# **OCFO QUARTERLY**

#### THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



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## A WORD FROM THE ACTING CFO

Teammates,

Last quarter, I had the privilege of penning my first CFO note for the newsletter. In it, I expressed how honored I was to be stepping into the role of acting CFO and how hard I would work to ensure we continued down the path set forth by our previous CFO.

Now, as I prepare to hand over the reins to our incoming CFO, I'd like to reflect on a few of my highlights as the acting CFO.

First is being trusted to lead this high-performing organization. It has been an honor to represent you to the rest of the agency as well as other agencies. Our accomplishments speak for themselves but I find it very rewarding to point those out every opportunity I have had in this role.

Second, being able to share my vision for our leadership journey. We have consistently lived up to and even gone beyond what has been expected of us. Carving out a path for continued growth has been a fantastic experience and I am glad to take this journey with you.

Finally, finding our new CFO and playing such a big role in seeing it through the process has been something special. Working with the selection and interview panels, OHRM, and GSA leadership in selecting a highly capable leader was a huge priority for me and I took that responsibility very seriously.

As I take on a new role as deputy CFO, I know I can count on you to continue to share your innovative ideas for our office and candid feedback with me. These have both helped me stay grounded and connected to what's important.

On the topic of feedback, I want to reemphasize the importance of hearing from as many of you as possible through this year's Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey. To date, we're two thirds of the way to reaching our 100% response rate goal, and the Office of Audit Management and Accountability is in the lead with 100% response rate. Keep up the good work, team.

I look forward to our continued success and maintaining a constant state of improvement for the Office of the CFO.

With gratitude,

Mehul

## THE CHIEF OF STAFF'S CORNER



### IS IT WORKING?

By Idaho standards, I didn't grow-up in a rural America, but I did spend as much time as my parents allowed helping uncles who farmed and ranched in south central Idaho. I've told stories about this before. Hopefully you've found them riveting as we enter another enduring episode.

It all started when Uncle Charlie picked up a large cattle hauling truck, well-used by a larger, more profitable, ranching operation. He was extremely proud of this truck and we immediately put it to use hauling additional cattle to summer ranges.

I recall mentioning, as we drove steep inclines, that he might be pushing this relic just a little too hard, but he was confident the old beast could handle the abuse — and it did, until we started for home.

On the last real climb heading for home, something popped. We pulled to the roadside, opened up the hood, poked around, and experimented with fixes — yelling between cab and hood "is it working?" Ultimately, bailing wire couldn't fix this problem so we pulled out chains, hooked up to the truck hauling the horses we used for the day's work, and spent the next several hours limping home.

This story doesn't have anything to do with the Federal Employees Viewpoint Survey (FEVS). But in the OCFO front office we occasionally sit around wondering "is it working?" Meaning are the efforts we're expending to facilitate employee engagement and satisfaction having the intended or desired impact.

Now you may be asking: "Well, Erik, what have you done?" Here are some of the outcomes of front office brainstorming in this area:

Week in Review newsletter	Community sharing board	New employee welcome letters	New employee meet and greets	
Faces of OCFO	OCFO town halls	Quarterly newsletter		
Employee shout outs	OCFO Article Club	Sports outings	Feds Feed Families competitions	
WIR polls	Holiday parties	Ice cream socials		

In addition, 2-letter offices have implemented activities fostering engagement, satisfaction and generally, good will in our organization. So now we are back to "is it working?" <u>Let us know here</u> how these or your 2-letter organizations efforts impacted your sense of belonging and participation.

## OCFO RECOGNITION ROUND-UP

This quarter, our OCFO colleagues brought value to GSA through partnership and innovation. Here are a few highlights:

#### Partnership Drives Progress on Electric Vehicles

The PBS Budget division (BBP) participated in a working group with PBS and other OCFO offices to develop a new fee proposal for providing electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). Executive orders 14008 and 14057 task the federal government with:

- greening federal buildings and electrifying the federal fleet, and
- achieving 100% zero-emission vehicle acquisitions by 2035, including deploying zero-emission vehicle refueling infrastructure.

To meet this task, PBS will provide a streamlined approach for federal agencies to support the installation of EVSE at federal locations in the U.S through a new governmentwide IDIQ vehicle. To ensure program sustainability, BBP worked with PBS to develop a new fee to charge customers for these services. That fee model is currently with OMB for review prior to its implementation.

#### GSA Enterprise Dashboard 2.0

The GSA Enterprise Dashboard (below) is the performance "one-stop shop" that tracks key measures of GSA's mission delivery. Over the past few months, BIS and BIA worked collaboratively to mance framework. The enhanced version 2.0 of the dashboard has 75 measures, more than double the number of measures on version 1.0, bolstering GSA's ability to make data-driven decisions. Aggregating enterprise-wide performance data and aligned by Strategic Goal, Version 2.0 allows GSA employees to easily view progress towards annual performance targets that support GSA's strategic goals, objectives and mission delivery. In addition, the enhanced version includes performance information on key mission support functions such as OHRM, GSA IT and OCFO. This effort promotes transparency and accountability across GSA for performance outcomes while fostering data-driven decision making.

