



## ASISA Academy Newsflash – March 2022

Dear Stakeholder

If we had a big bell in the building it would have been ringing loudly on Tuesday, 8 March, to celebrate the launch of the ASISA Academy Financial Markets Practitioner Learnership. This Fasset-registered learnership is based on a South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) accredited NQF Level 7 occupational qualification and provides a learning pathway to a higher qualification such as an honours degree or a NQF level 8 post graduate diploma. Fasset is the Finance and Accounting Services Sector Education and Training Authority.

Over the past few years, members of the Academy team worked hard to achieve proper institutional accreditation with the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) and helped revise this qualification specifically for the investment management industry. It was therefore a proud moment when our 15 participants joined us for the inaugural session. The academic component of the learnership is being delivered via weekly 3-hour online classroom sessions until February 2023. Delegates will sit for the final external exam in March 2023. The blend of classroom sessions spaced over a year of full-time work enables delegates to integrate their new knowledge with practical workplace experience.

This 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. We would like to thank Camissa Asset Management (previously Kagiso), Coronation Fund Managers, Momentum and Sanlam for supporting this learnership by upskilling employees and creating jobs.

Sanlam, for example, has placed four previously unemployed graduates on the learnership. We were also pleased to see an ASISA Academy IMACS@TSiBA alumnus enrolled for the FMP learnership. Rafeeq Goliath's journey began when he was sponsored by Coronation on the IMACS@TSiBA internship in 2016/2017. After completing his internship with Coronation, he was retained as a full-time employee and now serves as a consultant in the client services division.

We are encouraged by Rafeeq's journey and would urge other ASISA members to partner with the ASISA Academy in creating career pathways for young people.



2022 Financial Markets Practitioner (FMP) Learnership delegates pictured above with Rafeeq Goliath (top left)

## Transforming the advice landscape

At the beginning of March, the 34 graduates enrolled in our seventh [Independent Financial Advisor \(IFA\) Internship](#), embarked on their internships with their IFA host practices in Bloemfontein, Cape Town, Durban, East London, Johannesburg and Gqeberha.

Before interns begin their 12-month internships, they participate in a rigorous two-week work readiness course presented by the ASISA Academy team and industry professionals, to prepare them for the formal work environment. The following feedback received from some of the 2022 interns highlights why the work readiness component is so important:

*I loved my two weeks at the ASISA Academy. I would do it again if I had the chance. Loved all the presenters and the time and effort they put in. I learned a lot. Thank you!!!!*

*I think everything ASISA has done up till this point has been so monumental in terms of my knowledge in the financial services industry.*

*These two weeks have been life changing, I am grateful for the opportunity. I have learnt so much in such a short period of time. I would like to thank the whole team, presenters and ASISA Academy for such outstanding work. May you not stop with us, continue changing the lives of young people.*




2022 IFA interns who attended the work readiness courses presented in Cape Town (top), Johannesburg (middle) and Durban (bottom). Two interns were absent at the time these photographs were taken.

Launched in 2016 and funded by Allan Gray, Coronation, M & G Investments and Ninety One, the IFA Internship has, to date, created employment opportunities for 215 black graduates interested in pursuing a career in financial planning.

Seven years ago, the internship was only available in Cape Town and Johannesburg. In 2022, we are partnering with the following IFA practices across the country:

- **Bloemfontein:** Wealth Associates Central, Refuge Financial Services
- **Cape Town:** Gradidge-Mahura Investments, RFAAdvice, Core Wealth Advisory Services, Torchway Investments, Stonehage Fleming, Zaina Wealth Management, Private Client Holdings Administration, Growmatter, MSD Investments
- **Durban:** Independent Wealth Managers, BOBATS Wealth Solutions, HoneyGuide Financial Services, Asset Tree
- **East London:** NFB Private Wealth Management
- **Johannesburg:** Ascent Wealth Management, Investwell Financial Consultants, Wealth Associates, NFB Private Wealth Management, PWH Wealth Group, GIB Financial Services, Bespoke Financial Services, Rosebank Wealth Group, Galileo Capital, Fidelis Vox, Olemera Financial Services
- **Gqeberha:** NFB Private Wealth Management

Some of these practices have been supporting the IFA Internship for several years and we would like to thank the following companies for their ongoing commitment to speeding up transformation in the financial advice space while at the same time addressing graduate unemployment.

