

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

February 16, 2014

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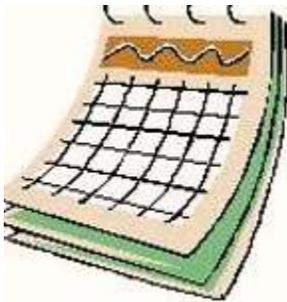
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Dear Business Analyst,

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 Events



Next IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting

National MS Society
(Same location as January meeting)

Monday March 17:

5:30 - 6:00 Check In, Networking, Food
6:00 - 6:30 - Announcements, Chapter Business
6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

Topic: Overview of Agile Extension to the BABOK®

The Agile Extension to the BABOK Guide version 1.0 was released last fall. Want to know about it but haven't had a chance to read it? What is the business analyst's role in an agile project? Is agile only for software analysis? [Click here for more information about the presentation and speakers](#). If you have used agile techniques, here's your chance to share examples with the group.

Presenters: Debbie Rasor and Jenny Nunemacher.

Location: National MS Society, 900 South Broadway, Denver

Cost: The cost is \$10 for non members. No cost for Denver chapter members. Snacks generously provided by our sponsor MODIS.

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke

Thank-You Judy!

With our past president, Judy Cacco, needing to step down, I'd like to take this opportunity to give her a big thanks for stepping in and picking up the role of President last year and keeping things going with the chapter. With her willingness to serve the chapter in this role, it provided the continuity necessary to add new board members and build momentum for the chapter heading into 2014. Next time you see Judy, be sure to give her a big thanks!

Introduction

As many of you know, I have agreed to fill the role of President of the chapter starting December of 2013, and am excited to serve in this capacity. Previously, I was on the Education Committee, and led the charge with the Fall 2013 CBAP study group, which just completed in February. I'm very passionate about Business Analysis which I have focused my career on for over 10 years now, with extensive database design, admin, software development and analysis for the previous 15 years. I started out as a Civil Engineer, but moved into IT and IT management before moving into the consulting world.

As a Business Analyst, I'm glad we have a professional organization like the Denver chapter of the IIBA and appreciate the value it has been to me over the years. My vision for the chapter is to continue those things that we appreciate about it, and enhance it in ways that will deliver real value to each of us as members. Whether that is networking with our peers to find new career opportunities, finding great BAs when we need them, continue learning about the BABOK, Business Analysis best practices, industry trends or just socializing with professional colleagues from the metro area, I want to ensure we strengthen these things in our chapter and create a rewarding and worthwhile experience for all our members and participants.

As you can probably already tell, we are having great participation on the board and with the chapter leadership in general, so a lot of momentum is building. I have to say that we really have a great board, and being a part of that has been a great experience already. If you have interest in being a part or helping in big or small ways, please feel free to contact me at President@denver.iiba.org.

New Location for 2014 - National MS Society

I'm very excited to announce that we have secured a new location for all our chapter meetings for 2014 at the National MS Society offices at I-25 and Broadway. Duanyelle Perry, our new VP of Marketing, works for the MS Society and has graciously offered the location to us and worked to obtain approval to have our chapter meet there for 2014. This is a wonderful space and is a much more central location which should be welcome news to everyone on the north side of town. If the location on the south side was holding you back from attending our meetings in the past, now is your chance to start coming to our chapter meetings and get involved! Please give a very big thanks to Duanyelle and the National MS Society! (The MS Society is located at 900 S Broadway, Denver CO 80209, just south of I-25 on the east side of Broadway. Check out their website at <http://www.nationalmssociety.org/chapters/coc/index.aspx> Parking at the garage facility is \$2. Credit cards and cash are both accepted.

We are also planning on forming some teams from the chapter to participate in their MS 150 and fund raising walks, so start thinking about getting involved - we'll have much more about this later.

New VP of Marketing!

As mentioned above, Duanyelle Perry has accepted the position of VP of Marketing, leading the charge for the Marketing Committee. Duanyelle has been very proactive and has done so many things for the chapter even before taking on this role. I'm so grateful for her participation, energy and strong support of the Denver chapter, and look forward to great things coming out of the Marketing Committee with her leadership. Be sure to find Duanyelle and thank her for taking on this important role!

