

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

November 13, 2015

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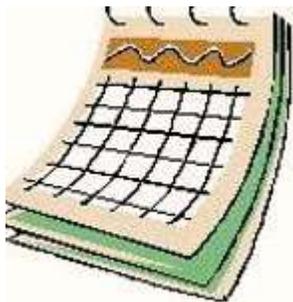
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Dear Analyst,

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](#).

Chapter Meeting This Upcoming Wednesday!



Location:

Business Tech Center

8301 East Prentice

Avenue, #400
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

IIBA Chapter November Meeting

Wednesday, November 18:

5:30 - 6:00 - Check in, networking

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

6:30 - 7:30 - Presentation

7:30 - 8:00 - Group QA Session

Topic: User Experience (UX) Design for Business Analysts

Modern software represents the combined effort of many individuals working in a variety of roles, from Business Analysis to Product Management to Development to Quality Assurance and beyond. At the end of the day, however, an end user

doesn't really know or care about these distinctions. Instead, they're evaluating the complete experience of interacting with a program, from first launch to expert power user. In this talk we'll cover the concept of User Experience, what is it, principles and techniques for improvement, and tips for working with UX Designers.

Presenter:

Parker Malenke works on improving the higher education experience through better software at Pearson. Before that he helped quantify and improve user experiences for clients such as Wal-Mart, PayPal, and Lenovo at the research firm MeasuringU.

Group Q&A:

After the main presentation, please plan to be a part of our group Q&A session. During this 30 minute session, we'll open the meeting for any Business Analysis questions, or questions related to the evening's topic. This is your chance to leverage the massive collective experience of the chapter to address questions or problems you are facing as a BA and would like to get the groups input. You may also be the one with just the right piece of information or advice for a question raised to the group!

Meeting Call-in Number:

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 (Linda Meserve) will call in at about 5:55 pm. You can join the online meeting at [this link](#). You don't need to download any software. If you have issues during the meeting, contact Linda at [720-898-4447](tel:720-898-4447) (voice) or through chat in the webinar tool.

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. Food generously provided by [Brooksource](#) for this event.

[Click this link for more information and to RSVP.](#)

President's Letter

by Monte Malenke, President

This month we will be having our last chapter meeting for the year on Wednesday, November 18th, which you won't want to miss. Picking up a little bit from where Kitty Hass left off in September, Parker Malenke, a Senior UX Designer with Pearson educational software will be presenting on User Experience for Business Analysts. There has been increasing interest in User Interface design and User Experience (UX) expressed within the chapter recently, so this will be a very timely presentation. User Experience is all about the final experience users have culminating from the business analysis, design, development and testing that goes into making a truly great software product. If you haven't registered yet, you will want to do that today!



Some of you may have noticed that our invitation to the November chapter meeting was created using a mobile friendly theme, making it much easier to read and interact with on your mobile phone or tablet. We'd be interested to know how well this worked out for you, as we look to move our communications from the chapter more in this direction.

I look forward to seeing you at the November meeting. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Bridging the Gap is an ongoing sponsor

Denver IIBA is proud to announce a 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.

Laura has posted an excellent article with more information on why the CBAP is a great investment toward your Business Analysis career. To view the article, click [here](#).

New Sponsor!! Brooksource

The Denver Chapter is pleased to welcome Brooksource as a new sponsor.

Looking for a new opportunity? Brooksource is the place to start your search!

Brooksource is a leading IT Recruiting firm that specializes in connecting top notch consultants to enterprise projects at Fortune 500 organizations in the Greater Denver area. Companies hire us because we are notorious for working with the brightest and best talent in Denver. To ensure quality/success, Brooksource walks each candidate through the interview process (from the initial call from one of our trained Technical Recruiters to walking in the door on a consultant's first day). Brooksource moves quick. After being present in Denver for over 6 years, our relationships with hiring managers gives consultants the ability to get a foot in the door almost immediately.



Work with Brooksource and begin your journey down the road to success! For more information, click [here](#) to view their website.

Thank you Brooksource!

