

Newsletter
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The Institute
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In this Issue:

- **IAFA Spring Seminar 2010**
- **Report on IAFA Research Seminar 2009, Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown**
- **23rd Annual IAFA Conference 2010 – Call for papers**
- **Doctoral Colloquium 2010 – call for PhD students interested in research funding**
- **Reports from two IAFA PhD funding winners with respect to the use of the funding**
- **IAFA Scholar – Call for applications**
- **Winner of IAFA place at AAA Doctoral Colloquium in San Francisco**
- **IAFA membership renewal**
- **Newsletter Sponsorship**
- **Diary Dates**
- **Next Issue**

Upcoming Research Seminars

24th March 2010 IAFA Spring Seminar: *The Auditing Profession in the wake of the Financial Crisis: Role, regulation and research priorities*

Date: Wednesday 24th March (2.15-5pm)

Venue: Cairnes School of Business and Economics, NUI, Galway

Presenter: Professor Christopher Humphrey

Booking: Booking forms are available for download on the IAFA website

Christopher Humphrey is a Professor of Accounting and Head of the Manchester Accounting & Finance Group (MAFG), a division of Manchester Business School (MBS), University of Manchester, England.

Christopher's primary research interests are the role and regulation of the Auditing profession. Recent examples

of his work in this area can be found in academic journals such as Accounting Organizations and Society and Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal and practitioner journals such as the FS Focus magazine published by the Financial Services Faculty of the ICAEW. He is an Associate Editor of the European Accounting Review and is also on the editorial boards of a wide range of international accounting journals. He is currently a visiting professor at Amsterdam Business School and is in the process of writing a book to be published by Oxford University Press on the history of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). Christopher is a qualified chartered accountant. He is currently a co-opted academic member of the governing Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and also sits on the ICAEW's Technical Strategy Committee.

**Report on the IAFA Research
Seminar November 2009,
Blanchardstown Institute of
Technology, Dublin**

The final IAFA workshop of 2009 took place in Blanchardstown Institute of Technology on 19th November last. The IAFA were delighted that Professor Niamh Brennan, the Michael

McCormac Professor of Management at UCD, agreed to present on the topical area of corporate governance. The title of the presentation was “A Review of Corporate Governance Research: An Irish Perspective” and was based on a chapter from a new book due for publication this year. Professor Brennan commenced with an introduction to and definition of corporate governance before speaking about governance mechanisms and theories of boards. The final part of the seminar involved a review of prior research from an Irish perspective followed by a lively discussion among the 19 participants from both Universities and Institutes of Technology. The workshop was both informative and enjoyable, the overall consensus being that it ended far too soon. Many thanks to Mr Pat O’Connor and the administration staff of the ITB Business department for the organisation of the seminar and use of the excellent facilities.

Eoin Langan – Athlone Institute of Technology

**23rd Annual IAFA Conference 2010:
Call for Papers**

**Deadline for submission of completed
papers: 26th February 2010.**

The University of Ulster will host the 23rd annual conference of the Association on 6th/7th May 2010 in Belfast. The **deadline** for submission of abstracts or completed papers is **26th February 2010**. Decisions on paper acceptances will be communicated by **26th March 2010** (see www.iafa.ie for further details).

It is anticipated that abstracts/full papers will be available on the IAFA website from **30th April 2010**. Attendees are advised to download abstracts/papers in advance of the conference (www.iafa.ie).

Abstracts: An abstract should be provided, stating the title of the research work, summarising the purpose of the research work, methodology and initial conclusions. This should be no longer than $\frac{3}{4}$ of one A4 page. The abstract should also contain the following:

- Name of author(s)
- Institution
- Contact name, address, email and telephone number

Papers: As a guide, papers for presentation should be no longer than 6,000 words and printed on A4 paper, using double line spacing, Arial font type, size 12.

Conference dinner: The conference dinner will take place in the Hilton Hotel, Belfast on Thursday 6th May. The hotel is a short taxi journey from the Belfast Campus where the conference will be held.

Registration: Conference registration forms will be available shortly from the IAFA website. Delegates are asked to complete their menu choices for the conference dinner on registration.

Further information: Conference delegates should monitor the conference section of the IAFA website on a regular basis for updates, particularly in relation to downloading abstracts/papers in advance of the conference.

IAFA Doctoral Workshop 5th May 2010

Calling all PhD students

In conjunction with the IAFA Annual Conference, the IAFA will host a Doctoral Colloquium on 5th of May. Further details are available on the 'Annual conference' link on the IAFA website.

In addition to providing an opportunity for students to present and discuss their research, participants in the colloquium

may be eligible to enter a competition for research funding.

Doctoral Research Funding Competition

The Doctoral Research Funding Competition invites entrants to apply via a specific application form, available on the IAFA website (www.iafa.ie). The competition is open to all registered IAFA members who are undertaking research toward a Masters or Doctoral qualification. The proposed research must contribute to the aims of the IAFA. A prize fund of up to €5,000 is available in 2010.

