



THE INSTITUTE  
OF CHARTERED  
ACCOUNTANTS  
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

# VITAL

ISSUE 33 | SUMMER 2007 THE MAGAZINE FOR ICAEW STUDENTS

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## PRIZEWINNERS CELEBRATE THEIR SUCCESS

Each year the ICAEW hosts a ceremony to celebrate the success of particular students who have passed the ACA exams over the last year. To the rapturous applause and the proud smiles of friends, families and bosses, prizes and certificates were awarded to the highest achievers of the various Professional and Advanced Stage papers as well as to those who have achieved notable merit across the year.

This year's event, on Monday 21 May, was launched by Neil Wood (FCA), finance director of London 2012, who spoke about the run-up to,

and eventual success of, London's bid to host the Olympics in 2012. His speech was rounded off with a short video capturing all the excitement of the day the result was announced. A perfect way to start the celebrations!

ICAEW's president, Richard Dyson presented 48 prizes to 43 individuals with Rebecca Taylor being awarded the gold medal for achieving first place in the overall Order of Merit and the Peat Prize.

After photographs, winners and their guests enjoyed the rest of the afternoon with canapés and a champagne reception.

VITAL would like to say a hearty congratulations to all those who won and helped make the day so enjoyable.

You can find out more about the ceremony and some pictures via the ACA homepage on the students website – [www.icaew.com/students](http://www.icaew.com/students)

## JOIN THE STUDENT CAREERS ADVISER NETWORK (SCAN)

The Student Recruitment team is looking for volunteers to join SCAN. As a SCAN volunteer, or Student Careers Adviser, you will be able to develop a range of skills as well as network with other chartered accountants.

SCAN is a group of volunteer members, who visit their local schools, colleges and universities on behalf of the ICAEW to promote the ACA qualification and a career as a chartered accountant.

There are a range of benefits, just for giving up a few hours a year:

- develop your communication and presentation skills
- network with like-minded qualified and trainee ACAs
- mentor bright young talent with advice and tips
- visit schools and universities (including your former ones if the opportunity should arise)
- promote your employer to potential employees and the ACA qualification
- improve transferable skills such as time management, problem solving, and influencing.

Most Student Careers Advisers will tell you that they're left with a real sense of achievement, in addition to having great fun meeting potential ACAs. In addition, you can help your organisation raise its profile in the local community and with the help of the network, develop links between local education establishments and your own organisation as well as facilitating recruitment for your organisation.

Both volunteers and employers benefit from the programme and no specialist knowledge is needed, just a willingness to share your experiences. You tell us when you are available and our only requirement is that you attend a minimum of one event each year. You will be reimbursed for your travel expenses.

We are interested in hearing from anyone who would like to volunteer and are particularly interested in those based in London, the North East, and Yorkshire and Humberside.

For more information about how you can be involved in the Student Careers Advisers Network, or to become a volunteer today, contact Amanda Akien in the Student Recruitment Team on [amanda.akiem@icaew.com](mailto:amanda.akiem@icaew.com), call +44(0)1908 248 134 or visit [www.icaew.com/scan](http://www.icaew.com/scan)

### VITAL DETAILS

Write to:  
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MK9 2HL

Email: [VITAL@icaew.com](mailto:VITAL@icaew.com)  
Call: +44 (0)1908 248 040

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE – GET INVOLVED

Young Enterprise (YE) is the UK's leading business and enterprise education charity. We are proud to support YE and sponsor the national award for Business Advisers. Through the use of volunteers and their business knowledge, YE introduce young people to the world of business and

prepare them for their working lives. If you would like to represent your firm and the Institute as a Young Enterprise Business Adviser and work with schools find out more at

[www.icaew.com/careers/careersxtra/youngenterprise](http://www.icaew.com/careers/careersxtra/youngenterprise)

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

### PAINT A THOUSAND WORDS

Accountants training should include communication and presentation skills, say the authors of a new report, Words, Pictures and Intangibles in the Corporate Report.