New Sponsor!! ECS Team

ECS Team, a national professional services firm, provides seasoned consultants with deep expertise in a wide range of technologies to deliver innovative solutions. We do this while leveraging your existing technology by working side-by-side with your staff. This approach shortens time-to-market, decreases costs and lowers project risks.

ECS Team was the food sponsor for the October networking event.

For more information, please contact:

Chasity Rohl

Senior Staffing Manager

[303-565-2785](tel:303-565-2785)

crohl@ECSTeam.com

Thank you ECS Team!



The Business Tech Center Is Our Business Space Sponsor

We would like to thank The Business Tech Center for their involvement with the IIBA Denver Chapter. The BTC currently has an exclusive offer for IIBA members - get 15% off the rental rate!

To learn more, visit our website at TheBusinessTechCenter.com or contact us at [303-996-2849](tel:303-996-2849) or

info@TheBusinessTechCenter.com



View from the BABOK

by Barbara Griffith, CCBA

3.4 Plan Business Analysis Information Management

In BABOK V 3, Plan Business Analysis Information Management (3.4) more or less corresponds to V 2's Plan Requirements Management Process (2.5), but with more limited and specific focus. In both versions, the focus is on the role of the business analyst in defining an approach to the work and their role in an initiative. The purpose of this area in V 3 is defined as "[developing] an approach for how business analysis information will be stored and accessed."



Some terminology has changed as has some of the emphasis. In both versions, having a secure repository or storage for saving requirements and related documentation is emphasized. The attributes list of requirements commonly recorded is the same, and allows for the recording of additional attributes as needed. V 3 elaborates somewhat on Information Management Tools, Business Policies, Legal and Regulatory compliance, and past Business Analyst performance history. Both versions encourage maintaining requirements documentation to aid in re-usability, to foster efficiency and save re-work.

V 3 has moved the Requirements Prioritization Process to Plan Business Analysis Governance (3.3). While V 2 only suggests three techniques, V 3 discusses eight, including brainstorming, interviews, item tracking, lessons learned, mind mapping, process modelling, surveys or questionnaires, and workshops.

Planning the Change Management process has also been moved to Plan Business Analysis Governance (3.3) in V 3.

In V 2, Domain and Implementation SMEs, end users, testers, project managers, sponsor, and operational support are included as stakeholders in Plan Requirements Management Process, but in V 3 only domain SMEs, regulators, and sponsors are mentioned. This is because the requirements prioritization process and the change management process are included in this phase in V 2, but have been moved to Plan Business Analysis Governance (3.3) of V 3.

The process for executing these plans is discussed extensively in V 3's Requirements Life Cycle Management (Sections 5.3 and 5.4).

IIBA Establishes Gold Standard Certification

The Denver Chapter is pleased to pass on important information on certification from the international chapter announced in early November:

IIBA aligns the development and maintenance of globally recognized standards for business analysis and the certification of business analysis professionals. To meet the growing demands of the global marketplace, IIBA has actively engaged our community in developing our new Gold Standard Certification. The result? An enhanced, multi-level competency-based certification program that validates your knowledge skills, and experience, and supports your lifelong

career progression.

The new certification program will have four distinct levels:

- Level 1 will recognize entry level BA Professionals, and will be exam-based.
- Level 2 recognizes BA Professionals who have two to three years of business analysis experience. Level 2 will require between 3,000-4,500 hours of experience and is exam based. Current professionals with their CCBA® designation will be grandfathered into level 2.
- Level 3 will recognize BA Professionals who manage and lead with over 5 years of business analysis experience. Level 3 will require between 7,500-10,500 hours of experience and is also exam based. Current professionals with CBAP® will be grandfathered into level 3.
- To offer further opportunities and growth for senior strategic BA professionals, IIBA is launching level 4. This level will recognize industry thought leaders and those who are giving back to the community. Level 4 will require a minimum of 15,000 hours and it will be assessment based.

Each of these levels will be based on specific levels of experience and competencies. The enhanced certification provides a roadmap that will also include specializations and skills development; as well the new flexible certification framework will allow alignment with other certifications in our common community.

This redesigned program will be formally launched in September 2016, and will elevate the recognition of IIBA certifications as the global Gold Standard.

