The Importance of ISACA® Membership

Message from the President

Patrick Grant
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter President
Bank of New York Mellon

In these times of economic uncertainty we are all forced to make decisions as to what constitutes a necessary expense and what does not. The NY Metro ISACA chapter understands that those of you who pay your own membership and certification fees may be cutting back on your discretionary spending. I want to take this opportunity to stress that your ISACA® membership, at both the chapter and international levels, is a necessity.

Your career must be protected and the benefits you receive as an ISACA® member cannot be underestimated. Maintaining your ISACA® NY Metropolitan Chapter membership allows you to easily maintain your certifications and take necessary professional training at a greatly reduced cost.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

IMPROVED SOFTWARE GOVERNANCE
APRIL 17, 2009
INSTRUCTOR – ALLENURETA
$300 MEMBERS; $500 NON-MEMBERS
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAREER FAIR
APRIL 20, 2009
9:00AM – 4:00PM
FREE FOR MEMBERS
LOCATION: BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, 101 BARCLAY STREET, NEW YORK, NY
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND CISA®, CISM®, CGEIT® RECOGNITION
MAY 6, 2009
5:30PM – 9:30PM
FREE FOR MEMBERS
LOCATION: HBO, 1100 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, NY
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

IT AND RELATED FRAMEWORKS
MAY 27-28, 2009
INSTRUCTOR – JAY RANADE
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

SOFTWARE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
JUNE 15-17, 2009
INSTRUCTOR – ALLENURETA
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

MEASURING IT GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE
JUNE 25, 2009
INSTRUCTOR – EMMA ARAKELYAN & TBD
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS VISIT WWW.ISACANY.NET
The letters of CISA®, CISM® or CGEIT® after your name tell your employer or client that you are committed to the highest standards of the profession, and that you are someone who maintains the skills needed to examine those existing and emerging technology risks. Certifications are upheld based on continuing education; therefore it is imperative that you stay on top of your accreditations.

With that in mind, maintaining your chapter membership gives you economical access to the training you need to keep your certifications in addition to providing networking opportunities of committed IT professionals. For our members who are currently unemployed, our chapter can help you obtain gratis training based on availability and need.

Remember our chapter is here to help you, but we can’t help you if you opt out. Please keep sure to keep your membership current.

Patrick Grant  
President, ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter

On March 27th, members of the Academic Relations Committee (pictured left) spoke to a graduate IT class at New York Institute of Technology. 

Jim Ambrosini, Norman Levine, and Alex Josephite (chairman) each spoke about their various roles in ISACA®, about the IT audit profession in general and their current responsibilities. The ISACA® NY Academic relations committee’s goal is to reach out to the local NY universities and help promote the IT audit profession and collaborate on IT audit education. For more information, contact alexander_j_josephite@newyorklife.com.

GET PUBLISHED!  
IF WE PUBLISH YOUR ARTICLE ON A TECHNICAL SUBJECT YOU WILL RECEIVE A ONE DAY CREDIT TO A NEW YORK METRO ISACA® CHAPTER SPONSORED TRAINING COURSE  
SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS TO METROLINE@ISACANY.ORG

Volunteer Opportunities

NY Metro Chapter of ISACA®

We are always looking for volunteers to help with chapter activities, from organizing events to working with the different committees. Please email us at volunteer@isacany.org if you want to get involved.

Current Volunteer Opportunities

Membership – Volunteer for the Career Fair April 20th
Membership – Registration for the Next Membership Meeting
Education / Certification – Teaching Assistants
General – Be a Company Liaison to ISACA®
Membership Highlights

Featured Chapter Member

Shelly Hemler – Vice President of Technology and Operations Audit at MetLife

Danielle Ferraioli
Newsletter Editor-In-Chief
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter

Metro Line: Which college or university did you attend? What did you study while there?

Shelly Hemler: I attended University of North Texas where I earned a B.A. and M.S. in Accounting and Information Systems.

ML: Where did you start your career?

Shelly: I started my career as an intern and then full-time employee with Ernst & Young in the Dallas, TX office and then transferred to the New York Financial Services Office. While with Ernst & Young I was given the opportunity to move to the London office through the firm’s Global Exchange Program. The experience of living abroad was very impactful on my career. I was exposed to other cultures, which cultivated mindfulness and expanded my view of the world.

