

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

July 13, 2014

In This Issue

Upcoming Events

President Letter

MS Events

Chapter News

Study Group

Membership News

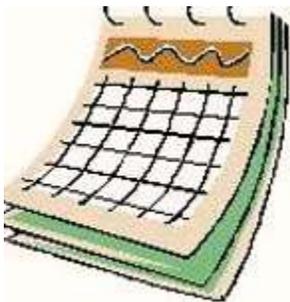
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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



July IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting

Date: This Wednesday! July 16:

5:30 - 6:00 - Check In, Networking, Food

6:00 - 6:30 - Announcements, Chapter Business

6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

Topic: The Human Metric & Mind Mapping

Presenter: Trent Leopold

Location: National MS Society, 900 South Broadway, Denver

Cost: There are two levels of membership: IIBA National and IIBA Denver Chapter. 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.

[Register here.](#)

This timely, dynamic presentation illustrates and teaches the importance of examining the human metric and mind mapping in contemporary business analysis. Attendees will see emerging science and technologies while gaining an understanding of belief system dynamics.

Practical tools and techniques will be shared as well as an in-depth examination of human perception and linguistics. The practical application of mind mapping techniques for contemporary business analysis will also be presented, and each participant will have a meaningful takeaway to use in the practice and share with their practitioners. This presentation is suited for all levels of business analysis and project management.

Trent Leopold presented The Human Metric & Mind Mapping earlier this year at BAWORLD Dallas. Trent has more than 15 years of practical business analysis experience in various roles for U.S. private firms and governments. Trent holds an advanced degree in Managerial Science, and an advanced certification in project management. Leopold's experience includes serving as a director for one of America's major corporations. His history includes actively participating in a wide array of practical business analysis endeavors for for-profit and non-profit entities as well as managing multiple projects of various sizes. Trent is a member of the National Institutes of Health Institutional Review Board, engaged in neuroscience research. He is an IIBA & PMI member. Trent is a licensed aircraft pilot and has been married to his wife for more than 20 years.

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke

I hope everyone had a great Fourth of July! Hard to believe we are past the 4th already, but it's great to be enjoying these summer days.

We did not have any additional nominations for the board positions that were up for election this July, so the existing board members that were nominated and agreed to run again will retain their board positions. As a result, please join with me in thanking and congratulating the following board members who will begin new terms starting this July:

- VP Membership - Susan Futey
- VP Finance - Felicia Arambula
- VP Communications - Grant Warden

We are planning to have a date and location selected for our Fall Networking event by the end of this month, which should occur at the end of September or first part of October, so watch for that and plan to be there. These events are always a great opportunity to network, catch up with colleagues and have an enjoyable evening.

As a final thought, I'd like to encourage everyone to consider obtaining your CBAP® designation if you have not already done so. This is a great value offered by the IIBA to enhance your career. Now is a very good time to plan to do this before version 3 of the BABOK comes out which will be fairly different and probably larger. The exam probably won't switch over to version 3 until just after January, so doing this before the end of the year would be a good target. We have CBAP study groups available for you to participate in to support these efforts - check them out!

See you all at the next Chapter meeting this coming Wednesday, July 16th - be sure to sign up using the link at the top of this newsletter.

Have a great July everyone!

Upcoming MS Events

by Duanyelle Perry

The Denver chapter is actively involved in working with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Below are the upcoming summer events:

Hike MS

Strap on your boots, fill up your water bottles and grab your friends and family - it's time once again to Hike! Join us this summer as we climb our way to a cure for MS in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. With Hike routes varying from 2-14 miles, there's a route for the whole family and we'll be there every step of the way.

Click [here](#) to join the IIBA Denver Hikers Team on July 26th, Keystone Resort. For more information about the Hike MS Denver, click [here](#).

Muckfest MS Denver

Fellow IIBA members, let's muck it a mile high at MuckFest MS Denver. We can run, swing, slosh, climb and laugh our way through a 5K course of incredible obstacles and muddy pits, trenches and craters. It's not just about the fun, there's also a mission behind the muck: 100% of your fundraising dollars go back to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Have a blast and make a difference!

Click [here](#) to join the IIBA Denver MuckFest Team September 13th, Music Mountain Amphitheater in Larkspur. For more information about the MuckFest MS Denver, click [here](#).

Thank You 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.

MODIS



Proud Sponsor

For more information, please contact:

Kristen Short
Resource Development Manager
720-244-5309
7887 East Belleview Ave.
Suite 400, Englewood, CO 80111

Denver Chapter News

When you are a member of the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA) and then join the local Denver Chapter, you will receive a complimentary mug displaying the IIBA Denver Chapter logo. A great way to showcase your BA profession while enjoying your coffee or tea! Active Denver Chapter Members please pick up your mug at the next chapter meeting.



Companies Seeking BAs

Are you following the chapter's Linked In community? New job opportunities are posted there when information is available.

According to our fellow member Michelle Kahler, TrueBridge Resources, a North Highland company, in partnership with CareerBuilder, generated a **summary report** of demand for Business Analysts in the Denver area for the first half of 2014. The data is aggregated from multiple sources and the numbers are not a precise science, but it can provide some insights on what the current BA landscape is in Denver. A few data points:

- 635 active candidates
- 1,442 job postings
- Salary range: \$85K - \$125K
- 30.8% have 6 - 10 years of Business Analyst experience

Top three BA job posters are:

- Dish Network Corporation
- Ciber, Inc.
- Kaiser Permanente

Certification Study Group

by Mary Anne McSweeney, CBAP

The IIBA Denver Chapter CBAP® certification study group began on Wednesday, April 9th. It continues on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm until September 10, 2014. 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 this study group will be to cover the complete BABOK in preparation for taking the exam. So far, 23 people signed up for these sessions.

[Click here for more information.](#)

New members are welcome even if you missed the earlier sessions, and there will be a new sessions starting in the Fall. If you are interested in joining either group, please email CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org.

Membership News

by Susan Futey

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Ashu Chawla
Jack Clements
Dmitry Doni
Mary Lynch
Eva Mehalko

Active Member Count: 98

Not a member yet but interested in joining the IIBA Denver 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:

- Attend chapter meetings free or at reduced cost
- 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!

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.*

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.

Meeting Schedule for the Rest of 2014

Here's the schedule for the rest of the year. Note that not all meeting dates are Wednesdays:

- **July 16 (This Wednesday)**
- September 15 (**Monday**)
- November 19 (Wednesday)

Certification News

by Debbie Rasor

Three people from Colorado Springs are new CBAPs on June 11th. Congratulations to all!

- Rona Culp
- Gina Farrell
- Sue Kellogg

Certification Tips

[Watermark Learning](#) has great application resources for both CBAP and CCBA. They have a spreadsheet to help you organize your project hours for your application. They recommend that you only enter hours related to the hours for the categories listed on their spreadsheet. Any other hours may count negatively toward your total project hours. I did this on my application and it worked for me.

Need Help?

Need other tips on completing your application? 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.

Get Involved

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 is currently an opening for Corporate Programs.** If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please respond to President@denver.iiba.org.

Endorsing and Recognizing the CBAP and CCBA®

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

President (Interim)

Monte Malenke

Finance Committee

VP - Finance and Treasurer: Felicia Arambula

Education Committee

VP - Education: Heidi McLaughlin

Marketing Committee

VP-Marketing: Duanyelle Perry

Director - Corporate Programs: open

Membership Committee

VP-Membership Services: Susan Futey

Communications Committee

VP - Communication: Grant Warden

Technology Committee

AVP-Technology: Bill Kennedy

Events Committee

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.