



The Washington Connection



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Spring Events

April 8th, Gametime 7pm: *Washington Wizards against the New York Knicks*, Capital One Arena, with access to the Devil's Backbone Lounge.

April 9th, AGA DC Spring Social, reception and dinner at the Washington Hilton with guest speaker AGA's National President Gerry Boaz.

April 19th, Hybrid Training Luncheon, with guest speaker Bret Edwards, FDIC Deputy to the Chairman and CFO.

April 26th, 12-12:30pm, Virtual GoToWebinar: sponsored by KPMG. Topic: *"KPMG Audit & Intelligent Automation"* with guest speakers Chris Grassano, John Heath, and Cynthia Tan. Free. [Register Now!](#)

May 3rd, 12-12:30pm, Virtual GoToWebinar: Sponsored by CGI. Topic: *"Implementing Data Sharing Efforts"* with guest speaker, Brad Schoffstall. Free. [Register Now!](#)

May 10th, 11am-1:30pm, Old Ebbitt Grill: *Special Event* for *Diamond Sponsors Only*, Hosted by the DC Chapter Sponsorship Committee. VIP event with guest speaker Kika Scott Deputy Chief Financial Officer, USCIS.

May 12th, Performance Improvement Officer (PIO)/Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Summit in Washington DC - Free for government employee AGA members. [Register Now!](#)

May 19th, Hybrid Training Luncheon, with guest speaker Brian Miller, SIGPR.

May 25th, 12-12:30pm, Virtual GoToWebinar: sponsored by Grant Thornton. Topic: *"Fighting Frankenstein: The Future of Identity Crime Prevention."*

June 4th, Wine Tour - Save the date.

National Council of Chapters (NCC) Update

The National Council of Chapters (NCC) met on February 1, 2022. There are 90 chapters though the number of actual participants in the meeting was substantially less. Approximately 50 chapters, with around 3,100 members, have dormant websites and thus no discernable operations. Historically there had been substantial membership growth from opening new chapters. However, activity at many chapters has stagnated due in part to a lack of resources. AGA National does not provide direct financial support to the chapters. Proposals were made in the February and September AGA Board meetings for AGA National to provide these chapters with software for hosting virtual meetings and training but this has not been done.

AGA National announced that they were eliminating all chapter awards at PDT other than ACE.

Tallahassee was recognized for having successful hybrid training using Zoom and Conferences I/O. Montgomery PG chapter also uses these same products. Nashville has had success using Teams and Conferences I/O. Those options are significantly less expensive than the gotowebinar software that the DC chapter uses so a change should be considered.

During the breakout session we suggested to AGA National that they publish the list of charities that receive community service matching donations from their National Community Service Fund. This would enhance transparency and enable the chapters to assess whether their matching applications were approved. We also suggested that the NCC meeting minutes be accessible to all AGA members on the website since many chapters don't have active NCC reps to provide such information (see above). Lastly, we asked AGA National why their online membership application is set up to block submission unless the



applicant chooses a gender-specific title. This appears out-of-step with current norms. We were advised that all of these issues would be considered.

Total AGA membership, excluding free student memberships, is 12,426 which is the same as it was 38 years ago i.e., July 1984. There was a 1% increase over the March 2021 total, which is partially attributable to the 6-8 month complimentary trial memberships AGA National began offering last summer. The corresponding totals for the DC chapter were 1,848 in March 2022 and 1,813 in March 2021. These membership numbers include departed lifetime members.

Please contact us if there are any issues you would like addressed at the next NCC meeting. You can also contact Johnny Ramsey of the Baltimore chapter since he is the AGA National Governing Board (NGB) member assigned to represent the chapters in our region (Area 8). There are 7 other Board members responsible for representing chapters in other regions though there is a substantial disparity in proportionate representation. For example, the Area 1 Board member's region appears to have only 3 active chapters with 450 total members whereas Johnny's region includes 5 active chapters with 3,500 members. The aggregate voting interest of the 8 NGB members assigned to represent the chapters is 50%. The ability of each chapter to directly vote on AGA matters was extinguished in 2019.

If you have any questions about the NCC, or would like to propose any issues for discussion at the future NCC meeting, please contact us at agadc@agadc.org.

Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability. AGA defines government accountability as a government's obligation to the people for its actions and use of resources.

Mission Statement

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.



Practical Solutions for Complex Challenges

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Sponsored Training & Conferences

AGA Sponsored Training & Events

When: 04/26/22 — 12-12:30pm, Virtual GoToWebinar: Sponsored Training sponsored by KPMG. Topic: “KPMG Audit & Intelligent Automation” with guest speakers Chris Grassano, John Heath, and Cynthia Tan. Free.

****Special Event****

When: 05/10/22 — 11am-1:30pm, Location: TBA, VIP Special Event (*Diamond Sponsors Only*). This event is hosted by the DC Chapter Sponsorship Committee with guest speaker Kika Scott Deputy Chief Financial Officer, USCIS.

DC Chapter members are provided FREE training opportunities throughout the year — thank you, Sponsors! These training sessions or product demos are *informational only*. **CPE will not be provided.**

***Virtual Training (please note):** Advanced registration is necessary to gain a personal log in. You will receive one email with instructions to finalize your registration, and a second email from customercare@gotowebinar.com with access links prior to the scheduled date.

For questions regarding Sponsor Training and Events, please contact Paul Marshall at agadc@agadc.org.

**** SAVE THE DATE ****



AGA DC Audio Training Schedule

The AGA DC Chapter will host the following AGA National audio training sessions throughout the 2021-2022 program year.

Cost:

There is no charge for active DC Chapter members for these events and attendees will earn two (2) CPE credit hours.

When:

04/20/22 — CARES Act

05/11/22 — Fraud/Data Analytics

06/08/22 — Leadership

For more information on this audio conference and the full schedule of AGA National's audio conferences please visit the AGA National website at: AGA DC Webinars

**** SAVE THE DATE ****



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AGA DC 2023 Leadership Announcements

The AGA DC Nominating Committee is happy to announce that we recently selected three new leaders for the upcoming year.

Lal Harter will be serving as the Chapter President-Elect beginning on July 1, 2022, and his presidency will begin on July 1, 2023. Lal is currently an auditor with U.S. Customs and Immigration Service (USCIS) within DHS. Prior to his role with USCIS Lal worked at Guidehouse supporting clients across the public sector space and was also previously a Finance Director for a school district. Lal has been a member of the Association of Governmental Accountants (AGA) for over 15 years and is currently the Secretary of the DC Chapter. In addition to Lal's work with the DC Chapter, he also held several leadership roles in the Southwest Virginia Chapter. In February 2018, Lal was awarded the AGA's Private Sector Financial Excellence Award for his contributions to State and Local government. We look forward to welcoming Lal in this new role!

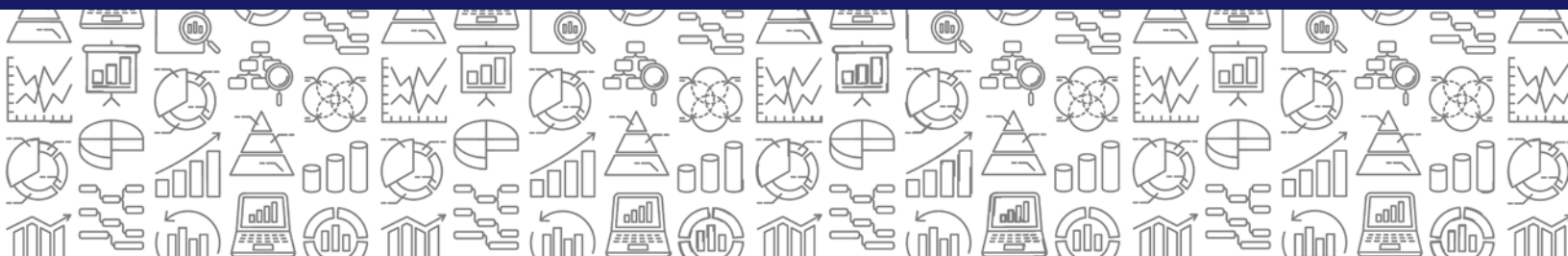


Shawn Syed was selected to serve as the Treasurer-Elect, also beginning on July 1, 2022. Shawn currently is a Managing Director with Syed and Associates and supports clients across both the public and commercial sectors. Shawn has served as the CGFM Committee Director for 4 years. The chapter has received the CGFM committee award 2 of the 4 years and has continued to find innovative ways to support chapter members. Shawn instituted a data driven analysis of members to identify potential credential candidates and established new incentives to support members to obtain incentives. Shawn will support Chi Okonkwo as her term as Treasurer begins on July 1, 2022.

And finally, **Paul Marshall**, was selected to serve as the Chapter National Council of Chapters (NCC) representative. In this role, Paul will serve as an ambassador for the chapter to both National AGA and other chapters, while providing input to AGA leaders and the National Government Board. Paul is currently a Vice President at MIL Corporation providing support to federal agencies across the government. Paul has supported the NOVA, DC and AGA National boards and committees for over a decade and is also actively involved with AFERM. Paul also hosts the AGA Accountability Talks podcast. Through his support of AGA Paul has served in multiple roles, including Sponsorship Director, Early Careers Director, Chapter Recognition Lead, Capital Region Education Coordinator, Capital Region Early Careers Coordinator, Programs Director, and Accountability Director. We are excited for Paul to bring his vast AGA experience to this important role!



