

June 2004

Canadian Information Processing Society Ottawa Section Newsletter

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CIPS Recruit an IT Campaign

For more information on the Recruit an IT Professional Campaign, please visit the CIPS National Web site:
<http://www.cips.ca/join/rules>
or
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Message from the President

The past year has been a very successful one for CIPS Ottawa. We had record attendance at many of our events. Four members received their ISP certification. To top it all off, we won the National Go-banner award for the most participative and dynamic section in Canada.

This month, I am stepping out as President of the Ottawa Section of CIPS. I would like to thank some people who have made the past year a real success. First, our patrons who have faithfully supported our activities throughout the year. They allow us to provide bursaries to two local students. In addition, they provide advice to the Ottawa board on coming activities, membership and patron participation as well as supporting our events through regular attendance.

Next, are our sponsors who support specific events. Without them we could not offer the kind of quality events that we have provided to our members and the local community through the year. I also wish to thank the speakers and volunteers who helped with those events.

A special thank you to our members for participating in local events and supporting the Ottawa Section.

Finally, I want to thank the members of the Ottawa board who have provided me with a lot of support throughout the year and have contributed, in no small way, to the tremendous success that we have experienced.

Rob Tait is the new President. I want to thank Rob for his contribution as Vice-President last year and wish him good luck for the coming year. I will continue to serve the Ottawa Section as Past-President this year. I look forward to an even more successful year.

Claude Gelinas, I.S.P.
President

Ottawa Section Wins CIPS Banner

CIPS Ottawa has been selected as this year's winner of the CIPS Go-Banner Contest. Our Section has been awarded this banner for its active participation in national CIPS programs such as I.S.P. Week, Women in IT and INFORMATICS, as well as participation in monthly section president/marketing conference calls.

National programs help to ensure that CIPS is seen as a unified, "national" organization by the IT profession, industry, government and the public.

John Boufford, I.S.P., Eastern Ontario Regional Director, accepted the award on behalf of the Ottawa Section.



Message from the Program Chair



Program Update - June 2004

In April we were fortunate to be the last audience that Michelle d'Auray would address as the CIO for the Federal Government of Canada. Unlike previous years where we had asked the CIO to provide an annual update, this year Michelle responded to five topical questions that had been posed in advance by our CIPS membership. Michelle noted afterwards that she very much enjoyed this format, as did the attendees. It was a great event and a fine farewell to Michelle! For the list of questions posed to Michelle, please visit our CIPS website under the April event www.cips.ca/ottawa

At our May event we learned about how three leaders are defining and have used alternative service delivery models, outsourcing and strategic collaborative partnerships to effectively transform their organizations. Maryantonett Flumian, ADM and Vice-Chairperson, HRSDC; Peter Sorensen, President, PRP International Inc.; and, Grant Westcott, SVP - Technology Infrastructure, CIBC, formed our distinguished panel, which was moderated by John Davis, CEO, Partnering and Procurement Inc. Based on your enthusiastic feedback, look for a follow-up to this session in the Spring of 2005.

Finally, our 7th Annual Charity Golf Tournament on June 10th was once again a success due to your continued support. Look for the complete story on the tournament in this edition of CIPScene.

Well this is the last Program Update for 2003-2004, it's been a fantastic year and we thank you all! Have a wonderful summer - we'll see you in the fall.

Michele Lajeunesse
Program Chair, CIPS Ottawa

CIPS Ottawa 2004-2005 Upcoming Events

Below, please find a general outline of next year's program, but look for the complete details in July when we will be publishing the 2004-2005 Program so that you can plan your year ahead.

DATE	TYPE OF EVENT	DETAILS
Thurs. Sept 16	Dinner Event	Town Hall Meeting (Gartner/META/Forrester)
Thurs. Oct 6	Student Program	Interactive CIO Panel / Wine & Cheese
Thurs. Oct 21	Evening Seminar	Creating a Successful Applications Support Environment
Thurs. Nov 18	Joint CIPS/DPI Breakfast Event	Citizen-Centric Government
Thurs. Jan 20	Evening Seminar	IP Security: Holistic Health for an Organic IP Network
Thurs. Jan 27	Student Program	Emerging Industry Trends and How to Survive Beyond 2010
Tues. Mar 8	Women in IT	Women in Technology (WIT) 2005
Thurs. Mar 17	Evening Seminar	TAG, you're IT! - Radio Frequency ID (RFID) in Action
Thurs. Apr 21	Breakfast Event	Follow-up on Alternative Service Delivery
Thurs. May 19	Evening Seminar	Nanotechnology / Genomics
Thurs. June 16	Golf Tournament and AGM	8th Annual Charity Golf Tournament and AGM

NOTE: The information above is subject to change.
Please visit <http://local.cips.ca/ottawa> in July for full event details.

The Other Network

To a student looking for work there is no skill more valuable than networking, no not that networking - the other networking. Building and maintaining a solid base of contacts gives students the opportunity to showcase their real skills and often skip entry-level positions and go directly into more advanced streams within a company's hierarchy.

In an earlier article I commented on the need for Computer Science students to develop their networking skills and the assistance CIPS plays in achieving that goal. However, the value of effective networking does not end when you land that all-important first job.

