

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

January 14, 2015

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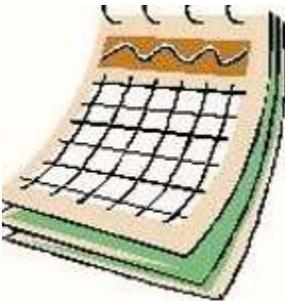
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Dear Business Analyst,

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 Meeting



January 2015 IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 21

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

Note this is a new topic.

Topic: "Business Process Modeling for Better Requirements"

Presenter: Carl Radunsky - Business Architect

Business representatives often have difficulty communicating what they need and how a solution might address their needs. BPM (Business Process Modeling) is a tool that Business Analysts can use to elicit requirements, and improve solution alignment with a project's goals. BPM can be

valuable when a project problem space is focused on a manual or technical process implementation. A picture or model can help business representatives understand their current business, define a potential future process, and then provide the structure to document business requirements for a system solution.

There are a number of BPM tools and techniques. Certain models are limited to requirements elicitation; some can be expanded to include the technical solution implementation. Certain modeling tools include a repository for models that can provide access to reusable process models. Understanding the objective of the process modeling effort is important to determine an appropriate modeling syntax, tool and strategy. The presenter will discuss several modeling techniques, and his experience building an enterprise process repository in a large corporate environment.

About Carl: Carl has over 25 years' experience in all aspects of business application development. Most recently he was the lead of the Business Process Modeling Center of Excellence at FedEx. There he implemented an enterprise repository of business process models. His responsibilities included defining modeling standards, and administering a process modeling tool that supported a repository used to manage inter-related enterprise processes.

Location: 7887 East Belleview Avenue, Englewood. **Note that this is a new location!**

Cost: There are two levels of membership: 1) IIBA National and 2) IIBA Denver Chapter with IIBA National. The meeting cost is free for members of the Denver Chapter. The cost is \$10 for non-members of the Denver chapter. Snacks are generously provided by our sponsor MODIS. [Click here to register.](#)

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke, President

As we begin 2015, I'm excited about continuing to build the momentum that has been growing over the last year. Here is a little summary of some of that growth and forward momentum we saw and are continued to be blessed with:

- Many new members joined the chapter last year - about a 75% increase over the prior year
- Started our on-going CBAP study groups
- Found a new location to meet at (Thanks National MS Society!)
- Migrated to a brand new website that is a real boost to the chapter (Thanks Linda and Grant!)
- Significant improvements to our internal email system and other administrative areas
- Continued strong support from our premier sponsor, Modis
- Had very good attendance at our chapter meetings with excellent presentations
- Had two very successful networking events
- Had a number of folks begin or continue to serve in chapter leadership roles, filling the open board positions

As a board, we have been very encouraged by all this progress and growth, and are committed to continue moving the chapter forward in all these areas. Now as we begin the new year, this a perfect opportunity for you to get involved in the chapter. If that means beginning to simply attend chapter meetings (first time is free!), join the chapter, join a CBAP study group, or volunteer to serve on the board or in some other capacity, I would highly encourage you to join with us as we "grow forward" in 2015.

Right now we are looking to fill the VP of Marketing board position that became open in 2014, which will primarily work with existing and potential sponsors. We are actively looking for new sponsors, and are always on the lookout to bring in the best speakers to our chapter meetings. If you would like help out in

any of these areas, please contact me or any board member. It is a great experience to work with such wonderful people in the chapter, and having this kind of professional volunteer experience always looks good on the resume!

I look forward to seeing you all at our January chapter meeting on Wednesday the 21st!

Happy New Year!

PS - Please be aware that we will be meeting at a new location for our chapter meetings in 2015 in the DTC near I-25 and Belleview in the building that Modis is in.

Modis Salary Guide for 2015 Available

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.