The ICAS commissioned study also discovered that companies are increasingly resorting to using pictures and discretionary words in their annual reports in response to the inadequacy of the traditional accounting framework in dealing with intangible assets. With this in mind accountants need to develop greater sensitivity to the messages portrayed by words and pictures.

*PQ Magazine 21 May 2007*

### FINANCIAL JOBS IN THE CITY BOOMING

This year will see just over 4,000 new jobs created in the City, according to recent research from the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR).

Jobs for accountants and financial executives, as well as others in the finance industry are due to expand from 338,400 in 2006 to 342,600 this year. This will actually be less than the jobs that were added last year, but the figure is still in excess of CEBR forecast.

CEBR economist Sarah Bloomfield said: "After the City expanded at record levels in 2006, what we are likely to see this year is a consolidation of growth. With some clouds starting to gather on the horizon – some of which hit the

*markets in March – the City is likely to be positive but more cautious this year."*

However, the accountancy sector alone will see 2,800 new jobs created, the CEBR report said.

*Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) 16 April 2007*

### HANDS CAN REVEAL YOUR APTITUDE FOR MATHS

If employers want someone good with figures they should forget about CVs and take a look at your fingers. The latest scientific research says that the relative length of your index and ring fingers determines how good at maths and English you are. If your ring finger is as long as your index finger it means you are top at numeracy. There is a problem though – you won't be as good at literacy. Interestingly, testosterone also helps promote the areas of the brain associated with maths skills – or that's what the boffins claim!

*PQ Magazine 11 June 2007*

### HUB IS HOTSPOT FOR JOBS GROWTH

Manchester is gathering pace as a major financial hotspot. A number of accountancy firms and lawyers have established a presence in Manchester in order to offer national coverage to specific sectors and many are planning expansion. One of the reasons accountancy firms are targeting the city is because fees are almost one-third lower than in London.

*Financial Times 26 April 2007*

## EXAM DATES



## PROFESSIONAL STAGE

Closing date

**9 August 2007**

Admission letter

**24 August 2007**

Exam dates

**10, 11, 12 September 2007**

Results available from 5pm GMT

**19 October 2007**

## ADVANCED STAGE

Closing date

**4 October 2007**

Admission letter

**18 October 2007**

Exam dates

**5, 6, 7 November 2007**

Results available from 5pm GMT

**14 December 2007**

## ACA RESULTS PUBLISHED IN THE FT

Pass and credit lists for the Professional Stage exams (June sitting) will be published in the Companies and Markets section (section 2) of the *Financial Times* on 23 July.

Pass and credit list for the Advanced Stage exams (July sitting) will be published in a special Chartered Accountancy supplement found in the *Financial Times* on 6 September.

Future dates of results listings will be advertised on the student website.

## RESULTS SERVICE

To ensure you receive your admission letter and exam results remember to tell us of any changes to your postal or email address by calling us on **+44 (0)1908 248 040** or emailing [studentsupport@icaew.com](mailto:studentsupport@icaew.com)

# FINANCIAL ANALYSIS ADVANCED CASE STUDY

Following our first Exam Surgery article in spring's issue of VITAL, have you downloaded the material relating to the Professional Stage Financial Reporting examination from our website? The Advanced Case Study (ACS) examining team have also prepared some additional material that is relevant to all candidates for the ACS examination.

As you progress through your training contract, the analysis of a business is something that will be a recurring skill that you will have to demonstrate. It is an essential skill whether you work in general practice or a more specialist area. If you advise clients, it is important that you understand their business, its current strengths and weaknesses, and its future potential. This applies to insolvency, taxation, auditing and business consulting situations. You may have reviewed existing performance and future projections in considering tax planning opportunities or you may have reviewed financial performance

to identify risks associated with the viability of a business's operations. The important skill is to be able to interpret financial information and relate it to the business strategy, the economic environment or other factors that have influenced the given scenario.

Financial statement analysis is a core aspect of the evaluation of an organisation.

### Why is this new material relevant to you?

It will be extremely difficult for you to pass the ACS without being able to demonstrate your ability to perform financial analysis on the business in your case study examination. The ACS examination does not require you to learn new analytical techniques above those you mastered for the Professional Stage exams. However, the ACS examiners do expect you to perform any financial analysis at speed and with confidence within the allotted four hours. This means that you must have strong core analytical skills.

