Outgoing Address

Message from the President

Patrick Grant
Chapter President
ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter

Now that I am handing the chief executive responsibilities over to Felix Ramirez I would like to reflect on the last two years and why I am very proud of what we have accomplished as a board.

First, I thank Past President David Kipin for asking me to run. And I thank the nominating committee for endorsing me. And I most especially thank our membership for their trust and support in electing me.

My main concern was upgrading the website so that it could not only be a functional tool for our chapter but so that it would impress upon anyone who visited our site that the New York Metropolitan Chapter was a professional organization that took pride in the face we presented to our colleagues and stakeholders. I was fortunate to have Carlos Recalde on our board. Carlos was committed to taking ownership of our site and because of his efforts the website became a useful tool to the Chapter and earned a silver standard from International.

Building on the work done by Carlos, Jim Ambrosini and Richard Ziegler added much useful content and also expanded our functionality and format to the point that this year we earned gold standard recognition. In fact we have made such great strides with our site, that we are now engaged with International as part of a single sign-on pilot program. I could say mission accomplished, but because success builds on itself, we found ourselves on a roll. We had been talking about rejuvenating our chapter newsletter. Not only did we rejuvenate it, but the success of the website let us present it as an online feature of the site. And if you look at it you will be impressed by the professionalism that has gone into creating another product that we as a chapter can be very proud of.

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2009 Wasserman Award Recipient

Deepak Sarup FCA, CISA

The Board of Directors recently unanimously voted in favor of presenting the 2009 Joseph J. Wasserman Award to Deepak Sarup in recognition of his outstanding achievements and contributions to the field of Information Systems Audit, Control and Security.

Deepak started his career in Information Systems Auditing in London, U.K. whilst working for Touche Ross (now Deloitte and Touche). In 1981, he joined the London Chapter of ISACA as a founder member. Following a career move to the Asia Pacific region of the firm, he was a founding member of, and had a key role in establishing, the Singapore, Malaysia, and Bangkok Chapters, resulting in his appointment in 1986 as the first Regional Vice President of the newly established Asian Region of ISACA.

In 1989, Deepak was elected as the Executive Vice President of the Association and actively supported the growth of ISACA Chapters and membership throughout the world – and continued on page 15

Inside This Issue

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As always we have strived to sponsor diverse and useful training for our membership. Over the last two years Felix Ramirez has gone to great lengths to put forward a very ambitious education program. And he has done so by building a formidable education committee that was organized to use committee members’ particular skills and backgrounds divide the responsibility so as to not overwhelm two or three people who would find themselves playing catch-up with planning and paperwork.

Another great accomplishment of the education function was contracting Jay Ranade to teach our CISA® and other review classes. Jay had a class that achieved 100% success on one of the CISA® certification tests. I find that an amazing accomplishment.

The membership meetings were an unequivocal success these past few years. We thank Norm Levine for providing a wonderful meeting facility at HBO and we thank Yonique Malbranche and Alex Josephite for organizing meetings that featured interesting speakers and fine social-networking events.

I would be remiss not to note the outstanding job Kevin Fuller did as Treasurer. Kevin also took ownership of a position that has been difficult and time intensive. And he put his stamp on it by modernizing it to take advantage of the Pay Pal feature on the website to cut down on the checks we would normally have to process. Then he created an electronic banking function whereby we performed electronic endorsements to speed up paying our bills by weeks. Well done Kevin.

We also launched several first time initiatives. We had our first ever Job Fair - something that we never felt we needed to do in the past, but given the economy and the way it was affecting our membership, we felt it was necessary to step up to the plate. And we are in the talking stage of a second Job Fair for sometime in the Fall.

Another first for us was to make this year’s board election available as an electronic ballot. Thanks to the efforts of Jim Powers we scrapped our 18th century election model and jumped ahead 300 years to the era of electronic voting.

Being the New York Metropolitan Chapter, we also have an abundance of riches in that we have so many talented IT security professionals to tap into for help and advice. We revived the Long Range Planning Committee and reached out to Peter Wild, Emile D’Angelo, Marios Damianides, Anne Ferraro and Tony Nobel to help us formulate a strategy for the board that would give us a baseline to follow over the next three to five years. We had an amazing strategic planning day that nailed down our goals as a board and as a chapter. And to stay current we will continue to meet on a yearly basis.

