

50TH
ANNIVERSARY
AGA-DC

The Washington Connection

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

OCTOBER 2006



In this issue...

CLICK ON LINKS BELOW

Washington By Water	1
President's Message	2, 12
2006 / 2007 Schedule of Events	5
OMB FY07 Priorities	6-11
Oct. Luncheon Series Speaker Bio	12
Inside the Black Box	13-14
Program Leader Profile	15
Snapshots	16
Membership Happenings	17-18
Early Career Members Free CGFM Training	19
Welcome New Members	20
Step-By-Step Guide to Pass CGFM	21
AGADC 50th Anniversary	22
"Liaisons and Those Who Want to be Liaisons" Free Lunch	23
Other Chapter Events	28
Officers and Directors	31



Click here to sign up to get newsletter and meeting notices automatically e-mailed
<http://agadc.org/mlistsubscribe.php>



Saturday, September 23 AGA members enjoyed "Washington by Water" Monuments Cruise from Georgetown Dock at Washington Harbor to Old Town Alexandria followed by a group lunch in Old Town Alexandria, shopping and a return boat cruise to Georgetown. The weather was beautiful and over 40+ chapter members participated.

We hope to see at the next event which will be Oktoberfest at Old Europe which is tentatively scheduled for Thursday October 19th, an email and RSVP reminder will be out soon.

In November we will have Opera Night at Café Mozart, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday November 15th, Dinner at 6:00pm, entertainment from 7 - 9pm, more details coming soon.

We will keep you posted as we finalize the details.
Contact Caitlin Holmes at caitlin.b.holmes@us.pwc.com for further details.

October Luncheon Series

Government Reform - Finance and Accountability

Mike Hettinger

Staff for Congressman Todd Russell Platts
Chairman of the House Government Management
Finance and Accountability Subcommittee

Wednesday, October 18th Luncheon: 11:30am - 1:30pm
Members: \$25.00, Non-Members: \$30.00

For more details, see <http://agadc.org/mlunch2.php>
Register online at <https://secure.serve.com/AGADC/lform2.php>
Zola restaurant - 800 F Street, NW - next to the International Spy Museum
(one block from the Gallery Place/Chinatown red/yellow/green line Metro)

Do not forget to bring donations of used eyeglasses and cell phones.

See pg 12
for bio.

President's Message



by **Scott Bell, President**



I am pleased to announce that this year, the Washington, DC Chapter is celebrating its 50th anniversary (sort of). Commonly referred to as AGA's "Mother Chapter," the DC organization was founded in September 1950 when AGA was known as the Federal Government Accountants Association (FGAA).

From 1952 until the National Organization was established in July 1956, 50 years ago, the DC chapter served as both the National Organization and the local chapter. Regardless of how you do the math, we think that this is reason to celebrate!

And we've started off in grand style! Danny Werfel, Deputy Controller for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) kicked off our luncheon speaker series by discussing OMB's vision for Federal financial management. Zola's restaurant in the Spy Museum is once again hosting our monthly luncheons, and we are once again holding a monthly raffle for a pair of tickets to a 2007 Washington Nationals game. Congratulations to Shari Palumbo from IBM on being our September winner! Our October 20 luncheon will feature Mike Hettinger, staff director for the House Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance and Accountability.

We greatly appreciate all who contributed during September's Community Service drive benefiting the American Cancer Society. On October, 22, the DC chapter will again participate in the 'Walk to D'Feet ALS', a national effort in support of local patient services and nationally directed research. Many thanks again to our community service coordinators, Tonya Allen-Shaw and Lloyd Farmer for organizing these important events for

the chapter. Please contact Tonya or Lloyd if you would like to join or sponsor our team.

September also featured a fun-filled boat trip on the Potomac for 40 + AGA DC chapter members and guests followed by a lunch at Chadwick's in Old Town Alexandria. Our Member Services directors, Lisa Robenseifner and Caitlin Holmes are hard at work planning more exciting events for our members. On Thursday, October 19th, we'll be taking part in an Oktoberfest celebration at Old Europe in Georgetown/Glover Park, and November will feature an 'Opera Night' at Café Mozart. Stay tuned to the chapter website or feel free to contact Lisa or Caitlin for more information. Our events have generated a lot of interest already, so be sure to sign up early if you would like to join us throughout the year.

There are a lot of activities on the horizon as part of the chapter's education, development, and early career programs. The chapter will hold its first in a series of informal luncheons for 'early career' professionals in November at the office of Deloitte Consulting, close to Metro Center. We invite our members to identify 'early career' professionals and encourage them to attend these events.

In addition, as we have done in previous years, the chapter will give our early career members the opportunity to earn their Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) certifications by sponsoring a comprehensive training program that helps prepare participants for the CGFM examinations. This program, offered at NO COST to qualified enrollees, will address the three key components of CGFM certification: the Governmental environment; government accounting, financial reporting, and budgeting;

(Con't. on pg 12)

Thank you to our sponsors

Diamond Sponsor



savantage solutions
TRANSFORMING CLIENT'S VISION INTO RESULTS

Gold Sponsor



Silver Sponsor

Bronze Sponsor

If you think of us as financial management experts,

You're right.

Delivering results for more than 30 years.

Risk Assessment and Management

Internal Controls Training and Workshops

Up-to-Date Curriculum

Expert Instructors

Customized Certificate Programs

Performance Gap Assessment



TRAINING • CONSULTING • PUBLICATIONS

Let us help you achieve your goals.

Call us at 703.270.4059 or visit

www.managementconcepts.com

WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

AGA-DC Calendar of Events

2006 - 2007

Month	Luncheon Meetings (Zola's)	Community Service (CS)	Member Service	Education CGFM	Early Careers
Coordinators	Ken Bresnahan Corbin Neiberline	Tonya Allen-Shaw Lloyd Farmer	Lisa Robenseifner Caitlin Holmes	Mike Allen Susan Johnson Audrey Duchesne Rhea Riso	Laura Glass Ross Simms
August			Happy Hour / Meet & Greet		
September	Wed 9/20 Danny Werfel, OMB Strategy	American Cancer Society (ASC)	Sat 9/23 Potomac Cruise	Thu 9/14 Audio Call on Risk Assessment @ Veterans Affairs	
October	Wed 10/18 Mike Hettinger, Govt Reform	Sun 10/22 ALS walk	Thurs 10/19 Oktoberfest	Thur 10/26 12pm Agency Liaison Luncheon @ Veterans Affairs	
November	No Luncheon Scheduled	Project Harvest	Wed 11/15 Opera Night @ Café Mozart	11/7-8 & 11/14-16 CGFM Training @ Deloitte Wed 11/8 2-4pm Audio Call: The New Yellow Book @ TBD	Wed 11/15 Early Career Lunch @ Deloitte
December	Thu 12/7 Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD	Toys for Tots	Date: TBD Ice Skating & Holiday Get Together		
January	Thu 1/18 Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD	Make-A-Wish Foundation	Date: TBD Chinese New Year		
February	Thu 2/15 Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD	Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)	Date: TBD Skiing - Liberty, Pa	Wed 2/28 2-4pm Audio Call: Internal Controls @ TBD	Wed 2/21 Early Career Lunch @ Deloitte
March	Thu 3/15 Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD	"Dress for Success Suit Drive "	Date: TBD Spy Museum Event.	Date: TBD SOX for the auditing profession	
April	Thu 4/19 Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD	Rebuilding Together ("Christmas in April")	Date: TBD Virginia Vineyard Tour	CGFM Training- TBD Or TBD in June	
May	Thu 5/17 Speaker: TBD Topic: TBD	collect used eye glasses for the Lion's Club used cell phone collection for HopeLine	Date: TBD Boat ride / Paddle Boats Date: TBD Member Appreciation & Awards Dinner	Date: TBD 2 days - Theme: TBD	
June			Golf Tournament Date: TBD Nationals Game		Wed 6/6 Early Career Lunch @ Deloitte

AGA-DC September Meeting

Danny Werfel at the September Lunch Series:

Beyond Checking the Box

Highlights of Danny Werfel presentation Simcha Kuritzky & Don Geiger

The keynote speaker for the September luncheon was Danny Werfel from the OMB Office of Federal Financial Management (OFFM). Copies of the slides that Mr. Werfel presented are available on the chapter website at www.agadc.org OMB provides for the federal finance community a clear roadmap, setting the goals, framing where each agency is, and getting buy-in.

