PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Christina Cheng
President

Contents

Thanksgiving (without turkey)

Thanks for allowing me to be your leader and to learn from all of you. Please allow me to say thanks to you ALL! It seemed like yesterday when I took office. At a blink of the eyes, it is the end of the Chapter year and time for me to pass the torch to the next group of capable leaders. I want to express my utmost gratitude to all the brilliant Board members who supported me and the Chapter in this past year. It was an honor to serve as the Chapter President and be able to work with all these bright and unselfish individuals who dedicated their time and talent. This year contributed to one of the most rewarding chapter of my life. It provided me an invaluable leadership experience working with some of the best professional leaders. It is appeasing to know that there is always someone who would be willing to step up in case of crisis, someone who have great ideas and a team of modest individuals who would take an idea and make it happen! I truly lived the fact that a President is only as strong as the team that supports them. Not only do the following individuals deserve appreciation; they also set great examples for future leaders and I especially wants to say thank you:

Executive Officers

Lisa Corpuz led the Communications Committee and ensured timely production of the Chapter's Newsletter. Lisa is a committed contributor who will take the leading role in the upcoming year. Congratulations, Lisa!

Miguel O. Villegas is an outstanding leader who brought to the Board many years of professional experience and new ideas. Special salute to Mike for taking the Fall Conference to the next level of excellence.

Conny Cheng, a strong contributor, was diligent in maintaining our Chapter records and action item list, which is essential to the Chapter's smooth operations. She is particularly notable for early delivery of quality work product.

Anne Woodbury, another strong contributor, put forth great efforts in maintaining our Chapter's books and budgets. She is a good example for being able to balance work in the consulting world and life as a mother of two.

Beverly Davis, our past president continued to display great leadership and organizational skills in ensuring a superb series of educational events. Beverly, thanks for giving me so much support and being a great mentor for me!

Directors

Brian Alfaro has supported the chapter in a number of roles and remains an active liaison with our student chapter.

Bill Davidson, a past president and a long… time Board supporter, has served in a number of Board roles. He is a solid contributor, resourceful, and is never selfish to share his experience and insights.

Kevin Fried played a key role on our Fall Conference Committee. Special recognition is given to Kevin who, with a short notice, put together the May event alone and made it a great success. He is always there when we need a helping hand. Kudos Kevin!

Robert Grill is a versatile contributor paving his way towards being a future leader. Bob is known for his technical articles and is ready to accept any challenges without reservation.

Dave Lufkin continues to provide solid and consistent support to the Chapter. Dave is also someone you can turn to for a helping hand.

Dave McCandless is another outstanding contributor who has been vital in improving our Web site and earned us the gold level award for having an outstanding chapter Web site. Dave is currently working on revamping the Web site. He also is a key contributor for the upcoming deployment of online payment option to serve our members. Stay tuned for his great work!

Todd Weinman, a former Chapter President, has been playing an integral part in the Fall Conference and is always very supportive. He helped the chapter recruit a number of high caliber individuals. Thanks Todd!

Special recognition is given to **Eleanor Lee** and **Tim Stapleton**. Although they are not Board members, Eleanor put in tireless efforts in leading this year's CISA Review course and Tim stepped in half way in the Best Paper Contest project and carried it to its fruition. Thanks Eleanor and Tim!

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize a former president and Web Master, **Lance Turcato**. Lance designed our first Web site and established good organizational structure. With the great work from Lance and Dave McCandless, we have earned the Gold seal award recognition in the design, content and management of our chapter Web site for the past two years. Kudos Lance and Dave!

I am happy to see that most of these dedicated people will be serving and carrying the same high spirit to take our chapter through another glowing year. With the conclusion of the Chapter elections and our Annual Membership Meeting that took place on June 17th, please join me in congratulating the following officers and directors for 2004/2005:

President: Lisa Corpuz
1st Vice President: Miguel O. Villegas
2nd Vice President: Robert Grill

Past President: Christina Cheng
Treasurer: Heidi Yu
Secretary: William Davidson
Directors: Beverly Davis, Kevin Fried, Robert Grill, Dave McCandless, Michael Nelson, Todd Weinman, Jimmy Yip

Last but not least, special recognition has to go to all of our sponsors and supporters who have provided financial sponsorship as well as quality contributors and speakers. Your support propels us to even a higher level of achievement. Thank you in advance for your continued support in the future: Bank of America, Bart, Deloitte & Touche, Ernst & Young, Federal Home Loan Bank, Guidance, KPMG, Lander International, Pricewaterhouse Cooper, Providian Financials, Polivec, Qualys, Safeway, Inc., Valacon, Wells Fargo

Chapter Activities

This is the first year for the Best Paper Contest from students and professionals. Thanks to all the team members for their diligence and all the evaluators for their time. You allowed me to experience how teamwork conquers everything. We now have a blue print to go by and will continue to perfect this program to bring an open forum for talented writers to share their inspirations. I enjoyed meeting these wonderful writers and evaluators in our recognition and networking event in June. Stay tuned for an event review in the next newsletter.