I would also like to mention that we had a special evening last September when we invited several members who had grandfathered in as CGEITS to speak to members who were not sure about the certification or if they would qualify. As a result of that night we went from 34 CGEIT®’s to over 80 (including 4 on the incoming board) and we also found an energetic committed new board director in Emma Arakelyan, who we thank for helping us more than double our CGEIT® representation.

As I step down as Chapter President, I feel good about the last two years. I believe we have grown as a chapter and made breakthroughs that better position us to be more useful to our members and other stakeholders in the years to come. I thank all our board members, volunteers, and friends in the IT community who worked with us, sponsored our efforts and provided support for our shared goals. I especially thank Bank of New York Mellon, JP Morgan Chase, HBO, St John’s, Time Warner, Ernst and Young and all other organizations who have made space available for our meetings and training events.

My advice to those who will lead the New York Metropolitan chapter in the years to come is to embrace change, encourage new ideas, share responsibility, support one another and don’t be afraid to take risks, risks can be managed. I wish good luck to Felix Ramirez and the incoming board. I enjoyed working with you as Chapter President and I will continue to enjoy working with you in my duties as Past President. I already have some ideas I would like to implement for next year’s nominating process.
Membership Highlights

Featured Chapter Member

Barry Sears – Senior Manager in Advisory Services at Ernst & Young LLP

Danielle Ferraioli
MetroLine Editor-In-Chief
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

The Metroline spoke with Barry Sears, a Senior Manager in the Advisory Services practice at Ernst & Young. Barry has over eleven years of experience in IT governance, internal controls, project management, and enterprise risk management. Read below to find out more about Barry Sears.

Metro Line: Which college or university did you attend? What did you study while there?
BS: I received a B.A. in German and a B.A. in International Studies from The University of Wyoming. I then went on to receive an M.B.A. in Marketing and Information Systems from The University of Rochester in New York.

ML: Where did you start your career? Describe your career path.
BS: I started my career in the US Army, where I was a member of the US Army Rangers for 4 years. I went on to be a Medical Evacuation Crewchief for 8 years. After my time in the US Army, I attended college and earned my undergraduate and graduate degrees. After college I started working at Honeywell in IT. Later, I worked in Honeywell's Internal Audit group and found that I liked helping businesses and seeing all aspects of an organization. As a result, I moved to Ernst & Young in 2001 as an Experienced Manager and have been there ever since.

ML: Where do you currently work? What is your job title?
BS: I currently work at Ernst & Young as a Senior Manager out of the New York office. Early on at E&Y I managed engagements that provided IT financial audit support. In 2003, I went to the Paris, France EY office on a global exchange program for a year and a half and played a strategic role there as SOX was becoming more prevalent at that time. Since returning to the New York office in 2004 I have worked on assurance, advisory, IT governance, security, and regulatory type engagements across a wide range of clients.

ML: What career related challenges have you faced, if any? How did you overcome them?
BS: It is great being able to work in a Big 4 environment, but it can often be a challenge, in any organization, to identify your specialty area of focus especially at the more senior levels. There are so many different opportunities, from advisory, or consulting, to IT financial audit support, governance, program management, and of course new emerging areas of IT.

To overcome this, it’s important to realize that you probably won’t know everything about a topic even if you specialize in an area, and thus you have to constantly be ready to learn and leverage others in your network. I work to stay connected with smart people that I know, read up on the latest trends, and engage others to work with me when I need more detailed proficiencies on a project.

ML: What do you feel are the in-demand skill sets for an individual in the IT Audit industry?
BS: Relationships are always important. It is critical to spend time developing your relationships because they will ultimately sustain you through good times and bad. It is also key to understand the issues and perspectives of your client/auditee/management/counterpart. So, good listening skills and building relationships can take your technical talents to greater levels of value and credibility.

ML: What business trends do you see as challenging to the IT Audit profession today?
BS: In the 3rd edition of Tom Friedman’s book, The World Is Flat, he writes about jobs that are going to be outsourced in our life times. As I recall, some accounting (firm) functions were noted and are being outsourced even now. Outsourcing is a certain business trend for many years now, but specific to the IT Audit profession, I would challenge ourselves as to whether our value charters, skills, and deliverables are keeping us relevant. The nice thing about IT is that it’s always changing but what may be changing far less frequently is the way that we assist our organizations govern IT. How are you dealing with control and governance amongst new business models, matriced organizations, and new interconnected technologies?

ML: What type of training has been most impactful throughout your career?
BS: Given my background, diversity in work and personal experiences has been the most useful type of training throughout my
Membership Highlights

Featured Chapter Member

Career. Getting out there and having different experiences allows you to build stronger relationships with your clients, put our profession into a broader perspective, and possibly brings some oft needed levity to things.