The slides presented at the meeting provide an overview of OMB priorities for FY 2007. The Improving Financial Performance pyramid has two sections. At the top, in green (because achieving it gets you to green) the result: expands routine data use and uses financial information to drive results in key areas. The yellow base consists of compliance: FFMIA compliance, clean audit opinion, no repeat material audit weaknesses, meeting reporting deadlines, no FFMIA repeat sec. 2 or 4 weaknesses, fully compliant, no chronic or significant violations.

The key trends in the financial performance area of the President's Management Agenda (PMA) all show positive trends from 2004 to 2005.

- Agencies with clean audit opinion: 18 (2004) 19 (2005)
- auditor-identified material weaknesses 50 (2004) 48 (2005)
- eliminate improper payments \$45B (2004) \$37B (2005)
- timeliness of reporting 22 (2004), all 24 (2005)
- eliminate \$9B of surplus property by FY09, \$3.5B disposed in 2004-5.

Everything is trending in the right direction under normal conditions, but need to increase performance under stress (e.g., Hurricane Katrina).

Support initiative: PMA is the roof over the Reform Agenda pillars (which represent changes) which has Core Activities (things that aren't changing) as foundation.



Reform Agenda pillars: improper payments, real property, Financial Management Line of Business (FMLOB), Governmentwide Financial Report, OMB A123, and grants. As these mature, they move down into the Core. Pillars support Improving Financial Performance metrics for integrated data. Have to keep focus narrow in order to achieve results.

The Core Activities are accounting standards, audit standards, charge cards, administrative grant requirements, financial reporting, and debt collection. Improper Payments: recovery auditing (works better with vendor payments than with entitlements), consolidate eligibility information for entitlements.

(Con't. on pg 7)

Real Property: right size, manage condition and cost. Still need legislative authority. Have a database of 1.2M properties, need to analyze condition and utilization.

FMLOB: milestones include issuing migration plans, implement common performance metrics and accounting codes with standard business processes. FY07 actions: define standard interfaces, standardize more business processes, finalize IT measures, address policy questions. Building a market to give choices when a new system is needed.

GW FR: objective is clean audit opinion. FY09 target is to eliminate at least one material weakness and produce no new ones. Milestones: intragovernment transactions, DoD gets balance sheet opinion, improve reporting to Treasury FMS. FY07: publish business rules, implement dispute resolution, develop performance metrics, and improve IPAC. Update corrective action plans on all material weaknesses, continue education and prep work for GWA.

Internal controls A123 Appendix A FY09 target: all CFO Act agencies are compliant with no scope limitations, 10% reduction in material weaknesses. Milestones: OMB-approved implementation plans, consensus on corrective action plans on material weaknesses, better and more timely info on internal controls weaknesses. FY07: forum on lessons learned, and use these to update OMB guidance.

Grants Management GMLOB (cross-servicing), Grants.gov (single portal for the public to apply), PL 106-107 to streamline reporting by grantees, searchable website of grant awards (Coburn-Obama bill targeted for FY09 implementation). FY09 Target: web site with sub-grants, 2% / year reduction in burden hours. Milestones: standard and timely data available for retrieval, more agencies migrated to GMLOB, programs using grants.gov, lower burden hours. FY07: plan for web site, all discretionary grants on grants.gov, and identify GMLOB agencies.

Presentation

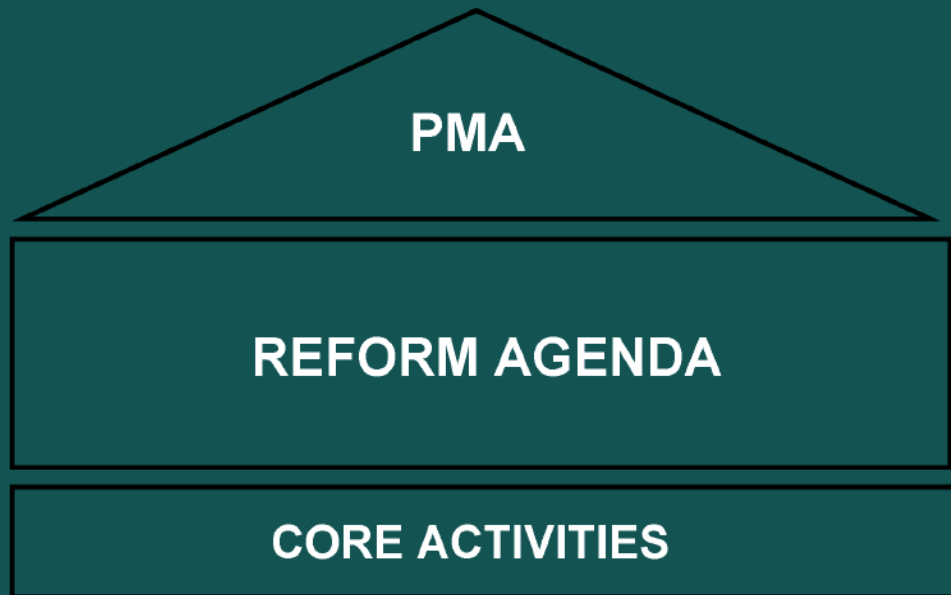
Improving Financial Performance

What the Initiative Does:
Ensures managers have accurate and timely financial information for decision making.

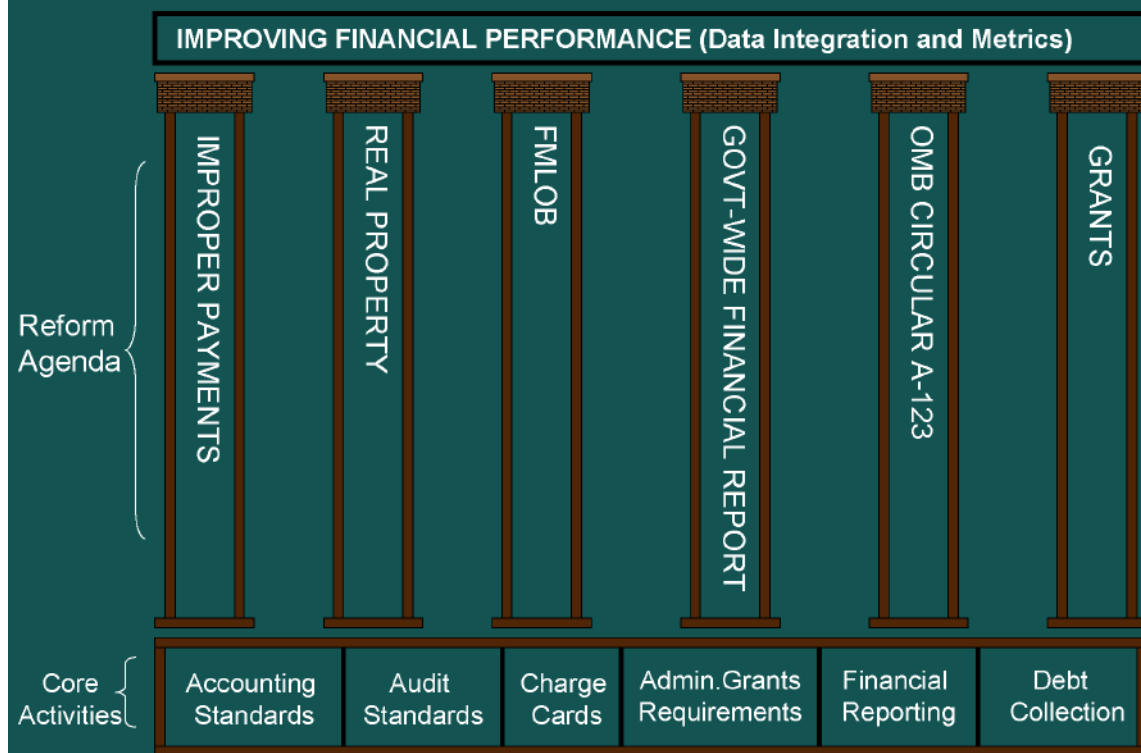
Results			
Expands Routine Data Use			
Uses Financial Information to Drive Results in Key Areas			
Compliance			
FFMIA Compliant	Clean Audit Opinion	No repeat auditor Weaknesses	Meets Reporting Deadlines
No Repeat FMFIA Section 2 Weaknesses	No Material Non-Compliances	No Chronic or Significant ADA Violations	No Repeat FMFIA Section 4 Weaknesses