Our CISA review course takers as well as CISA and CISM examination candidates breathed a sigh of relief after June 12th when the two examinations took place. Now that they are behind us, it is time to celebrate! We will be recognizing the examination passers in December. Special thanks is extended to our CISA domain instructors who provided great guidance and inspirations to the CISA review course students. See page 8 for more details.

Our Fall Conference Committee has been putting in steadfast efforts to make our upcoming conference another bravura event. It is planned to take place in the San Francisco Palace Hotel on October 4-6. We will again be offering vendor exhibitions, networking opportunities, quality lectures, door prizes and more! This is truly the one educational event that makes the biggest bang for your buck and something that you don't want to miss. For your convenience, we will be launching on-line payment and registration in July. SO MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND REGISTER EARLY!

With the increase in popularity of the Certified Information Security Manager (CISM) designation, our Chapter will be launching a CISM review course in 2005. Our chapter will be the first and only chapter that organizes such a review course in the Bay Area. We need your input and support to make it a success. More detail will come as this review course slowly takes shape.

Before I end this term, please also allow me to thank a very important man in my life – my husband, Bosco Chan. Without his support and tolerance, I would not have had the time and perseverance to fulfill my presidency. He took great care of our two children and shared much of the housework while I attended to my ISACA tasks. He always provides a supportive shoulder for me to lean on. Bosco, I will continue to serve on the Board… So thank you again for all your love, patience, understanding and benefaction!

Incidentally, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the spouse and family members of all our volunteers. One may not realize the amount of family quality time our volunteers have given up to serve our members and to make our chapter a success. Your continued support to our volunteers and to our chapter is vital to our growth and strives for excellence. Hats off to all of our supporters!

It is always more gratifying to give than to receive. If you can volunteer any of your time to join us to achieve a meaningful cause and to have fun along the way, please feel free to contact me at 925-520-8390.

Sincerely,
Christina Cheng, President

SF ISACA 2003/04 EDUCATION EVENTS SCHEDULE

By Beverly G. Davis
Education Committee Co-Chair

The Education Committee is pleased to update you on the success for this year's Education events. The education events completed so far have been well received by our members. The members have indicated that the hands-on training events are the most effective. The Education Committee has completed this year's plan and was very successful in presenting challenging training activities. The committee worked hard and diligently to ensure that each scheduled event provided a rewarding educational experience.

As we organized for the upcoming fiscal year volunteers are gearing up to plan a new and exciting schedule. The Member Survey is now available for you to provide input on as to presentation topics. Please contact Beverly Davis at davisb@fhlbsf.com if you are interested in completing a survey.

A special thank you is extended to our presenters who have given of their time and talents to provide professional development to our membership. Their contributions allow the chapter to extend our product offerings at an economical cost. We appreciate those members with talent and the commitment to being a presenter. We would like to thank Goran Kovacevic, Ed Byers, Neville Morcom, Rodney Kocot, Alex Ciurczak, and Alan Wong, for their continued support towards fulfillment of our Education event calendar.

Sincerely,

The Education Committee volunteers:

• Christina Cheng
• Robert Grill, Co-Chair
• Nina Irani
• Terri Lowe
• Tim Stapleton
• Dema Vidal
• Migual Villegas
• Jimmy Yip

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Place	More information
March 18, 2004	SF ISACA Full Day Seminar Securing UNIX	The Palace, San Francisco	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
April 15, 2004	Auditing and Managing 3rd Party Relationships	The Palace, San Francisco	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
May, 2004	Implementing COSO	The Palace, San Francisco	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
June 17, 2004	Wine and Cheese Reception	The Palace, San Francisco	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
July 15, 2004	Communication Skills	The Palace, San Francisco	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
October 4-6, 2004	SF ISACA Fall Conference	The Palace, San Francisco	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
National events			
May 9-13, 2004	North American CACS	Chicago, Illinois	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org
June 27-30, 2004	ISACA International Conference	Cambridge, MA	details to be posted at www.sfisaca.org

October 4 - 6, 2004

The 4th Annual San Francisco ISACA Fall Conference is the leading Information Systems Audit event for the Northern California area! The ISACA San Francisco Chapter provides affordable quality training on fundamental I.S. Auditing concepts and emerging technology risks, and an opportunity to network with other auditing and security professionals.

