



AIB honours accountants who came tops in Ireland in accountancy exams

3rd October 2014

AIB today (Friday 3rd October) recognised two accountants who came first in Ireland in the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants' (ACCA) examinations.

Melanie Jolliffe and Caoimhe Finn were ranked by ACCA as Top Affiliates for the exam sessions in December 2013 and June 2014.

Ms. Jolliffe ranked third in the world and first in Ireland, while Ms. Finn was named first in Ireland and also placed globally. Both women competed against candidates from countries such as the United Kingdom, India and Singapore to get a place in the ACCA's global rankings.

The ranking is calculated on the cumulative mark from five papers.

The latest ACCA figures for June 2014 show that women have been outperforming their male colleagues in terms of pass rates. The figures show 54 per cent of women entrants passed their paper exams compared with just 51 per cent of men.

Female membership of ACCA has grown to 45 per cent in Ireland, up from 42 per cent five years ago.

AIB's director of finance Myles O'Grady said he was delighted to honour Ms. Jolliffe and Ms. Finn. Speaking at an awards ceremony in AIB, he congratulated the two women on their success. "It is appropriate to honour Caoimhe and Melanie on their significant achievements. AIB Finance has a long-standing relationship with the ACCA to sponsor prizes for the top students in the final ACCA exams. AIB hires ACCA members at all levels, in both our Finance team and in broader business roles across the bank," he said.

"AIB has secured ACCA Platinum Approved Employer Status, in recognition of its commitment to providing quality support, experience and development opportunities for those studying ACCA in AIB. This positions AIB amongst an elite group of organisations, including Intel and Accenture," he added.

Ms. Finn is employed with the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) as an asset recovery manager, while Ms. Jolliffe is employed with Salesforce.com as a finance analyst.

ACCA President for 2014 Anne Keogh, said: "I'd like to thank AIB for sponsoring the event today. AIB has a long tradition of supporting ACCA affiliates and students and I am delighted they have been given ACCA Platinum Approved Employer Status. About 18 per cent of our graduates are employed in financial services companies, which is an important springboard for affiliates looking to start and progress their careers. Both Caoimhe and Melanie prove that Ireland produces high calibre finance professionals."

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