President's Message

Dear Fellow MISAC Members:

I would like to thank you all for an incredible Annual Conference. Member attendance and vendor sponsorships reached record levels. I hope everyone was inspired, learned a lot, and made many new professional connections. "I found the energy and camaraderie even higher than in previous years. Getting bigger has certainly not caused us to lose the IT-family-feel" said fellow Board member Tim Williamsen of Petaluma, and I think that quote sums up the event well.

The keynotes by Helen Hall of Fullerton and David Rabiner were well-attended and well-received. The final-day CIO boot camp was also popular and enlightening. Board member Tim Ranstrom of EID commented that the "thought-provoking presentations made by Dennis Vlasich, Gaurav Garg, Greg Nelson from Ralph Andersen & Associates, and Paul Kimura from Avery Associates were highly valued".

As we prepare to move south to San Diego in 2016, we hope to repeat our successes and continue to expand our programs and educational offerings. Please be on the lookout for the post-conference survey, as input from you helps us improve the conferences. For those of you who could not make it, or if you just want to reminisce, you can view the images from the conference [here](https://www.misac.org) (thanks, Clancy!).

The Board and Chapter officers had a very productive strategic planning session led by Pismo Beach City Manager Jim Lewis. During the session, we developed a lofty list of goals for the coming year. As we progress into the next year, we will likely look for volunteers to assist in development and management of the new programs. Stay tuned!

At the conference, the State Bylaws were amended, which opens the doors for more government IT involvement outside of municipalities and special districts. You can view the amended bylaws on our [website](https://www.misac.org).

To further the outreach goal of expanding our presence beyond California and exchanging ideas with other western states, we held a meeting at the conference with representatives from partner government IT organizations in Arizona, Colorado, and Washington. The group is pursuing development of a joint powers agreement to bring more members from surrounding states into MISAC’s conferences. We are also working to develop a traveling program that will be hosted at the other states’ IT associations’ conferences.

As you have seen over the past few months, SB 272 (Hertzberg) is a hot topic. The Board will be closely monitoring the implications of the bill, which was signed into law by the Governor on October 11, 2015 and takes effect July 1, 2016. It requires local agencies, in implementing the California Public Records Act, to publicly catalog their enterprise systems and keep the catalog updated yearly. Implementation of this legislation is at the forefront of all municipal IT professionals’ minds, and MISAC is eager to serve as a partner in the process. As you may have heard at the member meeting, the City of Garden Grove and MISAC are partnering on development of a reporting tool for this legislation. We will keep members informed on our progress.

MuniTech Academy continues to gain steam and is moving forward with educational offerings for IT professionals. This joint venture between MISAC and Tripepi Smith provides professional development training opportunities not only for MISAC members but other IT professionals throughout the western United States. Consider enrolling in an upcoming course or spread the word to others who could benefit from the training: [http://www.munitechacademy.org/](http://www.munitechacademy.org/).

As we move toward the end of the year, I would like to sincerely thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as President of MISAC. It has been a challenging and rewarding experience over these past two years. I hope MISAC members have benefitted as much from the programs we have put in place as I have personally and professional while leading the organization. As I prepare to pass the gavel to Bryon Horn in 2016, I am confident in the incoming leadership and their ability to continue the momentum expanding programs and advancing the MISAC cause.

- Brian
MISAC is getting more social!

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