Audit Scope

October 2020

Inside...

- Training Opportunities for Members
- International Conference Raffle Winner
- Farewell Message: Bob McCall

Providing dynamic leadership for the global profession of internal auditing
Dear Chapter Members:

Welcome to the 2020-2021 chapter year! The past seven months have been like none other, but have no fear, your Board of Governors have been working hard to adapt to the new normal and are committed to serving the chapter.

This chapter year may look and feel different, but it is shaping up to be a busy one! We kicked it off with our first ever virtual seminar on July 30th and 31st and it was a major success. Our speaker, Amanda Jo Erven, did a fantastic job leading an interactive training on Total Quality Auditing. We received great feedback from attendees and plan to keep the momentum going for future seminars. We also held our first, no cost, virtual breakfast meeting on October 7th. Speaker Tim J. Leech, FCPA, CIA, CCSA, CRMA, did a fantastic job presenting on the IIA’s recently updated Three Lines Model.

Because of the many unknowns regarding in-person seminars during 2021, we will not offer seminar packages this chapter year. With that said, it is our plan to offer 2-3 more 4-8 CPE seminars this chapter year. In addition to offering ½ and/or full day seminars, we are also planning a few more breakfast and lunch meetings (1-2 CPE). It is our goal to get back to in-person seminars as soon as it is safe.

We have been working hard planning the next virtual seminar. Similar to prior years we are teaming with the West Florida ISACA chapter to plan our annual Fraud and Security seminar. Mark your calendars, this virtual seminar is planned for the mornings of December 9th and 10th and will offer 8 NASBA CPE. More details to come.

In addition to seminars this year we are also planning to continue our involvement with the University of South Florida and the University of Tampa. We had great success working with students and advocating for the internal audit profession. We are also hopeful that we will be able to hold a social event in the spring. As always, if you would like to get more involved with the chapter as a volunteer and/or future leadership, just let us know.

In closing, I encourage you to check out all the other exciting things happening at the chapter that are included in this newsletter. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me or other members of our leadership. I look forward to “seeing” you at our next event.

Sincerely,

Kristina Simmons
We are happy to announce that our annual December Fraud & Security seminar is happening in 2020! In partnership with ISACA, we are presenting this seminar as a two-day, virtual event:

**Fraud & Security SEMINAR**

2 Mornings · 8 CPE · $75 Registration Fee*

Further details on times, speakers, and topics coming soon!

*Per person this event only. Package pricing not available.*
In May 2020 my three-year term as chapter governor expired, and in September I retired from my full-time audit job. As my wife and I enter this new phase of our lives, I wanted to reflect and share my thoughts with my colleagues and fellow IIA chapter members.

I have been active in the IIA at the chapter level in day-to-day positions since 1995—first in the Dallas chapter after I earned my CIA, and since 2001 here in Tampa Bay, until this spring. As a committee member, committee chair, chapter officer, chapter VP, chapter president and governor, I have served at just about every level of local chapter leadership there is. I have never had an interest in volunteering at the district, national or international level of the IIA, because I have always felt the local level is where I could make the biggest impact.

My perspective on the IIA has been that the more you put into it, the more you’ll get out of it. Of course every member will have access to professional standards and guidance, training, networking, and employment opportunities, but there’s much more available to an active, dedicated member. Opportunities to grow your people skills, presentation skills, leadership skills, and organization skills are also all there if you are looking to hone them. Finally, I have found that lifelong friendships can be forged, too, as time goes on.

I leave you with two thoughts. First, get involved. See where your gifts could best be utilized and pitch in to help the chapter. There are lots of things to do to support the IIA and they may go undone if there’s not a volunteer to do them. If you want to challenge yourself, leave your comfort zone, and build a skill you need to build, volunteering can do that. Second, stay involved. Commitment is a big part of what makes a satisfied and successful volunteer, and you’ll get a chance to build those relationships and fill that professional ‘toolbox’ the longer you stick with it. See a chapter officer or governor at the next meeting and see where you can best plug in.