#### FAS Financial Dashboard Upgrade



In May 2022, BIA and BBF upgraded the FAS Financial Dashboard to

add human capital analytics and near real-time budget execution data. With these new features users can access key human capital measures across

> organizations, including retirement eligibility, attrition, grade structure, and headcount on a monthly basis. Information like this informs budget formulation, execution, strategic planning, and human

Metrics Scorecard			card metr	Search for metrics by entering keywords associated with any of the fields in the below table. Navigate to a specific metric by selecting the icon above that corresponds to the metric's goal area. To see all available metrics, enter "ALL" in the search box.				
Rea	al Esta	te Solutions	Acquisition	Digital Government	Government Op	erations	Mission Supp	ort/Key Capabilities
earch	ALL							
oal	<u>\$</u> + -	Performance Indicator	Metric Name	A	countable Office	Update Frequency	Current Value	FY 2022 Target
		1.1.1	Percent of CFO Act agencies with new Plans	National Workspace Portfolio Po	ublic Buildings Service (PBS)	Quarterly	29.20%	50%
		1.2.1 (a)	Lease Cost Relative to Average Marke	t Rate (P	ublic Buildings Service (PBS) - Office of Leas R)	ng Quarterly	-5.40%	≤ -9.0%
		1.2.1 (b)	Percent of noncompetitive sales and o days	donations awarded within 220 Pr	ublic Buildings Service (PBS)	Quarterly	75.00%	93%
		1.2.1 (c)	Percent of public sale properties awar	ded within 135 days Pr	ublic Buildings Service (PBS)	Quarterly	80.80%	98%
		1.2.1 (d)	Gross Sales Revenue from GSA Dispos		ublic Buildings Service (PBS) - Office of Real operty Utilization & Disposal (PI)	Quarterly	0	\$28M
		1.2.1 (e)	Capital Projects Schedule Variance		ublic Buildings Service (PBS) - Office of Port anagement and Customer Eng	olio Monthly	-4.30%	-10%

enhance the dashboard functionality and effectively align it with GSA's new Strategic Plan and perfor-

capital initiatives. Users can also monitor daily budget balances to keep track of resources and ensure new obligations remain within budget.

## SPOTLIGHT ON ENGAGEMENT

This quarter, we're highlighting ways OCFO colleagues are staying connected and engaged:

#### BA Celebrates an Impending Arrival



In May, Team BA gathered to celebrate the impending birth of **Jill Randall**'s first child. It was great to see people for the first time in over 2 years and enjoy a meal, some laughs, and baby presents!

#### BG Focuses on Staying Connected, Virtually

The Office of Financial Management recognizes and understands the challenges the public and employees have faced over the past couple of years. In coordination with OHRM, BG held an interactive session that focused on understanding the challenges of burnout, connecting with ourselves and each other on how burnout may be affecting us, and shared ideas and best practices for addressing these challenges as individuals, teams, and as a workforce.

GSA has begun returning to facilities, with 90% of OCFO employees remaining in a remote or onsiteflexible posture. The Office of Financial Management has always been a collaborative environment and our focus is our team members staying connected as we move forward in this hybrid environment. Our very own **Felicia Ford-Jones** led a team building discussion



and the team shared ideas on ways to stay connected with a distributed workforce.

Both sessions were engaging and received positive feedback from attendees.

## BR Zone 4 Retreat Puts Health & Wellness Front and Center

After 2 years of working virtually, BR teams have continued to find creative and innovative ways to stay connected and engaged. To spring forward, the BR Zone 4 team (led by **Genevieve Gilinger**, **April Lee**, and **Courtney Williams**) took a fresh approach to connecting as a zone by stepping back from the day-today demands and organizing The Retreat, an event that focused on health and wellness.

During the zonal retreat, BR Zone 4 employees engaged in employee-led workshops and learned many helpful lessons from colleagues and friends while discovering shared passions and talents. Courtney Williams gave a yoga demo and shared some of the benefits of yoga. Carol Remsberg encouraged colleagues (with pom poms!) to take a break from sitting for long hours for some fitness. Rebeca Irizarry led the team through a virtual tour of her home garden and extolled the benefits of different vegetables. Nancy Weaver shared a quick recipe and conducted a live cooking presentation with the help of her colleague Milana Short-Ceophas, who managed the camera to ensure the team can enjoy all the virtual views of the kitchen and meal prep. Brenda Cadette displayed her beautiful artwork on screen and shared how painting can help bring peace and tranquility.

