Hurricane Harvey. The devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey continue to impact the residents of Texas and Louisiana. Our thoughts and prayers go out to our members, the residents and their families in the affected areas, and to the members and staff of Houston-based IFMA, The International Facility Management Association.

A Message from Chairman David Karpook

To address the accelerated advancement of established and emerging technologies in the industry, OSCRE’s 2017 Business Plan provides support for several new initiatives, including establishing the OSCRE Academy to address the need for building skills in data governance practices and a Blockchain Initiative.

The OSCRE Academy officially launched several months ago, and is providing needed education in an easy to access webinar format. Several of our member organizations have each registered 25-50 participants to advance the skill level of their team members quickly, and the feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive.

Interested in learning more about the Data Governance program? It’s not too late to register for the training - each of the ten sessions is recorded with playback available to registrants to complete the training when it works best for their schedule from their computer. The accompanying slide decks and a glossary of relevant terms introduced with each session are also posted for OSCRE Academy members only. Participation in this easy to access program can build the skills of your team members and position your organization more competitively for the future. For more information, you can access the Program Guide for the OSCRE Academy using this link. If you are interested in registering a group of 10 or more students, please contact us at info@oscre.org for special pricing.

What is Blockchain?
Blockchain is a cloud-based permanent, distributed digital ledger of activities between parties.

What is the OSCRE Blockchain Initiative?
The OSCRE Blockchain Initiative is a project focused on bringing people and organizations together to explore blockchain technology in real estate and advance the discussion to action - a collaboration that results in defining use cases and completing pilot projects. As part of this initiative, one of the key questions to be addressed will be, “How will this technology affect the IT strategy of the various stakeholders within the organization and external business partners?”

Focus on work that matters. Help guide a standards-based blockchain strategy for our industry and for your organization. OSCRE will manage the overall effort and provide ongoing support for the relevant activities needed to build a strong foundation for building on blockchain technology.

What types of use cases are being investigated?
Use cases and pilot projects that address the needs of corporate real estate and the investment sector including:
- Leases and lease management
- FASB/IASB Reporting Requirements
- Recording of ownership and other records management
Look for more information about this important initiative soon, and we hope you will consider joining us.

"If the rate of change on the outside exceeds the rate of change on the inside, then the end is near."
- Jack Welch

Resources...

**New White Paper on Millennials and Real Estate** - VTS has just published a white paper entitled "3 Ways Millennials Are Changing Commercial Real Estate." Research presented in the paper indicates that millennials will make up about 50% of the workforce by 2020 - just three years away. To access the entire white paper, use this [link](#).

What's Your Data Strategy? An article by Leandro DalleMule and Thomas H. Davenport in the May-June edition of the Harvard Business Review reported that less than half of an organization’s structured data is actively used in making decisions - and less than 1% of its unstructured data is analyzed or used at all.

Interested in more information about OSCRE Membership or any of our current projects? We're here to help. Please email us at info@oscre.org for more information.

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