Interview with the Former Chair of ISTAC: Gerald Caissy, I.S.P., ITCP

Gerald Caissy, I.S.P., ITCP is the Former Chair of ISTAC (Information Systems and Technology Accreditation Council) and has made many contributions to CIPS, demonstrating sustained commitment to CIPS’ vision, mission, and goals. CIPS thanks Gerald for his considerable history of service and for taking the time to do this interview.

You have served on numerous ISTAC evaluation teams for computing programs over the years. Can you describe how these experiences have helped you in your ongoing professional development?

Gerald: As a CIPS accreditation reviewer/auditor you are exposed to a detailed review of the composition of a computing credentials curriculum and given that I am an academic who trains computer programmers these reviews provided me with the opportunities to see best practices by peers across the country. When on-site the conversation and sharing of ideas always left me feeling charged, followed by the network of new professional peers that I could draw on at any time regarding computing curriculum.

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About ISTAC:
The Information Systems and Technology Accreditation Council (ISTAC) was formed in 1989 and is the lead Council in CIPS responsible for formulating and maintaining high educational standards for Canadian colleges offering programs of study in the areas of Information Systems (IS) and the application of Computer Technology to the solution of organization and business related problems. It assesses relevant educational programs for accreditation purposes in accordance with established criteria and...
Members of ISTAC:
Chair: Bill Paterson
CSAC Liaison: Dr. Ken Barker, I.S.P., ITCP
CIPS Director of Accreditation: Dr. Ken Takagaki

Introducing the New Chair of ISTAC:
Bill Paterson

CIPS is pleased to introduce Bill Paterson as the New Chair of ISTAC (Information Systems and Technology Accreditation Council). Bill is an Associate Professor, Computer Science and Information Systems, at Mount Royal University. CIPS is lucky to have Bill as our new ISTAC chair and we look forward to Bill's future contributions in this role.

Tell us about your vision and objectives as the Chair of ISTAC? What are some of the initiatives that ISTAC will be dealing with in the coming year?

Bill: I think it is important to raise the level of professionalism in IT and all Computer Science related fields. A major part of this endeavor is to ensure our post-secondary IT related programs are of high quality. Accreditation through ISTAC provides a strong mechanism to make that happen. To extend the reach of ISTAC we need to work on accreditation criteria and processes that recognize that IT is "embedded" in many different types of activities. I hope to work towards this goal during my term.

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What type of Involvement have you had with CIPS?

"My first involvement with CIPS began with their national conferences. In 1987 CIPS became a permanent component of my career and I obtained my I.S.P. in 1992. Working with the CIPS Winnipeg section in various board positions, I became the Manitoba Region Director on the CIPS National Board, ultimately holding executive board positions of both Treasurer and Secretary. I participated during the formation of the provincial CIPS structure and have held executive board positions in CIPS Manitoba and continue as a working board member. At CIPS National I have remained a member of the Finance Committee.

Over the past 10 years I have been your national representative to the Institute for the Certification of Computing Professionals (ICCP), which provides knowledge assessment towards the I.S.P. and ongoing recertification credits. I currently hold the executive board position of vice president."

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www.cips.ca/volunteer

Call for Nominations: CIPS Awards of Achievement

The CIPS National Awards of Achievement is an opportunity for CIPS to show its sincere gratitude to those deserving individuals whose accomplishments warrant acknowledgement and praise. It is through these accomplishments that the IT industry continues to flourish successfully at a rapid pace.

Awards of Achievement Nomination Form
http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs009/1101969017222/archive/111127195689.html
Call for Nominations: CIPS Fellows

The Fellow is the highest class of membership offered by CIPS and can only be obtained with approval from the CIPS National Board of Directors.

Fellow Members have agreed to uphold the highest standards of ethics and professional conduct. They will also help to promote CIPS and the association's initiatives within their sphere of influence. Fellow Members use the designation, FCIPS, after their name. Click here for a List of CIPS Fellows

CIPS Fellow 2012 nominations Form
Due November 10, 2012

Blog Posts from the CIPS Chair

Sept 4:
"The other exciting news is that George Boyton, Stephen Ibaraki, and myself are off to the IFIP World Computer Congress and the IP3 AGM and Board meetings in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Sept 24th - 28th, 2012."
[Click Here to Read More]

Sept 10:
"There is more work being done to connect with the Federal Government on services that CIPS can potentially provide nationally, more to come on this for sure."
[Click Here to Read More]

Sept 17:
"Also this Saturday, 3 CIPS members, including myself are off to the IFIP World Computer Congress and IP3 AGM and planning meetings in Amsterdam, Netherlands"
[Click Here to Read More]

Sept 24 (From Amsterdam!):
"Throughout the day today there has been a common theme of how cloud services, mobile technologies including open courseware, will change the way the industry expands and develops."
[Click Here to Read More]

Sept 25 (From Amsterdam!):
"Many of you would have been interested in the presentation on Flash Crashes, Trading Algorithms
and Systemic Risk by Philip Treleaven, Professor of Computer Science, London University. The main messages was the research is unable to predict the markets and determine why they do what they do."

[Click Here to Read More]

Sept 27 (From Amsterdam!):
"This morning I had the pleasure of participating in the IP3 AGM, which also had very engaging discussions on how IFIP and the IP3 can assist countries with developing ICT industries mature the IT profession and begin to certify professionals."

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Sincerely,

Brenda Byers, I.S.P., ITCP
Chair, CIPS National Board

http://www.cips.ca/blog

Be an Industry Rep on the BTM Accreditation Team!

The Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow's ICT Skills (CCICT), in partnership with CIPS, has now launched the Business Technology Management (BTM) program accreditation service. The BTM Accreditation Council (BTMAC) is looking for volunteers who wish to become actively engaged in accreditation of BTM post-secondary programs by serving as an accreditor on a visitation team. Through your involvement you will help assure that the accreditation assessment reflects the needs and expectations of key external constituents. You will gain insight into the characteristics and trends in BTM education; and benefit from interaction with committed peers from higher education and industry.

Accreditation teams consist of two academics and one person from industry. The school under consideration will prepare a comprehensive questionnaire and a two-day fact finding visit is scheduled. The team members write a report which is then presented to the Council for consideration. All accreditors complete the Association of Accrediting Agencies of Canada online course on accreditation. Prior to the visit, accreditors spend a few hours reading the materials submitted by the school. There will be the two-day visit (coordinated around the school's and accreditors' availability) after which each accreditor is assigned a report writing duty (approximately ½ a day).

BTMAC accreditors are expected to serve a three-year term commitment. Accreditors are typically assigned to one campus visit each year between September and April. All program evaluators will not receive an assignment each year as the scheduling is based on the demand for accreditation services. If you'd like to be a industry representative on an accreditation team, contact Gina van Dalen, gina@cips.ca with a brief description of your professional background. We'll follow up by phone to fill you in on the program specifics.

CIPS BC Event (Victoria, Vancouver, Webcast):
"Fighting The Creep Factor In Technology!"

Date: Tue, 10/23/2012  Event Location: (Victoria, Vancouver, Webcast)
In a world where you can order a DNA test online, receive ads based on what you just wrote in an email, and might have your implanted medical device probed by hackers, the "creep factor" is becoming an important limitation on technology adoption.

There's even an app for that. "Girls Around Me" recently aroused great controversy because it allowed people to gawk at the Facebook profiles of total strangers in their vicinity. While the developers argued they were merely combining data users had already freely disclosed, many found it very disturbing.

[Click Here to Read More]
hands on events, we don't often get the chance to say thank you and recognize all the hard work you do. After all, you help move IT forward, push the industry to innovate and help drive the Canadian economy. It's a pretty big deal to us, so in addition to all those goodies we usually talk about, we want to add one more to the list and we're adding a special treat to say "thank you".

This is the season of new classes and teachers, of harvest and giving thanks, of ghosts and goblins and witches. The days are getting shorter and your To Do list is getting longer in the lead-up to Christmas. In the midst of all the craziness, I invite you to take a few minutes, have a seat in front of your computer and do something just for you.

[Click Here to Read More]

Leaders Beyond™ (formerly The CIO Summit®)

Are you building the next generation of IT leaders?  
Or are you planning to take your own skills to the next level?  
Either way, read this now!

This fall there are two great choices from Leaders Beyond™ (formerly The CIO Summit®). Send yourself or your top IT leadership candidate to the MBA-level program that has been propelling IT leader careers for almost a decade: The IT Executive Leader Program in Toronto is a 10-day program, presented in two 5-day modules. Module 1 will run from December 3rd-7th, 2012. Module 2 continues January 21st-25th, 2013.

And for those in the earlier stages of their career, who wish to accelerate their transition to a leadership candidate role, enroll now in the 4-day Emerging IT Leader Program in Toronto on November 12th-15th, 2012.

For further details and to enroll, please go to www.leadersbeyond.com and check the CIPS member box to receive your special discount and I.S.P. re-certification credit. Or call Barry Clavir at 416-573-0713.

Enrollment is limited so act now to accelerate your career and succession plans today!

Featured I.T. Job Postings

Systems Analyst - SharePoint Development, Toronto, Ontario  
Business Systems Consultant, Red Deer, Alberta  
Software Testing Analyst/ Test Lead, Edmonton, Alberta  
Senior Programmer Analyst, Calgary, Alberta  
Enterprise Systems Administrator, Toronto, Ontario  
Senior Business Consultant, Edmonton, Alberta  
Manager Application & Data Services, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Systems Administrator, Windows, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Supervisor, IT Audit, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Administrator, Compliance (temporary), Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Systems Analyst III, Fort McMurray, Alberta  
Manager, IT Operations, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Solutions Architect, Edmonton, Alberta  
Technical Support Analyst, Regina, Saskatchewan
Business Analyst, Regina, Saskatchewan,
VB.net Developer, Edmonton, Alberta,
Technical Analyst II, Regina, Saskatchewan
Project Manager - Field Network Upgrades, Calgary, Alberta

See more Job Postings and Upload your Resume at: http://jobs.cips.ca

Podcast Interviews
by Stephen Ibaraki FCIPS, I.S.P., ITCP

Hear the thoughts and commentary from international experts and community leaders – Now on iTunes! - Click Here

New:
Theresa Grafenstine Inspector General U.S. House of Representatives

Brenda Aynsley, Chair IFIP IP3, Global Authority in ICT

Dave Roath: Leader PwC U.S. IT Risk & Security Assurance Practice

CIPS National Corporate Partners (New!)

The following organizations have demonstrated their commitment to professionalism, ethics, and high standards for the I.T. profession through their support of CIPS. CIPS thanks all its partners for their contribution. Become a CIPS Corporate Partner Today! - Send an email to jelias@cips.ca

news@cips.ca or www.cips.ca