There are so many options for training, so each of us can really customize our learning in ways most beneficial to our goals and objectives. One learning channel that I find useful and timely is ISACA®’s e-Symposium series. The topics are fresh, the material is balanced and relatively deep, and you can typically reach out to the presenters with real-time or off-line questions and discussions.

ML: Do you hold any certifications?
BS: I hold the CISA®, CISM®, CGEIT®, PMP®, and CIA® certifications. I am also a Six Sigma Black Belt.

ML: What activities do you enjoy outside the office?
BS: I love foreign languages and spend time studying them. I dabble in Russian, Spanish and Italian, and speak French and German. I am currently studying Mandarin Chinese via the internet with a teacher in Beijing. I also enjoy reading biographies and history books, as well as travelling around the world.

Academic Relations and Membership Update

Alexander Josephite
Recording Secretary
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

Over the past academic year, the Academic Relations Committee has met with students from Pace University, NYIT, Manhattan College, Queens College, and Hofstra University and added two new advocates. Congratulations to all the new graduates in the many information technology fields and welcome to the workforce!

The Membership Committee has been very active over the past 12 months. With the help of a few great volunteers, we have started IT Audit and Compliance Director Roundtable meetings on Long Island, a corporate relations initiative and an organized volunteer coordination process. Our last Membership Meeting, held May 6th at HBO, included a presentation by Eric Staffin on “Driving Operational Risk Management into the Customer/Product Value Chain.” A copy of this presentation and others from this year can be found in the Membership section of our chapter website, www.isacany.net. To celebrate our new certification holders and the past presidents of the Chapter, we held a reception at HB Burger after the meeting. Congratulations to all newly certified members and good luck to those preparing for your next exam!

The Executive Women’s Forum

September 23 – 25, 2009   Scottsdale, AZ
“Pragmatic Risk Solutions for Changing Times: Achieving More with Less”

*** ISACA® Members Receive a $200 Discount ***

The Executive Women’s Forum national conference brings together more than 200 women of influence, power, and intelligence to share ideas and build relationships.

* Earn 17 CPE Credits   * Build a Network of the Most Dynamic Women in Our Industry
  * Take Home Tools, Templates & Solutions to Achieve Success   * Expand Your Expertise & Capabilities

Visit www.ewf-usa.com to register for this event today!   Enter EWF2009ISACA at checkout to receive the $200 discount.

Pass this along to executive women in your network!
A Brief Outlook on Managing Spreadsheet Risk

Tushar Sainani
Senior Consultant, CISA
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Spreadsheets, although extremely important to many businesses, are usually some of the least controlled applications from an integrity and security perspective. Almost every entity uses spreadsheets in one way or another to understand and report critical information. Some use them to track of inventory, handle aspects of their financials or maintain important checklists. At the end of the day, one important question each company should ask is whether it can rely on these critical spreadsheets?

In order to better understand the answer to that question, one should consider some of the key risks associated with spreadsheets, and whether the company has addressed them appropriately. Some of these risks include:

- Failure to access or maintain the most current version
- The ability of users to make unauthorized changes to data (or leak confidential data/personal data to unauthorized sources)
- Accidental or deliberate deletion of data (and spreadsheets)
- Unavailability of data due to failure to adequately backup

Many of these risks have not been sufficiently mitigated because the company has not implemented appropriate policies and procedures that address, to name a few, naming and version control, location, access, and backup.

Once the risks are understood, there are various manual or automated solutions available to help manage these spreadsheet risks. Prior to choosing the solution, and as part of the development of appropriate policies and procedures, companies should consider taking the following steps:

1. Define “critical” spreadsheets
2. Create an inventory (categorize by process / process owners)
3. Risk rank the spreadsheets based on a set of criteria
4. Baseline selected spreadsheets (confirm the integrity of the inputs and the formulas)
5. Develop appropriate policy and procedures
6. Implement controls (manual or automated)
7. Continue to monitor and re-evaluate the population of spreadsheets and the controls implemented

Once the above steps have been followed, and the appropriate controls introduced based on the analysis, the question of whether a company can rely on its critical spreadsheets can be more accurately answered and the risks more appropriately managed.
Chapter News

Congratulations to our Newly Elected ISACA® Chapter Officers and Board Members

James Powers
Director
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

The 2009-2010 ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter election concluded on May 31, 2009 with our largest voter turnout ever! We had 364 members voting this year who participated using our eBallot on-line voting software. According to the Outgoing ISACA® NY Metropolitan Chapter President, Patrick Grant, this represented an almost 100% increase in voting by our membership.

