



**PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE**



**Mike Nelson,
CISA, CISM, CISSP,
CAP, ITIL,
PRESIDENT**

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THE TORCH IS PASSED

At the July 20, 2006 Annual General Meeting for our chapter, I was honored and humbled in my acceptance of the vote of our members to entrust me with the Presidency of this remarkable organization for the 2006/2007 year. It is a privilege to play a small role in guiding the direction of this historic chapter, particularly in this time of intense focus on the information assurance and governance community.

Someone asked me at the meeting how I felt as I assumed the role of chapter president. I believe I said I felt somewhat overwhelmed by all the tasks I saw out ahead of me. Many of our incoming committee chairs are new to the function and I see it as my responsibility to ensure that they have the support they need to step up to the challenge. But as I thought about that question a bit more, I realized that probably the best word I could use to describe my how I felt was prepared. It is a real testament to the past leadership of this chapter that I can take on this potentially time intensive volunteer role while keeping my day job and still feel ready to tackle what needs to be done. As I looked around the room at the Annual General Meeting that evening, I was struck by the number of past leaders, many of whom had taken their turn at the presidency long ago, who were there to provide me with the wisdom that comes with experience and commitment.

Our immediate past president, Mike Villegas, has been an amazing resource as we moved through the process of leadership transition. Mike led our chapter through a remarkable period of growth. I went back and read his first message to the chapter as president, just a year ago, and noted his expression of pride as our membership had reached

463 people. Now, just 12 months later, we have hit the 800 mark! We are among the largest chapters in the world and our members represent some of the largest firms across a broad spectrum of business and government. We are financially healthy, we have a strong stream of volunteers, many of whom will be the leaders of tomorrow, and our processes facilitate chapter operations with the same sense of governance and oversight that we evangelize at work. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the good stewardship that Mike and so many others have brought to our chapter over the years.

In addition to feeling well prepared to take on the challenges of this role, I feel well supported by our incoming leadership team. Our 2006/2007 officers are:

- Kevin Fried – 1st Vice President**
- Conny Cheng – 2nd Vice President**
- Ashok Kumar – Secretary**
- Sandra Lee – Treasurer**
- Mike Villegas – Past President**
- Christina Cheng – Director**
- Bill Davidson – Director**
- Lisa Corpuz – Director**
- Beverly Davis – Director**
- Tim Stapleton – Director**
- Michele Ling – Director**
- Todd Weinman – Director**

- Our 2006/2007 Committee Chairs are:
- Wendy Leung – Academic Relations Chair**
 - Steve Owyong – Communication Chair**
 - Brian Alfaro – Education Co-Chair**
 - Jason Kobus – Education Co-Chair**
 - Christina Cheng – Membership Co-Chair & CISM Coordinator**
 - Beverly Davis – Membership Co-Chair**
 - Vikram Panjwani – CISA Coordinator**
 - Jim Lucas – CISA Coordinator**
 - Angie Guzman – Volunteer Chair**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED

Each of these professionals give of their spare time – time they could be accomplishing tasks for their employers, time they could be spending with their families – but they choose to slice off a relatively small portion of their cycles to give back to their profession. I'm sure you've heard the old adage about the definition of commitment. When you look down at your ham and egg breakfast tomorrow morning, know that the chicken made a contribution, but the pig made a commitment. This chapter is in need of both chickens and pigs.

Raising your hand to help out with a chapter need doesn't have to mean taking on an overwhelming, time consuming role. Behind each of the committee leaders listed above is a cadre of other volunteers who may have previously held one of the leadership roles themselves, or just don't have the schedule luxury to commit to more tasks, but still can submit an article for the newsletter or find a speaker for a luncheon educational event or proctor a session at the Fall Conference or any number of other opportunities to contribute.

And so my fellow information-assurance professionals, ask not what your chapter can do for you.... seriously, these people find the time to contribute in large part because of the sense of reward that comes from helping others in becoming more successful. And there are many ways in which we hope to provide a valuable experience for each and every one of our members in the upcoming year.

- Our monthly educational events are geared to offer timely and relevant topics presented by speakers that represent the best in the industry. This year we are planning on at least two day long in-depth technical sessions in addition to a joint session with the Internal Audit Association featuring a speaker from the PCAOB. That joint session is scheduled for November.

- We will once again provide both a CISA and CISM review workshops for the December 2006 and June 2007 examinations. Our chapter has built a superior program for each of these valued certifications that have historically sold out. ISACA members from all over Western North America have traveled to San Francisco to attend one of our workshops. As new Department of Defense and other professional certification requirements become effective, these certifications are going to be in even more demand and there is no better way to prepare for the exam than by leveraging our cost effective and results proven workshops.

