

The Mailshot

Monthly communication of ISACA London Chapter

FROM THE PRESIDENT

September turned out to be much busier than I expected for the London Chapter with a number of issues for the Board to deal with. Some of the hot topics for the Board at the moment are:

- ◆ A few of the Board members pulled together a response to the FSA's discussion paper on the FSA's Approach to Regulation of e-Commerce, the text of which can be found on our website;
- ◆ following a request from a member, the publications committee considered whether we should make space available to recruitment advertisers on our website and have set up a pilot, which is currently underway;
- ◆ our attempt to run a training week for our members in September had to be aborted due to insufficient registrations. We decided to send out a questionnaire with the September Mailshot in an attempt to find out what our members want in the way of training. However, we had a very poor response, despite a kind donation of places on 2 training courses by MIS to encourage our members to communicate with us;
- ◆ following a review of our financial position the Board has decided to ratify the decision we made at the Away Day in June to donate \$3,000 from reserves to research to further improve COBIT, which we consider to be an important initiative for ISACA and for our profession.

In addition, we have been discussing means to work more closely with other organisations with similar objectives to ours, such as the ICAEW IT Faculty and the NCC (hopefully, more on this next month). We have also started to implement our Academic Relations initiative to bring ISACA to the attention of local (i.e. south of England) universities and find ways of raising our profile and working with them. As I hope you can see, there is more to being a Board member than meets the eye!

The last monthly meeting took place on 27th September. Brian Shorten, Systems Integrity Officer with International Risk Management at WorldCom Limited brought us back down to earth. He contacted me last year to tell me that he thought we were too focussed on "e" and had drifted away from the fundamentals. I asked him to put his money where his mouth is (there's a lesson to be learnt here!) and come up with a topic to present during the forthcoming season. True to his word, Brian decided that a session on Security Policies was overdue and duly presented on this subject at the inaugural meeting for the 2001/02 season. His presentation was interesting and thorough and, if the number of attendees and the number of questions asked are any guide, appeared to hit the mark. Our thanks go out to him for his excellent start to the season.

I will be delivering the next presentation myself on the subject of Outsourcing. I have my fingers crossed that we will not have the same technical difficulties that I experienced last time I presented for ISACA, ranging from incompatibility

of my computer with the presentation hardware to losing all power an hour into the session! Do come along to support me - if everything goes wrong again, we will still have an enjoyable evening if last year is anything to go by!

Looking forward to seeing you on 25th October,

Karen

October Membership Meeting

**Thursday 25 October 2001
Commencing 5.00pm**

**“Third/Party Vendor
Outsourcing”
Karen Sharpe**

**ABN Amro, 250 Bishopsgate
London, EC3**

The presentation on 25 October will be given by our President, Karen Sharpe. Karen is a Senior Manager in the Enterprise Risk Services group of Deloitte & Touche's London office. Having qualified as a Chartered Accountant with the National Audit Office, she decided that she still didn't know enough about computers and hence discovered and joined ISACA 8 years ago. She became CISA qualified in 1995. Karen has been with Deloitte & Touche for the last 5 years and currently manages computer audit and consultancy assignments for a portfolio of clients, including BAA, Kimberly Clark and

TXU Europe, many of which have outsourcing arrangements with third parties.

Outsourcing has been around for some time. However, we are now finding that the imperatives of cutting the cost base and focusing management's attention on its core skills is resulting in ever greater and more important parts of businesses being outsourced. What steps should be taken to make sure that the agreement ends up in a successful partnership? And does the outsourcing arrangement make any difference to the auditors?

Karen will talk us through the outsourcing cycle, from a discussion of risks your company should be considering before outsourcing, through the outsourcing project and day to day management of the arrangement once it has been implemented. She will then discuss the implications of such arrangements for the company's internal and external auditors and give some indication as to why some outsourcing agreements have failed in the past.

If you wish to attend Karen's presentation, please email Nancy (nancy@isaca.org.uk) to reserve your place.

BRING A GUEST - FREE!

As the timings of the monthly member meetings has been changed from 4:30 to 5:00pm at the request of members, it should now be easier to attend meetings - so why not bring along a guest to the next meeting. This is a good opportunity to earn CPE points, have a drink and network with others in the Profession. In addition, you can demonstrate the value of ISACA to your colleagues who are not yet members and might be wondering where you disappear on certain Thursday afternoons.

Although they are free to members, we normally charge non-

members £20-00 to attend the member meetings . We have decided to waive this charge for the remaining meetings for 2001. However, the charge will be back with a vengeance with effect from the January meeting.

Details of the meetings are available on the London Chapter

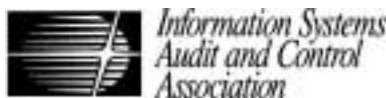
website:

<http://isaca-london.org/events.htm>

You can register for meetings online: <http://isaca-london.org/onlinebooking.htm>

Note: We may have to restrict the number of guests for safety and logistics reasons as current members have priority.

Membership Meetings - 2001/2002 ABN Amro, 250 Bishopsgate, London EC3 commencing at 5.00pm	
<p>Thursday 27 September 2001 <i>Security Policy</i> Brian Shorten, CISA WorldCom International</p>	<p>Thursday 28 February 2002 <i>E-CAATS</i> Simon Moore, CISA BDO Stoy Hayward</p>
<p>Thursday 25 October 2001 <i>Third/Party Vendor Outsourcing</i> Karen Sharpe, CISA Deloitte & Touche</p>	<p>Thursday 21 March 2002 <i>Project Audit</i> Dr John Mitchell, CISA LHS Business Control</p>
<p>Thursday 22 November 2001 <i>Selling Your Recommendations</i> Lindsay Mercer BAA</p>	<p>Thursday 25 April 2002 <i>COBIT as an Audit Planning Tool</i> Charles Mansour, CISA Woolwich plc</p>
<p>Thursday 13 December 2001 <i>E-Fraud</i> Ian Henderson Haymarket Management Services Ltd</p>	<p>Thursday 23 May 2002 <i>AGM/Firewalls & Mlddleware</i> Jag Kanani Deloitte & Touche</p>
<p>Thursday 24 January 2002 <i>E-Systems Commissioning</i> Gideon Pretorius, CISA KPMG</p>	<p>Thursday 27 June 2002 <i>Desktop Audit</i> Steve Bailey Steve Bailey Associates</p>



London Chapter

INVITATION TO TENDER

The London Chapter of ISACA invites CISA qualified members to tender for presenting the 2002 CISA review course.

This is the seventh year that the London Chapter has offered the CISA review course for candidates sitting the CISA examination. The course has rapidly become a valuable service to our members and is usually run over nine, two - hour evening sessions during April and May or as a weekend workshop.

For a copy of the invitation to tender or to discuss the invitation further please contact:

Michael Christodoulides, 01438 351570

or

Nancy Watt, 01487 815705

e-mail: nancy@isaca.org.uk

Closing date for receipt of applications - 2 November 2001