

# UTA DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2013

## *GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR*



**DR. CHANDRA  
SUBRAMANIAM**

Welcome to the Spring 2013 edition of the UTA Department of Accounting newsletter. I would like to announce that the College of Business has a new Dean. Dean Rachel Croson was previously a Professor of Economics and Director of The Negotiations Center at the University of Texas at Dallas. For the past two years, she served as the Director of the Division of Social and Economic Sciences at the National Science Foundation. She is an accomplished researcher and administrator, and we expect her to move the College of Business to new heights.

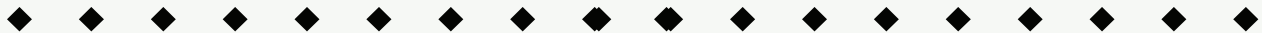
The Department of Accounting would also like to welcome several new members to the Accounting Advisory Board. They are: Sam Timothy, Vice President and CFO at Paladin Consulting; Joan Cox, CFO of Head Start of Greater Dallas; Michael Clock, CFO of Le Duff America, Inc.; Betty Floyd, CFO of Warrior Construction; Kathy Schrock, Managing Partner of CFO Suites, LLC; and David Salsberry, Executive Vice President and CFO of JPS Health Network. The Department is profoundly appreciative to have this great group of accomplished individuals give their time and energy to make the UTA Accounting program stronger.

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<i>VITA</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Publications &amp; Presentations</i>	<b>3-4</b>
<i>Chili Cook Off</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Re-Connect</i>	<b>9</b>

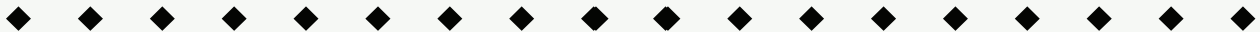
We are beginning to move forward on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Free CPE Day for alumni. The event is set for August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the University Center. Please set that day aside for this event. We expect to continue to offer four hours of Ethics for all alumni who need it, as well as an additional 8-10 hours of CPE. Please promote this event at UTA to your friends and co-workers. We will provide more information as we get closer to the event date.

Another important date to remember is our annual Spring Accounting Banquet on April 26, 2013 at the Arlington Hilton. Our keynote speaker will be Dean Rachel Croson, who is expected to provide us her vision for The College of Business. In addition to the camaraderie which this event will allow, the Accounting Excellence and Scholarship Awards will be presented to (*continued on Page 2*)



**SAVE THE DATE**

**Department of Accounting Awards Banquet -- April 26, 2013**



The Spring 2013 Semester signaled the Accounting Department's annual drive to involve students and faculty in the Voluntary Income Tax Assistance program (VITA). VITA offers free tax help to families of modest income who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified student volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation to qualified individuals in local communities. The Accounting Department partners with Catholic Charities of Fort Worth to recruit student-volunteers for the VITA program.

This year, the UTA VITA program held a rally on January 18th to encourage students to participate. Speakers included Mary Goosens, VP of Administration of Catholic Charities; Diane Patrick, Texas House of Representatives, District 94; Kathy Kelly, Executive Director, Fort Worth Chapter, Texas Society of CPAs; and Tania Sederthal, UTA Beta Alpha Psi President. The speakers extolled the virtues of public service and thanked the students for their desire to volunteer and give back to the community.

On January 19th, thirty student-volunteers participated in a six-hour training program to get them certified by the IRS to prepare individual tax returns for the VITA program. The training session was led by UTA Senior Lecturer John Repsis. At this time, the volunteers also signed-up for participation times at various locations in the Arlington and Fort Worth areas.



Representative Diane Patrick addressing the student-volunteers on the importance of VITA and service to the community.



Student-volunteers undergoing VITA training to become IRS-certified in tax return preparation.

## *GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR cont'd*

those students who have exhibited excellence in their scholastic life. A great evening will be had by all! If you are interested in attending, please email Pam Wheaton at [pwheaton@uta.edu](mailto:pwheaton@uta.edu).

We are proud to announce two major contributions to the Department of Accounting during the Fall semester. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeanne Smith and Weaver, LLP for creating the Weaver and Tidwell LLP Endowed Graduate Fellowship. I would also like to thank Debra Bennett for creating the Debra and Jimmy Bennett Graduate Fellowship in Accounting. These contributions from our accounting alumni to our students are important indicators of the value that our alumni place in making the Accounting program move forward, and make it financially possible for our students to continue making progress in their studies.

On a final note, let me take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed to our campaign to raise funds for the Endowed Graduate Scholarship in Accounting. I also want to thank many of you who have created several new annual scholarships that will financially support our students. While your financial support is necessary, it is not sufficient. We would love you to connect back with UTA Accounting and keep in touch with us by filling out the "Alumni Update" form at the end of this newsletter, if you have not done so, or email directly to [accounting@uta.edu](mailto:accounting@uta.edu). Thanks, as always, for your generous support.

