Upcoming Local Events

Feb 8, 15, 28
March 1, 8
CIA Review Course by Garland Granger
Price Waterhouse Coopers, 36th Flr. Training Room
214 N. Tryon St..
Click here to register.

March 11-13, 2013
IIA District Conference
We are very excited to announce that this year the
Charlotte Chapter is hosting the 2013 District
Conference on March 11-13 at the Embassy Suites in
Concord, NC. We are featuring a Financial Institutions
track, an Information Technology track and a Technical
and Government Accounting track.

May 6th & 7th, 2013
Audit Skills for the Beginning Auditor & Essential
Leadership Skills for Experienced Auditors

Upcoming IIA National Webinars

Planning Integrated Audits
February 19, 2013
1:00–2:00 p.m. ET
- What is an integrated audit approach?
- A framework and process to consider in your own
  compliance environment.
- Practical advice on where to start.
REGISTER NOW

Special Thanks to our 2012 Corporate Sponsor!

Experis Finance

To sponsor one of our Chapter activities, or advertise on our website,
contact Lashonda Dover

Support Local Education by purchasing company “slots” for upcoming
chapter events. Contact Simon Talbot for more information!

Interested in contributing to our Newsletter?
Email Mike Ranken with your information: mikeranken@hotmail.com

Useful Links
Charlotte Chapter Homepage
Triad IIA NC Chapter Website
IIA Homepage

Employment Opportunities
Stay updated on the website and contact Renee Campellone to post your
companies needs.

Be sure to visit The IIA's improved IT Audit Web site!

District Conference
Information is in! See Page 4 of the Newsletter click on the
logo to link!
Five New Year's Resolutions Every Internal Auditor Should Make for 2013

Richard Chambers, CIA, CGAP, CCSA, CRMA

Over the years, one of the practices I have followed in writing my blog is to open the year by sharing five New Year’s resolutions that every internal auditor should make. As I noted last year, these are not the typical resolutions about losing weight or exercising more — although some of us could certainly benefit from such resolutions as well. Instead, the resolutions that I propose are designed to enhance the quality of our performance as internal audit professionals. They are simple resolutions that are powerful enough to enhance our value, but so painless that keeping our resolutions changes from a mere possibility to a probability.

1. Plan more and audit less -- One of the Achilles’ heels for internal audit departments is the amount of time it takes to complete the average internal audit engagement. The problem typically stems from deploying endless audit steps and an undisciplined report writing process. The impact of these poor habits can be mitigated significantly by better planning at the outset of the engagement. Too often, we are in such a hurry to begin the audit that we rush to develop an audit plan/program so that we can get started. But conducting an audit from an inadequate plan is like taking a road trip with an unfinished map. Without a solid plan, you are bound to take wrong turns and circuitous routes throughout the engagement. I’ve found that the keys to effective planning are to: (1) identify the key operating objectives; (2) identify the key risks that will inhibit achievement of these objectives; (3) assess the risks; (4) determine the audit objectives based on the risk assessment; and (5) document the audit steps necessary to test control effectiveness related to each objective.

2. Communicate for impact -- Recipients of internal audit reports are often exasperated by the length of the reports, the amount of needless information that’s included, and the difficulty of navigation. As auditors, we have trouble being succinct. We like to tell people “how to build a watch” when maybe all they really want is to know the time. We also tend to shy away from using graphics, but often a picture truly is worth 1,000 words. Essentially, we have to do a better job of cutting to the chase — communicating succinctly and in an impactful way that will compel the reader to take action.

3. Empathize more and gloat less -- Too often we tend to take pride in the fact that we found problems or deficiencies in an area we audited. But if we put ourselves in the shoes of the people we’re auditing, we might see things a little differently. In fact, we might realize that they want the same things we do: to do an effective job, to deliver quality, to be service oriented, and to pursue excellence. There just might be extenuating circumstances that impair their ability to do so. One of the things that I think internal auditors always could do better is to demonstrate empathy when we’re doing the audit work. Certainly, that doesn’t mean that we don’t communicate the issues that we discover, but there’s no point in diminishing the value of other professionals to try and make ourselves look better.

4. Embrace technology -- We have to recognize that our resources are limited, and they’re not likely to grow significantly in the coming years. Yet, our stakeholders’ expectations continue to grow. One of the ways that we can become more productive and add greater value to our organizations is by leveraging technology — using data mining and analytics tools and techniques and taking advantage of audit management system software to help with documentation of our work and the planning and communications of the results of that work. These tools can be tremendous “capacity multipliers” for internal auditors.

5. Enhance industry/business knowledge -- As I’ve observed before, our stakeholders often are concerned that we don’t understand the business well enough to be conducting audits of operations, business risks, and strategic risks. One way that we can become more effective in auditing those areas and enhance their confidence in us is by acquiring and demonstrating an in-depth knowledge of the business and the industry. We have to become students of our own organizations. We need to become more proficient in identifying key risks and threats that face our industries. We can do this by joining industry associations, participating in industry trade publications, doing Web-based research, and seeking out other resources to enhance our knowledge. We also need to have a better understanding of the issues that face our business. Every internal auditor should analyze any information they can obtain on the organizations they work for, including information released to regulators and investors (such as 10-K filings in the United States) and other publically available information as well as resources available to management within the company/organization itself.
Spring 2013 Comprehensive CIA Exam Review at UNC Charlotte

CIA candidates seeking an in-depth, comprehensive exam prep program are encouraged to register for UNC Charlotte’s CIA Exam Review this spring, offered in cooperation with the Institute of Internal Auditors. IIA members receive a 15% discount on all classes if registering at least two weeks before each class. Included in the course price are The IIA’s CIA Learning System™ textbooks, instructor slides notebook, up to 60 hours of classroom instruction, and an online subscription to LearnCIA.com which includes quizzes, full practice exams, and more!

