

Holistic Information Security Practitioner Institute

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To all our valued members:

Hello to all and I hope your year is going well. We have been very busy this year ! Thanks to all of you who have so generously volunteered your time and services to the HISPI.

Website

I hope everyone has taken a complete tour of the new website. I hope you will find it more user-friendly as we continue to enhance the "Members Only" area with interesting and educational information.

Center of Excellence

As many of you know, we honored Corporate College in Ohio with the distinction of becoming our first Center of Excellence.

As a professional development division of Cuyahoga Community College, Corporate College is very active with the HISPI and is dedicated to supporting and promoting the value of the HISP concepts, as part of its commitment to keep the training they offer on the cutting edge. Instructors are top notch, and there is a strong link to the current and future needs of the workforce and economy. Their training model is designed to help workers advance in their careers and businesses to increase profits by providing training to connect with customers, seize opportunities to grow and compete, and master innovations in business practices. Programs target entrepreneurs and professionals who have career experience, from administrative support to C-level management. Open enrollment and customized training clients come from all sectors of for-profit and nonprofit professions and organizations.

We are proud to have Corporate College as part of the HISPI family.

Membership Fees

Many of you have received invoices for your 2010 membership fees and some for 2009/2010.

We started charging membership fees in January of 2009. Last year we extended the dues payment deadline because of some technical challenges. We now have an automated system for invoicing and providing receipts. As with any new system we are still improving, but it appears to be working well and we are now looking for your support in bringing your membership fees current. The HISPI has the lowest membership fees in the security professional sector and in order to keep it that way we need everyone's cooperation.

If you have not received an invoice, it could be that your information is not correct in our database, so please login or activate your membership account on the HISPI website and correct your contact

information using the e-mail that you provided at the time you took the HISP class and/or exam or call or e-mail us for assistance.

Organizational Changes

You talk, we listen! We have made some organizational changes in order to better serve our member needs and to enhance the growth of our organization.

Tammy Clark, who has served for the last year as our Vice President, will now serve as our Director of Higher Education and Member Services. Her expertise in this area fills a critical need for the organization.

Tammy is the CISO at Georgia State University and is very well known and respected in the higher education sector. Tammy led the effort that eventually brought GSU to ISO 27001 certification. She also is very active and respected in professional information security circles in the higher education area such as EDUCAUSE. Additionally, she will serve as a dedicated member services resource to enhance our ability to respond in a timely fashion to member's questions and needs, while facilitating projects that will improve educational opportunities, communications and offerings to our members.

Gary Sheehan has served as our Director of Accreditation, and will now serve as Vice President and liaison to the Center of Excellence. Gary has been a huge contributor in promoting the HISP methodology in past years and will serve well in this capacity to ensure continued growth of current and future programs at the Center of Excellence and at the HISPI in general.

Premier Members

With the recent approval of the Governance Board, the HISPI feels it is only fitting that we recognize our top supporting companies. These companies are organizations that have invested a considerable amount of time, support and dollars in the HISPI and the HISP methodology, certification and philosophy. These organizations are seen as true pioneers and visionaries that recognize the value of the HISP certification, as well as grooming practitioners who will truly be an asset to their organizations. They are committed to the concept of continual improvement. Therefore, we are creating web banners on the HISPI website where we will proudly showcase logos of our premiere members with a link to their websites.

Premier member organizations have 10 or more certified HISP's and have been active with the HISPI in promoting the HISPI methodology.

New on-line forums

We will be launching new on-line forums in April. These forums will cover different aspects of information security.

Many of the new ISO 27000 series of guidelines have now been launched and undoubtedly will foster a lot of discussion and debate. We are here to facilitate that discussion and debate in an open manner to promote the education and advancement of these standards. Our forums will begin with a series of guidelines and roundtable discussions lead by industry experts focused on how these new guidelines might affect an organization's approach to information security.

There will be other topics covering the whole range of controls, but if you have a particular topic you would like to be involved in or facilitate, please let us know.

Master HISPI

There is rising interest in the Master HISP. We are working diligently on the launch of the first program and would expect the first session to be held sometime in the third quarter if not before.

We will always embrace the fact that we are a community of specialized information security professionals, because HISP's represent a paradigm shift from being viewed as an arm of information technology organizations, to being regarded as business partners who bring value through their understanding of data protection, compliance, and information security governance.

We will always uphold the "Practitioner" requirement in HISP, so not everyone will take the challenge. The MHISP will set successful candidates apart from the rest and help these candidates achieve a level of mastery that will stay with them throughout their entire career.

I want to repeat my promise to you that we will leave no stone unturned and no input will go unnoticed. The HISP and MHISP certifications stand alone in their approach. They complement current certifications and fill the gaps that exist in our industry. The HISP program is for those information security professionals who seek to manage information security programs through a very comprehensive and holistic approach—they are , 'true practitioners' and strategic architects' in their depth of understanding of information security, governance & compliance.

HISP Government Track

Several years ago we developed a government based course to augment the HISP certification. This course was set aside until the time was right to move forward with its implementation. At this time the Governance Board has authorized pursuing its release. This course covers topics such as FISMA, NIST special publications, FIPS, DITSCAP and NIACAP, Privacy Act and mappings of NIST and ISO 27001: 2005. Two certification options are currently being investigated, the HISP/G, which is the current HISP with an additional government certification and the GHISP which would only require the government course and examination. We hope to have all pieces of these options ready for release in the second quarter and begin providing training courses shortly thereafter.

In conclusion, the Governance Board is excited about all of the changes and advancements that are underway. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continual support. If you would like to become more involved in the HISPI, we encourage you to volunteer on one of our committees or projects! To become involved contact any governance board member. Contact information for all Governance Board members is at the end of this letter or through the telephone number above.

Warmest Regards,



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