New Chapter Website

by Linda Meserve

The Denver IIBA Chapter will be unveiling a new website in the next few days. It introduces new content management and self service chapter features from IIBA international. Watch [here](#) for the new layout.

We couldn't have done it so quickly without our wonderful web update team -- Linda Meserve, Grant Warden, Terence Jackson, Bill Kennedy, with help from Felicia Arambula and Susan Futey. Thank you, everyone!

Fall Networking Event Recap

by Jay Galecki

The Denver IIBA Chapter had a very successful networking event in October at Lodo's Bar and Grill in Highlands Ranch. Thank you to all who attended for making it a success!

Forty people attended the event; this included 22 chapter members and 18 guests.

We would like to thank again ECS Team for sponsoring the event.



New CBAP Study Group - Fall 2015

by Mary Anne McSweeney

New CBAP Study Group - Fall 2015

Interested in studying for the CBAP or CCBA Certification exams while they are

still based on BABOK v2?

BABOK v2 Exams until 3rd Quarter of 2016: We have heard from IIBA international that it will continue to base the CBAP and CCBA exams on BABOK version 2 until some time in the 3rd quarter of 2016. As we know, BABOK version 3 is a longer text with new information, so it may be worthwhile to study up and take the exam now!

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 group will meet for 6 sessions - two Wednesday per month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

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! As soon as we have at least participants ready to meet, we can schedule a new study group.

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 either be a Denver Chapter member, in addition to your IIBA membership, or pay the \$25 Study Group fee. The cost to join the Denver Chapter is \$25/year.

To register, please go to our Membership Application page by clicking [here](#).

Chapter News

by Grant Warden, VP Communications

Mentor Program

The Denver IIBA Chapter is dedicated to providing members with various resources to enhance their knowledge and expertise. One resource is our mentor program, which allows individual members to partner with each other with the goal of sharing ideas on strategies, techniques, issues, or anything else that influences their roles as Business Analysts.

We can each benefit from collaboration and sharing with other members. If you would like more information on how to participate, please contact our [VP Education](#) for more details.

Membership News

by Susan Futey, CBAP, VP Membership

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Peter Tebault

Active Member Count: 83

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 meeting

Chapter meetings are free for IIBA Denver Chapter members, otherwise it is just \$10 per meeting to attend. First time attendees are always free however! Joining the IIBA Denver Chapter is only \$25, but does require that you are also a member of the IIBA. Be sure to join the IIBA Denver Chapter and start attending chapter meetings for free!



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 Site](#)
- 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 - *Hot Topic now is the BABOK V3 webinar series!*
- 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.

Thanking our Volunteers!

by Monte Malenke, President

This month I'd like to recognize Linda Meserve, chapter webmaster, as our Volunteer of the Month. Linda has been terrific with keeping the website current, and investing many, many hours along with Grant Warden to move the chapter to a new IIBA website platform several months ago. And now she has done it again! The IIBA has now selected a new permanent website platform, and we are just about finished converting to this new platform. Linda has been the point of contact working with the IIBA to get our website converted over and set up to start taking advantage of all the new features which look very exciting and should really be a great boost to the chapter. Look for more on the new website shortly. Our website is a critical communication and image tool for the chapter and it is looking really good. Linda, we couldn't



have done it without you - thanks so much!

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

Get involved!

by Stephanie Vinton, Volunteer Coordinator

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

Meeting Technology Coordinator

We are looking for someone to run the live, call-in access to our chapter meetings. This person coordinates with the meeting presenter and is the point of contact with our web/telephone participants during the meeting. It's helpful if you have a cellphone to use for texting to contact the participants during the meeting and you will need a computer to share the meeting slides. It is helpful if you have Powerpoint as that is what is used by most of our presenters. Contact Stephanie Vinton at volunteercoordinator@denver.iiba.org.

Certification News

by Debbie Rasor, CBAP

CBAP v3 Test

This month we have learned from IIBA international that the exam is still based on v2.0 of the BABOK Guide for a while yet. It will be updated to v3.0 of the BABOK Guide in the 3rd quarter of 2016. There is no firm date as of yet.

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. Also brand new CBAP Alan Cavin is available to answer questions, and you can reach him at alan@alancavin.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.

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