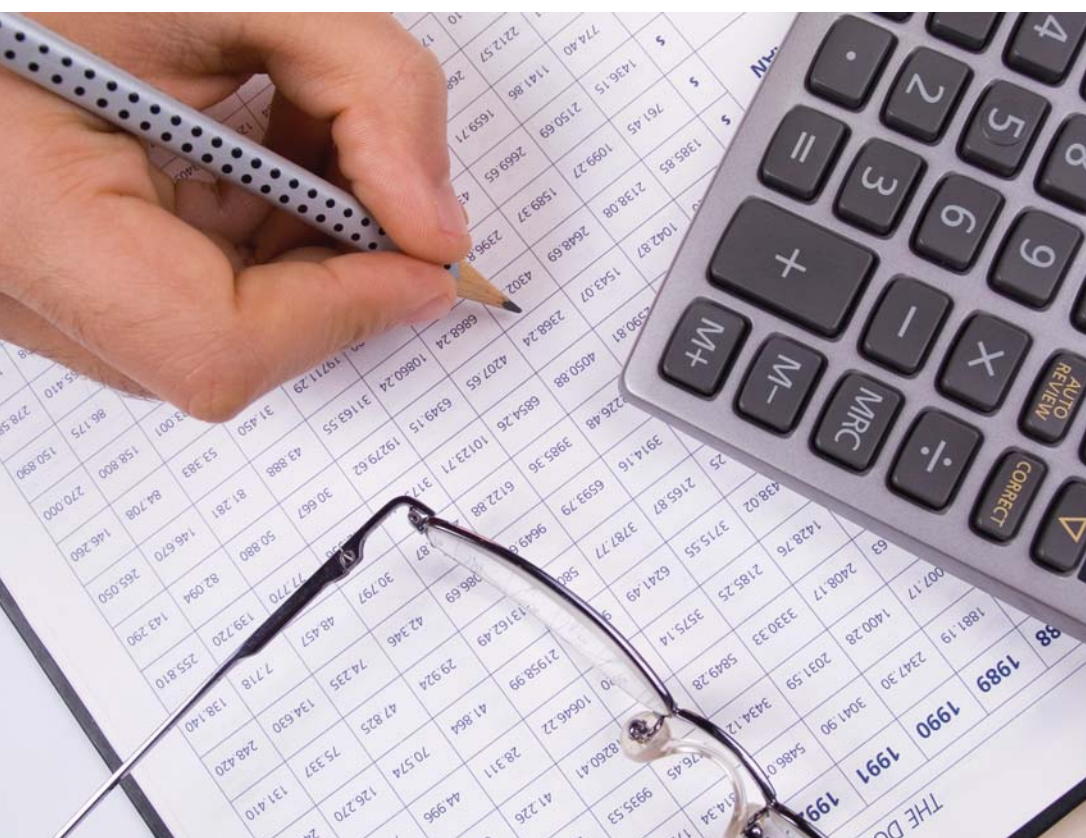
When the examiners refer to financial data analysis:

- do you know what analytical tools they are referring to?
- do you know the types of calculations that you might be asked to perform?
- are you comfortable using your judgement to amend your figures?
- do you know how to add value to your work?
- do you have a plan for obtaining sufficient marks for Professional Skills (65% of the total marks awarded in the ACS)?
- do you know how to carry out high quality sensitivity analysis?
- do you know how to carry out meaningful reconciliations?
- can you meaningfully interpret your results?