New VP of Communications!

I am very pleased to also announce Grant Warden as the newest member of the board, taking on the role of VP of Communications and providing leadership of the Communications Committee. This is a very critical role and committee for the chapter, and Grant has some great vision for the website content and how we communicate with the chapter. Be sure to find Grand and give him a big thanks also!

Open Position: VP of Events

We have one last VP position yet to fill, and that is the VP of Events. I would love to see someone step up here and take on this role. The main tasks for this role will be to spear head our two networking events we'll have each year (yes, two this year!). We are planning to have a networking event in the late spring / early summer time frame and another in the fall. Organizing these events is not very difficult, since we have such great folks on the board and chapter that are more than willing to help. I would know as I organized the networking event in December and found it not difficult to accomplish, but very rewarding. This is an elected position, but since it is vacant the board can appoint a replacement without an election. The current term for this position ends 7/1/2015, at which time elections will be held. Please e-mail me if you have any interest at President@denver.iiba.org.

Webmaster Needed!

One last position we could really use some help with is the website. If you have any interest in helping update and keep the website current, we need you! Please contact Bill Kennedy, our AVP of Technology if interested at Technology@denver.iiba.org or Grant Warden at Communication@denver.iiba.org.

Thanks to our sponsor

Our sponsor [MODIS](#) is also a proud sponsor of the U.S. Olympic Team. Thanks for sponsoring both groups MODIS!

"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."

For more information, please contact:
Erin Myers
Resource Development Manager

303-222-2451

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Meeting Schedule for the Rest of 2014

Because of the new location, some meeting dates must be moved to a Monday. Here's the schedule for the rest of the year:

- March 17 (**Monday**)
- May 21 (Wednesday)
- July 16 (Wednesday)
- September 15 (**Monday**)
- November 19 (Wednesday)

January Chapter Meeting Recap

by Jay Galecki

During the January 15 meeting, an open discussion was made regarding the location of meetings. We found that there were a lot of people coming from different parts of the front range, and that a central Denver meeting location would be most suitable for future gatherings. This discussion helped with the decision to make the MS Society the gathering place for future meetings. To support the MS Society, we are encouraging all to be involved in some future fundraising events such as their run and MS 150 bike ride. Among other topics were the following:

- Monte Malenke was appointed interim president by Judy Cacco.
- Duanyelle Perry was appointed VP-Marketing by the board.
- In light of the success of the networking event in December, the chapter is interested in hosting two networking events for 2014. Thoughts were toward having more sponsorship to offset cost of the events.
- Interest was expressed in more video conferencing options to help get people in remote locations involved.
- Stace Williams gave an interesting and informative presentation. For details on the content, see the educational article in this newsletter!

Educational Article: Recap from Stace Williams Presentation

by Jay Galecki

In the January 15 Denver Chapter meeting, Stace Williams of InterActive Dynamics was the guest speaker. Her presentation discussed differences between generations in the workforce. Below is a recap from her presentation:

There are four generations currently represented in the labor market (Traditional, Baby Boomer, Gen X, Millennial). Each of these generations has specific characteristics on how they view work, and those views are molded through their generational experiences from their youth.

- The Traditional Generation people were born before 1946, and tend to value conforming behavior, consistency, and financial rewards.
- Baby Boomers were born between 1946-1964, and tend to be driven, competitive, and career focused.
- Gen Xers were the generation born between 1965-1980; they tend to value work-life balance, independence, and often hold skepticism.
- Millennials were born after 1980; they tend to be optimistic, ambitious, and less structured in their approach. They are projected to be the largest group in the workforce by 2020.

Although the application of these characteristics vary from person to person, it is important for a Business Analyst to understand these differences to communicate properly with people of different experiences, and to effectively manage their talents accordingly.

Also contained in the presentation was a discussion on the current talent pool, of as she described, "A Great Talent Ocean™." We are encouraged to know the ocean and respond with flexibility in dealing with challenges.

CBAP® Study Group

by Denver Chapter Education Committee

The first Denver Chapter CBAP study group has just finished their studies.