2009-2011 Chapter Officers
President - Felix Ramirez
1st Vice President - James Ambrosini
2nd Vice President - Alexander Josephite
Treasurer - Norman Levine
Recording Secretary - Nigel James
Corresponding Secretary - James Powers

2009-2010 New Board Directors
Andrew T. Robinson
Raisa Serebrenik

2009-2010 Re-Elected Board Directors
Alexander Abramov
Manish Agarwal
Emma Arakelyan
Dustin N. Bradley
Kevin Fuller
Yonique Malbranche
Patricia Martin
Kwongmei To
Christopher Westerman
Richard Ziegler

Based on feedback from some of our members and discussions with Votenet, we will look to further improve the security of our election. Votenet has agreed to amend their processes and will send voters their user names and passwords in separate emails, which will further strengthen our chapter’s voting process.

Calendar of Events

IT and Related Frameworks
June 17 - 18, 2009
INSTRUCTOR – JAY RANADE
$550 MEMBERS; $750 NON-MEMBERS
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

ERM for SAP
June 25, 2009
INSTRUCTORS – CAROL RAIMO AND CARRY HAGGARD
FREE FOR MEMBERS
LOCATION: PROTVITI, 1290 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, NY
To register, please visit www.isacany.net

For more information on upcoming chapter events visit www.isacany.net

Get Published and Get Rewarded!!

RECEIVE A ONE DAY CREDIT TO A NEW YORK METRO ISACA® CHAPTER SPONSORED TRAINING COURSE FOR BEING PUBLISHED IN THE METROLINE!!
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. Email volunteer@isacany.org to get involved.

JobPostings

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.
Website Wins Gold!

Chapter's website recognized for outstanding web efforts

Richard Ziegler
Director and Web Committee Co-Chairman
ISACA® NY Metro Chapter

Each year, the ISACA® International Membership Board reviews all chapter websites. Chapters are recognized as gold, silver, or bronze-level winners based upon predefined judging criteria. This year, the New York Metropolitan Chapter website (http://www.isacany.net) was awarded the Gold-Level which recognizes our Chapter's outstanding web efforts. The ISACA® Gold seal is proudly displayed on our award-winning website! A list of all winners can be found on the ISACA® chapter awards page (http://www.isaca.org/websiteawards).

Although we’re very proud to have been recognized as one of the premier ISACA® chapter domains, we certainly don’t want to rest on our laurels! Moving forward, the web team will continuously evolve the site in an effort to improve our communication capabilities, enhance our online functionality, and better serve the chapter’s membership.

Here are a few of the key initiatives currently being considered:

- Better leverage the website as the primary communications mechanism and seamlessly integrate it into a comprehensive communications plan for the chapter.
- Streamline the event registration process and make it more user-friendly and adaptable to differing registration scenarios.
- Participate in an SSO beta program to determine the feasibility of leveraging ISACA® International login credentials for accessing our site – thereby eliminating the need for a separate chapter user ID and password.
- Integrate social networking or micro-blogging capabilities (e.g., Twitter) that would allow members to subscribe to various types of website postings such as announcements, events, or training.

The Web Committee always welcomes questions, comments, and suggestions. Please contact Richard Ziegler (richard.ziegler@isacany.org) or James Ambrosini (james.ambrosini@isacany.org).

May Membership Meeting Photo Op!!

On May 6, 2009 the New York Metropolitan Chapter of ISACA® held a Membership Meeting in Manhattan at HBO. Pictured here from left to right is Michelle Syskrot, Jenny Urena, May Ko, Annie Lau, and Danielle Ferraioli.
**Get to Know Your Chapter Board**

*An Interview with Patrick Grant, Outgoing President, ISACA® NY Metro Chapter*

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

The Metroline spoke with Patrick Grant, Senior Audit Software Developer at Bank of New York Mellon and ISACA® NY Metro Chapter President. Pat is concluding his two-year term as our Chapter President. Read below to find out more about Patrick Grant.

**Metro Line**: Where did you attend college and what did you study?  
**Pat Grant**: I received my Bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Economics from CUNY Hunter College and my MS in IT Systems and Auditing from NYU.