*Faculty Publications 2011-2012 Academic Year*

Reffett, **Brewster, Billy** and Ballou, B. 2012. Comparing auditor versus non-auditor assessments of auditor liability: An experimental investigation of experts' versus lay evaluators' judgments. *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory* 31 (3): 125-148.

**Efendi, Jap**, Files, R., Ouyang, B., and Swanson, E.P. 2013. Executive turnover following option backdating allegations. *Accounting Review* 88 (1): 75-105.

**Efendi, Jap**, Kinney, M., Smith, K. T., and Smith, L. M. 2013. Marketing supply chain using B2B buy-side E-commerce systems: Does adoption impact financial performance. *Academy of Marketing Studies Journal* (Forthcoming).

**Hall, Tom**, Higson, A. **Pierce, Bethane**, Price, K. and Skousen, C. Haphazard sampling: Selection biases induced by control listing properties and the estimation consequences of these biases. *Behavioral Research In Accounting* (Forthcoming).

**Ho, Li-Chin Jennifer**, Chao-Shin, L. and Ouyang, B. 2012. Bloated balance sheet, earnings management, and forecast guidance. *Review of Accounting and Finance*, 11 (2): 120-140.

**McConnell, Donald K.** and Brown, R. 2012. Fraud findings: Money for nothing. *Internal Auditor* (December).

**Rasmussen, Stephanie J.** 2012. Revenue recognition, earnings management, and earnings informativeness in the semiconductor industry. *Accounting Horizons* (Forthcoming).

Premuroso, P., **Skantz, Terry** and Bhattacharya, S. 2012. Disclosure of outsourcing in the annual report: Causes and market returns effects. *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems* 13 (4) (December): 382-402.

**Skantz, Terry.** 2012. CEO pay, stock option grants, managerial power, and FAS 123R. *The Accounting Review* 87 (6) (November): 2151-2197.

**Subramaniam, Chandra** and Park, J. 2012. The effect of executive option repricing on managerial risk-taking. *Journal of the Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies* 16 (3): 93-118.

**Subramaniam, Chandra and Tsay, Jeff** 2012. Mandated recognition of employee stock expense – The case of Canada. *Journal of International Financial Management & Accounting* 23 (1): 62-91.

*Faculty Presentations 2011-2012 Academic Year*

**Efendi, Jap**, Park, J. D., and Smith, L.M. Mandatory XBRL reports and post earnings announcement drifts. *2012 American Accounting Association Annual Meeting*, Washington DC, 2012.

**Efendi, Jap**. and Holmes, A. Globalization in top accounting publications: An overview of foreign universities representations from 1985 to 2010. *2012 American Accounting Association Annual Meeting*, Washington DC, 2012.

**Rasmussen, Stephanie**, and Schmidt, J. Auditing the audit committee: An examination of shareholder- and board-provided accountability for member ineffectiveness. *2012 AAA Auditing Section Midyear Meeting*, Savannah, GA 2012.

**Rasmussen, Stephanie**, and Schmidt, J. Auditing the audit committee: An examination of shareholder- and board-provided accountability for member ineffectiveness. *2012 Deloitte Foundation/University of Kansas Auditing Symposium*, Lawrence, KS. 2012.

**Repsis, John**. IRS audit of tax return preparers: The good, the bad and the ugly. *University of Texas at Arlington, Department of Accounting Annual CPE*, Arlington, TX, August 14, 2012

Kannan, Y., **Skantz, Terry**, and J. Higgs, 2012. CEO equity incentives: Evidence from auditor pricing. *2012 American Accounting Association Annual Meeting*, Washington DC, August 2012.

Khallaf, A. and **Skantz, Terry**. R&D productivity following the CIO appointments. *2012 Ohio Region Meeting, American Accounting Association*, Cincinnati, May 2012.

Kannan, Y., **Skantz, Terry**, and J. Higgs, Managerial incentives and audit pricing. *2012 Auditing Section Midyear Conference*, Savannah, January 2012.

Huang, Q. and **Skantz, Terry**. The quality of pro forma earnings: An examination of the adverse selection component of the bid-ask spread around earnings announcements. *2013 Financial Accounting Reporting Section (FARS) Annual Midyear Meeting*, San Diego, January 2013.



Dan Snyder spoke to John Repsis' Tax Research and Planning class about international taxation. Mr. Snyder, formerly an associate of Weaver, LLP, presented on international taxation and research for the UTA Tax Planning and Research class. Mr. Snyder is an attorney with over a decade of experience in international transaction planning.

# BAP & AS Chili Cook Off



Grant Thornton makes another award winning appearance (pictured above).



