

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

**G**reetings from the School of Accountancy at Wichita State University. The circumstances we have all encountered so far in 2020 are not what anyone anticipated or hoped for. However, just as everyone has found necessary, we have adjusted and continue to press forward. We are concerned about our community and hope all is well with you.

Despite the challenges, there are still many things to celebrate. 2019 was another successful year for us, and we extend a sincere thank you to all alumni, students, faculty and a supportive business community who made it possible. This newsletter will update you about some of our recent activities and accomplishments. We appreciate your interest in the School of Accountancy and thank you for taking the time to read about our activities.

In particular, we are happy and proud to announce that the School of Accountancy's AACSB accreditation was reaffirmed in 2019. Fewer than 1 percent of colleges have achieved dual AACSB accreditation for both the business college and the school of accountancy. We believe this a distinction that attests to the quality programs of the School.

At the School of Accountancy, our focus is on students. A highlight at Wichita State is the opportunity for students to participate in an award-winning nationally recognized chapter of Beta Alpha Psi. In 2019, our BAP chapter yet again reached new levels of excellence with various activities at the local and national levels. We also believe in the importance of making applied learning experiences available to students. In 2019, 35 SOA students officially participated in internships offered by local and regional employers. This is in addition to many more of our students who gain accounting knowledge through part-time work while pursuing their degree.

2019 was another productive year for faculty members. Many of the faculty published articles in high quality academic journals. The college recognized Associate Professor Dr. Michael Imhof for his research excellence by naming him a Barton Faculty Fellow. The faculty has also been busy revising the accounting curriculum to better serve students and increase their chances for success. This past year we placed an enhanced emphasis on information technology and data analysis with new courses and updates to the content of existing courses.

We are pleased with the progress the School continues to make. We also realize there is further progress to pursue. The School of Accountancy humbly acknowledges that the backing of our community of supporters is important to helping us move forward. We are grateful for the support of all those who believe in the School and its outstanding graduates. Please let us hear from you. We are interested in the activities and success of all alumni.

## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU

Please reach out to us with any updates you have on your careers and accomplishments post-graduation. The SOA Faculty appreciate hearing from all of our alumni.

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**School Of Accountancy General E-Mail:** soa@wichita.edu



## SOA ADVISORY BOARD

The School of Accountancy is grateful for the valuable advice and feedback our Board of Advisors provides. We recognize and thank the following individuals for devoting time to this cause in 2019.

**Dave Burger-** Principal KCoE Isom

**Chris Crawshaw-** Vice President and CFO, Invista

**Ginger Farney-** Partner Ernst & Young, LLP

**Marshal Hull-** Partner RCM, LLP

**Sean Weaver-** Executive Vice President AGH, LC

**Steve Webb-** Partner BKD, LLP

## CURRENT FACULTY

### School of Accountancy Faculty

**Dr. Jeffrey Bryant-** Director

**Michael Flores-** Assistant Director

**Dr. Paul Harrison**

**Dr. Michael Imhof**

**Patricia O'Sullivan-** Beta Alpha Psi Advisor

**Dr. Christine Porter**

**Dr. Jeffrey Quirin**

**Dr. Atul Rai**

**Dr. Kurt Reding**

**Laura Zellers**



## ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING CONFERENCE

Annually, the School of Accountancy continues to host an Accounting & Auditing Conference. The School wants to serve the professional community as a source for informative CPE, and the Conference represents a way to raise funds supporting our educational operations. The 2019 Conference attracted nearly 200 participants. Topics included several tax and estate planning updates, an accounting and auditing update, and a banking panel discussion. Optional concurrent sessions offer attendees choices among topics that allows them to individually tailor the program to best meet their needs. With limitations on the size of gatherings and our concern for participants' well-being, this year's Conference was cancelled. But, we look forward to next year. The Conference will be back to offer sixteen hours of Continuing Professional Education to Kansas CPAs, including two hours of ethics.

Our planning committee has already begun preparations for the next Conference.

