



President's Message July 2014

Hello to the Mid-America Council of the Institute of Management Accountants. Several of us recently traveled to Minneapolis for the recent global conference. It was well attended by Midwest members of IMA and was the highest number in several years. At the conference, I am happy to report a couple of members from the Mid-America Council received recognition for the contributions they have made to IMA.

- Curtis Verschoor PhD, CMA, CPA was the recipient of the Distinguished Member Award. He is the incoming Chair of IMA's Committee on Ethics and is a member of IMA's Northwest Suburban Chicago Chapter.
- Sheryl Elliott was the recipient of the IMA Exemplary Volunteer Award. She serves as the Stuart Cameron McCleod Society (SCMS) Secretary and is President of IMA's Fox River Valley Chapter.
- Elliott Kammeyer of the Central Illinois chapter was recognized with the Young Professional Award.
- Central Illinois Chapter also placed 11th in the Stevenson division in the chapter competition.
- Our own Mid-America council was also recognized with the Council Award of Excellence.

Congratulations to all of the winners. Your chapter can also enter for other awards for service, newsletter etc. Check out the IMA website for more information.

Next June's global conference will be in Los Angeles.

Most of our chapters are in the process of planning for next year's meetings. We are looking for venues, confirming speakers, etc. Have you ever been traveling for work or pleasure and weren't close enough to your home chapter to attend a meeting? Have you thought of looking for another chapter to check their topics? I think I can say for all chapters, we'd love to have you visit. We will work to set up a schedule on the MAC website that will list our chapters' meetings. Watch for more info.

Did you attend the Leadership Training Session in Rockford in April? The Council expanded from the Friday session to add an additional day of continuing education on Thursday. If you have any ideas for speakers and/or topics please let Jim Spice, Bruce Hamilton or I know. The plans for next year's event are under way and we appreciate your input.

Speaking of input, is your chapter giving and getting input from the Mid-America Council? As a chapter of our council, you can send three voting delegates to our quarterly Council meetings. Your chapter can send more but if a vote arises, you get 3 votes. Some chapters have not been very active at the Council level and I would like to see those chapters get more involved. I realize some of you have a distance to drive to a meeting but we usually have a call in number and you can join us by phone.

Our Council is also fortunate that we have volunteers that have agreed to be a regional director. Think of them as a mentor or a trouble shooter. I ask that you add the director to your various communications such as board minutes, newsletters and annual programs. They should try to attend at least one of your meetings this year and if you have any questions, most have a decade or more of experience you can draw on.

As a Council, we are also looking to expand our reach to students. Jason Leabman of the Madison Chapter is heading up this project. If you are aware of a school in your chapter area that might be a fit to start a student chapter, let Jason know.

John Wieland
Mid-America Council President, 2014-2015



IMA Mid-America Council Meeting Agenda

Date & Time	Teleconference Information	Location
Saturday, July 26, 2014 9:00am – 12:00pm	Dial-in number: 712-432-1500 Access Code: 514007#	Comfort Suites Milwaukee Airport 6362 S. 13th Street Oak Creek, WI 53154

1. 9:00am – 9:05am	Welcome & Introductions	John	5 minutes
2. 9:05am – 9:15am	President's Report Award presentation/recognition Board Contact List	John	10 minutes
3. 9:15am – 9:20am	Secretary's Report Approve Minutes from 4/25/14 Mtg	Angela	5 minutes
4. 9:20am – 9:55am	Treasurer's Report YE Financial Bills Resolution Change Bank Acct Signers LTS/Education Financial Results Budget	Rick	35 minutes
5. 9:55am – 10:05am	President-Elect's Report 2015 LTS – Date & Location MEF Grant Application Ideas Council Award of Excellence	Jim	10 minutes
6. 10:05am – 10:25am	Regional VP & Regional Directors IMA Board Update SCMS Mid-year, October 2014 Regional Chapter Reports	Harlan	20 minutes
7. 10:25am – 10:35am	BREAK		10 minutes
8. 10:35am – 10:45am	VP Communications Newsletter Due Date Council Website Event Schedule	Eric/ Angela	5 minutes
9. 10:45am – 11:15am	VP Education Student Conference Student Chapter Outreach Student Grant Program Education Conference	Bruce & Jason	30 minutes
10. 11:15am – 11:20am	By-Laws Committee Report	Mary	5 minutes
11. 11:20am – 11:25am	Committee Reports Long Range Planning Committee on Academic Relations Member Relations Committee	Harlan	5 minutes
12. 11:25am – 11:30am	Old Business		5 minutes

Agenda Continued on next page



Agenda Continued

13. 11:30am – 11:45am	New Business Chapter Grant Recipients Status of Lakeshore Chapter Calendar of Due Dates		10 minutes
14. 11:45am – 11:50pm	Past Presidents		5 minutes
15. 11:50pm	Meeting Adjournment Lunch Plans		

Location Details for July 26 Council Meeting

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be meeting at Alverno College, as was originally announced.