## Newsletters and Bulletins Continue to be a Sweet Treat for BR Readers



The BR RWA & Capital Projects Community of

Practice continues to engage BR regional RWA & Capital analysts and colleagues with helpful bulletins. Check out <u>Volume IV Issue</u> <u>No. 3</u> to learn more about the new RWA

background clearance process, severable services RWAs, holdbacks on construction contracts, Kahua, and the results of an internal bot survey!

Also, our BR Zone 3's *In the Zone* newsletter – produced by **Tamira Mitchell**, **Tiffany Ko**, and **Aaron Sager**, who collaborate and serve as the newsletter communication team – engages zonal employees with a great mix of business and employee-centric updates each month, including new family additions, celebrations, and fun spring break travel adventures.

# FEATURE STORY VISIT THE NEW ANALYTICS HUB

## Analytics Hub

Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)

### Knowledge Sharing | Best Practices | Collaboration

The OCFO Analytics Community of Practice (A-CoP) hub empowers GSA OCFO Employees to deliver best in government analytics through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and best practices. This includes important initiatives like leveraging the power of data, building effective visualizations, analytical skill development, and delivering actionable insights to support better decision making across the Agency. You can find more information about the A-CoP and our activities in the <u>Community</u> section, including upcoming <u>Events</u>.

#### NEW THIS MONTH

- 4/29/2022 the Analytics Hub is officially live! Check out all the resources we currently have within the Community, Data, Analytics, and Training sections. We look forward to
  your feedback and contributions to continually improve this community-developed resource.
- GSA IT and FAS have developed a Data & Evidence Roles and Training Catalog with 100+ recommended trainings based on skill level and category

The OCFO Analytics Community of Practice (A-CoP) is proud to announce that the <u>OCFO</u> <u>Analytics Hub site</u> launched in May.

Early in the formation of the A-COP, the community identified a need for a repository to capture and share knowledge. The Analytics Hub was created as a one-stop shop to connect community members, develop skills, find training, research information on different systems and tools, and explore other resources for members to grow as data analysts.

Have you received a new assignment that would be a good candidate for automation with a Google script? There's a <u>Google Script page</u> with resources and a link to our recent series of Google Script workshops. Maybe you're working on a project that relies on REXUS but you're unfamiliar with it — there are multiple pages outlining different systems with links to resources for each as well. Do you want to learn about what other teams in OCFO have been working on? Check out <u>previous showcases</u> from other analysts like you to see their major projects and milestones archived, with more on the way. The Analytics Hub is a valuable resource that will continue to grow and thrive as users add their knowledge and expertise, so if you find a topic you are able to expand on, it is easy to <u>contribute</u>.

Documents hosted on the Hub are automatically shared with community members, so if you are unable to open a link, make sure you have joined the <u>OCFO Analytics Community of Practice</u>.

Visit and bookmark the <u>OCFO Analytics Hub</u> today!

### THE OFFICE OF AUDIT MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

#### New ICATS Doc Submission Form Assists Bottie the ICATS Bot

BA received a new addition late last quarter to assist our bot, Bottie. Bottie works within our audit production application ICATS and, equipped with the email address <u>bottie icatsbot@gsa.gov</u> and access to ICATS, can now receive audit documentation from GSA partners through the <u>ICATS Documentation Submission Form</u>. The form ensures that all documents are properly uploaded into the appropriate areas of the ICATS record by following standardized pathways. It also provides our partners a receipt of their submission.

Absent artificial intelligence, the efforts to enhance Bottie included ensuring distinct pathways for each audit type, module, subject line, and document type. This intricacy is needed to upload the document to the correct area of the audit record and distribute audit information throughout the agency, while preventing the wrong documentation from mistakenly being shared.

We offer this <u>form</u> and <u>guide</u> to simplify sending documents to our office for automatic document uploads in ICATS.

### THE OFFICE OF PBS FINANCIAL SERVICES

#### Efficiencies Gained in PBS Regional Purchase Card Reporting

BR's Financial Management divisions formed a team composed of **Luke Nicolo** (BR1F), **Jan Miller** (BR2F), **Hoa Hua** (BR3F), and **Marvin Muhammed** (BR4F) to look for ways to better support PBS with purchase card transactions.

This team recently achieved a major milestone in the multi-year project to improve and streamline purchase card reporting. The team first established an agreed-upon dataset that would support all zones and provide PBS cardholders with a snapshot of all open items needing their attention.

Initially, compiling this data required all 4 zones to pull separate reports at the start of each week. Now one zone can pull a couple of nationwide reports and a bot compiles it all into source data for everyone. Because of the efficiencies gained, we now pull this data daily using fewer hours than the previous weekly data retrieval. We estimate this took 10-13 hours a week and now takes about 15 minutes a day.

Beyond that, this uniform data now provides PBS cardholders with a daily snapshot of cardholder activity. We've found that it helps ensure funding requests are obligated timely, allowing follow-up for any that linger.

