

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

July 13, 2015

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Thank You!

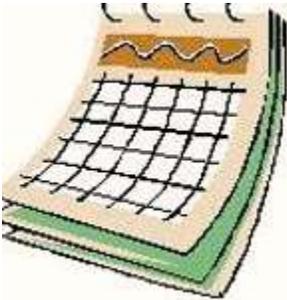
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Dear 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](#).

July Chapter Meeting is this Wednesday!



July Chapter Meeting

Date: This Wednesday, July 15

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

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

6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

Topic: BA Toolkit: Top Models for Complete Requirements Elicitation

Many organizations think that business analysis is all about asking questions and documenting the requirements. Although important, those skills are not enough. If we want a complete set of requirements, we need to model them. This presentation provides the key modeling techniques, their importance in elicitation, and tips for using them for project success.

[Click here to register.](#)

Presenter: Elizabeth Larson, PMP, CBAP, CSSM

Co-Principal and CEO
Watermark Learning

Elizabeth Larson has over 30 years experience in project management and business analysis. Elizabeth is a popular speaker at PMI and IIBA International conferences, professional development days, and chapter meetings.

Elizabeth co-authored the *Practitioners' Guide to Requirements Management*, *The Influencing Formula*, and *CBAP® Certification Study Guide*. She also writes articles and blogs regularly for Project Times, BA Times, and Modern Analyst. Elizabeth was a lead author for the *BABOK®Guide Version 2.0*, as well as an expert reviewer for the *BABOK Guide Version 3.0*. She also served as a lead author for the *PMBOK Guide - Fourth and Fifth Editions* and for the *PMI-PBA Practice Guide*.

In her spare time, Elizabeth enjoys spending time with family and grandsons, traveling, and hiking.

Location:

Business Tech Center
8301 East Prentice Avenue, #400
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
[303-996-2849](tel:303-996-2849) (call for directions if needed)

Click [here](#) to view maps and images of the meeting facility.

New Meeting Format:

We tried a new meeting format for the May meeting, and felt it was successful. At the beginning of the meeting, we are holding a 10 minute Q&A regarding any pressing issues you may have regarding your BA practice. Ask the group for help with any particular issue you may be facing, or insight into a new topic you'd like to know more about. Be prepared with your questions and tap the collective knowledge of the group.

Meeting Call-in Number

We are trying something new for this meeting. If you can't attend the meeting in person, you can call-in and listen to the meeting announcements and presentation. The number is [712-432-1212](tel:712-432-1212) and the meeting code is 642-869-993#. The meeting host will call in at about 6 pm.

Event Sponsors:

Food generously provided by [MODIS](#).
Business space sponsor is [Business Tech Center](#).
Meeting Sponsor: [Progressive](#)

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke, President

Thanks for your MS Contributions!

I'd like to thank those of you that sponsored me in the recent MS150 bike ride, which I completed June 27th and 28th. Your contributions helped me raise more than I needed, and was a great way to invest back into the MS Society that provided our meeting space for 2014. I participated as a member of team "Sugarbee", which was started to rally around Kelly, a woman with MS for many years now, whose nickname as a child was Sugarbee. It was great to see her at the Team Sugarbee tent at CSU on Saturday and get a chance to meet and chat with her.



Elizabeth Larson speaks at July Meeting

This month I'm very excited that we are privileged to have Elizabeth Larson from Watermark as our chapter meeting speaker. Watermark is a leading supplier of Business Analysis training and instructional materials that I'm sure many of us have used during our careers. You won't want to miss this excellent professional development opportunity, and of course, network with all the other great Business Analysts along the Front Range.



New Segment in Chapter Meetings

Don't forget about the new segment we have at the beginning of our chapter meetings where you will have a chance to participate in a our group Q&A. There is a lot of expertise represented in our chapter, and this is an excellent chance for us to leverage that collective experience and get answers and insights to challenges we might be facing in our day to day business analysis projects. You may have that one piece of information someone is desperate for!