Improving Financial Performance

How We Support the Initiative:



OMB Focus Areas



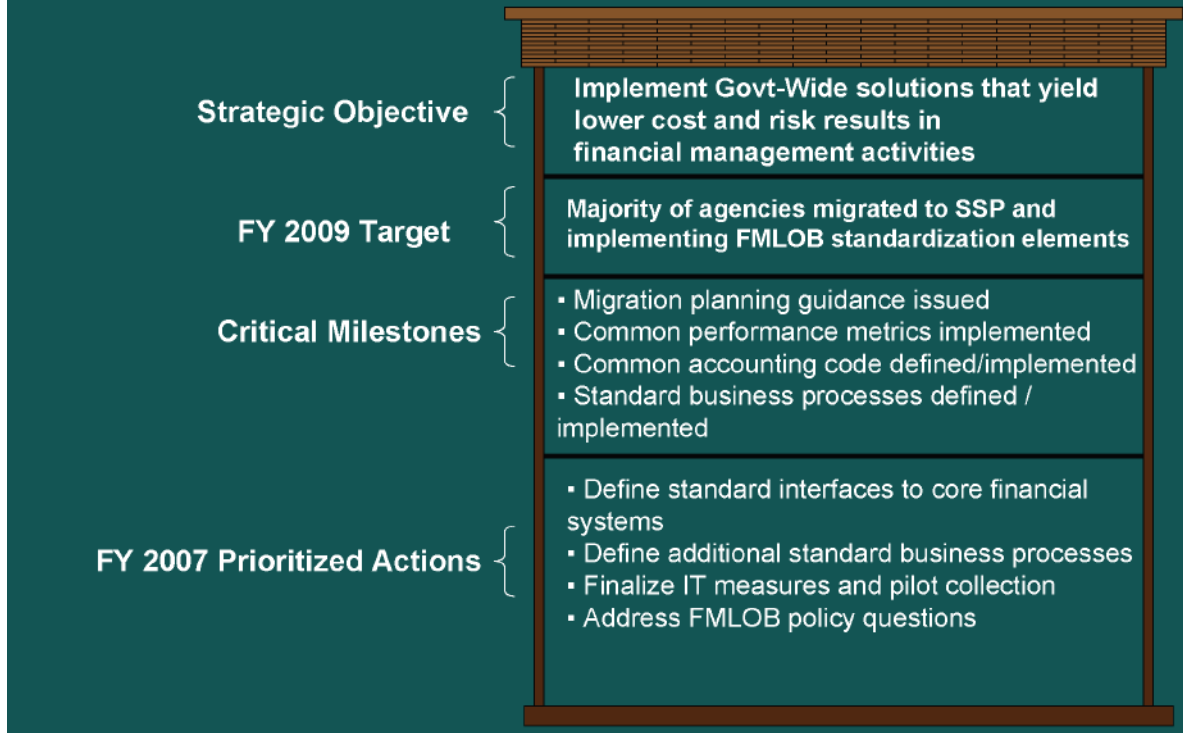
Improper Payments

Strategic Objective	Eliminate Improper Payments
FY 2009 Target	\$45 Billion Reduced to \$25 Billion
Critical Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accurate measurements for high risk programs ▪ Sound corrective action plans with aggressive reduction targets
FY 2007 Prioritized Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue State partnership project for better defining roles in State-administered programs ▪ Complete research project on use of shared data and best practices ▪ Expand efforts for recovery auditing

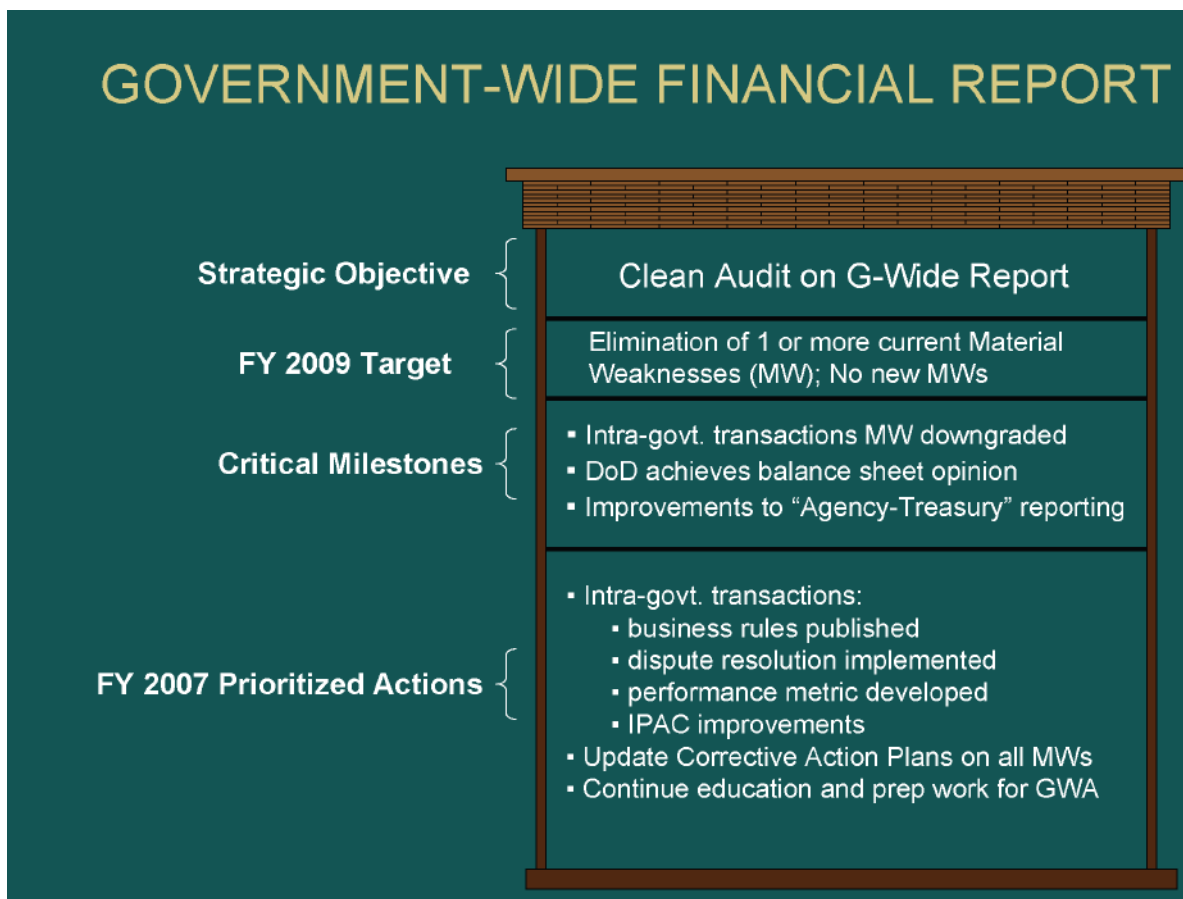
REAL PROPERTY

Strategic Objective	Rightsize Federal Real Property Inventory
FY 2009 Target	\$9 Billion in Unneeded Property Disposed
Critical Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inventory data / performance metrics ▪ Asset management plans ▪ Disposition algorithm ▪ Legislative authority
FY 2007 Prioritized Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President's legislative proposal enacted ▪ Address GAO high risk list "to do's" ▪ Improve application of performance measures