Another CBAP study group will be starting up in the early spring 2014 timeframe, and will run for 6 months. Now is your chance to get moving on your CBAP or CCBA certification! Stay tuned for more details on this. If you are interested in joining this new group, please email CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org.

Membership News

by Susan Futey

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Kevin Cloughley
Jeff Fortney
Steve Hupka
Rick Min
Ginger Pearl-Berg
Karen Piper
Diana Russell
Kevin Stolpmann

Active Member Count: 68

We will now be providing Continuing Development Units (CDUs) to support folks wanting to maintain their CBAPs. The Membership Committee will have receipts at the meetings for those wanting credit.

Not a member yet, but interested in joining the Denver IIBA chapter?

You'll find that it is 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 include the following:

- Attend chapter meetings free or at reduced cost.
- Participate in Denver Chapter elections (as candidates or as voters).
- Participate in members-only door prize drawings.
- Opt in to receive job notifications.
- Participate in members-only offers (e.g., volunteer opportunities at the BA World Symposium).
- Get to wear a snazzy name badge at the meetings!

Did you know that if you are an IIBA (International Organization) member, instead of paying \$10 per meeting, you can pay an annual membership fee of \$25 and attend all meetings **free**? That's a bargain! *Take advantage of this deal today.*

For those of you thinking about membership it is important to know that you do have to be a member of the IIBA in order to join the IIBA Denver Chapter. Joining IIBA can be done through their website at www.iiba.org. Membership benefits include:

- Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge \(BABOK Guide\)](#).
- Free access to the [Online Library](#) of more than 300 books.
- Assistance with the [Certified Business Analysis Professional \(CBAP\) and Certification of Competency in Business Analysis \(CCBA\) certification exams](#).
- Knowledge sharing and networking opportunities through the [IIBA Community Network](#).

- Access to 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](#).
- Access to the IIBA [salary survey](#).
- And [more...](#)

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.
Thank you!

Susan Futey

VP Membership Services, IIBA Denver Chapter

Get Involved

Joining the IIBA Denver Chapter Board

Do you want to support local Business Analysts, the profession, and increase visibility to your company? The chapter is looking for help with chapter sponsorship, event sponsorship, teleconference lines, door prize giveaways, and organizing the chapter meetings. **There are currently 3 openings: Events, Webmaster, Corporate Programs.** If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please respond to President@denver.iiba.org.

Joining IIBA Denver Chapter Committees

The Denver chapter is looking for help on numerous committees. For more information on how to assist the committees, go to the Volunteer Opportunities link on the Denver chapter website or see the list of openings at the bottom of this newsletter.

Endorsing and Recognizing the CBAP

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 as a professional certification, promotes the certification as part of its professional development goals, or otherwise endorses the designation, please let us know!

Do You Need Help With Your CBAP or CCBA Application?

Need tips on completing your application? Need BABOK study book recommendations? Debbie Rasor, who earned her CBAP certification in July 2011, has graciously offered to assist other BAs who may currently be applying for their CBAP or CCBA applications.

Since Debbie has made the journey of studying for the CBAP and sitting for the examination, she can answer your questions, review your application, and offer feedback on it before you submit it. She can be contacted at debrador@yahoo.com.

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.

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

Produced by the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

President (Interim): Monte Malenke

Finance Committee

VP - Finance and Treasurer: Felicia Arambula

Education Committee

VP - Education: Heidi McLaughlin
Education Committee, Director: Mary Anne McSweeney
Education Committee, Director: Michelle Kahler
Education Committee, Director: Debra Urban
Education Committee, Director: Doug Liles
Certification, Director: Debbie Rasor
CBAP/CCBA study Group, Director: Open

Marketing Committee

VP-Marketing: Duanyelle Perry
Director - Corporate Programs: open

Membership Committee

VP-Membership Services: Susan Futey
Director - Regionalization: Jenny Nunemacher
Director - Recruiting: Laura Shipley

Communications Committee

VP - Communication: Grant Warden
Director - PMI Liaison: Kathy Bishop

Technology Committee

AVP-Technology: Bill Kennedy
Director - Tools Research: Bill Kennedy
Webmaster - open

Events Committee

VP -Events: open

IIBA 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.