 <b>INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISOR (IFA) INTERNSHIP</b>		
IFA PRACTICE NAME	INTERN NAME & YEAR	CURRENT ROLE
NFB Private Wealth Management (Johannesburg)	Dineo Botsi (2017) Reba Makhudu (2018) Tumelo Magasha (2019) Siyanda Rixana (2020) Emmanuel Muhumuza (2020) Noluthando Ngubeni (2021)	Representative acting under supervision Representative acting under supervision Representative acting under supervision Advisory Assistant Advisory Assistant Advisory Assistant
Olemera (Johannesburg)	Nadia Pillay (2019) Asanda Makhaba (2020) Cherozaan Jetha (2021) Moshibudi Rampedi (2022)	Client support specialist Client support specialist Client support specialist Client support specialist trainee
Core Wealth (Cape Town)	Matthew Beelders (2019) Sharon Hlagala (2020) Nomvuselelo Zuba (2021) Lihle Kelembe (2022)	Investment Analyst Associate Financial Advisor Administrator Group Benefits Specialist
RFAdvice (Cape Town)	Keanu Kieser (2018) Farren Lewis (2018) Peter Boonzaaier (2019) Precious Mthombeni (2020) Inge Wagenaar (2022) Miche September (2022)	Junior Financial Advisor Client Relationship Manager Client Relationship Consultant Key Account Consultant Current Intern Current intern
www.asisaacademy.org.za		

### Retirement Fund Trustee Education (RFTE)

In March, we presented 10 [Retirement Fund Trustee Education](#) workshops to some 80 trustees and principal officers from the following retirement funds:

- Private Security Sector Provident Fund
- Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) Retirement Fund
- Tshwane Municipal Pension Fund
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa Pension Fund
- Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) Provident Fund

We also piloted our new Hedge Funds workshop to delegates from the Institute of Retirement Funds Africa (IRFA).

## Bespoke courses

The demand for bespoke courses, both from ASISA members as well as companies providing ancillary services to ASISA members, continued into March.

- A number of bespoke online Investment Management Sprints were presented to the Ninety One operations team.
- RMB signed up a number of senior employees from their operations division to a set of bespoke online Investment Sprints.
- An online Financial Services Industry Overview Blitzcamp was presented to junior and senior software engineers from Digiata, a financial services software development company.
- The Auditor General placed more than 100 employees on the following bespoke online courses:
  - Introduction to Banking and Financial Services
  - Local and International Economics
  - Local and International Bonds

## Other courses presented in March

- The [UCT Collective Investment Schemes \(CIS\) Short Course](#). The next UCT CIS Short Course is scheduled to run in August (face-to-face in Cape Town).
- The [UCT Investment Management Administration & Client Servicing \(IMACS\) Short Course](#). The next UCT IMACS Short Course is scheduled to run in August (face-to-face in Cape Town).
- Three Investment Sprints were presented (click [here](#) for upcoming dates):
  - Fundamentals of retirement funds and life insurance
  - The investments governance landscape
  - Investment management ethics

## Upcoming courses

For an overview of learning opportunities lined up for 2022, please visit the [ASISA Academy 2022 Learning Calendar](#).

The [Equity Analyst Short Course](#) scheduled for May still has some capacity. The course, presented by UCT Associate Professor in Finance, Francois Toerien, was developed in collaboration with experienced industry professionals to support new investment analysts within investment management firms or stockbrokers. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

## 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