For more information about the Conference, please visit: <https://cmd.wichita.edu/annual-events/accounting-and-auditing-conference/>



## 2019-2020 SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

We would like to acknowledge the achievements of the following students who received scholarships:

- Mike and Mary Nell Beatty Scholarship** – Steven Off and Bachimeg Batgerel
- Hugh Braly Scholarship** – Megan Brown
- Sidney and Shirley Brinkman Scholarship** – Kris Nguyen and Jacqueline Gonzalez
- Joe and Wanda Burger Scholarship** – Sidney Potter and Colby Woods
- Ron Buss Scholarship** – Amie Off
- Teresa and Arthur Craig Scholarship** – Nicole Shartzter
- Jeff Duncan Scholarship** – Lydia Knapp
- Ed and Katy Field Scholarship** – Pat Kelly
- Nancy J Foran Scholarship** – Reshuka Pokhrel
- Benjamin and Bettie Gibson Scholarship** – Kaitlyn Morrison and Griffin Newton
- Trisha and Douglas Grosch Scholarship** – Rachel Fitzjarrald
- Bob Gutschenritter Scholarship** – Bradley Blehm
- Homburger Scholarship** – Austin Boyd
- Marvin Kaufman Scholarship** – Megan Brown
- Marilee Keller Scholarship** – Baylee Weaver
- Roger and Irene Lowe Scholarship** – Jenish Giri and Nathan Konda
- Bill and Debbie Lucas Scholarship** – Cody Andra
- Paul and Joy Mahan Scholarship** – William Veith, Dayana Viveros, Dalton Moser, Megan Brown, and Alexis Willems
- Frank Miller Scholarship** – Fthawi Aemro
- Petroleum Accountants Scholarship** – Hayley Meisch
- Louis Regier Scholarship** – Amie Off
- Rossdutcher Scholarship** – Alexandria Taylor
- Doug Sharp Scholarship** – Curtis Lauffer
- Joan Bates Sims Scholarship/Fellowship** – Joshua Long, Rachel Fitzjarrald, Bush Vo, Jessica Johnson, and Emily Kidd
- Fred Soper Scholarship** – Bradley Blehm
- Bob and Pat White Fellowship** – Colby Woods
- Allen, Gibbs & Houlik Scholarship** – Alan Nguyen, Seth Davis, and Jessica Sharp
- BKD Scholarship** – Libby Heimerman, Lydia Knapp, Yadira Nunez, Collin Sharp, and Nicole Shartzter
- KSCPA – Wichita Chapter Scholarship** – Nathan Hayden, Andrew Linhardt, Austin Boyd, Victor Rojas, and Philip Hamilton
- KSCPA – Kansas Scholarship** – Isabella Ruelas, Brittany Labenz
- Alex Valentine Memorial Scholarship** – Tiffani Cook
- Beta Alpha Psi Alex Valentine Outstanding Member** – Isabella Ruelas

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

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Faculty members prepare students for accounting careers in the classroom. They are also expected to contribute to the profession and further the understanding of accounting through research. Recent publications by School of Accountancy faculty include the following articles:

**Jeff Bryant:** Miscellaneous Itemized Deductions May Be Missed More Than Expected, *Journal of Taxation of Investments*.

**Paul Harrison:** Understanding Auditor Responsibility for Fraud Detection Within Organizations, *Journal of Business Ethics*.

**Michael Imhof:** Competition, Proprietary Cost of Financial Reporting, and Financial Statement Comparability, *Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance*.

How Investors Value Cash and Cash Flows When Managers Commit to Providing Earnings Guidance, *Advances in Accounting*.

Audit Firms as a Network of Offices, Auditing: *A Journal of Practice and Theory*.

**Christine Porter:** Determinants of Auditor Going Concern Reporting in the Banking Industry, *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory*.

Employee Benefit Plan Audits: The Current State and Future Direction, *Current Issues in Auditing*.

**Jeff Quirin:** A Tax Return is Worth More Than a Thousand Words: The Case of the Interview With the IRS-CI, *Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting*.

The Obvious Fraud Revisited: The Admission-Seeking Interview, *Journal of Business Case Studies*.

**Atul Rai:** Evaluating Pedagogy in Educating Business Majors: An Empirical Analysis of Teaching Accounting Without Debits and Credits, *Accounting and Financial Control*.

Reexamination of Earnings Management Before and After the SOX: Evidence from SEC Staff Accounting Bulletins 99-100, *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*.

**Kurt Reding:** Improving Critical Thinking Through Data Analysis, *Strategic Finance*.

## KSCPA INSPIRE BUSINESS CAMP

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Recent high school graduates and high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing a college degree in accounting gathered on the Wichita State University campus in early August at the inaugural **KSCPA INSPIRE Business Camp**. The camp was specifically designed to develop their business prowess for future success.

The Kansas Society of CPA's powered the INSPIRE Business Camp. The one-and-a-half-day camp, **August 2nd - August 3rd, 2019**, was hosted by the Wichita State School of Accountancy & the Epsilon Tau Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi.