[Get a copy of the 2015 salary guide.](#)

For more information, please contact:

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Suite 400, Englewood, CO 80111



Denver IIBA is proud to announce a new Gold Sponsor for 2015! The company is [Bridging the Gap](#), a home-grown enterprise started 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. Please welcome Laura as a sponsor when you see her at upcoming meetings, and check out our website sponsorship page for more details on how Bridging the Gap can help your BA career. We look forward to a successful collaboration in the coming year!



Denver Chapter Education News

by Heidi McLaughlin, VP Education

Lean In Group

You may be familiar with the book "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead" that Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook, wrote which reached No. 1 both on the New York Times Bestseller list as well as on Amazon. She was inspired to write the book based off of the success of her 2010 Ted talk entitled, "Why

We Have Too Few Women Leaders." The book has in turn inspired Lean In circles to be formed across the country for purposes of helping people gain peer coaching in their careers. As described on the [Lean In site](#), "Lean In Circles are small groups who meet regularly to learn and grow together. Circles are as unique as the individuals who start them, but they all share a common bond: the power of peer support." The Denver IIBA would like to begin its own Lean In group. This is not for women only - our group would be co-ed and would meet virtually. We're looking for a circle manager, circle facilitator, and 8-10 additional members. If you're interested, please contact Heidi at Education@denver.iiba.org.

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. 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

New CBAP® Study Group In Session! Still time to join!

The IIBA Denver Chapter CBAP study group is a virtual study group, so there is no need to drive anywhere to meet as we connect via web conferencing. The goal of this study group is to cover the complete BABOK in preparation for taking the CBAP exam.

This will be the last group to meet before CBAP Certification is based on the new 3.0 version of the BABOK, which is scheduled for April 2015. We are meeting the 2nd Wednesday of every month, from November through April. Please see the [Study Group page](#) for the complete schedule.

Sessions consist of a review of BABOK content and group discussion to resolve specific questions. Give yourself, your company and your clients a huge benefit by getting certified. Hope to see YOU there! It's more fun doing it as a group!

Primary content is the IIBA Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK). In addition, the study group has specific study materials and a practice exam for each chapter.

To join the Study Group, you must be a member of IIBA and also a member of the Denver Chapter. If you are interested, please email CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org and include the following details:

- 1) Your name
- 2) Phone
- 3) Email Address
- 4) IIBA member number
- 5) Any special areas of desired interest or focus

Happy New Year to all of our 93 Denver Chapter members!

Not a member yet but interested in joining? Make it your New Year's resolution to join the local IIBA Denver Chapter. 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
- Be the proud owner of the "IIBA Denver Chapter" mug!

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. 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.

IIBA national would like to announce that the BABOK Guide version v3 is available in April. [Click here for more information.](#)

Joining IIBA Denver Chapter Committees

Do you want to support local Business Analysts, the profession, and increase visibility to your company? The Denver chapter is looking for help on numerous committees. There are currently openings for both VP Marketing and Corporate Programs. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please respond to President@denver.iiba.org.

Technology Volunteer

The chapter would like to be able to stream and/or record chapter meetings presentations, but we need help to do it. Do you have the skillset/ equipment to stream or record our chapter meetings? If you can help, please contact Heidi McLaughlin (VP of Education) at Education@denver.iiba.org or any board member.

BABOK Version 3 Newsletter Article Writer

If you've been a member for a while, you may recall that that Kym Byron used to write a monthly article summarizing each BABOK Version 2 section. Since Version 3 is coming out, we'd like to start a new series of articles this Summer. We need volunteers to write articles for our newsletter. It will be a great way to really learn the BABOK! Please contact Debbie Rasor (editor@denver.iiba.org) if you are interested. You do not need to commit to writing all the articles.

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

After the January meeting, the next general meeting is scheduled on March 18, 2015.

Topic: How to Start a BA Career: Debunking the 5 Myths

Presenter: Laura Brandenburg, author of "How to Start a Business Analyst Career"

Future meetings are scheduled every other month. Keep an eye on this newsletter for future times and dates!

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.

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.

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

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Marketing Committee

VP-Marketing: open

Director - Corporate Programs: open

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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.