



ASISA Academy Newsflash – January 2022

Dear Stakeholder

Our annual graduation ceremony is a firm highlight on the January calendar for those being honoured and celebrated for having invested in their learning and development with the ASISA Academy. This year we awarded the highest number of certificates in the history of the ASISA Academy to the 106 delegates who graduated from our courses and internships in 2021.

Held on Thursday, 27 January, our online graduation ceremony was attended by 145 guests, including our UCT short course graduates, interns from Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, East London and Gqeberha, as well as many family members, colleagues, managers and mentors. The ceremony was also attended by the ASISA Academy's programme champions and together we celebrated and acknowledged delegates who successfully completed the following courses and internships in 2021:

- The UCT endorsed [Collective Investment Scheme \(CIS\) Short Course](#);
- The UCT endorsed [Investment Management Administration & Client Servicing \(IMACS\) Short Course](#);
- The UCT endorsed [Life Insurance Claims Assessors' Short Course](#); and
- Our three internship programmes – [IMACS@TSiBA Internship](#), [Investment Management Work Ready \(I'M Work Ready\)](#), and the [Independent Financial Advisor \(IFA\) Internship](#).

We were privileged to have Tshego Modise, CEO of Aeon Investment Management, as our guest speaker. Not only is Tshego one of the youngest CEOs ever appointed in the financial services industry, but she is also one of the few female CEOs at the helm of an investment management firm.

Tshego delivered a powerful message to our graduates, urging them to approach their future with confidence by implementing the following set of actions:

- **Leap:** Go into the spaces that will help you grow.
- **Pivot:** Fly high and soar. Have a vision and then go towards it. Continue to redevelop yourself. See tomorrow, now.
- **Believe:** When you are flying and pivoting, do it with the full knowledge that you are responsible. Upskill yourself. Continue to believe in yourself.



Guest speaker, Tshego Modise - CEO of Aeon Investment Management

The following comments from three of the interns who are on the verge of completing the 2021/22 IFA Internship were so well received by the ASISA Academy team and highlighted the important role that we play in helping talented graduates leap, pivot and believe:

"ASISA has changed my life." - Tshepiso Radebe, intern at Client Care in Bloemfontein

"Thank you so much ASISA Academy, this internship has made me grow and learn so much. Was really blessed to be part of this." - Haley Greeves, Intern at Independent Wealth Managers (IWM) in Durban

"I will forever be grateful for the amazing opportunity that ASISA has granted to all of us." - Ncobile Sibeko, intern at Stonehage Fleming in Johannesburg



Some of the graduates that attended the virtual graduation ceremony

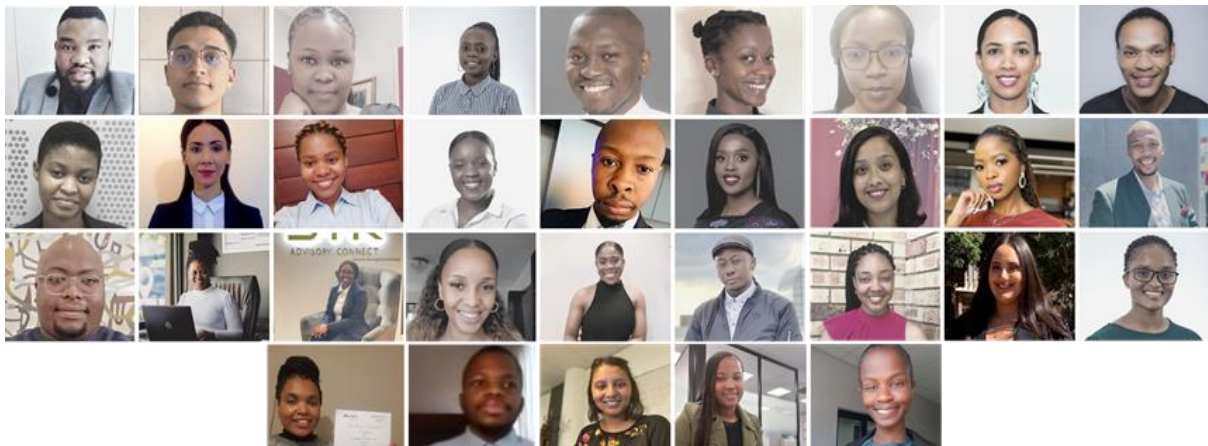
Preparing for our next IFA Internship

Even those of us who do not celebrate Valentine's Day are excited for 14 February this year. On this day our seventh group of interns will be starting their journey with the ASISA Academy [IFA Internship](#).

The ASISA Academy team has been hard at work in January to prepare for the arrival of our interns in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg where we will be delivering the two-week work readiness course. The most exciting part is that this will be the first face-to-face work readiness programme in two years. On completion of the work readiness course, the interns will enter the world of the formal workplace at the participating host IFA practices in Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Durban, East London, Johannesburg and Gqeberha.

Our current IFA interns are also completing their final month with their host practices and we are pleased to see that a number of interns have already been offered permanent positions.

The IFA Internship, funded by a number of ASISA members, was launched in 2016 with the aim of helping young black graduates interested in pursuing a career in financial planning with the opportunity to intern with established IFA practices for 12 months.



The current IFA interns who are completing their final month with their host practices

Courses presented in December and January

- A bespoke work readiness course was delivered to 14 graduate interns at Alexander Forbes Investments in January. The online course, delivered over five full days, was designed to equip the new employees with the skills to transition from university to the corporate workplace. The same group will also participate in the ASISA Academy CFA Investment Foundations Certificate tutoring programme later this year. The tutoring programme was developed to assist graduate employees preparing for the CFA Investment Foundations Certificate Exam.
- A bespoke online Financial Services Industry Overview Blitzcamp was presented over two mornings in January for Digiata, a financial services software development company. Although not an ASISA member, Digiata is a valued client that recognises the importance of ensuring that its employees develop a deep understanding of the savings and investment industry and therefore makes use of our learning opportunities on a regular basis.
- In December and January we presented 13 [Retirement Fund Trustee Education \(RFTE\)](#) workshops, attended by 141 trustees and principal officers.

For an overview of learning opportunities lined up for 2022, please visit the [ASISA Academy 2022 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