



2022 USA Chapter Update

From the USA Chapter Committee Chair

Dear USA Chapter Member,

On June 22, 2023 the IAM-USA had its first ever National Branch Meeting (NBM). The meeting brought together more than 125 members spanning the 15 USA branches. It is always great to see the different industries represented at IAM meetings.

It reminds me that no matter what industry we are in, asset management can help us to continuously improve how we are managing our assets and ensure we can provide sustainable levels of service to meet the organization’s mission.



At this initial NBM, we learned more about the IAM and how to get involved in knowledge development and get our questions answered by others in the field through the IAM Discussion Forum.

We also learned about the IAM Subject Specific Guidance (SSGs) with an overview of SSGs 1, 2 & 5 Asset Management Policy, Strategy and Plans. I really enjoyed seeing more on how these three artifacts fit together to support an organizations strategic plan and its vision, mission, and goals.

With the success of the first ever NBM, we are planning to host another in January 2024. Help us plan the next IAM-USA National Branch Meeting topic by taking our less than 1 minute survey no later than August 31, 2023: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/72BVMCW>

Save The Date: IAM-USA National Branch and Annual General Meeting

Thursday January 11, 2024 - Microsoft Teams meeting

<p>Times: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Pacific 12:00 – 2:00 pm Mountain 1:00 – 3:00 pm Central 2:00 – 4:00 pm Eastern</p>	<p>Join on your computer, mobile app or room device</p> <p>Click here to join the meeting</p> <p>Meeting ID: 342 918 809 729 Passcode: 8MBYmq</p>
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I hope everyone has been having a good summer and look forward to learning more about your interests for the 2nd National Branch Meeting.

Cheers,

Tammy

Tammy Whipple, AMP
 IAM USA Chapter Chair

Diversity Spotlight – Melody Tungol

Diversity Spotlight Sept 2023

Melody Tungol is the current Technical Compliance Manager for Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department (PBCWUD) in South Florida. She co-led the implementation of ISO 55001 for PBCWUD and achieved certification in 2021. She currently co-leads the South Florida Institute of Asset Management branch and co-chairs the Asset Management Mentorship Program for the Women in Asset Management – North America (WiAM-NA).

Originally from the Philippines, Melody's background was in IT integration and Strategic Planning. It wasn't long before Maintenance, Asset Management, and public utilities captured her heart, leading her on her own Asset Management journey.

She currently leads the Women in Asset Management North America Mentorship Program.

As an Asset Manager, I have come to experience how diversity enriches Asset Management and facilitates future-proofing for organizations. Being part of the core team that implemented ISO 55001, for Palm Beach County Water Utilities Department in South Florida, I've come to recognize how valuable the following lessons are and have shared them with other Asset Managers or Asset Management professionals:



Decision-making and Adaptability

Diverse teams in Asset Management possess a broad spectrum of perspectives and ideas. This diversity fosters innovative thinking and enables a comprehensive analysis of complex data. By considering various viewpoints, asset managers can make informed decisions that align with the organization's long-term goals, ensuring resilience in the face of future challenges.

Building Strong Relationships

Diversity in Asset Management goes beyond cultural backgrounds and includes diverse skill sets and experiences. This diversity allows Asset Managers to connect with stakeholders, clients, and vendors on deeper levels, building strong relationships founded on understanding and empathy. These relationships create a collaborative network that can provide exclusive opportunities and valuable insights, contributing significantly to the organization's future success.

Emotional Intelligence and Risk Management

Asset Management involves navigating uncertainties and managing risks. Emotional intelligence, which is often enhanced in diverse teams, plays a pivotal role in addressing conflicts, managing stress, and making balanced risk assessments which helps asset managers make better-calculated decisions that support the organization's long-term stability and growth.

Embracing Diversity and Collaboration for Future-Proofing

One of my mentors in Asset Management is a firm believer in investing in human capital. To truly future-proof an organization through Asset Management, embracing diversity goes hand in hand with fostering collaboration and learning as diversity facilitates an environment where team members learn from one another's experiences and challenge their assumptions, leading to dynamic and adaptable Asset Management strategies.

Investing in Mentorship Programs

Implement mentorship programs where experienced Asset Managers can guide and support their less-experienced counterparts. This fosters the transfer of knowledge, improves decision-making skills, and promotes a sense of camaraderie.

