountability to fundraising will help nonprofits become more sustainable and better serve their missions. Previously, she was the events and marketing manager at the Fundraising Institute of New Zealand, where she helped bring world-class fundraising programming to the country.

## **NICOLE ROBINSON GAUTHIER, CFRE**

### ***Executive Director, Lone Star College Foundation***

Nicole Robinson Gauthier joined Lone Star College in October 2016, serving as the Executive Director of the Lone Star College Foundation. Nicole brings more than 20 years' experience in fundraising. Through the management of more than \$34 million in assets, along with special events and relationship building, Nicole ensures that more than \$2 million in scholarships and program funds are awarded each year.

While at the Broward Performing Arts Foundation in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Nicole helped to found the Ghost Light Society, the first young professionals group associated with the Broward Center for the Performing Arts and today is one of the most active and visible groups that is driving the next generation of leaders and donors to support performing arts in Broward County.

After working with Women's Leadership at three United Ways, Nicole helped United Way take their scholarship program to the next level with a special event called Women Who Rock. This annual event started in 2012 gathers local women in support of childcare scholarships for young parent furthering their education.

Nicole is a graduate of Leadership Montgomery County and currently serves as the Board Vice President and Conference Chair for the Texas Association of Community College Foundations and is a global ambassador for CFRE International (Certified Fund Raising Executive). She is a proud graduate of Louisiana State University and lives in The Woodlands with her husband and three daughters.

**KATHY HENDRICK*****Director of Development, Grayson College Foundation***

Kathy Hendrick joined Grayson College Foundation as Director of Development in July 2016. She possesses over 30 years' experience in fundraising, community and economic development, and nonprofit management in Texas and Oklahoma.

Kathy brings new fundraising ideas to the GC Foundation raising additional dollars to assist in reaching new goals each year. She also serves as the Alumni Director starting the first Alumni Advisory Board and Alumni activities on campus. The Foundation assisted in starting an Athletic Hall of Fame and Dinner.

Kathy serves on the TACCF board, the conference committee for the past three years, as well as other committees for TACCF. She also continues to serve on numerous chambers, civic, community, and state boards in Texas and Oklahoma.

Kathy is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) as designated by the International Economic Development Council. She earned her Economic Development Finance Professional certification from the National Development Council and is currently studying to take the Certified Fundraising Professional Exam this Spring. Kathy received a bachelor's degree in Marketing from Texas Christian University and received her MBA from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Kathy is married to dentist, Dr. Tom Lankford, and they have two rescue pups, Lulu and Annie, and a rescue kitty named Jetta.

**MARY C. MCQUEEN, CFRE, FCEP*****Executive Director of Development, Del Mar College***

Mary C. McQueen is Executive Director of Development for Del Mar College where she has been responsible for development initiatives, as well as Del Mar College Foundation (DMCF) operations since September 2010. She has successfully moved DMCF into the top 100 community college foundations in the nation for both annual fundraising and foundation assets. During her tenure, she has tripled the assets of the Foundation and the annual funds raised, and increased scholarship awarding from \$600,000 to \$1.6M annually.

Prior to joining the Del Mar College team, Mary was Chief Development Officer at the Texas State Aquarium for 11 years where her largest project was raising \$15M to build a marine mammal exhibit. Before joining the Aquarium, Mary was Director of Public Affairs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi where she developed and established the image of the "Island University" as it transitioned from upper division to a comprehensive 4-year university, winning numerous ADDY and CASE awards for promotional campaigns.

A native South Texan, Mary has a BBA in Management from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. She spent five years as editor of three city magazines, *Business Monthly*, *Corpus Christi Magazine* and *Corpus Christi Monthly*. She has also been a public affairs producer for KEDT-Channel 16, the local PBS affiliate, and Managing Director of a community theater.