Finally, our friends in the BR Building Operations Divisions also benefit from this effort as it helps ensure charges are reconciled, reduces the number of items in the miscellaneous budget category, and improves the accuracy of their budget execution reporting.

### THE OFFICE OF BUDGET

#### FY 2023 Budget Request

The Office of Budget finalized GSA's FY23 Budget Request and Congressional Justification and released it on March 28, 2022. In April and May, BB partnered with OCIA and GSA programs to brief the various Congressional Committee's that have jurisdiction over GSA on the agency's FY23 Budget Request. In the meetings, we provided a high-level overview of GSA's budget request for all accounts; discussed our strategic goals and plans for how the funding will be used to support the Administration's priorities; and addressed questions from Congress on how GSA's FY23 Budget would support Congress' goals and priorities. The Office of Budget will continue to work with GSA programs and OCIA over the course of the summer to address further questions that Congress has in order to make the strongest case possible for why GSA should receive the funding requested in the FY 2023 Budget Request.

#### FY 2024 Budget Formulation

Budget continues to work closely with our GSA partners during the FY24 budget formulation cycle. We are currently reviewing and analyzing the FY 2024 program requests, environmental scans, and risk assessments. The FAS Budget Division has been working collaboratively with the Office of Enterprise Strategy Management within FAS as well as the BI to analyze budget submissions to ensure an accurate and well-thought out budget is developed. The PBS Budget Division has been working with BR and PBS to refine strategies with PBS leadership and create stronger justifications for the PBS budget request. The Working Capital Fund and Approps Division have been working with their programs to finalize the FY24 request and WCF Bill. Over the summer, we will meet with the Commissioners, Deputy Administrator, and Administrator to review program requests, business cases and to finalize the budget request for submission to OMB in September.

#### The Office of Budget is catching its breath after several rounds of developer sprints - configuration and development of new software called OneStream, which will serve as GSA's new Budget Formulation tool. During the third quarter of FY22, the integration team successfully built a significant portion of the system's core functionality as well as some of the Working Capital Fund's unique requirements. This new functionality was put on display during a product demonstration and knowledge sharing session in June. Meanwhile, BB has been partnering with GSA IT to work through the software approval process and is proud to share that the desktop application is now available to be pushed to GSA's subject matter experts so that they can test, build, and tinker with the new solution. Full steam ahead as the team works towards an ATO and go live date of March 2023, just in time for FY25 budget formulation! Thanks to everyone who has helped us along the way, a tremendous amount of effort and collaboration has gone into this project!

#### **BB** Partnership Series

Each newsletter, the Office of Budget highlights a key partnership that has greatly supported us in achieving the agency's mission. This quarter, the Office of Budget would like to highlight our partnership with the Office of Systems Management (OSM) within FAS. BBF works closely with OSM throughout the entire Executive Business Case (EBC) process, including formulating the guidance (particularly developing specific IT guidance), presenting the guidance and templates to FAS, reviewing EBC submissions, providing EBC recommendations to FAS leadership, and then implementing EBC decisions. The collaboration with OSM on the EBC process has led to the development of a well-oiled and robust EBC process that provides significant value to all of FAS as well as the OCFO.BBF and OSM's frequent collaborate has helped BBF and FAS make significant strides in improving budgeting and operations within FAS.

#### New Budget System Solution Update

### THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

#### **Payment Integrity**

The Office of Inspector General released their <u>report</u> on May 27, 2022, and it showed that GSA complied with the Payment Integrity Information Act (PIIA) in FY21. As part of compliance with PIIA, GSA conducted improper payment risk assessments for each program with annual expenses greater than \$10 million at least once in the last 3 years. The assessments concluded that GSA has controls in place to prevent and reduce improper and unknown payments. The audit had no reportable findings or recommendations. BG would like to thank everyone that contributed to the audit results. Without your help, it would be impossible to meet all the requirements.

#### Annual Statement of Assurance

The Administrator is required by the <u>Federal Managers'</u> <u>Financial Integrity Act</u> of 1982 to submit a statement of assurance (SoA) each year, stating whether the agency's system of internal controls over operations, reporting, and compliance is operating effectively and efficiently. The results of internal control evaluations, self-assessments, and internal and external audits are combined to determine the agency's level of assurance over GSA's internal controls and must be considered in the annual requirement for the <u>statement of assur-</u> <u>ance</u>. BGI is responsible for coordinating the activities to support this process.

#### Statement of Assurance Key Activities and Due Dates

ACTIVITY	DATE
SoA Email Distribution to HSSOs	June 1
FY 2022 SoA Process Kickoff Meeting and Information Session (Invitees attend one of the two scheduled sessions)	June 8 June 22
Progress Checkpoint with Organizations	July 8
FY 2022 HSSO SoA letters and supporting ELET Templates due	July 15
Presentation of results to MCOC	August
Signature of SoA by Administrator for AFR	NLT Nov 2

For more information on the statement of assurance process, please email <u>Ebonie Smith</u>.