**ML**: What was your first experience with the ISACA® NY Metro Chapter?  
**PG**: My first exposure to ISACA was when I was a full-time auditor at Dollar Dry Dock, where I took 4-5 ISACA® training courses each year. When I joined the Bank of New York Mellon, one of my colleagues was an ISACA® member and he asked me to assist him with the chapter website. I eventually joined the board a few years later eventually I became the Secretary, and later was elected Treasurer.

**ML**: As Chapter President, what new programs and ideas did you implement?  
**PG**: As President I wanted to create an environment of enthusiasm, encouragement, and support. I supported the design of the new Chapter website which has opened up many doors for the ISACA® NY Metro Chapter. Members can now electronically sign up for training courses and other Chapter events and pay online. And as you know we can download the Chapter Newsletter. Most recently, we implemented electronic voting for our board elections and also held our first job fair. I have been very open to members’ ideas such as suggestions for training classes and a mentoring program. I also got together with past ISACA Presidents and past Wasserman winners to re-implement the Long Range Planning Committee, which sets a baseline and creates strategic goals for the board.

**ML**: Were there any initiatives that you wanted to implement but didn’t have a chance to?  
**PG**: I wanted to create special interest groups by discipline and/or industry and hold roundtables every so often. The membership committee is looking into creating these special interest groups next year. I intend to continue to stay involved with the Chapter and ISACA® because there is such great potential to grow and continue to make a difference for our membership and the profession.

**ML**: What are some of your hobbies outside of the office?  
**PG**: Spending time with my family is my top priority. We enjoy doing things together mostly barbequing and boating. I also enjoy NASCAR and I see a race every year. Additionally, I collect stamps and autographs and I enjoy collecting and watching classic films (including silent films) and many shorts and full length films from the 20’s through the 50’s, along with box sets of TV shows I enjoyed from the 50’s through the 80’s.

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*Live & Online: 23 June 2009*  
*Harmonizing Security and Compliance*  
*http://isaca.brighttalk.com*
Chapter News

NY Metro Chapter Certification Update
CISA®, CISM®, & CGEIT® Review Classes

Dustin Bradley
Director and CISA®/CISM®/CEGEIT® Coordinator
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

The ISACA® NY Metro chapter offers ISACA® members, and non-members CISA®, CISM® and CGEIT® certification review courses two times per year, which take place a few weeks prior to the scheduled exam sessions occurring in June and December.

The review courses cover all the relevant topics so candidates are familiar with them, and will be well prepared for the exam. In the past, we have seen a continually high pass rate for those members who attended our instructor lead CISA® and CISM® certification review courses.

The next CISA®, CISM® and CGEIT® certification courses will occur in the October – November timeframe, for the December exam takers. We encourage you to take advantage of this and register for the applicable course when it’s posted on our website.

Also, as we are a “not for profit” organization, we are not always able to host various certification and training initiatives due to cost/expenses. If your company would be able to provide training/conference rooms for us to host the various training initiatives please let us know. This would also enable us to maintain lower course registration fees. We appreciate your continued support in this area.

Meet and Greet @ the May Membership Meeting

On May 6, 2009 the ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter held a Membership Meeting in Manhattan at HBO (Many thanks to Norm Levine!). Chapter members are pictured greeting each other as part of a networking exercise at the outset of the meeting.
State of the Education Committee

A note on the progress of NY Metro Chapter education initiatives

Felix Ramirez
First Vice President
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

Over the past two years, the Education Committee has gone through a process of transformation to better identify the needs of our members and to design and deliver programs that are aligned with those needs. Thus far, I believe we have achieved many of the initial goals we had in 2006 and we have created a basis for further developing additional programs. We went from offering a small number of classes every year to offering between 24 and 30 classes per year. Ironically, some people have suggested that we are now offering too many programs to our members!

One important element of the transformation process has been the increased involvement of members through the collection and analysis of feedback and through the dedication of a growing number of volunteers. We have been fortunate enough to receive an amazing number of volunteers who invest their time and effort for the benefit of the general membership. We have also been fortunate enough to have members on our Board who heed the feedback from the general membership.

We have become a Chapter that is more in line with the spirit ISACA®'s tagline, “Serving IT Governance Professionals.” While in the past we have focused our attention on offering the majority of courses in the IT auditing space, we have diversified that offering by incorporating information security and IT governance classes. Additionally, we have created offerings in other areas such as leadership, communications, and relationships, among others.