Please join us in congratulating and welcome our new leaders!





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Virtual Luncheons



JANUARY LUNCHEON

"FASAB @ Work on Land and Climate-Related Financial Reporting"

On January 11, 2022, the DC Chapter welcomed our January virtual luncheon speaker **Ms. Monica Valentine** from the **Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB)**. We had a record of more than 220 Washington, DC and Northern Virginia Chapter members joining us for the first virtual luncheon in the new year of 2022!

Ms. Monica Valentine is the Executive Director of the FASAB. She serves as the technical director and program administrator for FASAB. Technical activities include developing accounting standards for Federal government departments and agencies as well as responding to inquiries regarding the application of accounting standards. Ms. Valentine also manages the research staff supporting FASAB deliberations.

For this year's FASAB update presented during our January virtual luncheon, Ms. Valentine highlighted breaking updates on two projects related to the environment: government land and climate-related financial reporting, as well as status of other FASAB current projects.

Ms. Valentine provided our members on background of the government land project, as currently Statements of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) 6, Accounting for Property, Plant, and Equipment (PP&E), and SFFAS 29, Heritage Assets and Stewardship Land, established two different accounting and reporting models for government land. As a result, FASAB established SFFAS 59, Accounting and Reporting of Government Land, to provide a transitional 4-year reporting period (FYs 22-25) with no change to general PP&E land balance sheet reporting or current stewardship land disclosure requirements. In FY 26, general PP&E land and permanent land rights will be reclassified as a non-capitalized asset and referencing a note on the balance sheet that discloses information about general PP&E land and permanent land rights without an asset dollar amount. For all periods, reporting estimated acres of general PP&E land and stewardship land will be used based on three predominant use subcategories: (1) conservation and preservation land, operational land, and Commercial use land; (2) reporting estimated acres of land held for disposal or exchange; (3) reporting land rights information, whether such rights are permanent or temporary, and amounts paid during the year to maintain such rights.

For the newer FASAB ongoing project on climate-related financial reporting, Ms. Valentine discussed the background on why the Board picked up, and approved the project in August 2021, as climate change is a growing concern. FASAB's objectives are to: develop a staff education paper on what guidance is available for accounting and reporting on climate-related impacts and risks; develop a climate-related financial



FASAB @ Work on Land and Climate-Related Financial Reporting

Monica R. Valentine

January 11, 2022

AGA DC Luncheon



January Virtual Luncheon cont'd.

disclosure framework; and monitor and report to the Board on implementation of climate Executive Orders and other standard setter disclosure activities.

Ms. Valentine also provided our members brief updates on the other current FASAB projects, including Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A); Intangible Assets/Software; Public-Private Partnerships; Lease Implementation; Reexamination of Existing Standards; and Omnibus Concepts Amendments.

Ms. Valentine concluded her presentation with a robust Q&A session, and she encouraged the financial management community to keep up with FASAB projects and participate to provide feedback on FASAB projects - via joining the FASAB task force or sending in technical inquiries, with reference to the ways on how our members could connect with FASAB.

We sincerely appreciate the time Ms. Valentine spent with us to share her insights and knowledge. We would also like to thank our Corporate Sponsor, **Guidehouse**; and **Ms. Tonya Baker**, Associate Director of Guidehouse's Public Sector Financial Services Practice, for her introductory remarks.

Our monthly luncheon was made possible by our hard working volunteers from the Monthly Luncheon and Program Teams. **THANK YOU to our Monthly Luncheon and Program Teams!** Please make sure you check out our article in this newsletter as we feature our Monthly Luncheon Committee and Program Committee!



We appreciate our partners at the Northern Virginia Chapter for continuing to co-sponsor this event with us!

★ *The DC Chapter is proud to share with you that more than 99% of our surveyed participants agree that the January luncheon event has met the stated learning objectives.* ★

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

"Innovation Through Robotic Process Automation at USDA"



On February 9, 2022, the DC Chapter welcomed our February virtual luncheon speaker **Ms. Lynn Moaney, the Deputy Chief Financial Officer (DCFO) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**. Ms. Moaney is responsible for overseeing all financial management activities relating to the programs and operations of USDA. She has direct management of over 1,300 employees throughout the country. Prior to this, she served as the USDA's Associate Chief Financial Officer over Financial Policy and Planning and the DCFO at the Federal Communications Commission. Ms. Moaney has over 30 years experience and a proven record of leading organizational initiatives. She has been recognized as a Fed100 award recipient and FedScoop 50 nominee for being a trailblazer and innovator in the area of Robotics Process Automation and continues to be a champion that builds bridges for automation between Information Technology (IT), Finance and other Administrative/Program communities. Ms. Moaney received her Bachelor's degree from Howard University and is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute.

During this February virtual luncheon, Ms. Moaney discussed the USDA's journey on implementing the Robotic Process Automation (RPA or "bots") since 2017 - from analyzing RPA software, servers' configuration, governance structure setup, to the first and ongoing successful automation deployment. Ms. Moaney champions the use of RPA as a cost effective tool on USDA's IT modernization efforts. She also

February Virtual Luncheon cont'd.

talked about some of the RPA benefits include: improve data accuracy; standardize key processes; reallocate critical human resources to work on high-value tasks; and reduce administrative burden.

Ms. Moaney then talked about the USDA's RPA governance structure. In standing up an RPA Center of Excellence, USDA developed the technical environment for automation, established standardized program governance for shared services, and established an IT-focused reskilling program to support the continued growth of the RPA program at USDA. Under Ms. Moaney's leadership, a Service Management Office (SMO) was created and took a multi-faceted approach to gain process improvements through RPA and workforce training allowed Ms. Moaney's office to become a role model for Federal agencies interested in automation. Also, the USDA, working with the Office of Management and Budget, deployed a year-long reskilling program with the goal of building fluency in digital technologies within the USDA. This successful reskilling program focused on RPA and training its USDA employees. Participating employees applied and were selected to represent their organization as ambassadors for both RPA and digital technologies.

Ms. Moaney highlighted some of the impressive outcome and metrics due to RPA implementation, for example: 21,000 government FTE hours on the Farm Loan Program reallocated for higher-value tasks; processed documentation for \$2.7 billion in obligated loan funds to America's farmers; 50% faster processing and matching of check payments for the Food and Nutrition Service.

Ms. Moaney shared a few key lessons learned on the RPA implementation journey:

- Automations are not out-of-the-box solutions that can be "plugged in."
- IT and business functions must partner in order to combine native technical knowledge and operating experience.
- Connect early and often for optimal results to identify upcoming technical changes and consider technology roadmap when designing automations.
- To champion the benefits of automation and redesign roles to collaborate with digit workers and realize value.
- Understand that automation design may require additional time to scope a process that provides sufficient return on investment.
- Automations must be designed today to produce the data required for analytics and enabling operational improvements (not just for fixing system issues).

Finally, Ms. Moaney shared her vision on the future RPA use at USDA, such as automating shared service functions for internal/external customers; providing better information for eligibility programs and access to benefits; and increasing access to nutritional information.

We sincerely appreciate the time Ms. Moaney spent with us to share her experience and insights. We would also like to thank our Corporate Sponsor, **CGI Federal**; and **Ms. Christine Cuadro**, Director of CGI Federal, for her introductory remarks. **We also appreciate our partner at the Northern Virginia Chapter for continuing to co-sponsor this event with us!**

We had another record of more than 220 Washington, DC and Northern Virginia Chapter members joined us virtually. Our monthly luncheon was made possible by our hard working volunteers from the Monthly Luncheon and Program Teams. THANK YOU to our Monthly Luncheon and Program Teams! Please make sure you check out our article in this newsletter as we feature our Monthly Luncheon Committee and Program Committee!

★ The DC Chapter is proud to share with you that more than 93% of our surveyed participants rated "excellent" or "very good satisfaction" of the February luncheon event. ★



MARCH HYBRID LUNCHEON

"OMB UPDATE"

On March 23, 2022, the DC Chapter welcomed our March hybrid luncheon speaker **Ms. Deidre Harrison from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)**. After our first successful hybrid luncheon back in December, we welcomed both 171 virtual and 45 in-person attendees as we hosted our March luncheon at Clyde's of Gallery Place in downtown Washington, DC.

Ms. Deidre Harrison is the OMB's Deputy Controller and a senior member of the OMB management team supporting the President's Management Agenda and other Administration priorities. She is also responsible for overseeing the Office of Federal Financial Management's (OFFM) diverse portfolio which includes issuing government-wide policies through OMB circulars, bulletins, and memos; the Uniform Guidance; and other issuances. Prior to joining OFFM, Ms. Harrison was a senior examiner in the Treasury Branch at OMB where her portfolio included various Bureaus and offices within the Department of the Treasury and branch-wide financial management policy areas including improper payments, shared services, and financial reporting and display. Prior to her Federal career, Ms. Harrison worked for an economic consulting firm to oversee the design and implementation of large data analysis projects for clients to use in the courtroom and before regulatory agencies. Ms. Harrison received an undergraduate degree in International Politics and Economics from Middlebury College and a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.