- The global alliance that was announced in early 2005 between ISACA, ASIS International and the ISSA (Information Systems Security Association) is gaining momentum. We intend to continue to reach out to partner organizations to build bridges where our members will see value.

- Each year, chapter leadership participates in the ISACA Western Region Leadership Conference. Four members of our leadership were able to attend the 2006 conference in Vancouver, WA. The 2007 conference will be hosted by our chapter and the planning for that event is just now beginning.

As we go forward in executing the plans necessary to make all these events and activities a success, we must be mindful of our goals as a chapter in doing so. The strategic direction of ISACA International and the IT Governance Institute is stated as:

In five years, ISACA/ITGI will be:

- The leading community of inspirational career and workplace support to constituents in IT assurance, security and governance (ISACA) and
- The leading reference on IT-enabled business systems governance for the global business community (ITGI).

To achieve those goals, ISACA Chapters contribute in the following ways:

Satisfy Constituents

- Develop me as a professional (capability)
- Enlighten business and regulatory community on IT governance

Align the Organization

- Improve recognition and influence
 - Promote ISACA/ITGI as the thought leader
 - Implement the communications strategy
- Improve constituent experience
 - Improve customer service
 - Provide personal and professional growth
 - Enhance the community experience
- Operational excellence
 - Manage risk
 - Align the organizational structure to achieve the goals of the strategy
 - Implement recommended governance

Strategic Enablers

- Ensure proper level of attributes and capabilities for volunteers
- Encourage a values-based culture
- Use IT to deliver value internally and externally
- Ensure the financial resources to sustain chapter operations

Your chapter leadership remains committed to make the most of what influence we have in the short time we are empowered to make the tactical decisions necessary to move the agenda forward. With your help and support, I'm confident we will make significant progress.

Reflections of the Presidents Council Meeting (PCM)

By Mike Nelson

I had the opportunity once again to attend the weekend 2006 Western Region Presidents Council Meeting (or as some have started to call it, the Primary Contributors Meeting, reflecting its of value to much more than just chapter presidents) hosted by the Willamette Valley Chapter (Portland, Or./Vancouver, Wa.) in early October. This was the second PCM I had attended, and so my expectations of the value of the conference were pretty high. The 2005 conference in Phoenix was packed with valuable information and conversation with chapter leaders from all over the Western Region of the United States and Canada. And I wasn't disappointed with the 2006 conference.

The agenda was full of items relevant to the various functions involved in the operations of an association such as ours. As one of the two "Very Large Chapters" in the Western Region (the other is Los Angeles), and one of the oldest chapters in the world (now in our 31st year), we are often looked to for advice and guidance from smaller chapters where the pool of resources isn't as robust. At the same time, it never fails that I walk away with some great ideas about some aspect of chapter administration that come from smart people in smaller chapters. Everyone has something to contribute, and the atmosphere of the weekend PCM is one of relaxed, open and honest dialogue. Having representatives from ISACA International present as we did

again this year helps strengthen our integration with the larger IT Governance Professional community.

As any good team builder will tell you, it is as much the out-of-the-meeting-room events that build teamwork as it is working through the agenda. As is the tradition at PCM's, the Saturday evening event in Vancouver was great fun. Sunset dinner on the "duck bus/boat" going through the streets of Old Portland and driving right into the Columbia River to sail back to Vancouver was just amazing. Our San Francisco Chapter is host to the 2007 PCM, and our planning team has its work cut out to make the event as productive, fun and valuable as the last one. I'm confident we'll put on a great conference.

By Angie Guzman

On August 4 and 5, I had the opportunity to attend the 2006 West Primary Contributors Meeting. When I was invited to attend, I really had no idea what to expect. I've been an ISACA member for about two years now, and had somehow managed to make it the entire two years without attending a single meeting or participating in a single conference. I'll be honest, I joined only for the bookstore/exam discount. I was very much NOT a primary contributor (or even a secondary or tertiary one for that matter). This year has changed that as I've committed to being an active member

of ISACA and am the new Volunteer Committee Chair. The first thing I noticed about the PCM meeting was how open and attentive people were. In the day and age where Blackberries and Treo's rule the world, I hardly ever saw one make an appearance during the two days of meetings. It seemed to me that it was because people were genuinely listening and sharing. It was great to see and participate.

