

By Jeffrey C. Thomson, CMA, CAE



A Year of Growth in Members, Influence, and Respect

From CMA® candidates to student chapters to new global offices to innovative products and services, IMA® continued to focus on growth and delivery of value in 2013. Read more in our digital Annual Report on IMA's website.

Dear IMA members,

As we enter our 95th year as an association, we have much to celebrate as a community and more still to go to achieve our full potential in serving members, organizations, and the public interest.

A Growing Global Landscape

The story is in the numbers. In 2013, membership reached more than 68,000, the highest level in 14 years, with student membership growing year over year for 50 consecutive months. IMA now has more than 100 student chapters, more than double the number of two years ago; an average of 1,000 viewers on each of our webinars; and more than 22,000 likes on Facebook.

I'm pleased to say that our respected CMA program continues to be one of the fastest-growing accounting credentials in the world, enjoying average five-year growth rates of 20% per year for new CMAs and 12% for new CMA candidates. In fiscal year

2013, more than 2,800 new CMAs were certified—the highest number in any year of the credential's 41-year history. At this time, about 18,000 candidates are pursuing the CMA globally from China to the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. With plans to open additional offices around the world, IMA and the CMA continue to grow in size and influence. Our global portfolio of local offices enables us to serve members effectively around the world.

The recent approval of full membership in the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) underscores the fact that the management accounting profession is universal and that we have a responsibility to support careers, help businesses succeed, and enable societies to thrive (see p. 25). We continue to extend our global influence through our valuable strategic partnership with ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants). Together we released 12 relevant research studies to support CFOs and aspiring professionals at all career levels. Our cobranded website, www.roleofcfo.com, serves as a portal to access professional development and management tools, research, case studies,

and videos on a range of topics related to the role of the CFO.

Rooted in Trust

No matter where we are in the world, IMA prides itself on being an association built on trust. Our Global Core Values set the standard for the highest values in how we conduct business each day.

In my commitment to furthering our Global Core Values beyond the IMA community, I recently contributed a chapter to *Trust Inc.: Strategies for Building Your Company's Most Valuable Asset*. In this chapter I relay the tangible success IMA has realized through our commitment to trust.

While this phrase is trite and a bit overused, it's true that your success is our success. If IMA continues to enrich careers, organizations, and society, we will continue to grow in members, influence, and respect.

Thank you for yet another exciting year, and I look forward to a prosperous 2014 for all of us. **SF**

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Thomson, CMA, CAE
President and CEO

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