While many students are realizing the power networking plays in landing jobs, most of them still look upon it as a chore associated with seeking employment. This can be a critical mistake as the benefits of networking only begin to surface after you enter the working world. Once you begin working, a well maintained network can act as a news service, a vendor guide and a repository of best practices.

We often pay thousands of dollars to go to conferences to hear keynote speakers, view new product demos and keep up to date with the latest industry buzz. As important as these events are, you can get that same valuable information out of a good network. Your network can be like a repository of best practices, a great data bank that can be queried whenever you need information. I have found that when I am faced with a particularly difficult problem one of the first places I go to for help are some of the key contacts I have developed over the years.

The advantages gained through a network are the same as those gained through hiring consultants: you have a real person there to answer your questions and give you advice. With that in mind it is important to maintain a network of diverse contacts because you never know when a particular expertise will come in handy. The real value lies in a cross functional network made up of professionals working in a spectrum of fields.

Of course your network should be a two way street. If you expect anyone to be genuinely willing to donate their time to you, they must be confident you will return the favour. Try to make it a point to proactively help the people in your network; passing along information that you feel will be pertinent to them. Of course you never want to spam your contacts, their time is as valuable as yours so when you pass information along to them try to deliver real value.

There is no doubt that a network is a great tool that students can use to land that first big job. However, once the ink dries on the contract, a student's old job-finding network should become their new professional network and they should commit just as much time maintaining their new network as they spent on their old network. If they do this they should find that their hard work will pay off for years to come.

Jay Payette
President
Carleton University Information Systems Club
Sprott School of Business

7th Annual CIPS Ottawa Charity Golf Tournament

NOTHING BUT BLUE SKY!

The **7th Annual CIPS Ottawa Charity Golf Tournament**, held on June 10, was a huge success with over \$11,000 raised for charity and CIPS student bursaries. Over 150 golfers took part in the annual golf tournament, which was held at the Emerald Links Golf Course in Greely.

This year's charities were the Neil Squire Foundation, which provides adaptive technology for disabled persons; and, the Olde Forge Community Resource Centre, recognized as one of Canada's clearinghouses of self-help information, which uses its automated database to serve seniors, self-help groups and others in the City's west end.

Thank you to our Sponsors and our prize donors, and to our wonderful volunteers who worked the charity holes on the day of the event. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!

2004 Golf Committee



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CIPS Ottawa Member Receives National Award

John Boufford, I.S.P. - a member of the Ottawa Section - received the CIPS' GALA (Got-A-Lot Accomplished) award at a special Awards of Achievement ceremony held on May 15, 2004 at Liuna Station in Hamilton, Ontario.

Introduced in 1988, the CIPS Awards of Achievement program recognizes and rewards member accomplishments in Information Technology (IT).

The GALA Award recognizes national, qualitative contributions, resulting in specific advancement of the Society. John contributed to the development of six of the last nine CIPS' position papers, in addition to his activities on the National Board, and participation in college accreditation visits.

In total, six awards were presented. The names and group photo of the 2004 recipients can be viewed at <http://www.cips.ca/news/national/news.asp?aID=1877>.

CIPS members are encouraged to nominate other CIPS members whose accomplishments warrant acknowledgement and praise. The criteria and nomination forms can be found at <http://www.cips.ca/it/awards/>.

New ISPs

As this is the last CIPScene for the 2003/2004 season, I wanted to give a final update on the I.S.P. portfolio and thank the team for their efforts.

Our objectives for the season included:

- +Increase awareness of the I.S.P. designation in the Ottawa region
- +Improve participation from CIPS Ottawa I.S.P. members
- +Develop certified (including candidate) membership within the section

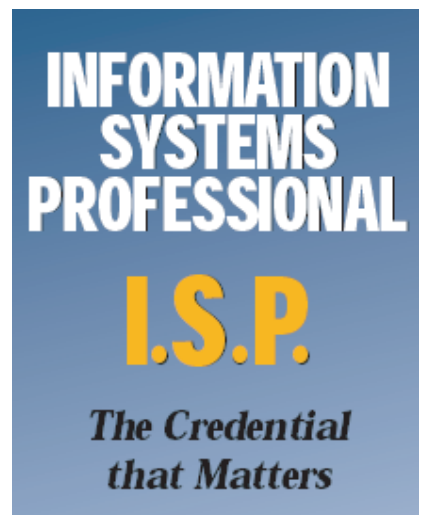
Activities we put in place to support these objectives included:

- +New ISP's in monthly CIPScene
- +New ISP presentation at each event
- +ISP publicity/one pager in CIPScene
- +Presentations at the local colleges and universities
- +I.S.P. info session/presentation at DPI Professional Development Week

We had a good season with many new I.S.P. members in the Ottawa section. Many thanks to the following people for making this happen:

□	□	Daryl Banke	□	□	Andrew Ly
□	□	Candace Dressler	□	□	Syed Kamal
□	□	Allan Midgley	□	□	Jayne Torr
□					

Gerry Brownlee
(613) 558-0724



CIPS Ottawa 2003-2004 Patrons

The companies listed below are the Patrons of CIPS Ottawa. These companies provide important financial support to our Section, enabling us to provide our members with high-quality services at a reasonable cost. We thank them for their continuing support!



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