Commentary

Shortly after the financial crisis in 2008, the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation (CSFI), based in London, brought out a book of selected papers written by a range of bankers, financial journalists, economists and academics. It was entitled ‘Grumpy Old Bankers: Wisdom from the Crisis’. It is an excellent read and has many short papers by experienced bankers such as Sir Brian Pearce (ex-Barclays Bank and Midland Bank (HSBC)), Henry Kaufman (a legend on Wall Street) and Charles Goodhart (Bank of England) plus many more. During the long days confined to the house and practising social distancing measures, I was pondering what might be published when the current crisis is under control and what lessons will we have learned in banking and finance?

In trying to resolve the problems we have been thrown, the key is co-operation - not only between the major financial centres, but all those around the world to enable them to participate in the management of global finance. We are learning lessons while struggling with a crisis which no one really expected, operational risks that we never considered on such a scale.

So far banks have been remarkably resilient, by shoring-up capital buffers and maintaining liquidity to the market, with the help of central banks. The acid test is yet to come as the banks emerge from the crisis and borrowers consider their financial positions. Globally debt levels both for the individuals and businesses will be under strain, ratings under pressure, and for some, insolvency. It is likely that the solution to the crisis will follow many of the lessons from the financial crisis - a reaffirmation of the ‘public utility nature of financial institutions’, careful government and regulatory oversight. No government has yet set serious plans for an exit strategy, they are too busy dealing with more immediate domestic issues, but no doubt the IMF and World Bank mandarins will be considering and testing various scenarios and risk events including an ecological crisis.

Interesting times for us all - we don’t know all the risks, but we do know we should boost international cooperation; exactly our objective at GBEStB by promoting our banking educational standards.

Stay safe,

Secretary-General
Benefits
The primary beneficiaries of the GBEStB will be those banking institutes supporting the initiative, as they will:

- Receive support in developing an ethical and professional culture in their national banking industry, sustained by international standards;
- Tap into the large pool of talent, expertise and experience of their peers;
- Enhance their standing by playing a role on the global stage and participating in standards development; and
- Provide internationally recognised education programmes to individuals qualifying with them, facilitating the free movement of labour.

Membership Fees
Due to the continuing financial pressures experienced by Institutes, the Board agreed in September to issue no invoices for the current year 2020.

Further, the Board has recommended that the membership fees be reduced by 50% to USD 5,000 for 2021, payable in April.

We would encourage all Board and Council members to add the GBEStB logo to their websites and associated media. Help build awareness of our activities.

Events
Chartered Banker Institute Annual Conference 2020
The CBI would like to invite all GBEStB members to join three webcasts as part of their annual conference, which is online for the first time. Fellow member institutes, AICB and FINSIA, are already involved.

Please see the webcast list at the end of this newsletter.

LIBF announces Launch of World’s First Green Finance Education Charter
Member bodies are being offered the chance to join the Green Finance Education Charter, please see the announcement: https://www.libf.ac.uk/news-and-insights/news/detail/2020/06/30/financing-the-green-recovery-with-launch-of-world-s-first-green-finance-education-charter

Online Human Resource Forum of Banking, Mongolia, 22 October 2020 - Organised by The Bank of Mongolia, Mongolian Bankers Association and Banking and Finance Academy of Mongolia.
Our Secretary General, Alastair Graham, had the pleasure of speaking at the above conference on Banking Ethics Standard - International Best Practices together with Jennifer Prew, Head of Professional Development of Chartered Banker Institute. The event was attended by 146 participants and over 2,000 connected to the live screening on Facebook.

https://www.bfa.mn/past-events/seminar/hrc2020
Websites

GBESTB: www.globalbankingstandards.org/

Board Members

Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers: www.aicb.org.my
Canadian Securities Institute Canada www.csi.ca
Chartered Institute of Bankers www.charteredbanker.com
Egyptian Banking Institute www.ebi.gov.eg
Hong Kong Institute of Bankers www.hkib.org
Chartered Institute of Bankers Nigeria www.cibng.org

Council Members

Chartered Institute of Bankers (Ghana) www.cibgh.org
Financial Services Institute of Australasia www.finsia.com
Indian Institute of Banking and Finance www.iibf.org.in
London Institute of Banking and Finance www.libf.ac.uk
The Institute of Banking and Finance Singapore www.ibf.org.sg

Industry Partner

SME Finance Forum, part of the IFC www.ifc.org

Contact Us

secretarygeneral@globalbankingstandards.org

Above are pictures taken during the Banking and Finance Academy of Mongolia virtual conference.

