

Germany Newsletter March 2017



Update from your CIMA Germany contact: **Raymond Gann**

Keeping in touch

This is now the tenth biannual CIMA Germany Newsletter.

1. Review of recent past events

AGiG Regional Meeting in Munich on September 7.

AGiG held its third regional meeting in Munich. 20 delegates turned up to hear David Stevens, from the ICAEW speaking on “Cyber enabled economic crime and ICAEW professional ethics”. Again, the CIMA turnout was a little on the low side (2).

AGiG Seminar November 10th 2016 in Frankfurt

36 delegates including 9 CIMA delegates attended a whole day event with the following topics and speakers:

- Tanya Barman CIMA Head of Ethics on “Cost or Return? What do you know about ethics in business?”
- Stuart Hill (Da Vere Germany) a CIMA member on “Pension planning for professional accountants – more than just Brexit and Expats...”
- Christian Hohmann from the Stuttgart office of Robert Half and Partner on “The German market for the interim finance professional”
- Professor Dr.Dr. Jochen Zimmermann on “Global beats Local? – IFRS re-examined”

The event was preceded by a joint pre-seminar dinner with the BCCG (British Chamber of Commerce in Germany) in the Frankfurt Brücken Keller

AGiG Regional Meeting in Düsseldorf on March 10

A very successful lunchtime event with 32 delegates including 8 from CIMA we enjoyed a very professional presentation from Andrea Bardens and Christine Flath of PwC who talked about leasing in the context of “IFRS 16 – From Theory to Practise”.

... as well as the opportunity to network over a buffet lunch. This was the fourth regional seminar and AGiG appears to have struck a winning formula. The big jump in CIMA attendance was very encouraging.

2. Future event(s) ...Dates for diaries

The next AGiG seminar is on April 25th, 2016 and will be held in Berlin at the European School of Management and Technology (ESMT) The ESMT is based in the former East German government Staatsrat (National Council) building at Schlossplatz 1, Berlin. Built in 1964, the building hosted the of the GDR until 1989.

We have arranged for hotel rooms for the night of 24 April 2017 at the Novotel Berlin Mitte, Fischerinsel 12, 10179 Berlin, which is a short walk from the ESMT.

As usual, we have organized a pre-seminar dinner on the evening of 24 April which will be in Katz Orange, Bergstraße 22, 10115 Berlin. (www.katzorange.com). To get everyone in the „Ostalgie “mood, we have also arranged for a tour of the DDR Museum in the late afternoon of 24 April, before the dinner.

For full programme details please go to www.agig.de (hopefully the revamped website will be up by then) you can also register there.

The speaker panel will include

Prof. Dr. Sebastian Hoffmann (Edinburgh University): Accounting, Auditing and the „Wende “

Myriam Madden (CIMA Past Prersident): Diversity is important in business

Andreas Meyer-Schwickerath (MD of the BCCG): The work of the British Chamber of Commerce in Germany

Prof. Dr. Andreas Barckow (Chairman of the German Standards setting committee) : Where is IFRS heading in the new world order?

Richard Martin (ACCA): Why Revenue recognition matters – even for German SME’s

3. The Association

As you will have heard from our President, Andrew Miskin, at the start of the year, you are now part of the most influential accountancy body in the world – the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (the Association). This is the new organisation that members of CIMA and the American Institute of CPAs voted for in June last year and it brings together the expertise and capabilities of both accountancy bodies to

advance management and public accounting globally. Note that CIMA and its designations, Royal Charter and Council all remain.

A new Association website will soon be up and running and you will very shortly be seeing the roll-out of a vibrant new look that conveys the dynamic role of CGMAs in the global accounting profession. Please also look out for the “CGMA Store” which will have lots of new CPD resources available for members to access.

The Association also brings a change to Regional Boards within the governance structure. Europe has been served by two CIMA Regional Boards historically; an Ireland Board and the UK Board – with no board covering mainland Europe. The UK, where over 70% of CIMA’s ACMA’s still reside, will continue with its own Regional Board. The Ireland Board will however be replaced by a Europe Board to cover all of Europe except for the UK. Details (terms of reference etc.) are still to be finalised but the new boards will be fully up and running in the second half of 2017.

4. The Association in Germany

We continue to work with a group of German universities including Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Universität Bayreuth, PFH Gottingen and WHU Vallendar. Cooperation with universities is multidimensional and includes involvement in research, such as *Competence Center Experimental Research in Management Accounting*, *Annual Conference for Management Accounting Research (ACMAR)* and the incorporation of the CGMA syllabus into study programmes and teaching CIMA courses, like in the case of PFH Gottingen. Following a dialogue with the **Internationaler Controller Verein (ICV)** and work with local stakeholders, we hope to introduce three levels of CGMA entry for ICV members and German controllers.

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All the best

Raymond Gann