



ASISA Academy Newsflash – October 2022

Dear Stakeholder

The year is rapidly drawing to a close and preparations for next year's learning programmes are in full swing. With a month and a half to go before the annual holiday season, we are urging employers in the investment management industry interested in enrolling employees in our second instalment of the [Financial Markets Practitioner Learnership](#) starting in March 2023 to submit their [Employer Enrolment Forms](#).

We would like to remind employers that the FMP Learnership qualification complies with the Financial Sector Code (FSC) criteria set out in categories B and D on the Learning Programme Matrix for scoring skills development points. Therefore, companies are also encouraged to reserve spaces for new graduates who are currently unemployed. The ASISA Academy maintains a database of unemployed eligible graduates for companies willing to partner with the ASISA Academy in creating career pathways for unemployed graduates. Interested employers can [email](#) us for more information.

Sanlam, for example, placed four previously unemployed graduates on this year's inaugural FMP Learnership. Together with the other 10 participants from Camissa Asset Management, Coronation Fund Managers and Momentum, these graduates have just completed their eighth month of the learnership. The academic component of the learnership is delivered via 34 online classroom sessions of three hours each over a year and delegates will sit for the final external exam in April 2023.

This NQF Level 7 learnership is registered with the Finance and Accounting Services Sector Education and Training Authority (Fasset) and provides a learning pathway to a higher qualification such as an honours degree or a NQF level 8 post graduate diploma.



News from our other graduate programmes

1. IMACS@TSiBA Internship

We are in the planning phase of the 2023/24 [IMACS@TSiBA](#) Internship starting in July 2023. This will be our 13th intake of students from TSiBA, a Cape Town-based not-for-profit higher education institution. The relationship with TSiBA was formed in 2011, and this is the ASISA Academy's longest-standing university partnership.

Together with TSiBA, we identify second-year Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA) students who have what it takes to build a career in the savings and investment industry. Interested students are required to participate in the IMACS@TSiBA learning programme over 12 months while completing their BBA degrees. Those who successfully complete all their courses proceed to intern at their sponsors.

Sponsors of this internship are not only creating employment opportunities for young talent, but they are also proactively transforming our industry one intern at a time.

Companies interested in sponsoring students for the 2023/24 [IMACS@TSiBA](#) Internship are invited to express their interest [here](#).

2. ASISA Academy IFA Internship

Following the overwhelming response for next year's ASISA Academy [Independent Financial Advisor \(IFA\) Internship](#), which kicks off in February 2023, the 47 IFA practices that will be hosting interns are in the process of concluding their selections. Once complete, 62 out of the 168 graduates who applied for the internship will have a place at a host practice in Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Durban, East London, Gqeberha or Johannesburg.

The selection process is of critical importance for the IFA practices with the focus on identifying graduates that will fit in well with the practice culture and also with the existing and potential clients. We recently asked IFA practices currently hosting interns for feedback on how their interns were adjusting to the workplace and also how well the ASISA Academy had prepared the graduates for the transition to the world of work.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and we would like to share some of the comments received from host practices:

- We are delighted with the progress Kholu is making. She is very professional, and her contribution to Bespoke has been fantastic. Kholu has a fantastic work ethic and attitude.
- Happy so far, we are very impressed with the quality of our candidates.
- We are very happy with the internship. It has enlarged our intern's perspective on the working environment.
- We are pleased with the preparation taught in the Work Readiness Course. Our intern gained a good frame of reference on how practices operate.
- We have been very happy with the attitude and commitment of our intern.
- Sandile is a star.
- Kamogelo is great.
- Dimpho will be an attribute to any business.



Update on our Short Courses

UCT Life Insurance Claims Assessors Short Course

We concluded the UCT Life Insurance Claims Assessors Short Course in October, covering course content such as anatomy, physiology and pathology. The 19 delegates are now preparing for their final three-hour exam – externally moderated by UCT – that is scheduled to take place later this month.

Since this course was oversubscribed for 2022, we are considering offering it twice next year. The first course will be presented online over 18 consecutive Wednesdays via Zoom from March to June 2023. We have also scheduled an in-person course for Johannesburg from July to October 2023. Please visit our [website](#) for the dates and other relevant details.

