

Chapter Newsletter

March 29, 2010

President's message

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It's hard to believe that we're only three months away from our year end. With each year end comes a call for new Board members. We will be looking for a nominations committee to actively begin recruitment for the new Board. See inside for details.

If you haven't already done so, please make sure that you have renewed your membership. Membership has its advantages including discounts on ISACA seminars, workshops and conferences as well as discounts for the annual CIPS ICE conference.

On April 8th, the Breakfast speaker will be Darryl Humphrey. The topic is: Cloud computing. More details are available in the Programs section.

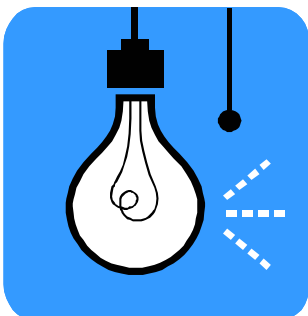
The revised bylaws were approved at the March 11 breakfast session. Copies of the bylaws are available on the ISACA Edmonton Chapter website.

The early bird deadline for the CISA and CISM exam registration has passed but don't worry the final deadline for registration is April 7th. Exam date for both certifications is June 12, 2010.

The 2010 North America CACS, is April 18-22, 2010 in Chicago, Illinois USA. Presented by ISACA, it is well known as the world's leading conference for IT audit, control, security and governance professionals. Plan now to join your peers at the one conference you cannot afford to miss.

Thank you for your continued support. As always, please feel free to contact me directly regarding any Chapter-related suggestions or concerns you may have.

Cornell Dover
Chapter President, 2009-10
780.909.6939



The certification corner

December 2009 Exam Results

I want to congratulate all of the people who wrote their CISA, CISM and CGEIT exams in December. It takes a lot of work preparing for these exams and I commend everyone who wrote.

The results for December's exams are:

6 out of 8 people passed their CISA Exam.
2 out of 4 people passed their CISM Exam.
2 out of 3 people passed their CGEIT.

June 2010 Exams

You have until April 7th to register for any of the June exams.

Currently, we have 7 people registered for the CISA, 2 for the CISM and 2 for the CGEIT.

Review Courses / Materials

Exam Force has some good 'online' practice exams for the CISA and CISM exams. ISACA members receive a 35% discount when purchasing one of these exams. When purchasing one of the exams, you would enter the discount code YD35 at checkout

<http://www.examforce.com/customer/home.php>

New certification, CRISC!!! Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control. The new certification is obviously centered on risk, with the three subject areas being identification, response and monitoring. Grandfathering will commence in April for 12 months, with exams starts the second / third quarter of 2011.

I will have more information on this certification and the grandfathering program next month.

If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thanks,

Derran Guinan CISA, GSEC, GSNA, MCSE
CISA / CISM / CGEIT Certification Coordinator
ISACA – Edmonton
derran@graycon.com



*The final deadline for
exam registration is April
7!*

Welcome new board members

The ISACA Edmonton Chapter would like to extend a warm welcome to Mashhood Ahmed, our new VP Membership, and Dr. Yonghua Ji, Academic Liaison.

Mashhood Ahmed is a seasoned professional with over 10 years of accomplishments under his belt. Mr. Ahmed holds a PMP designation and has Masters degree from the University of Waterloo in Business, Entrepreneurship & Technology. He is currently doing his consulting practice at Advanced Education & Technology. Prior to this he provided his services for City of Edmonton.

Mr. Ahmed was also a term instructor at Grant MacEwan College back in fall 2008. He was also honored to be a guest speaker at Edmonton IIBA chapter meeting in November 2009. Mr. Ahmed organized the Golf Tournament for Edmonton PMI chapter in 2009, where he was responsible for registration and communication for the golf tournament. Please review his linkedin profile at:
<http://www.linkedin.com/in/mashhood>

Yonghua Ji, Ph.D., is Association Professor of Management Information Systems (MIS) at School of Business, University of Alberta. His current teaching focus is on accounting information systems and ecommerce. He has published research papers in MIS area and is currently working on a few projects related to IT security and governance.

The membership corner

Hello Everyone,

It is an honor for me to serve as a board member for ISACA Edmonton Chapter, as a VP Membership.

Our chapter now has 244 registered members, as we continue to grow I will update the members database.

If you would like to update your information, you can always log into www.isaca.org to update your profile. If you have not updated your profiles recently, it is a good time to update it.

We are also conducting membership satisfaction survey, if you haven't completed the survey, please complete it by April 15.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/D9DJV7H>

If you have any questions as to the benefits of your ISACA membership, please feel free to contact me directly at membership@isaca-edmonton.ca

-Mashhood Ahmed, PMP

Please take a few minutes to complete the membership satisfaction survey at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/D9DJV7H>

Nominations Committee

Nominations are Open!

Have you ever thought of being on the Edmonton ISACA Chapter Executive? Did you know you could receive Continuing Education Credits (CPEs) for your participation on the Board? This is a great opportunity to network with others and help arrange local training that you would be interested in!

All executive positions, including President, Vice-President Programs, Vice-President Membership, Treasurer and Secretary, will be up for nomination at our annual general meeting held in June 2010. If you can commit to an executive position but would like to participate as a director, we also have other positions including Webmaster, Certifications, Newsletter, Academic and Corporate Relations.

Check out the Chapter Bylaws on our website for more information on the executive positions. Or if you want to learn more about any of the positions, you can contact any of the current Board members; they would gladly answer your questions. Visit <http://isaca-edmonton.ca> and look for your Chapter Leaders.

