



AIB re-launches finance graduate programme and also recognises top ACCA performers

AIB announces today that its graduate recruitment programme for finance is to be re-launched for students graduating in 2016. The decision reflects increasing demand for high calibre graduates as the Bank returns to profitability and growing commercial activity. The graduate programme is expected to recruit at least 50 graduates over five years.

AIB, today, also presented awards to two accountants who came first in Ireland in the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants' (ACCA) examinations. Michael McGuinness and Kate Newman were ranked by ACCA as Top Affiliates for the exam sessions in December 2014 and June 2015. Ms Newman is employed with KPMG as a Tax Manager, while Mr. McGuinness is employed with private equity and real estate administrators, Augentius as an assistant accountant.

AIB's director of finance Myles O'Grady, said: "We are delighted to formally re-launch our graduate recruitment programme within the Finance team, which is another positive step in the future of the Bank. The graduates will be offered mentorship, the opportunity to pursue professional qualifications and the chance to be part of a diverse finance team and a wider organisation committed to being at the heart of our customers' financial lives. I would also like to congratulate Michael and Kate on their outstanding achievement and wish them well in their future careers."

Chairman of ACCA Ireland, Fergus Condon, said: "Finance is a crucial function in every business with accountants providing the necessary help and support needed to build a sustainable future. It's wonderful to see AIB honour this role with the re-launch of their graduate recruitment programme for finance in this positive time for AIB and their look towards the future. Michael McGuinness and Kate Newman are two wonderful examples of the talented graduates working in finance today. Congratulations to them both on their recent success in the ACCA exams."

AIB's Finance Graduate programme will be re-launched in the New Year and further details can be found at www.aib.ie/careers

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Pictures have been sent by Fennell Photography

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Note for editors:**About the award winners**

Michael McGuinness attended Liverpool John Moore's University and studied Accounting and Finance going on to Queens University, Belfast to study a masters in Accounting and Finance. He currently holds the position of assistant accountant at Augentius.

Kate Newman holds a Bachelor of Corporate Law and Bachelor of Laws, LLB from NUI Galway. In October 2010, Kate began a tax traineeship and subsequently joined KPMG in July 2013 as a Tax Senior. She commenced the ACCA exams in December 2013 and sat 11 ACCA exams over a 17 month period. She currently holds the position of Tax Manager at KPMG.