



## IIBA Informant

### News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

April 15, 2015

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#### Dear Business Analyst,

If you enjoy reading this newsletter and think that other Business Analysts, Project Managers, or Directors in your organization might enjoy it as well, it's easy to share. Just forward it to your colleagues.

Did someone forward this newsletter to you? Would you like to receive upcoming issues of this newsletter and learn more about IIBA and the Business Analysis profession? Just click on the **Join Our Mailing List** link on the [IIBA Denver Chapter website](#).

#### Upcoming Networking Event



#### Spring Networking Event

**Date: Thursday, April 23**

5:30 - 6:00 - Registration and Libation Selection

6:00 - 6:30 - Light Announcements and Chapter Business

6:30 - 8:00 - Networking, Prizes, Fun!

**Location:**

Breckenridge Brewery Colorado Craft  
(2220 Blake Street near Coors Field; the sign near the door still says "Breckenridge Brewery")

**Topic:** Join the IIBA Denver Chapter for a Spring networking event! This is a great opportunity to meet fellow business analysis professionals in the front range area and interact on a social basis.

**Who should attend?** Anyone who works in the BA space is welcome: business analysts, system analysts, project managers, quality assurance, process analysts, agilists, enterprise analysts, or anyone who wants to network and learn more about the IIBA. Bring your business cards and join us for a great time, door prizes, and free buffet!

**Buffet and soft drinks provided.** Cash bar.

To register, [click here](#).

## May Chapter Meeting

Save the date! Our May chapter meeting will be Wednesday May 20th at 8301 East Prentice Avenue, #400. Kym Byron, past Denver IIBA president, will speak on version 3 of the BABOK. Invitation and details to follow in a separate email.

## Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke, President

We have big news we're excited to announce! We have secured a really wonderful new meeting location for our chapter meetings for the remainder of the year and hopefully well beyond that. This is just a perfect meeting space for us, and is introduced in detail in the following article - you won't want to miss our inaugural meeting May 20th for this incredible new space!

Our May 20th meeting is also a very special meeting for two big reasons. First, as you may know, the IIBA is releasing the Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK) version 3.0 on April 15th. Our May meeting will be all about the new version of the BABOK, which is the de-facto standard on defining Business Analysis generally accepted best practices. This is something every Business Analyst needs to have a good level of familiarity with these days, so is a big event for the IIBA.

Secondly, and most importantly, we are thrilled to have Kym Byron introduce the BABOK 3.0. Kym was on the IIBA committee that produced version 3.0 of the BABOK, and has been very involved in the IIBA both nationally and as a former president of our local Denver Chapter. We could not get a better presenter to introduce version 3.0! As we have previously announced, Kym is also battling cancer, and many of you have generously donated to her fundraiser. This is a special opportunity for our chapter to show our support for Kym, and encourage her in this battle.

The May meeting is shaping up to be something special, so please plan to attend and be a part of it - we'll be looking for you!

## Exciting New Meeting Location!

by Monte Malenke, President

We have an exciting new meeting location starting with our May chapter meeting. This is a truly

great space that I believe will work extremely well for our needs. I'm sure you will really enjoy it!

We have partnered with the Business Tech Center, which provides very well equipped professional conference meeting spaces near I-25 and Belleview. The Business Tech Center is coming on board as a chapter sponsor and giving us a very generous discount on their normal prices, so many, many thanks to the Business Tech Center! You will want to keep the Business Tech Center in mind for any company meetings you might have and need a great space to host the meeting in.

We are renting their large meeting room which holds up to 72 comfortably, well appointed with high quality chairs and tables for every attendee, including power on the desktops and free WiFi. The meeting space is quite roomy and includes a kitchen area with a refrigerator we can use, a bar area for setting out the food for our chapter meetings, three high quality projectors and screens, wireless microphone, podium and room microphones. On top of that, it has easy access and excellent parking including a covered parking garage we can use for free. It is truly a great space and just perfect for our needs.

The details for the Business Tech Center are:

- 8301 East Prentice Avenue, #400 Greenwood Village, CO 80111
- [303-996--2849](tel:303-996-2849)
- <http://www.thebusinesstechcenter.com/>

I would highly encourage you to be at our next chapter meeting in May to inaugurate this new meeting space, and enjoy the meeting in a very roomy professional space!

### MODIS Job Search Feature

As a global provider of IT staffing services, MODIS connects the very best IT professionals to great opportunities at leading companies. And we do it every single day - for both temporary and permanent assignments and across virtually all industries. We use our insight, flexibility and expanded resources to anticipate the needs of leading tech companies and help them make exceptional connections with top tech talent.