Mary has been a CFRE since 2005 and a Fellow of Charitable Estate Planning since 2019. She is Past President of the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi (2014-2015), but her Rotary passion is the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards camp. For the past 20 years, Mary has been active in developing and implementing hands-on leadership training camps serving 200 youth annually with team-based leadership and character development activities. She has been President of Texas Association of Community College Foundations (2019-2021); Association of Fundraising Professionals-Coastal Bend Chapter (2005-2007), Leadership Corpus Christi Alumni Association (1994 and TAMU-CC National Alumni Association (2002). Mary is also a graduate of Leadership Corpus Christi and Leadership Texas. Her honors include: District 5930 Rotarian of the Year (2019-2020), Rotary Club of Corpus Christi (RCCC) Lifetime Achievement Award (2018), AFP Coastal Bend Chapter Outstanding Fundraising Professional Award (2016), RCCC Outstanding Rotarian of the Year Award (2010-2011), RCCC Spirit of Rotary Award (2008-2009), YWCA "Y" Women in Careers Award (2004), and Outstanding Alumni Award (2003) from TAMU-CC National Alumni Association.

### **JESSICA PACE, CFRE**

#### ***Director of Institutional Advancement, Panola College***

Jessica Pace joined Panola College in 2010 and has been the Director of Institutional Advancement for the past 6 years. Jessica is a CFRE, has a BA in merchandising and an MBA in management from the University of North Texas. She began her career in sales but quickly found higher education was her passion.

Jessica is a member of the Carthage Rotary Club, a Chamber of Commerce Ambassador, and serves as the secretary to the Footprints in the Sand Foundation. In her spare time, she volunteers as the Director of Fundraising for a national organization, Down Syndrome Diagnosis Network, where she supports hundreds of peer-to-peer fundraisers all over the nation each year. She has also enjoyed teaching office professional and yoga courses as an adjunct instructor at Panola College for the past 9 years.

### **JESSE D. PISORS, M.ED.**

#### ***Vice President for Advancement and External Relations, University of Houston-Victoria***

Jesse Pisors has spent 25 years in educational leadership, including senior advancement positions at both private and public universities.

Currently, he serves as Vice President for Advancement and External Relations at the University of Houston-Victoria, where he played a leadership role in University of Houston System's successful \$1B campaign. He has led his team at UH-V to set multiple fundraising records since 2015.

Jesse holds bachelor's and master's degrees and is currently pursuing a doctorate at Texas Tech University.

Jesse served as headmaster of a private school in Mexico for several years and is fluent in Spanish. In addition to his responsibilities at UH-V, he serves on the boards of the Victoria

Rotary Club, Victoria Rotary Foundation, Victoria Chamber of Commerce, a private K-12 school, as well as other organizations. Jesse is a CASE District IV board member and a past presenter at several CASE conferences.

### **MALLORY SAMPSON, CFP**

#### ***Senior Managing Consultant, PFM Asset Management LLC***

Mallory is a Senior Managing Consultant for PFM's investment advisory team. She is responsible for managing PFM's institutional multi-asset class relationships in Texas with a focus on higher education, endowments, foundations, and OPEB trusts.

Previously, Mallory worked for Vanguard's institutional nonprofit business, helping large private endowments and foundations reach their short- and long-term investment requirements.

### **KAREN L. SCHMIDT, CFRE**

#### ***President, Houston Community College Foundation***

Karen L. Schmidt serves as president of Houston Community College Foundation since 2017. As the president of the HCC Foundation, Karen is responsible for leading and executing all advancement programs to raise private funding to support Houston Community College System and its students by providing scholarships and grants. She is also responsible for advancement information technology, scholarship and grant awarding, impact programs, and HCC Foundation financial management including its endowment investment portfolio.

Karen earned an MBA and a BSBA in Accounting from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. She is a CFRE.

Karen brings many years of fundraising and executive leadership experience to the HCC Foundation. Her most recent position as Executive Director of the College of Lake County Foundation in Grayslake, IL from 2013 to 2017, where she doubled revenue, shifted board focus to fundraising, and expanded their fundraising base.