Instead, we will be meeting at the Comfort Suites Milwaukee Airport ([map/directions](#)), a familiar location that we've used in the past for Council meetings in Milwaukee.

After entering the hotel, the Executive Boardroom will be on the right.



2014 - 2015 Board of Directors

BOARD POSITION	NAME, CHAPTER
President	John Wieland , WinnebagoLand
President Elect	Jim Spice , Calumet
Secretary	Angela Truong , Fox River Valley
Treasurer	Rick Bellmore , WinnebagoLand
VP - Communications	Eric Griffin , Madison
Director - Newsletter	Angela Truong , Fox River Valley
Director - Social Media	OPEN
VP - Education	Bruce Hamilton , Madison
Director - Education	Dave Skora , Madison
Director - Education	Patricia Cox , Madison
Director - Student Relations	Jason Leabman , Madison
Director - Student Relations	Kathy Horton , Fox River Valley
VP - Corporate Development	OPEN
Regional VP	Harlan Fuller , Central Illinois
Regional Director - Calumet	Stephen Craig , Chicago
Regional Director - Central Illinois	Mary Strautmman , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Chicago	Mary Strautmman , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Fox River Valley	Barb Sheedy , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Greater Milwaukee	Stephen Craig , Chicago
Regional Director - Heart of WI	Dave Skora , Madison
Regional Director - Illowa	Dave Skora , Madison
Regional Director - NW Suburban Chicago	Michele Reagan , Rockford
Regional Director - Madison	Michele Reagan , Rockford
Regional Director - Packerland	Dave Skora , Madison
Regional Director - Rockford	Barb Sheedy , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Sangamon Valley	Inactive Chapter
Regional Director - WinnebagoLand	Erin Ankebrant , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Wisconsin Lakeshore	Inactive Chapter
MAC Long-Range Planning Committee (Most Sr. Active Past President)	Harlan Fuller , Central Illinois
Council By-Laws Committee	Mary Strautmman , Greater Milwaukee
Committee on Academic Relations	Harlan Fuller , Central Illinois
Member Relations Committee (National Board Standing Committee)	Harlan Fuller , Central Illinois



**IMA Mid-America Council Board Meeting
NIU-Rockford – Rockford, IL
April 25, 2014**

ATTENDANCE

NAME	CHAPTER	MAC POSITION
David Skora	Madison	President
Bruce Hamilton	Madison	VP Education, Past President
Sheryl Elliott	Fox River Valley	Regional Director, Past President
Debra Mraz	NW Suburban Chicago	Delegate
Mark Camerena	Calumet	Regional Director
Jim Spice	Calumet	Delegate
Martha Paalman	Winnebagoland	Delegate
Pam Voorhees	Fox River Valley	Delegate
Erin Ankebrant	Greater Milwaukee	Regional Director
John Wieland	Winnebagoland	President-Elect
Jason Leabman	Madison	Director of Student Relations
Rick Bellmore	Winnebagoland	Treasurer
Angela Truong	Fox River Valley	Delegate
Michele Reagan	Rockford	Regional Director, Past President
Bill Ramsey	Winnebagoland	Past President
Sara Guzman	NW Suburban Chicago	Student
Harlan Fuller	Central Illinois	Regional Vice President, Past President

David Skora called the meeting to order at 4PM. The meeting began with introductions of the members that were present.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – David Skora

David said that Jenna Uszenski sent an email recently to chapter and council officers about CLEW (Chapter Leadership Effectiveness Workshop). This is training for chapter officers and will be in the form of a webinar. The webinar will be for 75 minutes and participants will earn 1.5 hours of CPE. The same material will be presented on three different dates--April 29th, May 29th, and June 11th. The topic will be “Leading Change”. David will send an email to Council officers and delegates encouraging them to attend.

David has visited twelve of the thirteen chapters in the Mid-America Council. The last one is Calumet and he plans to attend the May 16th meeting and tour of the Federal Reserve Bank in Chicago.