Ms. Harrison made her remarks and answered our members' questions throughout her interactive presentation "OMB Update." Ms. Harrison first discussed her background and provided an overview of OFFM's major areas: annual financial reporting; internal control-auditing; financial systems; real property; improper payments; and financial assistance. Ms. Harrison then highlighted 3 major pillars under the President's Management Agenda (PMA): Strengthening and empowering the Federal workforce; Delivering excellent, equitable, and secure Federal services and customer experience; and Managing the business of government to build back better. She used Federal financial assistance as an example - to highlight the importance of setting core competencies for grant management professionals and figuring out a way to provide training in a central way. Also, her office is looking for ways on how we can use financial assistance to drive priorities or speak one voice of the government, which will need to set up internal government structure to identify government-wide approaches or solutions. And unlike the prior PMAs, this Administration uses PMA as a tool to layout the vision, instead of using PMA to predetermine all the goals and work streams. Ms. Harrison also answered a question from our member regarding the first pillar of the PMA - to figure out what employees need to get their jobs done and to make the Federal government an attractive employer.



Ms. Harrison also talked about the Administration's COVID-19 relief work via the American Rescue Plan (APR) Act. Similar to the CARES Act and other COVID-19 relief legislation, there's a need to get the money out of the door quickly. However, the Administration made the shift to make sure the right recipients receive the assistance as intended. That means it could take additional time to ensure the program and controls are properly designed to reduce any potential fraud, waste, and abuse. Within a week after the enactment of the APR Act, the OMB issued a memo M-21-20 with lessons learned from the CARES Act implementation. Agencies were required to submit their proposed implementation plan of 2 CFR to OMB

March Hybrid Luncheon Cont'd.



for approval. OMB also worked closely with the Inspector General (IG) community and the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) to get their expertise on reviewing internal control and risks of programs under the APR Act.

Regarding the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, OMB is working hard on the implementation aspects. By design, under the infrastructure law the funding goes out of the door in 5 to 10 years and most of the funding goes to the state, local, and tribal governments. Therefore, there's a different set of internal controls and considerations in the play. However, OMB leverages lessons learned from COVID-19 relief legislation implementation, and continues to require agencies to submit their implementation plan under the infrastructure law. OMB also continues to work closely with the agency staff, IG community, and Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review new programs' internal control and risks.

We sincerely appreciate the time Ms. Harrison spent with us to share her knowledge and experience. We would also like to thank our Corporate Sponsor, **Cotton & Company**, and **Mr. Jesse Carpenter**, Partner at Cotton & Company, for his introductory remarks! **A big THANK YOU to the Northern Virginia Chapter for co-sponsoring this event with us!**

Finally, our March hybrid luncheon was made possible by our hard working volunteers from the Program Team, and Monthly Luncheon Team who took care of the programming, in-person, and virtual operations. We have highlighted the Program Team's and Monthly Luncheon Team's work in this newsletter. THANK YOU to our Program and Monthly Luncheon Teams!

We appreciate our partners at the Northern Virginia Chapter for continuing to co-sponsor this event with us!

★ The DC Chapter is proud to share with you that more than 95% of our surveyed participants rated "excellent" or "very good satisfaction" of the March luncheon event. ★



Member Luncheon Videos

To access past recordings of our luncheon speaker presentations, please visit our chapter website and select the menu section "**Members Luncheon Videos**" or visit this [direct link](#).

Please Note: Login and password are the same as your access to the AGA National website



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New Member Contest

DO YOU LIKE MONEY? THEN PLEASE READ!

During the 2021-2022 Program Year, the Membership Committee of the AGA DC Chapter is instituting a **CASH PRIZE** (\$100 USD in the form of an Amazon gift card) provided at each coming quarter end (March and June, 2022 remain), to the member who sponsors and/or recruits the **most new members** in a given quarter. With your help and dedication, we can achieve our Chapter's 10% growth goal of new members this year! *Congratulations to Nadine R. Bradley who recruited the most members in the Winter quarter!*

Please note the membership referral/sponsoring application is a three-step process:

1. New members should create an "My AGA Account" found at the [AGA National website](#);
2. New account login details will be sent to email provided during registration in step 1;
3. Once logged into the "My AGA Account," new members are to complete their AGA membership application, whereby within the Demographics data page of the application, the new member **must** denote the "Recruited by Member ID" and/or "Recruiter's Name."

Recruitment/Sponsoring winners will be contacted via email and announced in the following quarter's newsletter. The Membership Committee looks forward to every member "getting" a member (or more)!

(NOTE: Previous quarterly winners are ineligible for future prizes in the same program year.)

Welcome New Members!

The AGA DC Chapter and the Membership Committee extends a warm welcome to our newest members! Thanks to you, the AGA continues to grow. Stay up-to-date on fantastic programs, membership benefits, and recruiting incentives starting now. Remember if you have not yet renewed, you may do so at the [AGA Washington DC Chapter](#) website to take advantage of member benefits throughout the next program year.

Ms. Jacqueline A. Adekoya

Mr. Jayant Ahuja

Ms. Rita L. Alvarado

Mr. Adebayo Y. Bakare, CFE,
CPA, CGFM

Mr. Benjamin M. Bembry

Dr. Gary A. Bojes

Mr. Alexander J. Bruno

Mrs. Sharon R. Bryant

Mr. Alec Buchbaum

Ms. Lisa Butler

Mr. Mike D. Chatman, Sr., CGFM

Ms. Hyo J. Choi, CGFM

Ms. Shawn Conner

Ms. Andrada Cornea

Ms. Jennifer Crowe

Ms. Sophie S. Cutler

Mr. Vijay D'Souza

Mr. Joshua R. Daily

Mr. Edwen Delcid

Mr. Steven DeNoon

Mr. Ryan DePoy

Mr. Moges Dessalegn

Ms. Kimberly Dickerson

Mrs. Mona L. Doyle-Saffran

Mr. Adrian Dupree, CFE, CIA,
CGAP

Ms. Amy Edwards

Mr. Kennie Edwards

Mr. Jason S. Estrada

Ms. Tinasha C. Forrester

Ms. Elena A. Fowlkes

Mr. Craig Freeman

Mr. Richard Fried

Mr. James Gallagher

Mrs. LaToya H. Garner

Ms. Kristin Garzoni

Mr. Bradley R. Grams

Miss Tamarra D. Grant	Mr. Timothy J. McNeish	Mr. Ray R. Smith, Jr., CPA
Mr. Rodney A. Green	Ms. Lisseth Meza	Mr. Adam E. Thompson, CGFM
Ms. Robin Greenway	Mr. Mike Monson	Mrs. Katherine M. Thompson
Mr. Tyler Hampton	Ms. Deera M. Morida	Ms. Danielle Typinski
Mrs. Alisa Harkins	Ms. Hollyann Morton	Mr. Michael Van Deusen
Ms. Elizabeth Harris	Ms. Emily A. Murawa	Mr. Alex Verkhivker
Mrs. Priscilla Ann Holland	Mr. Vincent Ong	Ms. Sandra René Walters
Miss Angela Marie Holmes, CGFM	Mr. Arturo Pangilinan	Dr. Linda Wang
Miss Kimberly D. Holston	Mr. Shane Parker	Ms. Royale Wells
Mr. Blake Hudson	Mr. Eric V. Peters	Ms. Melyni H. Williams, CGFM
Ms. Sarah Hughes	Ms. Kanetha Peters	Mr. Paul J. Wroblewski, III
Ms. Stephanie Irby	Ms. Angelina Piazza	Ms. Xinyu Zhang
Miss Janell M. James	Ms. Emma Pollock	Ms. Kiera N. Murphy
Ms. Micaela Jimenez, CGFM	Mr. Justin Thomas Reed	Ms. Erin Kelley, CGFM
Mrs. Catrina Johnson	Ms. Alexis Riffer	Mr. Mark J. Bednarz
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Mrs. Elizabeth Lainhart	Ms. Sia Sankoh	Ms. Stephanie Lehrman
Mr. Frederick Jay Lane	Mr. Adam R. Schildge	Mr. Michael A. Bradshaw, CGFM
Mr. John P. Lang	Ms. Amanda R. Shields	Ms. Joanne Chavez Foster, CGFM
Ms. Emily S. Law, CPA	Mr. Daniel R. Shriver, CPA	Mr. Charles J. Colbert
Mrs. Kendrietta L. Leo	Mr. Robert Steven Silverstein	Ms. Sandra Whitaker-Bryant
Miss Virginia A. Maddrey	Mr. Jaskirat Singh, CGFM	Mr. James J. Cowen
Dr. Eve May	Ms. Alyssa Smiley	Miss Katerin E. Mercedes Franco
Ms. Kimberly McClellan	Mr. Jamil Smith	Mrs. Morrissa Perkins





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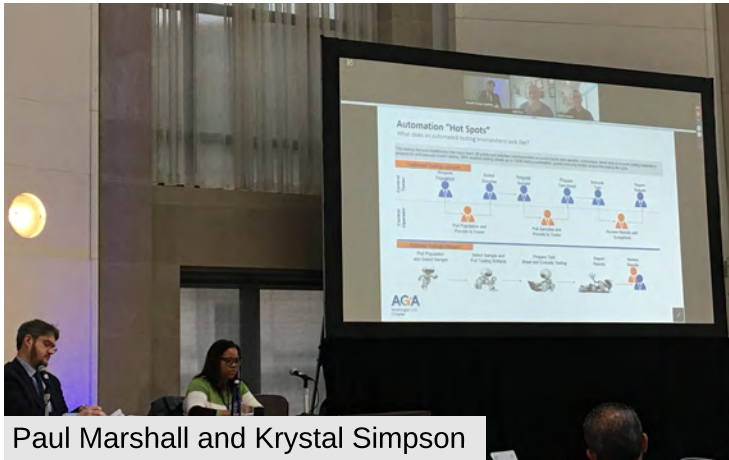


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AGA DC 20th Annual Training

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, *March 30-31, 2022*

This event provided training by key leaders in the federal financial management sphere delivering insight into the current financial environment.



