Samantha Louis, bids CIMA Africa farewell after 17 years.

She left to take up an exciting role as the newly appointed CIMA Director of Advocacy based at the CIMA headquarters in London from Monday 1 August.

Samantha continues to play an active role in CIMA as the primary spokesperson and internationally recognised authority for the Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) and advancing the Global Management Accounting Principles (GMAPs). She will also have the responsibility of driving adoption of the soon to be released GMAPs self-assessment tool for business which will leverage the world’s first standard for management accounting - PAS 1919.

“I am elated about this new role as the GMAPs are the single most transformational activity of CIMA over the years. They revolutionise positioning of management accounting and being part of this at a global level is very exciting.” Samantha has served CIMA in various positions including that of Divisional Director South Africa (1998 – 2004) and Director Southern Africa (2004 – 2010). During her tenure she directed the growth of the member and student population in Africa from 2,000 to over 20,000 and led the expansion of CIMA into West Africa. In South Africa particularly, Samantha has led the transformation of the CIMA student base, opening chartered management accounting to young black professionals.

Said Andrew Harding, CIMA Managing Director: “Samantha has led CIMA’s work in Africa for 17 years. In this time she has given thousands of young people the opportunity to have successful careers, bringing prosperity to them and their families.”

Samantha’s input has been instrumental in the development of the governance model currently being used throughout CIMA Africa based on the findings and recommendations of the King II Report on Corporate Governance in South Africa to which she contributed.

She has had a vested interest in education even before beginning her career. She says: “I have always liked watching people learn and grow and have taught since varsity. She served PRISA since 1987 occupying the roles of Manager Education Centre, Accreditation Committee Chair, Vice President and then President in 2012. She has also sat on the Fasset SETA initial steering committee where she represented CIMA.

“The largest part of advocacy is gaining understanding, acceptance and awareness and this is one of the core communications skills that I hope to apply in my new role” concluded Samantha.

Henry Botha, Chairman of the CIMA Africa Regional Board, says: “Samantha’s realism, experience and commitment has been an immense asset to create the Africa office and regional board we have today. I have experienced the essence of good governance and execution, not from a terms of reference but from a Wikipedia that walks and talks – being Samantha Louis. Farewell, and may your destination benefit as much as we have”.

She recently successfully completed all mandatory exams for the awarding of the Chartered Global Management Accountant designation, and will be accredited full CIMA membership pending successful assessment of the Practical Experience Requirement that all CIMA members must meet.

Samantha says she will remember with fondness the extended family she leaves behind in Africa.
ANDREW MISKING Elected Cima President

Andrew Miskin (FCMA, CGMA) is the 83rd President of CIMA.

He was elected at CIMA’s Annual General Meeting on 18 June. Andrew, who has 25 years’ experience as a management consultant, will be responsible for chairing governance arrangements and advocating for CIMA and management accounting.

Andrew has held a variety of roles within CIMA, including serving on the CIMA Council, Chairman of CIMA’s Members’ Services Committee and as Deputy President of the Executive Committee. On the day of his election, the result of a member ballot in favour of a new accounting Association with AICPA was also announced. Andrew will therefore oversee the creation of the new body.

Andrew Miskin said: “This is one of the most exciting times for CIMA and I’m proud to start my new role on the same day we announced the vote of our members in favour of The Association.

“The role of management accountants is evolving from the reporting of financial and operational performance today, it is about communicating decision-relevant information and providing management with a forecast of potential outcomes. Therefore, new competencies and especially a new confidence in dealing with uncertainty is required. Management accountants are now leaders at all business levels and they create and protect value. So, I have the good fortune to begin my presidency at a time when management accountability is becoming more relevant than ever.

Andrew Miskin will be visiting the region in August to advocate and raise the profile of the management accounting profession. He will host and attend a series of meetings with stakeholders in Botswana, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

CIMA AND AICPA Form A New Association

Members of CIMA and the AICPA voted overwhelmingly, in a ballot concluded on 16 June, to endorse a resolution to form an Association that will represent the breadth of the accounting profession.

The new association aims to become the most influential professional accounting body in the world, and will represent 600,000 current and next-generation professionals. It will be designed to complement rather than replace both constituent organisations – so while it will bring extra weight and influence to CIMA, CIMA’s existing structure and Royal Charter will remain, and CIMA will continue to focus on management accounting.

CIMA and the AICPA members will retain membership of their existing bodies but will gain additional membership of the new Association.

Speaking at the CIMA Council Annual General Meeting, CIMA President Andrew Miskin said: “We live in a time of rapid change and increasing competition. Responding to this, I am delighted that CIMA and the AICPA members have endorsed the proposal to create a new association so that we can stay ahead of market changes and developments”.