#### **RPA CoP Update**

Great news — the Federal RPA Community of Practice hit 1,400 members at the beginning of April, and we've hosted some great sessions for them! Process improvement is pretty popular right now. **Brian Mooers** taught Process Mapping Basics to 487 folks from across the government, and we had the Army Corps of Engineers to talk about developing performance measures that work. HHS' Office of Finance/Office of Financial Systems Policy and Oversight also came on to talk about internal controls and RPA. We held an office hours chat on acquisition bots - thanks to our own **Michael Griese** (BGR) and Joslann Igoe (from PBS) for joining! The Air Force's RPA Center of Excellence also came on to talk about 'A Robot for Every Airman' initiative.

The FedRPA CoP has also been busy connecting with different agencies, even on the international stage. In April, we had the opportunity to brief the Australian government's federal RPA group! We also held some cool meetings with our colleagues at the FAA, HHS, DHS OIG, and NASA, to name a few. For Public Service Recognition Week, we highlighted the RPA programs at USCIS, GSA, USDA, Fiscal Service, and NASA. We also held a RPA small group mentoring session hosted by the DOD RPA Consortium Director.

Here's a sneak preview of what's to come this summer: Build-a-Bot session in July with USDA and demo of HHS's Rosie bot, which is a very cool use case that incorporates artificial intelligence and machine learning with their RPA technology. The RPA CoP will be updating the federal RPA use case inventory, which at last update had 985 use cases, and starting an O&M Addendum to the RPA Playbook. Stay tuned!

### THE OFFICE OF ANALYTICS, PERFORMANCE & IMPROVEMENT

#### GSA Strategic Plan Lunch and Learns

Throughout the spring and summer of 2022, OCFO and the Office of Strategic Communication is hosting a series of Lunch and Learn sessions on the recently published <u>FY22-26 GSA Strategic Plan</u>. The series provides GSA employees with an opportunity to learn from the leaders and subject matter experts who helped craft the plan that serves as GSA's roadmap over the next 5 years. By understanding the priorities and how leaders intend to implement them, GSA's workforce can better see how their work contributes to the agency's mission. The first session on April 25 focused on Goal 3: Digital Government. Panelists Dave Zvenyach, Director of Technology Transformation Services, and Andrea O'Neal, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Equity, discussed key elements of how GSA plans to improve digital services and implement solutions that are simple, effective, equitable, and accessible to the public. A recording of the session can be found <u>here</u>.

The June Lunch & Learn focused on Goal 1: Real Estate Solutions. Keep a look-out for upcoming sessions in GSA Today.

#### OCFO Financial Management Training Update

In June of 2021, the OCFO launched its Financial Management training series. A variety of self-paced slide decks, on-demand videos, and how-to guides were developed across many topics and added to the <u>OCFO Training and</u> <u>Resource Library</u>. These were followed by a series of eight virtual training sessions held from November 2021 through March 2022 on topics such as business intelligence, financial data, and coding. Based on analytics and survey results, the courses were well received. During the 10-month period from June 2021 through March 2022:

- The OCFO Training and Resource Library hosted more than 2,000 visits
- 1,000 users checked out a library resource
- Over 500 users attended one of the virtual training sessions offered, receiving credit through GSA Online University
- 50 people responded to the post-training survey and provided overwhelmingly positive reviews (average score of 4.8 out of 5.0 across seven measured criteria)



"Great instructors and they kept the class presentation very interactive."  $\space{-1mu}$ 

"This hands-on session was very helpful. It sticks with me more than just watching someone else go through it."

"The overall training covered was most valuable, as it introduced a subject matter that I had little knowledge in."

Based on the feedback and positive analytics, the OCFO community will be adding new training selections and virtual sessions on topics including an overview of OCFO resources on Insite and our financial taxonomy initiative. We are also scheduling open office hours for PBS Business Intelligence and Business Objects. Finally, we are considering a new 5-minute or less video series to better align with busy schedules. If you have ideas or would like to contribute a video send us a message at <u>cfo-datadeliveryandmanagement@gsa.gov</u>.

## STAFF SHOUT OUTS

#### THE OFFICE OF AUDIT MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Shout out to **Sidi Ndiaye** (CSDE1), who is in GSA's Enterprise Emerging Leaders Program and the Data Science Practitioner Program, for his outstanding job developing and co-delivering two learning sessions to the OCFO Analytics Community of Practice:

- The March 15 <u>Data Models</u>, <u>Power Query</u>, and <u>Power Pivot presentation</u>, which showcased the <u>benefits</u> of using data models in Excel to connect to data sources; transform and clean data; merge and append data sets; and load, update, report, and analyze data.
- The April 13 <u>Using Statistics at GSA presentation</u>, which helped attendees understand the <u>benefits</u> of installing the Data Analysis ToolPak in Excel to provide easy access to statistical analysis tools.

