ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

November 2011

Hot Topics

President's Message

Hello fellow ISACA® New York Metro members:

When we started our chapter's fiscal year in June, our Board of Directors had three main goals in mind:

1. Refresh the chapter's website with a new look and feel;

2. Create more efficient internal processes for the board;

3. And most importantly, enhance the value of our membership.

I'm happy to report that I believe we have reached, or are making great strides towards attaining all of these goals.

First, about our website: Have you seen it yet? Check it out at www.isaca.org/metrony. We're very happy with it and I personally want to thank our Board's Web Committee (Rochelle Brenner and Ton Chookhare) as well as Rob England from ISACA® International, and our member volunteer Wei Tschang for all of their help. The site has a very nice look and feel and I hope you will visit it often.

On our internal front, we are implementing QuickBooks for our Chapter's books and records to make financial reporting and budget forecasting easier, and with more controls. This is being lead by our Finance Committee Chair, Patricia Martin, as well as with contribution by Julianne Wu. We have made significant progress and are now working with an accountant to help finalize the reports and

chart of account structure.

Lastly, we wanted to create even more value for our membership. Part of this goal involves offering new things or changing the existing venues. So, we're trying something new for our next membership meeting, held on November 7th. We will be having a CISO roundtable where I will be moderating a discussion about leading Information Security issues and trends with several executives. We are also targeting having two ISACA® New York Metro conferences this year as well as several special events. More on this to come.

So, looking ahead, I can't help but get excited about all of the opportunities and new initiatives. I hope you are as well.

Sincerely,

James C. Ambrosini CISA, CISSP, CFE, CRISC
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter President

Education

The Chapter is proud to close out the year with two webinars in November and two education seminars in December. We are currently looking for companies willing to host one, two, or three seminars in 2012. Topics under consideration include Auditing Active Directory, SAP Security, How to Perfrom an IT General Controls Review, IT Auditing Principles for Internal Audit Managers, Hacking Tools and Evolution (Server Focus), Operational Risk Management, Improving Your Interviewing Skills through Linguistic Lie Detection, Interoffice Communication Skills for Auditors, How to Audit z/OS with USS, TCP/IP,FTP, and the Internet, Cobit 5, and Spreadsheet Controls.   Email education@isacany.org if your company would like to host a class and receive two free seats!

One and Two Day Seminars

Thursday/Friday, December 1-2, 2011 (9:00 AM - 5:00 PM EST) - Business Continuity Management for IT Auditors and Information Security Professionals (2 Day Class - 14 CPE's)
This two-day seminar provides both IT and business professionals with a comprehensive understanding of the risks and strategies for implementing an effective Business Continuity program. Using lecture and case study workshops, you will review the principles and practices of Business Continuity Management (BCM) necessary to provide business and IT resiliency and recoverability including policies, standards, and processes associated with good-practice BCM. Assurance and management assessment techniques will be addressed to provide auditors and information security professionals with the tools they need to effectively perform their functions and management an understanding of their responsibilities.

Register Now

Monday, December 12, 2011 (9:00 AM - 5:00 PM EST) - Securing Mobile Assets and Applications (1 Day Class - 7 CPE's)
This seminar addresses the business advantages of mobile computing as well as the emerging issues of how to control mobile devices, protect corporate assets, and maintain compliance with relevant legislation and data privacy standards.

Register Now

Webinars

Monday, November 7, 2011 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST) - Governance Structure, Processes, and

Monday, November 7, 2011 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST) - Governance Structures, Processes, and Communication/Leadership (1 Hour Webinar - 1 CPE)
Enterprise governance of IT has been complicated in practice by multiple specific, yet somewhat different approaches to governance. This is partially because of differences among IT leaders and partially because of differences in approaches to corporate and business governance. Join us in this session to understand how IT leaders can focus in on key common elements of enterprise governance of IT, common evaluation criteria for governance, and approaches to avoid the perception of governance being an unnecessary nuisance or drag on organizational decision making.

Register Now

Tuesday, November 15, 2011 (12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST) - Risk Scenario Analysis (1 Hour Webinar - 1 CPE)
Armed with an understanding of the environment and enterprise capabilities, we arrive at the heart of risk management - scenario analysis. This is the critical step in both understanding the dynamics of the risk to the business and in engaging the business in managing risk to their business objectives. Join us in this session to understand how create and document complete stories or scenarios that describe a series of cascading events. Creating life-like, realistic stories is crucial to the success of risk management.

