Seattle Chapter

The Institute of Internal Auditors

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IIA Seattle Chapter Officers

Chapter President
Caroline Pietrowski (GoDaddy)

1st VP, Secretary
Kristina Wilson (Holland America Group)

2nd VP, Certifications
Nira Kohli

VP Treasurer
Nobi Konno (Microsoft)

VP Data Intelligence
Viktor Mu (AWS)

VP Conferences
Nick Meyer (Workiva)

VP Communications
Stephen Hodges (Expeditors)

VP Membership
Heather Klingele (Kaiser Permanente)

VP Programming
Arushi Thakorlal (City of Seattle)

VP Academic Relations
Priya Sall (WWU)

Hello IIA Seattle Members,

What an exciting start to the year for all of us in the Pacific Northwest! The Seattle Seahawks captured the Super Bowl LX title, defeating the New England Patriots with a commanding performance. It's a moment of pride for our region and a great reminder of the power of teamwork, perseverance, and community spirit.

As we ride this wave of celebration, we're also gearing up for an equally thrilling season here in the IIA Seattle Chapter.

📅 Save the Date — Annual Fraud Conference (May 7)
 We're thrilled to announce that our Annual Fraud Conference is scheduled for Thursday, May 7th at Oak Hall, Denny Room, University of Washington Campus — the same great location we've used in past years. This year's conference will offer 8 CPE credits and bring together top thought leaders, practitioners, and community partners. You won't want to miss it!

🙋 Call for Leaders — 2026–27 Officers & Governors
 As we look ahead to the 2026–27 chapter year, we are actively seeking passionate members to serve in key leadership roles, including Officer positions and seats on our Board of Governors. These roles play a critical part in advancing our mission, shaping chapter strategy, and creating value for all members. If you are interested in serving or simply want to learn more, please reach out — we would love to have your voice and expertise involved.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. Let's make 2026 a remarkable year for learning, leadership, and community.
Warm regards,

Caroline
 President, IIA Seattle Chapter

📢 Get Involved: IIA Seattle Leadership Opportunities

Looking to deepen your involvement with the IIA Seattle Chapter and help shape the future of our community? We are currently seeking engaged members to step into Officer and Board leadership roles for the upcoming Chapter year 2026-27 (June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027).

Officer Positions

Officer roles require a minimum one-year commitment, with a two-year term strongly encouraged to support continuity and effectiveness. Below are a list of our current Officer positions. Officers can earn 20 CPE credits each year for their volunteer commitment.

Vice President of Conferences
Leads planning and execution of the Chapter's annual Fraud Conference and other conference offerings, including sponsorships, speakers, logistics, and CPE delivery.

Vice President of Communications
Oversees Chapter communications, including the monthly newsletter, annual report, LinkedIn presence, and monitoring the Chapter email inbox.

Vice President of Programming
Manages non-conference educational programming such as webinars, roundtables, and in-person events, ensuring high-quality CPE offerings aligned with IIA standards.

Vice President of Membership
Drives member recruitment, onboarding, engagement, recognition, and analysis of membership trends to support Chapter growth.

Vice President of Certifications
Promotes IIA certifications and continuing professional development, monitors certification trends, and supports certification growth and reengagement efforts.

Treasurer
Oversees Chapter financial operations, budgeting, reporting, internal controls, and compliance with IIA financial requirements.

Assistant Treasurer
Supports the Treasurer by sharing treasury responsibilities, assisting with financial reporting, and maintaining appropriate segregation of duties.

Secretary
Maintains official Chapter records, meeting minutes, documentation, required filings, and coordinates Officer and Board meeting schedules.

Board of Governors – Now Accepting Interest

The Board of Governors provides strategic oversight by directing and approving key strategies and activities of the Chapter. Governors support the President and Voting Officers by offering guidance, resources, and institutional knowledge to enable the Chapter's long-term success.

Governors must commit to a minimum two-year term.
Prior service as a Chapter Officer or volunteer is strongly preferred.
Governors bring experience and continuity to support Chapter leadership and operations.

Interested in Getting Involved?

If you are interested in an Officer position or Board of Governors position, or would like to learn more, please email:
✉ chapter34president@iiachaptercommunications.org

Applications will close February 28, 2026.

Volunteering with IIA Seattle is a rewarding way to build leadership experience, expand your professional network, and give back to the internal audit profession.

STUDENTS

Scholarships:

If you recently submitted an application for the 2025-26 scholarship program, applications are currently being reviewed.

Membership discounts:

As students complete their academic studies and want to convert to being an individual member, the IIA offers a 50% discount for students transitioning to individual membership. If you are interested in taking advantage of this promotion offer, please reach out to our student team at the IIA (Student@theiia.org).

Upcoming Events!!

SAVE THE DATE!

The Seattle IIA's biggest live event of the year is the "must attend" training of the season - the Annual Fraud Conference.
This will be on Thursday May 7th 2026 on the University of Washington's main Seattle campus.
Keep your diary free - there will be fantastic sessions and speakers.
Agenda and registration coming soon.

Upcoming Conferences

GAM: Great Audit Minds

March 9—11, 2026 | Las Vegas, NV

GAM delivers an advanced learning experience designed exclusively for senior audit leaders. Through strategy-driven sessions and candid, solution-focused conversations, attendees gain the tools to strengthen audit plans, elevate teams, and lead with impact. Leaders will be equipped to embrace innovation, navigate cybersecurity and fraud challenges, align with global internal audit standards, and thrive as trusted advisors shaping the future of the profession.
Register Here.

