

# 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 (GoDaddy)

### 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 (Holland America Group)

### VP Data Intelligence

Viktor Mu (AWS)

### VP Communications

Nitin Nigam (Amazon)

### VP Conferences

Nick Meyer (Workiva)





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear IIA Seattle Chapter Members,

Happy Spring, I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the nicer weather. This month we sent two of our officers to the annual IIA Leadership Conference in Orlando FL. This is great opportunity for our officers to connect with peers in the west district as well hear from our National IIA leaders on strategy, upcoming developments, and opportunities to improve member experience. We are grateful to our members, officers, and board to have the opportunity to engage in this event.

On April 10, 2025 we hosted our luncheon on the topic of Navigating DEI in 2025, a special thanks to James Thomas, BECU and Samantha Colomer, Crowe for their valuable insights on the changing dynamics of the DEI programs. We'd like to thank everyone who attended this event and hope you found the discussion and topics valuable. Voting proxies have been sent out for the upcoming fiscal year officer and board positions, please take a minute to place your vote. We appreciate all the contributions our officers and board members make to the chapter which are integral to our success. May marks WA State Internal Audit Awareness month, we are thrilled that our profession is once again being recognized by our State's Governor's office through an official proclamation. We are so excited to celebrate this milestone.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> we will be hosting our annual Fraud Conference at the UW campus. We are thrilled to provide you with 8 hours of CPE and an excellent line up of speakers on a range of relevant and timely topics. We'd like to thank our valued sponsors Protiviti, RSM, PWC and Workiva, for their contributions to the success of this event. We look forward to seeing you there, [Click here to register](#).

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](mailto:chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org).

Have a wonderful month!!!

Your Seattle Chapter IIA President  
Cynthia Behnen Gillison

# Meet your FY24/25 Chapter Officers!

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President – Cynthia Behnen-Gillison



1st VP Secretary – Caroline Pietrowski



2nd VP Programing – Veronica "Ronnie" Bains



VP Certification – Nira Kohli



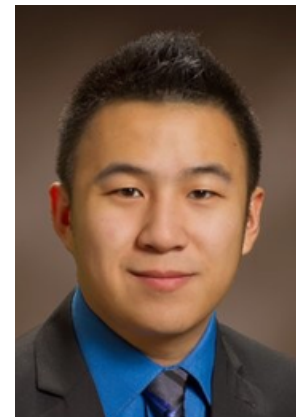
VP Academic Relations – Austin Bailey



VP Treasurer – Nobi Konno



VP Membership – Kristina Wilson



VP Data Intelligence Officer – Viktor Mu



VP Communications - Nitin Nigam



VP Conferences – Nick Meyer

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## 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

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## FY 2024-25 SAVE THE DATES!

Date/Location	Pillar	Topic	Presenter(s)
Thursday, April 24, 2025 (Virtual)	CAE Roundtable	TBD	Trent Russell
May 1, 2025 (In-Person)	Fraud Conference	16 <sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org)

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:chapter34@iiachaptercommunications.org).





# 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](mailto: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>

# Certification



# CONGRATS

**Members Achieving CIA Certifications**

**Stephanie Murphy**

**The updated CIA exams, aligned with the 2025 syllabi**, will be available starting May 28. To ensure you're prepared, visit [theiia.org/CIA2025](https://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 will transition 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](#).

**Updated CIA Exams, aligned with the 2025 syllabi**, will launch May 28, 2025. Visit [theiia.org/CIA2025](https://theiia.org/CIA2025) for detailed information about the changes and to plan your studies accordingly. For further questions, please open a case in your CCMS account. Prepare early to stay ahead in your certification journey!

**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>.



# Registration is open!

## 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 24, 2025 | Virtual, Only*

## 2025 AuditSphere

This event will provide the small shop auditor with additional guidance and expertise to be able to manage the unique relationships and challenges faced by those with small staff yet increasing board expectation.

*Jun 17, 2025 | Virtual, Only*

## 2025 International Conference

Join us in person and virtually as we bring together experts from across the globe to address the issues impacting the profession, network with fellow internal auditors from 100+ countries, share ideas, and earn CPE credits.

*Jul 14 - 16, 2025 | Toronto, Ontario*

## GRC Conference 2025

Join us at GRC 2025—in person or virtually—to empower yourself to excel in today's fast-changing governance, risk and control environment.

*Aug 18 - 20, 2025 | New York, New York*

## 2025 IGNITE Conference

The IGNITE conference will deliver an interactive experience for emerging leaders and auditors who are interested in gaining hands-on tools that are necessary for the future of internal audit. The conference will include deeper networking & engagement opportunities, dynamic keynote speakers, and deep dives into new and emerging topics.

*Oct 06 - 08, 2025 | Las Vegas, Nevada*

## 2025 Financial Services Exchange

Participation in the Exchange affords auditors in banking, credit unions, insurance, asset management, and more, the opportunity to network, discuss key issues with policymakers, and gain unprecedented access to industry insights.

*Nov 03 - 04, 2025 | Washington, D.C*

# 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](mailto: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](#)