As part of a new breed of Asset Managers, I believe that future-proofing an organization through asset management is a multifaceted process that requires a delicate balance of technology and human capital. While automation and data analytics offer unmatched efficiency, the human component remains invaluable for effective decision-making, risk management, and relationship-building. Organizations that invest in the development of their Asset Management talent, embrace diversity, and nurture a learning culture will be better equipped to navigate the Asset Management megatrends (ESG, technology disruption, globalization of Asset Management, data privacy, regulatory changes, etc.) successfully.

Ultimately, it is the human component that is at the heart of Asset Management, providing the vision and adaptability needed to steer organizations toward long-term sustainability.

Contact Melody (MTungol@pbcwater.com) for more information about the WiAM NA Mentorship program, open to anyone in Asset Management.

IAM North American Conference 2023 – October 23 in Toronto

You are registered by now, right?
Toronto is calling you!!

We have the program complete; the sponsors have been generous and are looking forward to meeting you. The speakers are already practicing, sending in their presentations, headshots, and videos. *We have over 200 delegates signed up* so make sure you register soon as you don't want to get shut out.

For more information, and to register:

<https://theiam.org/events/iam-north-american-conference-2023/>



Stewardship: A Term You Can Use

Tom Smith, IAM USA Chapter Vice President

I first came across the term as a child. My mother was the treasurer of our church and a member of the stewardship council. This council looked after the church's land and buildings and financial endowment. It was a responsibility taken seriously and given the nature of the institution, a multi-generational responsibility. When I joined the IAM in 2008, I encountered the term again in relation to managing assets. Sometimes it was used quite narrowly, but I understood it more in relation to a lifecycle view as expressed by Robert Davis:



Asset Management is not just about maintenance. Maintenance is part of the stewardship of assets, but so is design, procurement, installation, commissioning, operation, etc.

Formal definitions of Stewardship have a common basis in the word steward, who is someone who takes care of property. Some definitions add the word "responsible," in others this is implied. Wikipedia's take is a little broader:

Stewardship is an ethical value that embodies the responsible planning and management of resources. The concepts of stewardship can be applied to the environment and nature, economics, health, places, property, information, theology, and cultural resources.

As ESG pressures increase, stewardship has often become a tenet of corporate responsibility. Here's what the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), one of the world's top ranked business schools says in a recent headline article:

Expectations that businesses should contribute to the well-being of society have never been higher. There are also an increasing number of different types of firms with various ownership systems: state-owned enterprises, family businesses, sovereign wealth funds, publicly traded companies with large holdings by institutional investors, and the list goes on.

Stewardship offers a way to meaningfully meet these legitimate societal expectations and to address the growing complexity of ownership structures.

Stewardship means that those who are entrusted with wealth of any kind have an obligation to hand those assets down in better shape than they inherited them. It means being responsible beyond the individual or company, and in the long-term beyond one's lifetime.

Until recently, the dominant view was that businesses should focus on creating value for a firm's owners and shareholders. But today's companies are compelled to redefine their view of corporate achievement and success.

Stewardship of what God or the gods have given is also a concept in virtually every religion. Lack of performance regarding this stewardship is sometimes cited as a reason for our climate difficulties: "the gods are angry."

Last winter I worked on a symposium on the lifecycle management of university research facilities in the biomedical area. These facilities are recognized as a critical component of our research mission and key to faculty recruitment. An article on research strategy that we read identified two research goals for a modern academic medical center: pursuit of excellence and strategic stewardship. These form a complementary framework pairing human-oriented research activities (faculty-organizations-teams) with infrastructure-related research activities (space-focus- partnerships).

One of the contributors to that forum was Bob McDonald, the Director of the Division of Facilities Stewardship in the National Institutes of Health. Bob's Division looks after building systems, keeps the condition inventory up to date and conducts monthly meetings with building occupants. Their work is critical to tenant relations and an important input to capital planning. They provide a working example of how asset stewardship contributes to the organizational mission.

When thinking about this article, I asked a "millennial" colleague if he saw stewardship as an "old fashioned" term. The answer surprised me. And this person, who is a partner in an early stage startup, said that he absolutely considered himself as a steward of his investor's money and was very comfortable with the term.

What do you think of when you see or hear the word stewardship? Do you ever think of this word to describe your own activities? Do you use it in conversation? How do you understand the depth, breadth, and length of the stewards' responsibilities? Is it a lifecycle view? Over what scope? Is there any time limit?

Many religious definitions refer to all of creation and all of time, which puts the life of a machine or even the life of a railroad or a city in perspective.

