

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

May 15, 2014

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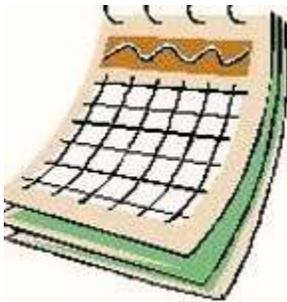
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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 Meeting



May IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting

National MS Society

(Same location as March meeting)

Wednesday May 21:

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

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

6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

Topic: Asking Effective Questions and BA Lessons from

Healthcare

During this session, we'll share with you guidelines for asking effective questions in order to capture critical stakeholder information during elicitation and make sure your end solution meets the agreed-upon business needs. Topics will include what basic questions to ask and their types, how to ask powerful questions, framing your questions, and being intentional. We'll then end with a short discussion on business analysis lessons learned from a healthcare case study.

Presenters: Michelle Kahler, IIBA Denver Chapter member

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.

[Register here.](#)

Attendees will be given a coupon for raffle items which includes some popular business analysis books.

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke

As I write this, I'm looking out on six inches of snow and what looks like a scene from the middle of winter - but it is the day after Mother's Day! Only in Colorado. If you are longing for warmer weather like I am, then maybe you will want to start thinking about getting your bicycle tuned up and getting ready for a true summer event - the MS150. To support the mission of the National MS Society, which is graciously hosting our regular chapter meetings, we are planning on participating in their fundraising events this year.

We will be bringing a team to the MS150 bike ride, which offers a variety of rides for all levels of riders. If you have participated in an organized bike ride like this before, you know what an excellent opportunity they are for a safe and well supported ride for many miles, with thousands of other riders. These rides include meals, rest stops with drinks and snacks, support vehicles, a t-shirt and a finish line festival with food and live music. As a fundraising event, there is a registration fee and also a minimum fundraising amount that varies depending on the route you select for your ride. I have found in the past that it is actually not too hard to reach and exceed the minimum amount by asking friends, work colleagues and family to help in even a small way.

The two day ride is on June 28,29 and starts in Westminster with an overnight stay at CSU, with route options as follows: Sat: 68, 73 or 102 miles; Sun: 66 or 75 miles. The registration fee is \$79 with a fundraising minimum of \$400. [See more.](#)

There is a one day ride on June 28th, the Ft Collins Loop, that has a 25 or 50 mile course, and a \$35 registration fee and fundraising minimum of \$250. [See more.](#)

There is also a ride in Wyoming on August 16,17 available. [See more.](#)

If you have interest in participating in any of the one day or two day rides available as part of the IIBA Denver Chapter, please email us MS150@denver.iiba.org and let us know of your potential interest and we'll keep you updated on how to be part of our team. Some of us are planning on the two day ride at this point. Even if you don't ride as part of our team, please let us know if you will be riding individually or as part of another team so we can make sure to let the MS Society aware of the support from chapter members.

For more information about the MS150 and available rides, [check out this link.](#)

As soon as the snow melts (hopefully for good!) get out there and start riding to get ready for this fun and important event!

Thank You Erin and MODIS!

We are sad to hear that Erin is no longer our contact at MODIS, but happy to have Kristen join us. The snacks and refreshments at our meetings will continue to be 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.

MODIS



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For more information, please contact:
Kristen Short
Resource Development Manager
[720-244-5309](tel:720-244-5309)
7887 East Belleview Ave.
Suite 400, Englewood, CO 80111

IIBA National News

IIBA would like to announce a public review period for BABOK[®] v3. A Guide to the Business Analysis Body of Knowledge[®] (BABOK Guide) is the internationally recognized standard for the practice of business analysis. Version 3 is a truly global effort that represents the practice of business analysis worldwide. BABOK Guide v3 was developed through the collaboration of IIBA[®] volunteers from around the world.

You can review the entire document or focus only on your areas of expertise and provide your feedback to the Core Team. Be sure to invite your BA colleagues to participate - the more people from more countries, industries and companies of all sizes who contribute, the stronger this version of the BABOK[®] Guide will be! To see the guide [click here](#).

Companies Seeking BAs

There are three new BA positions available. These positions have also been posted through the chapter's Linked In community.

North Highland, a global management consulting firm with an office near downtown Denver, is seeking skilled Business Analysts for a variety of local client opportunities. Please contact Michelle Kahler at michelle.kahler@northhighland.com for more information. We'd love to have a conversation with you about joining our team!

The **Colorado Department of Education** has just posted a BA position. If it is possible somehow to let the local IIBA members who may be seeking jobs know, it would be great (plus a Project Manager position is posted). Here is the link: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdemgmt/hr/jobs>

Medixteam has an open BA position in the Denver area, with the following general requirements:

- Bachelor degree specializing in Business, Computer Science, or Management Information Systems or equivalent experience required.
 - Excellent analytical abilities.
- Three to six years experience in or with:
- Technical writing and business analysis
 - Customer service and training
 - Soliciting and documenting detailed requirements
 - Aligning and tracking requirements with other project artifacts such as design and test documents.
 - Technical understanding of programming languages and the application development lifecycle.

- Proficient computer skills in programs including, but not limited to Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Project, Internet and email programs.
- Ability to work independently.
- Proven customer services skills and troubleshooting abilities.
- Excellent project management skills.
- Ability to work effectively in a team environment
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.

Contact: James Romanek, 847-707-2137, jromanek@medixteam.com

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. 23 people signed up for these sessions.

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. It'll be more fun doing it as a group!

[Click here for more information.](#)

New members are welcome even if you missed the earlier sessions. 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!

Lynne Forrester
Mark Ward, CBAP
Alice Weir

Active Member Count: 80

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!](#)

Benefits of being a local chapter member:

- Attend chapter meetings free or at reduced cost.
- Participate in members-only offers such as volunteer opportunities at BA World.
- Participate in Denver Chapter elections (as candidates or as voters)
- 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.*

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.

Hope to see you at the May meeting.

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:

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

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!

Do You Need Help With Your CBAP or CCBA Application or your recertification?

There are [new videos](#) to help you apply for your CBAP. Scroll down to the orange boxes on the link.

IIBA now has an [online recertification form](#).

Need tips on completing your application? Need BABOK study book recommendations? Debbie Rasor, 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

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.