

NEWSLETTER

The Southern African Institute of Government Auditors



SAIGA UPDATES

The SAIGA newsletter is a regularly distributed publication designed to keep you informed about our latest activities and updates.



ABOUT SAIGA

The Southern African Institute of Government Auditors (SAIGA) is a non-profit professional body dedicated to serving the public interest. Since its inception in 1988, the role and function of SAIGA have been to serve the public sector and society by advancing public accountability and auditing in its broadest sense.

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CEO'S NOTE

As we are still celebrating our 36th anniversary, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the journey the Southern African Institute of Government Auditors (SAIGA) has undertaken.

Over the past three and a half decades, SAIGA has grown and developed rapidly, cementing its place as a cornerstone in the field of public sector auditing and accountability.

Our success story is a collective one, written by each member, partner and stakeholder, who has believed in our mission and contributed to our vision of excellence.



I recently had the privilege of attending the UNISA CTA Top 100 Student Cocktail Dinner, where we celebrated the importance of ethics in our profession. I want to emphasise that ethics is a cornerstone of the SAIGA competency framework and is essential for maintaining independence, objectivity and integrity in our work.

Our commitment to ethical behaviour is reflected in our requirements for all members to declare their adherence to ethical standards twice a year. This commitment is vital in light of the challenges and scrutiny our profession faces. We are proud that institutions like UNISA share our dedication to embedding ethics within their curriculums.

I'm also thrilled to announce NWU's recent accreditation by SAIGA. Over the past 36 years, we've cultivated a pool of skilled professionals ready to serve in public finance and external audit roles. The Registered Government Auditor (RGA) designation equips graduates with the necessary values and competencies for public service.

For students passionate about public sector careers, I encourage you to join SAIGA as student members. This offers access to invaluable resources, including CPD programmes and mentorship opportunities. We have successfully placed over 220 graduates in the RGA program this year, contributing to the professionalisation of our field.

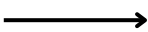
As we look forward, SAIGA is also working towards IRBA accreditation, enhancing the recognition of our RGAs. Together, we can improve service delivery in municipalities facing challenges, furthering our commitment to public accountability.

Thank you for your dedication to ethical excellence and professional growth.

THE 4TH ANNUAL SAIGA CONFERENCE

By Sinazo Mondo

Glitz and glamour created the ideal atmosphere for thought-provoking discussions and ground-breaking ideas at the 4th Annual SAIGA Conference, which focused on the theme "Navigating change and innovation for a sustainable South Africa". Speakers, attendees and sponsors alike came together, not just to share knowledge but to forge connections that will shape the future of the accountancy profession.



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ACCOUNTING • AUDITING • CONSULTING • ENGINEERING

WHY CHOOSE PBA?



Unmatched Expertise

With over 15 years of excellence, PBA has built a reputation for delivering top-notch services across multiple industries.



Diverse Team of Professionals

Our team includes Chartered Accountants CA(SA), Registered Government Auditors (RGA), Certified Internal Auditors (CIA), Professional Accountants, Tax Practitioners, Chartered Management Accountants (CGMA), and Professional Engineers.



Our Strategic Presence

We have a strong footprint with offices in KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, Eastern Cape, Free State, Limpopo & Mpumalanga

Elevating Careers with SAIGA Internship Program

PBA proudly supports the development of future leaders through our partnership with the Southern African Institute of Government Auditors (SAIGA).

SAIGA internship program offers:



COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING: Practical experience in a dynamic and supportive environment.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Work alongside industry experts and enhance your skills.



CAREER GROWTH: Build a successful career with opportunities for advancement within PBA.



INSIGHTS FROM THE WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST EVENT

By Sinazo Mondo



SAIGA Hosts Inspiring Women in Leadership Breakfast Event in collaboration with Wits Business School In celebration of Women's Month.

The 'Breakfast' aimed to empower women to assume leadership roles in entrepreneurship and corporate sector.

The morning commenced with a compelling keynote address by Deputy Minister of the Presidency, Ms Nonceba Mhlauli. In her speech, Mhlauli highlighted the importance of women claiming their rightful place in leadership and seizing opportunities for self-development.

Following the keynote, the event transitioned into a dynamic panel discussion facilitated by media entrepreneur Varashni Pillay, founder of explain.co.za. The panel featured a lineup of accomplished women leaders who shared their insights and experiences in navigating the challenges of leadership.

The Panelists were, Yanga Mputa, Nonzuzo Makanda, Ncumisa Mkunqwana, Crystal Huntley, Millycent Mashele and Dr Thelela Ngcetane-Vika.

Ngcetane-Vika, a lecturer at the Wits School of Governance, opened the discussion by addressing the unique challenges faced by women in executive positions. She highlighted the importance of authenticity in leadership, encouraging women to lead with integrity and self-confidence.

Makanda, Audit Chairperson at Seda and Safa, stressed the value of dedication and resilience in entrepreneurship. She also reminded attendees of the importance of self-care, urging women not to neglect their well-being as they strive for success.

Mputa, Tax Ombud at the South African Tax Ombud, offered a thought-provoking perspective on the diverse paths available to women. "Not all women are called to be entrepreneurs," she stated, "but we can all support one another in achieving success, regardless of the path we choose."

The panel also included Mkunqwana, CEO of CHAPU and Huntley, an economist at Nedbank, who both emphasised the hard work required to succeed as women in leadership.

They discussed the realities of balancing career aspirations with personal responsibilities and the importance of hard work in achieving success.

The conversation extended to the audience, with participants sharing their own challenges and exchanging advice on overcoming obstacles in entrepreneurship, career progression and family life.