It is a powerful term, and I might argue is one of the fundamental descriptors of what the management of assets should be about.

Tom welcomes your comments and feedback in the IAM Discussion Forum:
<https://forum.theiamdiscussion.org/t/stewardship-a-term-you-can-use/1162>

Upcoming IAM USA Chapter Events

[IAM DC-Maryland-Virginia Branch](#)

Topic: Change Management

Date: September 21

Time: 1630 EDT

A subject matter expert panel discussion on Change Management is planned. Additional details will be announced on the IAM website.

[IAM Great Lakes Branch](#)

Topic: Change Management

Date: October 11

Time: TBD

Steve Dutschke from the Great Lakes Water Authority will be our guest speaker. We will tie his presentation into a related SSG discussion. We will also have a group discussion on what members think young prospective asset managers should be taught for an asset management curriculum at the university and community college levels.

Keep an eye on the IAM Events page for an update for this Branch Meeting.

[IAM Minnesota Branch](#)

Topic: Business Update and Networking Event

Date: September 14, 2023

Time: 1300 – 1430 CDT

Please join our Hybrid quarterly meeting. We will review key highlights from our last meeting and present 2 presentations:

Topic: Lead Service Line Inventories and Replacement Funding

Date: September 21, 2023

Time: 1300 – 1430 CDT

The IAM Minnesota Branch welcomes you to this in person and virtual hybrid quarterly branch event. This meeting will include two presentations, discussion and announcements. You can join us in person or online.

Agenda:

- Welcome and Safety Minute: (5 min)

- Lead Service Line Inventories and Replacement Funding: (75 min)
 - Corey R. Mathisen, Minnesota Department of Health
 - Chelsea Alger, Bolton & Menk
 - David Malm, Bolton & Menk
 - Questions
 - Breakout session
- Announcements: (10 min)

In Person Attendance:

WSB, Suite 200, 701 Xenia Ave, Golden Valley, Minnesota USA

[Virtual Attendance via Zoom](#)

Due to security settings, participants must email Brett Anderson at to receive the password to log in for the meeting. Please email Brett at the time of registration to receive the password. You will not be able to attend the meeting without the password.

SMRP 2023 Conference – October in Orlando, FL

The Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals, the IAM's sister organization, will be having their 30th Annual Conference October 16-19 in Orlando Florida. As an IAM member, you have reciprocal membership with SMRP. If you have not explored this benefit, contact your Co-Directors of Membership Benefits:

Andrew Ardrey, MIAM

Andrew.Ardrey@USA.theIAM.org

George Galambos, MIAM

George.Galambos@USA.theIAM.org

For more information on the SMRP Annual Conference: <https://smrp.org/Events/Annual-Conference>



IAM USA Asset Management Professionals

A shout-out to our 4 newest AMPs, highlighted below. This brings the Chapter Executive Committee up to three members with the AMP designation!! The Asset Management Professional designation is the highest honor someone in our industry can receive from the IAM. These members deserve the recognition they have received, and we will echo their accomplishments here in each addition of the Newsletter:

Name	State	Nearest Branch
Len Caputo	New York	NYC
John Daly III	Michigan	Great Lakes
Fabiola De Carvalho	Texas	Austin
Mark De Clercq	Michigan	Great Lakes
Craig Gotthardt	Texas	Austin
Nancy Johnson	Massachusetts	New England
Martin Jones	Georgia	Atlanta
Mark Knight	Massachusetts	New England
Bob Leitch	Maine	New England
Amy Lindblom	Washington	Pac NW
Tom Myers	North Carolina	USA Chapter
Christian Roberts	Virginia	DMV
Simon Smith	New York	NYC
Tammy Whipple	Washington	Pac NW
Matthew Wood	Texas	Austin

Social Media – Follow IAM USA on Linked In:

Our Linked In groups periodically share articles of interest beyond the IAM news. If you come across something that you feel is worth sharing, please consider sharing it via one of our LinkedIn Groups.

Linked-In Groups

- IAM USA: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8259429>
- The IAM Discussion Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/965657/>
- IAM USA NxtGen Discussion Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8792401/>

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USA Executive Committee	Held by	Email
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Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Katty Fleming, MIAM	Katterinne.Fleming@USA.theIAM.org
Co-Director of Membership and Branch Development	Andrew Ardrey, MIAM	Andrew.Ardrey@USA.theIAM.org
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Women in Asset Management (WiSM) North America Mentoring Program	Melody Tungol	MTungol@pbcwater.com