“The formation of the Association represents a deepening of the joint venture that CIMA and the AICPA have operated since 2011, which has expanded management accounting within the USA, and created a new global designation, Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA).

AICPA President and CEO Barry Melancon CPA, CGMA said: “In developing this proposal, we were careful to structure commitments to CPA and CGMA, CIMA and AICPA and public practice and management accounting. We are excited about crafting a path forward that reflects how the world is changing. At the same time, we will be extraordinarily mindful of protecting our collective history and the strong reputation both organisations have built over the past century. This is about building on what is great – and addressing an exciting evolving world.”

CIMA’s outgoing Chief Executive, Charles Tilley said: “Our current joint venture with the AICPA has been extremely successful, so we are evolving this partnership in doing so we will support our members and students further, which means both greater resources, and the weight of a larger organisation behind them.”

DO YOU NEED To Register As A Member In Practice?

If you are a registered tax practitioner with the South African Revenue Service (SARS), you may also need to register as a CIMA Member in Practice (MiP).

Under CIMA’s Member in Practice Rules (http://bit.ly/290uVGl) any member offering accounting services must register their details and gain a Practising Certificate.

You must also register for anti-money laundering supervision with a Supervisory Authority. CIMA has been designated as a supervisory authority and automatically supervises its Members in Practice, though if you hold a practising certificate with another body and are registered for Anti-money laundering/ counter-terrorist financing then you are not required to complete the full Members in Practice application, you just need to complete the first page of the application that states that you are practising under another body.

Please note that if you wish to use the term ‘Chartered Management Accountant’ in practice you need to complete the full MiP application. Failure to comply may result in proceedings being brought against you. To apply visit the application page: http://bit.ly/18jYk6 or access it through your ‘My CIMA’ Account.

For more information contact: pc.applications@cimaglobal.com

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Obtain Your CIMA MEMBERSHIP This October

You can obtain your CIMA membership this October if you are an exam complete student and have met your required practical experience.

The face-to-face membership assessments will take place on 30 September, and 1 October at the CIMA offices in Johannesburg.

The face-to-face assessment gives you the chance to gain membership in just 30 minutes instead of the usual six weeks and has, as a result, become popular among the vast majority of students who have enjoyed a successful outcome.

To register, please fill in the online booking form: http://bit.ly/2b0FhJa by Friday, 23 September as there are limited spaces available. For more information email eventsa@cimaglobal.com

YOU CAN STILL SIT EXAMS Before The End Of The Year

Did you know that there is still enough time to sit your exams before the end of the year?

CIMA objective tests are available all year round while there are only two more windows open for the case study exams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAM DATES</th>
<th>BOOKING DEADLINE</th>
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<tr>
<td>AUGUST Exam window</td>
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<td>Operational level</td>
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<td>Strategic level</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER Exam window</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operational level</td>
<td>7 – 11 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management level</td>
<td>14 – 18 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic level</td>
<td>21 – 25 November</td>
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</table>

It is always a good idea to schedule your exams as early as possible so that you know well in advance how to plan your studies.

Remember there are a host of exam preparation resources available to help you with passing your exams:
- PearsonVUE Practice exams are free online based assessments designed to familiarise you with the functionality of the online assessment system and question types (http://bit.ly/2b0FhJa)
- CIMA Aptitude, an online question bank that simulates the actual objective test assessments allowing you to fully prepare for your next test and assess your readiness (https://www.cimastudy.com/)
- CIMA Connect, an online platform developed exclusively for CIMA students where you can get access to study guides, reports, videos and more, tailored to your level of study. connect.cimaglobal.com

NEW CGMA TOOL Supports Business Continuity Management

According to a recent CGMA study, business continuity management (BCM) processes necessary to restore normal operations following unanticipated disasters or interruptions range from absent to insufficient. This is despite the fact that the volume and complexity of risks – both man-made and natural – has been increasing over the past few years. In order to provide finance professionals with a foundation on which to develop their approach to BCM, a new CGMA tool called “Business Continuity Management: Key Strategies and Processes” has now been made available.

The newly published tool presents a step-by-step framework for developing and maintaining BCM processes and helps to establish and define the necessary roles within a company in order to do so. In addition, the tool’s aim is to define BCM as a key corporate competency and to identify the necessary components. This is relevant for all organisations, large and small, irrespective of whether or not they employ external consultants.

Brigitte Holtz, Head of Finance and Operations at CIMA Africa, says: “Considering the various risks to operations we face on a daily basis when doing business in Africa, it is alarming that so many businesses do not have an adequate BCM programme in place. Our new tool therefore fulfils an important and necessary business need. It will support organisations developing a vital corporate competency which will help them to return to the status quo as quickly as possible. Companies should not wait until the worst-case scenario happens before starting to think about their business continuity management processes.”

