

Seattle Chapter



The Institute of
Internal Auditors

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IIA Seattle Chapter Officers

- President**
Cynthia Behnen Gillison (RSM)
- 1st VP - Secretary**
Caroline Pietrowski (PwC)
- 2nd VP - Programming**
Veronica Bains (Harborstone Credit Union)
- VP Certifications**
Nira Kohli
- VP Academic Relations**
Austin Bailey (Russell Investments)
- VP Treasurer**
Nobi Konno (T-Mobile)
- VP Membership**
Kristina Wilson (Remitly)
- VP Data Intelligence**
Viktor Mu (AWS)
- VP Communications**
Nitin Nigam (Amazon)
- VP Conferences**
Nick Meyer (Workiva)





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IIA Seattle Chapter Members,

I hope everyone was able to stay warm and safe during the winter storms that recently impacted our area. In February, we are pleased to offer our members access to complimentary online CPE course this month on February 25th. Please join Alexander Rühle, CEO & Co-Founder of Zapliance on February 25th for an insightful discussion on the topic of Transformative Auditing with AI: 3 Practical Use Cases, registration Link <https://www.theiia.org/en/products/learning-solutions/webinar/transformative-auditing-with-ai-3-practical-use-cases/>.

In addition the IIA's annual flagship conference GAM will be hosted in Orlando FL on March 10th – 12th, registration information <https://www.theiia.org/en/events/conference/hybrid-conferences/general-audit-management-conference/registration/>.

We have several volunteer positions we are looking to fill, if you are passionate about academic relations, programming, member engagement, communications or want to volunteer your financial skills to support our treasurer we'd love to hear from you at chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org.

Have a wonderful month!!!

Your Seattle Chapter IIA President
Cynthia Behnen Gillison

Meet your FY24/25 Chapter Officers!



President – Cynthia Behnen-Gillison



1st VP Secretary – Caroline Pietrowski



2nd VP Programing – Veronica "Ronnie" Bains



VP Certification – Nira Kohli



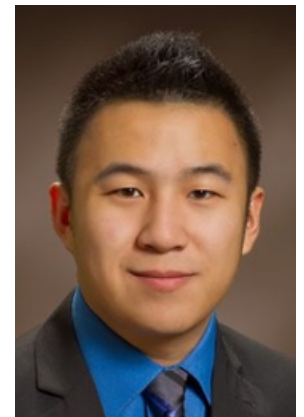
VP Academic Relations – Austin Bailey



VP Treasurer – Nobi Konno



VP Membership – Kristina Wilson



VP Data Intelligence Officer – Viktor Mu



VP Communications - Nitin Nigam



VP Conferences – Nick Meyer

Board of Governors

Vijayant Sitani - PACCAR
Steve Mar - Seattle University
Tom Moon - Protiviti

Michelle Quisenberry - KPMG
Hilda Quinones - Microsoft
Richard Cordova - UW

Darren Stephenson - Symetra
Patrick Zanin - Avalara
Matt Reinke

Chapter News & Events

FY 2024-25 SAVE THE DATES!

Date/Location	Pillar	Topic	Presenter(s)
February 2025 (TBD)	CAE Roundtable	TBD	TBD
February 2025 (Virtual)	Luncheon – partnering with Nisqually Chapter or Audit Board	TBD	TBD
March 11, 2025 (In-Person)	Luncheon – partnering with ISACA	TBD	TBD
April 2025 (TBD)	DEI Luncheon	TBD	TBD
Thursday, April 24, 2025 (Virtual)	CAE Roundtable	TBD	Trent Russell
May 1, 2025 (In-Person)	Fraud Conference	16 th Annual Fraud Conference	TBD
May 15, 2025 (In-Person)	CAE Roundtable	AI Governance	Protiviti
May 29, 2025 (In-Person)	Member Appreciation Luncheon or Happy Hour	TBD	TBD

Interested in getting involved with Programming? Contact Veronica Bains (VP Programming) at Chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org

Call for Chapter Officers & Volunteers !

