

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

March 16, 2014

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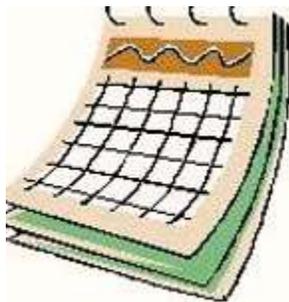
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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 Events



IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting THIS MONDAY!

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. [Register here](#).

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

Hard to believe another month has gone by, but a lot continues to happen with the IIBA Denver Chapter. We will be having another networking event in April at the Breckenridge Brewery in Lodo, which always provides a great opportunity to network, look for great BAs to hire or find out who is hiring!

CBAP Study Group We are starting the next CBAP study group in April also, and have more than 10 people signed up for that group. If you have interest in getting your CBAP, don't wait! E-mail CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org today; details are on the website and include the agenda.

Consolidating Email Lists

You probably saw the "invite" I sent out from AnyVite informing everyone we are trying to consolidate our newsletter and event e-mail lists into a single list at Constant Contact. We will be discontinuing the use of AnyVite at this point, so make sure you and your colleagues are on the [newsletter mailing list](#).

If you know anyone who didn't get the invite for the March meeting, they can use the link on our website homepage about the next chapter meeting to RSVP.

Thank You MODIS!

The snacks and refreshments for our next meeting are provided by 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)

Special April Networking Event

by Debra Urban

Interested in expanding your business contacts, discussing issues or challenges with other Business Analysts, or just network to find possible job leads? The IIBA will be hosting a networking event on **Thursday, April 24th** at the Colorado Craft Beers and Micro Brews (formerly Breckenridge Brewery) in LoDo starting at 5:30. Please join us for hors d'oeuvres, door prizes, and great connections!

Invitation to follow through an email.

Denver IT Conference

by Duanyelle Perry

The IT Summit's Ultimate IT Conference Series presents the Denver IT Conference!

The IT Summit is pleased to welcome IIBA Denver Chapter as a sponsor of The IT Summit's [Denver IT Conference](#) on April 2, 2014.

Since 2004, the IT Summit had been the premier producer of regionally focused [IT conferences](#) for executives from the government, education, and corporate sectors. While many IT conferences limit their focus strictly to IT personnel, IT Summit recognizes that IT decisions affect the entire business and views that decisions made outside the IT department often have a direct impact on IT. This holistic view of information technology can enhance operations by helping personnel to better understand how their work is perceived within the company. It also enables executives to better understand how their decisions impact the ability of their IT departments to serve the organization directly, and in turn allow the organization to better serve their clients. The result is a broader information base from which executives can make more informed decisions.

Be sure to [register now](#) for the Denver IT Conference and be sure you plan on stopping by and talking to the folks from IIBA Denver Chapter to learn more about the benefits of membership.

Denver PMI Symposium

by Michelle Kahler

For any of you wearing alternating hats between project manager and business analyst, you may be interested in attending the Denver PMI Symposium on April 4 and listening to IIBA and PMI member, Michelle Kahler, speak on how to increase the likelihood of successfully achieving project objectives through specific business analysis activities. Take-aways from the presentation include:

- Directly increase a project's likelihood to meet objectives by being intentional about incorporating the value of specific business analysis activities into project management
- Understand how to successfully incorporate BABOK knowledge area tasks into the PMBOK project planning and execution process
- Understand the distinction between roles and associated work performed by project managers and business analysts
 - For larger projects with dedicated business analysts, how the project manager can be more effective working with the analyst
 - For smaller projects where project managers play a "BA-light" role, how the project manager can be more effective as a business analyst that doesn't negatively impact their management activities

For more information, check out the [PMI Symposium website](#). We hope to see you there!

CBAP® Study Group

by Denver Chapter Education Committee

Mark your calendar now for the continuation of the IIBA Denver Chapter CBAP study group which will begin on Wednesday, April 9th at 7:00pm and continue on the 2nd Wednesday of the month until 9/10/14. 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 CBAP exam.

Sessions will consist of a review of BABOK content for each session and group discussion to resolve specific questions and insights we have. We will also try to have someone who has passed the CBAP exam attend at least some of our sessions to provide their insights on the content for each session, and general advice on passing the CBAP. There is no additional cost to participate, but you must be a chapter member. Give yourself, your company and your clients a huge benefit by getting certified. Hope to see YOU there! It'll be more fun doing it as a group!

[Click here for more information.](#) If you are interested in joining this new group, please email CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org by March 31.

Educational Article: Top Ten Trends for 2014

The top trends for Business Analysis include competency in agile, a more defined career path, and more exposure from project sponsors. For more information on these trends, click [here](#) to see the IIBA newsletter article!

Thank You to our Latest Volunteers!

The Denver Chapter is gaining momentum lately, and a lot of this is due to new additions to the board and committees. We would like to recognize some people who have recently taken up major projects.

Debra Urban has volunteered to be VP of the Events Committee! The Events Committee's goal will be to have two separate networking events each calendar year.

We would like to give Grant Warden a big Thank You for all of his work on the chapter website, <http://denver.iiba.org>.



Membership News

by Susan Futey

Welcome new Denver Chapter member!

Jeff Janke

Active Member Count: 69

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, the membership is just \$25/year! [Join now!](#)

As a local chapter member, you can:

- 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.
- 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](#).

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 1 opening for 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 debrasor@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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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

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.