

# News From Denver Chapter of the IIBA - November 2014

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## IIBA Informant

### News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

November 16, 2014

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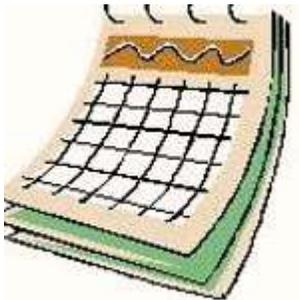
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

#### 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 Meeting



**November IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting Reminder**  
**Note that this is the last meeting of the year!**

**Date: Wednesday, November 19**

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

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

6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

**Topic:** "Beyond the Profile: Powerful LinkedIn Tools to Foster Business Success"

**Presenter:** Joyce Feustel, Founder of Boomers Social Media Tutor, believes that the professional website LinkedIn is often underutilized. In her talk, she will show attendees how to:

- Strategically grow their LinkedIn connections

- Effectively identify appropriate groups to join and participate in
- Efficiently discover potential clients and referral partners through the advanced search feature
- Proactively use key filters of the LinkedIn home feed to reach out to LinkedIn connections

Through her social media tutoring and training business, Joyce works with a wide range of business owners to become more effective in their use of LinkedIn, Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter.

Did you know that we have our own LinkedIn group called the "IIBA Denver Chapter"? It was started in 2008 and has 484 members.

**Location:** National MS Society, 900 South Broadway, Denver

**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. Snacks are generously provided by our sponsor MODIS.

[Click here to register.](#)

## Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke, President

I trust everyone is thawing out from the unusual sub-zero temperatures we had recently! A little crazy, but I guess that is life in Colorado. I also hope that everyone is planning to join us at our November chapter meeting, which will be Wednesday the 19th. You can register for the meeting using the link in this newsletter, and on our updated website.

If you have never attended an IIBA Denver Chapter meeting, we would love to have you as our guest and join us for free! We want to encourage first time visitors to check us out, so we will not be charging first timers as an incentive to come be a part of the group.

I'm excited to point out that we are up to 105 members in the chapter, and would love to see that number increase even further. If your membership is coming due, please be sure to renew so we can keep the momentum building in the chapter. If you have a colleague that is not part of the chapter, please consider inviting them, especially now that first time visitors are free.

Looking forward to seeing YOU this Wednesday!

Have a safe and very Happy Thanksgiving.

**Modis Salary Guide for 2015 Available**

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.



[Get a copy of the 2015 salary guide.](#)

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

## New Chapter Website

by Grant Warden, VP Communications

On 10/20/2014 the IIBA Denver Chapter launched its new website! Over the previous six months, the Chapter participated in a Pilot Program with IIBA to develop, test, and implement an updated website based on a more robust and flexible platform.

The new site includes features such as a Twitter feed, news feed, integrated event registration, and document distribution. The site also has functionality we don't currently use, but may in future as the site and our technology goals evolve. Please leverage the new platform for chapter information and events.

If you have any feedback on the new layout or content, please send to [communications@denver.iiba.org](mailto:communications@denver.iiba.org).

## Denver Chapter Education News

by Heidi McLaughlin, VP Education

### Lean In Group

You may be familiar with the book "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead" that Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook, wrote which reached No. 1 both on the New York Times Bestseller list as well as on Amazon. She was inspired to write the book based off of the success of her 2010 Ted talk entitled, "Why We Have Too Few Women Leaders." The book has in turn inspired Lean In circles to be formed across the country for purposes of helping people gain peer coaching in their careers. As described on the [Lean In site](#), "Lean In Circles are small groups who meet regularly to learn and grow together. Circles are as unique as the individuals who start them, but they all share a common bond: the power of peer support." The Denver IIBA would like to begin its own Lean In group. This is not for women only - our group would be co-ed and would meet virtually. We're looking for a circle manager, circle facilitator, and 8-10 additional members. If you're interested, please contact Heidi at [Education@denver.iiba.org](mailto:Education@denver.iiba.org).