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT LINE OF BUSINESS



GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL REPORT



OMB CIRCULAR A-123

Strategic Objective	<p>Improve Effectiveness of Internal Controls</p>
FY 2009 Target	<p>All CFO Act agencies compliant with A-123; no scope limitations; 10% reduction government-wide in repeat MWs</p>
Critical Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OMB-approved test/implementation plans • Consensus between management, IG, and OMB on CAPs for MWs • Better and earlier information on internal control weaknesses yield fewer repeat weaknesses and reduce the risk of major audit set-backs (e.g., loss of clean audit)
FY 2007 Prioritized Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum on FY 2006 lessons learned • Update OMB guidance based on lessons learned

GRANTS

Strategic Objective	<p>Implement G-Wide solutions that increase transparency of grant activities, lower administrative costs, and simplify application/reporting.</p>
FY 2009 Target	<p>Searchable website of grant awards implemented; Grants.gov and GMLOB efficiency targets met; 2% reduction per year in burden hours on grants reporting</p>
Critical Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard and timely data available for retrieval, per Coburn-Obama bill • More agencies migrated to GMLOB consortia • More programs using grants.gov for find & apply • Lower public burden hours for grantee reporting activities
FY 2007 Prioritized Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed upon plan for Coburn-Obama bill, early milestones achieved • All discretionary grants moved to grants.gov • GMLOB consortia agencies identified, ready to cross service

(Cont'd from pg. 2)

and government financial management and control. This program provides a wonderful opportunity for our members in the early stage of their careers to dramatically enhance their knowledge of government financial management.

It will also help prepare them to earn this increasingly important and relevant professional certification, consequently enhancing their value to their organizations and promoting their long-term career aspirations. Please contact our Early Career coordinators, Laura Glass and Ross Simms or our CGFM coordinators, Audrey Duchesne and Rhea Riso for additional information.

The chapter would like to acknowledge and thank our 2006-2007 corporate sponsors. Without their support, many of our educational, membership, and community service events and opportunities would not be possible. This year's sponsors include: Savantage Solutions, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Delta Solutions, MIL Corporation, KPMG, Grant Thornton, and Kearney and Company. Organizations interested in becoming a DC Chapter sponsor should contact our Sponsorship coordinator, John Cherbini.

Finally, there continue to be many opportunities for volunteers who would like to get more involved with the chapter. Please feel free to contact any of the chapter officers if you would like to participate in or help with any of our many efforts throughout the year. All of the year's upcoming activities, as well as contact information for all of our program coordinators and directors, can be found on the chapter website at www.agadc.org.

Sincerely,

R. Scott Bell

R. Scott Bell

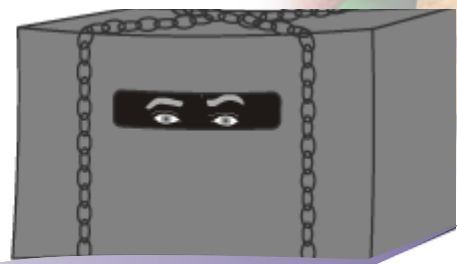
Michael J. Hettinger

Michael Hettinger currently serves as the staff director of the House of Representatives Committee on Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance and Accountability. In this role he serves as the principal aide responsible for development of the subcommittee's agenda, which includes examining issues impacting the overall economy, efficiency, and financial management of federal operations and activities. More specifically, the Subcommittee oversees the financial reporting and management requirements of laws such as the Chief Financial Officers Act, the Inspector General Act, the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act, the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act and the Debt Collection Improvement Act. Furthermore, the Subcommittee examines the quality of agencies' strategic planning, and performance goals and reports in accordance with the Government Performance and Results Act. Finally, the subcommittee also has jurisdiction over the operations of federal financial services' agencies, such as the Securities and Exchange Commission and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Hettinger spent nearly four years as a Senior Lobbyist at Washington's top-ranking lobbying firm, Patton Boggs LLP from 1999 - 2003. Other positions include serving as Chief of Staff to current Government Reform Committee Chairman, Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia from 1998 - 1999, and as Mr. Davis' Legislative Director from 1997 - 1998, and as a Senior Legislative Assistant from 1995- 1996. Other experience includes three years on the staff of the Fairfax County Virginia Board of Supervisors from 1992 - 1995 and nearly two years working in the United States Senate.

Inside the Black Box

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA



An Immodest Proposal VI (summary)

Summary

This column concludes a six-part series proposal for reworking the SGL so that budgetary transactions are accounted for in the proprietary accounts. First, we review all the accounts that were used in the previous columns:

Acct	Name	Budget Equiv.
1010	Fund Balance with Treasury - beginning balance	4201
1020	FBWT - Appropriations - new	4119
1021	FBWT - Appropriations - transferred in	4170, 4190
1022	FBWT - Appropriations - transferred out	4170, 4190
1030	FBWT - Collections - refunds	4902
1031	FBWT - Collections - prior-year refunds	4972
1032	FBWT - Collections - reimbursement advances	4222
1033	FBWT - Collections - reimbursements earned	4252
1034	FBWT - Collections - business type	426x
1035	FBWT - Collections - government type	426x
1036	FBWT - Collections - reduce advances	4802
1037	FBWT - Collections - reduce prior-year advances	4872
1040	FBWT - Disbursements - new	4902
1041	FBWT - Disbursements - prior-year	4982
1042	FBWT - Disbursements - advances	4802, 4882
1043	FBWT - Disbursements - refund reimbursement advances	4222
1044	FBWT - Disbursements - refund reimbursements earned	4252
1311	Refunds Receivable	
1312	Reimbursements Billed	4251
1370	Anticipated Collections	4210
1371	Reimbursable Agreements	4221
1372	Earned but Unbilled Reimbursements	4251
1750	Equipment	
1759	Accumulated Depreciation on Equipment	
2110	Accounts Payable	
2311	Advances from Others - Reimbursable Agreements	4222
3111	Anticipated Authority	4590
3115	Unapportioned Authority	4450

3120	Available Authority	4610, 4620, 4650
3125	Commitments	4700
3130	Obligated Authority	4801
3131	Downward Adjustments of Obligations	4871, 4971
3132	Upward Adjustments of Obligations	4881, 4981
3210	Funded Capital	
3310	Cumulative Results of Operations	Closes to:
5201	Revenue from Reimbursable Services Provided - Public or Unidentified	3130
5202	Revenue from Reimbursable Services Provided - Federal	3130
5203	Revenue from Sale of Goods	3130
6101	Expense of Appropriated Obligations	3130
6102	Expense of Unappropriated Obligations	3130
6103	Reimbursable Depreciation, Amortization, and Depletion	3210
6710	Unfunded Depreciation, Amortization, and Depletion	3210
7110	Gains on Disposition of Assets - Funded Capital	3210
7210	Losses on Disposition of Assets - Funded Capital	3210
8801	Authority Used for Purchases	3210
8802	Purchases of Capitalized Assets - Appropriated	3130
8803	Purchases of Capitalized Assets - Non-Appropriated	3210

Account Chains

Appropriations tracked in the equity accounts:
 3111 (if anticipated) or 3115 → 3120 → 3125 → 3130 or 3132 closes to 3310

Reimbursements tracked in the asset accounts:

1370 → 1371 → 1372 → 1312 → 1033 closes to 1010

Lessons Learned

The current SGL contains many redundancies, in part because similar activity is tracked in both the proprietary and budgetary accounts. The main budgetary activities or resources can be tracked in an expanded set of cash and receivable accounts, and the budgetary status can be tracked in a reworked equity section. Some of the postings that are used now can be incorporated into the closing logic. Agencies spend considerable effort synchronizing the balance of budgetary and proprietary accounts that would not be needed in a proprietary-only chart of accounts.