The Fall Conference will take place October 4-6, 2004 at The Palace Hotel (Corner of Market and New Montgomery Streets – Montgomery BART Station). There will be four tracks over the span of three days of training. In addition to the educational sessions, the 2004 SF ISACA Fall Conference will also feature an **Exhibition Hall** and **Exhibitors Lunch** on Monday, October 4, 2004. This will allow attendees to visit with vendors serving the IS audit and security fields. The 2004 Fall Conference proposed tracks include:

- The **Core Competencies** track is designed for IS Auditors in the early part of their career, as well as those who are interested in improving their IS audit skills. This track may also be valuable to Internal Audit Directors and Managers who need to manage IS audits or IS auditors.
- The **Information Security** track includes sessions on the latest security topics to enhance the skills of IT audit and security professionals.
- The **Emerging Technologies** track features sessions on a variety of different topics of high interest to IS audit professionals, including sessions on new and emerging technologies, tools and techniques, as well as methodologies and best practices.
- The **In-Depth Technical** track will include three full-day technical sessions on several key topics (topics under consideration are Unix/Linux, Windows NT/2000/XP, and Network Security) of interest to our membership. This will allow the attendees to gain a greater level of technical detail on these bread-and-butter technologies than the shorter sessions.

http://www.sfisaca.org/events/conference04/Small-Brochure-2004.pdf

WEB SERVICES

By Bob Grill
IS Auditor for Wells Fargo Bank

Web Services, like ERM systems in the 90's, are surrounded by a lot of conversation and acronyms. This article is an attempt to describe the nuts and bolts. In summary, this is nothing new, computers have always exchanged data, Web Services are an attempt to get all manufactures of computers and software to agree how to exchange data.

Web Services is a term to describe a set of standards for exchanging information. Just like someone who speaks French can't communicate with someone who speaks Hebrew, without a translator. The same is true with computers that speak different languages. Accordingly, industry manufacturers such as Sun Microsystems and Microsoft propose languages to exchange information, they refer to these languages as standards, in this case "Web Services Standards".

The main goal of Web Services is to program the computer so it can talk to others. For example, a purchase order has data such as a date, amount, quantity, buyer and seller. Without Web Services, two computers would not be able to transfer a purchase order from buyer to seller without a translator.

The standards that are required to be developed to facilitate the exchange of the purchase order information are:

- A standard for sending the message over the network and dealing with errors

- A standard for labeling the data, such as date, quantity and the other attributes of a purchase order.

- A standard for advertising to potential buyers that you accept purchase orders for an item if they are sent according to the Web Services Standard.

- A standard for security, such as encryption.

In the future, it is envisioned that Web Services will be used to transfer application logic as well as data.

What Auditors need to look out for

- **Trust** – Like many Network related technologies, each computer in the conversation; in this case between buyer and seller, trust that both parties will follow the rules. Auditor's should verify that, neither computer depends on the other following the rules to operate. Often computers depend on the other following the rules and when the rules are broken the detrimental consequences occur, such as the computer crashing or revealing sensitive information. The root cause of these consequences is improperly programmed input controls. Auditor's could verify that a process is in place for testing that input controls are in place and functioning.

- Both parties verify that they are exchanging information with the intended parties and repudiation cannot occur.

- **Errors** – Messaging Exceptions are identified and resolved.

- **Audit Trail** of what messages were received and transmitted is maintained and reconciled to related financial data.

- **Eavesdropping** – If the transaction involves sensitive data, the data is encrypted.

There are acronyms such as; XML, WSDL, SOAP, UDDI, JMS, COBRA, DCOM, RPC, HTTP, EDI, ebXML, etc. These are terms used to describe the technology to enable the conversation. Just think about these terms as grammatical descriptions of the language used to transfer data. Grammar jargon in English, instead of Web Service language are terms like Gerund, Modifier, Conjunction, Verb. Most people can have great conversations without knowing these terms.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Bill Davidson
Director,
Membership Committee Chair

The membership count for the San Francisco Chapter as of April 1, 2004, stands at 507 members.

