



Financial Excellence



Special Edition Series of
Coffee Break with Game-Changers
with your host **Bonnie D. Graham**

Presented by 

Financial Excellence with Game Changers, presented by SAP
Tuesday at 7 AM Pacific /10 AM Eastern
August 11th 2020: Embracing Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Finance and Risk

The Buzz: “We’ve come a long way in finance and accounting. From purely manual bookkeeping carried out in large, dusty, paper ledgers, through to Excel-based solutions and advanced accounting systems, we’ve been plunged into the exciting world of intelligent automation.” www.digitalistmag.com Finance is used to a “white box” set of tools for analysis, with traceable logic and steps. But a “black box”, with hidden inner workings, is needed for more complex processes. And Finance is again on the forefront, adopting machine learning and artificial intelligence. First steps are usually transact

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Featured Guests



Birgit Starmanns

Birgit Starmanns is the Global Head of oCFO COE Thought Leadership Strategy and Programs for Finance and Risk. As such, she is responsible for driving the Global COE Thought Leadership initiatives with a focus on market-facing content and programs to extend SAP's market-leading brand reputation in Finance and Risk, while collaborating and providing scale through coordination with both internal and external teams. Her functional experience is in finance and management accounting, including SAP S/4HANA Finance, core SAP ERP and SAP EPM, and new technologies such as machine learning and cloud. Birgit has over 30 years of experience across the Center of Excellence (COE), solution marketing, solu

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JS Irick

JS Irick is an Associate Partner specializing in FP&A at TruQua, an IBM company. JS' work centers on data driven strategy through Machine Learning and Predictive analysis. He is an internationally recognized speaker on machine learning, planning, SAP S/4HANA, and software development. JS' work on Florence, TruQua's innovative forecasting tools, brings Artificial Intelligence to the FP&A space. Creating explainable, interactive forecasts that drive interventional strategy. Prior to being a founding employee at TruQua, JS was Lead Engineer at the Center for Cognitive and Social Neuroscience where he was an early adopter of ML to enable Medical, Economic and Psychological research.

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Robert Kugel

Since 2003, Robert Kugel has led the Office of Finance and Business research practice at Ventana Research focusing on the intersection of information technology with the finance and accounting to line-of-business departments. He has been a technology analyst for 30+ years, with the perspective that brings, but the practice is focused firmly on what's next. His research covers the full range of finance functions (accounting, FP&A, tax, purchasing and corporate finance) along with the software that supports these functions such as ERP, performance management, tax provision, but also in price optimization and S&OP. Previously, Robert was an equity research analyst (Credit Suisse, Morgan Stanley

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Daniel Settanni

Daniel Settanni is Senior Principal focused on data science and new solution development at TruQua, an IBM company. His current focus is on disrupting the FP&A space with the development of Florence, a revolutionary new approach to Forecasting. Florence takes an outside in approach, combining high-quality external datasets with code-free AI to deliver interactive, highly explainable forecasts up to the task of tackling today's most challenging scenarios. Daniel developed a deep background in Enterprise Software in his time at SAP. While there, he filled his days safeguarding lighthouse customers, de-escalating troubled implementations, leading various aspects of new solution rollouts, and a

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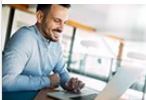
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