ML: What career related challenges have you faced, if any? How did you overcome them?

Shelly: The transition from the client service based Big 4 environment to the internal audit department of MetLife posed some interesting challenges. The Internal Audit pace is slower and pressure less than in Big 4, which took some adjusting. Once I adjusted, I began to appreciate working hard for 40 hours a week and living a full life outside the office. It was also challenging to lead a team of people with very different backgrounds, experiences and skills, whereas most Big 4 staff are fairly homogeneous. The benefit in Internal Audit is that you have an opportunity to cultivate a stronger partnership with the business, spend more time doing in depth analysis into processes, risks and controls, and help the business proactively improve the control environment.

ML: What do you feel are the in-demand skill sets for an individual in the IT Audit industry?

Shelly: Strong communication skills and the ability to ‘sell’ the value of IT audit to internal audit and business partners. Writing skills are also very important. It’s not just about providing a basic audit report anymore. Process owners want and expect quality audit findings and recommendations that add value. On the hard-skills side, data analysis is very in-demand and is proving to be useful in a variety of audits.

ML: What type of training has been most impactful throughout your career?

Shelly: I recently completed a six month executive education at Harvard Business School called the Program for Leadership Development. The program is for leaders with 10-15 years of experience in a broad range of industries that are looking to be more cross-functional. The curriculum was divided into four parts, two of which were on campus and two that were off campus. I participated in a combination of class room case method learning and distance learning coursework. In the process of my studies, I networked with the other participants, 60% of which were internationally based, and I made really good friends.

ML: What business trends do you see as challenging to the IT Audit industry today?

Shelly: The trend of off-shoring business and IT functions is an ongoing challenge to the IT Audit industry. The process of off-shoring requires proper evaluation of strategy, well built processes and controls, and sound knowledge and project management protocols. To manage the risks inherent to off-shoring, IT audit professionals are being challenged to understand and evaluate a broader range of controls over the business process, application and operational stability of the technology environment.

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Calling All IT Students

Alexander Josephite
Recording Secretary, Academic Relations (Chair)
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter

Are you unsure of the opportunities available after college? Are you looking for an experienced mentor to shed light on your future? Would you like to network with a group of over 2,400 professionals spread across all professions IT? Look no further. The New York Metropolitan Chapter of ISACA® is here for you! Visit the Academic Relations Page of our website and join today!
Chapter News

New Website Goes Live!

Successful rollout of new content, formatting, and functionality

Richard Ziegler
Website Administrator
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter

The Web Committee has been hard at work for the last several months managing the comprehensive design, development, testing, and rollout of the chapter’s new website (http://www.isacany.net). This is part of a coordinated effort to better serve the chapter’s membership by improving communications and enhancing functionality.

The Web Committee created detailed specifications for the new site and translated them into a formal RFP which was distributed to several web development vendors. Once the Committee selected a vendor, we designed, developed, and tested the new features of the website. Simultaneously, the team coordinated with members of the Board to create updated content for posting. The new content, formatting, and functionality were successfully integrated and went live on Monday, February 9, 2009. Since production rollout, the team has been continuously tweaking the site in preparation for the annual ISACA® website judging this spring. We hope that the site will be recognized as one of the premier chapter domains and earn a Gold Medal from ISACA International.

Moving forward, plans are already in the works to upgrade various components of the website in an effort to continuously evolve the site’s form and function, while maintaining meaningful and timely content. We are proud of the new website and want it to reflect the membership of the ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter – in the greatest city in the world!

The Web Committee is always looking for volunteers with an interest in developing content or assisting with the ongoing support and maintenance of the website. Additionally, questions, comments, and suggestions are always welcome. Please contact James Ambrosini (James.Ambrosini@isacany.org) or Richard Ziegler (Richard.Ziegler@isacany.org).

Goodbye Paper – Hello Online Voting!

James Powers
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter Board Director

What do the Emmy Awards and the NY ISACA® Chapter have in common? We’ve both licensed Votenet™ Solutions’ eBallot online voting software for use in our upcoming 2009 elections. After a careful study of online voting companies, our Chapter selected Votenet, the leading provider of secure on-demand voting software. With experience in over 8000 online elections, Votenet has served over 6,000,000 voters worldwide.