As for me, you’ll still see me from time to time at seminars, and I’ll keep in touch with current chapter leaders to provide advice when asked.

I wish everyone the best in their professional careers, and hope everyone will take advantage of everything the IIA has to offer in doing so.
2020-21 Chapter Officers Update

As we begin a new chapter year, we wanted to introduce (and re-introduce) the chapter officers who will be serving you during 2020-21. While most of our officers are returning — to previous or new positions — we also are welcoming Jessika Garis (Director, RSM US), who has volunteered to take on the role of chapter secretary.

Our current chapter officers are as follows:

- **President**: Kristina Simmons
- **VP, Education**: Monica Moran
- **Treasurer**: Chris Saunders
- **Membership/Certifications**: Michele Nisi
- **Secretary**: Jessika Garis
- **VP, Communication**: Wade Cassels

In addition to our Board of Directors, we would also like to thank those folks who provide such valuable support for our chapter in “unofficial” roles. That said...

**We are looking for volunteers.**

If you are willing and interested to serve our chapter in a future leadership position, now is a great time to reach out to us and make that known so we can include that in our planning for 2021 and beyond. There is a wide variety of opportunities to volunteer. Reach out to a chapter leader directly, or let us know at FloridaWestCoastIIA@gmail.com.

Berina Fazlic-Frljak

Berina, a senior audit consultant in the University of South Florida’s Office of Internal Audit, is the winner of the Florida West Coast Chapter’s 2020 IIA International Conference raffle. As the winner, Berina received free registration to the conference.

“I am very much looking forward to the conference and all of the great sessions that are planned,” she said. “Most of all, I am excited to be able to hear Vision 2020s: The Decade Ahead for Internal Audit, as I believe that internal auditors are facing new challenges and opportunities in these unprecedented times.”

Thank you to all our members who participated in the raffle!
Recognizing our 2020 Harmon Award Winners

Prior to the shutdown in March, we had the opportunity to present the 2020 Harmon Award to two University of Tampa students to help further their education and careers in internal auditing. This year’s recipients were Larissa McCumiskey and Katelyn Ercolani. Both Katelyn and Larissa were students of Dr. Robert Marley, who teaches UT’s Audit I & II courses. Among the applicants, the winners were chosen based on their essay contest entries.

Katelyn wrote her essay on the challenge of talent recruitment in IA. She shared with us that she had always heard “start in public accounting” or “go to one of the Big 4 right out of college and put in your time there [first],” and that she believed the IIA should reach out more to enlighten college students about internal audit and options besides public accounting.

Katelyn’s sentiments show why we are putting such an emphasis on student/university outreach in our chapter and will continue to do so. If you are interested in opportunities to participate in our student outreach activities, please reach out to a chapter officer.

Make the Leap to Our Careers Page

Stay Connected with Florida West Coast Chapter

home on LinkedIn:
“Tampa Bay IIA Chapter”

Follow our LinkedIn page to
Network with other chapter members
Receive news and updates
Join the conversation

Online and self-study CIA training courses are available, and online testing is now available, too.

Click Here to Learn More

(From L to R): Katelyn Ercolani, Dr. Robert Marley, Larissa McCumiskey.
Earlier this month, the IIA reported that some 21% of audit teams were forced to reduce staff this year as a result of the pandemic. For many more auditors who remain in their jobs, benefits such as training and professional membership fees have been reduced or eliminated.

At the same time, the IIA and AuditBoard have launched a $500,000 scholarship program to support internal auditors impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Even within our chapter, we have some modest resources available to potentially assist those who may be considering letting their membership lapse.

In short, if you need help, or if you are able to help, please take the time and effort to share that information with others so that we as a chapter have opportunities to help each other through these difficult times.

Classic Comic

Submit an “Audit-orial” of your own (200-300 words) and we may publish it!

E-mail your favorite classic comics!

Chapter89@iiachapters.org
FloridaWestCoastIIA@gmail.com

Respond to the “Audit-orial” via Linkedin or Twitter