Overall, we are very happy with the results obtained over the past two years. However, our success has been limited to our ability to overcome challenges in not only education but also in the membership, communications and financial areas. These challenges will warrant special talent and special dedication from people who are committed to the success of our Chapter. That is why I am so excited about having Jim Ambrosini as our next Chair of the Education Committee and Alex Josephite as our next Chair of the Membership Committee. Together, we will overcome the challenges we have faced and we will make this Chapter even stronger than it is today.

Our collective experiences and abilities will come together to bring you educational programs that can better prepare you for the next step in your career. Let's all work together to accomplish that!

NEW COBIT CASE STUDY AVAILABLE: DUBAI’S FINANCIAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT

The Financial Audit Department (FAD), the supreme audit institution of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, recognized the need to promote, formalize and improve IT governance practices within Dubai, as the extensive usage of IT is widely accepted as an essential component in providing services to citizens, residents and business entities.

FAD has undertaken IT governance assessments using CobiT® and has introduced the advantages of CobiT® in many government entities. Thus far, FAD has done more than 40 IT governance assessments using CobiT®. FAD’s adoption of CobiT® has led to the wide acceptance and practical adoption of best practices of CobiT® among auditee entities within the Government of Dubai. Many of these organizations have adopted the CobiT® framework as a de facto standard. The Dubai government has several future goals related to CobiT® and ISACA®:

- Establish CobiT® as the preferred framework of leading practices for the IT professionals within the government departments/establishments
- Develop CGEIT® as the most preferred certification for eligible IT professionals within the government departments/establishments
- Further propagate the benefits of CISA® certification within the government audit community

The full text of this case study is available at www.isaca.org/cobitcasestudies.
Education Update

Why ISACA® New York Chapter?

Kwongmei To
Director and Record Management Subcommittee Chairwoman
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

Dear ISACA® New York Metro Chapter Member:

Mr. Patrick Bell was one of the students from the Spring CISA® Review class. He is a rare attendee who travelled all the way from Washington DC every Saturday just to attend the review class! So why did he travel so far? Simply because of the reputation and quality of the teacher who was conducting the class.

I like to use this opportunity to thank our dedicated seminar instructors Mr. Jay Ranade, Ms. Jennifer Bayuk, Dr. C Warren Axelrod, and Mr. Yonesy F. Nunez whom have given us their valuable time and knowledge (which is considered gold in this challenging economy!). I wish you all the best.

As my serving term as a board member of ISACA® NY Metro Chapter comes to an end for the 2008-2009 term, I would also like express my sincere appreciation to all my fellow board members. “Congratulations! We did it!” I would also like to express my deepest appreciation to the executive board members and director management team who work tirelessly to conduct the best educational seminars, for our members.

Remember “Power by Members, Benefit by Chapter”

As the business community continues to go through a transformation due to the challenges of the past nine months and, as a financial professional, I realized that my skills in finance and accounting needed to be updated. I considered some of the financial certifications but I noticed that the industry was seeking professionals that not only have financial backgrounds, but also are certified in auditing information systems. I have worked on two restatement projects in the past 3 years and the greatest demand on these projects has been certifying that the information systems are in good standing. With the encouragement from an ISACA® New York member, Mr. Lloyd Campbell, I decided to attend the CISA® review class given by the ISACA® NY Metro chapter.

I currently live in the Washington, DC area, so why make the trip every weekend to attend the CISA® Review Class in New York? New York continues to be the epicenter of the financial services industry. With the number of professionals that would be attending the class, and with the instructor, Mr. Jay Ranade (who is known to be one of the premier instructors in this discipline), I decided that it was worth the trip in traveling about 6 hours into New York City.

I would recommend Mr. Jay Ranade’s class to any professional who is seeking the CISA® designation - not only for the exam preparation, but also for the knowledge that is imparted by Mr. Ranade and for the professional connections that you can develop with the other students. If you are looking to obtain a CISA® certification, the ISACA® New York Metro chapter is definitely the one place to look for in taking the CISA® Review class.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Patrick Bell
A Recurring Career Question

But after all these years, my answer is still the same

James Ambrosini
Director and Website Committee Co-Chair
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

During times of economic uncertainty, it is natural to question your career choices. After all, didn't almost all of us in the IT audit or security profession start out doing something else or at least have something else in mind.

Whether through luck, fate or our own desire, we arrive where we are now in our career. But, we're all human, and occasionally, we may ask ourselves, 'How did I get here?' or 'Is this what I'm meant to be doing for the rest of my life?'