With the use of the eBallot software we expect to dramatically reduce the cost of our annual election by eliminating the use of paper ballots, while increasing the number of members actually voting in the election. Under the watchful eye of Chapter President Pat Grant, Kevin Fuller, Emma Arakelyan and Jim Powers have been finalizing the procedures for using and administering the eBallot software.

Prior to the election, notice of the voting will be posted on our Chapter’s website and registered members will receive an email informing them of the upcoming election. At a later date, each member will receive an email with their user ID and password – their election credentials along with instructions on how to vote. When voting begins, members can login and cast a vote through a simple web interface that prevents tampering, double-voting and mis-marked ballots.

So be on the lookout for future updates on the upcoming election and eBallot online voting; while you won’t be able to vote for “Best Actor” you’ll have the opportunity to vote for the “Best Candidates” for the NY ISACA® Chapter.
Chapter News

Get to Know Your Chapter Board

An Interview with Felix Ramirez, First Vice President, ISACA® NY Metro Chapter

Michelle Syskrot
MetroLine Photo and Copy Editor
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

Metro Line was given the wonderful opportunity of interviewing Felix Ramirez, ISACA®’s First Vice President and Chairman of the Education Committee. Anyone who speaks with Felix will quickly learn of his passion and enthusiasm for ISACA®. Read below to find out more about Felix and his plans for the ISACA® NY Metro Chapter.

Metro Line: Where did you attend college and what was your major?

Felix Ramirez: I attended college in the Dominican Republic at Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña. I obtained a degree in Mathematics and Computer Programming. Later on, I received an MBA from the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra.

ML: When did you begin your career in Information Systems Auditing?

Felix: I started at PWC right out of college. While I was still in the Dominican Republic, I worked with the PwC Washington, D.C. branch, where we conducted several Organizational Strength Assessments (OSAs). In performing these OSA’s, I was exposed to IT auditing through testing of the internal controls as part of the financial statements preparation.

ML: When did you first get involved with ISACA®?

Felix: After becoming acclimated with IT auditing, I wanted to immerse myself in it as much as possible. I started an ISACA® chapter in the Dominican Republic 20 years ago. After I had moved to the States and was established here for some time, I was elected to the NY Metropolitan Chapter Board in 2004.

ML: What changes did you bring to ISACA® as First Vice President and Chairman of the Education Committee?

Felix: I found that there were a lot of inefficiencies with the way things were being run at the time. I wanted Board members to become more involved and to increase member benefits. My son Philip and I created and implemented a chapter website improvement so that people could see a schedule of course offerings and register online for classes. Next, I added more education classes and started the “Professional Update Series” which was geared towards learning up-and-coming topics and professional networking. All of the above helped increase membership by providing more value to the members.

ML: You are running for Chapter President in the upcoming election. If you are elected, what new initiatives would you like to implement?

Felix: I would like to continue to increase the benefits to our members by providing more network, educational and job opportunities. We also need to make the chapter more visible in the IT profession, to the government, and to the general public. My plan is to also work with elected officials and regulatory agencies to help promote the need of IT audits and controls on pending and current legislation.

ML: What role do you feel Information Systems Auditing will play in the future?

Felix: The current economic situation is a great opportunity for people in our career. It’s a unique chance for chapter members to work within their organizations or with the government and to contribute ideas on how to make things better. Technology plays a huge part in any organization, so the need for people who understand the relevant IT processes and controls can play an active role in reviving the economic life of our area.

ML: What can ISACA® members do to become more involved?

Felix: I created a volunteer committee to assist with coordinating volunteers. If a member would like to become more involved in any aspect of the association, they can send an email to volunteer@isacany.org with their interests.

ML: Do you have any hobbies?

Felix: I enjoy playing tennis with my wife and 3 children. I also enjoy piloting planes, although I don’t have my pilot’s license. Yet.
Long Range Planning Committee Collaborates with ISACA® NY Metro Board of Directors

Patrick Grant  
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter President  
Bank of New York Mellon

This past winter we held our first strategic planning meeting with the Chapter’s Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC). The LRPC is composed of a group of five internationally respected mentors of ISACA® International, including several Wasserman Award winners. The coming together of the LRPC and the Chapter’s Board of Directors was meant to create a framework that provided the board with a guide to formulate its yearly plan of operations.