Attendees were able to experience the following speakers (and many more):

### Be an All-Star & Live Your Legend

Chelsea Dinsmore (live streamed from London)

### The Business Athlete & The Exciting Future of Accounting

Zach Mastroly, CPA, CGMA, Koch Industries

### Be a Pro in Your Career Game

Whitney Beaver, CPA, the Kansas City Royals

Students were also able to:

- Get the exclusive opportunity as a high school student to stay on a college campus
- Engage with awesome accounting professionals and college students
- Get tips on college and career readiness
- Master professional etiquette skills
- Compete in fun team activities (e.g. team scavenger hunt, dodge ball and a cookout with s'mores!)
- Kick-start their college search by visiting the various Kansas colleges 'spring training' booths
- **PLUS:** One student won a \$500 scholarship towards an accounting degree at a Kansas college of their choice



## E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATE

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If the e-mail address used to contact you is not your preferred e-mail, or you know of other alumni that would like to receive our newsletter please contact us with this information.

## STUDENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT (EMMA CARLIN)

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Emma Carlin is an undergraduate student majoring in Accounting and minoring in Business Analytics. She is currently a junior and on the Emory Lindquist Honors Scholar track through the Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College. Emma is from Osborne, Kansas, where she enjoys spending time with her family on their farm. During her time at Wichita State, she has taken part in professional development opportunities such as Professional Edge to complement her education. Emma enjoys being involved on campus and serves as an officer in both Barton School Dean's Ambassadors and Beta Alpha Psi. Her future goals include studying in the WSU Master of Accountancy program, becoming a CPA, and working to help disadvantaged families and communities become financially sound.

## BETA ALPHA PSI

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Epsilon Tau is the Wichita State University chapter of the national academic fraternity of Beta Alpha Psi. This organization has academic requirements to join and members must fulfill volunteer and professional meeting attendance obligations. The Beta Alpha Psi chapter at WSU contributes significantly to the mission of the School of Accountancy as an important element in the student success strategy for accounting, finance and MIS majors.

Our chapter has attained Superior Status for the past seven years, a recognition and honor few chapters have achieved. This accomplishment is the result of an exceptional group of students who are dedicated to the work of furthering the organization. Recently, members have received various honors. A group of students competed in regional conference sessions and won second place for their presentation. Circumstances permitting, our chapter plans to attend the national Beta Alpha Psi conference this year and make a presentation at the annual meeting. Another reason for this success is Pat O'Sullivan, the current faculty advisor to BAP. The School of Accountancy and the students of BAP have Pat to thank for her innovation in helping our chapter achieve national recognition.

The organization has weekly meetings that typically involve interaction with local professionals who speak to the group. Meetings often provide students with other opportunities as well. Advice and practice with resumes and interviewing are also featured. Help with communication abilities and other soft skills are made available to prepare members for successful careers.

Members are also involved in many activities outside the normal meeting routine. Top student members provide tutoring services for students in introductory courses. BAP conducts a career fair called Meet the Firms twice every year. Over 30 employers regularly attend the event to meet students. The group sponsors an annual scholarship breakfast, at which scholarship recipients are recognized. Many donors and professionals from the community attend. This past year, BAP worked with the KSCPA to host a summer camp on the WSU campus for Kansas high school students interested in accounting.

Members are also dedicated to serving the community. They participate in several volunteer activities throughout the year. Last holiday season, the chapter joined with the Salvation Army to sponsor four families to purchase and distribute food, clothing and toys to those in need. Based on this experience, the officers are submitting a video and paper to enter the Gold Challenge of BAP. This recognition is annually awarded to only about 5% of all chapters nationwide.

Keep in touch with activities of our chapter. There is a website and Facebook page with information. Beta Alpha Psi continues to be an integral part of accounting students' education at Wichita State.



## MACC PROGRAM UPDATE

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The Master of Accountancy program offered by the School of Accountancy continues to be a preferred resource for students accumulating the necessary credentials with which to sit for the Certified Public Accounting exam. Our streamlined program coupled with the focus on the CPA exam allows us to attract quality students. Over the past decade, two of our former students were named Elijah Watt Sells Award winners by the AICPA. This is nationwide recognition for high-performing exam candidates. Enrollment in the graduate program has remained strong. Many of our graduates have gone on to distinguished careers.

WSU has engaged in an Applied Learning Experience initiative. For the School of Accountancy, this involves a combination of relevant course projects coupled with outstanding guest speakers. In our graduate Management Control Systems course, students use the Guidestar.org database to conduct research and analysis of individually selected non-profit organizations. We make the premium version of this website available for the students to examine proprietary information as well as the entity's actual IRS Forms 990. Involving outside speakers to benefit students in classroom discussions is a focus in graduate classes. Recent guest speakers include the Chief Financial Officers of Via Christi Health Systems, the Kansas Health Foundation, and Heartspring. Additionally, speakers from the professional community share their research experience and expertise with students in the financial accounting and tax research courses.