Please join me and the San Francisco ISACA Board of Directors in welcoming the following new Chapter members:

Jae An
Control Solutions International

Mandy Andress
ArcSec Technologies

Anjali R. Atanacio, CISM
Pacific Gas & Electric

Richard Barge, CBA, CFSA
Wells Fargo Audit Services

Amy L. Bekowich, CBA
Wells Fargo Audit Services

Sergey V. Benke
Wells Fargo Business Direct

Jiageng Chen, CBA
Wells Fargo

Emily M. Chiang
Deloitte & Touche

Vinaya Chaturvedi
Fremont (student member)

Matthew Dahlbacka
Burr, Pilger & Mayer, LLP

Layne Fostar
Wells Fargo Audit Services

Jacqueline H. Gee
San Francisco (student member)

William E. Harmer, CISM, CISSP, CCNA
Critical Path, Inc.

Matthew Heller
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Arden James, CISSP
San Francisco

Brandon C. Jansen
KPMG

Sylvester Johnny, FCCA
Deloitte & Touche

Eric A. Joyce, CISSP, CCNP, MCSE
Moyo Group, Inc.

Anil Kapur
Wells Fargo Bank

Jayawant G. Khandeker, CISA
Applied Biosystems

Bill L. Lopez, CISM, CISSP, CSA, CCSA
Helio Solutions

Subbaraman Madhira
Oracle

Laura V. Markarian
Deloitte & Touche

Katrina M. Mendez
Hayward (student member)

Earl Moss, MCSE, MCP+I, MCP
Kaiser Permanente

Romelle K. Parsons, CISA
Bank of America

Melissa Rehl
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Eric V. Reyes, CISA
KPMG LLP

Richard L. R. Reyes, CISSP, CCNA
Ernst & Young

Hector O. Rivera
Hector Rivera & Associates

Howard S. Roth, CISM
NetTech Group, Inc.

Carina Ruiz
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

Federico S. Santisteban, CFSA, CRP
Bank of the West

Vivek B. Sathe, CA
San Ramon

Robert J. Schperberg, CISM
Teledesign Security

Stephanie M. Scott
Ernst & Young

Farhad Shafa, PhD
Genentech

Kurt Shaver
Websense

Marin Y. Sidarova
Deloitte & Touche

David H. Sockol, CISM
Emagined Security LLC

Fernando Villareal
ChevronTexaco

Valerie Volkar
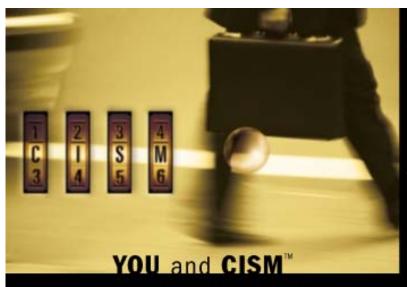ChevronTexaco

Thomas G. Waller, CA, CFE
Deloitte & Touche

Trisha D. Wilbrand
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Lloyce Wilson
Wells Fargo Bank

Jon A. Wunderlich, CISM, GIAC, GISO, CHS
John Muir/Mt. Diablo Health System

Jennifer Xie
APL

Erwin Yuen
Deloitte & Touche

EVENT UPDATES

Best Paper Contest
By Tim Stapleton
BPC Coordinator

CISA Review Course
By Eleanor Lee
CISA Review Committee Chair

Best Paper Contest

This year, the Chapter started a new program called the Best Paper Contest (BPC). This program is modeled after similar programs used in other chapters. BPC draws from two primary groups within our Chapter – professionals and students. The objective is to write an original paper on a current topic, such as information technology, security or control. The contest serves to encourage students, Chapter members and our professional sponsors to bring their best ideas to an appreciative audience. What's more, the papers with the best score get a nice award. The top three best professional paper awards range from $200 to $500, and the top three best student papers awards range from $100 to $300.

The Best Paper Contest ended on May 31, 2004. The evaluators then judged the papers. The awards were given to the best paper authors at the June wine and cheese reception on June 17, 2004. Mike Nelson won a $500 cash award and one free Fall Conference entry pass for the best paper contest for professionals. Paul Innamorato won a free seat in our CISA Review Course valid for two years for the best paper contest for students. Congratualations to both winners!