2026 Global Student Conference

April 19-21, 2026 | Orlando, FL

Be a part of the momentum and consider sponsoring your local students and educators to attend! Learn more about sponsorship opportunities or contributing to the Foundation's GSC Travel Grants and Talent Pipeline Campaign.
Check back soon for registration details. We can't wait to welcome you to Orlando next April!

2026 International Conference

This year at The Marina Bay Sands in Singapore: if you've never been you should go experience the wonders of South East Asia, especially the local food.
Information and registration here:

IIA Virtual Conference Series

Analytics, Automation & AI
Data into Direction

Mark Your Calendar for AAAI 2026
April 7, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. ET | Virtual | Earn up to 9.6 CPEs

The future of internal audit is here, and it's powered by analytics, automation, and AI.

Join peers and experts on April 7, 2026 for the AAAI 2026 Virtual Conference, a one-day program designed to help audit professionals stay ahead of emerging technologies, strengthen oversight, and modernize assurance practices.
Mark your calendar now and be among the first to explore the strategies and tools shaping the next era of internal audit.

Register here: https://www.theiia.org/en/events/conference/virtual-conferences/analytics-and-automation-virtual-conference/#register

Getting Governance Right: Scalable Hub & Spoke Foundations for AI and Enterprise Risk Management

Krishna Sheshabhattar, Head of Governance, Atlassian

Join the ISACA Puget Sound Chapter for an in-person training next month! Non-alcoholic drinks and heavy appetizers are included. Professional networking starts at 6 pm, and the presentation begins at 6:30 pm.

Title: Scalable Hub & Spoke Foundations for AI and Enterprise Risk Management
Date / Time: Tuesday, March 10 from 6-7:30 pm (1 CPE)
Location: Embassy Suites Bellevue, 3225 158th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98008

Description: Every organization is racing toward "AI governance," but many still lack the basic governance foundations to make it real. This session goes back to first principles and shows how to design an integrated, hub-and-spoke governance model that aligns policies, risks, and controls across the enterprise. We'll focus on practical building blocks — policy and exception governance, mandatory training, leadership oversight, and integrated metrics — that create a scalable foundation for governing both current and emerging risks, including AI. Leaders in Trust, Risk, and Compliance will leave with a concise blueprint for getting governance right before layering on AI and the next wave of technologies.

Speaker: Krishna Sheshabhattar is the Head of Governance at Atlassian, where he leads the enterprise governance strategy and implementation within the Governance, Risk & Compliance organization. His work focuses on building practical, scalable hub-and-spoke governance models that align policies, standards, controls, and risk management across multiple domains. Before joining Atlassian, Krishna served as a Director of GRC at Expedia Group, leading their Governance & Risk Management functions and driving the maturation of risk and control practices in a complex, global environment.

For more information and to register, please visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scalable-hub-spoke-foundations-for-ai-and-enterprise-risk-management-tickets-1982853403908.

Quality Services

IIA Quality Services helps validate and strengthen your internal audit activity and enhances your effectiveness, efficiency, and successful practice implementation.

As a trusted source in the profession, we have helped hundreds of organizations in various industries and around the world by providing qualified audit professionals, a global benchmarking database, and a repository of successful practices. We assist CAEs in gaining support from the audit committee, enhance understanding of why an external assessment is necessary and valuable, and describe the different approaches.

For questions about our services, please contact IIA Quality Services at quality@theiia.org or read more here.

Certifications

Congratulations to the following members who recently earned certifications:
CIA: Scott McCloskey
IAP: Prince Mugwara

Boost Your Audit Career with the IAP Designation
Looking to stand out in the audit profession? The Internal Audit Practitioner (IAP) designation is a cost-effective way to build credibility, gain recognition, and advance your career. If you've passed Part 1 of the CIA exam, you're already eligible. Get started today at the link below.
https://lnkd.in/g7NN_3gJ

Earn Your CRMA- Certification in Risk Management Assurance
Showcase your expertise in risk assurance with the CRMA designation.
At a Glance:
125 questions | 150-minute exam administered at test centers
No CIA required to apply
2 years to complete after application approval
Learn more: https://lnkd.in/gA7JGRc8

The updated CIA exams, aligned with the 2025 syllabi, will be available starting May 28. To ensure you're prepared, visit theiia.org/CIA2025 for detailed information on the changes and to plan your studies. For further questions, please submit a case via the Help tab in your CCMS account. Prepare early to stay ahead in your certification journey!

Effective May 28, 2025, IIA Certifications testing has transitioned back to test center-only delivery. Online proctoring will be permanently discontinued. The last day to register for online proctored exams is May 1. For further questions, please submit a case in CCMS.

The new Global Internal Audit Standards are effective. It's a great time to refresh your knowledge by visiting the IIA's resources at Global Internal Audit Standards.

IIA Partners With Becker Professional Education. The CIA Exam Review platform is transitioning to Becker's new CIA Exam Review course, which features updated content aligned with the new CIA syllabi and upcoming exams. For additional details, visit https://lnkd.in/gSxQ-dCB

· <u>Cybersecurity Topical Requirement Effective February 2026</u>
The IIA's mandatory IPPF requirement provides a consistent, comprehensive approach to assessing the design and implementation of cybersecurity governance, risk management, and controls. A companion user guide is available Here to assist with its application. <u>https://www.theiia.org/en/standards/2024-standards/topical-requirements/cybersecurity/</u>

· <u>Lead with Strategy</u>
Discover how to create a vision, set objectives, and implement initiatives for audit excellence. The IIA's new practice guide provides practical tools, examples for every audit leader, and a strategic plan template <u>here</u>.