In March, our chapter held our quarterly luncheon and elected a new board for the new year (June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020). I am honored to once again have the opportunity to serve as the TCIIA President. And I am excited for our newest members of the board:

- Tiffany Hurst, Vice President Programs; Tiffany is the Director of Audit at the Florida Department of Education (DOE) Office of Inspector (OIG) and is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA).
- Misha Jordan, Treasurer; Misha is an Auditor with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).
- Christine LeClere, Secretary; Christine is an Auditor with FDOT and is a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE).
- Jessica Hughes, Board Member; Jessica is an Auditor and Investigator at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.
- Natalia Salnova, Board Member; Natalia is a Senior Auditor at Florida State University (FSU) and is a CIA, CPA, CIGA, and CIGI.

Congratulations to our new board members and to everyone who was elected. Thank you for serving!

I also want to thank our current board members who are leaving: Connie Davis, Destin Dubose, and Vanessa Spaulding. I appreciate your service!

I am excited to say that this May is Audit Awareness Month. Many professions, such as doctor or engineer, have a near universal understanding of what they do and the value they bring to our society. Sadly, the internal audit profession does not share the same understanding of its benefits. All of us as auditors can relate to having friends and family who do not know exactly what we do. They may think it is the same as accounting or is about taxes.

Our chapter and the entire IIA support the effort to raise awareness of the internal audit profession and its value. Our goal is not only to eliminate misperceptions of internal auditing, but also to further the knowledge of businesses and governments on the essential role internal auditing plays in strong organizational governance, internal control, and effective risk management. When management and boards of directors are aware of what precisely internal auditing does and is, they will appreciate its value and will be much more likely to ensure the internal audit activity is adequately sourced and effectively utilized. In a similar fashion, when society at-large becomes more aware of what internal auditors do, the number of people who consider it a worthwhile career increases, adding the profession with more valuable talent.

Sincerely,

Kris Sullivan
CIG, CIA, CISA, CFE, CIGI
President, Tallahassee IIA

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TCIIA Officers/Board of Governors FY 19/20

Below is the full list of next year’s Officers/Board of Governors for FY 19/20. We thank them for their service. We also want to thank three members who have taken on non-board roles:

1) Certification Officer (New Position) – Mandi Cohen.
2) Audit Committee - Susan Cureton (Chair) and Connie Davis (to be appointed by the Board).
3) Finance Committee – Karen Preacher (to be appointed by the President).

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Member Name</th>
<th>Term Expires</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Kris Sullivan, CIA, CISA, CIG, CIGI, CFE</td>
<td>FYE 2020</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Justin Evans, CIA, CFE, CIGA, CPM</td>
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<td>VP – Training</td>
<td>Ashley Clark, MBA, CIGA</td>
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<td>VP – Programs</td>
<td>Tiffany Hurst, CIA</td>
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<td>VP – Membership</td>
<td>Torry McClellan, MPA</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Misha Jordan</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Christine LeClere, CFE</td>
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<td>Board of Governors</td>
<td>Justin Mahe, CPA, CIA</td>
<td>FYE 2021</td>
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<td>Member</td>
<td>Marcia Main, CPA, CIA, CFE, GRCP</td>
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<td>Heidi Cox, CPA, CIA, CGMA</td>
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<td>Tim Crellin, MPA, CIGA, FCCM</td>
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<td>Danielle Myrick</td>
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<td>Scott Armstrong, CPM, CIDA, ITIL</td>
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<td>Jessica Hughes</td>
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<td>Linh Trang, MPA, CGAP, CIGA, CIGI</td>
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<td>Natalia Salnova, CPA, CIA, CIGA, CIGI</td>
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<td>Ron King, CIA, CIDA, ITIL</td>
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<td>Ex-Officio</td>
<td>Joe Maleszewski, MBA, CIA, CGAP, CISA, CIG, CIGA, CIGI, CCEP</td>
<td>FYE 2020</td>
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Member Accomplishments

By: Tim Crellin

As the local IIA chapter, we love to see our members excel in their careers and accomplishments. Chapter members continue to work hard to advance in their careers and obtain renowned certifications. The Chapter is only as good as its members and our members are succeeding!