CISA Review Course

Once again, the San Francisco Chapter of ISACA has successfully held its annual CISA Review Course from April 10th through June 5th, 2004. The class consisted of 25 friendly, determined and motivated CISA candidates. I am very proud of all the students because they studied hard and sacrificed a great deal to attend an early Saturday morning class for 8 weeks to prepare for the CISA examination. It was a great pleasure to get to know each of the students in class, and I wish all the students best of luck on June 12, 2004.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the instructors for sharing their expertise and real-life experiences with the students. Additionally, I would like to extend my personal gratitude and appreciation to the following talented professionals for volunteering their time, for continuous support to SF-ISACA, and for making the 2004 CISA Review Course a sensational success:

- Mike Villegas, VP & IT Audit Manager at Wells Fargo

- Dave McCandless, President at McCandless Systems

- Sumit Kalra, IT Audit Manager at Charles Schwab

- Julie Kendall, IT Audit Manager at Apple Computers

- Edmund Lam, IT Audit Instructor at San Jose State University

- Helen Leung, Manager at KPMG LLP

Lastly, I would like to extend a special thank you to KPMG LLP for continuous support to SF-ISACA and for sponsoring all the CISA Review lecture handouts.

IS AUDIT MARKET UPDATE: SUMMER 2004

By Todd Weinman

Todd Weinman is the Western Region Director for Lander International, an executive search firm specializing in the placement of audit and security professionals.

Todd is also on the Board of Directors for the San Francisco Chapter of ISACA, and he is a past President of the Chapter.

Over the past couple of years, those of us that work in the field of IS Audit have been fortunate enough to experience an interesting phenomenon. Our profession has had a life and mind of its own when compared to the economy at large. The truth is, with the exception of the first four to six months after 9-11, when the whole world appeared to be turned upside-down, the market for auditors have bore very little resemblance to the overall job market. In short, it has been a very good time to be an auditor.

The high mark for the IS Audit market, which we may again be approaching, came in 1999 and 2000 at the height of the dot.com boom, and the late stages of an unprecedented period of strong economic growth. The economy was humming and IS Auditors were in short supply. During this time, a quality IS Auditor contemplating a career move could easily have multiple organizations competing for his or her service. This climate also presented an opportunity for many individuals without previous IS Audit experience to enter the field.

By the time 9-11 hit, the dot.com bubble was already burst. The California energy crisis, and the early warning signs of the huge corporate accounting scandals to follow, were sending shock waves through the economy. Yet, right up to 9-11, the market for IS Auditors remained solid. After 9-11, however, the economy took the form of a fetal position and corporate America went into a full retreat. For many months, hiring in corporate America, including audit, came to a virtual standstill.

While the U.S. and global economy have only recently, and albeit unevenly, started to emerge from the doldrums, the audit market has fared significantly better. As Enron, Worldcom, and Arthur Anderson crumbled in 2002, corporate America, in part in anticipation of legislation that would eventually become Sarbanes-Oxley, began to demonstrate a heightened understanding of the importance of corporate governance, and especially Internal Audit. Consequently, audit hiring started to show significant signs of life in the spring of 2002, and we enjoyed a steady and increasingly strengthening market through 2002 and most of 2003.

Several factors contributed to the improved audit hiring picture. First, many open requisitions for auditors that were frozen in the aftermath of 9-11 were again put on active status. Second, spurred in many cases by Sarbanes-Oxley, we saw a proliferation of new audit departments in companies that had not previously had an internal audit function. Third, some existing internal audit departments ramped up hiring, in part, due to their participation in their company's SOX efforts. Finally, the Big 4 and second tier consulting firms started ramping up their staff in anticipation of supporting their SOX-related commitments.

In the Fall of 2003, we noticed yet another dramatic increase in the market for IS Auditors. One measure of this was the large number of new search assignments our clients asked us to undertake and the dramatically shrinking pool of available candidates to fill all these new positions.

While we have perhaps not reach those halcyon days (at least from perspective of the job seeker) of the late 1990s, there is no question that we are now in a market of increasing candidate scarcity. Not surprisingly, that scarcity is most acute at the Staff and Senior level. Consequently, we are again seeing the ramifications of a tight market: more choices for those seeking new positions, heightened competition for quality candidates at the right experience levels, and some upward pressures on compensation. It is a great time to be an auditor!