Comments and critiques, as well as specific questions or suggestions for future topics, are always welcome. Send them to Simcha.Kuritzky@CGIFederal.com, and not to the AGA.



Comments and critiques, as well as specific questions or suggestions for future topics, are always welcome. Send them to Simcha.Kuritzky@CGIFederal.com, and not to the AGA.

Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA

This column is provided as part of a free exchange of ideas in federal accounting, and is not reviewed substantively before publication.

AGA-DC Profile of the Month



Christina Pfeffer



Name:
Christina Pfeffer

Christina Pfeffer is a driven consulting professional who has proven her ability to add value to her clients during engagements through her distinctive management and leadership

style and her extensive PeopleSoft product knowledge. Christina has deep leadership and vision skills which have ensured her teams have cohesively delivered solutions above and beyond her customers' needs. She consistently works closely with her team and clients to foster and ensure successful and strong relationships. Christina brings to Metaformers over seven years of experience in business and systems engineering consulting. She has spent the past five years in lead positions for federal financials clients performing implementations and upgrades on the PeopleSoft Financials 7.x and 8.x platforms. She is highly proficient and motivated and has extensive experience presenting to and facilitating clients and co-workers. Her successful leadership track record includes every step in an implementation life cycle - strategy, planning, analysis, design, build and deliver.

Christina holds a BA from Providence College and an MBA from the University of Denver's Daniel's College of Business.

Christina Pfeffer has previously held the following positions during her career:

- Practice Director, Eastern Region for Metaformers, Inc.;
- Manager for Accenture;
- Project Manager or Lead for various federal, state/local, and higher education clients;

How long have you been a member of AGA?

I have been a member of the AGA since 2004.

How has AGA helped you with your career?

Through the AGA I have been introduced to many people in the accounting, finance, and government arena. I have been able to network with others professionally and personally. There have been many opportunities to learn about the direction our government is taking; how organizations measure up to the standards set; and what companies/organizations can be doing to better meet goals. By understanding these, I believe I have more to offer my clients when it comes to business process design, financial system implementations, and organizational strategy.

What advice do you have for someone thinking about joining AGA?

Definitely join, learn all you can, ask good questions, and become involved in some of the many activities and learning events. It is truly the people that make the AGA what it is, on the local and National level I have met many people that have challenged me and forced me to think differently about why and how things should work.

What is the best thing about working in government service?

Being a part of something that has such a strong sense of mission and purpose is incredible. The government is ultimately about helping and giving to the public, and for me, there is something humbling about contributing to the greater good and implementing changes to help achieve the public mission.

What has been the biggest obstacle in getting where you are today?

The biggest obstacle has been trying to find the right work/life balance in order to achieve my personal and professional goals.

What is your favorite hobby or outside activity?

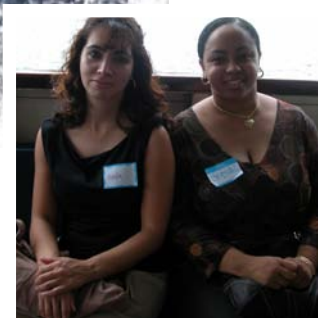
Hiking, Camping, and SCUBA diving.

What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?

Mint Chocolate Chip from Baskin Robbins

Snapshots

AGA Boating Trip Aug 17, 2006



AGADC Members Set Sail...



Happenings

Oktoberfest

Member services has a couple of exciting upcoming events that we would like to share with you. Our October event will be an Oktoberfest celebration at Old Europe in Georgetown/Glover Park. The tentative date set for this event is Thursday October 19th. There will be live music, food and drinks at this event and we hope to see many of you there! As it gets closer to the date of the event we will be sending out an email with RSVP information and additional details.



Our November event will be Opera Night at Café Mozart. The tentative date set for this event is Wednesday November 15th. We are very excited to bring you this event as each month Café Mozart is joined by Washington Opera tenor Michael Blaney. We will be having dinner at Café Mozart at 6pm and the entertainment will be from 7 - 9pm. Again, we will send out an email with RSVP information and more details as it gets closer to the event. We hope to see you there!



Happenings

Julia Ranagan

NEWSLETTER AWARD



*Julia Ranagan receives Newsletter Award as the
Division A Winner for 2005-2006.*

*The National award was received at the AGA convention in
San Diego by the DC chapter.*

*Congratulations to Julia and
a special thanks for a job well done!*



Early Career Members - Free Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Training

by Audrey Duchesne, AGA-DC CGFM Coordinator

AGA-DC will once again provide this six-day comprehensive training program to Early Career members to help them prepare for and successfully complete the 3-part CGFM examination.

The program, offered AT NO COST to qualified enrollees, will address the three key components of the CGFM examination: (1) the governmental environment; (2) government accounting, financial reporting, and budgeting; and (3) government financial management and control. The program's four key eligibility criteria include:

- Membership in the DC, Northern Virginia or Montgomery/Prince George's County chapter of AGA (you can join now to meet this requirement);
- No more than 5 years of professional experience;
- Obtaining your supervisor's approval; and,
- Committing to take the 3-part CGFM examination within one year of the training.

This program provides a wonderful opportunity for our members, in the early stage of their careers, to dramatically increase their knowledge of government financial management, and prepare to acquire a critically important professional certification that will enhance their value to their organizations, and promote their long-term career aspirations.

The training will be held at the facilities of Deloitte & Touche LLP, which is conveniently located next to Metro Center at 555 12th Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20004. We are most appreciative to Angela Antonelli, Partner, Deloitte Consulting LLP, for facilitating Deloitte's generous hospitality in hosting this event.

Here is a quick synopsis of the program:

- Who:** Members of the AGA from the Washington, Northern Virginia, and Montgomery/Prince George's County Chapters with up to five years of professional experience
- What:** Free comprehensive CGFM training
- When:** November 7 - 9 and 14 - 16, 2006
- Where:** Deloitte & Touche LLP, 555 12th Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20004
- How:** Applicants should submit a brief letter expressing interest in the program that includes a statement attesting to their eligibility as Early Career members, contact information, and a commitment to take the CGFM examinations within one year of course completion. A statement from the applicant's supervisor approving the training should also be provided. Enrollment of qualified applicants will be on a first-come, first served basis for up to 30 people. Application materials should be sent to Audrey Duchesne by e-mail to AudreyDuchesne@theima.org. The application period will remain open until all available positions are filled.



Welcome, New Members!