Applicants must submit a fully completed application form, by no later than the call for papers date for the IAFA Annual conference (26th February 2010). Applicants must present at the IAFA Annual Doctoral Colloquium event, where the result will be decided, and the successful applicant must present their research findings at the following year's IAFA Doctoral Colloquium.

IAFA Doctoral Funding 2009: Report from Orla Feeney

I attended the 2009 IAFA doctoral colloquium and found it to be an excellent opportunity to present my

research progress in a friendly and informal setting, exposing me to constructive and helpful feedback from peers as well as something akin to 'group therapy' over lunch and in the bar afterwards as many of us 'discussed' some of the 'challenges' of PhD research!

I gratefully received funding from the IAFA as a result of this colloquium. As a full time PhD researcher at the time, this funding was enormously supportive to my research. I am examining the role of accounting information in New Product Development. It is a qualitative case study, involving site visits and interviews with people located throughout Ireland and in the UK. After suffering a minor crisis with some interview recordings, my first port of call was a technological upgrade and I happily invested in a new lap top and voice recording software. The funding also helped out with travel expenses having clocked up a lot of mileage in Ireland as well as some trips to London to conduct interviews. The remainder has been invested in transcription services.

We are told to celebrate our milestones throughout the PhD process and, for me, receipt of this funding represented a good milestone and certainly helped to

move the research along. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the IAFA for awarding it and Good Luck to this year's applicants!

IAFA Doctoral Funding 2009: Report from Rosemary Kelly

I entered the IAFA Masters/Doctoral research funding competition 2008/2009 and was delighted to be awarded a prize for my proposal. My research project explores performance management systems in existence in Irish acute-care hospitals and the factors that have influenced the development of these systems. It intertwines three theoretical dimensions, institutional theory, New Public Management and performance, as a means of examining performance management in Irish hospitals.

The methodological approach adopted is principally qualitative in nature comprising semi-structured interviews with members of the senior management teams of three acute-care hospitals operating the HSE South region. I started conducting the interviews during the summer months and have completed almost all of them. I used the prize money to have the interviews transcribed as I am hoping to complete my research in 2010. For me, having the interviews transcribed has saved an enormous amount of time and provided a valuable support in combining my work and research activity thus allowing me to

focus on the ongoing interview process. Additionally, reviewing the transcripts in detail has enabled me to commence the process of getting 'close' to the data and has made me more disciplined in organising my research material.

Applications for IAFA Scholar

Calling all PhD students

Each year, as part of the organisation of the Annual Conference, the Irish Accounting and Finance Association invites submission of papers to be considered for the IAFA Scholar Bursary. Papers are welcome from any area of accounting and finance for consideration for this award.

The deadline date for submission of papers for consideration is **Friday 26th February 2010**. For further details please see the website www.iafa.ie.

IAFA representative at the AAA Doctoral Consortium in Lake Tahoe, California June 2010.

Congratulations to Orla Feeney (PhD student DCU) who was selected on the basis of a competitive application process to be funded by IAFA to attend the 2010 AAA Doctoral Consortium in Lake Tahoe, California in June.

IAFA Membership Renewal

If your membership has lapsed, or you wish to join the IAFA for the first time, please submit an application form (available from www.iafa.ie or the Membership Secretary at: emer.curtis@nuigalway.ie). The current fee is €35 (£30 sterling or other monetary equivalent).

Newsletter Sponsorship

As you have by no doubt noticed, this newsletter has been kindly sponsored by CPA Ireland. The council, on behalf of the membership, would like to acknowledge CPA Ireland's generosity.

CPA Ireland has a long history of supporting the IAFA and we look forward to continued collaboration with them. Further details on CPA Ireland's activities can be obtained on www.cpaireland.ie.

Diary Dates

- **26th February 2010:** Deadline for submission of papers for the IAFA Annual Conference 2010.
- **26th February 2010:** Submission date for papers for consideration for IAFA Scholar.

- **24th March 2010** IAFA Spring Seminar, NUI Galway
- **30th March – 1st April 2010:** BAA Annual Conference and Doctoral Colloquium, Cardiff City Hall.
- **5th May 2010:** IAFA Doctoral Workshop hosted by University of Ulster, Belfast campus.
- **6th/7th May 2010:** IAFA Annual Conference hosted by University of Ulster, Belfast campus.
- **19th – 21st May 2010:** EAA Annual Conference, Istanbul, Turkey.
- **26th/28th May 2010:** BAA Accounting Education SIG Annual Conference, Dublin City University, Dublin.
- **31st July – 4th August 2010:** AAA Annual Conference, San Francisco, California.

This issue of the *IAFA News* was edited by Elaine Doyle. Contributions/ news items for the next issue of *IAFA News* should be sent to:

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