The meeting was a historic coming together where we discussed ISACA® NY’s Balanced Scorecard, which is a set of metrics that will allow us to measure the success we are having in regard to International standards. We developed our Mission Statement by targeting several high-level goals that we believe are imperative to the chapter’s success. We also defined long-range objectives, discussed board effectiveness, addressed succession planning for critical functions, and created practical approaches to increase and support our membership.

Additionally, we formulated a method to create stronger relations with other IT professional organizations in the regulatory, academic and vendor communities. We plan to continue providing education in a way that best serves all segments of our membership.

I’d like to thank all those who worked to make this session both a success and a milestone for our chapter; we went beyond team building and established a baseline that we can now put in place for all subsequent boards. Well done!

Job Postings

If your company is looking to fill an opening in IT audit, security, management, or operations we would be glad to list it on the ISACA® NY Metro chapter website for free!

To submit a job posting please email the job description and contact information to Membership@isacany.org. The opening will be posed on our site for 30 days unless otherwise directed. This service can only be seen by those logged into our website www.isacany.net.

IT Career Fair

April 20, 2009 9am – 4pm
FREE for ISACA® NY Metro Chapter Members

An opportunity for IT professionals to meet and speak with companies with legitimate staffing needs.

Location: Bank of NY Mellon – 101 Barclay St New York, NY

2009 Wasserman Award Nominations

The Joseph J. Wasserman Award is regarded as the most prestigious Award in the field of Information Systems Audit and it is given to those who have consistently made an outstanding contribution to the profession.

Please submit names of those whom you consider should be nominated for 2009, with a description of their contributions to the profession to wasserman@isacany.org, by April 20th at the latest. Please also include your own contact information.
Certification Update

CISA®, CISM®, & CGEIT® Review Classes

A unique preparation opportunity for those taking a certification exam in June 2009

Dustin Bradley
CISA/CISM/CEGEIT Coordinator
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter

The ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter is pleased to announce a unique opportunity to prepare for the June 13, 2009 CISA®, CISM® & CGEIT® exams. The CISA®, CISM® & CGEIT® review classes are designed to help people prepare for the exams. You may register for more than one class, but please note that you can take only one certification exam, as all exams take place on June 13, 2009 at the same time. Registration for the CISA®, CISM® & CGEIT® closed on April 10, 2009. Please note that all of these classes will include custom memorization tactics from the instructor to enhance the learning experience and success rate.

CISM® Review Classes – Saturdays in Manhattan
Starting on Saturday April 11, 18 and 25, 2009
Location: Manhattan, New York (TBD)
Cost: $700 for ISACA® members (any Chapter); $900 for non-members
Registration Deadline: April 8, 2009
Cancellation Date: March 31, 2009

CGEIT® Review Class – Saturdays in Manhattan
Starting on Saturday May 2 and 9, 2009
Location: Manhattan, New York (TBD)
Cost: $700 for ISACA® members (any Chapter); $900 for non-members
Registration Deadline: April 29, 2009
Cancellation Date: March 31, 2009

CISA® Review Class – Saturdays in Manhattan
Starting on Saturday May 16, 23, 30 and June 6, 2009
Location: Manhattan, New York (TBD)
Cost: $500 for ISACA® members (any Chapter); $600 for non-members
Registration Deadline: May 12, 2009
Cancellation Date: March 31, 2009

Please send any questions to membership@isacany.org or certification@isaca.org. To register for a review class, visit www.isacany.net.
Dear ISACA® NY Metro Chapter,

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you my journey in taking and passing the CISA® exam. I am pleased to inform the ISACA® NY Metro Chapter that I passed the December 2008 CISA® exam by participating in the CISA® Review course taught by Mr. Jay Ranade.

IS Auditing is both a dynamic and necessary part of business and our economy. I believe that the CISA® certification is important for the knowledge one gains in preparing for the exam. The CISA® certification provides professional recognition and prestige for the IS Auditor.