It was during one of these self-reflective moments when I met up with a long-time friend, Bob, who's now a very successful dentist. While most people I know are hoping to stay employed, Bob has grown his practice to the point where he can no longer accept patients. He goes away two times a year to dental conferences in exotic locations and has a team of dental hygienists and assistants working for him. It seems like a pretty sweet deal to me.

So, we're catching up and I'm telling him about a few of the audits I was working on and he turns to me and says, 'You have it too good at that job of yours, you know?'

"Too Good?" I said. "Look, I like my job enough, but I also work 10 hours a day plus commute another 4! Sometimes, the people I audit don't even want me there because I point out all the things that don't work in their company." "So, what do you mean I have it too good?" I replied.

"You get paid to travel the world solving company problems" he said. "You work with different technologies, businesses and people all the time. And knowing you for so long, I can tell you that your job is tailor made for you."

At first I thought this was one of those "Grass is Always Greener" deals. But the more I thought about it, the more I realized he was right. There is good and bad in everything, especially work, and we can't always predict or control how a particular job will go all the time and it may me different than what we envisioned. The person who became a firefighter to save lives didn't really consider he'd be scrubbing a truck and putting away hoses half the time. The person who becomes a lawyer to fight injustices may not have figured she'd be working 14 hours a day reading contracts and preparing legal documents. And yes, even my friend the dentist had his moments - because for every person who he performs a new cosmetic dentistry procedure on, there's another 10 people who just need their teeth cleaned or a cavity filled.

I've always considered myself lucky to do what I do for a living - right up until the point when I'm dealing with the audit from hell, or I'm struggling to meet my revenue quota for my consulting firm. But as those difficult situations pass, and they always do, I'm left with a profession that combines the best of many things that are important to me: continual learning, managing and mentoring people, doing new things, seeing new cities, and helping companies through their issues. It's these aspects of my job that keep me doing what I'm doing and get me through the tough times. So, next time I'm trudging through a pile of work papers at midnight for a client who never wanted me there in the first place, it's time to put on some black coffee and a smile. Tomorrow will have new things to learn, new sites to see and new opportunities, all of which define my career and have kept me in the game for this long.
ISACA® Career Centre

Faye Reece
Metroline Staff Writer
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

Attention all ISACA® members! The association offers to its valuable IT audit and information security professionals a unique avenue to search for career opportunities — the ISACA® Career Center.

The Career Center site is designed in an easy and simple layout so that members can search and view jobs that fit their criteria. A member can focus their career search by -

✓ Geographic location
✓ Certification
✓ Experience level
✓ Categories — Audit, Security, Risk Management, IT Operations, Executives/C Suite, Other

Employer members can also target their recruiting efforts to reach qualified candidates quickly and easily.

Also highlighted on the ISACA® Career Center site is a featured jobs section, where members can view at least three select employers and the job opportunities they offer.

Some opportunities currently in the Metro NY area are –

✓ Senior Security Analyst
✓ Senior Associate Forensics Technology Service
✓ Advisory Services: Process and Controls Senior-Financial Services
✓ Sr. Data Analytics Position within IT Audit Dept
✓ Vice President IT Audit
✓ IT Auditor

The ISACA® Career Center helps its members make employment connections. Visit the career center’s at www.jobs.isaca.org.

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RESEARCH UPDATE

VAL IT MAPPING: MAPPING OF VAL IT 2.0 TO MSP, PRINCE2 AND ITIL V3

To support practitioners in understanding how these standards and frameworks can work together, a detailed mapping and comparison between these frameworks is presented in this publication. This document will enable practitioners of enterprise governance of IT to better serve as an interface between the IT audience and the board, executive and business management levels. Val IT Mapping: Mapping of Val IT 2.0 to MSP, PRINCE2 and ITIL V3 is scheduled to be available to ISACA® members in second quarter 2009 as a complimentary PDF at www.isaca.org/downloads and in the ISACA® Bookstore (www.isaca.org/bookstore) for purchase by the public in electronic format.

The above was featured in ExpressLine, a monthly newsletter for the leadership of ISACA®.
ISACA® International News Brief

Jenny Urena  
Metrolinx Staff Writer  
ISACA® New York Metro Chapter

Upcoming ISACA® Conferences

IT Governance, Risk and Compliance Conference
October 14-16, 2009 – Henderson, Nevada, USA

The IT Governance, Risk and Compliance conference will offer IT governance professionals a chance to reinforce and increase their knowledge of IT governance approaches, frameworks, good practices, issues and concerns, as well as gain insights on how to address and manage them. To learn more or register, visit www.isaca.org/management_forums.

