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EDITORIAL

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We appreciate your feedback and comments regarding this and other CASS Communications. Please send your opinions to:

casspatron@icaz.org.zw

Welcome to the first issue of the CASS newsletter:



Patron's Remarks

Dear CASS members

It's a pleasure for me to be your Patron for the year ending, the Winter of 2017. You have a very active and committed committee, with whom it has been a pleasure to work with so far. One of the exciting developments the team is working on is the formalization of the CASS structures in other locations outside Harare. This is something that will increase the sharing of ideas and enhance collaboration amongst CASS members across the country. I am sure developments with respect to this initiative will be communicated to you in due course.

After much deliberation, the Institute's Council agreed to support the CASS proposal to have the CASS seminar in South Africa. However, one of the major challenges at present is the availability of foreign currency to make payments to the foreign service providers. All efforts are being made to secure guarantees for the availability of foreign currency, at the time at which it will be required. Consequently, please do share any ideas you may have with the CASS committee, so as to make the bid for the CASS Seminar in South Africa, a reality.

Yours faithfully

Tapiwa Chizana
ICAZ Junior Vice President



Introducing the CASS Scholarship Fund

G.K Chesterton once remarked, "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."

An opportunity presented itself for the Chartered Accountants Student Society to develop the student accountant and empower the community from which its members come from.

CASS, in collaboration with the Institute of Chartered Accountants Zimbabwe (ICAZ), launched the ICAZ CASS Scholarship Trust in 2015 to prioritise youth education as a sustainable and impactful way of improving society. The Trust was borne out of a realisation that the cost of education has continually increased, taking with it the hopes and dreams of an academically gifted but economically disadvantaged student population.

A year on, the Fund has gained traction. In the six months today, CASS put aside US\$1 169 and the accumulated fund stands at US\$2,640. Stakeholders have been approached and partnerships are being formed. CASS is proud to announce that plans are underway to ensure that in 2017, the first cohort of beneficiaries will be selected.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Tinashe Mushosho
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With the inaugural issue of the CASS newsletter, we celebrate the phenomenal year that was 2016. As always, we attained high flying results in our examinations with new Chartered Accountants qualifying.

On the CSR front, we donated over US\$1,000 and touched lives at Bumhudzo Old People's Home and Rose of Sharon Old People's Home. On the football field, the CASS Soccer season was unlike any witnessed before with BDO clinching the title yet again.

The CASS Seminar held in Victoria Falls was a major success. Special thanks to our sponsors CBZ, Old Mutual, DHL, Padenga and many of our other partners. In the upcoming year, we look forward to more successes including a ground breaking seminar to be held in SunCity.

Should you have any questions, suggestions or comments, feel free to get in touch with any of the CASS Committee representatives.

MEET THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE...



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UPCOMING EVENTS – 2017

CSR Outreach – 22 April 2017

CASS continues to show commitment to the community.



CASS Seminar 6 July 2017



A chance to learn from industry giants and trade experts.

Inter-firm sports day 18 August 2017

Will BDO claim the CASS Soccer Championship for the third year in a row?



ANNUAL CASS SEMINAR

2016 Edition: *Kingdom Hotel, Victoria Falls*

The Chartered Accountants' Student Society members headed to the lovely resort town of **Victoria Falls** for a well-deserved three-day learning excursion and retreat from **30 June 2016 to 2 July 2016**.

The theme of the seminar was **Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders** and the session aptly delivered on this.

A sneak peek into the event...

The mornings were packed with empowering and mind blowing lessons from industry giants representing organisations such as Old Mutual and DHL. The lessons covered disruptive technologies, the need for 21st century skills, emerging opportunities and how the student accountant can best prepare for them.



The afternoons: delightfully marked with adventures and an exploration of one of the loveliest places on earth, Those present had the pleasure of watching the sunset over the Zambezi River amongst many other scenic sights.

The evenings? To say the least, the students set the night alight with song as they danced to the infectious rhythms of DJ Phatchild.

Vic Falls 2016 proved to be a fantastic end to the 2015/16 year and a fiery kick off to the 2016/17 year.

Next Stop: *Get your passports ready! #SunCity2017*



CASS is bursting beyond Zimbabwe's borders with a new venue, new lessons, new cultures and new adventures!

For the first time ever, the annual seminar will be in **Mzansi** next July at **SunCity Luxury Resort and Casino**.

CASS boasts of emerging global leaders and this coming year we take on a bigger and international platform. Speakers will be drawn from a cohort of African industry giants and key insights will cover global trends and disruptive technologies.

