


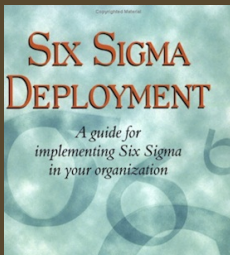


**Sent:** Monday, February 4, 2013 6:01 AM  
**Subject:** January 2013 IIBA MSP Newsline and Event Reminder

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<p>January 2013</p> 	<p>Presidents Pick of the Month</p> 
<h3>IIBA MSP February 14th Meeting - "The Journey from Kaizen to Requirements" by Paul Crosby, PMP, President IIBA MSP Chapter</h3> <p><b>Dear Gail,</b></p> <p>Six Sigma and Kaizen are popular ways of solving problems and "leaning out" a process in the manufacturing world. Now many companies are using these techniques on business and IT processes. What is an A3 and how do you use it to elicit requirements? Attend this presentation to learn more!</p> <p>This presentation provides tips and tools to use when deriving business requirements from the A3. The presentation will provide a quick overview of the DMAIC process. We will focus on understanding the A3 and how to take the A3 to define requirements, risk and assumptions. A completed A3 isn't fully baked requirements!</p> <p>Paul Crosby, PMP, has over 20 years of technology experience with different industries, and has held many different roles in technology as a developer, architect, business analyst, business process improvement, project manager and PMO director. Paul is currently a program manager working at Medtronic in the PMO performing portfolio management and demand management for enterprise applications.</p> <p>Join us to learn how to start requirements elicitation by using the A3.</p> <p>February dinner will be a buffet with entree, sides, salad and rolls. We encourage all attendees to make a buffet reservation and join us for dinner at 6:00pm.</p> <p>Please make your reservation for the buffet when you register for the meeting. If you have already registered for the meeting, buffet reservations can be made via email and you pay as you check-in.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to read more about this upcoming event &amp; please register prior to NOON on FEB 8th</a></p>	<p>Book of the Month</p>  <p>Written by Paul A. Keller, Vice President, Senior Consultant with Quality America, has developed and implemented successful Six Sigma and quality improvement programs in service and manufacturing applications.</p> <p>This book begins with an excellent overview of Six Sigma, followed by drill-down into the details on management, training, project and metrics for Six Sigma.</p> <p>It provides concise insight into the Six Sigma practices, principles, acronyms and value to an organization</p> <p>Published in 2001, just six</p>
<h3>IIBA MSP January 10th Meeting - "The Dark Forest of Processes; The BA Survival Guide" by Heather Mylan-Mains (CBAP)</h3> <p>Attendees at the January 10th meeting learned how easy it can be to navigate through the thick forest of</p>	

processes on a project. And they learned how to focus on both the forest and trees. No longer will attendees of the January monthly meeting be stuck in the deep weeds with details and they now know what to do when they come across skunks who will cause time delays, they fall into the quicksand known as scope creep, or they face potentially being eaten by a fire breathing dragon stakeholder.

Heather gave the January meeting attendees the perfect survival guide to make it through the Dark Forest of Processes!

Heather is a stimulus for change as President of Central Iowa Chapter of the IIBA. She has a passion for sharing the power of the business analyst role and promoting the importance of that role in every organization she connects with.

[Watch the IBA MSP Weg Site - Past Events for Heather's presentation to be uploaded soon.](#)

## Meet Your 2013 IIBA Board of Directors

This month, you are meeting our new 2013 IIBA MSP Chapter President, Paul Crosby PMP, and our chapter Past-President, Mindy Duvernet and will gain some understanding about their roles on the MSP chapter's Board of Directors.

Paul and Mindy have also share some insight on the upcoming year for the organization.

February's newsletter will spotlight Alba Misner, who serves the Chapter in two Board Positions, Chapter President-Elect and Vice President of Sponsorship.

### President - Paul Crosby, PMP

The President's role is a three year term which progresses through three phases, each one year in length:

1. President Elect
2. President
3. Past President

By breaking the role of President into three distinct phases & roles over three years, this aids in distributing the duties of the role and allows for greater attention to detail and to the needs of the board and membership. Most important, this ensures seamless transition as newly elected Presidents assume their position, with no impact to the continuity of the operations of the Chapter.



The President is the chief executive officer for the Chapter and of the Board, and performs such duties as are customary for a presiding officer, including making all required appointments with the approval of the Board. The President is accountable for establishing the strategic direction for the Chapter and for ensuring that the Board collectively contributes to the achievement of that strategy, as well as the Chapter's sustainability

In addition, the President is responsible for, but not limited to, pursuing and developing alliances with other organizations, agencies, businesses and individuals in order to further the Chapter's purpose and strategic objectives, creating a yearly budget with the Treasurer and President Elect, providing necessary motivation, mentoring, coaching to other Board members, instilling Best Practices where appropriate, driving special projects as directed by the Board and serving as back up to the roles of the President Elect and Past President

### Paul Speaks...

Happy New Year! Together, as members, sponsors and board members, we have created an incredible organization for Business Analysts here in Minnesota. It's an incredible honor to be able to serve the chapter as president of the world's best IIBA chapter. I am really excited about 2013!