Paul Marshall and Krystal Simpson



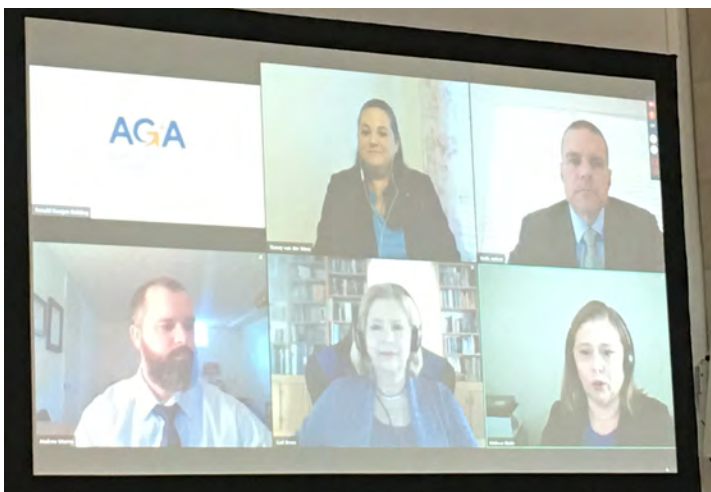
Craig Fischer and Mike Wetklow



Lindsey Nosari, Alyssa Smiley and Jay Hoffman



Committee Volunteers: John Hooley, Robert Mackey, James Haskins, Katherine Rexroad and Sophie Cutler



Top left: Stacey van der Meer, top right: Keith Jarboe, bottom left: Andrew Morris, bottom middle: Gail Bruss, bottom right: Melissa Waite



Tom Harker, Bobby Hart, and Dominic Savini



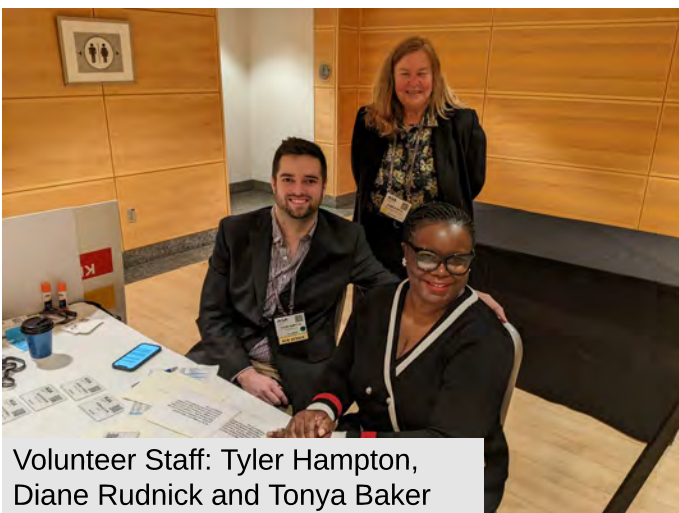
Corinne Dougherty and Robin Gilliam



Nicole Puri



Allison Lerner



Volunteer Staff: Tyler Hampton, Diane Rudnick and Tonya Baker



Doug Glenn and Sarah Hay



Zina Merritt and Erik Causey



Theodore Stehney and Jason Boberg



David Zavada



Paul Lionikis, Professor Sheila Bedford, Brittany Hopwood and Al Pavot



Brittany Hopwood, Sophie Cutler, Orinda Basha and Christy Beck



Cocktail Hour following Day 1



Christy Beck, Paul Marshall and Krystal Simpson



Christy Beck and Alyssa Smiley



Cherry Ung, Lacey Markowitz and Monica Obispado

Committee Spotlights

Monthly Luncheon Committee and Program Committee

What do we do: Our volunteers from the Monthly Luncheon Committee and Program Committee work closely together to provide you high-quality educational and professional development training. For this 2021-2022 program year, we continue to host a series of luncheon meetings featuring distinguished subject matter experts on current financial management and accountability issues and requirements. Our Program Committee identifies and invites speakers for the monthly luncheon and our Monthly Luncheon Committee takes care of the logistics and administrative (such as registration) aspects of the luncheon.

Planned events: We're more than half way through our planned eight (8) monthly luncheon meetings in this program year, in which 1 CPE per meeting is offered. We take your health and well-being seriously. As we continue to hold the monthly luncheon meetings virtually through GoToWebinar, we keep monitoring the pandemic situation and have brought one in-person luncheon back in December and will bring additional in-person luncheons when it's safe to do so. See [here](#) for this program year monthly luncheon schedule and join us!

Our volunteers (and hear what some of them say about our Chapter and the Committee they serve).

Virtual Luncheon Team:

- Alexis Alfaro-Trejo (membership since 2018): I joined the committee because I saw an opportunity to meet and network with professionals who work on the Federal space. I can interact with professionals from different organizations where we build camaraderie as well as to receive updates of what various Federal agencies are doing in matters such as finance, accounting, etc.
- Morgan Buchanan (membership since 2019): I volunteered for the committee because I was interested in the production logistics of our chapter's monthly luncheon meetings (behind-the-scenes planning, scheduling, etc). Being on this committee has allowed me to become very familiar with the GoToMeeting software. In today's environment, learning how to navigate a new communication/meeting platform is always essential. Thanks for the new skills, AGA DC!
- Matt Gorman (membership since 2014): When the opportunity arose to assist the committee this past year, I thought it would be a great way to help the chapter in a critical area. Getting to meet professionals in our area and industry that I would otherwise never get to interact with has been the highlight of my membership, especially during a pandemic when so many other social opportunities have gone away. In terms of volunteering, giving back to a chapter that provides so much to its members is incredibly rewarding.
- Amanda Chait (membership since 2016)
- Leslie Phillips (membership since 2018)
- Areeba Rizvi (membership since 2018)
- Wendy Schiffman (membership since 2020)

Site Logistics Luncheon Team:

- Dan Lange (membership since 2016): The committee allows the rare opportunity to be a part of the first impression experience for the attendees. I also appreciate the ability to network with all the guests, and learn from the esteemed guest speakers. The fact that the food is always delicious is an added bonus. I like the people and the events. Ever since my first event in 2016, the members of AGA have been very welcoming to newcomers and regulars alike. Each event is a fun, worthwhile experience where we are given the opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues and learn from respected leaders in the industry.
- Victoria Abril (membership since 2020): I joined AGA DC Chapter in 2021 as a full-time professional but prior to that I was a George Washington University student member in 2020. The monthly luncheons were such a valuable part of my AGA experience while I was a student member that I wanted to contribute even further by actually being part of the committee. When I was approached with the

opportunity to join, I was excited to be able to be more involved in AGA and meet some other wonderful members. As a young professional, the DC Chapter has allowed me to network and connect with other individuals with similar but unique career backgrounds. The speakers that we hear from during the luncheons also make for great learning opportunities.

- Craig Freeman (membership since 2019): As I'm new to the DC Federal Audit community, I thought this would be a good committee to get myself more involved and meet Federal audit professionals in the DC region. I enjoy the variety and number of speakers the DC Chapter has at various events and the networking opportunities available.
- Emma Pollock (membership since 2021): I was interested in getting more involved in the organization and growing my professional network. I talked with my colleague who is running the committee and thought that it was the perfect opportunity.

Program Team:

- Paul Lionikis (membership since 2010)
- Peter Moore (membership since 2012)
- Frank Petersen (membership since 2011)
- Bo Shevchik (membership since 2011)

We the Program Team members joined to give back to our Federal financial management community that has given us so much. When we look back over the breadth of our chapter events, activities, learning opportunities and technical endeavors that we've organized, led, or attended, we know the value the Program Team brings to our chapter members. We appreciate the opportunity to lead in this space that makes volunteering priceless.

Our chapter membership is a diverse group of professionals with far-reaching impacts across local, state, and Federal governments. Our members have a thirst for knowledge and ambitious goals for themselves and our chapter. One of the best things about being on the committee is meeting the challenge to invigorate the curiosity of our learners and satisfy that thirst with excellent luncheon speakers. Working with such committed and dedicated professionals, and a legacy of outstanding chapter presidents, makes volunteering also a pleasure.