KRUGER AND CO. Launch A CIMA Training Programme

Kruger and Co. are excited about the prospects and future of CIMA in South Africa and therefore want to provide an opportunity for current and future learners to learn more and complete their CIMA examinations and training.

The partners of Kruger and Co. realised this after attending a career day at a South African University where students who normally join the SAIPA training program asked about CIMA and what the company can provide for them. “Students rather want to join a company that can provide them with both a SAIPA and CIMA training programme, says Stefan Steyn, Chief Executive Officer: Kruger and Co.

Kruger and Co. want to fill the gap and provide the opportunity for future students to complete their CIMA training and give them better exposure and more opportunities.

“Currently four of our clerks are in the process of writing their CIMA examinations and we want to provide them with the necessary training and to increase their experience and give them the exposure to become future business leaders” concluded Nico Welman, Chief Financial Officer: Kruger and Co.
EVENTS ROUND-UP

Powering Students For Success

There is nothing greater than the feeling of progress. Not only does it bring you closer to your goal but it also keeps the momentum going.

In line with our vision to help people and business to succeed, CIMA Director of Learning, Peter Stewart along with Regional Learning Development Business Partner, Sonia Weston presented a series of workshops in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

The workshops were geared towards helping students progress by coaching them on passing their case study exams and sharing relevant techniques on exam preparation and performance.

Speaking at the sessions Peter said: “These sessions have been put in place to aid students’ progress through the CIMA journey, by providing them with key tips for exam success. In these trying financial times we would like to make sure that our students get value for their Rands and are able to realize their career aspirations.”

The workshops are part of an annual series with Peter Stewart and touched on the following:

• The exam structure
• Tips and techniques to be applied in exam preparation
• Skills and abilities required in business flowing from the CGMA competency framework
• Preparing for an objective test
• How to answer the objective test questions
• How to prepare for a case study scenario and how to answer scenarios

Additionally, Peter convened a lunch session with tuition providers and unpacked their role in helping students progress through the CIMA qualification. The session also touched on challenges faced by students regarding exam preparation and performance.

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CERT BA UPDATE Launched In Zambia and Zimbabwe

Country Managers, Gordian Bowa and Paul Anikahaka launched the updated CERTBA 2017 syllabus to stakeholders in Ghana and Zambia.

Speaking at the launch in Lusaka, Zambia, Branch Committee Chairman, Ethel Ngwira said: “CIMA understands the business need for a well-trained and educated labour force in sustaining the economy”, citing that development of a human capital is key to the success of any organisation.

The updated syllabus is a result of rigorous global research conducted with employers to uncover business needs and closely align the qualification with the CGMA Competency Framework.

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The KwaZulu-Natal Branch hosted a networking event for members and students with employers and tuition providers. The aim of the event was two-fold, firstly, it was presented to help students pass exams while assisting members with finding suitable employment. Secondly, to encourage students to remain dedicated to their studies and work towards gaining the CGMA designation.

Naeem Adam (ACMA, CGMA), Finance Director at Unilever presented students with tools they need to pass their upcoming exams as well as provided motivational tips to push them through their journey.

The designation shows employers that you have the knowledge and skills they need to drive sustainable improvement in business as a management accountant. IBTC and MPC Recruitment who were in attendance agreed.

FIELD VISITS In Kenya

In today’s environment it is essential for organisations to have people with the right skills and knowledge to help drive the business forward. As such the Kenya Branch presented its members the opportunity to visit Blowplast Ltd and the British American Tobacco (BAT) Factory to give them an experience of how world-class organisations operate.

The visits were designed to increase awareness of the value of a CIMA qualification and to teach students more about cost and management accounting and their application in practice.

KZN Student Networking Event

Members and students attending included Pravika Sookraj, Nivaal Sadheo, Naeem Adam (Unilever) and Kreshalen Virasamy

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<td>03 September</td>
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<td>Gauteng Branch PER workshop</td>
<td>07 September</td>
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<td>Nigeria Pass CIMA Case Study</td>
<td>07 September</td>
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<td>Ghana honours Night</td>
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<td>Zimbabwe Annual Conference</td>
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<td>Nigeria Branch financial strategy workshop</td>
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<td>Western Cape Branch Agile, a response to constant change</td>
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<td>Nigeria pass your CIMA exam</td>
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<td>Zimbabwe Branch financial strategy workshop</td>
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<td>Gauteng Toastmasters Speech craft Workshop</td>
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<td>South Africa ACMA to FCMA</td>
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<td>Gauteng Branch fellowship workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa face-to-face assessments</td>
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