Please welcome the following members who recently joined AGA-DC:



Ms. Eyleen Adorno
Mr. Thach H. Bui
Ms. Audrey L. Clark, CGFM, CPA
Mr. John W. Cox
Mr. Bruce N. Crandlemire
Mr. Ronald Eugene Dasher
Mrs. Selma Golding-Forrester
Mr. Peter S. Holden
Mr. Norman N. Ingram
Mr. John Johnson, Jr.
Ms. Gisele Jones, CPA
Ms. Zoya Kaplan
Brian Learch
Mrs. Mary E. Lenze-Acton, CGFM
Ms. Angela Lovelace
Mr. Mir Mazhar
Scott Ostrovecky
Mr. Robert J. Poling
Mr. Asim Rafi
Mr. Richard W. Rhoads
Ms. Hira Shafqat
Mr. Michael L. Staley, CGFM
Mr. John Tring
Mr. Randal G. Vellocido, CPA
Mrs. Yvonne Zhou
Ms. Nadine R. Bradley
Mr. Vince Conte
Ms. Brenda Davis
Mr. Mark J. Dobner
Ms. Geneva C. Dooley
Mr. Kirke E. Everson
Mr. Don Farineau
Mr. Dean Feehley
Mr. David Kaehler
Ms. Mary J. Mitchell
Mr. Brian Morris
Mrs. Shirley Nguyen
Mr. Justin H. Park

Mr. Steve P Pinchotti
Mr. John J. Pirchio
Mr. Talmadge E. Seaman, CGFM
Ms. Millie Seijo
Mrs. Kathryn A. Smith
Ms. Patricia Sweet
Ms. Sandra Waterton
Rebekkah Armistead
Mr. Kenneth M. Arrington, CGFM
Mr. Christopher L. Babcock
Mr. Joshua Bogart
Holly R. Bryant
Mr. Howard Campbell
Mr. Jose Alejandro Lopez
Mr. John D. Major
Mr. Glenn A. Cheng
Ms. Sara R. Musial
Ms. Donna M. Pike
Mr. John E. Reagan, III, CGFM, CPA
Mr. Freddie E. Williams

Connections at your Fingertips

...Just Click



- AGA Membership Information
- AGA Membership Application
- CGFM Program Information
- CGFM Program Application
- AGA National Home Page
- AGA-DC Home Page (Washington DC)
- AGA-Northern Virginia Home Page (Virginia)
- AGA-Montgomery/PG Home Page (Maryland)
- MACPA Home Page (Maryland)
- VSCPA Home Page (Virginia)
- GWSCPA Home Page (DC)
- AICPA Home Page

Join the AGA-DC Mailing List

To sign up on the AGA-DC mailing list and receive periodic updates, go to <http://agadc.org/mlistsubscribe.php>, enter your email address and click "Subscribe."

To unsubscribe to the AGA-DC mailing list at any time, go to <http://www.agadc.org/mlistunsubscribe.php>, enter your email address, and click "Unsubscribe."



Interested in the CGFM designation?

Want to know where to start or what happens next? Here is a step-by-step guide on how you can earn the CGFM designation:

Step 1 - Applying for the CGFM Program. Submit an application form for the CGFM Program via internet, fax or mail, including the application fee of \$85. Fax or mail a copy of your transcript from an accredited college or university. The transcript must show that a degree (bachelor's or higher) was awarded and must list at least 24 credit hours of courses in financial management or related topics. Your name and the name of the college or university must appear on all transcripts.

Step 2 - Eligibility Letter. Once your application, payment and degree documentation are received and processed, the Office of Professional Certification will mail you an Eligibility Letter with instructions on how to purchase your CGFM Examinations. Your eligibility for taking the CGFM Examinations expires in three years from the date your CGFM application was processed.

Step 3 - Work Verification. Submit a Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience form as soon as you have at least two years of professional-level experience in the government financial management field. You do not have to submit this form before taking the examinations, but the experience requirement must be met before the designation can be granted.

Step 4 - Studying for Examinations. You have several options, including classroom courses, study guides and a reading resources list. You may also want to contact a local AGA chapter to find out if there are any study groups or other support available to help you prepare for the examinations.

Step 5 - Examination Purchase. Following the instructions on your Eligibility Letter, purchase CGFM Examination(s) through the AGA website and print the Test Authorization Letter. Examination fees are \$109 for each of the three examinations.

Step 6 - Taking the Examinations. Follow the instructions on the Test Authorization Letter to schedule a testing appointment at a Prometric Test Center near you. Show up at the testing center on your appointment date (be sure to read and follow the testing procedures described on the Test Authorization Letter).

Step 7 - Score Reporting and Retakes. After you complete an examination at a Prometric Test Center, you will immediately receive a pass/fail score on the computer. Numerical scores are not provided. If you did not pass your exam, there is a 30-day waiting period before you can repurchase and retake that examination. If you fail the same exam more than once, the waiting period is 90 days.

Step 8 - Award Letter. Once you pass all three CGFM Examinations, and your Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience form has been submitted and accepted, the Office of Professional Certification will send you an award letter announcing your new CGFM designation. You can start using the "CGFM" after your name only after you receive the official award letter from AGA.

Step 9 - CGFM Certificate. A CGFM certificate will be mailed within a few weeks of issuing the award letter.

An excellent source of additional information on the CGFM Program is the AGA website (www.agacgfm.org, select "CGFM Certification" on the navigational bar). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Professional Certification at 1.800.AGA.7211, ext. 306 or 305.



Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to the Washington, DC Chapter on 56 years!

Commonly referred to as AGA's "Mother Chapter," the Washington, DC chapter was founded in September 1950 when AGA was known as the Federal Government Accountants Association (FGAA). From 1952 until the National Organization was established in July 1956, the DC chapter served as both the National Organization and the local chapter. Thus, the accomplishments of the National Organization were those of the Washington, DC chapter.

Under the guidance of the first chapter president, Robert W. King, the chapter started out 600 members strong. Wasting no time, monthly newsletters and meetings set the ball rolling. Until inflation raised prices to unaffordable highs, monthly dinner meetings were held nine times a year at a local restaurant. From that point, lunch meetings were instituted as an affordable alternative and worked into members' busy schedules. A proud tradition that continues to this day, the chapter initiated an annual chapter awards program in 1960 to honor member anniversaries and other momentous occasions from the past year. Currently, the Washington DC chapter is AGA's largest, proudly boasting well over 1400 active members.

Congratulations to Scott, the DC chapter committee and all DC chapter members on 56 years!



Recruitment*

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP offers immediate opportunities to fast track professionals. We are seeking individuals with strong audit and finance backgrounds and a desire to contribute to our clients. You will have the opportunity to serve as a part of a team of professionals delivering quality service to numerous agencies and departments which will make a difference in their ability to fulfill their important missions.

We are looking for people like you to continue our growth. To find your best fit go to www.pwc.com/dccareers

Applicants selected for our Washington Federal Practice will be subject to a government security investigation and must meet eligibility requirements for access to classified information.

*connectedthinking



© 2006 PricewaterhouseCoopers. All rights reserved. PricewaterhouseCoopers refers to the network of member firms of PricewaterhouseCoopers International Limited, each of which is separate and independent legal entity. * connectedthinking is a trademark of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (US) DC-DC-06-0333-A.

Liaisons and Those Who Want to be Liaisons:

Please Join Us for a FREE Luncheon!

Marguerite Nealon, Agency / Corporate Co-Liaison

Want a fun way to stay “in the know” about professional development and networking opportunities and get to know your colleagues at work better? Become a liaison at your agency or firm! Read on if you want to know more or better yet-join us at a free luncheon on Thursday, October 26, at Noon.

Did you know that by being a liaison you'll be up-to-the-minute on what's happening in the government financial management world? You'll also spread the news to your colleagues- boy, will they be interested in what you have to say! You'll get to know people in all areas of financial management-accounting, auditing, budgeting, to name a few.

Get to know others in the field-it pays to stay in the grapevine! You'll hear from federal government executives and private sector representatives. Compare notes at our upcoming luncheon. We look forward to seeing you! Here's what you need to know to join us:

AGA D.C. Liaisons' (Free) Luncheon
Thursday, October 26, 2006, NOON until 1:00 p.m.