We currently meet once a month for 1½ hours over the lunch hour. If you cannot commit to a full position, but would still like to help out, we have several committees that you can participate on, including Programs (5 more individuals), Webmaster and Certifications.

If you are interested in holding any of the above positions for the 2010-2011 year, please contact one of the following Nomination Committee members:

- Mashhood Ahmed – membership@isaca-edmonton.ca
- Suzanne Robinson – pastpresident@isaca-edmonton.ca
- Lisa Nykolyszyn – lisa.nykolyszyn@ualberta.ca

April's Breakfast Presentation Cloud Computing

R.S.V.P.

We look forward to seeing you at our breakfast session. Please feel free to pass this invitation along to co-workers, associates, and any other interested parties. Please register no later than Monday, April 5 on-line at: www.isaca-edmonton.ca

Please note that ISACA Edmonton reserves the right to bill for late cancellations. Should you need to cancel, please send notice to programs@isaca-edmonton.ca at least 72 hours prior to the event.

Speaker: **Darryl Humphrey, PhD**

Senior Manager, Consulting – Deloitte Inc.

Date: Thursday, April 8, 2010

Place: Royal Glenora Club, 11160 River Valley Road, Edmonton

Time: Breakfast available from 8:00 am; Presentation from 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Cost: **\$15 Members; \$20 Non-members**

Presentation Overview

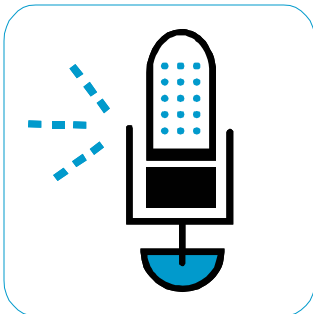
Cloud computing adoption is a business decision.

The dynamic competitive landscape of the last 15 years has reinforced the advantages that can be gained by aligning technology investments with market-differentiating business capabilities. The now mature web services and Service Oriented Architectures (SOA) have delivered on the promise of increased business agility facilitated by a responsive IT capability. Unfortunately this has come with two cost components difficult for many businesses to burden: material capital outlay up front and the need for a sizable IT FTE count. These combine to divert resources away from core and strategic business investments. Over the last several years data has accumulated indicating that a pragmatic cloud computing adoption strategy reduces or removes these business-inhibiting costs. This presentation will detail out the business advantages and disadvantages of cloud computing particularly for smaller and medium sized businesses. Alberta-specific security and privacy issues will be discussed.

Speaker Profile

Darryl draws on 15+ years of international experience developing business and technology strategies for private and public sector clients. Darryl has an extensive background designing and implementing large-scale custom software applications, managing enterprise IT transformation initiatives and in leading technology commercialization efforts both from within applied research laboratories and as a management consultant to technology companies. Darryl was a founding member of Ernst & Young's innovative DareStep practice where he focused on adding click stream value to brick and mortar businesses. Also experienced with user centered product design and gained scientific consulting experience with Exponent (nee Failure Analysis).

Darryl's academic background includes a doctorate granted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, international collaborations, leading an applied research facility, and consulting for NASA. Research topics included leading edge human-computer interaction challenges, bio-cybernetics, human information processing abilities while under stress, and how aging affects each of the above.



Breakfast series schedule

The following speakers have been schedule for upcoming monthly breakfast series sessions. For details, please refer to <http://www.isaca-edmonton.ca/calendar.asp#breakfast>

Cloud Computing– Darryl Humphrey April 8

| APRIL 2010 | | | | | | |
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Upcoming Events

North America CACS, Chicago April 18-22, 2010

Presented by ISACA, it is well known as the world's leading conference for IT audit, control, security, and governance professionals.

International Conference, Cancun, Mexico June 6-9, 2010

This is an extraordinary opportunity to network with peers and discover the differing ways similar problems are solved around the globe. Attendees can earn up to 40 continuing professional education (CPE) credit hours; 19 for attending the conference and 7 for each day of the conference workshops. Go to www.isaca.org to register.

If you have any events that you feel would be valuable for the chapter membership and would like to have included in the newsletter, please forward them on to the newsletter director.

Breakfast session summary, March 2010

Why Do IT Projects FAIL

On Thursday, March 11, at the Royal Glenora club, John Servage provided us with a valuable summary of why IT projects fail.

Fundamentally projects fail because expectations are not aligned with results. Common reasons why information technology projects fail are rooted in the project management process. Some of these factors include poor communication between project stakeholders; unclear or unconvincing business case; lack of user involvement; insufficient time, money and resources; change management and scope creep; lack of quality assurance for milestones. Other factors comprise poor and insufficient testing before go live; people not dedicated to the project; ineffective time and cost management; lack of effective governance and prudent management oversight and a never ending project.

John went on to provide us with a checklist for auditing information technology projects:

- ✓ Review the business requirement.
- ✓ Review the governance of the project
- ✓ Review the objectives and scope of the project.
- ✓ Review the change management process BEFORE it is used
- ✓ Review the Quality Assurance plan
- ✓ Review the test plan early.
- ✓ Ensure that management has a proper understanding of these risks
- ✓ Review the preliminary budget
- ✓ Assess of the current culture
- ✓ Conduct independent Post Implementation Review.

Submitted by Isaac Antwi, Senior Consultant, Deloitte