President’s Message By Chase Moore

As President of the Athens State IMA Student Chapter, I would like to personally invite you to come join us for one of our monthly educational meetings. These meetings are a great opportunity to get involved in many activities. One thing that is always important to remember is that professional networking starts right now in the classroom and in the community.

ASCPA INTERVIEW DAYS BY Melissa Fulks

Students from Athens State’s accounting program were invited to attend both the Huntsville Mock Interviews, which took place at the accounting offices of Anglin, Reichmann, Snellgrove, and Armstrong, P.C., located in Huntsville, and, the ASCPA Accounting Interview Day held in Montgomery, Alabama. Both of these events were sponsored by the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants (ASCPA).

The mock interviews were a great opportunity for students to participate in real interview situations with accounting professionals. The students then gained valuable feedback from the various professionals who conducted the individual interviews.

Attending the ASCPA Montgomery Interview Day afforded several Athens State accounting students the opportunity to meet with top local and regional accounting firms and other organizations. This was a wonderful opportunity for accounting majors with upcoming graduation dates, to meet several top employers in one place, with the chance to speak with many of them.

These events were excellent networking opportunities for many students to meet and interview with some of the top accounting professionals in the state, and they gained valuable interviewing experience as well.
NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION
by Angel Watkins
On August 28th, the IMA Student Chapter held our first meeting of the academic year. The meeting covered New Member Orientation. The presenters for the meeting were two current IMASC officers, Chase Moore, President, and Melody Flowers, Communications Directors. They told the new members about the different community service projects and other events and the benefits of joining the Student Chapter and the IMA.

IMASC LINKEDIN WORKSHOP By RJ Logan
In today’s competitive job market, it is increasingly necessary to utilize any edge you can to land that dream job. A well-built LinkedIn profile can provide such an edge. HR managers, hiring managers, and recruiters will tell you that 75% of all recruiters use LinkedIn to find the right candidates. They report that having a complete LinkedIn profile is just as important as your resume today.

On September 4th, 2014, RJ Logan, IMASC Vice President, conducted an in-house, hands-on LinkedIn workshop on campus for IMASC members to help students set up their profiles and learn helpful tips in becoming a LinkedIn pro.

GULFSOUTH COUNCIL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM By SaBrina Cox
GulfSouth Council IMA presented a professional development program in Guntersville, Alabama. On Thursday, September 18, Dr. Dan Hallock spoke about the balanced scorecard and the importance of having the CMA credential, emphasizing the benefits to all professionals, not just accountants.
On Friday, September 19, the seminar consisted of identity theft and fraud. Ana Ramos, Vice President of Corporate Security at Regions Bank, presented information on how to protect against commercial, business, and personal identity theft. Dr. Tommie Singleton offered valuable insight into the tools used for the prevention and detection of fraud.

ALS CHALLENGE By Melody Flowers
The Athens State University’s club officers were challenged to the ALS ice bucket challenge on September 10. All of the IMA Student Chapter officers participated by either donating money or taking the challenge along with donating money. The Athens State University IMA Student Chapter raised $200 for the ALS Association.
THE IMPORTANCE OF NETWORKING

By Holly Goodmon

As an up and coming accounting student, you will soon be out in the world looking for a job, if you’re not already.

You may have heard by now that it’s not always what you know, but who you know that can be key to landing your dream job or any job for that matter. While having the right connections may not necessarily land you a job, it can definitely help get your foot in the door.

Growing your network is an important skill in personal and professional development. Several firms in the Huntsville area host local events inviting students and professionals to congregate. This past year Warren Averitt hosted a bowling night in Madison and at the beginning of September, Hall Albright Garrison & Associates organized a tailgating bash. Networking is a great way to get your name out there so potential employers can get to know you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CRYSTAL JUENGEL!

Crystal, a former IMA Student Chapter President and recent graduate of the accounting program at Athens State, will begin working as an Auditor with the Army Audit Agency at Redstone Arsenal on October 6th. Congratulations!!

ASHLEY STEPHENS, OF BECKER, SPOKE TO THE IMASC AT THE SEPTEMBER EDUCATIONAL MEETING.

She covered the CPA exam and the Becker CPA Review.

BUILDING SUCCESS STORIES—Katy Vincent

I graduated Athens State University in December 2011 with my Accounting degree and an additional minor in information systems. I knew I wanted to pursue the CPA and CFE certifications. At the recommendation of Professor Stacie Hughes, I went after my Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) designation first.

After I passed the CFE exam, I started studying for my CPA exams. I was able to pass all four parts between April and September of 2012. I started working for Crabtree, Rowe, & Berger, P.C. in September of 2012. Currently I work with our tax and consulting teams to assist our business clients with planning and tax returns. I had a great foundation from Athens State that I was really able to build on working with clients.
Our sponsoring chapter is the Muscle Shoals Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants. Muscle Shoals Chapter meetings are generally held on the third Monday of each month.

To access the IMA website please visit www.imanet.org

To access the Athens State IMA student chapter

https://sites.google.com/site/athensimasc/home

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**Schedule of Events**

October 3 – 4  
48th Annual Fiddlers Convention

October 6  
“Spare Change” Collection Begins” Proceeds Benefit Salvation Army Angel Tree

October 7  
LinkedIn Workshop, 6:00-7:30 pm, Classroom Building Room 204

October 14  
IMASC Board Meeting, 2:30 pm, Sanders Hall Room 309

October 15  
Fall Career Fair, 10 am-1 pm, Sandridge Student Center Ballroom

October 16  
Educational Meeting, 12:00 – 1 pm, Classroom Building Room 204, Topic: CMA Awareness

October 20  
Career Chats- Phone Interviews, 12:30 – 1:00 pm, Student Center

October 20  
IMA Muscle Shoals Chapter Meeting, 6:15 pm, Marriot Conference Center in Florence, Topic: Determinants of Regional Manufacturing Growth

October 21  
AFWA Public Relations Night, 5:10 pm, Holiday Inn Research Park

October 27  
Canned Food Drive Begins: Proceeds Benefit Limestone County Food Bank

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**OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Advisor</td>
<td>Stacie Hughes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Stacie.Hughes@athens.edu">Stacie.Hughes@athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Advisor</td>
<td>Emily Corzine</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Emily.Corzine@athens.edu">Emily.Corzine@athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Chase Moore</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmoore10@my.athens.edu">mmoore10@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>RJ Logan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rlogan@my.athens.edu">rlogan@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Holly Goodman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hgoodmon@my.athens.edu">hgoodmon@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Angel Watkins</td>
<td><a href="mailto:atakin2@my.athens.edu">atakin2@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>Melissa Fulks</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mfulks1@my.athens.edu">mfulks1@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Master</td>
<td>Matthew Millwood</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mmillwo1@my.athens.edu">mmillwo1@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Director</td>
<td>Melody Flowers</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mflowers@my.athens.edu">mflowers@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Director</td>
<td>SaBrina Cox</td>
<td><a href="mailto:scox6@my.athens.edu">scox6@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambassador at Large</td>
<td>Martha Anderson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:manders7@my.athens.edu">manders7@my.athens.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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