

The Mailshot

Monthly communication of ISACA London Chapter

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Before I say anything else, I must give anyone who has not yet renewed their membership a final reminder. We have been advised by International that any members who have not renewed as of 1 April 2002 will be purged as a member from the association database. If you wish to continue receiving the benefits of membership, such as the knowledge database, K-Net, and the very high quality technical publications that ISACA produces in London and internationally, then time is running out.

I know that it seems as if we are only half way through the 2001-02 season, but in fact the March presentation is the 7th of 10. Unbelievably, therefore, we your Board members are already turning our attention to the next season of presentations. As you are probably aware, we aim to have good technical presentations which, within a season will provide useful learning to a full range of our members, whether they specialise in security or audit and no matter how experienced they may be. We are always looking for subject matter and for new speakers. If you are a specialist in a particular area and are interested in doing a presentation for us, then please contact anyone on the Events sub-committee (Charles Mansour,

Gideon Pretorius or Nick Fellows). Alternatively, if you have a message to share, but would prefer to write an article then contact the Publications sub-committee (Annabel Lane, Bill Hawkins or John Hunter). Both of these activities are very effective ways of accumulating those precious CPE points, so don't be shy, we are all waiting to receive the benefit of your experience!

On a similar theme, we are rapidly approaching the AGM, which will take place on 23 May 2002. A number of the current Board members are resigning from their responsibilities this year and we are therefore looking for volunteers to join the Board and play an active part in the Chapter's activities. Board members are required to attend monthly Board meetings, which last a maximum of 2 hours per month, and to chair 2 members monthly meetings per year. In addition, we ask that you attend the annual Away Day, which will take place on Friday 24 May at Wokingham Park in Surrey this year. The Away Day is the forum where many decisions relating to the year ahead, such as finalisation of the events programme and setting subscription levels, are taken. Apart from that, the amount of work involved very much depends upon which role within the Board you choose to adopt. There is a

variety of roles, including being on the Events or Publications sub-committees, or looking after Membership or CISA issues. Any member of the current Board will be more than happy to talk to you about their roles and responsibilities. The only roles for which there is a formal vote at the AGM are the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, so unless we are completely overwhelmed with applications, becoming a Board member is simply a matter of deciding that you wish to do it. If you are interested in taking part, please contact our Chapter administrator, Nancy (nancy@isaca.org.uk), or alternatively, complete a nomination form, which can be printed from the website.

Please note that the March meeting is the 3rd, rather than the 4th Thursday of the month - we decided that this may be more popular than having the meeting close to Easter. Our speaker this month is our immediate Past President, Dr John Mitchell, who will be talking to us about Project Audit, a subject that is always close to many of our hearts.

I look forward to seeing you on 21st!

Karen

March Membership Meeting

**Thursday 21 March 2002
Commencing 5.00 pm**

**"Project Auditing -
What the text books don't
teach you!"**

**LHS Business Control
ABN Amro, 250 Bishopsgate**

This session will cut through the traditional concepts of auditing system developments and present an alternative and possibly irreverent view of the subject. A short history of project failures, both computing and non-computing, will be followed by the identification of key lessons and suggestions as to how computer audit can promote success. The real role of project steering committees will be examined in the context of a realistic systems development methodology, rather than the traditional methods promoted in the text books. 'Rear end protection' will be discussed from the viewpoint of 'if things go wrong, where was internal audit?', through to 'if things go right, what contribution did they make'?

Anyone one of a nervous disposition should not attend and anyone taking the CISA exam is advised NOT to use this session as a model for answers to Domain 6!

**Membership Meetings - 2001/2002
ABN Amro, 250 Bishopsgate, London EC3
commencing at 5.00pm**

Thursday 27 September 2001
Security Policy
Brian Shorten, CISA
WorldCom International

Thursday 28 February 2002
E-CAATS
Simon Moore, CISA
BDO Stoy Hayward

Thursday 25 October 2001
Third/Party Vendor Outsourcing
Karen Sharpe, CISA
Deloitte & Touche

Thursday 21 March 2002
Project Audit
Dr John Mitchell, CISA
LHS Business Control

Thursday 22 November 2001
Selling Your Recommendations
Lindsay Mercer
BAA

Thursday 25 April 2002
COBIT as an Audit Planning Tool
Charles Mansour, CISA
Woolwich plc

Thursday 13 December 2001
E-Fraud
Ian Henderson
Haymarket Management
Services Ltd

Thursday 23 May 2002
AGM/Firewalls & Middleware
Jag Kanani
Deloitte & Touche

Thursday 24 January 2002
E-Systems Commissioning
Gideon Pretorius, CISA
KPMG

Thursday 27 June 2002
Continuous Auditing
Charles Mansour
Woolwich plc

Please note: the June meeting has changed. Charles Mansour will present "Continuous Auditing" in place of Steve Bailey's session "Desktop Audit".

John Mitchell is managing director of LHS Business Control, a consultancy founded by him in 1989. John is a past President of the Chapter and is a regular presenter at international conferences. He has been featured in a national UK magazine as the 'IT Detective' and has acted as an expert witness in a number of high profile cases. John has produced over 300

publications, including co-authoring the ISACA book 'Digital Signatures - Security and Controls'. John was awarded his PhD by City University, London, for his research into the use of risk management techniques for audit planning purposes.

If you would like to attend John's session please email Nancy to reserve your place.