Certifications:

- Trystal McFayden, Management Review Specialist at the Department of Revenue (DOR), earned Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP) and Certified Inspector General Auditor (CIGA) certifications.

- Cory Wilson, Computer Audit Analyst at DOR, earned the CIGA certification.

- Chris Edwards became a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

- Natalia Sanova, Senior Auditor at Florida State University (FSU), became a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA).

- Luis Camejo, Senior Audit Supervisor at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), became a CIA.

- Stacey Emminger, OIG Analyst at the Office of Early Learning, earned the CIA and CIGA certifications.

- Latonya Baker, Auditor/Investigator at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) became a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE).

- Leah Gigi, Senior Auditor at FSU, became a CIGA.

- Erica Thames, Management Review Specialist at the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) became a CIGA.

- Christine LeClere, Auditor at FDOT, became a CFE.

- Jovon Merritt, Auditor at FDOT, became a CIGA.

- Tim Crellin, Senior Audit Supervisor at FDOT, became a CIGA.

- Linh Trang, Senior Auditor at the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation, became a Certified Inspector General Investigator (CIGI).

Graduation:

Angela Uyeno will be graduating with her Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Valdosta State University.

To you all, the Chapter extends its CONGRATULATIONS!
May 28th Networking Event at Harry’s!

By: Cathe Ferguson

There is no denying the power a strong professional network can have over your career success. The most connected people are often the most successful. When you invest in your professional relationships, it can pay you back in dividends throughout the course of your career.

On May 28, 2019, the TCIIA is giving you an opportunity to take control of your career development by attending our networking event at Harry’s Seafood Bar & Grille on South Bronough Street.

This networking event may help you develop and improve your skill set, stay on top of the latest trends in auditing, keep a pulse on the job openings, meet prospective mentors, bosses, and co-workers, and strengthen the relationship you have with others already in your network.

The free event will run from 5:30pm to 7:30pm and will include light hors d’oeuvres.
Tips for Passing the CIA Exam

By: Keaton Wilson

*Disclaimer: All of the information is my personal opinion. I'm hoping by sharing my study method, tips, and tricks others will find success as well!

What do I think is the best study system to use?

GLEIM! I prefer the Gleim study system because it only contains information you need to know for the test. Other study systems will cover an entire topic including information you may or may not need to know, while Gleim only focuses on what is on the actual exam.

However, once you have been through all of Gleim's material and online test bank, I highly recommend taking some of Wiley's online test questions if you can. I believe the way Wiley asks their questions better emulates how you'll see the questions on the exam. If you want to try Wiley before purchasing the test bank, they offer a 48 hour free trial ([https://www.efficientlearning.com/cia/products/free-trial](https://www.efficientlearning.com/cia/products/free-trial)).

I also wanted to point out as a side note: The IIA’s Certification Candidate Management System (CCMS) offers a practice test for around $50 for parts 1, 2, and 3. However, it does not offer any exam feedback other than if you pass or fail which I did not find helpful in my preparation.

How I Studied:
If you are familiar with Gleim, each chapter is broken down into individual subunits (ex. 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and so on). I decided I only wanted to study on weekdays so I could relax on the weekends. To do this, I told myself I would get through a chapter a week. This way I would only have to do 1 or 2 subunits a day and wouldn’t have to study hours at a time, instead only 15 to 30 minutes a day.