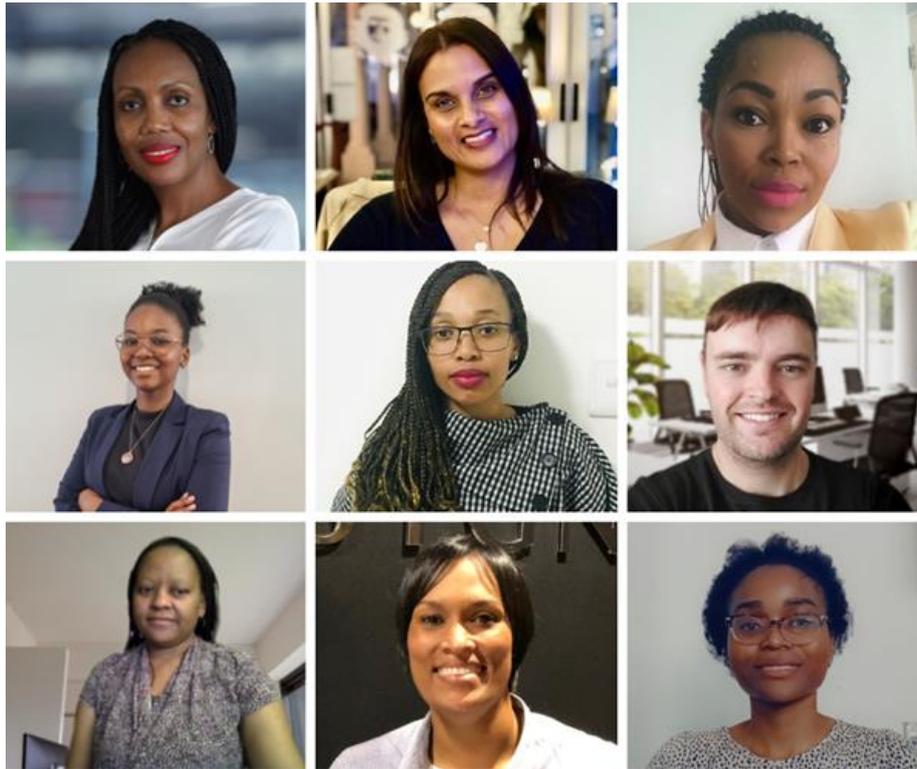


2022 UCT Life Insurance Claims Assessors Short Course delegates pictured above with Programme Champion, Phumla Motsa (bottom right corner).

UCT Collective Investment Schemes (CIS) Short Course

In October we delivered our fourth [UCT CIS Short Course](#) for 2022. Developed in collaboration with experienced industry professionals and endorsed by the University of Cape Town (UCT), this course aims to upskill new and existing employees of investment administration, retail and compliance teams within investment management firms and CIS management companies.

We plan to present another four of these popular short courses in 2023 – two online and two in-person (Cape Town and Johannesburg). For details and to enrol, please click [here](#).



Some of the UCT CIS Short Course delegates who attended the online short course in October 2022.



Retirement Fund Trustee Education

In October, we presented two public [Retirement Fund Trustee Education](#) (RFTE) workshops and six bespoke workshops to more than 70 trustees and principal officers. The following retirement funds had requested bespoke workshops:

- Smollan – Investment Fundamentals Part 1 & 2
- CPUT Retirement Fund – Infrastructure Investing
- The Food Sector Retirement Fund – Death Benefits & Responsible Investing
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa Pension Fund – Death Benefits

The ASISA Academy RFTE workshops are funded by the ASISA Foundation from generous donations made by ASISA members. The workshops are professionally recognised for CPD points by Batseta - Council of Retirement Funds for South Africa.

Upcoming courses

There is no slowing down yet for the ASISA Academy. Below is a list of learning programmes scheduled for November:

- [UCT Investment Management Administration & Client Servicing \(IMACS\) Short Course](#)
- [Investment Sprints](#)
- Retirement Fund Trustee Education (RFTE) Online Workshops:
 - o [Private Equity](#) – 10 November 2022
 - o [Investment Fundamentals](#) – 14 November 2022
 - o [Annual Financial Statement Analysis](#) – 17 November 2022
- Consumer Financial Education (CFE) Practitioner Sprints:
 - o [Regulation, Reporting and the FSC Sprint](#) - 30 November 2022

For an overview of learning opportunities lined up for 2023, please visit the [ASISA Academy Learning Calendar](#).

Learn with us

The ASISA Academy is recognised as a Level 1 B-BBEE contributor, with more than 75% of the Academy's beneficiaries being black South Africans. This means that employers can claim 135% of their skills development spend with the ASISA Academy. Please feel free to [contact us](#) to discuss how we can support your skills development requirements.

Please visit our [website](#) for more information on our many learning opportunities and like our [Facebook page](#) for regular updates. We also invite you to interact with us on [LinkedIn](#).

Best wishes
Alicia Davids
ASISA Academy CEO