

APICS-Buffalo Programs Cancelled until Further Notice



Unfortunately, the COVID-19 crisis continues to strike members of our community with escalating frequency and we regret to inform our membership that the APICS Board of Directors has decided to cancel all PDMs, Plant Tours, and CPIM, CSCP, CLTD instructor lead education classes until further notice.

We sincerely regret this action, but feel as responsible members of our community, this is in the best interests of our membership and the community at large.

We will continue to publish our monthly newsletter and will communicate any changes to this policy as soon as possible thru member eblasts and updates to our local website. See our local website, apics-buffalo.org or the national website, apics.org for any additional information regarding education and certification program updates.

Please continue to be patient and be sure to follow all local, state, and federal recommendations to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families during this difficult time.

Best Regards,
APICS Board of Directors 2020
Jeff Ball - Vice President

President's Message



Hello to my fellow APICS chapter friends. Normally, I try to put together a monthly note to tout our upcoming meetings, great things that just happened and exciting things that are just around the corner. Unfortunately, these are difficult and unusual times. As you read through this newsletter, you will see that as a board, we had to make the very difficult decision to cancel our remaining PDM and Top Management night efforts due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Please know we did not take this action lightly however given current events, our options were exhausted.

As I go write this, I am honestly struggling to stay on the topic of Supply Chain so instead, I will try and put my attention to “what’s next” and “what can I do now”. While many of us (present company included) have seen their company face financial hardships resulting in a reduction in workforce or outright closure, if we are able to see the opportunity, there are many options for online learning, seminars and skill training. I would encourage anyone with the ability to take advantage of those tools. ASCM has a number posted on our Website <https://www.ascm.org/learning-development/supply-chain-learning-center/> as well as several other large job search and advancement arenas such as Linked In.

Now to the what’s next. With so much uncertainty, we need to stick together. Buffalo, has always been and will always be a town that supports each other and protects each other. As you individually and we collectively move forward, don’t forget to extend a hand and an ear to your fellow APICS members as well as anyone that needs it. These are the times that push us but also help to highlight what makes our area and our chapter so special. If there is anything personally that I can do, please don’t hesitate to reach out to myself or a fellow board member. Sometimes an extra set of eyes for a resume or someone to act as a sounding board can make all the difference.

We are all in this together. Please stay safe, stay healthy and take care of each other.

Sincerely,

Al Testa, CPIM
APICS Buffalo President



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Built Upon APICS Global Standards

**APICS Buffalo Chapter
 Achieves CBAR Platinum
 Award Level...Again!**



Chapter management excellence is an integral component to enhancing the member experience. Successful APICS chapters provide their members with opportunities for stellar education, career development, and networking.

The APICS Chapter Benchmarking and Reporting (CBAR) program recognizes chapters that have exceeded minimum standards and exemplify excellence in overall chapter management. We are proud to announce the APICS Buffalo Chapter received the 2019 CBAR Platinum Award designation, an admirable accomplishment for an APICS chapter.

As a member of an APICS Platinum Award Winning Chapter, the CBAR designation signifies commitment to providing an exceptional membership experience.



Mission Statement:

To be the number one resource for Operations and Supply Chain Management education in WNY.

Vision Statement:

To develop leaders and inspire individuals and organizations to pursue excellence through lifelong learning and career advancement in the field of Operations and Supply Chain Management.

Innovation is About One Thing and One Thing Only



A simple definition of “Innovation” is needed.

Many people are writing about innovation. Yet, the more I read, the more confusing the term becomes.

Some have said an innovation is an idea. Others have said an idea isn't an innovation until it has been applied or implemented into a new product, service, or method. Hmm, from my experience the hard part is coming up with the idea.

In an attempt at clarity, some have said that innovation is a new: product, service, design, method, technology, process, solution, experience, outcome, and/or trend. Yeah, that makes it clear!

Then there are others who have defined innovation as one of the following: adding value to a product or service; adding value to a company, finding new markets; moving toward the future; having a different viewpoint; or addressing challenges.

In my opinion this last one “addressing challenges” comes closest to a correct definition. So, let's look at an actual dictionary definition. Here's what Dictionary.com offers:

innovate [in-uh-veyt] verb (used without object), innovated, innovating.

From the Latin *innovatus*, past participle of *innovare*: to renew or alter.

* to introduce something new; make changes in anything established.

innovation [in-uh-vey-shuhn] noun

* something new or different introduced.

* the act of innovating; introduction of new things or methods.

Maybe it's just me, but I don't care for this definition either, and that's simply because I feel it should include a reason for wanting to introduce something new. Why are you introducing something new? What purpose does it serve? So, what could the reason be? If we look at the great scientific and technological advancements in history, the answer becomes obvious.

When we think of historical breakthrough innovation most people's thoughts go to relatively recent inventions such as automobiles and airplanes, radio and television, telephones and personal computers all of which revolutionized the world, but even before the advent of electricity there were some

amazing discoveries that radically improved human life. Ones we completely take for granted today.

For example, take the invention of sanitation systems. The idea of separating fresh water from waste water (sewage), was so important for ending disease that it extended the average life span by decades. There have been two other major medical developments that massively ended the spread of disease, extended the human life span, and advanced the knowledge of medicine. Those are the discovery of disease-preventing vaccination and disease-fighting penicillin.