CPE Coordinator:

- Christy Beck (membership since 1998): It is fun volunteering for our chapter and you get to connect with so many different people in the government environment. I enjoy being the CPE Coordinator as the Chapter's lunch training programs are very popular and help members learn about government hot topics and maintain their certifications. Our chapter is great because we organize so many different activities including training with top leaders in government, happy hours, wine tours, virtual bingo, group events to see the Washington Capitals, Nationals, and Wizards to name a few. The networking and learning opportunities are excellent.

Interested in volunteering? Contact us at agadc@agadc.org today!

Corporate Sponsors Committee

What do we do: Our chapter recognizes the need for continued, robust participation from our sponsors. Our Corporate Sponsors Committee communicates the value that sponsors obtain from participating in the sponsorship program, recruit new sponsors, and serve as a liaison between our sponsors and chapter's executive board, so that our chapter can support a variety cost-effective, valued-added member activities and educational events.

Planned events: See our "Sponsored Training & Events" webpage at [Sponsored and Training Events](#) for training sessions or product demos offered by our sponsors.

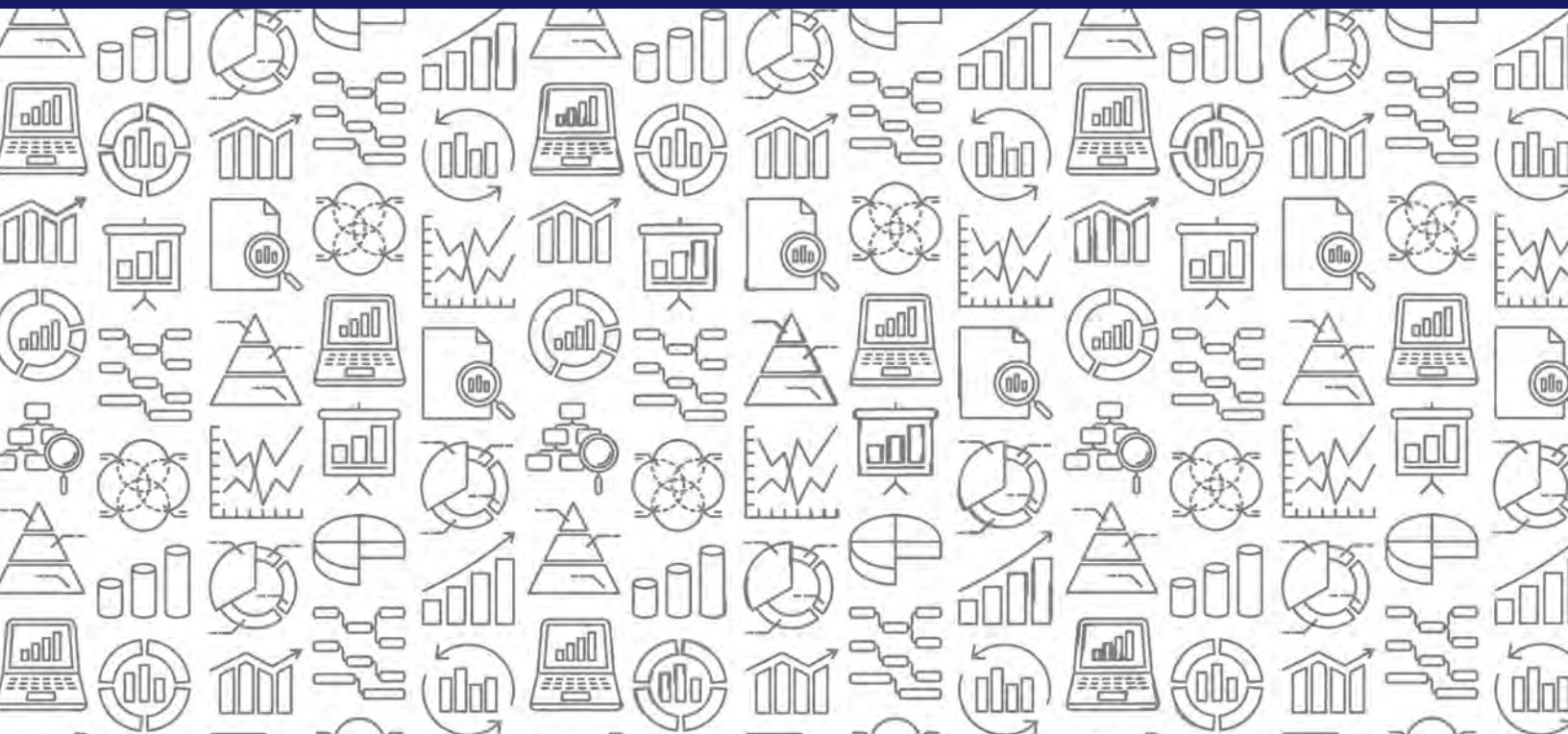
Our volunteers:

- Paul Marshall (membership since 2007): I thought it would be fun! I was able to organize Early Career events, happy hours, training and network from another chapter. This was the beginning of a long journey supporting different AGA Board roles. I enjoy the opportunity to continue to meet great people,

share ideas, provide training, learn from others, network and try to make a difference in the AGA community.

- Ryan Crowther (membership since 2019): I joined the AGA DC chapter and volunteered for the committee to expand my involvement in the industry and give back, and increase networking opportunities. I enjoy working with my fellow committee colleagues, and appreciate the team comradery and passion to provide our chapter's sponsors with value-added benefits.
- Sonya Holland (membership since 2004): I joined because I thought it would be an excellent opportunity to network and learn from other accounting professionals. I volunteered for the Committee after I saw the position announcement from Paul Marshall. I'd always attended the various PDT conferences and other events; however, I'd never worked "behind the scenes." There are many things that I like about the DC Chapter but, the one thing I like most is its cohesiveness and the willingness of committee members to assist others.
- Evan Mount (membership since 2017): I joined the committee because I wanted to support the DC Chapter's operations and expand my network within the DC Chapter. I enjoy volunteering for the committee because I am able to help our sponsors build relationships and strengthen their brands across the industry.
- Cherry Ung (former AGA National Office staff member; currently working in the private sector with membership since 2021): I was hired by my current company to support company administrative and professional organization efforts, including supporting my manager with the AGA National's Accountability Chat podcast and the DC Chapter sponsorship committee. This opportunity enabled me to be a part of the DC Chapter at a higher level and to assist with enhancing the Chapter's sponsorship committee efforts. Working side-by-side with dedicated individuals who volunteer their free time to better their professional career and help their colleagues succeed in the profession is the all-encompassing reason of what I enjoy most about being a Chapter and committee member of the DC Chapter.

Interested in sponsorship? Contact us at agadc@agadc.org or check out the information at [Sponsor Hub](#)





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Community Service



Black Women's Health Imperative | Health

In celebration of Black History Month in February and Women's Health Month in March, the Community Service Committee asks that you consider making a donation to the Black Women's Health Imperative.

For over 38 years, the Black Women's Health Imperative has been at the forefront of women's health issues, through comprehensive public education initiatives that promote the overall wellness of Black women. Presently, the organization continues to be dedicated to promoting physical, mental, and spiritual health and well-being for the nation's 19.5 million African American women and girls. Your donation will help the organization reach their bold goal of increasing their number of healthy black women from 9.5 to 12.5 million.

The Chapter offers members the opportunity to "pay it forward" by sharing their gifts and talents with the DC Community through volunteer opportunities in areas such as:

- **Social Safety** - Hunger, homelessness, and unemployment
- **Education** - Literacy and college prep
- **Health** - Awareness for mental, emotional, and physical illnesses
- **Veterans** - Support for service personnel and their families
- **Equal Opportunity** - Diversity and inclusion
- **Capital Causes** - Other local causes

You can participate in giving by going directly to the organization using this link [Black Women's Health Imperative Donations](#). Once you give, please provide a screenshot evidencing your proof of donation to Maurice Preston mpreston@guidehousefederal.com and Myriam Galvan Zambrana myriam.galvan-zambrana@us.gt.com so we are able track and take advantage of AGA's matching!

For questions about Black Women's Health Imperative, please contact the Community Service Committee: Maurice Preston mpreston@guidehousefederal.com or Myriam Galvan Zambrana myriam.galvan-zambrana@us.gt.com.

We hope you will join us in participating in all or some future community service opportunities.

We invite you to share photos on the impacts you are making and thoughts on how we can support your cause by connecting with the [Community Service Committee](#).

As always, thank you, for everything you do to make an impact in our community. Be well and stay safe!

