

App State Student Chapter of the IMA

Fall 2022 Newsletter

A look ahead

Officers of the Chapter along with Dr. Zahller came together to finalize a schedule for the upcoming semester and are excited about the lineup of activities that have been planned for the Spring 2023 semester. We will have events every Tuesday at 5pm in the Holland Room and will be posted in This Week in Walker's emails. Please mark your calendars to join us on **Tuesday, January 24th at 5pm for our Welcome Back Pizza Party in the Holland Room.**

As we close the book on Fall semester 2022, we'd like to share some highlights from the semester. As a reminder, Student IMA club is open to all majors and extends invitations to you and everyone else to all our future events. Be sure to reach out to Jaime Ziegenfuss Whitehead or Dr. Zahller, should you have any questions.

Student IMA Leadership Conference

In October, five students from Appalachian State University were granted the opportunity to travel to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for the annual Student IMA Leadership, which is geared towards helping students network and learn from inspiring speakers, CEOs, and CFOs of Fortune 500 companies. The conference was loaded with back-to-back sessions with topics ranging from finance, professional development, ethics, and emerging trends in the accounting world. Students also got the opportunity to network with companies, tour the Pittsburgh Penguins arena, and two students even lucked out and won study materials totaling up to \$2,000!



IMA Student Case Competition

This year, Appalachian State University has three teams participating in the annual student case competition that is held by IMA, a total of 15 students. Teams were formed in October and are hard at work preparing their cases. Team members will be submitting their presentations in February with hopes to compete in the finals at the IMA National Conference in Minneapolis this summer!

Principles of Accounting Dinner

Every year, Appalachian State's accounting department hosts a dinner for the highest scoring students in the introductory accounting classes for the College of Business to expose students more to what opportunities are available, and this year, we teamed up with Beta Alpha Psi to help speak on these opportunities and give a word to first- and second-year students. Carlos Vazquez spoke of how Student IMA has given him better insights on what all accounting could be. Along with him, Beta Alpha Psi brought graduate students to speak on their experiences and answer questions that the curious students may have had. The event was a success and came to an end with Dr. Pennie Bagley encouraging students to check out accounting should they have even the slightest bit of curiosity.

Industry Tour with Hickory Springs Metalworks

On Friday November 4th, Dr. Kimberly Zahller and 13 members of the Appalachian State chapter of IMA toured Hickory Springs Metalworks (HSM) in Hickory, NC. Jeff Gilliam, CFO & ASU Accounting Alumni, kicked off the tour with an introduction, brief history and the company's vision and mission statements. After lunch, a comprehensive walking tour of the plant was given. The tour went through the various divisions and areas of the plant, including raw material receiving and storage, fabrication, and quality control. The plant tour was interesting, fast paced, informative and provided fascinating examples of manufacturing line production and the innovations that make it possible. After the tour, HSM's cost accountant and regional plant manager talked with the group about their positions, main responsibilities, how their positions have evolved and what to expect when joining the workforce. HSM demonstrated why they have and continue to be a strong business and a valuable asset to North Carolina.

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