Previously, she was the Executive Vice President/Chief Marketing and Development Officer for Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)/Presbyterian Mission Agency in Louisville, KY from 2007 to 2012. Karen led 75 staff members, helped raise \$40M annually (excluding disasters and endowments), generated \$1.7M in services and resources revenue, and managed an \$11M expense budget.

Karen has over 25 years of senior executive experience in marketing and selling complex "intangible" consulting and information technology solutions to Fortune 500 and middle market companies. Her leadership experience includes senior and executive positions in start-ups, partnerships, and public companies including Xerox and Andersen Consulting (now known as Accenture).

## **ROBERT SUGGS, CFRE**

### ***Development Officer, Del Mar College***

Robert joined the development team of Del Mar College Foundation in 2017 and serves as a Development Officer working with corporate and foundation partners, and individuals in raising funds for student scholarships and programs. As a native South Texan with deep roots in the community, he is proud of the relationships he has built and the generous support he garners for Del Mar College.

Prior to joining Del Mar College, Robert served as Development Manager at the Texas State Aquarium for five years. During his time there, Robert was instrumental in raising \$50M for a capital campaign that doubled the size of the aquarium and exceeded its campaign goal.

Robert earned his BA in Political Science from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi in 2010. As a first-generation college graduate who attended college as a non-traditional student later in life, Robert is passionate about his work in higher education advancement and assisting students realize their highest potential. Robert continually shares that nothing can compete with the face of a young person walking across the stage with a huge smile on his or her face and the feeling of personal accomplishment. Robert also serves on the Board of Directors of the Coastal Bend Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Outside of work, you can find Robert on his bike cycling on the bay front of Corpus Christi, in his chef's hat entertaining friends with gourmet fare, or cuddling with his four canine companions.

## **SUSAN SUMMERS, CFRE**

### ***Director of Donor Relations, Lone Star College Foundation***

Susan Summers joined Lone Star College Foundation in 2015 and serves as the Director of Donor Relations, where she creates and implements fundraising and communication strategies that enhance giving and cultivate new donors to the Foundation. As a 23-year veteran of the Advancement profession, Susan has worked in a variety of sectors including private K-12 education, higher education, healthcare and social services. Susan has enjoyed hands-on and in-depth experience in all areas of Advancement, including annual funds, capital campaigns, major gifts, galas, golf tournaments, marketing and communications, donor relations and alumni relations. Susan holds a Bachelor of Journalism degree from The University of Texas at Austin and holds a CFRE issued by CFRE International. She and her husband David live in The Woodlands, Texas with their rescue puppy Lola, which is also home base for sons Zack and Luke, both students at Texas Tech University.

## **CAROLYN WATSON**

### ***Vice President of Corporate Responsibility, JPMorgan Chase Foundation***

Carolyn Watson is a Vice President of Corporate Responsibility at JPMorgan Chase Foundation. She directs the foundation's philanthropic investments for Houston, Austin, San Antonio and El Paso, which collectively employ over 10,000 people. The approach of each high-impact investment is to leverage the company's strength - and the dedication of its talented employees - to tackle pressing social and economic challenges.

To expand economic opportunity, Carolyn's workforce investment strategy addresses acute training and education gaps experienced by Texas metropolitan areas. To date, JPMorgan has deployed over \$7M in grants towards that end. Her strategy has resulted in increased credential attainment, new partnerships and new resources for regional workforce development systems. In addition, she led Houston-area employers to develop an interactive career platform – "PetrochemWorks.com" – which targets high school students for petrochemical careers. She serves on the Greater Houston Partnership's UpSkill Houston Executive Committee, the Gulf Coast Workforce Board and the Central Texas Workforce Development Executive Council.

Carolyn holds a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at UT Austin. In 2010, she received a Master of Science in Management from Stanford's Graduate School of Business.