While the market for IS auditors is indeed hot, we have not, however, returned to the exact market conditions of several years ago, and the fruits of this hot market have not been enjoyed uniformly. During the past several years, the bar has definitely risen with regard to what companies are expecting from potential hires. Certainly, those candidates who are in the early part of their careers, who possess strong technical skills (combined with excellent interpersonal skills), and/or have experience with SOX, are in highest

demand. There is a heightened sensitivity to certifications, and candidates that have not actively worked to keep their skills current may still have a challenging time.

There is also some question as to whether this SOX-inflated bubble will burst, much in the way it did for those involved with Y2K project teams after January, 2000. In other words, **will the IS Audit job market suffer a significant cooling as we get through the first round of 404**?

My answer is a strong, but qualified, NO! The qualifier, of course, is that we don't experience any major terrorist acts or international events on the magnitude of a 9-11. Barring that situation, it is unlikely that we will experience a significant downturn in the job market for IS auditors after the first round of 404. In fact, there are a number of reasons to suggest the market should continue to get even tighter in the coming years.

First, if we look back to the job market prior to 9-11, we find a market of extreme candidate scarcity. During this time, it was commonplace to find a medium-sized audit department to have anywhere from 5-10 open requisitions at any given time. A large audit department could have in excess of 20 open requisitions. When 9-11 hit, these open positions didn't disappear; rather, they were frozen or put on hold until the economy achieved some degree of stability. Even without any push in hiring related to Sarbanes-Oxley, we needed only a mild warm up of the economy to start to once again experience some degree of candidate scarcity. A sustained economic recovery will only exacerbate the issue.

Second, Sarbanes-Oxley is not a one time, one year, phenomenon in the same sense as Y2K. Certainly, there is a lot of inventing of the wheel with the first go-around of 404 that won't require the same degree of pain and effort in subsequent years. That said, SOX efforts will be ongoing. As a Thomas Hoffman noted in his May 3rd, 2004 article in Computerworld:

  "Unlike Y2K work, Sarbanes-Oxley compliance efforts are expected to be an ongoing exercise in which companies will have to document their internal controls on a quarterly basis and have them certified by external auditors annually."

He goes on to note, "there likely won't be a sudden drop-off in demand for auditors the way there was for COBOL programmers after Jan. 1, 2000."

While it is possible that there will be some repopulating of the market as we get through the first round of documentation and testing, especially from consulting firms that have scooped up auditors by the dozen to work on a contract basis, it is doubtful that this will be more than a temporary blip on the radar. Moreover, the vast majority of new audit departments that have emerged as a result of the current climate are here to stay, and many will likely grow with time.

A third reason to suggest that the job market for IS Auditors will continue to be robust is that "stranded" auditors will start to find new homes as the overall economy improves. We know that in the audit profession, some auditors will make a career of working in audit, while others will use audit as a stepping stone to move onto other opportunities within an organization. Many audit departments are predicated on the notion that audit is a training ground for future leadership of the organization, and consequently are designed to have formal rotational programs (i.e. come into audit for two years and then rotate out into the business or IT).

The problem over the past several years is that, with the overall economy depressed and some companies, particularly in the technology sector, experiencing huge layoffs, there were no suitable positions into which these auditors could rotate. Hence the stranded auditor phenomenon. As the overall economy improves, however, these stranded auditors will again have open positions within an organization into which they can transition. This will, in turn, create more open requisitions in internal audit.

Finally, demographics suggest a strong demand for internal audit for years to come. We are entering a time where we will begin to experience waves of baby boomer retirements, and that will certainly cause some degree of attrition for internal audit departments.

At the same time, the IS Audit profession continues to struggle to find ways to make it easier to transition into IT Audit. There is not enough hiring directly out of college to sustain the expected growth, and because many departments are already running with lean staffs, hiring managers and directors need IS auditors that can come in and hit the ground running. They don't have the luxury of time to help transition people into the profession.

As the market continues to tighten, however, IS Audit Managers and Directors may once again have to look toward candidates that possess some, but not all of the requisite skills and experience they seek, in addition to once again giving consideration to candidates who need VISA sponsorship.

The bottom line, IS auditors who take good care of their careers and who maintain cutting edge skills should be highly marketable for years to come. In addition, IS Audit Management will again need to focus greater attention on how to attract and retain top talent.