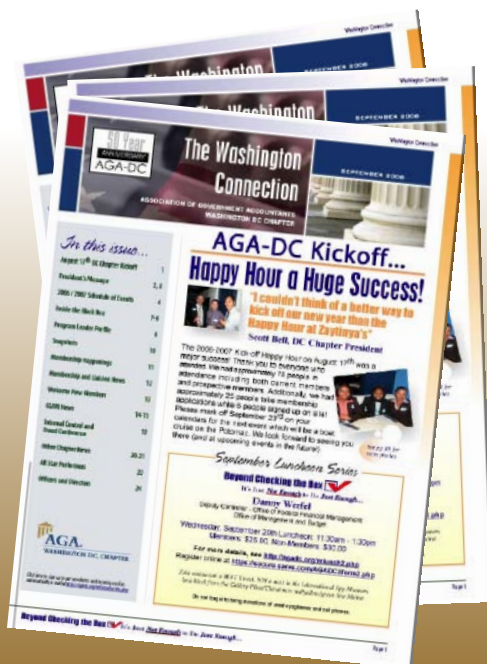
Location: The Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20420, Room 430 (Blue / Orange Line to McPherson Square)

RSVP: By Monday, October 23, 2006, Noon.
E-Mail: sahra.torres-rivera@dhs.gov and smorrow@savantage.net

Request for Newsletter Submissions, Comments, or Suggestions

Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter? Do you have an article you would like to see in print? Have you developed a time-saving process or procedure on the job? Have you traveled to any interesting locations? The Washington Connection requests that you submit any and all items of interest to our federal, state, and local members including: reviews of recently published books related to financial management; unique travel experiences or assignments; lessons learned on roll-outs of new systems; appointments or promotions; employment opportunities; and noteworthy accomplishments by our members. We also welcome digital photos that accompany your submission.

The Washington Connection will not be issued in July or August. The deadline for submitting articles to appear in the September 2006 issue is August 11, 2006. Please send your comments and contributions to Don Geiger, the newsletter editor for the 2006 - 2007 program year, at donald.geiger@do.treas.gov, or to Sarah Suchland, the newsletter assistant for the 2006 - 2007 program year, at sjsuchland@deloitte.com.



Are you looking for a **Partner** to help you improve efficiency through innovative **financial, performance** and **technology-based** business solutions?

Grant Thornton

Grant Thornton Global Public Sector has been serving Federal government clients for nearly a decade. Whether your organization is looking for financial services, cost and performance management, or technical solutions, Grant Thornton professionals can provide expert advisory services tailored to meet your organization's specific needs.



- Financial Operations
- Financial Management
- Business Intelligence
- IT Management
- Enterprise Applications
- Strategic Management
- Operations Management
- Cost & Performance Management

333 John Carlyle Street
 Suite 500
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 703.837.4400
www.grantthornton.com/globalpublicsector

What's the Best Way to Study for the CGFM Examinations?



The best way to study depends on your knowledge, experience, time and location constraints and individual preferences. Start by reviewing the contents of each examination in the [What do exams cover?](#) section of AGA website. Then review each of the choices below to determine which one is best for you. To help you prepare for the CGFM Examinations, you can:

- Attend the [instructor-led training courses](#) offered in conjunction with *Management Concepts*.
- Use the CGFM [study guides](#) to study on your own.
- Refer to the [reading resources](#) for information on specific topics.
- Call your local [AGA chapter](#)—to find out if there are any study groups or other support available to help you prepare for the CGFM Examinations.

If you have any questions, call the Office of Professional Certification at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 306.



With the evolving Federal IT marketplace, come to the partners you can rely on.

Delta Solutions, stability you can trust.

Innovative Ideas • Effective Implementation • Superior Results

www.deltasolutions.com

Financial Management

Systems Integration

Business Solutions

Data Mart

Client Agencies include:

VA • DOI • HUD • IRS

Department of Labor

USAID • DEA



Innovation

Technology only helps if you know how to put it to work.

And we should know. We've been helping our clients harness the power of technology since 1985. In that time, we've seen trends come and go. But we've remained steadfast in our commitment to helping our clients harness the power of technology, and best practices, so they can run more efficiently and more profitably than ever.

And we can help your firm, too. For more information, call us to find out how our experienced financial and IT professionals can help you with:

- CFO Act Audits
- Financial and Management Consulting
- Accounting and Reconciliation Assistance
- Credit Reform Accounting
- Budget Preparation and Control
- Information Technology Consulting

KEARNEY & COMPANY *Certified Public Accountants and Consultants*

Visit our website at www. Kearneyco.com for more information.



To find out what's happening at other AGA chapters in the area:

Visit the Baltimore chapter's website at <http://www.aga-balt.com> to learn about their upcoming events.

Visit the Northern Virginia chapter's website at <http://www.novaga.org> to learn about their upcoming events.

Visit the Montgomery/Prince Georges chapter's website at <http://www.marylandaga.com> to learn about their upcoming events.

Since our founding in 1980, The MIL Corporation has been providing Federal government clients with professional financial management and information technology support services that address the most pressing challenges of our times.

- *Financial Management Systems Support*
- *Financial Services Support*
- *Information Technology Support*



THE MIL CORPORATION
 4000 MITCHELLVILLE ROAD
 SUITE A210
 BOWIE, MD 20716
 301.805.8500
 WWW.MILCORP.COM

Looking for an interesting career with a growing, stable firm? Send your resume to: Recruiting@milcorp.com





Want to Make a Difference?

Consider a Career in Government Financial Management

Are you, or someone from your chapter planning to attend a career fair, or an event for college students? AGA now has an eye-catching brochure that offers information about government financial management careers and answers questions for aspiring government financial managers regarding the qualifications and skills needed to get started. It also includes a bookmark for students that directs them to the Tomorrow's Professionals website for more information. To order free copies of the brochure, please submit the collateral order form found in the Members Only section or contact Jessica Jones.

Connect to the World of Government

Join AGA

Connect to
the World of
Government
Accountability

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

Click on the link below to view a short AGA video:
<http://www.agacgfm.org/downloads/agaweb.wmv>

Top three
reasons
to join
KPMG.

Work with
clients who deal
with everything
from rockets to
grizzly bears.

Work with a
firm that offers
five weeks of
personal time.

Work in
the fastest
growing practice
in the firm.



In fact, we've grown by double-digits in each of the last eight years. Which is why we need even more people with diverse government experience. Interested?... Please submit your resume to eguevara@kpmg.com.

www.us.kpmg.com

AUDIT • TAX • ADVISORY





OTHER CHAPTER EVENTS



October 12th -- Early Careers Social Event

October 25th -- October Dinner Meeting - Joint Meeting with the NOVA

Northern Virginia Chapter Calendar of Events

October 18th -- "Excited to Serve: Serving AGA, Your Profession and Yourself" National President Jeffrey Hart confirmed Embassy Suites, Joint Meeting with Montgomery/Prince Georges Chapter, 6:00-8:00pm

November 16th -- "VSCPA Ethics Training", Time/Cost TBD - afternoon session "Personal Financial Planning" - evening meeting Embassy Suites, Registration 5:15-6:00pm, Meeting 6:00-7:00pm

December 13th -- "Performance Based Budgeting in Government" Clay Johnson, OMB Deputy Director KPMG 2001 M St. Washington DC, Time TBD



AGA's Second Annual
**NATIONAL PERFORMANCE
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**



*Integrating Measurement
with Management:
Making the Connection*



October 30-31, 2006
Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel
& Convention Center
Schaumburg, IL