Interested in volunteering with the IIA Seattle Chapter in 2025? We are currently looking for candidates to nominate themselves to join our Officer team for the next Chapter year from June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026.

The positions available and time requirements vary, and we'd be happy to review available options with you to find a right fit for your interests and time commitments.

If you are interested in learning more or to nominate yourself to join the Officer team, please email us at chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org.

Thanks for your interest!

IIA Seattle - Fraud Conference- May 1st, 2025

We are pleased to invite you to attend the annual IIA Seattle Chapter Fraud Conference on May 1st, 2025:

Join us for this single-day, in-person conference to learn from industry experts and enhance your skills and knowledge in understanding, identifying, and protecting against fraud. Engage with internal audit leaders, network with your local peers, earn CPE, and enjoy a catered lunch on the beautiful University of Washington campus!

Don't wait to register — Early Bird pricing ends Friday, April 4th. Detailed agenda & speakers to follow.

Pricing:

Members- Early Bird: \$200

Non Members- Early Birds: \$250

Note: Early Bird pricing ends Friday, April 4th

[Click here to register](#)

Event Title: IIA Seattle 2025 Fraud Conference

Date: 05/01/2025

Time: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Location: University of Washington, Oak Hall Denny Room

Instructional delivery method: Group Live

Field of Study: Auditing

CPE credit(s): 8 hour(s)

Advanced preparation: None required

Refund, complaint, and cancellation policy: Please view our refund, complaint, and cancellation policies on IIA Seattle's [website](#).

If you have any questions, please feel free to reply to this email or contact IIA Seattle Chapter at chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org.

February IIA Seattle Luncheon: Maximizing Internal Audit Quality, Performance and Value

The Seattle IIA is excited to have you join us on February 27, 2025, for a presentation by Warren Hersh!

In 2024, the IIA introduced an updated International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF), including the newly established Global Internal Audit Standards. These revised Standards require internal audit functions to demonstrate not just conformance but also measurable performance, underscoring the importance of enhancing their contribution to their organizations.

This session will equip you with practical strategies and techniques to strengthen your department's effectiveness, improve audit quality, and exceed stakeholder expectations. Drawing from his extensive experience in developing and consulting with internal audit departments, conducting external quality assessments and the experience of the top profile assessors that have performed hundreds of EQAs on behalf of the IIA, you will be provided with actionable insights to elevate your internal audit function's value and impact.

Speakers

Warren Hersh is the Director of Quality Services for the IIA. He was previously Comptroller for the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority (LYNX), Auditor General and interim CFO for New Jersey Transit, and Internal Audit Director at Jefferson Wells (now Experis) and BDO Seidman. With 40+ years of experience in internal auditing, quality assessment, risk management, fraud prevention/detection, project management, business process analysis/improvement, corporate governance, and IT, he has conducted external quality assessment reviews in many industries and has also helped to establish and improve internal audit functions. Warren served on the IIA's International Internal Audit Standards Board for 11 years and the International Public Sector Committee for three years. Warren previously served as the President of IIA-Philadelphia and is currently on the Chapter Audit Committee. He presents frequently at industry conferences and is a CIA, CPA, CISA and CFE.

Price: Member \$30; Non-Member \$40;

Location: Online



CIA Challenge Exam

The more focused path to Certification

The CIA Challenge Exam is your chance to join the more than 185,000 CIAs who have achieved this highly respected global certification.

As a CISA™ holder or an active CPA or CA holder, you can take advantage of this limited opportunity to earn the Certified Internal Auditor® (CIA®) designation through an expedited process called the CIA Challenge Exam. This expedited process allows you to obtain the CIA designation after successfully passing the one-part examination.

The CIA Challenge Exam only includes content not covered on your CISA™, CPA or CA exam, saving you time and money.

CISA?

[Click Here To Know More](#)

CPA or CA?