Thrill seekers will enjoy the adrenalin pumping water slides and waves. The bon-vivants will cherish the luxurious facilities.

Get in touch with your CASS representatives to sign up!

SunCity 2017 promises to be a once in a lifetime experience.

Special thanks go to our sponsors



2016 SPORTS SEASON

CASS Soccer League

The Soccer Season kicked off in July of 2016. Newcomers **CAA** sought to prove themselves a force to reckon within the league defeating four out of nine other teams participating. **AG**, at last, became a logged contender and the team came fighting attaining first position early in the season, a position which they however, lost as the games progressed. Elsewhere, hot off the President's declaration that they would win the championship this year, **PWC** had a point to prove. **KPMG** also returned with a vengeance following their loss at penalties at the semi-finals in the last year but **BDO** firmly refused to relinquish the title. **BDO** was also top of **GT's** hit list and the **GT's** victory against the defending champions on Match Day 3 ignited the hope that maybe there would be a new title winner this season. The season had some surprises as **BTG** and **KPMG** shared the spoils, **GT** scoring **five** entire goals against **AMG** and **Deloitte** defeating **GT**.

Going into the semi-final, **GT** was ranked first due to a favourable goal difference, followed by **KPMG**, **BDO** and **Deloitte**.

Sports Day



On 19 August 2016, CASS lit up Vainona as they held their 2016 edition of the Annual Interfirm Sports Day. Student accountants came together in their hundreds to demonstrate their athletic prowess, promote physical fitness and to enjoy a day of relaxation and merriment. The event kicked off with a Zumba session where the participants enjoyed the salsa and chachacha to a contagious blend of Latina and international rhythms. Soon after, the games began and the trainee accountants brought their own "Rio 16 Olympics" feel

to the day.

Deloitte dominated the basketball courts while KPMG's relay team was the epitome of speed and agility. ICAZ's tug of war team was the brawniest of them all while HLB were the kings and queens of Touch Rugby. These are just a few of the victories of the day. All the firms brought their best game and made the games riveting and exciting.

The highlight however, was the finale between BDO and Grant Thornton following a soccer season that had been the pinnacle of sporting greatness. This was a repeat of 2015's finale and BDO once more emerged victorious with a score line of three goals to one. Overall team PWC were crowned 2016 champions undefeated from their 2015 victory.

Corporate Social Responsibility

During all the fun and excitement of the 2016/2017 year, CASS remained committed to its communities. The Society donated an amount of US\$ 1,169 to the beneficiaries of the CASS Scholarship Fund.

The Society also presented a donation to Major Jochore of Bumhudzo Old People's Home, a charitable organisation that had been selected as this year's recipient of CASS' corporate social responsibility endeavours. Major Jochore expressed his gratitude for the groceries, basic essentials and toiletries worth US\$ 500 that the Society had provided.



ICAZ CEO'S MESSAGE FOR INAUGURAL CASS NEWSLETTER

ICAZ is pleased to be a part of this **inaugural issue of the CASS Newsletter**. It is our hope that the newsletter will play a unifying and informative role for all chartered accountants students registered with the **Institute**, by airing students' opinions, views as well as their activities.

I salute the current **CASS** leadership for coming up with the idea of a Newsletter!

I would like to remind you as students of our expectation of you. Students are expected to take an active role in their learning by recognizing they are accountable for their success. This is demonstrated when students make choices and take actions which lead towards achieving their educational goals.

As responsible students it is expected that you will take ownership of your actions by exhibiting a positive behavior in the form of; demonstrating academic integrity and honesty in a civil manner that respects the **Institute** and society, utilize resources availed to you expeditiously and seek help when needed. I urge you all to identify, develop, and implement a suitable plan to achieve your goals.

You all have aspirations and dreams of what you want to do and who you want to be, so stay focused and be prepared to put in what is needed to get there. Although the industry is changing and in some ways becoming more challenging, if you have the right technical and soft skills you will find numerous job opportunities to advance your career.

So prepare yourselves accordingly and meet the challenge.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate those who were successful in the recent **CTA** examinations and those who excelled in their **UNISA** exams. All the best for those preparing to take **ITC** exams at the end of January.

The **Institute** is examining an additional pathway for qualifying **Chartered Accountants**, more on this in forthcoming issues of the **CASS** Newsletter.



IN CONCLUSION



Your opinion matters

We would love to hear from you, so if you have an opinion about any of the topics you have read or others, feel free to contact us on:

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