

**Bangor Business School – Executive Education** 

### **Chartered Banker MBA**

# Continuing Professional Development and the role of Banking Institutes

Deno Cartwright, President, Bahamas Institute of Financial Services

Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am

# The Bahamas Institute of Financial Services

The Bahamas Institute of Financial Services (BIFS) has been the financial services industry provider of Education and Training programmes for fortyeight (48) years.

 We offer education programmes that cater to industry's training at all levels.



### History

- The Institute is a not-for-profit institution established in 1974 to support the Bahamas' financial services industry development.
- It was the idea of the late Mr. T. Baswell Donaldson, the first Governor of The Central Bank of the Bahamas, to ensure that professional standards are met within Financial Services Organizations.







"To promote quality training and education programs for the financial services sector, to be innovative and responsive to the expanding needs of the business and financial community, and to develop creative synergy to foster and enhance sustained growth within the industry."





HONESTAS INTEGRITY

FIDELITAS LOYALTY











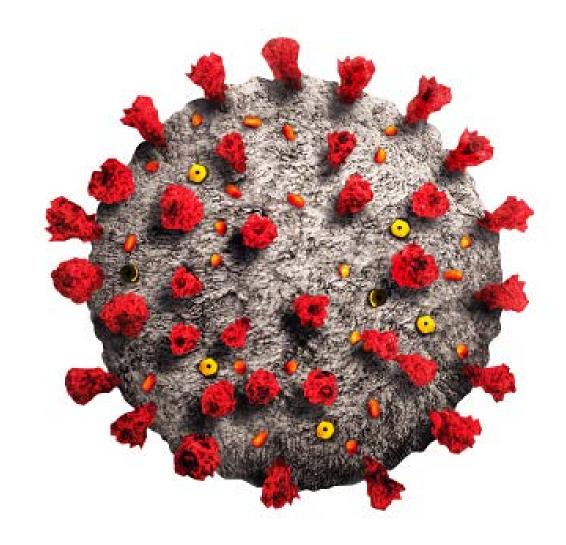
## **Chartered Banker**



Partnerships – Critical to the Post Pandemic New World BIFS' partnership with local industry associates such as BACO, BFSB, BICA and international institutions such as the Chartered Bankers' Institute of Scotland and Bangor University, the world-wide network of Financial Training Institutes around the world through the WCBI, has strengthened the creditability and the quality of BIFS programme offerings and strategic positioning in education and training.

# Resilience in a Time of Pandemic

- Since its outbreak in late
   December 2019, COVID-19 has
   wreaked havoc across the world
   and like any critical sector,
   education has been hit hard.
- BIFS closed it training rooms on March 19th, 2020 and finished its Spring semester via online assignments and exams.





### Resilience in a Time of Pandemic

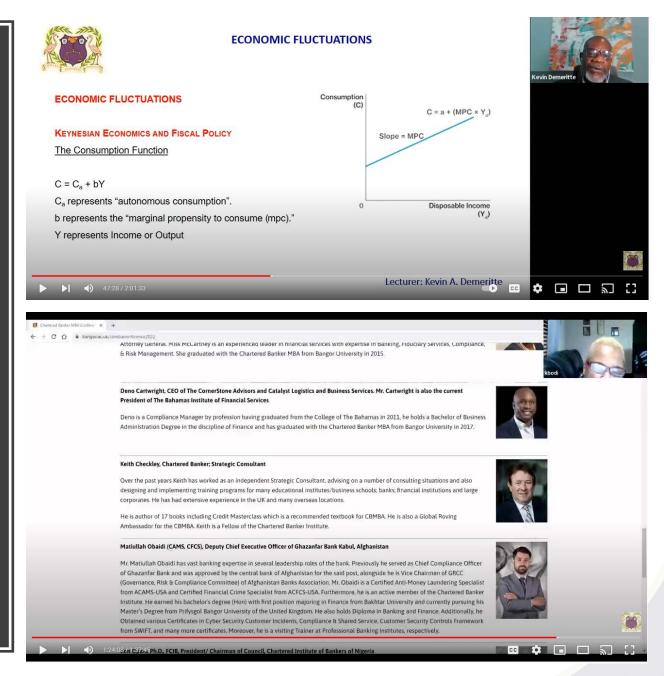
- Efforts were made to adapt quickly, move courses online, make devices and internet connection available and provide support.
- The Institute had already started to adopt digital technologies for teaching and learning, however, we realized that the Institute would have to make further changes in order to fully embrace a digital transformation.
- This would include upskilling of BIFS staff, lecturers and students in the use of online technology.

# Resilience in a Time of Pandemic

Click-and-connect online learning and conferencing solutions.