New ISACA® Guidelines and Standards

G# Continuous Assurance Exposure Draft
This guideline provides guidance to IT audit and assurance professionals in applying the relevant IT audit and assurance standards during the planning, implementation and maintenance of continuous assurance processes and systems within an enterprise.

The new guideline is available for review only during the 60 days exposure period and all comments must be submitted before the 15 July 2009 deadline. To review the exposure draft, go to www.isaca.org/standards/standard_documents_under_exposure.

ISACA® Bookstore Update

Members now have exclusive on-demand access to the ISACA® eLibrary. The eLibrary contains virtually all of ISACA® / ITGI® books on sale as well as 250 additional publications at no extra charge.

The bookstore is always adding new material. Check out the latest titles:

1. COBIT® and Application Controls: A Management Guide by ISACA®
2. Leading IT Projects: The IT Manager's Guide by Jessica Keyes
3. Unlocking Value: An Executive Primer on the Critical Role of IT Governance by The IT Governance Institute®
4. COBIT® User Guide for Service Managers by the IT Governance Institute®
5. The Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404 Implementation Toolkit: Practice Aids for Managers and Auditors, 2nd Edition by Michael J. Ramos

Visit www.isaca.org/bookstore to take advantage of the books on sale now.
2009 Wasserman Award Recipient

went on to serve an additional term in this position. During this period he led the development of a new strategic plan and governance model for the Association – one that was implemented with better than expected results.

In 1991, he was elected to serve the first of two terms as the International President of the Association – the first person from outside North America to hold this office. The major contributions of his tenure were in ISACA embracing a global approach in all facets of its operations. Also, he nurtured a broadening of the Association's activities outside the IS audit mindset which had dominated its early years – something that was manifest in the name change of the Association that was adopted during his term as president.

Since leaving the Board of ISACA he served on the IT Committee of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) from 1995 to 2000. During this period he led the efforts to develop international best practice in IT statements and was a featured speaker at many major IFAC events.

In 1998, he was invited to serve as an external adviser to the Year 2000 Council that was set-up by the international regulatory bodies under auspices of the Bank of International Settlement in Basel. His contribution was to ensure that the views of the accounting profession were reflected in the numerous guidelines that were issued by this Council.

Since 2000, he has provided thought leadership articles to the ISACA Control journal and continues to speak at selected ISACA regional and international events all across the world.

In 2002, Deepak joined the Siam Commercial Bank plc in Bangkok as Senior Executive Vice President to head its ambitious and far-reaching transformation program – a position that he still holds today. This transformation is one of the most successful efforts of its kind in Asia and has resulted in the Bank gaining significant market share and industry leading profitability. Additionally, in 2003 he was appointed as the Chief Information Officer of the Bank with a mandate to transform the IT function and its capability to support the Bank's ambitious growth trajectory. Last year, he stepped down as the CIO and was appointed as the Chief Financial Officer for the group. This unusual change in c-suite roles marks his unique versatility as a professional and one that was recently recognized by CFO Magazine. In 2005, he was recognized by MIS magazine as one of Asia's most influential IT leaders.

Prior to joining the Bank he was the Managing Director – Asia Pacific for Alltel Financial Services, a subsidiary of the then Fortune 500 company ALLTEL Inc. In this role, he transformed the growth and profitability of its Asia Pacific Operations. He has also served in other senior roles within banking, consulting and the public sector over the past two decades and has worked in over a dozen countries including, for a brief period, in USA.

He is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (FCA), a CISA, a Fellow of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in the UK. ■

THANK YOU TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE METROLINE IN 2009

YOUR SUPPORT IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED!

ACADEMIC RESEARCH REMINDER

Please note that the web page for academic surveys is www.isaca.org/academicresearch.

Visit often to participate in the latest research.

Featured Member Benefit

Listservs/Discussion Forums

ISACA® and the IT Governance Institute® (ITGI™) have established several listservs to enable individuals to find the group most suited to their professional interests. Each of the listservs offers excellent opportunities to share advice, seek assistance and raise pertinent questions. Information on each listserv and how to join is available at www.isaca.org/listserv.

This Member Benefit was featured in ExpressLine, a monthly newsletter for the leadership of ISACA®.
C O N T A C T  T H E  N Y  M E T R O  C H A P T E R

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Let us know your thoughts, comments and questions about our Chapter and Chapter activities. Send your messages to membership@isacany.org.

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Congratulations to the Incoming ISACA® New York Metropolitan Chapter Board!!

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