What I really picked up on, though, was the challenge of recruiting and maintaining new members. Over and over I heard about the difficulties faced by the various chapters

in getting new blood and maintaining membership after the exams. As one of the people that had joined just for the discounts, it really made me think about what my reasons were and made me wonder what I can do to help that situation. Though I wasn't able to provide much input at that time, I've definitely found that my awareness has been increased, and I've found myself brainstorming ways to help the situation, which I hope will ultimately have a benefit to the SF ISACA chapter. I'm so glad that I had the opportunity to attend this year and look forward to attending a few more.

2006 PRESIDENTS COUNCIL MEETING CONT'D

By Tim Stapleton

This was a first for me. I equate this type of meeting similar to other planning meetings I attend with other groups. I was impressed with the pace of

the meeting – staying on track and not lingering unnecessarily. It was good to have people from International there. And as always, the networking was

great.

Since the next PCM is in San Francisco, the experience gained at the Vancouver session will provide some great tips in our planning.



Past Chapter President Mike Villegas, President Mike Nelson, Volunteer Chair Angie Guzman and Director Tim Stapleton, left to right, at the ISACA Western Region Presidents Council Meeting in Vancouver, WA.

MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A Special Welcome to New Members

By Beverly G. Davis
Membership Committee Co-Chair

Members make the difference, and we are looking for new volunteers to support chapter activities. If you are interested in volunteering in support of the chapter contact Beverly Davis at davisb@fhlbsf.com.

On behalf of the San Francisco Chapter Information Services Audit and Control Association, we welcome the following new members and transfers.

As of April 2006	As May 2006	As of June 2006	As of July 2006
Winston Chir	Dawn Beachy	Roshan Chagan, CPA	Venkat
Leonardo Croppo	Randal Beard	Dinah Chapman	Ananthakrishnan
Michael Laird	Stephanie Chui	Gary Clarke	Joh D. Cato
Andrew J. Luca, CIO/ CISO	Mojgan Faraji, CISA, CISSP,MCSE, PMP	Robert Day	Hans Fielding
Kenneth Kin-Sang Lui, CIA	Monika Good	Robert K. Day	Henry Kramek
Jeffrey Mark Morin	Robert Kelley, CISSP	Timothy D. Fitzgerald	Gwen Majors, C.A.C.
Raj Padmanabhan	Louis Knutson	Hitomi Kobayashi	Lee Manter, PMP
Nancy J. Pearson	Joanne Milne, CISSP	Lawrence Leung	David McKenzie
Will Santos	Olsen Dave	Josh Zi Liu	Brenda Pitts
Myla Estrellado Villena	Sahar Shayesteh-Mehr	Jason Philibert	Christopher Selin, J.D. LL.M
Steve Woo	Sharan Toor	Julianna Sakamoto	David Sichak
Cristina Vizcarra	Jillian Testa	Swapna Vullaganti	Ching Waran
		Joe G. Zertuche, Jr.	Swami Ramachandran
		Sam Singer, Jr., CISM/ CISA	Kenneth Piana, CISA, CIA
		Robert Rinauro, CISA	Ricardo Prieto, Sr.
		Oliver Wong, CISA, CPA	
		Eric Svetcov, CISA, CISSP	

Another benefit of membership

SANS Instructor Tanya Baccam will be teaching the popular SANS Auditing Networks, Perimeters and Systems course via SANS@Home, the weekly webcast based alternative to attending a SANS conference. The course will run for 12 weeks on Tuesday evenings, September 5 through November 21, 2006.

SANS is offering this class to San Francisco Chapter members of ISACA at a 20-percent discount. Please enter the discount code WNYAUD.

For complete course information, tuition fees and to register, go to <https://www.sans.org/athome/details.php?nid=1568>.

CISM WEEKEND WORKSHOP INFORMATION

"...another successful passer and I believe it was all due to the weekend we all spent together"
Attendee of the May, 2005 CISM Weekend Workshop



"...I know without a doubt that the review session helped me immensely"
Attendee of the May, 2005 CISM Weekend Workshop

Back by popular demand! **CISM Weekend Workshop**

Will be offered November 03 – 05, 2006

Important Dates:

September 27, 2006 – Final Registration Deadline for December 2006 CISM Exam

October 27, 2006 – SF ISACA CISM Review Workshop Registration Deadline

November 03, 04 and 05, 2006 – SF ISACA CISM Prep Weekend Workshop

December 09, 2006 – December 2006 CISM Exam

The San Francisco Chapter of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) is pleased to announce that it is offering a unique opportunity to prepare for the Certified Information Security Manager exam. The CISM certification has been specifically developed for the informational security professional and defines the core competencies and international standards of performance that information security managers are expected to master.