Myriam Galvan-Zambrana and Maurice Preston

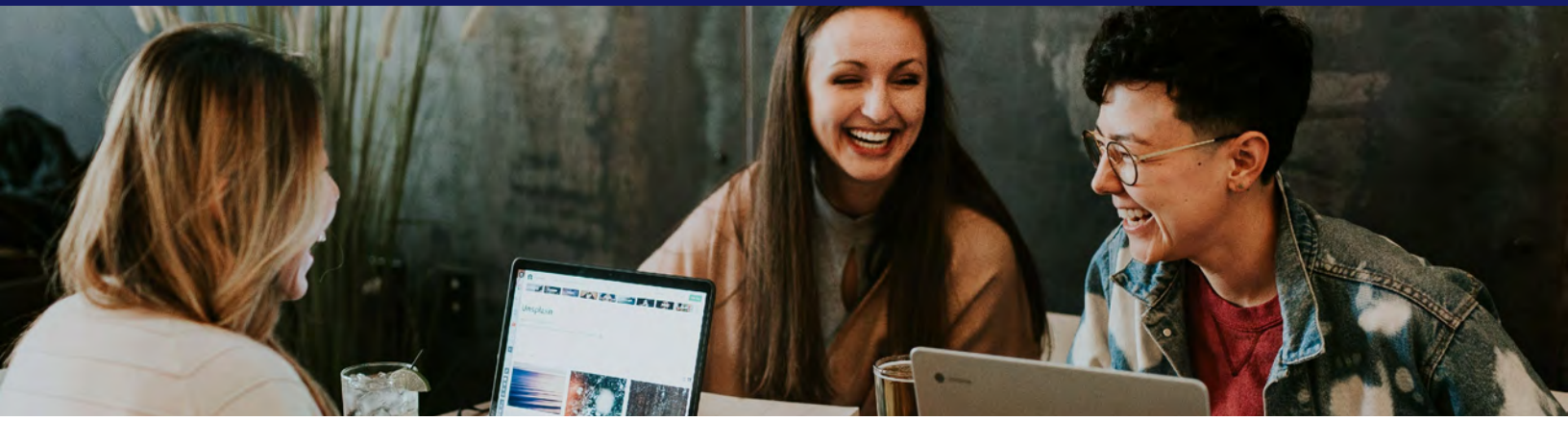
Co-Directors

AGA DC Chapter

Community Service Committee



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AGA Young Professionals and Mentoring

The DC Chapter supports the **AGA National's Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE)** program, as we highlight the Young Professionals and Mentoring programs mentioned below:

AGA - Young Professionals

Whether you are considering a [career](#) in government financial management or have already started down the path, AGA is here to support you! Membership in AGA gives you access to practical resources to develop your skills, expand your knowledge, boost your job performance and advance your career. Remember to check out what each AGA [chapter](#) offers — like scholarships, board positions and other opportunities to develop your leadership skills. **For more details on discounts, scholarships, awards, education, training, and more, click here:** [AGA Young Professionals](#)

AGA - Mentoring Program

Mentoring is important, not only because of the knowledge and skills young professionals can learn from mentors, but also because mentoring provides professional socialization and personal support. At a time when most are working remotely, having a trusted advisor to turn to can help balance the blending of work and life. The program is open to AGA members only. Having complete and accurate profiles is crucial to the success of mentor/mentee selection and matching! **For more details on the roles of a mentor and/or a mentee, and how to enroll, click here:** [AGA Mentoring Program](#)

Check out
Accountability Talks, hosted
by the DC Chapter's very own
Paul Marshall!

The podcast focuses on the
government accountability
community and is available
everywhere you get your
podcasts.





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Special Events

On January 18th the **Member Services committee hosted a Capitals hockey event** as 44 members and guests watched the Capitals come from behind to beat the Winnipeg Jets in overtime! It was very exciting to see everyone in person for the first time in two years!! The event included barbeque at the arena lounge and plenty of beer. A similar event is being planned for a Wizards game on April 8th.



Special Events



Members gathered for the DC Chapter ***Diamond Sponsors Luncheon*** on March 1st at the Old Ebbitt Grill in Washington, DC. The speaker was Craig Bennett, Deputy Assistant Commandant for Resources and Deputy CFO for the United States Coast Guard. He spoke about the Coast Guard's transition to the new Financial Systems Modernization Solution.

Our Member Services committee hosted **Friday Night Virtual Bingo** on February 18th. We played six games and our winners received Amazon gift cards.

Special Events

Over 30 members and sponsors gathered at a ***Sponsor Recognition Happy Hour*** February 10, 2022 in the U Street corridor of Washington DC. The gathering was graciously hosted by the proprietors of Sudhouse DC and we look forward to returning for a future event.



On February 2, 2022, **AGA DC** and **J.P. Morgan Public Sector** hosted a **panel discussion** with representatives from the Department of Treasury, Visa Business Solutions, and J.P. Morgan. Paul Marshall monitored the discussion which focused on how these organizations use digital transformation and payments, from automation to AI, to improve the end-to-end customer/citizen experience. The event was held at the Bowen Building in Washington D.C. and included breakfast and networking opportunities.





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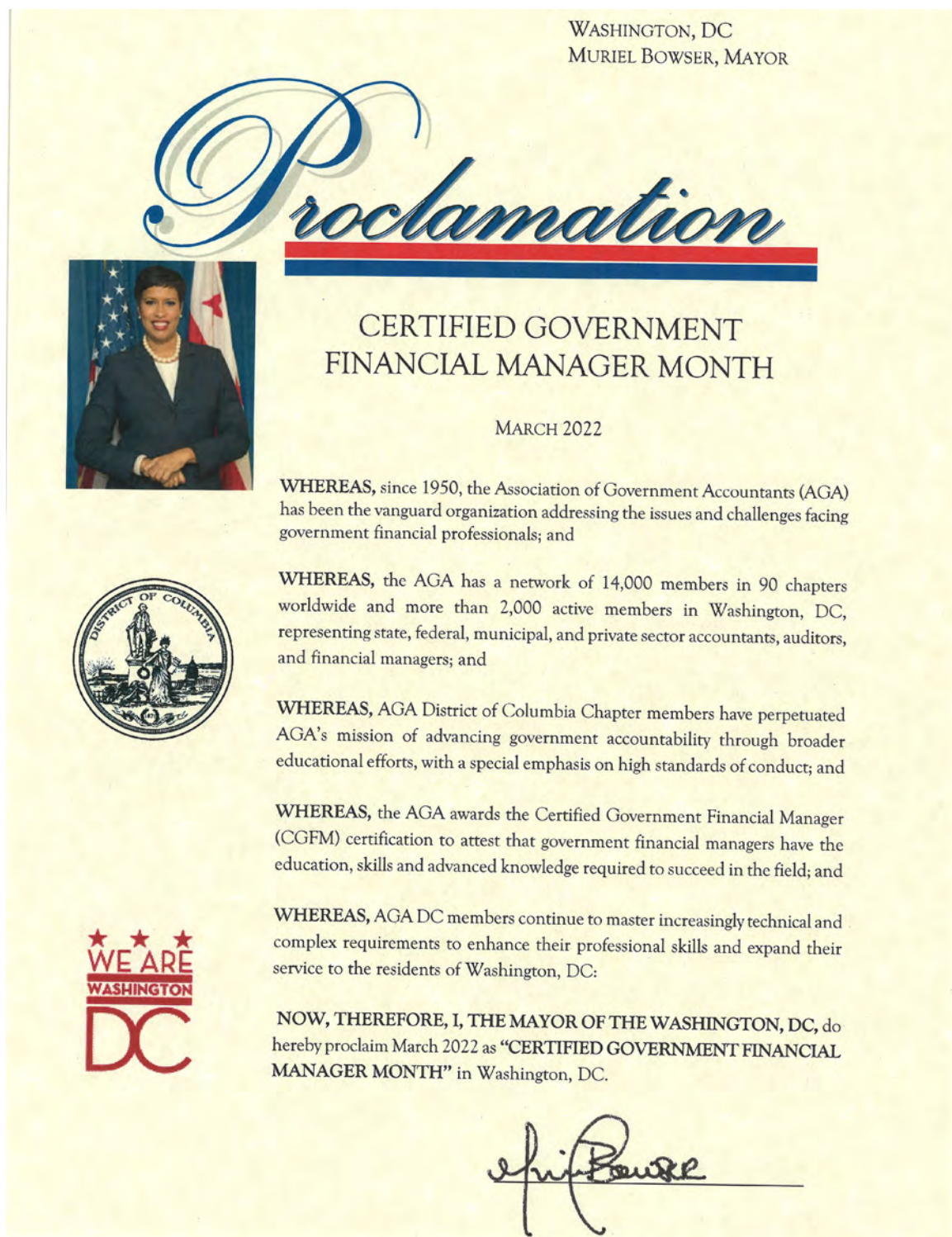
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CGFM Committee Updates



The following members obtained their CGFM in January 2022!

Adam T. Coester, CGFM, CPA

Have questions? Check out our CGFM chapter web-page at this link. Alternatively contact Shawn Syed at agadc@agadc.org



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Member Spotlights

★Special Edition★

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is Part 2 of this Special Edition of Member Spotlights. As we slowly and safely resume in-person chapter events since the pandemic started two years ago, we miss seeing each other in person, especially those familiar faces. With that, the newsletter team reached out to some of our retired past Chapter Presidents - bringing you their life updates and great wisdoms for the entire DC Chapter family. The contents have been condensed and edited for length and clarity.

The newsletter team would like to thank our interviewees for their valuable time and continued contributions to AGA, financial management community, and/or general public after their retirement!