For each subunit, the first thing I would do is read the material. Then I would log-on to Gleim and take the corresponding subunit study questions. If I missed a question I would immediately read the explanation as to why it was incorrect as well as the explanation for why the "correct" answer was the best choice. For some questions, all answer choices could technically be correct but they're looking for the "best" answer. Make sure you understand why the best answer is the best answer. After completing the practice questions for the first time, if I missed more than one question I would go back and take the entire question set again.
Tips for Passing CIA Exam (continued)

*MY ADVICE* If you miss a question and after seeing the correct answer you still don’t understand why it’s the correct answer:

1. Remember that some of the scenarios on the exam are not relatable to the audits we perform. In many of the scenarios of the CIA test materials, you are an internal auditor who works for a publicly traded MANUFACTURING company.
2. Go back to the Gleim book and reread the section.
3. Take a quick break/do something else. Then come back and take that subunit practice questions again, making sure this time you select the right answer.
4. Or you can email Gleim and ask them to explain their reasoning behind the answer.

How long did I study?
I spent 3 months studying for each part. The IIA also suggests you spend no more than 3 months studying for an individual part. I found the most success by studying the material 30-60 minutes each day of the week rather than studying 2 to 4 hours on the weekends.

My Study Tips:
The CIA exam tests you heavily on your understanding of CONCEPTS NOT DEFINITIONS. This is why I stress not reading through the book more than once. Read it, learn it, move on and put your knowledge into practice by taking as many practice questions as you can.

Go into each study session with a goal of learning a specific concept or process. Don’t stop studying until you’ve reached your goal! If it only takes you 15 minutes to grasp, great. If it takes an hour, that’s okay too. It’s not about how much time you spend studying. Don’t tell yourself you’ll study for 30 minutes and then stop once the timer hits 30. That’s not being productive. Quality over quantity.

Exam Day:
Yay! It’s finally exam day. You’ve worked so hard for this, you can do it!

Now that it’s finally the day, do yourself a favor and don’t look at the material at all. If you don’t know it already, one final cram session may confuse you. You want to go into the exam fresh. DON’T STUDY THE DAY OF YOUR EXAM.

My brain is sharpest at around 10:00 in the morning so I tried to get an exam time around then! When do you get your best work done? Is it in the morning or afternoon? You should probably schedule your exam time around when you’re most productive and alert.
Tips for Passing CIA Exam (continued)

But first…… eat breakfast! I read somewhere bacon is good for your brain so I ate bacon and eggs for breakfast before my test. But also, if you’re like me and get a stomach ache when you’re nervous, don’t eat too much. Also, I’ve read you retain more information the more you sleep so make sure you get a good night’s rest before you take the exam. Once you’re at the testing center, leave everything but your keys and ID in the car. Leave your phone in the car too. (You will not be allowed to take your phone with you in the exam area. They have lockers you can leave your phone in, but if it goes off, even in a locker, they could confiscate your phone.)

Alright, now you’re in the actual testing room taking the exam, maybe your nerves are getting the best of you. Take a deep breath. I would recommend that if you can’t figure out the answer in roughly 30 seconds, make an educated guess, flag it to review later once you’ve answered all the questions, and keep going. You’re only allotted 1 minute and 12 seconds on average for each question, so don’t let one question trip you up. But don’t skip any questions either. In case you run out of time at least you didn’t leave any blank.

After you complete all the questions on the exam, if you have additional time, that’s when you can go back to the questions you have flagged and make sure that’s the final answer you want to choose. But fair warning, don’t change too many answers. Usually your initial answer is the correct answer. You don’t want to end up second guessing yourself too much; trust your gut instinct.

And that’s it! Happy studying!
Articles From Our Members

Is there a topic or issue that you would like to share with your fellow members? Has an internal audit-related article caught your eye? If your answer is “yes” to either of these, you may be the perfect contributing writer for TCIIA NewsLine! If you would like to contribute an article, please send the article to newsletter103@iiachapter.org.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us!

Article Submission Deadlines

During the first month of each quarter, a new issue of TCIIA NewsLine will be published. If you’re interested in submitting an article, the upcoming submission deadlines are:

- July 31, 2019
- November 30, 2019

Important Links

IIA - Tallahassee Chapter
IIA - North America
AGA - Tallahassee Chapter
AIG - Florida Chapter
Florida Audit Forum
ISACA - Tallahassee Chapter
ACFE - Tallahassee Chapter

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Marcia Main

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Destin Dubose