Benefits to the Course:

- The IIA’s CIA Learning System™ is IPPF-aligned and covers 100% of the CIA exam syllabus
- Earn up to 60 CPE credits
- Convenient Friday and Saturday schedules
- 15% IIA discount for students registering two weeks prior to class
- Earn UNC Charlotte Internal Auditing Certificate upon completing Parts I-IV

What are our students saying:

Initially, I attended the program for the CPE credit that I needed for my CPA. As a result of the program, I decided to sit for the CIA exam which I passed on the first attempt. The materials provided with the program were critical to the passing of the exam itself. The classroom portion of the class was instrumental in learning how to apply some concepts to “real world” examples in practice. —Spring 2012 student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part I: The Internal Audit Activity’s Role in Governance, Risk and Control</th>
<th>Friday and Saturday: March 2 &amp; 3, 8:30am-4:30pm</th>
<th>$463* (for IIA members) includes textbooks, LearnCIA.com account, and parking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part II: Conducting the Internal Audit Engagement</td>
<td>Friday and Saturday: March 22 &amp; 23, 8:30am-4:30pm</td>
<td>$463* (for IIA members) includes textbooks, LearnCIA.com account, and parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part III: Business Analysis &amp; Information Technology</td>
<td>Friday, Saturday, Saturday: April 19, 20, and 27, 8:30am-4:30pm</td>
<td>$675* (for IIA members) includes textbooks, LearnCIA.com account, parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part IV: Business Management Skills</td>
<td>Saturday, May 19, 8:30am-4:30pm</td>
<td>$335* (for IIA members) includes textbooks, LearnCIA.com account, parking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* prices reflect IIA member discount for those registering two weeks prior to each class; course prices without discounts are available at [http://ContinuingEd.uncc.edu/cia](http://ContinuingEd.uncc.edu/cia).

For more information or to view a free online information session, visit [http://ContinuingEd.uncc.edu/cia](http://ContinuingEd.uncc.edu/cia).

Contact Karri Murray at [kkmurray@uncc.edu](mailto:kkmurray@uncc.edu) with additional questions.

Congratulations to our newly certified members:

- Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA) | Arlene Coyle
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) | Susan Sullivan
- Certified Internal Auditor | Kenrick Samuelson
- Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA) | Elizabeth Bagwell

Are you a member of LinkedIn?
Did you know there is now a Charlotte IIA group?

Join the group and stay updated on the latest events delivered right to your inbox! Quickly discover what is being discussed in the group and be an active part in determining the top discussions by adding your comments.
We are very excited to announce that this year the Charlotte Chapter is hosting the 2013 District Conference from March 11-13 at the Embassy Suites in Concord, NC. We are featuring a Financial Institutions track, an Information Technology track, and a Technical and Government Accounting track.

In addition, we are proud to announce that we are setting up a Chief Executive Auditor (CAE) track and lounge specifically tailored to your needs. Attendees will be limited to Chief Auditors and Executive Level Management.

Keynote speakers scheduled to appear include Jon Gordon and Don Levonius, M.A., M.A.

Jon Gordon is the author of *The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work, and Team with Positive Energy*. Based on his international best-selling book, *The Energy Bus*, Jon Gordon presents a powerful roadmap to overcome common life and work obstacles, and bring out the best in yourself and your team. Whether you are a leader looking to build a positive culture, a manager trying to energize and engage your team, or someone who desires to enhance your productivity and performance, this talk will help you create more success and enjoy the ride of your life.

Don Levonius is currently the Director of Seminars and Curriculum Development for The Institute of Internal Auditors and has developed a niche for helping identify values, develop strategies, improve team performance, and drive bottom line results.

Topics to be discussed in the other three featured tracks include: Financial Regulatory Environment, Financial Crimes, Complexities of Internal Fraud, Social Media, Data Analytics, Auditing the Public Sector, Construction Auditing, T&E Fraud, 2013 Professional Ethics and Conduct, and Communication Skills for Auditors, among others.

Register by February 15, 2013, and receive a $100 discount from full price included below! Please click here to register.

Reserve a room at the Embassy Suites for $149 a night plus applicable taxes. You can make a reservation by either:

- Calling the hotel directly at 704-455-8200 and speaking to the reservations department and providing the Group/Convention Code: IIA.
- Calling 1-800-EMBASSY
- Going online to [www.embassysuitesconcord.com](http://www.embassysuitesconcord.com) and entering the Group/Convention Code: IIA.

Spaces are limited and rooms must be reserved by February 13, 2013. Any requests after this date will be taken on a rate and availability basis.

- CPE: 20
- Field of Study: Auditing
- Prerequisites: None
- Advance preparation: None
- Level of knowledge: Beginner to Intermediate
- Delivery method: Group Live
- Cost for IIA Members: $495
- Cost for Non-Members: $595