Pat Wensel (DC Chapter President: 1994-95; National Treasurer: 2014-15): It's hard to believe that I've been

retired from Federal service for 16 years. However, that doesn't mean that I've been idle. Retirement gives you the chance to do the things that you didn't have the time to do while working, and doing more of the things that were just for fun. Fortunately, I've been in relatively good health so I can do most of the things I want to do. I've continued my volunteer work including income tax assistance (which requires me to stay current on the tax laws and helps those who really need assistance but often can't afford paid preparers). My husband and I are treasurers at our church, so financial management is always on our minds. I've also stayed active with our Chapter Awards Committee where I've enjoyed interacting with some outstanding committee members and award nominees. If you've never participated in this activity, I highly recommend it. You meet some fantastic people that are doing much to advance the profession.



But we're also doing things that aren't related to our profession but are enjoyable. My husband and I are avid gardeners of both flowers and vegetables. We have a greenhouse so we can garden all year round. This avocation was one of the things that kept us engaged and productive during the COVID epidemic. We're also bird watchers and have traveled with our bird club both locally and abroad. It is a fascinating hobby that gets us out in nature to appreciate all God's beautiful creatures.

To our AGA members, I hope you stay active with your professional organization, attend and participate in our chapter and national events. Share your expertise and be a mentor or mentee depending on where you're in your career. There're so many benefits that you can

attain that will help you in your career and you will make some great friends. Take a leadership role both at the chapter level and the national level. You'll never regret the experience and you'll gain skills and confidence that will help you throughout your work life and after retirement. I can attest to that. Being a past chapter and national officer has served me well and it can do the same for others.

Member Spotlight Cont'd.



Terry Bowie (DC Chapter President: 2011-12): Hello fellow AGA members! I don't have to tell you that the world has changed given COVID which accelerated communications using multi-media. Being virtual has changed the way we work, conduct business, meet friends and family, and how we play. Before the pandemic, we practiced working from home for emergencies in response to weather and to reduce pollution and congestion. It was not generally viewed as a possible long-term possibility. My, how things changed! I applaud the people that paved the way in accepting alternative workspace locations.

I think we all can agree, however, that there are certain things that are better in person. Two of my sons graduated college during COVID, so the graduation ceremonies were virtual and graduation pictures were taken in our backyard. Someday, they will show these pictures to their children and friends, hopefully as a teachable moment of when the world stood still so death and illness could pass.



Terry and his friends on golf course (aka Terry's new "office").

Ok, enough talking about everything that you know already. During the pandemic one of the most important things has been getting proper exercise. Early in the pandemic, I started watching and participating in yoga videos. I got a device allowing me to set up my bike so I could ride indoors. Once moving about outside was deemed somewhat safe with a mask, I started playing golf. So much so that my family calls the golf course my new "office."

The main point I want our AGA family to know is that it matters not if you work from home or go back to the office, exercise is very important. It not only supports physical fitness but also mentally helps clear the mind from stress and helps promote work life balance.

Independent of the pandemic, we each need to set aside time to practice and incorporate things outside of work as part of our daily routine.

For the fun of it, I'm sharing recent photos of me, and friends engaged in various activities, as well as a photo of me and the boys during our backyard graduation ceremony. Stay safe!



Terry and his friends doing in door biking.



Terry and his sons - graduation picture taken in Terry's backyard.



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Inside the Black Box

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA



Alphabet Soup for Federal Accountants

AFR	Agency Financial Report, the audited financial statements transmitted by agencies to OMB, Congress, and the general public.
ALC	Agency Location Code, used by FS to track which piece of an agency is responsible for reporting cash activity. See TFM section 2025.
ATB	Adjusted Trial Balance, used to interface with FS through GTAS.
BAR	Budget and Accrual Reconciliation, required by SFFAS 53 which replaced the Statement of Financing (SOF) note disclosure in FY2019.
BETC	Business Event Type Code, used by FS to classify the kind of cash transaction, such as warrants, collections, and disbursements.
CARS	Central Accounting Reporting System, run by FS to track cash balances and general ledger activity. Formerly known as the Governmentwide Accounting System (GWA). It replaced STAR (centralized accounting system for agency cash balances) and GOALS (Government On-line Accounting Link access System).
CIR	Collections Information Repository maintained by FS, which contains all information on collections and settlements. It was briefly known as TRS (Transaction Reporting System).
COTS	Commercial off-the-shelf software package. In this context, it refers only to COTS that assist agencies with financial management.
CRS	Centralized Receivables Service maintained by DMS to assist federal agencies with managing debt collection and reconciliation.
DATA Act	The Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 requires federal agencies to provide details of their awards and obligations by program activity and OC. This information is available for query by the public on USASpending.gov. The DATA (Act) expands on the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) and Government Funding Transparency Act (GFTA) of 2008.
DCIA	Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, which requires agencies to check Treasury's delinquent debts database to see if payments to a particular vendor should be offset using TOP.
DMS	Debt Management Services, run by FS, which maintains a database of delinquent debts by vendors to the federal government, as well as manages the sale of Treasury bills and bonds.
ERM	Enterprise Risk Management, which an entity uses to assess and control risk from all sources, across the entire entity. ERM guidance is contained in OMB Circular A-123.

FAM	Financial Audit Manual maintained by GAO presents a methodology for performing financial statement audits of federal entities in accordance with professional standards and consists of three volumes.
FASAB	Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board, established in 1990 by GAO, OMB, and Treasury to have the primary responsibility for promulgating GAAP for the federal government.
FAST	Federal Account Symbols and Titles, see TAS. The FAST Book is a supplement to the TFM.
FBWT	Fund Balance with Treasury, an agency's cash holdings at Treasury.
FFMIA	Federal Financial Management Improvement Act, passed in 1996 to require federal accounting systems to use the SGL at the transaction level and comply with GAAP. OMB added Appendix D to Circular A-123 to provide guidance in how agencies can comply with the FFMIA.
FIBF	Federal Integrated Business Framework is maintained by GSA to document and standardize common federal agency business needs including financial management. The FIBF documents standard data elements, business capabilities, and business use cases for each standard business process area.
FIT	Treasury's Office of Financial Innovation and Transformation oversees Treasury's modernization projects and advocates use of new technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness.
FMFIA	Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, passed in 1982 to require agencies to establish controls on spending, safeguard assets, and properly account for revenues and expenditures.
FMLoB	Financial Management Line of Business, a program that assists agencies in moving their financial management systems and processes to shared service providers, both private sector and federal agencies. FIT oversees the FMLoB.
FM QSMO	Financial Management Quality Service Management Office is maintained by the Treasury at the direction of OMB to manage a marketplace of financial management services and systems, and adopt standards of performance.
FMSC	Financial Management Standards Committee is composed of members from the 24 CFO Act Agencies who work to improve federal financial management performance, productivity, and efficiency.
FPA	Federal Program Agencies, another way of saying federal agencies.
FR	Financial Report of the United States Government. Sometimes referred to as the CFR (Consolidated Financial Report), it shows the financial activity for the federal government as a whole. GTAS serves as the primary input to the FR, though formerly it used GFRS (Government Financial Reporting System).
FS	Department of Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service. FS controls the SGL Board, provides most of the cash management for the federal government, and also prepares the consolidated financial report of the federal government. Formerly known as the Financial Management Service (FMS), and had used the acronym BFS in the past.

GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. For federal agencies, financial statements are considered in conformity with GAAP if they meet the standards set by the following organizations (in this sequence): FASAB, GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board), and FASB (Financial Accounting Standards Board).
GAGAS	Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards, maintained by GAO in what is popularly called the Yellow Book.
GAO	Government Accountability Office, the audit agency of Congress. Formerly known as the General Accounting Office.
GMRA	Government Management Reform Act, passed in 1994 to require annual audits and preparation of agency- and department-wide financial statements.
GPRA	Government Performance and Results Act, passed in 1993 to require agencies to prepare strategic plans, mission statements, and include performance measures with their budget request.
GPRAMA	Government Performance Results Act Modernization Act of 2010 updated GPRA to include risk identification and producing materials in machine-readable format.
GTAS	Governmentwide Treasury Account Symbol Adjusted Trial Balance System maintained by FS to accept trial balances by executive branch agencies. It not only includes TAS and USSGL Account, but also Trading Partner to be used for eliminations in generating the FR. GTAS replaced FACTS (Federal Agencies Centralized Trial-balance System) I for proprietary USSGL accounts and FACTS II for budgetary accounts, and GFRS (Government Financial Reporting System) which included Trading Partner.
GWA	See CARS, though the acronym is still used to describe Government-Wide Accounting generically.
IGT	Intragovernmental Transactions, transactions between agencies that need to be eliminated to produce the FR.
INTOSAI	INTernational Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions is an umbrella organization for the government audit community. GAO is the United States member of INTOSAI. INTOSAI promulgates general standards to be used by the governmental auditing community.
IPAC	Intragovernmental Payment And Collections System, which allows federal agencies to directly transfer funding between agencies and TAS (known as expenditure transfers). It replaced OPAC, the On-line Payment And Collections system.
IPP	Invoice Processing Platform to manage government invoicing from purchase order through payment notification. Maintained by the Treasury.
IRC	Issues Resolution Committee works with the USSGL Board to clarify accounting treatment and propose changes to the USSGL in response to new or updated FASAB Standards, Treasury or OMB requirements, or issues raised by agencies.
ITS	International Treasury Services, enables federal agencies to make payments in foreign currencies or in dollars to foreign entities.
JFMIP	Joint Financial Management Improvement Program, a conglomeration of GAO, OMB, FS, and OPM. At one point, JFMIP set standards for federal accounting and related financial systems, and established tests and rates for COTS financial management packages. Although these tasks are now handled by FIT, some agencies still refer to JFMIP standards.