Good work, Sidi! If you missed these sessions, be sure to check out the <u>Data Models</u>, <u>Power Query</u>, and <u>Power Pivot reference guide</u> and the <u>Guide to Using</u> <u>the Analysis ToolPak to Perform Complex Data</u> <u>Analysis</u> to jumpstart your learning journey using these powerful data transformation, analysis, and reporting tools.

Shout out to BA analysts **Bobbie Robinson**, **Debra Waterfield**, **Jill Randall**, **Tanisha Nicholson**, and **Wayne Williams** for continuing to carry out audit processing despite system limitations. The audit system of record received an upgrade in April and, since the upgrade, certain functions have been unavailable. BA analysts continue to figure out the best ways to process transactions and support our partners!

#### THE OFFICE OF BUDGET

Shout out to **Siri Nankin** (BBF), **Dena Spannagel** (BBF), **April Daniel** (BBFA), and **Susan Marquez** (BBFA) for recently earning promotions within the FAS Budget Division.

Shout out to Sara Twyman (BBF), Brad Wotring (BBF), Louis Chamberlain (BBF), and Jeremy Downs (BBF) for all their hard work supporting FAS through the internal control review and UDO/UFCO review processes.

Shout out to the **Office of PBS Financial Services** (BR) for its assistance with formulating the FY24 FBF OMB budget submission. The team's knowledge of PBS operations, strategy, and forecasting plays an integral part in each budget cycle. Thank you!

#### THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Shout out to the **Robotic Process Automation team** (BGR) for their work and partnership with Region 6 on the development of the HACMAN Bot. The work in progress process took 12 people more than 7 years prior to automation. HACMAN saved approximately 2,883 manual labor hours and an estimated \$350,758 in labor costs processing 11,531 requisitions in just over 4 months.

#### THE OFFICE OF ANALYTICS, PERFORMANCE & IMPROVEMENT

Kudos to **BIA** and **BIS** staff in supporting the GSA Equity Action Plan, an administration priority. **Ashleigh Sanders** (BI) **and the BIA team** provided advisory support to GSA leaders on DEIA data considerations. Special recognition goes to **De-Borah Mack** (BIS) for her work supporting the development of GSA's DEIA Strategic Plan as well as DEIA planning within OCFO. De-Borah's engagement and expertise has been critical in shaping the strategy for inculcating DEIA into GSA enterprise business practices.

(continued on the next page)

## STAFF SHOUT OUTS

#### THE OFFICE OF PBS FINANCIAL SERVICES

Kudos to **Josh Grannan** (BR2F)! Josh is a Financial Management Analyst in the BR Zone 2 Financial Management Division who led a Google Essentials session on April 26th for the Analytics Community of Practice (ACOP) on the IF, IFERROR, and IMPOR-TRANGE functions in google sheets. During the session Josh shared tips, tricks and best practices with over 100 Colleagues and did a fantastic job. Thank you, Josh for continuing to volunteer to share your knowledge and support the A-CoP community.

Shout out to both **Dawn Riley** (BR1B) and **Christiana Wilkins** (BR1B) for graciously accepting additional responsibilities on the team due to a recent gap in staffing. Dawn has taken over the BA60 and BA60 budget analyst duties for an entire additional service center in our partner Zone 1 Building Ops group to help them out, while maintaining her previous workload. Christiana, while also maintaining her existing workload, has taken over as the sole BEST Tool Developer/SME for all of Zone 1. Previously, the zone had two BEST Developers. Both have taken the additional workload in stride and are excelling in both their new and existing responsibilities. Their efforts have been extremely beneficial to the entire zone and we greatly appreciate their hard work.

Shout out to **Romina Jimenez-Noeckel** (BR1R), **Rebekah Nash** (BR1R), **Naima Prince** (BR1R), and **Lynnie Wu** (BGP) for all their hard work on the Zone 1 Cost Transfer Training. This was an example of a great partnership effort between BR and BG, who spent many hours in planning and preparing the training. This was mandatory training for all budget analysts in Zone 1. The team made it fun and interactive through the incorporation of Google polls, examples, and knowledge tests. A big thank you to this team for all their hard work!

Shout out to **Jessica Simmons** (BR1L) and **Tracy Bonk** (BR1L) for assisting the Zone 1 Building Operations team with the inventory changes requirement for the FY24 budget call. Jessica and her team sifted through

the extensive Zone 1 rent estimate data to provide a consolidated list of the significant tenant space increases and reductions in owned buildings and leases for FY23 and FY24. Tracy also reached out to regional leasing employees to confirm the status of fully serviced and non-fully serviced leases. Jessica and Tracy saved the Zone 1 Building Operations team hours of analytical work! Thank you for your help and it's wonderful to have such supportive team members!