## **DR. PYEPER WILKINS**

### ***Vice Chancellor, Workforce & Advancement, Dallas College***

Dr. Pyeper Wilkins is the Vice Chancellor, Workforce & Advancement for Dallas College. Her current portfolio includes oversight of multiple areas of Dallas College, including Career Connected Learning, Economic Opportunity, Advancement & Development, the Regional Small Business Development Center, Innovation & Business Strategy, and the Dallas College Foundation. With over 25 years of experience in community colleges, she is skilled at collaborating with business and industry, public agencies, and community and faith-based organizations to meet the needs of students, employers and the community.

Dr. Wilkins served as the Chief Advancement Officer/Executive Director of the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) Foundation from 2015-2020 and has an extensive background in fundraising and resource development, planning, facilitation and building partnerships. Prior to her role in the foundation, Dr. Wilkins spent eight years at El Centro College in a variety of roles, including Executive Dean of the Bill Priest Campus and Associate Vice President of planning, research and institutional effectiveness. In those roles, she secured over \$50M in funding to support student success, workforce and economic development, the launch of new programs and curriculum, and facility renovation.

Before joining the DCCCD, Dr. Wilkins spent seven years as an administrator at Collin College where she helped open the Rockwall Higher Education Center, worked to expand the Alternative Teacher Certification program, and designed and launched the Center for

Workforce and Economic Development. She also spent several years teaching in public high schools and teaching part-time at both Collin College and DCCCD.

Dr. Wilkins holds a Bachelor of Business Education degree; a Master of Science in Human Relations and Business; and a doctorate in educational leadership and management.

## **DR. QUENTIN WRIGHT**

### ***Founding President, Lone Star College-Houston North***

Dr. Quentin Wright is the Founding President of Lone Star College-Houston North. Prior to this position, he served as the Special Assistant to the Chancellor, Interim Vice Chancellor of Academic Success, Interim Vice Chancellor of Student Success, Vice President of Instruction at Lone Star College-Tomball, and roles as Interim Vice President of Instruction, Academic Dean, and Speech Instructor at Mountain View College.

Dr. Wright possesses a doctoral degree in Community College Leadership from the University of North Texas, Denton. His master's degree is from Angelo State University where he studied Communications. His undergraduate work is also from Angelo State where he received a bachelor's degree in Public Relations.

During his academic tenure, he has been active in state, regional, and national organizations. He has served as a member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Developmental Advisory Committee and on multiple Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC) accreditation teams. Locally, he serves on the Aldine-Greenspoint YMCA Board, the Near Northwest Management District Boards of Directors, and the Harris County Housing Advisory Committee.

Dr. Wright is the recipient of various awards and honors. Among these are the Mountain View College Administrator of the Year Honor, Dallas County Community College District Focus of Excellence Award, and the *Who's Who Among American College Teachers and Educators* distinction. Dr. Wright was also Angelo State University's first recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student award for the Department of Communications, Drama, and Journalism.

Dr. Wright is married to Tierra and has two daughters, Amaya and Victoria.

**KHALID YASIN, CIMA, CHP**  
***Director, PFM Asset Management LLC***

Khalid Yasin is a Director leading business development and client relationship management for PFM's discretionary Outsourced Chief Investment Officer fiduciary solutions in the Southeast region. Additionally, Khalid leads PFM's endowment and foundation national practice. He joined PFM in 2012, and works with higher education and healthcare institutions, endowments, foundations, as well as public pension and OPEB funds.

Prior to joining PFM, Khalid spent fifteen years at Bank of America, most recently as vice president and portfolio manager managing \$2B in assets for private, endowment and retirement clients, in addition to a high-profile sovereign wealth fund. He also served on the bank's Investment Strategies Committee with a stint as a buy-side equity analyst. Prior to his investment management roles, he led internal projects that resulted in over \$150M in annual profit growth, as well as helping launch the bank's multi-family office business segment.

Khalid holds the Certified Investment Management Analyst and Certified Hedge Fund Professional designations, and a Certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt. In the community, he serves on the Space Coast Health Foundation Board of Directors among other nonprofit and volunteer work.

*Thank you to all speakers and panelist for sharing their time and expertise with TACCF!*