THE CENTER FOR INFORMATION SECURITY

For more information contact:

Neal O'Farrell
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Mike Nelson
mike@4cis.org

The Regional Training Institute (RTI) – a nonprofit enterprise of the Contra Costa Community College District – has opened the "Center for Information Security" – a first-of-its-kind program that will offer affordable, cutting edge training on all aspects of cybersecurity to businesses, government and law enforcement throughout the Bay Area.

"We are pleased to launch the Center for Information Security which we believe is the first program of its kind within California's community college system," said Contra Costa Community College District Chancellor Chuck Spence. "The Center underscores how RTI and the District – despite budget cutbacks – are committed to serving our community. We greatly appreciate the help of the sponsors of the Center which we hope will ultimately help educate more communities about the importance of cybersecurity."

Located at RTI's headquarters at 1250 Arroyo Way in Walnut Creek – Dubbed "America's first Cyber Secure City" – the Center for Information Security is believed to be the nation's first training program of its type to be offered through a community college district. RTI and College District officials hope that the Center could be used as a model for any of the nation's 1,200 community colleges.

For security and IT professionals, the Center will be offering a comprehensive program of intermediate and advanced security training, on issues such as risk assessment methodologies, advanced forensics and incident investigation, business continuity planning, digital signatures, firewall deployment and management, and employee security awareness.

"We're very proud of the leadership role our city has taken in protecting the community from cybercrime and raising public awareness about the importance of information security," said Elmer Bugg, Executive Director of the Regional Training Institute. "Our goal is to create a model for any community college district that wants to provide a comprehensive security education program which benefits the entire community, including businesses, law enforcement and government officials."

The center was opened with the assistance of local and global security firms like SecureNet Technologies in San Ramon, RSA Security, and SonicWALL, as well as Bay Area members of the ISSA and ISACA.

"Cyber security awareness is a major challenge for all Americans, as we're confronted daily with a host of cybercrimes from computer viruses and identity theft, to online predators and even cyber terrorists," said Neal O'Farrell, a world-renowned security expert and advisor to the Center. "Awareness and education should begin at a community level, and I'm delighted to see the Regional Training Institute take the lead in creating a community college-based response to this critical need."

Buy a saver pass and save on training $$$

We would like to encourage members and non-members to participate in all Chapter Events and Seminars. As a way of encouraging participation, we are offering discounted rates for the advanced purchase of multiple education sessions. Saver Passes can be purchased in lots of ten for $300 and can be shared and are transferable. Please check our Web site for more details.

Refer a new member – receive a free gift

Take advantage of the Chapter's New Member Referral Program. Chapter members who refer an individual who joins ISACA-San Francisco Chapter will receive a free gift (gift will be delivered to the referring member after payment for the new membership has been received and processed by ISACA International). Don't miss an opportunity to help your colleagues keep abreast of developments in IS audit, security and control. Encourage your colleagues and friends to join ISACA today! For more information or to submit your referral to the New Member Referral Program, please send our Membership Committee Chairperson, William Davidson (wdavids@bart.gov), the name, address, phone number, and e-mail address for the individual being referred.

Your e-mail address

If you have not sent your current e-mail address to ISACA International, then please send your address to wdavids@bart.gov to ensure that you receive important information electronically. You may also access our Web site at www.sfisaca.org to update your contact information.

ISACA international

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CISA item writing program

In order to continue to offer an examination that measures a candidate's knowledge of current audit, security and control practices, new questions are regularly required for the CISA Examination. Questions are sought from experienced practitioners who can develop items that relate to the application of sound audit principles and practices. Continuing education hours and cash payments are offered as participating in the CISA Item Writing Program, please request information about the program from ISACA International, Certification Department (certification@isaca.org).

Contribute to this newsletter

To submit an article or to contribute other items of interest for inclusion in future newsletters, please contact our Communications Committee Chair, Lisa Corpuz at (415) 278-8713, or Lisa_Corpuz@Providian.com.

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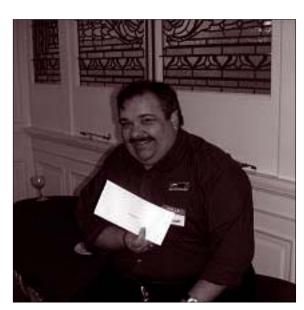
Join a Chapter committee

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Contact Chapter Officers and Directors

JUNE 17TH RECOGNITION – WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION

Top to Bottom: Ed Byers, Anne Woodbury, Kelvin Patterson

Mike Nelson, Best Paper Contest Winner

Top to Bottom: Beverly Davis, Tim Stapleton, Helen Leung

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