We have great things planned for 2013:

- IIBA MSP chapter will be continuing and expanding our WEBinar series
- Professional Development Days (PDD), an annual event, is moving to a new location at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center.
- A first ever workshop/educational event, providing hands on experience and more depth than PDD, will be held in the fall
- Discussions are in progress to create our bookstore where books and merchandise will be available both online and at monthly meetings.
- Social Media and marketing will be utilized to bring tools, articles and our great monthly events to a wider audience.

### Past President - Mindy Duvernet



The Past President serves as a member ex-officio (Past President) with the right

years after GE, under the leadership of Jack Welch, embarked on their Six Sigma journey, the format and content of this book is as valuable as when it was written. It is still available online.

This book has been credited with not being too academic and truly addressing the nuts and bolts of implementing something as comprehensive as Six Sigma in an organization.

The overview in this book is an extremely important starting place for any Business Analyst interested in advancing their profession and increasing their value to their organization

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to vote on all board committees. The Past President supports the President Elect and President by acting as a consultant to the Board, in addition to acting as liaison with the membership, International and other outreach efforts.

It is very important to note that under Mindy's tenure as President in 2012, the culmination of 7 years of effort came together and resulted in the IIBA MSP chapter being awarded the honor of "Top Chapter" out of the 113 IIBA chapters worldwide. There are a total of six categories of awards. In addition to "Top Chapter" your IIBA MSP Chapter also came in 1st place in the Community Involvement category. Our Chapter placed 2nd in the categories of Advancement of Business Analysis, Sustainable Growth and Innovation.

### Mindy Speaks...

Some of the wonderful advancements by the chapter over this past year were:

- A new WEBinar series offering: *Sharpening your Soft Skills*.
- Numerous industry experts presenting at our monthly meetings
- Advancement and federation of the BA role, comparatively equitable with the role of Project Manager
- Advancement of the BA profession.

I want to share how wonderful it has been to serve as you as 2012 President. In my current role of Past President, I plan to continue to advocate the importance of the BA role and work to further the advancement of the BA profession. Stand assured, there are many great things to come!

## The Date is Quickly Coming!! April 15, 2013 - IIBA MSP Professional Development Days (PDD)

This is the premier industry event sponsored yearly by your IIBA Minneapolis/Saint Paul Chapter.

This year's new location will be at the Earle Brown Heritage Center, north of downtown Minneapolis.

6115 Earle Brown Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55430

Learn from industry leaders in hands-on presentations, hear motivational keynote speakers and network with Business Analysts from all around the region.

Registration opens soon and **make sure you register immediately**, as last year's registration sold out **more than a month in advance** of the event!

Watch this newsletter and the IIBA MSP Website ([www.iibamsp.org](http://www.iibamsp.org)) for upcoming details on registration.

## Introducing IIBA MSP February 14th Chapter Meeting Charity Event: Warm Hearts and Hands - IIBA Hats & Mittens Drive

**BAs, it's COLD outside!** Let's help a local charity fulfill one of the most basic requirements for a Minnesota winter- warm hats and mittens for kids. Bring a new hat or mitten set to the February 14th chapter meeting and we'll bring special prizes.

All IIBA Chapter members and guests are encouraged to bring a new child's hat and mitten set to the February Chapter meeting. No time to buy hats or mittens? We'll accept donations at the door to help Hats & Mittens with its Fund the Warmth campaign. They work with Wear a Knit, a knitwear manufacturer in Cloquet, MN to ensure they can meet the needs in Minnesota communities. Just \$10 purchases one hat and mittens set!

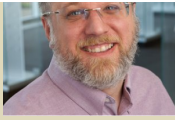
For more information, or to donate directly, visit [hatsandmittens.org](http://hatsandmittens.org).

[Check the IIBA MSP WEB site for more information](#)

## IIBA MSP Chapter President's Blog "Business Analyst Principals" by Paul Crosby, PMP



I ran across a very interesting article the other day from Laura Brandenburg talking about the principles of a business analyst. I was so inspired that I posted it on my whiteboard.



These words instill pride and passion about our chosen career - and show the great value we bring to business.

[To read more check the IIBA Chapter Blog and News here](#)

## IIBA MSP Chapter President's Article "Love at First Sight - What's the value?" by Paul Crosby, PMP



Your business leaders have fallen in love with your requirements. Rightfully so, they were expertly obtained and crafted. But love starts to fade when the project team figures out they can't deliver "all the love" you put together in your requirements. How do you choose which requirements to let go?

[Click here to learn more about prioritization and valuation of a requirement.](#)

## Escape the Winter Doldrums by Taking Weekly BA Pop Quizzes Posted on the IIBA MSP Website!

Taken right out of the BA Body of Knowledge (BABOK), these quizzes are an excellent way to prepare for the exams to certify as a CBAP®, Certified Business Analysis Professional, or as a CCBATM, Certification of Competency in Business Analysis.

These quizzes also are an easy avenue to maintain one's competency in the field of Business Analysis. Challenge yourself in your profession, take a quiz today!

[Access the Weekly Pop Quizzes via the links under RECENT POSTS](#)

### January Quote of the Month

*"Don't manage - lead change before you have to."*

By Jack Welch; [Chairman](#) and [CEO](#) of [General Electric](#) between 1981 and 2001.

IIBA Minneapolis - St. Paul Chapter

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