When they refer to financial statement analysis:

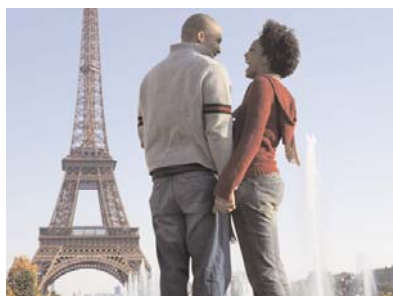
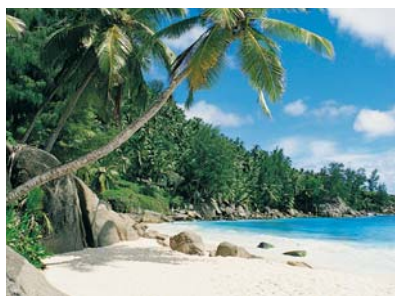
- do you know how to apply your ratio analysis?
- can you make sense of the meanings behind changes in the numbers?
- do you know how to demonstrate your professional scepticism?
- do you have a process to carry out your initial analysis on the financial headlines of a business?
- can you discuss the principal financial aspects of any business – its results, its financial position and whether it is generating or using cash?
- do you know what to look for in the income statement, the balance sheet and the cash flow statement?
- can you demonstrate financial fluency?

The material we have included on the website sets out what they expect of you in relation to these issues and give guidance on how you can improve your answer in an ACS examination. This is essential reading for all prospective ACS examination candidates. Make sure you visit [www.icaew.com/students](http://www.icaew.com/students)





## SIZZLING SUMMER OFFERS FOR STUDENTS



### HOLIDAY AND TRAVEL OFFERS

We have brought together a sizzling package of summer offers specifically with the needs of our students in mind.

**AIG**

Direct

### HOLIDAY INSURANCE

With the holiday season firmly upon us, we wanted to remind you of the excellent deal we have with AIG Direct\*. Wherever you go overseas, whenever you travel, whether you take one trip a year or several, AIG Direct provides Institute members with flexible, high quality travel insurance you can arrange today. Single trip cover costs from only £1.59 per day for an individual aged 18–64 travelling in Europe\*\*† and just £4.99 a month for annual cover. Call now for an instant quote or immediate cover on **0800 975 3641** quoting Ref: 070702



### BCP AIRPORT PARKING

We all know that airport parking can be an added expense that can be forgotten about, so BCP, the airport parking specialist, is offering students an extra 15% off the pre-booked price. BCP offers an unrivalled choice of over 50 secure car parks at over 20 UK airports.

Your 15% discount not only applies to parking, but also other BCP services

such as airport lounges. Call BCP on **0870 013 4959** and quote **ICAEW** or visit [www.icaew.com/airportparking](http://www.icaew.com/airportparking)



### VIRGIN HOLIDAYS

To help you choose that summer break you know you deserve, we have teamed up with Virgin Holidays, who are delighted to offer an exclusive 6% discount to student members. To help you decide on the right destination and check availability visit [www.virginholidays.com](http://www.virginholidays.com) before making your booking. Once you have chosen your dream break, simply call **0871 222 0052** and quote **ICAEW** to get your discount.

### MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT OFFERS

If getting to the airport turns out to be just far too stressful, why not treat yourself to a total relaxation experience from the comfort of your own armchair!



### MUSIC TO YOUR EARS

CD WOW! is one of the world's best value entertainment sites. Not only are they the best value for all chart CDs – from only £7.99, but students also receive a further discount, as well as

FREE delivery! Prices start at just £7.74 for a chart CD, £4.74 for DVDs and just £12.74 for top console game titles. Simply visit [www.cd-wow.com/icaew](http://www.cd-wow.com/icaew) to start shopping and enjoy fantastic savings on high street prices.



### HASSLE-FREE ONLINE DVD RENTAL

Fancy watching the top films on DVD for FREE? Well you can with LOVEFiLM! LOVEFiLM, one of the UK's leading online DVD rental services, is pleased to offer all students a free two week trial. The quicker you watch the DVDs, the quicker they send you the next ones on your list and it won't cost you a penny! After your trial, if you wish to remain a member, packages are available from as little as £5.99 a month. Visit [www.icaew.com/lovefilm](http://www.icaew.com/lovefilm) for more information.



### EVERYTHING AMAZON

Amazon is the ultimate one-stop-shop for all your shopping and entertainment needs. Whether it be ordering the last Harry Potter book or getting the most up-to-date virus software, they have it all. In addition, they are also offering free UK delivery on all orders over £15. Visit [www.icaew.com/amazon](http://www.icaew.com/amazon) for more information.