MD&A	Management Discussion and Analysis, the verbiage part of the AFR. MD&A is considered RSI.
NET	Non-Expenditure Transfer of funding between different agency symbols.
NTDO	Non-Treasury Disbursing Offices are used by agencies who make their own disbursements, bypassing Treasury's RFCs. They still must report their activity to the Treasury via the PIR.
OC	Object class, sometimes called BOC (Budget Object Class) or SOC (Sub-Object Class), is used by agencies to describe the types of goods and services being purchased. OMB has directed all executive agencies to use a standard set of two-digit major classes and three-digit object classes, which most agencies have expanded to four digits for their own use. See OMB's Circular A-11 Section 83 (MAX Schedule O).
OMB	Office of Management and Budget, under the Executive Office of the President. OMB assists executive branch agencies with financial and program management, prepares the President's budget, apportions funding by quarter or by purpose, and evaluates the effectiveness of programs.
PAM	Payment Automation Manager, how TDOs make payments domestically.
PAR	Performance and Accountability Report, prepared by agencies and provided to OMB and Congress, includes financial statements, footnotes, management discussion and analysis, performance measures, and the audit report.
PIIA	Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019, which requires agencies to review their outlays and develop plans to reduce improper payments. OMB issued implementation guidance in Circular A-123 Appendix C. PIIA consolidates and replaces the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (IPIA), the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010 (IPERA), the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012 (IPERIA), and the Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act of 2015 (FRDAA).
PIR	Payment Information Repository, a system used by FS to track and reconcile payments by NTDOs. It replaces the old system CA\$HLINK II.
PMA	The President's Management Agenda provides a roadmap and list of priorities for federal management, including financial management. It is maintained on Performance.gov.
QSMO	Quality Service Management Office is OMB's latest effort to encourage cross-servicing and standardizing processes among federal agencies. OMB will designate one agency as the lead in each of several areas, and they will serve as the QSMO.
RFC	Regional Financial Center. Agencies that use the Treasury to disburse, submit their requests through FS's RFC. If an agency does not use an RFC, they are a NTDO.
RSI	Required Supplemental Information, which is much of the AFR contents outside of the financial statements themselves. It includes MD&A and many footnote disclosures.
SAM	Shared Accounting Module of CARS validates the TAS and BETC submitted on transactions. It can also derive them from other data submitted.
SBR	Statement of Budgetary Resources, an accounting of the funding an agency has received and how much is in the various stages of use. The first section lists budgetary resources, such as beginning available balance and appropriations, while the second section lists their status such as obligated/expended, unobligated, and unavailable. The total of these sections must be equal. The remaining sections display the same data in different combinations: changes in obligated balance, budget authority and outlays, and unexpended balances.

SCA	Statement of Custodial Activity, which describes collections of revenue on others' behalf and their disposition. Based on materiality to an agency's statements, this can be a full statement or a footnote.
SFFAS	Statement of Federal Financial Account Standards, issued by FASAB as guidance for federal accounting. It is considered the primary GAAP for federal entities.
SGL	Standard General Ledger, also called USSGL, which lists both standard accounts and prototype transactions to be used by federal agencies. The SGL is determined by the SGL Board, which is under Treasury FS.
SNC	Statement of Net Cost, part of the AFR, which lists expenses offset by revenue for each significant activity or program of an agency.
SOCNP	Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Position, part of the AFR, which lists the major changes to an Agency's Unexpended Appropriations and Cumulative Results of Operations.
SPS	Secure Payment System, a web-based program that allows agencies to submit and certify payment schedules through PAM.
TAFS	Treasury Account Fund Symbol. See TAS. TAFS are TAS associated with funding.
TAS	Treasury Account Symbol, which FS uses to identify the appropriation or other funding authority associated with a transaction. TAS has also been called TAFS (Treasury Account Fund Symbol), Treasury Symbol, or Fund Symbol. At a minimum, it is composed of an agency identifier, year of authority, and Fund Group. All valid symbols are listed in the FAST, and are part of the SAM.
TDO	Treasury Disbursing Offices, those agencies that disburse through Treasury RFCs. It is also used to describe a depository of information from RFCs about transactions made by TDOs.
TFM	Treasury Financial Manual, a guide issued by FS that prescribes how agencies record and report FBWT, reporting trial balances to GTAS, the SGL, and other financial management related activity.
TGA	Treasury's General Account, an operating account for collection of funds not specifically designated for agency use. For example, when the IRS collects taxes, those are deposited in TGA and cannot be used by the IRS directly. Congress appropriates funds out of the TGA to fund agency budgets. The USSGL was updated recently to add SGL Accounts for TGA use that offset appropriations and Fund Balance with Treasury maintained by federal agencies.
TOP	Treasury Offset Program, maintained by DMS to allow payments by one federal agency to a vendor to be diverted to cover debts by that vendor to another federal agency.
TROR	Treasury Report on Receivables, a quarterly report submitted by agencies to DMS on activity and balances of non-tax receivables.
USSGL	See SGL.



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Thought Leadership:

Get Baking with Data: A Recipe for Success

By: Alyssa Fusisi, Caroline Berk, and Sarah Ramsey,
Kearney & Company

What do a custom cake bakery and your team successfully using data have in common? More than you might think! The Government has a myriad of financial and programmatic data but does not always know how to create valuable products out of that data. Much like baking the perfect cake for someone's special day, creating a custom data product requires identifying your customer and learning what they really want; determining what ingredients are available for use; and considering, combining, and baking those ingredients into a final product that you are proud to present to your happy customer.

In a bakery, you have the bakers, cake decorators, and front-of-house team. Key aspects of the bakery process include clarifying roles within the overall team to establish the proper boundaries within the kitchen; this ensures that the bakery has the proper inventory of ingredients to prepare the best custom cakes. The last thing a team needs is the front-of-house team to promise a German Chocolate cake when there is no coconut in stock.

Like customized cakes, the process to create customized data products requires a dedicated team with a variety of skill sets and defined roles and responsibilities. On a team using data, these roles include data scientists, subject matter experts, and the technical analytics team or forward-facing communications experts.

A Metaphor for Success

It can be challenging to set up an integrated team focused on producing useful business intelligence. To be successful, the team needs to comprise data scientists, subject matter experts, and the technical analytics team who use the data product to tell a story. Excluding any of these experts



means that the data might be insightful, but the analysis will not be complete, or that the analysis is comprehensive but communicated in such a way that no one outside the team understands it.

Returning to the bakery metaphor, a successful bakery specializing in custom cakes requires three key roles: the bakers, cake decorators, and front-of-house staff to market the business and communicate with the customer to obtain all the right information for the order. The baker is like a data scientist, gathering the available ingredients (data sets) and transforming them into new data sets or visualizations (the cakes). The cake decorators resemble the subject matter experts, who use the data sets to curate a story (or design) for the customer (stakeholders). The bakery's front-of-house staff members are like the technical analytics team, identifying the objectives that should be met, determining the applicable stakeholders who need the insights, and advocating for more ways to showcase the data for decision-making.

Baking the Data

Data scientists are the backbone of a data-driven culture. They comprehend the raw data on a deep level and transform it into something that is valuable (i.e., bake it into something appealing).

Without data scientists, there is no "cake" to sell to our customers. A master baker understands that certain flavors complement one another better



than others and knows how ingredients interact to create a light and flavorful cake that is ready to be decorated and served.

Creating a Visually Appealing Product

Once the data scientists have baked the raw ingredients something tangible, subject matter experts make that data interesting and useful. Successful data products tell a concise, easy-to-understand story targeted to specific audiences and objectives.

The “decoration,” or analysis, might appear to be secondary to the data, but good analysis and useful data products are critical to connecting the dots for unique audiences and providing customers exactly what they want at exactly the time they need it.

Understanding and Communicating with the Customer

Different customers want different things. A superhero-themed birthday cake generally has a different customer (stakeholder) than a five-tiered wedding cake. Your forward-facing communications experts, the technical analytics team, are like the front-of-house team in a bakery; they translate customer desires into tangible products, communicating what is possible and the resource costs. They also work closely with subject matter experts to explain data products so that

the customer understands what they are receiving and help to spread the word about how useful the products are.

Understanding the importance of this team helps your subject matter experts and data scientists stay focused on their baking and results in a better result for the customer.

Teams That Bake Together Succeed Together

The bakers, decorators, and front-of-house staff may all have their own task lists and work areas, but if they don't work together, their custom cake business will fail. Each part of the overall team must do their part to communicate what ingredients are available, how many cakes are scheduled to be produced and delivered that day, and what cakes customers want. Instead of falling victim to the well-known idiom “too many cooks in the kitchen,” clarifying roles on the team can establish necessary guardrails and efficiencies. With effective communication, the bakery can ensure the necessary ingredients are always stocked, calibrate the time required for production, sample, and perfect decorating styles, and become known for their excellent German Chocolate cakes!

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