### 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](mailto: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

## CertificationStudy Group

by Mary Anne McSweeney, CBAP

### New CBAP® Study Group In Session! Still time to join!

The IIBA Denver Chapter CBAP study group is a virtual study group, so there is no need to drive anywhere to meet as we connect via web conferencing. The goal of this study group is to cover the complete BABOK in preparation for taking the CBAP exam.

**This will be the last group to meet before CBAP Certification is based on the new 3.0 version of the BABOK**, which is scheduled for Spring of 2015. We are meeting the 2nd Wednesday of every month, from November through April. Please see the [Study Group page](#) for the complete schedule.

Sessions consist of a review of BABOK content and group discussion to resolve specific questions. Give yourself, your company and your clients a huge benefit by getting certified. Hope to see YOU there! It's more fun doing it as a group!

Primary content is the IIBA Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK). In addition, the study group has specific study materials and a practice exam for each chapter.

To join the Study Group, you must be a member of IIBA and also a member of the Denver Chapter. If you are interested, please email [CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org](mailto:CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org) and include the following details:

- 1) Your name
- 2) Phone
- 3) Email Address
- 4) IIBA member number
- 5) Any special areas of desired interest or focus

## Building Business Capability (BBC) Conference 2014

by Susan Futey, CBAP

This month, I had the privilege of attending the BBC conference in sunny Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Networking with people from all over the world who encounter similar Business Analysis challenges was quite a thrill! During the 3-day conference, attendees were challenged by the abundance of sessions - 9 sessions offered during each 60-minute time-slot - and my choices were excellent. Speakers were professional and engaging; content was riveting. Hot topics included case studies of teams' Agile experiences, building BA Communities of Practice and tips for being a leader regardless of your title or level of experience. At the conference, of 1400 attendees from more than 30 countries, the IIBA leadership team announced the organization's Three-Year Strategic Plan to fulfill IIBA's Core Purpose: "To unite a community of professionals to create better business outcomes." Look for BABOK version 3 to be released in April 2015!



## Membership News

by Susan Futey, CBAP, VP Membership

## Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Gary Arnett  
Marian Milich  
Michele Parris  
Edie Petz  
Nicole Wilker  
Active Member Count: 105

### 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!

If you are an IIBA member, but not a chapter member, your cost = \$10 per meeting.

When you are an IIBA member and a 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 IIBA Denver Chapter. Join IIBA through their website at [www.iiba.org](http://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.

## Joining IIBA Denver Chapter Committees

### 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 are currently openings for both VP Marketing and Corporate Programs. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please respond to [President@denver.iiba.org](mailto:President@denver.iiba.org).

### Technology Volunteer

The chapter would like to be able to stream and/or record chapter meetings presentations, but we need help to do it. Do you have the skillset/ equipment to stream or record our chapter meetings? If you can help, please contact Heidi McLaughlin (VP of Education) at [Education@denver.iiba.org](mailto:Education@denver.iiba.org) or any board member.

## Companies Seeking BAs

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

## Meeting Schedule for Early 2015

The Denver IIBA Chapter has dates already scheduled for the first two 2015 meetings. They are as follows:

- January 21, 2015 (Wednesday) - **Topic:** Writing Better Requirements: Beyond traceability, templates and formats  
**Presenter:** Randy Lexvold, Co-founder Sirius Requirements
- March 18, 2015 (Wednesday) - **Topic:** How to Start a BA Career: Debunking the 5 Myths, **Presenter:** Laura Brandenburg, author of "How to Start a Business Analyst Career"

## Certification News

by Debbie Rasor, CBAP

Watermark Learning has [great tips on applying for your certification.](#)

### 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](mailto:debrator@yahoo.com).

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@denver.iiba.org).

## Produced by the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

**President** ([president@iiba.denver.org](mailto:president@iiba.denver.org))

Monte Malenke

### Finance Committee

VP-Finance and Treasurer: Felicia Arambula

### Education Committee

VP-Education: Heidi McLaughlin

Technology Volunteer for Meetings: open

**Marketing Committee**

VP-Marketing: open

Director - Corporate Programs: open

**Membership Committee**

VP-Membership Services: Susan Futey, CBAP

**Communications Committee**

VP-Communication: Grant Warden

**Technology Committee**

AVP: Grant Warden

Webmaster: Linda Meserve

**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.