David said that this is his last council meeting as President and he has enjoyed the experience and visiting chapters. He commented that many chapters have challenges and they are working hard to work through those issues. The chapter visits have been a great way to put a face to a name.

SECRETARY’S REPORT – Patricia Cox (absent)

Patricia was not able to be at the meeting, but the minutes were included in the Mid-America Council April 2014 newsletter and also copies were distributed at today’s meeting. No changes were requested for the January minutes. Sheryl moved to approve the January 25, 2014 minutes and Michele seconded the motion. Motion passed.



TREASURER'S REPORT – Rick Bellmore

Copies of the April Treasurer's Report were distributed at today's meeting. Rick reviewed the financials and expenses with the council. The net change in assets is due to LTS, including sponsorships. Small change in the CD balances. David said that two CDs are expiring before the July council meeting and he would like for them to be renewed. Sheryl moved that Bruce and David renew the two CDs that are expiring and Bill seconded. Motion was passed. David and Bruce will also look at the Lord Abbett Income Fund and decide if that is still a good investment to have. Bill Ramsey suggested that the council look at stock funds, but Bruce said the council by-laws require that the chapter only invest in CDs.

Rick said that there was good representation of chapters that had grants for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. David reminded chapters to turn in receipts and post event evaluations in order to get the disbursement for the grant. The due date for chapters to submit documentation is June 30th. Rick will follow-up in mid-May with any chapters that have not submitted the needed documentation. The fifth page of the Treasurer's report shows the approved chapter grants, including the amount awarded and paid.

Erin moved to approve the April Treasurer's Report and Bill seconded. Motion was passed.

Rick will follow-up with David about LTS expenses. David mentioned that the LTS registration fees that were paid to the PayPal account still need to be moved to the council bank account and he will investigate getting this done.

PRESIDENT-ELECT – John Wieland

John said that 87 people registered for LTS this year, a little lower than last year. He is reviewing the evaluation forms and overall people were happy with the event. Speaker costs were minimal (only \$200). Bags distributed to attendees were only \$5 each and people commented on the evaluation form that they appreciated getting the bags. John expects that the council made a little money on this year's LTS, partially due to the sponsorships that David Skora helped to get. John said that Eric Griffin did a great job with the online registration and David did a great job with all of the tasks he helped with for LTS.

John gave a report about the Nominating Committee. He said that there is one council position open— President-Elect. Jim Spice volunteered recently to take this position. David also said that some of the Regional Director positions may not be filled for the 2014-2015 year and he will discuss this with Mary Strautmann. Maybe Mary does have someone assigned to all of the chapters and the information just hasn't been communicated to David yet. David also said that it is important for each chapter to have at least one delegate on the council, maximum of three delegates per chapter. John had also stressed this point during the break-out session of Chapter Presidents & Administration.

John gave a report about the Council Award of Excellence. He will be submitting the application. Harlan commented that this award is competitive and the council has gotten the award for 8 straight years. This shows the quality of our council.

VP EDUCATION – Bruce Hamilton

Bruce talked about the Spring Conference that occurred the day before. He said 25 people attended and 32 people had registered for the event. It was successful, with several attendees commenting about being happy with the speakers and topics. Tony Spina's hotel and transportation costs were the only expenses; all other speakers came for free and did not even request reimbursement for travel expenses. Bruce and John will send



final financial data to David for the Spring Conference and LTS and David will consolidate and email this information to council members. Bruce said that the council needs to get the CPE hours posted to the IMA website for members by next Wednesday in order for this to count for the 2013-2014 competition points. Sheryl volunteered to enter the CPE hours into the website for all chapters. It was mentioned that CPE certificates will be sent by Eric Griffin to attendees by email.

David thanked John and Bruce for a successful Spring Conference and LTS. David suggested that for next year's event a committee instead of one or two council members do the planning and execution of the conference. Erin said that this may encourage more people to join the council since they could help with certain aspects of it. Other council members agreed that having a committee will also allow better coordination of the two day event. Discussion about having a committee will take place at the July council meeting and also people can email David with their comments and suggestions.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT RELATIONS – Jason Leabman

Jason said he is waiting for post event evaluations from Madison and Whitewater student chapters. He is working on getting more student chapters organized, but it is difficult to do with colleges having the three month summer break. Even offering grants to potential student chapters as an incentive does not usually help. He said that the council was awarded a \$2000 grant for student activities and has received the first \$1000, but may not get the second half. David commented that he is not sure if the council will have to return the first \$1000 if we don't need the second half. A council member commented that maybe the second half could be used for initial student memberships, but Jason was concerned that students should be given the free membership only if they attend a certain number of meetings or events. Pam said she knows of two students attending meetings that have expressed interest in IMA and offered to be more involved with student relations. Jason will give Pam some IMA brochures that she can then give to the students. Bruce said that there is a special student fee that can be offered and this special can be run whenever the council requests it from IMA Global. A council member commented that the yearly IMA Student Conference will be in the Midwest region this year, so council members should encourage students to attend due to the close proximity. Jason said that if anyone knows of colleges that don't have student chapters and want to investigate having one they should contact him to discuss.