\*The ICAEW is an Introducer Appointed Representative of UNAT DIRECT Insurance Management Limited. AIG Direct is a trading name of UNAT DIRECT Insurance Management Limited. This insurance is underwritten by Landmark Insurance Company Limited and administered by UNAT DIRECT. Landmark and UNAT DIRECT are member companies of American International Group Inc. (AIG), and are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Landmark is a member of the Association of British Insurers. \*\*Please see policy document for definition. †Excludes UK.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go to Chris Brooks, who won the Davina McCall caption competition in the last issue of VITAL. The winning caption was, "Despite all of Davina's efforts, the wax-work still swore on live TV". Chris won two tickets to Alton Towers.

### STOP PRESS NEW OFFERS TO STUDENTS

Why not visit [www.icaew.com/studentoffers](http://www.icaew.com/studentoffers) to view the great savings that can be made when joining the AA and the RAC! These offers complement an already impressive portfolio for students. Why not spend a little time exploring the full range of discounts available?



STUDENT OFFERS

# MAKING YOUR MOVE INTO FINANCIAL SERVICES

Written by  
**Beth  
Alexander**  
*Manager  
Michael Page  
Financial  
Services*

**B**anking is a hugely dynamic and interesting sector, new markets, products and opportunities evolve everyday and banks respond and develop their strategies continually providing an exciting sector for provisional members to consider pursuing.

Financial services companies recruiting accountants from the profession search for candidates with excellent analytical ability, interpersonal skills and a commercial, business-minded approach, all of which are much in demand.

The market for 2007 will continue to see change and recruitment levels will be high due to exciting growth plans and new products being introduced. Here are some of the business areas that could be of interest to you...

## FINANCE IN INVESTMENT AND RETAIL BANKING

With technology improvements and more alignment with the business areas, the controlling function is even more critical and stimulating. The dynamism and size of the industry opens up a broad range of responsibilities and roles for accountants. Whether supporting a specific trading desk, working in a strategic management reporting role conducting reviews of banking operations, or advising on tactical systems development, the accountant's role is a dynamic one. Often work is project based, and the responsibility is on each individual to come up with ideas and to innovate. Business managers value the contribution accountants can make to risk management and control, and it is the increasing emphasis on these issues that is reflected in early responsibility, a high profile career and excellent financial rewards for the City's accountants.

## FINANCE IN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Investment management is a very broad sector covering a vast array of differing types of organisations. From large, institutional global investment houses to a boutique sized privately run investment firm, the choice in deciding what type of investment house to join is wide. Investment management can also cover, custodian houses, private equity, venture capital, hedge funds, private family offices and even property/real estate investment firms. However, size and focus of organisations does not necessarily reflect the firms Asset under Management (AUM) and even a small boutique can be discretely managing several billions on behalf of institutional as well as private clients. The type of finance role you decide to take within the investment management field very much depends on the size of organisation. The nature of a mainstream finance role will vary hugely depending whether you work in a 50 strong company or a 5,000 strong company. In a mainstream investment house, you may focus on a specialist business, many large organisations break their businesses up by institutional, retail or alternative products. In larger houses the range of roles can include financial accounting & reporting, business analysis, budgeting & planning to strategic planning.

## CORPORATE FINANCE

Corporate finance involves the technical structuring of deals, whether they are mergers, acquisitions, initial public offerings etc, from an equity perspective. Origination involves the identification and development of possible opportunities from merger or acquisition activity. Execution





involves the technical/analysis aspects of these activities, such as company valuations. M&A teams are usually sector teams with an industry focus. To get a role in this area, you will be a recently qualified candidate with an excellent academic record and first time passes, as competition is fierce.

#### EQUITY ANALYSIS/CREDIT ANALYSIS

Equity analysts produce verbal or written research on publicly listed companies. Research produced may be specific to an industry, country or region and is marketed to fund managers to assist them in making investment decisions. Credit analysts interpret financial reports and other supporting information in order to assess the financial standing of counter parties whether they are corporate or financial institutions.