[Search for jobs.](#)

For more information, please contact:  
Kristen Short  
Resource Development Manager  
720-244-5309  
7887 East Belleview Ave.  
Suite 400, Englewood, CO 80111



### Bridging the Gap

Denver IIBA is proud to announce a new Gold Sponsor for 2015! The company is [Bridging the Gap](#), a leading provider of virtual business analysis training founded by a long-time chapter member.

**Laura Brandenburg, CBAP®** is passionate about business analysis and about helping you find your place within it. Laura is the author of *How to Start a Business Analyst Career*, *Professional Development for Business Analysts*, and *How to Earn Your CBAP or CCBA in 3 Months*.



Laura offers business analysis courses to people who want to get started in a business analyst career or make sure they succeed in their current business analyst position. She is also providing exclusive discounts for those involved with the Chapter - check out the [sponsorship page](#) for more information.

## Other April Events

### BABOK® v3 Release

The much anticipated BABOK v 3 is released today! You can get more [information here](#). Since IIBA members get a copy free, it's another good reason to become a member now!



### PMI Symposium on April 24, 2015

If you haven't been to this annual event hosted by the PMI Mile Hi Chapter, it is a wonderful opportunity to learn and network with not only Project Managers but other Business Analysts and professionals in your industry. Our very own Denver chapter IIBA member, Michelle Kahler (PMP, CBAP) will be speaking on practicing the "people" side of project success and her firm, North Highland is a key sponsor at the event. Please [click this link](#) to learn more about other breakout sessions and view additional information about the event. Hope to see you there!

### Kym Byron Fundraising

Kym Byron, a long time member, supporter and past president of the IIBA Denver Chapter was diagnosed this past summer with cancer. The Denver Chapter would like to support Kim during her difficult times.

For more information about Kym's story and to make a donation, please click this link and give what you can:

[Kym Byron's Fundraising Website](#)

For additional information and updates,click [here](#).

## March Chapter Meeting Recap

by Jay Galecki

The Denver Chapter meeting in March had a turnout of 47 people and featured a presentation by **Laura Brandenburg, CBAP**. She spoke about starting a career in Business Analysis. To see a copy of the slide deck, [click here](#).

Laura is the author of *How to Start a Business Analyst Career*, *Professional Development for Business Analysts*, and *How to Earn Your CBAP or CCBA in 3 Months*. Laura offers business analysis courses to people who want to get started in a business analyst career or make sure they succeed in their current business analyst position, and is also a chapter sponsor!

## Denver Chapter Education News

by Heidi McLaughlin, VP Education

## Call for Speakers

We are looking for speakers to speak at our chapter meetings on topics relevant to business analysts. If you have an interest in being a speaker, being part of a panel of speakers, or if you know someone who would make a great speaker, please contact Heidi at [Education@denver.iiba.org](mailto:Education@denver.iiba.org). Some topics that have been suggested are listed below, but of course our interests are not limited to this list.

- BABOK Review
- Agile Extension to the BABOK
- Process Mapping
- BA Diagramming & Modeling
- Elicitation
- Enterprise Analysis

## CBAP® Study Group Continues

by Mary Anne McSweeney, CBAP

### Interested in attending a new CBAP Study Group?

***It will be the last study group to meet before the CBAP and CCBA Certification exams are based on BABOK v3.***

This is a virtual study group, so there is no need to drive anywhere to meet as we will be connecting via web conferencing. The goal of the study group is to cover the complete BABOK in preparation for taking the CBAP or CCBA exam.

Sessions consist of a review of BABOK content for each session and group discussion to resolve specific questions and insights we have. Attendees will facilitate each of the 6 sessions. Materials are provided by IIBA.

Give yourself, your company and your clients a huge benefit by getting certified!

**We need to register at least 5 participants to start a new Study Group. If you are interested, please send an email to [CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org](mailto:CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org), including:**

- 1) Your name
- 2) Email
- 3) IIBA member number
- 4) Indication of whether or not you are a IIBA Denver Chapter member
- 5) Phone
- 6) Any special areas of desired interest or focus

**Note:** In order to participate, you **must either be a Denver Chapter member**, in addition to your IIBA membership, or pay the \$25 Study Group fee. The cost to join the Denver Chapter is \$25/year. To register, please go to our Membership Application page located [here](#).