This weekend workshop provides an excellent opportunity to clarify the thought processes when working under pressure and ensure that candidates have the required experience and knowledge in information security management to take the examination. **Therefore attendees are expected to have knowledge of all the CISM domains.** The format is primarily a reminder of the tasks and knowledge requirements for each CISM domain, followed by a mock examination. Some time is also allocated for examining the structure of a CISM question and discussing a generic approach to help identify the appropriate answer. This not only hones the candidates' examination technique, but also provides for lively discussion.

The workshop will begin at **12:30 PM on Friday, November 03, 2006.** There will be a four hour session that Friday afternoon followed by an eight hour session on Saturday, November 4th and a four hour session on the morning of Sunday, November 5th. The location will be the Deloitte office in San Francisco at 50 Fremont Street. We are limiting the number of attendees at the class in order to provide a high-quality learning experience. Lunch for November 4th and refreshments will be provided.

ISACA Member	\$150
Non-ISACA Member	\$350 (include one year ISACA membership)

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

Company _____ Title _____

CISM WEEKEND WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Telephone _____ ISACA Membership # _____ Chapter _____

To register, please do one of the following:

(1) Return registration form with payment (checks payable to **ISACA, San Francisco Chapter**) **before October 27, 2006** to:
P. O. Box 26675, San Francisco, CA 94126

(2) Email registration form to chricheng@deloitte.com followed by mail-in or on-line payment.

(3) Register and pay on-line www.sfisaca.org.

Please note there will be no refunds unless the class is cancelled by the San Francisco Chapter of ISACA. Enrollment in class is not guaranteed until the applicable payment is received by the seminar registrar and will be processed on a first-come-first-served basis.

AGENDA

{Order of the sessions is subject to change}

Friday Afternoon (4 Hours)

Introductions and course outline – set the expectations for the weekend workshop.

Information Security Governance – Establish and maintain a framework to provide assurance that information security strategies are aligned with business objectives and consistent with applicable laws and regulations. The objective of this core competency, which accounts for 21% of the exam content, is to focus on the need for a stable security program.

Risk Management – Identify and manage information security risks to achieve business objectives. This topic area is included to test the applicant's knowledge in the area of risk identification and management as they relate to business needs. This area accounts for 21% of the exam contents.

Saturday (8 Hours)

Information Security Program Management – Oversee the internal and external resources for information security are identified, appropriated and managed. Candidates will have to show proficiency in their understanding of the tools required to manage an information security program. The topic area accounts for 21% of the examination total.

Response Management – Develop and manage a capability to respond to and recover from disruptive and destructive information security events. This section addresses the need for development and implementation of policies and procedures and accounts for 13% of the exam total.

Sunday Morning (4 Hours)

Information Security Management – Design, develop and manage an information security program to implement the information security governance framework. The topic area stresses the skills and knowledge necessary to create and implement the information security framework. This section accounts for 24% of the examination material.

Exam Overview and Drill– This section will review the requirements to sit for the CISM exam and how to maintain the certification after successful completion of the examination process. We will provide the attendees with techniques used by other successful certification candidates, and with tips on how to study and how to prepare for an exam. We will also take a sample exam.

Serving Bay Area IS Audit and Security Professionals since 1975



Chapter Director Michele Ling, left, and President Mike Nelson at the July 2006 Annual General Meeting and Member Appreciation Event.

Natalia Tjandra, left, and Heather Rawlins, center, winners of the 2004/2005 SF ISACA Scholarship Award, pause with Academic Relations Chair Wendy Leung at the July 2006 Annual General Meeting and Member Appreciation Event.



“ACTIVE FEEDBACK” LEAVES NO BENEFITS UNSAID

**By Steve Owyong
Communications Committee Chair**

The quarterly newsletter and chapter web site are benefits to members and non-members associated with the San Francisco chapter. And as such, the Communications Committee strongly encourages everyone to take advantage of this benefit as readers and contributors.

From readers, the committee welcomes feedback regarding the newsletter and chapter web site so that we, together, can improve upon the benefits of these

communication tools that connect members and non-members.

From contributors, the committee would be delighted to receive participation of members and non-members in putting together the newsletters or the chapter web site. The Communication Committee calls this “active feedback.”

So start taking advantage of these benefits now at sowyoung@yahoo.com.