

Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2012 11:15 PM
Subject: September 2012 - IIBA MSP Chapter NewsLine and Event Reminder

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IIBA[®] MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL
Chapter
Grow - Connect - Evolve
NewsLine

Mid-September 2012

Book of the Month



**October 11th, MSP Chapter Meeting:
"Real World Risk Analysis & Management" with
Dayle Beyer**

Dear Gail,

In the Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK), Risk Analysis is mentioned as a technique, so how does a Business Analyst DO Risk Analysis? Join us for an overview of Risk Analysis and Management 6 step process and real world tips to doing Risk Analysis. Objectives (4-5 major objectives of what attendees will walk away with):

- Understand the 6 step process of Risk Analysis and Management
- Identify the top 5 tips that can accelerate risk analysis
- Understand when and how to do various levels of risk analysis
- Learn how to get certified in Risk Management

<[Click here to get more information and to RSVP for the event!](#)>

**"How to Start a Business Analyst Career:
Debunking the Top 5 Myths"
by Laura Brandenburg, CBAP**

Thank you, Laura! What a wonderful presentation at our September IIBA Chapter meeting. The myths were debunked by Laura and solid proof was presented that BAs can start their careers from many different paths.

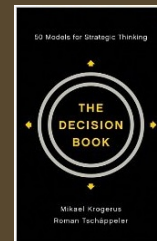
Please visit and bookmark Laura's wonderful WEB site!

<[Click here to go to http://www.bridging-the-gap.com](http://www.bridging-the-gap.com)>



President's Pick of the Month

"The Decision Book: 50 Models for Strategic Thinking" by Mikael Krogerus and Roman Tschappeler



Did you know there is a model known as the Eisenhower matrix that can be used to learn how to work more efficiently? Or something called a rubber band model that can give feedback on how to deal with a dilemma? This book is full of models to help anyone who wants to learn new ways in which to improve anything, including how to understand yourselves and others better. Whether you want to assess certain business strategies, or reassess your own career goals, this book will provide a model to help guide you in making those all important decisions.

BA Problem Solving: Advancing Your Career by

Learning "Lean" and "Six Sigma"

By M. Duvernet



When a job description for a Business Analyst is accompanied by a few lines regarding minimum qualifications, it is pretty fundamental to expect to see the basic line requesting "excellent verbal and written communication skills," as well as "problem solving abilities to create and implement effective solutions." These two basic needs are necessary to any level business analyst.

Yet, as many analysts know, there are all sorts of wonderful opportunities along the BA career path, as the IIBA® Business Analyst Competency Model suggests. The question is what skills would enable a person to have an advantage over other business analysts? There are two ways to heighten one's level of competency, those two ways involve learning the value of "Lean" and "Six Sigma".
<[Read more here!](#)>

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Reminder of the Chapter Upcoming November 8th Annual General Meeting

What is the Annual General Meeting (AGM)?

Once a year in November our chapter holds an annual general meeting with elections for chapter board positions up for re-election. In addition, there will be a very special presentation by Bob Prentiss of Watermark Learning. You will be extremely glad you attended to see Bob's presentation!

Everyone, please come to this special meeting and, members in good standing, please vote in the next set of board members.

Who can vote?

All members in good standing with the IIBA are eligible to vote in the election. To be in good standing you need to be a member at both the International IIBA level and at our local chapter with all dues current. If you have any questions about your membership status or you want to change your status and be able to vote in the elections, send an email to Jen Swearingen at membership@iibamsp.org

Something new at the November meeting!

The board is continually looking at ways to improve our monthly chapter meetings. We will be trying something new at the November meeting with a sit-down dinner served to attendees who wish for a full meal prior to the meeting.

The cost for this full meal will be \$25.00. Meal service will start at 5:30pm and end prior to the start of the chapter meeting. Meeting attendees not interested in a full meal will still have the current appetizer options available to them, which are free.

Meal reservations will need to be made in advance at the time you RSVP for the November meeting and meal choices will be available. This sit-down meal reservation will be added to the November RSVP WEB page SOON!

Come network with your fellow BAs at a sit-down dinner prior to our November special meeting.

<[Click here to RSVP for the November Chapter Meeting](#)>

Calling All Volunteers!!

The IIBA MSP Board received a great response to our call for volunteers to help within our local chapter. We are seeing a lot of great talent come our way. Volunteering is one of the best ways to network and become more involved with the BA community.

Those who responded to our call in July and August and attended the Volunteer Meet & Greet Dinner on August 29th got to chat with Board members Paul Crosby, Mindy Duvernet and Jon Firnstahl.

The talented list of volunteers who attended the volunteer dinner included:
Bill Bates, Tanya Belanger, Angela Gartner, Amy Long, Tom Lutz, Cheryl Pagel, Jeanne Roffee, Shivaji Srinivas, Nancy Turnbull, and Deb Winter.

You may have had the opportunity to meet some of these people at our monthly meetings as some of them help out at the check-in desk.

How can I get involved?

If you missed responding to our call for volunteers, there is a list of volunteer opportunities which will soon be available on our chapter WEB site. Or watch for our next call for volunteers.

Watch here <www.iibamsp.org>

Upcoming Food Drive at October Chapter Meeting!

Don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item to the October MSP Chapter meeting. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Our local IIBA Chapter partners with a local food shelf to ensure the food is distributed to needy families in Minnesota. This photo is how the mountain of food grew last year.



Thank you for your contributions and making a difference!!

Try your BA Hand at the Weekly BA Pop Quiz

This weekly Quiz is here to help every BA prepare for the CBAP and CCBA certifications. The questions are taken directly out of the BABOK and the answers are provided to give instant feedback.

<[Try the BA Pop Quiz out today!!](#)>

Recent Posts to IIBA MSP WEB Site

Don't miss these recent additions to our local chapter's WEB Site:

- BA Interview Hints from Jen Battan.

<[Click here for Jen's Presentation](#)>

- A Tool for Mapping Your Goals and Resolving Career Indecision from the Harvard Business Review.

<[Click here for the Tool for Mapping Presentation](#)>

September Quote of the Month

"If you can dream it, then you can achieve it. You will get all you want in life if you help enough people get what they want." by Zig Ziglar
well-known American author, salesman, and motivational speaker
IIBA Minneapolis - St. Paul Chapter

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