

YOUR NEXT STEP?

In a fast-paced and challenging global business environment, the decision to invest in professional study is an important – but individual – one. Six recent alumni share their views on the value of their Chartered Banker MBA.

MBAAs have remained popular with those wishing to advance their knowledge, skills and career prospects, but every prospective student must weigh up the potential benefits with the significant cost in terms of both time and money.

The innovative Chartered Banker MBA (CBMBA) is the only MBA in the world that offers the dual qualification of an MBA from a world-leading banking research institution (the Bangor University Business School) and the professional qualification of Chartered Banker, awarded by the Chartered Banker Institute.

Launched in 2011, the CBMBA includes the generic skills expected in any MBA, but it is also a specialist programme designed for bankers and other financial services professionals.



“THE ULTIMATE CAREER ENHANCER”

The CBMBA provides a global perspective and imparts practical skills that are immediately applicable in the workplace, says Tanya McCartney. As CEO and

Executive Director at the Bahamas Financial Services Board, she collaborates with financial services industry stakeholders on key policy initiatives, such as the implementation of the OECD’s common reporting standard. She also facilitates dialogue on the strategic repositioning of financial services in the Bahamas and current issues facing the sector, like de-risking.

The CBMBA is the “ultimate career enhancer for banking professionals”, she believes, noting that it has increased her marketability and created opportunities for upward mobility.



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

For Stephen Jones, the motivation and complementary skills gained during his CBMBA and elective helped him to launch his investment firm Dragon Investment Managers Ltd.

The Dragon initiative extended the provision for investment services and stockbroking in North Wales by developing and integrating an existing regulated investment company with an established financial advisory firm. This move has facilitated the provision of retail and regulated commercial stockbroking and advisory facilities within a bilingual environment across North Wales.



“A SUCCESSFUL AND MEMORABLE JOURNEY”

Sudam Kaluarachchi already held an approved MBA when he applied for the CBMBA, so was admitted to the super-accelerated route and completed the programme in just one year.

Sudam, Senior Manager, Credit with the Commercial Bank Qatar and the first Sri Lankan to be elected as a Fellow of the Institute, looks upon the experience as one of the best decisions of his life. “When I look back,” he says, “I recall a successful and memorable journey which paved the way for me to improve my leadership qualities;

provided a gateway for analysing challenges; grabbing opportunities; critical decision-making capabilities and career advancement and networking.”



A TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE

Sunday Anasonye is Head of Business Development at Nkpolu-ust Microfinance Bank Limited in Nigeria. He found that the CBMBA programme enriched his

knowledge of contemporary banking topics – including professional ethics, risk management and credit and lending. It also

enhanced his networking with top executives and banking professionals in Nigeria and from across the globe.

After qualifying, Sunday was promoted to a position in his organisation that is next in rank to the Managing Director/CEO. He was also appointed to his bank’s Board-level Credit Risk Management Committee. Sunday found that the CBMBA was a transformative experience for him and spurred him on to seek new challenges in his banking career.



“A GREAT OPPORTUNITY – GO FOR IT!”

Ian Hardcastle is Head of Learning & Development for the Corporate & Private Banking Division of RBS. He first considered the CBMBA when in discussions with the Bangor Business School faculty about how he could encourage RBS employees to get involved in

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the programme which appeared to offer a highly relevant learning experience along with the opportunity to meet and network with an international community of students. Being keen on maintaining his own continuous professional development, Ian decided to take the plunge and undertake the programme himself. “It provided me with a great opportunity to prove to my colleagues that it was a worthwhile programme,” he says. “Secondly, I wanted to test myself and attain a highly desirable qualification. The programme itself was excellent and I was impressed by the broad range of options available which helped me to consider areas outside of my profession.”





Ian found the opportunity to test his thinking very useful, helping to make him more considered and strategic in the workplace. He has subsequently been asked to contribute to divisional-level strategy and has increased his involvement in more complex initiatives. "It is a great opportunity if you throw yourself into it and really challenge your initial thinking," he says. "Go for it!"



"UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF MY BETTER DECISIONS"

Tony Moroney is Managing Director of International Financial Services, Berkeley Research Group. While Tony undertook his fair share of studies during a 35-year career, he feels that "undoubtedly one of my better

decisions was to undertake the Chartered Banker MBA".

Banking has changed significantly since the 2008 financial crisis and the CBMBA recognises the subsequent increased complexity of the market, the growing array of key bank stakeholders and the changing expectations and business models in financial services. The qualification deals with relevant subjects such as Financial Institutions Risk Management (encompassing issues such as capital adequacy, liquidity and off-balance sheet activities), Financial Crisis & Regulation (cause and effect) and Professional Ethics & Regulation (the essence of conduct risk which continues to be a major cost to the financial services industry). Tony observes: "I have found the experience and learning from the Chartered Banker MBA to be of significant benefit in my dealings with financial institutions, not just in the UK, but all over the world." In a recent meeting with the Head of a Financial Regulatory Authority in the Middle East, for example, he was able to use the knowledge gained from the programme to have a much deeper and more rounded conversation on addressing the requisite fundamentals and their implications in order to successfully develop their banking sector. 

Bangor Business School – Executive Education

Chartered Banker MBA

Cutting Edge and Innovative Learning
for the Financial Services Sector

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Bangor University Business School is consistently ranked as one of the leading Universities in Europe and in the top 25 institutions in the world for Banking research (RePEc, September 2016). Bangor University is also ranked in the UK top 15 Universities for student satisfaction.

- Study the global, part-time Chartered Banker MBA and gain the dual award of a top MBA in Banking and Finance with a top University in Europe and Chartered Banker Institute
- Accelerated Routes Available

- The Chartered Banker MBA would benefit ambitious individuals in the financial services sector
- Early enrolment incentives available for Spring 2017 as well as MCIBS route which attracts a further discount

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