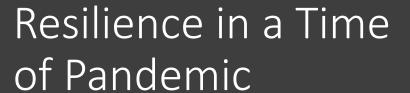
The Institute implemented a small number of online learning platforms

- Zoom
- Moodle
- Google Classroom
- Exam.net



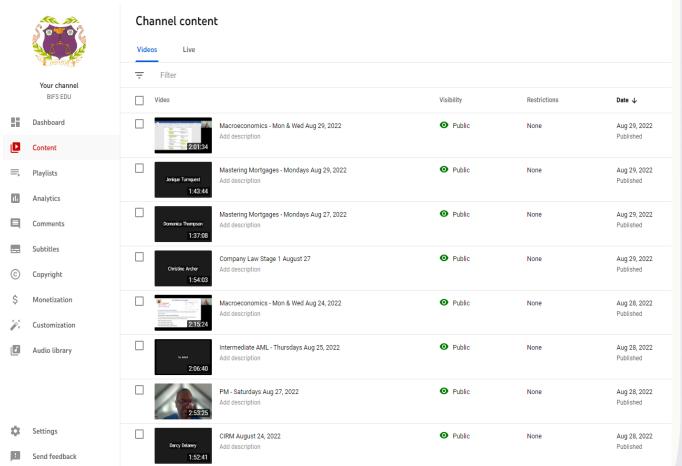


BANGOR



### YouTube Channel

BIFS implemented a YouTube Channel in 2015 to further assist students in their studies









# Larry Page former CEO, Alphabet

"...change tends to be revolutionary not evolutionary"





### Staying Relevant

- The Bahamas Institute of Financial Services is fully aware that Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and employee upskilling is integral in ensuring that industry practitioners continue to keep their knowledge and skills current with industry and regulatory developments.
- It equips practitioners with the ability to evolve with the changing industry landscape and enhances the professionalism and value of the practitioners within the industry.

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### Staying Relevant



#### **Partnership with the Bahamas Government**

• BIFS is working closely with all government agencies to ensure that we provided comprehensive training on all new ACTs and Regulations pertaining to financial institutions.

### New Technologies

COVID-19 has accelerated the need for tech competence for financial services employees

• FinTech is a core topic in today's financial services, and it is a subject addressed in the CBMBA.

• The Banking Technology & FinTech (BTF) module explores the evolving technology and the disruptive influence of fintech that are impacting traditional banking models and focuses on the interaction of technology (including crypto assets, online banking, AL and machine learning).



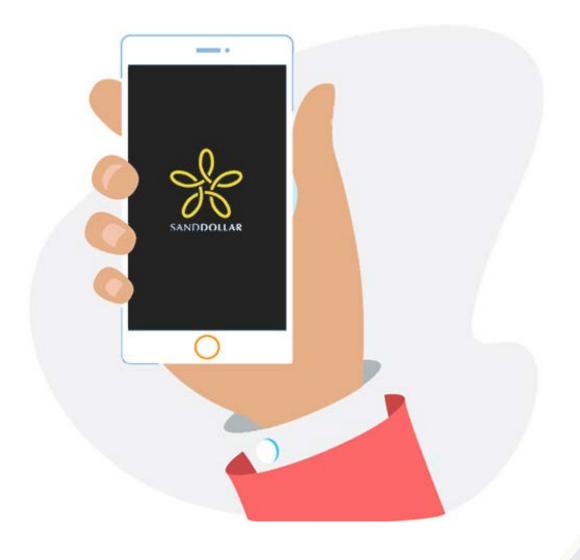


### New Technologies

#### SAND DOLLAR LITERACY

Project Sand Dollar is the initiative embarked on by the Central Bank of The Bahamas to issue a digital representation of the Bahamian dollar (B\$). It is an undertaking to promote more inclusive access to regulated payments and other financial services for unbanked and underbanked communities and socio-economic groups within the country.

Additionally, through the introduction of this retail central bank digital currency (CBDC), the Central Bank expects to reduce service delivery costs and increase transactional efficiency for financial services across The Bahamas.





## SOFT SKILLS TRAINING

- Soft skills in the workplace matter. Not only do candidates need training, knowledge and technical skills, they must also be able to problem-solve, communicate and have a good relationship with others to succeed in a modern workplace.
- Those intangible qualities that focus on behavior, personal traits and cognitive capabilities may be more important now than ever.

From adaptability to emotional intelligence, if financial services institutions want to thrive in the new world of work, it is critical to develop these essential leadership skills



- Mindfulness
- Resilience
- Influence and Persuasion
- Authentic Leadership
- Dealing with Difficult People
- Focus
- Emotional Intelligence
- Empathy
- Leadership Presence

# International standard-setting and compliance

The Bahamas institute of Financial services will continue to foster strong relationships with both Global and regional Financial Services Regulators in order to keep our industry safe and attractive to legitimate investors

- Central Bank of The Bahamas
- Securities Commission
- Financial Intelligence Unit
- Financial Action Task Force
- Caribbean Financial Action Task Force
- OECD





Preparing for the Future in Financial Services

- In 2008 the Bahamas Institute of Financial Services commenced the G-12 Programme designed to assist senior high school students with obtaining the requisite skills to start a viable career in The Financial Services Industry.
- We consider this effort the opportunity to invest in young people who require mentoring to achieve an advantage in entering the workforce.











# Implementation of Professional Chapters

- CB MBA
- Certified International Financial Planners
- Certified International Risk Managers
- Certified Credit Professionals

#### For the purpose of:

- Continuing Education Opportunities
- Networking
- Information Sharing
- Benchmarking
- Community Education initiatives



#### Summary

The new norm of Learning and Development is smoothly moving from the classroom to virtual platforms.

In an ever-evolving and fast-paced world, employees must sharpen their skills and learn new ones. Professional skills such as technical know-how, soft and behavioral skills, domain and process related skills must be a part of the continuous learning and development efforts.

Now is the time to constantly learn, adapt and embrace the change. We believe that these learning initiatives will prove to be useful to move forward on a career graph even in unprecedented times.



## Thank you

**Any Questions?**