



West Florida ISACA Insider

November, 2009

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Hello all,

Welcome to the West Florida ISACA Insider, your electronic source for all the news you need to know, delivered quarterly to your mailbox.

Employers can post opportunities free of charge!



As a service to our members, we post employer opportunities on the chapter website and also inform our members via email. Please let your employers know that if they are looking for IT security, governance, and assurance professionals they have found the right place to reach over 400 members in the area.

President's Letter

Dear Colleague,

It has been about 5 months since the new board was elected and I am excited to share with you some of the areas we have been working on. First, we were one of the gold sponsors at TechJam, which is a big party with a purpose organized by the Tampa Bay Technology Forum to bring technology to kids in this community. Our chapter participated because we believe this is an inspiring cause of promoting technology to the next generation. Also, it provided us with the opportunity to bring the ISACA brand to the IT community at large. See more about TechJam and its foundation in a separate article in this newsletter. Second, we have offered a total of 21

CPEs through various events in these areas:

- 1) Understanding IT Governance using CobiT, ITIL, ISO 27002, and Six Sigma
- 2) IT Management Framework to Improve Organizational Performance and Governance
- 3) Effective Auditing Techniques in a Virtual Environment
- 4) Our CISA and CISM review courses started November 7 and will continue until December. The exam date is December 12.

We recognize the current economic environment may have cut training budgets and we have worked really hard to keep these CPE offerings at a very affordable cost. We only were able to accomplish this because of the help of passionate and committed volunteers and sponsors. If your company would like to sponsor one of our events, please contact me and we can work together to continue to bring low cost CPEs to our IT community and also promote your company name within our members and peers.

Lastly, we have our annual holiday networking social on December 3rd at 5:30 PM at the Tampa Club where we can see each other, get CPEs, have a drink and enjoy some great food in the spirit of this wonderful season ahead of us. Register today as this event is free (members only) and there is a limit on how many we can accommodate. You can register at: www.acteva.com/go/westflisaca

I hope to celebrate with you on December 3rd, but if I don't, have a wonderful Holiday Season, be safe and enjoy yourself.

Regards,



Ana Valdez, President

E-mail: President@westfloridaisaca.org

Web site: <http://www.westfloridaisaca.org>

Tampa Bay Tech Jam 2009 - written by Pierre Joseph

Our big event during the summer was TechJam, an annual fundraiser by [Tampa Bay Technology Forum \(TBTF\)](http://www.tbtf.org) where all the proceeds go to the [TBTF Foundation](http://www.tbtf.org). The TBTF Foundation's mission is to encourage and provide high risk youth in the Tampa Bay area opportunities to pursue careers in science,



technology, engineering,

and math. This year our local chapter participated as a Gold Sponsor.



Hundreds of people attended this year's fundraiser at the St. Pete Times Forum. Many visited our booth and inquired about ISACA and the benefits of being a member. We shared the value of our membership around these key

activities: free top quality technology research such as COBIT, free online CPEs every month through the ISACA's e-symposiums, and networking with other IT professionals. We also promoted the vision of our local chapter and ISACA International to the IT community in Tampa Bay. This event was certainly a win-win, and best of all, a lot of fun! There were lots of food, a live band, entertainment, and networking opportunities with professionals from various industries. We are pleased our sponsorship contributed to the TBTF foundation.

Join us on LinkedIn

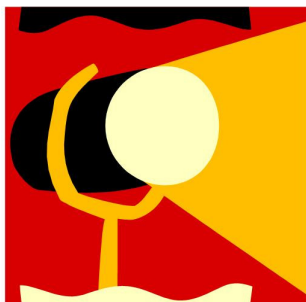


Our chapter is now on LinkedIn, a professional social networking site. If you are a LinkedIn member, get connected with other chapter members. [Click to learn more about the group.](#)

If you're not on LinkedIn, why not? Michelle Dumas gives some compelling reasons to join in her article [Benefits of Using LinkedIn for Your Job Search and Career Networking.](#)

Nationally certified resume writer, career marketing expert, and personal branding strategist, [Michelle Dumas](#) is the founder and executive director of Distinctive Career Services LLC. Through her [Distinctive Documents](#) and [Executive VIP Services](#) websites, Michelle has empowered thousands of executives, professionals, and managers all across the U.S. and worldwide with all the tools and resources necessary to conduct a fast, effective job search. To learn more about her job search products, resume writing services, and career marketing programs, and to sign up for many other free resources, visit her websites.

Member Spotlight



Our Member Spotlight goes to Hector Collazo who encouraged 6 members of his audit staff to attend a recent ISACA training session. Hector is currently the Director, Division of Inspector General, at the Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court.



1. Why do you belong to ISACA?

Computer technology is here to stay and there is no hiding from it. ISACA allows my staff and me to be better prepared to handle IT audits of technology (hardware and software). ISACA allows us to develop a knowledge base to perform better audits and make us better auditors.

2. How has ISACA helped in your professional growth?

My CISA certification has certainly helped me professionally. CISA is an important certification when seeking Internal Audit positions. Having an IT knowledge base allows a greater understanding of the information systems that we are auditing.

3. What would you say to a peer if they told you they were thinking of joining ISACA?

"Go for it!" I would encourage them. Not too long ago, I had a staff member ask me about ISACA and I encouraged her to join and get certified. I am proud to say that she did join and recently became certified as a CISA.

4. Do you hold the CISA, CISM or CGEIT certification?

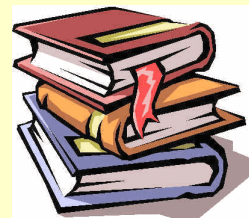
CISA

5. Anything else you'd like to tell our audience?

I encourage everyone to attend as many meetings and training sessions as you can. Every time I have attended a meeting or training session, I always leave feeling I have learned something new. As we all know, information systems are constantly changing. It is hard to keep up with the changes if you are isolated in the office. It is important to network with ISACA professionals and attend training in order to pick up additional skill sets and increase your knowledge.

ISACA Adds eMember Library Benefits

ISACA has developed the ISACA eLibrary to provide on-demand access to a wealth of readily usable information. The ISACA eLibrary is a comprehensive collection of content from nearly all ISACA/ITGI-published books and more than 250 additional titles-all available free-of-charge as a benefit of ISACA membership.



Benefits of this new feature include:

- * The ability to easily purchase a book after browsing online
- * Access to all books and the ability to browse the content immediately
- * Downloads of up to five chapters per month from the available book titles
- * A robust search mechanism
- * A private bookshelf for the frequently accessed book titles for each individual user
- * Bookmarking ability of the content a user needs most
- * Effortless creation of citations

Please visit www.isaca.org/elibrary to access this online goldmine of information today!

Continuing Education Opportunities from ISACA



As a member of ISACA, you can receive discounts on education and conferences. [Check out the latest conferences on ISACA's website!](#)

ISACA members also have access to e-Symposiums free of charge that offer 3 CPEs every month. This month's topic is *Integrating Identity, Roles, and Data Loss Prevention*. [Tell me more about the e-Symposium.](#)

2009 Third Annual Holiday Networking Social

Please be our guest for the West Florida ISACA Annual Holiday Meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2009. This free event is our way of saying "Thank You" to our members. There will be fun, food, door prizes, and networking. Hear about our event planning for the spring session, our new web site, and meet the board members. This is a "members only event."

[Read more about the event and add it to Outlook.](#)





Do you have something that will benefit our members? Please send your newsletter articles to [Ed Tobias](#)