Do you wear glasses? If you've never needed glasses, then you can't imagine how vulnerable a person is without the ability to see clearly. Most people will eventually need reading glasses, therefore nearly everyone will experience a degree of that vulnerability at some point in their life. The invention of wearable optical lenses in 13th century Italy has given billions of people the safety and confidence of clear sight.

A new plow design in the early 19th century transformed farming. Early plows did little more than scratch grooves into the earth, and had changed little since Roman times. The invention of the moldboard plow not only cut a furrow, but lifted up the soil and turned it. It mulched the debris from the previous year's crops, along with growing weeds, by flipping it upside down and creating a nutrient humus. This process extended the fertility of heavily used farmland. It was one of the key factors leading to the agricultural revolution that increased crop yields, provided better nutrition, and led to a surge in population growth.

The discovery of cement as a construction material led to the building of nearly permanent weather-resistant structures some of which have lasted for millennia. The lowly nail enabled the average man to build safe homes to live in.

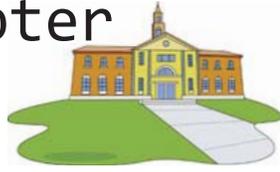
Then there are the cumulative inventions of written language, paper, and the printing press. These developments made it possible to record, transport, and share knowledge. More than anything the ability to spread know-how has improved humanity.

And, let's not forget the wheel and axle, or the sailboat both of which have enabled man to transport himself, his products, and his culture around the world.

So what is innovation? It's simple; innovation is the solving of problems.

Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is an author, humorist/speaker and innovation consultant. He works with companies that want to be more competitive and with people who want to think like innovators. Robert is the author of ...and Never Coming Back, a psychological thriller-novel about a motion picture director; The Annoying Ghost Kid, a humorous children's book about dealing with a bully; and the inspirational book: Wisdom in the Weirdest Places. For more information on Robert, please visit www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com.

Student Chapter Reports



CANISIUS COLLEGE CHAPTER

The Canisius College APICS Student Chapter would like to thank all of the professionals that came out to support the Student Round table event. We truly appreciate your participation and commitment to our students.

Given the fact that Canisius College has transitioned to online education and taken distance learning measures, the Student Chapter has suspended its activities for this academic year. We look forward to resuming planned activities during the fall semester as well as planning additional events in the future.

Submitted by:
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UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO SCOM CLUB

The UB Supply Chain and Operations Management (SCOM) Club got off to a strong start this semester. Thanks to Bill Loupée, Vice President of Sonwil Transportation and Logistics, the club jumped right into a facility tour in early February. Participating students learned first-hand from Sonwil's dynamic warehousing, fulfillment practices, and their reverse logistics operation.

March was a busy month for the SCOM Club. On March 4th University at Buffalo students visited Canisius College for the APICS Career roundtable. Thank you to the APICS professionals who joined us an especially Caplugs for sponsoring the event.

On March 11th the eBoard members celebrated Supply Management Month with ISM–Buffalo at their Top Management Night Dinner Meeting; special thanks to James Austin for generously sponsoring the UB SCOM Club's attendance.

Our events in late March and April have been cancelled (or postponed until next year), which included special guest, Jack Ampuja, from Supply Chain Optimizers and our annual multi-school Supply Chain Case Competition.

Follow the UB SCOM Club on their social media for regular updates and reminders: Facebook – UB SCOM Club, Instagram:- ub_scom, LinkedIn:- UB SCOM.

Submitted by:
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Special thanks to Caplugs for sponsoring the APICS Buffalo Student Roundtable on March 4th.





APICS Buffalo Chapter - A Commitment to Excellence

APICS is an organization recognized worldwide, which provides common terminology and a standardized baseline for global supply chain issues and solutions.

APICS certification builds the foundation for your professional success.

PERSONAL BENEFITS

The APICS certification programs are your tools to:

- Recession-proof your career
- Accelerate career development and better employment opportunities
- Potential higher salaries and job satisfaction
- Recognition within the industry
- Employers and recruiters seek APICS CPIM and CSCP designees.

Value of an APICS certification

- Recognized world wide standard of professional excellence in operations management.
- Improve performance of individuals and organizations.
- Standardized body of knowledge.

APICS CERTIFICATIONS

CPIM (Certified in Production and Inventory Management)

Comprised of Part 1 – 8 classes and Part 2 - 13 Classes – You will cover the following topics

- Basics of Supply Chain Management
- Master Planning of Resources
- Detailed Schedule & Planning
- Execution & Control of Operations
- Strategic Management of Resources

CSCP (Certified Supply Chain Professional)

Comprised of 1 Part - 13 classes. You will cover the following areas

- Supply Chain Management Fundamentals
- Building Competitive Operations, Planning, and Logistics
- Managing Customer and Supplier Relationships
- Using Information Technology to Enable Supply Chain Management

CLTD (Certified Logistics, Transportation, and Distribution)

Comprised of 1 Part - 13 classes. You will cover the following areas

- Logistics Services
- Transportation
- Government and Military
- Distribution Channels
- 3PL, 4PL
- Consulting



To register for a class or obtain more information on APICS certifications visit www.apics-buffalo.com, or contact Matt Bartels at education@apics-buffalo.org (Advancing Productivity, Innovation, and Competitive Success)