

ECHO

***Please note this meeting will be at the FSU Alumni Center**

Tuesday, April 2nd

Lunch Buffet	11:30 AM
Program Begins	12:00 PM
Introductions	12:10 PM
Presentation Begins	12:15 PM
Q&A	12:50 PM
Meeting Adjourned	1:00 PM

Onsite & Virtual Program

FSU Alumni Center
1030 W Tennessee St
Tallahassee, FL 32304

To RSVP, please email
mail@economic-club.com
or
Call: (850) 224-0711

**PLEASE RSVP BY Noon on
Friday, March 29th**

Contact Us

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Towards Precision Medicine Therapies and Biomarkers for Neurodegenerative Diseases

The mysteries of the brain and the national effort from here in Florida to find the causes and cure for Alzheimer's disease are the focus of our April Club meeting. Dr. Nilüfer Ertekin-Taner from the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville will share her insights as both a research scientist and practicing neurologist specializing in Alzheimer's care and behavioral neurology. She is a Professor and Research Chair of Mayo's Department of Neuroscience and was recently awarded a \$41 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to lead a national study on precision treatments in Alzheimer's.

She leads a lab team of 20 scientists in pursuit of identifying diagnostic biomarkers for Alzheimer's and cures. She also sees patients with dementia. "Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia and it has a specific fingerprint in the brain... specific changes in the brain, including an accumulation of sticky proteins and other things that interfere with its normal function," she said. It's a very common disease,

with more than six million people in the U.S. and 50 million across the world who live with the often-debilitating condition, she added.

She'll discuss the very latest research efforts and the progress being made in earlier diagnosis and treatment toward ultimately finding a cure, as well as her insights on the caregiver family experience. Plus, as always, questions from our Club members.

Dr. Ertekin-Taner has been continually funded by the National Institutes of Health and foundations, serving as a Principal Investigator on 37 grants totaling about \$80 million since 2008. With 21% of its 22.5 million residents age 65-plus, Florida has a lot to gain personally and economically from Alzheimer's research. It is one of the few states that directly supports such research.

A native of Turkey and the daughter of two neurologists, Dr. Ertekin-Taner received her



**Nilufer Ertekin-Taner,
M.D., Ph.D., FAAN**
Enterprise Chair, Dept of
Neuroscience
Professor of Neuroscience
Professor of Neurology
Mayo Clinic Florida

Medical Degree from Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. She went on to earn a PhD in Molecular Neuroscience from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, staying to complete her medical residency and fellowship in behavioral neurology on Mayo's Jacksonville campus. She and her husband, a transplant surgeon, have two daughters. She will be introduced by Club Board Director Karen Moore, Founder and CEO of Moore.

Recent New Members

Rhyse Boeneke, [Residential Elevators](#)

Andrew Roberts, [ARCO Realty](#)

Jui Shah, [Florida Tax Watch](#)

Christopher Hodge, [League of Southeastern Credit Unions & Affiliates](#)

Charles H. Wingo, MD

Robert de Cardenas, [NTT Data America](#)

Marcia Roitberg, [Communications LLC](#)

Name Badges



We have newly designed name badges. If you have an old name badge and would like one with the new design, the cost is \$15.

If interested, you can purchase a new name badge at the [Club's website](#) or call the office at 850-224-0711.

The Radical Consequences of a Digital Economy

The March Club meeting featured Bob Rice, Managing Partner of New Jersey-based Tangent Capital Partners, a broker-dealer specializing in private investments. He presented an eye-opening look at how the inventions of the digital camera, the personal computer, and the Internet have resulted in today's digital economy that will now change our lives beyond anything else in our lifetime.



Left to right: Charles Dodson, Lo Bielby, Bob Rice, Katrina Rolle, Dean Massey, James Walton, and Bobby Bacon.

"The latest iteration is Artificial Intelligence or AI, created by machine, and it's just getting started. The advances and the consequences are mind-blowing and we have to be ready," Mr. Rice said.

He showed Club members short videos of common real-life situations and fictional artistic representations involving people and animals, created from scratch by AI from a simple spoken human command to a computer. Such AI-created videos have prompted one Hollywood producer to put on-hold a planned \$800 million studio expansion and predict future job losses in the field.

"It's a revolutionary revolution and the reason is because it's not happening in one domain of human existence or knowledge...it applies to absolutely everything. There is no kind of human endeavor to which this doesn't apply," said Rice, author of three books on private investment and an adjunct Professor of Law at Florida State University, teaching how the law impacts the business of investment management.

While "no one really knows what this all means and where it will lead," Mr. Rice referenced a McKinsey & Company study, which projects that by 2030 Generative AI will double the growth of productivity and increase the world's annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by \$4 trillion, an amount equal to the GDP of Germany or Japan. Total AI will increase GDP by \$17 trillion, equal to China's annual GDP, with impacts on business competition and investment, Mr. Rice explained. (You can read more and listen to the Club's podcast with Bob Rice on our Podcasts and Summaries webpage.)

Membership Renewal Due March 31

Renewal notices were sent via email and a hardcopy was mailed. If you have not received your letter, please let us know. We may not have your current contact information. Because demand for membership is increasing, we have established a renewal deadline of March 31, after which a renewal re-initiation fee of \$100 will be added to the membership fee. **Credit card payment is available through our website, or send in your check so that we can count you as a continuing member in good standing.**

Contact Lisette Mariner, Economic Club of Florida Executive Director at mail@economic-club.com or (850) 224-0711 to update your information.. **Note the Club address is 325 John Knox Rd, L103, Tallahassee, FL 32303**

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TRUSTEES

Upcoming Programs

Onsite/Virtual Programs

June 25, 2024



Clark Mica
President

Institute of Makers
Explosives
FSU Alumni

August 6, 2024



Lee White
President

LM White Consulting
FSU Alumni

Visit the Club website for
future meeting dates.

www.economic-club.com

Member Spotlight

Ken Boutwell is a co-managing member of Vinyard Capital Partners, a private equity company founded by his son Jeff in 2002 with over 100 investors, that own businesses and properties in nineteen states. Mr. Boutwell is also one of the co-founders of Capital Health Plan and has served as Chair of its Board of Directors since its start in 1978.

Mr. Boutwell (as is his son) is a Club Trustee, a group whose extra financial commitment helps the Club fulfill its mission. "As a trained economist, I have a major interest in the economy and its contributing factors. Through its programs, our Club and its members make major contributions to the economic growth of our community and our state."

His prior experience includes serving as President and CEO of MGT of America, a national management consulting firm, for 38 years and before that, as Vice Chancellor for Administration for the State University System of Florida. He previously served on the faculty and later as Budget Director for the University of Florida, following military service in the Office of the U.S. Secretary of Defense.

Born and raised on a Mississippi dairy farm, Mr. Boutwell later received a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics from Mississippi State University and a PhD in Economics from North Carolina State University. His community service includes past Chair of the United Way and co-founder of Choose Tallahassee. His second book, Let Justice and Mercy Flow, was just recently published.



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