#### FUND MANAGEMENT/INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

Fund managers invest into funds on behalf of clients (either institutions or private clients) in international financial markets. Funds may be based on products such as cash, equities, bonds, foreign exchange and derivatives. Newly qualified candidates may become investment analysts if they have a financial services audit and are SFA registered. Investment analysts produce research on public listed companies to assist fund managers in making investment decisions.

#### DEBT AND STRUCTURED FINANCE

Essentially, some banks will look at newly qualified ACAs for leveraged/acquisition on the buy and sell side, distressed debt and project finance roles, but only if they have had

some experience in either due diligence or transactions whilst qualifying or post qualifying. All roles in this sector require a good understanding of cash flow modelling and a good understanding of a company's balance sheet etc which ACAs should have but would still need experience in due diligence or transaction services in order to find roles on the debt side.

All types of environments though provide excellent platforms but careful consideration is required in finding out what is best for you. Spend some time thinking about what your medium and long term goals are. You need to think about what sorts of roles would be best suited to you in terms of the daily responsibilities, working hours, size of company and culture. Talk to colleagues and friends who have already made the move and ask them how they reached their decision, and what their experience has been. The more research you do the clearer you will become on what is right for you!

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*If you would like further information, please email  
[vital@michaelpage.com](mailto:vital@michaelpage.com)*

# OPPORTUNITIES ARE ENDLESS

## PROFILE

NICOLA GINTY,  
ACA

FTC KAPLAN, London

AAT Product Manager and Centre  
Head of London AAT Training  
Division  
Age: 31



**B**ecoming a chartered accountant was never part of my initial career plan. When I was younger I actually wanted to be a secretary or an air hostess, however, I did an accounting module at college before I went to university and enjoyed it so much I decided to apply for an accountancy degree.

I knew I wanted to return to my home town of Keighley and work for a local accountancy practice so during my last year at university I went through the Institute's *Training Vacancies* publication and applied to several organisations. I went for an interview with Clough and Co, a Chartered Accountant firm in Bradford and immediately liked the atmosphere. They were a relatively small firm and everyone knew each other so when they offered me a job I accepted.

Whilst training I worked in the audit department and went to Leeds FTC Kaplan to study for the exams. I also got to work in the small jobs department for six months and see how the 'cardboard box' that arrives eventually becomes a final set of accounts.

The most interesting audit I remember was at a rugby club in my local town that all my family supported. I was there for one month and one of the audit tests was to pay the rugby players – in cash! They all had to come and sign for their money in their rugby kits, I had to count it out and then hand it over. I can still remember what they were all earning now....

It was hard combining the training and work, and I found the exams really difficult. Looking back I didn't really have a life around the courses and trying to achieve the work/life balance and get all the revision done was a challenge but the day you qualify it all becomes worthwhile.

Whilst waiting for my results I was offered a role at FTC Kaplan, where I had sat my exams, to help develop a relatively new programme called AAT to the organisation. I started for FTC Kaplan in 1999 as an AAT tutor and since then have helped to develop and grow the AAT product around the country. I now work in London as a centre manager for our London AAT provision, whilst also sitting on AAT Council. My role is all about looking after a growing business unit and managing a team of 15 people. I have the freedom to do what I think is best for the department I manage, whilst having the support of my line manager when I feel I need it. I enjoy getting to meet the students, other people and being busy. Funnily enough I also enjoy working on the budgets and the accounts!

As with any job there are highs and lows. I am really proud of the fantastic growth we have seen in the business over the past year and the transformations we've achieved



*"I am really proud of the fantastic growth we have seen in the business over the past year and the transformations we've achieved as a department."*



as a department. On the minus side, packing up from my home in Leeds and moving to London was so much harder than doing the same thing a few years earlier to go to university. This time I was older and leaving a house with a garden and garage to move into a shared and rented house – but I haven't looked back since.

I now own my own flat in London and soon fitted into London life enjoying the buzzing atmosphere where there is always something to do. The only thing I dislike is the Tube!