Although ISACA® International provided study aids for the exam, the CISA® Review course offered by the ISACA® NY Metro Chapter was of immense benefit when studying for the test. The instructor of the review course, Mr. Jay Ranade, is an extremely knowledgeable, professional, and entertaining instructor. Mr. Ranade explained complex concepts in a way I was able to both easily understand and remember.

I would also like to thank the ISACA® NY Metro chapter Board of Directors for making the certification review course available and affordable for the NY Metro Chapter members. They provide an immense service to those of us who are entering the IT auditing industry for the first time. I am looking forward to my career as an Information Systems Auditor as an IT professional.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Wai Cheung
A ‘Must-have’ Skill for the IT Auditor

James Ambrosini  
Website Committee Chairman  
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

When I started in IT audit 12 years ago, I was hired for my ability to understand and assess technical details. Then, through the “Dot-com” era and the “Y2K scare,” my experience as a developer and systems analyst proved to be useful to my career as technical skills often made the difference between getting a job or not.

While technical skills will always have an important role in an IT auditor’s repertoire, I’ve seen an increased demand and need for the softer skills, particularly strong communication abilities. These skills have grown from being merely a “nice to have” to becoming a critical element for IT professionals. In my consulting career working with dozens of Internal Audit departments, I’ve seen too many reports where the key issues are buried in layers of technical jargon, making key points difficult to comprehend. I’ve also found that many of the really “techie” IT auditors have trouble documenting key themes in reports. In other words, people want the root cause of the issues at hand, rather than, or in addition to, a laundry list of findings. And finally, I can’t emphasize enough the importance of good verbal communication. Speaking to management, clearly, factually and efficiently, goes a long way in building trust and rapport. Communication is the fundamental element of understanding; and without understanding it’s difficult to convince top management of the importance of our recommendations.

So what’s the best way to learn some of these critical soft skills?

As a first step, I strongly advocate taking a business writing course. There are courses specifically designed to teach the techniques of writing effective audit reports. I have personally found these courses to be extremely worthwhile and found that they made an immediate difference.

Next, get into the practice of writing more. It could be a journal, a blog, a diary, (yes, audit issues and reports too), etc. It’s no secret that the more you write (whether for business or pleasure), the more effective writer you become.

Lastly, if you’re not used to making oral presentations, you should start practicing now. Many audit departments have their staff internally present about an interesting audit or an emerging technology. I would highly encourage this since it’s a fun, low-risk way to practice your presentation skills while getting noticed by your peers and management. Just a tip: try recording yourself during a dry-run of the presentation and then watch or listen to the playback. You’d be amazed at how you’ll catch yourself using ineffective body language, too much hand movement, or saying “um” repeatedly. Speaking at a local university about your profession is a great way to provide others with a “real world” perspective while practicing your speaking skills too. There are many colleges in the Metro-New York area that have programs on IT assurance, IT auditing, etc. I have personally spoken at several of these colleges and found that not only was a great experience for me, but the students and teachers were grateful to hear more about the profession from someone who’s in the field.

A very successful businessman once told me, “You can have the best product in the world, but if you can’t convince someone to buy it, it won’t matter.” Now more than ever, we need auditors to be able to ‘sell’ controls and interact with top management. A strong communication background is imperative and may make the difference between getting the job or promotion you’ve been working towards, or not.
Upcoming ISACA® Conferences

Debbie Morales
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter Member

North America CACS™ Conference

May 3-7, 2009; Orlando, Florida, USA

North America CACS provides the most comprehensive training for IT audit, security and governance professionals in North America. The conference focuses on the latest strategies to address IT auditing and security challenges from business, managerial and operational perspectives. For more information or to register, please visit http://www.isaca.org/nacacs.

International Conference

July 19-22, 2009; Los Angeles, California, USA

The International Conference has long occupied the spotlight in the global IT community for providing in-depth coverage of leading and cutting-edge technical and managerial issues facing IT governance, control, security, audit and assurance professionals. The International Conference serves as a stage where experience and knowledge on best practices, system security, audit tools and processes, and other topics that impact IT professionals the world over converge. For more information or to register, please visit http://www.isaca.org/international.