Shout out to Larry Gumber (BR1B) and Denise Rosado (BR1B) for volunteering to assist the Zone 1 PDE team with reviewing, assigning, and processing PDE cases. Thank you for your help and support to keep a vital system and process running smoothly and efficiently!



Congratulations to **Tiffany Ko** (BR3L)! Tiffany was promoted to branch chief in the BR Zone 3 Leasing, Revenue, FFO Division.



Congratulations to **Tamira Mitchell** (BR3F)! Tamira was promoted to branch chief in the BR Zone 3 Financial Management Division.

## HAIL & FAREWELL



Hail to Jake Grindstaff (CSDE1)! Jake joined BA in late March as part of his EELP program rotation. He has previously rotated through Information Technology Catalog (focus on FedRelay). Jake earned a bachelor's degree in risk management and insurance from Gallaudet University. In his free time, he enjoys biking and hiking around the beautiful mountains. He is a huge Baltimore sports fan (Orioles and Ravens). One fun fact about Jake is that he biked across America a few years ago; traveling 4,120 miles in 60 days!



Hail to **Mason Thomas** (BBFA)! Mason joined the FAS Budget Division in October 2021 on a 120-day detail assignment with the Regional Support Branch. In March 2022, Mason became a permanent member of the team, providing financial support to Region 1. Mason graduated with a B.A. in economics with a minor in Spanish from Syracuse University in 2019. In November 2019, Mason started his government career in the GSA Recent Graduate Program as a contract specialist working on Region 3 and National Capital Region service contracts. Mason has experience in federal contracting, financial and data analysis, and budgetary oversight. Mason is enthusiastic to have transitioned into a permanent position in FAS Budget and looks forward to the new challenges and experiences ahead.



Hail to **Kevin Tarver** (BBFA)! Ken joined the FAS Budget Division on April 25, 2022, and will be supporting Region 3 budgetary and financial needs. Highlights of his 30-year career include, previously working with PBS Financial Services, auditing for the Department of Labor, and financial management in the Department of Agriculture.

Taking evening classes, he earned his Bachelor of Science in accounting from the University of Baltimore while working full time for private industry leaders such as PricewaterhouseCoopers. Most of his experience and background is within the financial management/budget realm, with a significant amount of experience earned in IT auditing and IT security. He is no stranger to GSA budgeting and financial challenges and looks forward to working with his new team members in FAS.



Hail to **Shara Jackson** (BGF)! Shara comes to the BGF FAS Financial Operations and Controls Branch from the Air Force and is located in Atlanta. She will be working with the Category Support and Collections Team. She is married with five children, ages range from 4-22. Shara retired from the Air Force and previously worked in military pay, civilian pay, budget and accounting, customer service, and financial management. She loves traveling and spending time with friends and family.



Hail to **Ciara Reed** (BGC)! Ciara recently joined the GSA OCFO Payroll Operations in Kansas City, MO. She is originally from Kansas City, MO. She completed her formal studies at the University of Central Missouri and started her journey with the federal government about five years ago. She transferred into GSA from the Department of Veterans Affairs, in Washington, DC. She enjoys traveling, reading, exercising, quality time with family and friends, outdoor activities, watching Chopped and a host of other things.



Hail to **Mandy Honn** (BGP), who joined the PBS Financial Operations Division in March! Prior to joining GSA, she was a management consultant and previously worked for the Government Accountability Office (GAO). Mandy holds a Masters in Public Policy from George Washington University and a Bachelors in Economics and Political Science from the University of Colorado. Outside of work, Mandy likes hosting dinner parties and hiking with her pup.

## HAIL & FAREWELL



Hail to **Stephan Greenhill** (BR2B)! Stephan joined the Zone 2 Building Operations Division in April as a budget analyst with Team A, and will support Region 7 PBS. Stephan spent 21 years in the USAF, with the majority of his time working in the financial management arena. Stephan is originally from Lorain, Ohio, and is the eldest of nine siblings. He is married with four children, and has a 6-year-old grandson.



Hail to **Alonzo Oler** (BR2B)! Alonzo joined the Zone 2 Building Operations Division in April as a budget analyst with Team B, and will support PBS in Regions 4 & 6. Alonzo comes to GSA with prior Department of Army civilian experience in the budget and financial administration program fields. Alonzo has been an Army Reservist for the past 26 years. Alonzo lives in Wyndmoor, PA, just outside of Philadelphia. His hobbies include golfing, international travel, being a foodie, and being a fan of the Minnesota Vikings and Twins.