[Click Here to Know More](#)

IIA Seattle Events - Students

Are you interfacing with students? We encourage you to have them sign up for a FREE student membership! They will get access to:

- Internal Auditor Magazine
- Member only discounts
- Scholarship opportunity

Students can use the code: IIA Student. They likely do not want to go by themselves. However, a group of students from a class or as a guest with a professor can be a great learning/networking opportunity.

Reach out to chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org with any questions!

*Austin Bailey, Seattle
VP Academic Relations*



The Institute of
Internal Auditors

1 Create an IIA Account.
<https://register.theiia.org/>

2 Log into the site below and submit a student application.
<https://myiia.theiia.org/Student/Index>

IIA Seattle Events - Students

Scholarship program 2024-25

The Institute of Internal Auditors Seattle Chapter is pleased to offer up to five scholarships to students attending an accredited college or university in the state Washington for the 2024-2025 school year.

The application deadline has been extended to March 21, 2025!

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Be an undergraduate entering their junior year or higher in fall 2024, fifth year, masters, or PhD candidate. Community college transfers are also encouraged to apply. Students must attend a college or university that is accredited in Washington State.
2. Be actively pursuing a career in Internal Audit
3. Have an active IIA Membership (IIA Membership is free for students)

Amount and Duration of Scholarships:

- Scholarship award is up to \$2,500 to be applied towards tuition or other expenses from the college or university.
- Scholarship monies are paid directly to the accredited college or university listed on application and cannot be paid directly to the student.
- Scholarships are non-renewable.

Certification

CONGRATS

Members Achieving CIA Certifications

Alicia BossBuffone

Raksha Wath

Priya Sall

The IIA has partnered with Becker Professional Education to enhance the CIA Exam Review. In March, the CIA Exam Review platform will transition to Becker's updated course, aligned with the new CIA syllabi and upcoming exams. For more information, visit [Becker CIA Exam Review](#). If you've purchased the CIA Learning System, it will not be updated to reflect the new syllabi. You will retain access to it for the remainder of your subscription and receive access to Becker's CIA Exam Review for 2 years. CIA Learning System customers will receive further instructions from the IIA on accessing Becker's course. For the exam release schedule, visit [CIA2025](#).

Unlock new career opportunities with The IIA's Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA). This certification equips internal auditors with the advanced skills and knowledge needed to support audit committees and executive management. Learn more at [CRMA Certification](#).

Registration is open!

2025 Fraud Virtual Conference

The Fraud Virtual Conference is part of a series of one day conferences designed to help internal auditors stay ahead of critical issues and be more responsive in their work.

Feb 20, 2025 | Virtual, Only

2025 GAM Conference

Join the most esteemed gathering of internal audit innovators, leaders, and trailblazers at 2025 GAM: Great Audit Minds. Immerse yourself in a dynamic learning environment where you can collaborate and tackle today's pressing business and audit challenges while pioneering the frontiers of tomorrow. By participating, you will gain invaluable insights, forge meaningful connections, and acquire the tools and knowledge necessary to bring true value to your organization. Embrace the future of internal audit and revolutionize your impact today.

Mar 10 - 12, 2025 | Kissimmee, Florida

2025 Analytics, Automation and AI Virtual Conference

This one-day virtual conference will focus on how organizations and government agencies are using data literacy, data analytics, automation, and AI. Attendees will gain the latest insight on how to approach internal audit activities related to the assessments of analytics, automation, and AI.

Apr 10, 2025 | Virtual, Only

2025 Global Student Conference

Connect with fellow students and educators, learn key competencies for becoming an effective internal auditor, and gain strategies to help exceed both current educators' and future employers' expectations.

Apr 13 - 15, 2025 | Orlando, Florida

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.

Certification Online Testing Available Now

To support the continued professional development of certification candidates around the world and in response to mass Pearson VUE test center closures due to COVID-19, The IIA has adopted online testing to enable candidates to take the Certified Internal Auditor® (CIA®), Certification in Risk Management Assurance® (CRMA®), and CIA Challenge exams from home. This flexible testing option will be available for a limited time..

[IIA Certification Information](#)