Information and Security Risk Management

September 28-30, 2009, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

This conference will build on and include the key elements of information security management practices and information security practices. The conference will cover related business, program and technical issues and the impact of risk management. For more information and to register, please visit http://www.isaca.org/ismrc.

Research Update

COBIT User Guide for Service Managers

This is the first publication in a series planned to provide guidance on how to use COBIT® when performing the role of service manager. This guide contains:

- An explanation of the service manager role and why it is important for effective IT governance
- An introduction to business and governance challenges service managers face and how COBIT® can help
- The key governance tasks for the service manager role aligned to the IT Infrastructure Library (ITIL®) V3 processes and COBIT® 4.1 control objectives, with related roles and responsibilities expressed as a controls baseline
- Case examples
- A high-level maturity model for the service manager
- Links to other references

COBIT® User Guide for Service Managers is available as a complimentary PDF to ISACA® members at www.isaca.org/downloads and in the ISACA® Bookstore (www.isaca.org/bookstore) for purchase by the public in electronic and print format.

Enterprise Risk: Identify, Govern and Manage Risk, The Risk IT Framework Exposure Draft

The Risk IT framework provides the missing link between enterprise risk management and IT management and control. It fits seamlessly into ITGI®’s IT governance framework and builds on all existing risk-related components within COBIT® and Val IT®. The framework allows business managers to assess IT controls for deficiencies and business risks. An exposure draft of the first Risk IT publication was posted for comments in the first quarter 2009 at www.isaca.org.
ISACA® International Training Update

ISACA® Training Week
May 18-22 – Denver, CO USA; $2,295 Member; $2,495 Non-Member
June 15-19 – Vienna, Austria; $2,695 Member; $2,895 Non-Member
Aug. 17-21 – Boston, MA USA; $2,095 Member (Early-bird); $2,595 Non-Member
Sept. 14-18 – Toronto, ON Canada; $2,095 Member (Early-bird); $2,595 Non-Member
Nov. 2-6 – San Francisco, CA USA; $2,095 Member (Early-bird); $2,595 Non-Member

Classes Offered
- Fundamentals of IT Assurance & Audit
- IT Assurance & Audit Practices
- Information Security Management
- COBIT®

Instructors: Don Caniglia, CISA®, CISM®; Craig McGuffin, CISA®, CISM®; Al Marcella Jr., CISA®; Barry Lewis, CISM®; John Tannahill, CISM®; Jimmy Heschl, CISA®, CISM®, CGEIT®; and Peter Davis, CISA®, CISM®

ISACA® Training Week is designed to provide the tools you need to maintain, update and upgrade your skills, and to continue your professional development. It is a unique educational event, where you can choose from four comprehensive courses, in six locations, that offer in-depth coverage of topics important to you and your enterprises. Courses use a combination of lecture, class discussion, group exercises and case studies to explore aspects of IT assurance, audit, governance and security. Attendees will learn about proven strategies and techniques based upon best practices and lessons learned from the ISACA® community.

For more information on ISACA Training Week and to register visit www.isaca.org/trainingweek.

ISACA® Bookstore Update

Recently Added!
1. IT Service Management Global Best Practices by the ITSMF International
2. IT Regulatory and Standards Compliance Handbook: How to Survive an Information Systems Audit and Assessments by Craig S. Wright
3. Corporate Management, Governance, and Ethics Best Practice by S. Rao Vallabhaneni
5. Global Perspectives in Information Security: Legal, Social, and International Issues by Hossein Bidgoli
6. The Business Value of IT: Managing Risks, Optimizing Performance and Measuring Results by Michael D. S. Harris, David Herron, Stasia Iwanicki

Go to WWW.ISACA.ORG/BOOKSTORE for more information!
ML: Do you hold any certifications? If yes, what drove you to obtain them? What are the benefits of holding each?

Shelly: I hold the CPA and CISA certifications. The CPA provides a sense of confidence for those in finance and accounting. The CISA substantiates technical skills and creates a level playing field amongst IT Audit professionals.

ML: How have you been involved with ISACA® / the NY Metro Chapter?

Shelly: I have attended many ISACA® conferences and use the COBIT® framework as a knowledge resource on a daily basis. Also, I think that ISACA® NY provides great networking and training opportunities.