The event concluded with a presentation by Siziwe Zulu from the National Empowerment Fund, who outlined key funding opportunities for women entrepreneurs. She left attendees with a powerful message, "Focus and drive are essential for securing the resources needed to succeed."

A CELEBRATION OF EMPOWERMENT: WOMEN'S DAY HIGH TEA

By Sinazo Mondo

This August, the Women's Day High Tea at Lucky Break Café in Newcastle Gate, Centurion, was a beautiful fusion of elegance, empowerment and inspiration. SAIGA and PSAAA staff gathered for a morning of indulgence, enjoying delightful treats while engaging in vibrant and thought-provoking discussions.

The event created an atmosphere where conversations flowed effortlessly, touching on powerful topics like leadership and empowerment, gender equality and equity, women's health and wellness, career growth and work-life balance. Attendees passionately shared ideas on breaking stereotypes and bias, creating a space where women's voices were truly celebrated.

It was more than just tea, it was a toast to women supporting women, lifting each other up and driving change in every sphere of life.



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FAKU'S FUN-FILLED BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

By Sinazo Mondo

For Staff Faku family is everything, as a family-oriented auditor, Faku's life is centred around those closest to her.

The SAIGA executive committee member recently celebrated her birthday in the most joyous way possible surrounded by family, colleagues, and an incredible adventure.

To mark her special day, she and her loved ones embarked on a 7-day trip to the stunning island of Zanzibar. The trip was filled with memorable activities and Faku's personal highlight was scuba diving in the crystal-clear blue waters.



Her celebration began on a high note with a heartfelt mini party at the AGSA office. Her colleagues came together, singing her praises and showering her with thoughtful gifts and flowers. The festivities continued later with a fine dining experience at Main Menlyn, where Faku and her sister indulged in a luxurious evening.

A dedicated mother of two, Faku finds immense joy in both her family life and her community involvement. One of her proudest contributions is serving as a guest lecturer to deserving students, where she shares her knowledge and experiences with the next generation.

Her passion for empowering women, particularly in the accounting profession, is evident. "I love everything that has to do with women's advancement, especially in a society where there are still many challenges facing women," Faku says.

Describing herself as a positive, family-oriented person, Faku also has a hidden talent, an angelic singing voice. She approaches both her personal and professional life with a strong sense of responsibility, something she feels is essential to her character. Quoting Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, she says, "To be a man is precisely to be responsible." For Faku, accountability is key in everything she does.

To wrap up her celebration, we fired off some fun rapid-fire questions:

- Ø R&B or Gospel? Gospel
- Ø Dine in or dine out? Dine out
- Ø Favourite travel destination? Zanzibar
- Ø Any tattoos? No
- Ø Favourite song that lifts your mood? Ngeke Ngisuke Kuwe by Xolly Mncwana
- Ø Coffee or tea? Tea
- Ø If you could have dinner with any historical figure, who would it be? Professor Wiseman Nkuthu

SAIGA LAUNCHES TUT STUDENT CHAPTER

By Sinazo Mondo



The Southern African Institute of Government Auditors (SAIGA) proudly announces the launch of its student chapter at Tshwane University of Technology's Ga-Rankuwa campus. This new chapter will provide students with valuable opportunities for professional growth through forums, panel discussions and symposia.

The launch event drew a large number of students keen to connect with SAIGA, its partners and associated training offices, including Pholela Business Advisory, MGI RAS and KEP Consulting.

Sello Malatsi, SAIGA's Strategic and Growth Partnerships Manager, expressed enthusiasm about the development: "We are excited to introduce an interim student structure to oversee SAIGA activities on campus. This marks just the beginning, as we plan to establish many more student chapters across South Africa."

TUT is unique among South African universities for offering a degree in public finance. Public Sector Finance Head Siphoniso Maluleke highlighted the university's commitment to preparing students for impactful careers: "TUT aims to produce graduates ready to positively influence society."

Dr Audrey Legodi, Chair of the Auditing Department at the University of South Africa, delivered a keynote address underscoring the value of the Registered Government Auditor (RGA) designation. She encouraged students to pursue professional qualifications, emphasising how the RGA designation opened doors for her in her career. "Without the RGA designation, I wouldn't have secured my current role as Chair of the Auditing Department, despite holding a PhD in Auditing."

The launch of the TUT student chapter represents a significant step for SAIGA, aligning with the Institute's goals of accrediting universities and establishing student chapters nationwide. Attendee Mimi Hlengane, an advanced diploma student in Public Finance, shared her excitement: "I attended this event to learn more about SAIGA and explore further qualifications. I'm inspired to join SAIGA and apply the insights gained to my future career."

The launch marked a significant milestone for SAIGA as accrediting universities and establishing student chapters are key objectives of the Institute. The establishment of a student chapter at TUT underscores this commitment.

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SAIGA AT THE 702 WALK THE TALK

By Sinazo Mondo

On a vibrant day filled with purpose and pride, SAIGA members set off on the 702 Walk the Talk, tracing a route steeped in rich heritage. Starting at the Freedom Park Heritage Site, they honoured the sacrifices made in the pursuit of freedom, attained 30 years ago, as they walked together to celebrate unity and resilience.

Each step along the path to the Union Buildings served as a powerful reminder of the journey towards social cohesion and nation-building that continues to shape the country.

The Walk became more than just a physical challenge. It demonstrated the power of unity in diversity and the importance of working collectively as a team. With every kilometre, the camaraderie among SAIGA and PSAAA colleagues grew stronger, showcasing a shared commitment to promote unity within the Institute.



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About the Southern African Institute of Government Auditors

The Southern African Institute of Government Auditors is a non-profit professional body representing a unique brand of professionals, the Registered Government Auditors (RGA) in the public sector and academia. The RGA is considered the highest professional designation within the public sector auditing. Visit www.saiga.co.za for more information.

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