Register Now

Membership

Save the Date! On December 15, 2011, the Chapter will host an afternoon Fall Conference (half-day), followed by a Membership Meeting and Holiday Celebration. Details and registration information will be published within the next few days.

The Chapter is now using Cvent for Membership Meeting notification. As a result, more members were aware of the November 7th meeting and registration quickly reached maximum capacity. Email membership@isacany.org if you were unable to attend because registration was closed. This will help us estimate potential attendance and plan for future Membership meetings.

Volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated for Membership events.   Email volunteer@isacany.org for more information.

Certification

This year we're very proud to share with all of you that the Chapter is conducting the CRISC® (Certified in Risk and Information Systems Controls®) exam review class for the very first time. We are the only chapter to offer a live review course in the Northeast region. The class will be taught by one of our most experienced instructors, Jay Ranade, who is also teaching the Fall CISA® exam review class.   Many people have attended this class to increase their understanding of IT Risk Management.

Our chapter has also been active on the academic front. On October 27, 2011, it was an honor to be invited by the Baruch College's Statistics and Computer information Systems department to participate in the "Information Technology Audit" panel. This event was moderated by Professor William Ferns of the Zicklin School of Business. During the 3 hour session, panelists discussed their experience being an auditor within their organization and reminded the audience of the importance of IT audit within the organization and the value of certifications.

If you believe that one of the ISACA® certifications (CISA®, CISM®, CGEIT®, CRISC®) is something that you want to pursue, please feel free to contact Kwongmei To (Committee Chair) to discuss further.

Important Reminders

Exam Results
Exam results are now available for those of you who took an ISACA® certification exam in June 2011. Please logon to your account and review your exam results today. Congratulations to all newly certified chapter members!

CPE Requirements
To maintain your certification, you must attain CPE hours over an annual and three-year certification period. Certification holders must earn an annual minimum of twenty (20) CPE hours

Academic Relations

The goal of our Academic Relations Committee is to establish working relationships with many local colleges and universities, and to bring awareness to students about the ISACA® organization. There are many members of our Chapter who would like to share their personal work experiences with students, make presentations on the latest trends in our industry, and help colleges and universities review their curriculums to ensure that the most current trends and topics in audit and technology are addressed within these curriculums - based on the experience and observations of ISACA® professionals.

Our Committee has been planning to host a number of seminars and networking sessions throughout the year to bring awareness about our profession to college and university students. The Academic Relations Committee has had a productive two months (in September and October), giving presentations to universities and colleges.

Our first presentation was given on September 21st to students of the Accounting Department at Pace University's Downtown New York City Campus. Participating in this event were James Ambrosini (Chapter President), Anthony D'Amato (Academic Relations Committee Co-Chair) and Ton Chookhare (Board Member). The presentation provided an overview of ISACA®, the benefits to students, examples of projects and experiences of the presenters, and an overview of Information Security Risk Assessment. On behalf of the Chapter, we would like to thank the faculty at Pace University, and especially Dr. Picheng Lee, Professor of Accounting at Pace University for providing us with the opportunity to present.

Our next visit was on October 25th to SUNY Rockland Community College, in Rockland County, New York where a presentation was provided to students of the Computer Department specializing in Homeland Security and Cybersecurity. The presentation was part of an initiative for Cybersecurity Awareness month (for October), and provided an overview of ISACA®, and Homeland and Cybersecurity to students. Participating in the presentation were Anthony D'Amato, (Academic Relations Committee Co-Chair), and Cybersecurity expert, Ted Ridley (President of BlackStream Technologies, LLC). The Chapter would like to thank the faculty of the Computer Department at SUNY Rockland Community College, and especially Nicole L. Hanaburgh, Professor of Cyber Security CUNY Rockland Community College for providing us with the opportunity to present.

The Chapter is currently organizing an event with Baruch College in Manhattan, and a second presentation at Pace University. Going forward (in the coming months), the Chapter's Academic Relations Committee will be providing additional seminars and presentations to local universities and colleges, with the goal to educate and spark interest in the ever-growing field of IT Audit and Compliance.

If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and expertise of Information Security and/or IT Audit and Compliance at the future college events, please contact either Raisa Serenbrenik (Committee Co-Chair) or Anthony D'Amato (Committee Co-Chair).