Volunteer of the Month

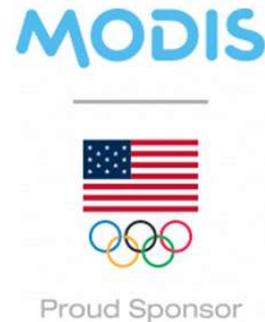
This month I'd like to recognize Grant Warden, VP of Communications as the volunteer of the month. As many of you know, Grant has been instrumental in moving the chapter to the newest website platform technology offered by the IIBA, which has been a tremendous boost to the chapter's image. Grant enlisted Linda Meserve, our current webmaster, to get involved which was critical in getting the website transition completed (thanks Linda!). He is always ready to fill in for me at a board meeting or chapter meeting if I can't make it, and is very proactive in moving important initiatives for the chapter forward, such as with our corporate sponsorship program or anything else needing attention. I have really enjoyed working with Grant and appreciate his vision for the chapter. Thank you Grant - you are appreciated!

MODIS Is long time chapter sponsor

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 Avenue, 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.

Meeting Sponsor

[Progressive](#) is our meeting sponsor for the July meeting. Progressive began in 1937, and over the years, they have worked hard to build a superior proposition for auto insurance consumers through competitive pricing and by continuously improving our products and services. Today, they offer competitive rates and 24-hour, in-person and online services to all drivers throughout the United States.



Thank you Progressive!

View from the BABOK

by Sandi Byron

BABOK v3 Chapter 2 - Business Analysis Key Concepts

In version 2 of the BABOK, "Key Concepts" is just a brief section within the Introductory chapter that defines a domain, a solution, and a requirement. In Version 3, "Key Concepts" has been greatly expanded and given a complete chapter of its own, Chapter 2. This new chapter begins with a discussion of the Business Analysis Core Concept Model (BACCM) which it describes as a conceptual framework for business analysts. This model encompasses what business analysis is and who a business analyst is in a much broader sense than previous versions of the BABOK.



Used correctly, the BACCM allows for better business analysis by encouraging analysts to evaluate the relationships among the six core concepts; which are: Change, Need, Solution, Stakeholder, Value, and Context. These core concepts are briefly defined in this chapter and will be referred to in more detail in other parts of the BABOK. Analysts should use these core concepts to judge the quality and completeness of their analysis work.

The chapter gives six questions that the analyst should ask him or herself while planning or performing a task or technique. By considering these questions, the analyst can assess whether the effort is delivering value.

This new chapter (Business Analysis Key Concepts) also provides definitions of key terms that will be used throughout the BABOK and an introduction to the difference between Requirements and Designs which will be explored in greater depth in Chapter 7 the Requirements Analysis and Design Definition knowledge area. The BACCM allows communication about business analysis with common terminology.

CBAP® Study Group Underway

by Mary Anne McSweeney, CBAP

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

New Accelerated Schedule: Instead of meeting once a month, we will be meeting twice a month to prepare for taking the test before it changes to BABOK version 3. The sessions began on June 10th and will continue until August 26th 2015, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. It's not too late to start. An average of 7 people attend each session.

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!

If you are interested, please send an email to CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org, including:

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

Note: In order to participate, you must be a member of IIBA and a Denver Chapter member.

Hope to hear from you soon!

Membership News

by Susan Futey, CBAP, VP Membership

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Matthew Oursler, CBAP
Deborah Zachariah

Active Member Count: 85

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 IIBADenver 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.

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. 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

Thanking our Volunteers!

We would like to give special thanks this month to two volunteers on the Membership Committee.

Evelene Kirby organizes the carpooling details for each event for our attendees from Colorado Springs and was instrumental in publicizing the July event in internal company-wide communications at Progressive Insurance, the July Meeting Sponsor.

Nataliya Burdeynyuk developed and implemented an e-mail campaign inviting all IIBA members in the state of Colorado to come join us at the upcoming Denver Chapter meeting, or to connect with us via social media. Thank you both for your continued efforts working toward improving the Denver Chapter membership!



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 in this manner:

Corporate Programs

There is currently and opening for Corporate Programs in the Marketing Committee. If you are interested, contact marketing@denver.iiba.org.

Future 2015 Meetings/Events

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

- September 16 - Meeting @ Business Tech Center (Wednesday); **Topic:** Breakthrough Business Analysis: Collaboration, Creativity, and Deliberate Design-Centered Innovation
- Fall Networking event - Not scheduled
- November 18 - Meeting @ Business Tech Center (Wednesday)

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 debrator@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

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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.