## Membership News

by Susan Futey, CBAP, VP Membership

### Welcome New Denver Chapter Members!

Mark Brindel  
Rochelle Piro, CBAP  
Darcy Webb

**Active Member Count: 98**

### **Not a member yet but interested in joining?**

It's a great way to network, share business analysis knowledge and experience, and learn about new techniques and processes. Best of all, membership is just **\$25/year!** [Join now!](#)

Benefits of being a local chapter member:

- Attend chapter meetings free
- Participate in Denver Chapter elections (as candidates or as voters)
- Participate in members-only offers such as volunteer opportunities at BA World
- Get to wear a snazzy name badge at the meetings

IIBA member, but *not* a Denver Chapter member, your cost = \$10 per meeting. IIBA member *and* a Denver Chapter member (annual membership fee of \$25) your cost = **free**. *Take advantage of this deal today!*

You do have to be a member of the IIBA International Organization in order to join the IIBA Denver Chapter. Join IIBA through their website at [www.iiba.org](http://www.iiba.org). IIBA [Membership benefits](#) include:

- Free copy of the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® \(BABOK® Guide\)](#)
- Free access to the [Online Library](#) where you will find hundreds of books
- Knowledge sharing and networking opportunities through the [IIBA Community Network](#)
- Exclusive IIBA monthly publications such as the [IIBA BA Connection monthly newsletter](#)
- Eligibility to join a local [IIBA Chapter](#)
- Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Competency Model](#)
- Access to [IIBA Webinars](#) on a range of professional development topics
- Job search capabilities using [Career Center](#)

If you have any questions about membership or renewal, please feel free to send an email using the [Contact Us](#) link on the IIBA Denver Chapter website.

## **Get involved!**

Do you want to support local Business Analysts, the profession, increase visibility to your company, or gain recertification credits? The Denver chapter is looking for help on several committees.

### **VP Events**

This position will be open starting in July. If you would like to make our two networking events each year a reality for the next two year term, please let me know about your interest and we'll make sure you are considered during our elections this summer. You could even help Debra with our next event happening this April to get a head start on seeing what she does.

### **Corporate Programs**

There is currently an opening for Corporate Programs in the Marketing Committee. If you are interested, contact [marketing@denver.iiba.org](mailto:marketing@denver.iiba.org).

## **Companies Seeking BAs**

Are you following the chapter's Linked In group "IIBA Denver Chapter"? New job opportunities are posted there when information is available.

## **Future 2015 Meetings/Events**

Future meetings are scheduled every other month. The remaining meetings are:

- May 20 - Meeting (Wednesday)
- July 15 - Meeting (Wednesday)
- September 16 - Meeting (Wednesday)
- Fall Networking event - Not scheduled
- November 18 - Meeting (Wednesday)

## Thanking our Volunteers!

The chapter can't run without volunteers. Thank you to two new members of the Membership committee Nataliya Burdeynyuk and Peter Hanson who help with event registration and member check in.



## Certification News

by Debbie Rasor, CBAP

### Need Help with your CBAP or CCBA® application?

Need another set of eyes to review your application before you submit it? Tips on applying for recertification? I can answer your questions, review your application, and offer feedback on it before you submit it. Contact me at [debrasor@yahoo.com](mailto:debrasor@yahoo.com).

The IIBA Denver Chapter is continuing to support the CBAP as the highest designation in the field of business analysis. CBAPs must meet requirements for experience, education, knowledge, skill, and ethics. The IIBA is looking for organizations that support the CBAP designation, and we would love to see strong company support right here in Colorado! If your organization reimburses you for CBAP exam fees, recognizes the CBAP or CCBA as a professional certification, promotes the certification as part of its professional development goals, or otherwise endorses the designation, please let us know!

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Rasor, CBAP  
Associate Editor: Jay Galecki

If you have a contribution to make to the IIBA Informant, please email us at [editor@denver.iiba.org](mailto:editor@denver.iiba.org).

If you are interested in advertising BA-related services in the IIBA Informant, please email us at [info@denver.iiba.org](mailto:info@denver.iiba.org).

### Produced by the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

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Monte Malenke

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**Education Committee** ([education@denver.iiba.org](mailto:education@denver.iiba.org))  
VP-Education: Heidi McLaughlin  
Technology Volunteer for Meetings: open

**Marketing Committee** ([marketing@denver.iiba.org](mailto:marketing@denver.iiba.org))  
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Director - Corporate Programs: open

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VP-Membership Services: Susan Futey, CBAP

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AVP: Grant Warden

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**Events Committee** ([events@denver.iiba.org](mailto:events@denver.iiba.org))

VP-Events: Debra Urban

The International Institute of Business Analysis is a non-profit organization for Business Analyst professionals. The goal of the local Denver Chapter is to support IIBA by (1) advancing the role of the Business Analyst as a recognized profession, (2) support opportunities for members to network with, and gain knowledge from, seasoned BA practitioners as well as industry and government leaders, (3) provide access for members to a formal "knowledge base" as well as forums for sharing expertise, expressing professional opinions and building a reputation within the industry, (4) provide pathways to learn about business analysis best practices, and (5) obtain and sustain a level of financial security, sustainability, and autonomy at the local level.