REGIONAL VP – Harlan Fuller

Harlan said that at the last meeting of the IMA Board of Directors it was mentioned that they are doing a good job with board governance. The Global Academic Relations Committee is sponsoring the CLEWs. Virtual chapters are an initiative that IMA Global wants to do, but people are not willing to lead these meetings.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

Calumet—Mark said the meeting that Chuck Carlson was the presenter for was successful. There will be a tour on May 16th and social event on May 24th, sponsored by the Calumet chapter. Mark will be the chapter president again for the upcoming year.

Central Illinois—Harlan said that they had a tour of the Caterpillar Track-Type Tractors manufacturing facility recently. The core 4 board positions are decided for the 2014-2015 year. He will be leading a guided study group for CMA certification in the fall; there will be weekly meetings for this study group.



Chicago—No representative was at today's council meeting. David said attendance was low at the meeting he attended.

Fox River Valley—Sheryl said the board is set for the 2014-2015 year, including four new board members. The board decided to handle Membership Development differently for the new year by having a committee instead of just a VP of Membership Development. Angela Truong is the VP of Membership Development and she has a committee of three people that will assist her. The chapter board hopes that this committee approach will be successful and will focus efforts on contacting members.

Greater Milwaukee—The board is set for the 2014-2015 year. The chapter is trying a different structure for the board that will be a team approach for board positions. Erin said that there are three planning meetings scheduled for the summer.

Heart of Wisconsin—David talked to Cinda Mijal recently. A Mystery Fraud Night will occur in May.

Illowa—Michele said that the chapter plans to do a joint meeting with the Iowa CPA Society in May. There have not been any board meetings recently, but the chapter seems to be doing okay.

NW Suburbs-Chicago—Deb Mraz said that they need to submit the board members list to IMA Global and Sheryl encouraged her to submit this soon, at least the 4 key board positions. If the submission is not made before the due date then the chapter may lose funding and be considered inactive. Deb also said there has been low attendance at meetings.

Madison—Jason said the chapter is doing fine. There is at least one new board member. The chapter president sent an email to the board about meeting topics and that is being discussed. President-Elect has been determined.

Packerland—They plan to do a joint meeting with another chapter.

WinnebagoLand—Student Night was done recently with 46 people attending, half were students. A student has volunteered to be President-Elect.

Wisconsin Lakeshore—Board positions for 2014-2015 year have almost been finalized. The board is trying to decide whether to keep as active chapter status or go inactive. David made the suggestion that the chapter not have monthly meetings, possibly have 3-4 hour meetings every few months like Illowa chapter is doing and vary the time of day to get different people to attend.

Sangamon Valley—Harlan said the chapter is still in inactive status since ADM is no longer in Decatur. He continues to work with the chapter.

VP COMMUNICATIONS – Barb Sheedy (absent)

David said the due date for newsletter submissions is July 7th.

Sheryl reminded people that the chapters and council need to submit the Code of Ethics and Core Values with signatures of the 2014-2015 board members. This is due to IMA Global by July 1st.



The Association of
Accountants and
Financial Professionals
in Business



John said that Winnebagoland will have a webinar on computer security. It will be April 29th and the cost will be \$5.

The annual submission for chapters of competition points is due on April 30th.

WEBMASTER – Eric Griffin (absent)

Eric was not at the meeting and no report was given.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No additional reports given, other than what was listed above.

NEW BUSINESS

The council decided that the next council meeting will be in Milwaukee and the tentative date is July 26th. Erin will help to determine a location for the meeting.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Several commented about LTS, Spring Conference, and council meeting being good. Michele and others thanked David for a good job this year as President and good luck to John, the President-Elect.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – meeting adjourned at 5:10PM

Motion to adjourn by Sheryl Elliott, seconded by Bill Ramsey. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Angela Truong, Incoming Council Secretary