Financial Services Institute of Australasia
Here is a link to previous webinars: https://www.finsia.com/events/past
And this to upcoming events (with a lot more in planning): https://www.finsia.com/events/upcoming

FINSIA also publishes a wide range of news articles via “InFinance” https://www.finsia.com/news-hub/infinance/all (note you need to be a member to access most items)

News

We wish to welcome to our Council Mr Biswaketan Das as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Indian Institute of Banking & Finance (IIBF) with effect from 1st October 2020. He takes over from Dr Misra who was also an active member of our Standards Education Committee, we wish to thank him for his contribution to the work of GBESTB and the banking profession.
Next Webinars - Hold the date!
We propose to hold the next zoom virtual conference call on the 26th November 2020 at 12pm GMT. The subject will be ‘How operational risk is changing in a COVID environment’.

In December, Simon Thompson of the CBI will host a virtual session on the ‘The Green Finance Educational Charter’. This is very appropriate as The UK Government is keen to internationalise this ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 26), to be held in November 2021.

Social Media Groups
We have established a Linkedin group and are looking to add Facebook and Instagram shortly.

The rationale for the latter media channels is directed towards student brand awareness and other banking professionals. We want them to recognise the value of institutes complying with the educational standards and global transferability and consistency. We would also request all members to ensure all their staff know about GBEStB.

Council Members
In addition to our Board members we would like to introduce you to our Council Members, the first of which is –

Chris Whitehead, CEO & MD, Financial Services Institute of Australasia
Chris was appointed FINSIA CEO in September 2016. He has been associated with the Australasian financial services industry for nearly 30 years. Previously, he was CEO of CUA, Australia’s largest customer-owned financial institution, Regional Director, Bank of Scotland and CEO, BankWest Retail Bank

Dr Segun Aina
Chair of the Global Banking Education Standards Board
Chartered Banker Annual Conference 2020
3 - 5 November 2020, Online

We would be delighted if you could join us for our Annual Banking Conference, this year hosted in a series of three compelling webcasts online. This year we will be joined by a panel of industry experts to discuss the technology v people debate, the culture of learning and why sustainable finance is the future.

Join us for one, or all of the discussions to have the opportunity to hear from experts and participate in discussions about the many financial, regulatory and technical challenges shaping the banking industry.

Please see below for further details on the sessions and how to reserve your place.

If you have any questions or issues with booking, please contact Anna Young, Marketing and Events Manager - anna.young@charteredbanker.com

Technology v the People Debate:
3 November 2020

Join us for the first webinar of the series, where our expert panel will be discussing the 'Technology v the People' Debate. Bill McCall, President of the Chartered Banker Institute will be providing a keynote speech to kick off the conference.

The Panel will then be chaired by Claire Tunley, CEO, Financial Services Skills Ltd, and consider if the pace of technological change is permanent, how Covid-19 has impacted on learning and skills, and are FinTech’s decision-making algorithms fit for purpose in a post-Covid world?
'You don’t know what you don’t know!'
4 November 2020

The second webcast of the series looks at creating a culture of lifelong learning within organisations. The Panel will be chaired by Gavin McQuillan, Head of Learning and Development, NatWest. Gavin and the panel will consider what strategies are deployed in other countries to encourage learning and what lessons can be learnt/shared? They will also discuss the difficulties organisations face when motivating their employees to embrace future skills and self-directed learning.

Book Your Place

Why Green and Sustainable Finance is the Future of Finance: 5 November 2020

Chaired by Simon Thompson, CEO, Chartered Banker Institute, the final session in our Annual Conference will discuss why green and sustainable finance is the future of finance. Amongst other discussion points, Simon and the panel will ask what are the opportunities open to young people to become involved in sustainable initiatives? Does green and sustainable finance make banking a more attractive career choice for young people again?

Book Your Place

Chartered Banker Institute, Drumsheugh House, 38b Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, EH3 7SW
Charitable Body No SC013927