

The latest news, views, and announcements

INSIDE

Our New Secretary

Meet Ryan Hart

President's Message

From 2024
President
Gail Gentry

Happenings

Virtual Events,
Happenings,
Congratulations

Visit Us Online

PNWISCEBS.org

[About Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[PNW Events](#)



Our New Secretary!

By Ryan Hart, 2024 PNW Chapter Board Secretary

Hello PNW Chapter members! As incoming Secretary to the PNW Chapter, I am excited to get to know more of you this upcoming year. I was so impressed by the local chapter members who hosted the national ISCEBS Symposium in Seattle last year, I joined the PNW Chapter! I also chose to get more involved with this great group by attending one of the virtual Board meetings that is open to all, and am now serving on the Chapter Board in an Officer role since I attained my CEBS in December (serving on the Board is open to all, it's just the Officer positions that require you hold your CEBS)!

For a little bit more about who I am, I represent the Health & Group Benefits Consulting team at Milliman and partner with employers seeking expert guidance, data analytics, actuarial support, and consulting resources to overcome challenges and achieve optimal health and group benefit plan results - from elimination of wasteful healthcare spend, to HR administrative efficiencies, to improved employee experience. For fun, I enjoy visiting family and exploring Japan, as well as serving as an Advisor for a national alumni organization of former English teachers in Japan.

I encourage you to join ISCEBS and the PNW Chapter if you haven't done so already. If you are a member, take full advantage of your membership by reconnecting and joining a monthly Board call, attending a webinar, or joining a virtual Coffee Chat.

My objective in joining the PNW Chapter was, in addition to the great educational opportunities, to network and get to know more like-minded professionals. Look forward to hearing from me for future virtual meet ups and if I am ever in your region for a ISCEBS conversation over chai.

I am looking forward to a productive year! Thank you!



President's Message

- By Gail Gentry

Happy New Year! I am excited to be your PNW Chapter president for 2024 and know that I have big shoes to fill. Thank you, Alicia, for guiding us through the last couple of years.

Our focus this year is to engage with all of you! Education and providing current, relevant information to help keep everyone compliant is the major focus of the PNW Chapter, ISCEBS, and the IFEBP. For many of us, this was the driving force for embarking on our GBA, RPA, or CEBS designation journey.

Second only to the education and compliance resources offered by the ISCEBS, is the sense of community found within our local chapter and the greater ISCEBS family. What a fantastic way to learn, mentor, and engage with other benefits, payroll, and HR professionals. The shared experiences and laughter with those that live a similar work experience is priceless. The 2023 Symposium held in Seattle last year combined great education and a wonderful sense of community; the great news is that we can do that all over again this year in Nashville! The 43rd Annual ISCEBS Symposium will be held Sept. 15th - Sept. 18th and we hope to see you there!

Now that we are a few months into the new year, I wanted to remind you to log your CEBS continuing education credits and get those CEBS Compliance and Gold Member badges. The new year is a great time to prioritize your education. You can access educational opportunities through the PNW Chapter and the ISCEBS Webcast Committee webinars. We have four (4) chapter webinars planned for this year; watch your email inbox for more information.

We are always happy to hear from our fellow chapter members so please reach out with any questions or ideas. We would love to hear them.

- *Here's to a fabulous year!*

Happenings

A sampling of webcast offerings

- [2/27/2024](#) - GLP-1s & Biosimilars (ISCEBS Chapter Webcast)
- [2/29/2024](#) - Fertility Benefits (Northern NJ ISCEBS Chapter)
- [3/25/2024](#) - Supporting Fertility Life Cycle w/ Benefits (ISCEBS Chapter Webcast)
- [3/27/2024](#) - Medicare Made Easy for Employers (PNW ISCEBS Chapter)
- [4/17/2024](#) - Dangers of Credit Illiteracy (ISCEBS Chapter Webcast)

See all ISCEBS events at these links!

[PNW future events / past webinars](#)

[US & Canadian Chapter events](#)

[ISCEBS webcasts](#)

[Chapter Webcast Committee events](#)

We serve many states!

The PNW started expanding years ago to help provide benefits professionals in nearby states without a "member home". Even before COVID we were mostly virtual - running our Board Meetings on Zoom and holding educational webinars.

We are pleased to have added **New Mexico** to our footprint in 2023 and are excited to add **Arizona** in 2024.

Join us at our next Zoom meeting

We meet every 2nd Thursday from 10 am - 11 am Pacific. It's a great way to meet some awesome people from our very diverse region. Register [here](#). Anyone from one of our PNW states can attend. This includes **AK, AZ, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA,** and **WY**.

Congratulations!



Please join us in congratulating our newest designation holders:

GBA: Rene' Yoder, NM;
Julie Young, OR

CEBS: Ryan Hart, WA