For anyone considering a career in chartered accountancy I would say 'be prepared and stick with it'. It was tough combining work and study but if you work hard the rewards will follow and the opportunities are endless.

**'be prepared and stick with it'**

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO WIN £50 WATERSTONE'S VOUCHERS?

Waterstone's vouchers can be redeemed at branches of Waterstone's, HMV and Hatchards in the UK

Would you like to win £50 vouchers? If so, just tell us how you got into chartered accountancy and the ACA. We are looking for students, graduates, and people who have taken AAT-ACA Fast Track route. Tell us about your job, your training and how the ACA has helped you.

Maybe you work in an unusual industry or your route into the ACA was extraordinary? Maybe you previously held a completely different job and got into accountancy after deciding on a career change.

We really want to hear from you. Drop us a line telling us a little about yourself and if we choose you, you could win £50 Waterstone's vouchers and have your profile published in VITAL. Email us at [VITAL@icaew.com](mailto:VITAL@icaew.com)

# NEW STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

The National Student Council (NSC) has elected its leaders for the current year. They are Simon Hoolihan of the Liverpool Student Society (LCASS) as Chairman and Michelle Perrin of the Beds, Bucks and Herts Student Society (BBHCASS) as Vice Chair.

Simon becomes Chair after sitting on NSC for the past two years and after subsequent involvement with the Liverpool Student Society. As part of LCASS Simon has been involved in the 'outlook' program helping students in their final year of University who are looking at accountancy as a career.

Michelle takes on the position of Vice Chair and in the past has been involved with her local society Beds, Bucks and Herts as treasurer.

Over the coming year Simon and Michelle are looking to work closely with the ICAEW attracting new students and increasing the awareness of the ACA and also the opportunities available after students are qualified. They will also be part of the provisional members working group that will look at a number of different issues for NSC to discuss.

National Student Council brings together representatives from around the Institute, providing a voice and feedback mechanism for the ICAEW's 13,000 training students. It aims to promote best practice between student societies and raise the profile of the accountancy profession. The student council meets with ICAEW representatives every three months and communicates with staff from Learning & Professional Development and Member Services regularly.

New Chair Simon said "It's a huge privilege to be given the opportunity to chair the Institute's National Student Council. With a diverse mix of people from practice and industry, drawn together from England and Wales, NSC is a truly representative body. We have achieved a lot in the past, and Michelle and I hope to continue a tradition of working hard for the students, and ensuring that their interests have a voice at all levels of the Institute."

For more information on your student council visit [www.icaew.com/students](http://www.icaew.com/students)



## VITAL LIBRARY RESOURCES

Stay on top of your game with our wide range of online journals, books and reports from the library:

### DO YOU USE AMAZON.COM?

- Do you want a greater range of online library resources?
- Do you want to increase the breadth of books available to students and members?
- Do you want access to more professional journals?

The Institute is now providing students and members with a one stop means of accessing Amazon's huge range of products. Students and members making purchases from Amazon using the links from the Institute website will generate income for the Library & Information Service at no extra cost to themselves. Order from [www.icaew.com/amazon](http://www.icaew.com/amazon) or use the special 'Buy this item now' option from the Library catalogue.

### EASTERN EUROPE NEWS AND ANALYSIS

- Find out how new laws, policy changes and business ventures are influencing opportunities
- Learn about new deals and negotiations: who's involved, what the terms are and how funding is being handled
- Advise your clients or your organisation about potential business opportunities and/or risk.

*Eastern Europe Reporter* provides in-depth news, analysis and practical guidance of legal, regulatory and policy changes affecting business in Central and Eastern Europe. This database is free to Institute members and students and can be accessed from [www.icaew.com/easterneurope](http://www.icaew.com/easterneurope). For more information on this resource, contact the Library & Information Service on +44 (0) 207 920 8620 or email [library@icaew.com](mailto:library@icaew.com)