Corporate Relations

The Corporate Relations Committee was formed in 2010 and was the first committee of this type among all ISACA® chapters (to our knowledge). The raison d'être for the committee was a need to establish quality guidance for programming and activities of the Chapter from the major stakeholders. With this guidance, the Chapter could maximize the value to the members and also to the sponsoring organizations. The following objectives were identified for the Committee:

- Seek input from key public accounting and industry leaders in Audit, Information Security, Governance, Risk, and Control fields on services and value offered by ISACA® and gain ideas for new offerings - in areas of education, membership, and certification

- Identify and recruit speakers and instructors for training classes and membership meetings

- Promote ISACA® certification and facilitate preparation for the exams; identify hosting opportunities with the corporate sponsors

- Determine good practices, techniques, and tools in use at the companies that could be shared at membership meetings or form the basis for a training session offering

- Promote effective use of ISACA® control frameworks - COBIT® and skill frameworks - CISA®, CISM®, CGEIT®, CRISC®

- Disseminate information on job opportunities shared by the corporate contacts to the membership

Over the last year we had a number of meetings with senior leaders in several organizations who have shared valuable insights about top of the mind topics we could cover. One of the examples was the Auditing Mainframe Security topic suggested by multiple people. We have produced this class and had over 30 people in attendance. One of the firms that had requested the class has sent 16 people, coming from as far as Brazil and the United Kingdom.

Our contacts with the industry leaders have helped to facilitate and retain speakers for our Membership events that were attended by a record number of people (HBO Auditorium capacity was challenged by our star presenters). Our last speaker, M. Gorge, CEO of Vigitrust, has offered a free online class on Social Media Security for those members who could not attend in person. We continue building our relationships with the industry leaders through forums like Irish Learning Showcase sponsored by Enterprise Ireland.

As many organizations perform a skill inventory and identify their members training needs, the Chapter serves as a trusted advisor helping to select relevant knowledge frameworks. One of the organizations in our area (over 100 ISACA® members) was looking for a framework for Information Risk Manager competencies. Through partnering with us, the CRISC® framework was selected, among several other candidates. This decision will have a global impact, as all Information Risk Managers from this firm globally will be assessing their skills against CRISC® knowledge domains. The Chapter will be also helping to address identified training needs.

As we are expanding an outreach to our sponsors, we are looking for volunteers to work on the Corporate Relations Committee that would help establishing contacts with leaders in our profession as well as in the industry. If you have an interest joining our committee, please contact Alex Abramov (Committee Chair).

Special Events

Leadership Conference
The Chapter was represented at the recently held Eastern President's Council Meeting (PCM) Leadership Conference in South Florida by Marguerite McCarthy (Membership Committee Chair) and

Leadership Conference in South Florida by Marguerite McCarthy (Membership Committee Chair) and Nigel James (2nd Vice President). The PCM is a forum for Chapter Leaders to exchange ideas on a regional and global basis, as well as an opportunity to network and receive education. In addition to an update from ISACA® International on topics that include chapter growth, retention, and support available to chapters, attendees from various chapters presented on topics such as Social Media, Academic and Corporate Relations, and electronic delivery of content from seminars, meetings, or training (e-Engagements). While many ideas were exchanged and interesting topics were discussed, the ISACA® e-Library in particular stood out. Dubbed "ISACA®'s best kept secret," the e-Library currently has 425 third-party titles and 98 ISACA® titles available online for members to access via the www.isaca.org website. For more information on the PCM feel free to contact Marguerite McCarthy or Nigel James directly.

Our Leadership

Board of Directors
The ISACA® New York Metro Chapter Board of Directors consists of 20 Board Members plus the last 3 past Presidents. Like our membership, the Board represents a wide array of backgrounds and come from many industries including Financial Services, Consulting, Education, Entertainment, and Retail. The Board meets monthly to discuss the Chapter's new and old business and the status of projects being performed by Board Committees.

President:
Jim Ambrosini

1st Vice President:
Alexander Josephite

2nd Vice President:
Nigel James

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Recording Secretary:
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- Emma Arakelyan
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- Clive Blackwood
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- Marguerite McCarthy
- Voula Muckalli
- James Powers
- Karen V. Rawls
- Raisa Serebrenik
- Kwongmei To (May)

Past Presidents:

- Felix Ramirez
- Patrick Grant
- David Kipin

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