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ICAEA Middle - East Chapter I 2019 - 2020 Annual Report

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Highlights of the annual achievements

As I reflect upon this year, I am immensely proud of the progress of our chapter in the Middle East. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the local chapter chairs, our members and industry partners for all their contributions to the chapter's growth over the past year.

Throughout 2019, ICAEA ME Chapter continued to spread the culture of data analytics among the professional as well as students' communities. The chapter provided access to valuable CAATS tools i.e., Galvanize/ACL and training services to the audit community. In addition, ICAEA ME Chapter continues to offer diverse training through seminars, workshops, contests and online webinars. More than 300 students and professionals have participated in our live webinars and workshops. About 35 professionals have got the ICCP certificates and became certificated members. In addition to Jordan, ICAEA ME Chapter launched new local chapters in UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Palestine, Lebanon and Oman. This year ICAEA ME Chapter has conducted the regional CAATs Contest for universities. The contest has been successfully conducted in Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Bahrain, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Iraq. About 228 students in 76 teams have participated in the contest.



Workshops in Data Analytics & GRC

During 2019, ICAEA ME Chapter held 10 trainings and 12 webinars. About 50 professionals attended the training and 31 passed the ICCP exams to be certificated members at ICAEA. ICCP trainings were focused on CAATs tools to help auditors to make search from the irregularities from the given data to provide more analytical results. The main topics that have been covered in the training were Computer Auditing Overview, Understanding CAATs, Data Importing, Data Importation & Verification Skill and Knowledge, Working with Expression & Filters, Computed Fields, Functions, Data Analysis Skill and knowledge, and Audit Finding Report & Remediation Skill and Knowledge. Moreover, ICAEA ME Chapter held 5 workshops on GRC. About 25 professionals attended the workshops to earn ICAEA CPEs. The workshops introduced the GRC standards, which defined an international framework model related to GRC i.e., known as GRC Capability Model. During the workshops, participants have examined various functional segments. The course uses the Highbond from Galvanize as a platform for GRC implementation. The main covered topics were Strategic alignment, Identifying strategic objectives and risks, Assessing strategic risk, Responding to risk, Tracking assurance, Compliance maps and Governance activities.



University of Jordan

MOU to promote Data Analytics Culture among University of Jordan students

Amman - Jordan, this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) made between the UJ and Jordan ICAEA Chapter to establish a mutual co-operation between them. Recognizing the value of ICAEA services in the computer auditing education and training, UJ and ICAEA agree to give UJ students an overview of the main activities of computer audit to become successful computer auditors in the future. ICAEA will review the courses that are related to auditing and support it with the practical hands-on using one of the CAATs tool such as ACL. ICAEA will assess the required competency for the students to become a computer auditor by defining learning map as per recent standards and accreditation bodies. ICAEA agreed to advise JU to adopt the recommendation of AACSB i.e., Standard A7 to support accounting degree programs to include skills and knowledge related to data creation, data sharing, data analytics, data mining, data reporting, and storage within and across organizations. It is agreed to promote the culture of data analytics among the students and promote ICCP certificates with favorable exam fees. The MoU encourages the students to become certificated members at ICAEA Association to motivate them having computer auditing responsibilities and maintain their professional competency via CPE (e.g., 12 per year).



CAATS Contest to promote Data Analytics Culture among students

During 2019-2020, ICAEA ME Chapter held 8 CAATs contests. The contest has been successfully conducted in Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Bahrain, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Iraq. About 228 students in 76 teams have participated in the contests. The contest was 4 hours-long with ten cases. In order to let the students compete and win the contest, they must solve at least four cases and solve the highest number of problems among the other teams. They used CAATs tools e.g., ACL to solve the cases of the contest. The contest was open book (only hardcopy) without internet connection. After completion, students have submitted the solutions to the judges, who are experts in CAATs tools and data analytics. Students have exported the result tables as excel sheets, saved and compressed the project and all related files and logs as ZIP format.

The winning team in each country has been honored with the Trophy that certifies that they have been ranked at the first place in the local contest.

All other participants were awarded certificates of participation and have been given further training on ACL to enhance their knowledge and skills in data analytics.



Results from our recent students survey with 50 respondents in ICAEA course