### ENQUIRY HELPLINE AND BOOK LOANS

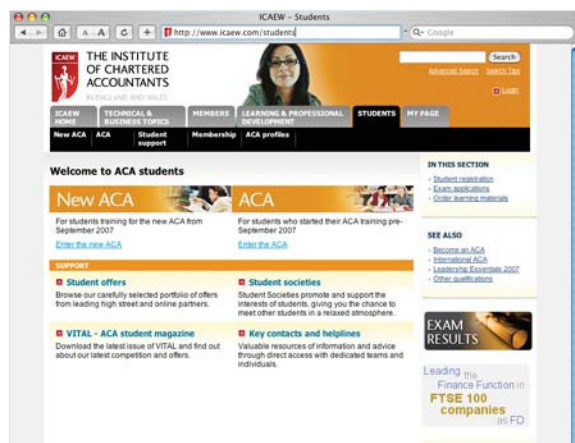
Don't forget that as an Institute student you can use the Library Enquiry Helpline and free book loan service. Contact the Library if you have a quick question or need more detailed research. Most of the research will be carried out free of charge and we will respond to your enquiry with 24 hours.

We post books out to members and students free of charge. You can search the Library catalogue at [www.icaew.com/libcat](http://www.icaew.com/libcat) and then simply call the Enquiry Helpline to borrow the book. We have a wide range of books covering all aspects of the ACA syllabus as well as books on career and personal development.

You also have access to a range of electronic books, which you can access free of charge at [www.icaew.com/ebooks](http://www.icaew.com/ebooks), including:

- 24 hours to the perfect interview: quick steps for planning, organizing, and preparing for the interview that gets the job
- first time manager: first steps to a brilliant management career
- first-job survival guide: how to thrive and advance in your new career
- get that job: CVs – how to stand out from the crowd
- get that job: interviews – how to keep your head and get your ideal job.

For more information on these resources, contact the Library & Information Service on +44 (0) 207 920 8620 or [library@icaew.com](mailto:library@icaew.com)





# DID YOU KNOW?

However challenging studying may seem, achieving the ACA really does give you a competitive advantage:

- 67% of FTSE 100 qualified accountants acting as Finance Director or CEO have an ACA. That's more than four times the number holding any other single qualification. *Source: Accountancy, October/November 2006*
- The ACA has the highest overall exam pass rate at 78.5% and upwards. With some of the other accountancy qualifications, the number of students passing exams is less than 50%. *Source: FRC, Key Facts and trends in the accountancy profession, February 2006.*



## STUDENT SOCIETY EVENTS

### BADCASS – Bristol and Districts

Water Sports, Summer Party, Rounders & BBQ, Booze Cruise – all to be confirmed

Contact [badcass@kaliba.net](mailto:badcass@kaliba.net) for more information.

### BBHCASS – Beds Bucks and Herts

21 September  
Thames Booze Cruise

28 September  
Free Launch Event  
Milton Keynes with FTC

7 October  
Five-a-side Football  
Hertfordshire Sports Village

Contact [deidre.hyde@icaew.com](mailto:deidre.hyde@icaew.com) or call +44 (0)1223 462 147 for more information.

### CASSL – London

2 August  
Back 2 Skool Quiz  
The Red Herring

12 October  
New Members Party

29 November  
Film, TV & Music Quiz  
The Red Herring

Contact [Deborah.hartog@icaew.com](mailto:Deborah.hartog@icaew.com) or visit [www.icaew.com/cassl](http://www.icaew.com/cassl) for more information.

### LENCASS – Leicester & Northants

27 July  
Summer Ball at Noseley Hall

4 August  
Go-Karting

16 November  
Casino at Ramada Hotel Leicester

Contact [janet.marchand@icaew.com](mailto:janet.marchand@icaew.com) for more information.

### SEWCASS – South East Wales

29 July  
Sports Day and BBQ

October/November  
New Joiners Halloween Party

Contact [david.m.ainsworth@uk.pwc.com](mailto:david.m.ainsworth@uk.pwc.com) for more information.



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This summer we are launching a bold campaign to tell the world about the new ACA. Reaching more than 9 million adults it aims to raise the awareness of the ACA as a mark of quality, attracting new students and more employers to offer training contracts and opportunities. Visit [www.icaew.com/acutabove](http://www.icaew.com/acutabove) for more information.

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