



President's Note

Hello again! I hope everyone is enjoying spring in Central VA. It was great to see so many familiar and many new faces at our March Chapter Meeting. Rob Snowden with APSE spoke on the BA as a Strategic Partner and as always, his presentation was a hit. Sending a big "Thank You" to Apex for sponsoring. We have another exciting presentation in the works for our May Chapter Meeting and in July we will be holding our annual "IIBA Gives Back" event. If you have any suggestions in terms of a charity that would be a good fit to be the focus of that event, we would love to hear from you. You can send us a note by going to our website and clicking on "[Contact Us](#)". I am looking forward to seeing everyone in May.



Best Wishes,
Cynthia Siewert
IIBA® Central Virginia Chapter President
president@central-virginia.iiba.org

Announcements

Volunteers Needed

If you can help out with IIBA Communications or Technology, please email volunteers@central-virginia.iiba.org

Panelists Needed

If you used to be a Business Analyst, we would like to hear from you. We are looking for people who currently work in Business Intelligence, Organizational Change Management, Enterprise Architecture, or other positions in which they utilize the skills they learned as Business Analysts to participate in a panel discussion at one of our chapter meetings. If interested, please contact us at volunteers@central-virginia.iiba.org.

Missed the March meeting? Rob Snowden discussed his career path, in which he was able to build on relationships and work experience to become a consultant and be viewed as a strategic partner and provided advice for you to create your own path. Download the presentation [here](#).

May Chapter Meeting

Join the IIBA Central Virginia Chapter for our May Chapter Meeting. Our guest speaker, **Patrick Siewert**, will be discussing Digital Forensics and organizational security considerations. [Vaco](#) will sponsor the event. Snacks will be provided.

When: Tuesday, May 17
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Where: Bon Air Library
9103 Rattlesnake Rd
Richmond, 23235



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ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF THE BUSINESS ANALYST COMMUNITY ACROSS CENTRAL VIRGINIA



Sponsor News

Vaco, named one of Virginia Business' Best Places to Work since 2011, will be sponsoring our May event. For more information regarding Vaco, please visit their website at www.vaco.com; contact Josh Farrell at 804-282-2700 or jfarrell@vaco.com.

If interested in sponsoring a Chapter meeting or event, contact us at dir.outreach@central-virginia.iiba.org.

News from National

Helping You Enhance Your Leadership Skills – New IIBA Webinars

Register now to attend an all new [webinar series](#) focused on helping you build your leadership skills. The new webinar series will help connect the challenges that individuals/leaders face with the essential practices of outstanding leadership.

New IIBA Portal

IIBA® is pleased to announce that its new Portal is now live. If you have not visited the Portal, you will need to request a password and/or register. The Portal was designed to provide a platform to connect and interact with IIBA® as an individual and as a key contact of a business, educational organization, academic institution or IIBA® Chapter. Once you log in you will be taken on a tour to understand how the Portal works and how it is organized. Experience the benefits of the [Portal](#) now!

Gartner Enterprise Architecture Summit

The [Gartner Enterprise Architecture Summit](#) is May 11-12 in National Harbor, MD. Attendees will learn how to maximize the value and minimize the risks of investments in cloud, big data, analytics and mobility — and explore the impacts of trends and technologies that every enterprise architect must master. IIBA® members receive a nominal discount to the two-day conference.



PROJECT SUMMIT BUSINESS ANALYST WORLD

Central Virginia Chapter of the IIBA was one of the sponsors of [Business Analyst World / Project Summit](#) Conference this year. Dinesh Nayak, Mark Holmes, Meg Johnson, and Rebecca Delano represented our Chapter at the Washington conference in Arlington on April 4-5, 2016.

The 2-day symposium featured 3 keynotes and 3 educational tracks: Business Analysis, Project Management and a Shared track. Bob the BA was the memorable closing keynote who challenged participants in the area of Crucial Conversations.

For the team who attended, one of the most memorable educational sessions was *Generational Shifts in the Workforce*, and included panel representatives from each generation and lots of audience participation and discussion regarding the differences in communication and the use of technology. *What's in your Mobile Toolkit* was another interesting session that shed some light on the pitfalls and mistakes that are often made by companies in their rapid pursuit of mobile applications. It provided several useful insights often not considered in traditional business analysis on designing and testing a mobile app from UX (User experience) and CX (Customer experience) perspective.

Another fascinating session compared change management to jazz music performance. When a mistake is made by a team member (e.g., an F# is played instead of F), team members should adjust around the note and integrate the note into the performance, rather than calling attention to the error.

There were several sessions regarding agile methodologies, and many that focused on the softer skills, such as emotional intelligence and effective communication. Other topics, such as Change Management and Business Architecture, featured only one session. The one-hour sessions sufficiently whet the attendees' appetites and provided references and networking opportunities for further research.

Speaking of networking opportunities: Mark Holmes had the distinction of meeting two people from the IIBA Senior Leadership Team: Stephen Ashworth (President and CEO) and Kathleen Hutton (Executive Vice President - Chapters and Member Services at IIBA).

The Central Virginia attendees agreed that the conference was worthwhile because of the quality presenters and broad range of topics covered. Each walked away with some practical information to put into practice.



Join the IIBA

To learn more about the International Institute of Business Analysis® (IIBA) and how membership benefits business analysts in your community and around the world, go to: www.iiba.org

Develop your Capabilities

- Discover the **BABOK® Guide**, the industry standard for the BA profession.
- Expand your knowledge – register for an **IIBA Webinar**.
- Join the discussion – participate in the **IIBA Community**.
- Access hundreds of books in the **Online Library**.

Why Join the Central Virginia Chapter of the IIBA?

Provides the opportunity to participate and have access to:

- Leading-edge tools
- Events
- Networking
- Study Groups
- Volunteering
- Certification and Recognition

Registering and setting up a profile with your current contact information allows us to communicate with you and inform you of current events, webinars, presentations and local employment and enrichment opportunities.

Follow us on social media:

 [IIBA Central Virginia Chapter](#) and  [@IIBA_CV](#), #BAOT, #RVABAs

BA Tool Kit

The BA Tool Kit lists several resources available for professional development targeted at Business Analysts, Business Systems Analysts and Project Managers.

BA World www.businessanalystworld.blogspot.com

Modern Analyst www.modernanalyst.com

BA Times www.batimes.com

What & Why of Usability www.usability.gov

Bridging the Gap www.bridging-the-gap.com

Practical Analyst www.practicalanalyst.com

Business Process Modeling & Notation (BPMN) www.bpmn.org

Project Management Institute www.pmi.org

Please send us your feedback, suggestions, or questions about the newsletter, website, or events.
We want to hear from you. Contact us at info@central-virginia.iiba.org.