Hail to **Brian Rossi** (BR1B), who joined the Zone 1 Building Operations Division in February! Brian is a Marine Corps veteran with 11 years of government finance experience. Brian transferred from the Department of Defense, where he worked for the past 7 years. Brian was born and raised in Queens, NY. He has been married for 14 years and has a 12-year-old son. Brian is an avid fan of the New York Yankees, New York Rangers, New York Giants, New York Knicks, and Notre Dame Fighting Irish. Welcome, Brian!



Farewell to **David Na**, who departed GSA on May 6 to start a new role in the NASA Office of the Chief Information Officer. David joined OCFO in August 2020, providing invaluable contributions to data automation and dashboarding projects. He shared his knowhow with many colleagues through the Analytics Community of Practice Google Scripting workshop series. We wish David all the best and know he will do great things in government!



Farewell to **Kevin Tarver**, who has left BR2B to take a promotion with BBFA! The Zone 2 Building Operations Division would like to thank Kevin for his contributions over the past several years and wish him the best in his new position. Congratulations to Kevin.



Farewell to **Charmaine Leggett** (BR2B)! On March 31, 2022, Charmaine, BR Zone 2 budget analyst with the Building Operations Division, Region 4, retired after 38 years of federal service, including 24 years with the United States Army, 3 years as a contractor with GSA, and 11 years as a GSA employee. Now that Charmaine is retired, she plans to spend more quality time with her grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by her teammates and her PBS customers.

Farewell to **Derek Basiorka**, who has been working with FAS since January 2022. Derek has accepted a promotion within FAS and left the Z1 Building Operations Division as of April 24, 2022. I would like to thank Derek for his support and his great accomplishments in Z1.

Congratulations, Derek, on your promotion!

## WELCOME TO MY TOWN

## **DAYTON, OHIO**

#### SARA TWYMAN - FAS BUDGET DIVISION, APPROPRIATED ACCOUNTS & OPERATIONS BRANCH

Welcome to my hometown, the "Gem City," Dayton, Ohio. Founded in 1796 and chartered as a city in 1841, Dayton is the fourth largest metropolitan area in Ohio and the 73rd largest in the country



Welcome to Dayton, OH!

with a population of roughly 814,000 people. The city is probably best known as the hometown of the Wright Brothers and the place where they invented powered flight. However, thousands of other inventions have also been patented in the city, including things like the electric cash register and the ink jet printer. Speaking of cash registers, the National Cash Register Corporation was founded in Dayton by John H. Patterson in 1884 and has a hand in things we use every day, like bank ATMs and those convenient self-checkout registers at the store. The Dayton area is also home to Wright-



Patterson Air Force Base, or Wright-Patt as it's known to Daytonians. It is one of the largest Air

Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

Force bases and is rumored to be the home of a



crashed UFO from Roswell, New Mexico.

In addition to the city's innovative past and present, Dayton has a lot to offer when it comes to arts and entertainment. I grew up attending Dayton Phil-

Sara Twyman

harmonic Orchestra, Dayton Opera, and Dayton Ballet performances at either Memorial Hall or the Victoria Theatre with my family. The city is home to the Cincinnati Reds' Class A minor league affiliate, the Dayton Dragons, as well as other minor league and semi-professional sports teams. Notable points of interest include:

- The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force Located at Wright-Patt, it is one of the oldest and largest military aviation museums in the world. Its collection has several Presidential aircraft, including the Boeing 707 that Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as president aboard.
- Carillon Historical Park The park features a carillon with 57 bells, which is the largest in Ohio, and a museum containing historic buildings and exhibits concerning the history of Dayton, its residents, and technology from 1796 to present. The 1905 Wright Flyer III is housed in the park's Wright Brothers Aviation Center.

My favorite places to visit when I'm home are Young's Jersey Dairy in Yellow Springs, Ohio, for frozen lemon custard, and Kings Island Amusement Park in Mason, Ohio for thrill-seeking.

## WELCOME TO MY TOWN

## **MIDLOTHIAN, TEXAS**

### JOHN RICH - ZONE 2 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION



I grew up in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, moved to Arlington (Virginia), and, finally in 2017, moved back to Texas. We needed to live between Dallas and Fort Worth and wanted a few acres of land and Midlothian offered both, with the added advantage of being close to family. Midlothian is growing quickly (as is much of Texas) and the town is always building new things. We, however, stay on our property most of the time.

We have plenty to do here, fishing in our small pond and playing outside (at least until it's too hot!). My two girls are now 6 and 7 and love to play outside

on our swings and chase bugs. The girls love the animals, including large cranes, kingfishers, turkeys, coyotes, wild pigs, and even beavers. With our free time we've worked to update the house we're in, replacing the HVAC, updating wiring, installing new insulation, and painting inside and out. I suspect we could be working on something at this place forever, but that's part of the fun of living here.



We're really fortunate to be close to family and have such a





great place to call home. We love the

fact that Midlothian is still small yet it's still close to every-



thing you could want. I would also put our skies up against any in the country!