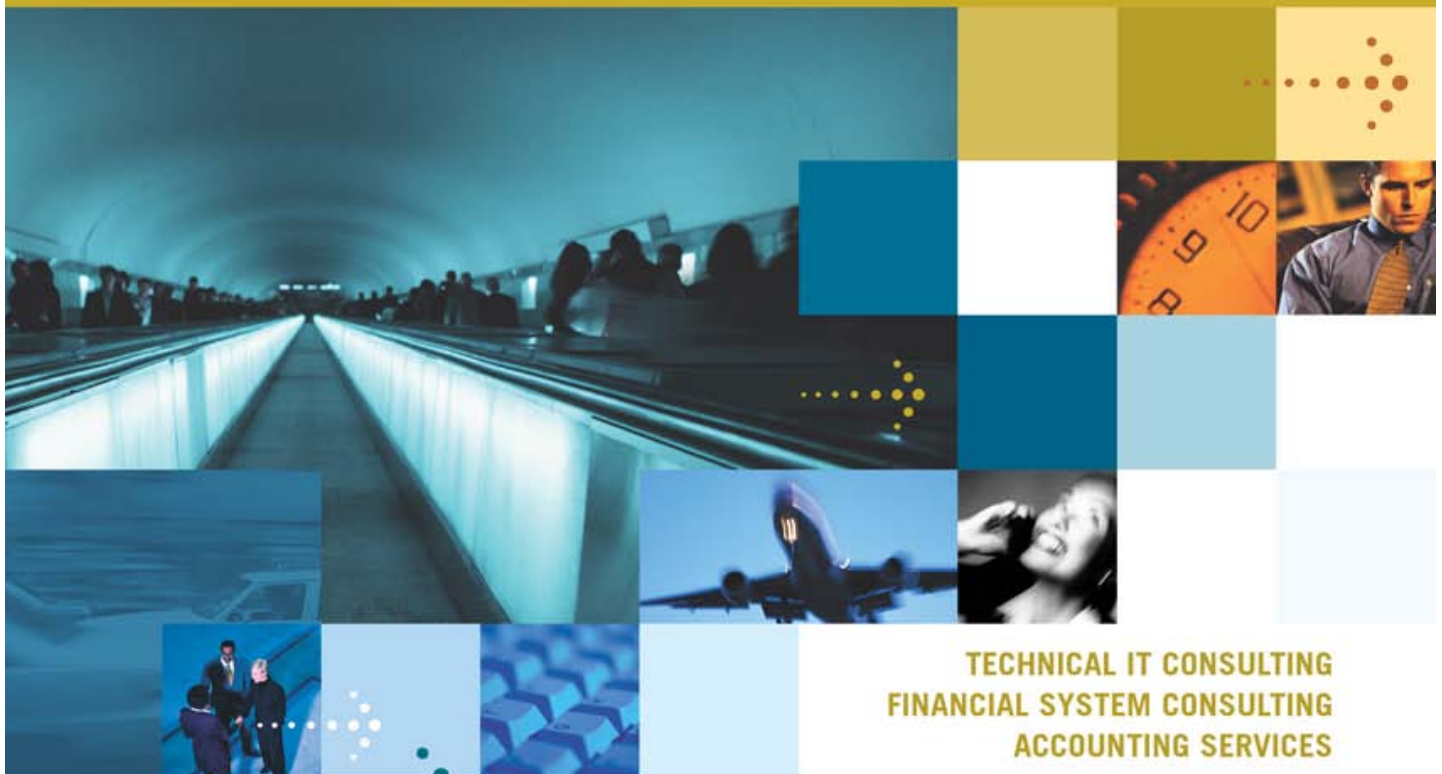
*Preliminary Program &
Registration Materials*



SECOND ANNUAL
NATIONAL PERFORMANCE
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Register online at www.agacgfm.org/pmc

TRANSFORMING CLIENTS' VISION INTO RESULTS



TECHNICAL IT CONSULTING
 FINANCIAL SYSTEM CONSULTING
 ACCOUNTING SERVICES

IN TODAY'S WORLD, the most successful enterprises are defined by their ability to optimize business practices consistent with their missions. While the missions of government and business may be very different, executives in both public and private sectors are finding that the challenges they face are increasingly similar: contain costs, improve performance, ensure consistency, satisfy customers and achieve results.

We know that your organization is dynamic, and that your operations and your requirements are constantly changing. Today's solutions need to address and adapt to tomorrow's challenges. That's the strength of Savantage Solutions. Contact us today to learn how we can help.



savantage solutions

1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 425, Rockville, MD 20850 • tel 301 258 5600 fax 301 258 5630 • www.savantage.net

At your service...

2006/2007 Officers and Directors

Officers

President, Scott Bell
Dept. of Treasury, DO
202-622-1797
scott.bell@do.treas.gov

Past President, Lisa Casias
Dept. of Commerce
202-482-1207
LCasias1@doc.gov

President-Elect, Dan Christovich
Coast Guard
202-267-0443
dchristovich@comdt.uscg.mil

Secretary, Christina Pfeffer
Metaformers
703-303-5439
christina.pfeffer@metaformers.com

Asst. Secretary, Jay Ahuja
Booz-Allen
703-377-4571
ahuja_jay@bah.com

Treasurer, John Lynskey
National Science Foundation
703-292-4457
jlynskey@nsf.gov

Asst. Treasurer, Marianne Condon
Veterans Administration
202-273-9445
marianne.condon@mail.va.gov

Asst. Treasurer, Christy Beck
Unisys
703-439-5508
Christina.Beck@unisys.com

AGA National

Regional Vice Pres, Karl Boettcher
Dept. of Treasury, FMS
202-874-6131
karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov

Programs

Director, Ken Bresnahan
Grant Thornton
703-637-3034
ken.bresnahan@gt.com

Administration

Pat Clark Duncan
Dept. of Labor
202-693-6808
clark.patricia@dol.gov

Asst. Director, Stacye Loman
ACCEL Corp
301-879-2095
sloman@accel-corporation.com

Awards

Director, Jeff Green
Kearney & Co
(703) 931-5600 x123
jgreen@kearneyco.com

Asst. Director, Pat Wensel
Retired - U.S. Dept of Agriculture
(703) 931-5600
dpwensel@verizon.net

CGFM Certification

Director, Audrey Duchesne
Deloitte
202-220-2086
aduchesne@omb.eop.gov

Asst. Director, Rhea Riso
Housing and Urban Development
202-708-0614, ext 3763
rhea_l_riso@hud.gov

Community Service

Director, Tonya Allen-Shaw
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
202-720-5026
tallen-shaw@cfo.usda.gov

Asst. Director, Lloyd Farmer
MIL Corp
301-809-1326
lfarmer@milcorp.com

Corporate Sponsors

Director, John Cherbini
KPMG
202-533-4339
jcherbini@kpmg.com

Asst. Director, Marianne Condon
Veterans Administration
202-273-9445
marianne.condon@mail.va.gov

Early Careers

Director, Laura Glass
Oracle
703-919-9181
Laura.glass@oracle.com

Asst. Director, Ross Simms
FASAB
202-512-2512
SimmsR@fasab.gov

Education

Director, Mike Allen
LMI
571-633-7804
MALLEN@lmi.org

Asst. Director, Susan Johnson
LMI
703-917-7082
ssjohnson@lmi.org

Meetings

Director, Corbin Neiberline
KPMG
202-533-3224
cneiberline@kpmg.com

Asst. Director, Sherif Ettefa
KPMG
202-533-7014
settefa@kpmg.com

Member Services

Director, Lisa Robenseifner
PwC
703-918-1005
lisa.robenseifner@us.pwc.com

Asst. Director, Caitlin Holmes
PwC
703-918-1005
caitlin.b.holmes@us.pwc.com

Membership and Liaison

Co-Director, Marguerite Nealon
Treasury, FMS
202-874-5709
marguerite.nealon@fms.treas.gov

Co-Director, Le Ann Corcoran
Savantage
301-258-5628
lcorcoran@savantage.net

Washington Connection Newsletter

Editor, Don Geiger
Treasury, DO
202-622-0809
Donald.Geiger@do.treas.gov

Asst. Editor, Sarah Suchland
Deloitte
202-254 5504
sjsuchland@deloitte.com

Publications

Director, Simcha Kuritzky
CGI Federal
202-606-0221
Simcha.Kuritzky@CGIFederal.com

AGADC.com

Webmaster, Harris Gofstein
SC & H Consulting
410-785-6715
hgofstein@stoutcausey.com

Asst. Webmaster, William S. Black
Savantage
571-594-9909
wblack@savantage.net

Newsletter Designer, Erwin Solbach, solbach7@gmail.com

Washington Chapter
P.O. Box 423
Washington, DC 20044-0423
www.AGADC.org

AGA
WASHINGTON DC, CHAPTER