KMPG (pictured above, left) participate in the tug of war game. In addition to the cook-off, fun games, crafts and contests for children, adults and family are a great way to network with your peers.



Faculty lend support to the annual event (pictured above, right).



The Chili Cook-off last fall was a big success. We brought the firms back to campus to enjoy our beautiful new College Park green space. The weather was perfect and the chili was delicious. We hope you will join us next fall for another day of fun, games and great food for the entire family.

Weaver (pictured left) goes all out with a group themed costumed chili cook off team.

*Alumni News*

**James Recks (B.B.A.'99)** has been elected as the new President and CEO of Austin-based Littlefield Corporation according to a September 11, 2012 company [press release](#). James is currently the Senior Vice President and CFO of AMC Financial Holdings, Inc.

**Curtis J. Berchtold (B.B.A.'91)** will be joining Pinnacle Airlines Corp. as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer according to a September 10, 2012 company press release. Curtis has served as Chief Financial Officer of Silver Airways since June of 2011. Prior to that, he served as a consultant with Mesa Air Group.

**Mark Melton (MSTax '03)**, an associate with Hunton & Williams, will receive the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers (DAYL) Foundation and DAYL Fellows' Award of Excellence December 13 in Dallas. Melton earned a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting and a master's degree in taxation from UT Arlington.

**Jarrad Principe (MSTax '12)** is now Controller at Olympus Property. Jarrad was previously a SALT Associate with Grant Thornton, LLP.

**Chris Vick (MPA '10)**, CPA, is now an IT Auditor at Defense Contract Audit Agency. Chris was previously an Auditor with Defense Contract Audit Agency.

**Tyler Hickey (MPA '12)** is now Staff Accountant at Colliers International. Tyler was previously a Staff Accountant with SCM Real Estate Services.

**David Bond (BBA '03)** is now Manager Marketing Support - Fuel Surcharge at BNSF Railway after previously serving as a Manager in Revenue Accounting.

**Shawn Hawkins (BBA '98)**, CPA, is now a Tax Senior at Weaver. Shawn previously worked as a Tax Manager at Hanner & Associates.

**Monica Mirea (MPA '13)** is now Audit Associate at Whitley Penn. Monica previously worked in general accounting at Cristina's Fine Mexican Restaurant.

**Rino Manfroni (MSTax '13)** is now Tax Assistant at Jack Lewis CPA.

**Matt Hollis (MPA '09)** is now Sr. Accountant at JP Energy Partners. Matt was previously employed as an Audit Senior with Grant Thornton LLP.

**Courtney Keeper (MBA, Accounting '12)** is now Accountant at Variosystems.

*In Memoriam*

Ashley McGowan, former Beta Alpha Psi president and outstanding student, passed away on January 21, 2013, in Beaverton, OR, after a short illness. Ashley McGowan graduated from UTA as an accounting major but she also served as a leader and mentor. Ashley was the President of Beta Alpha Psi, a nationally recognized honorary accounting organization and was instrumental in starting Boot Camp, a day-long tutoring session for students taking the entrance exam for admission into advanced accounting classes. She rallied some of the largest classes of candidates for BAP. She was the first instructor for Boot Camp and her legacy will continue to help accounting students. Ashley's hard work and determination was always accompanied by a smile and positive attitude.

To honor Ashley, her family and friends have decided to set up a scholarship at the University of Texas Arlington for accounting majors. It will be called the Ashley Anne McGowan Memorial Scholarship, and will be awarded to female, first generation, low-income students. The amount will be \$500 to help defray the cost of books and materials. This will be an annual award that will be funded with donations from family and friends. If you would like to donate or have any questions about the scholarship, please feel free to contact her mother, Jennifer Phillips (903) 466-2768 or Bill Cohoon (503) 481- 6337. Thank you for all of your help and support.

Fall semester was capped-off with the initiation of 21 new members and the installation of the new officers for the Spring 2013 semester:

- Tania Sederdahl, President
- Tyler Peschka, Vice President
- Johnathan Lim, Treasurer
- Clifton Chan, Director of National Reporting
- Abraham Gandarilla, Webmaster
- Susant Baskota, Director of Membership Activities
- Brian Laws, Intramural Sports Director



Spring 2013 rush for new members has concluded with 15 new candidates applying. Initiation will occur at the Spring 2013 Accounting Banquet.



The Spring 2013 semester will include an outstanding line-up of accounting firms and industry making presentations to the membership. In addition, Spring always brings the Southwest Regional Meeting of BAP Chapters from Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. The meeting will be in Dallas this year. UTA will be well represented by the Gamma Phi Chapter.

Alumni are invited to view the new BAP website at <http://mavorgs.collegiatelink.net/organization/betalphapsiaccounting>. The revised website provides posts of various events, photos and other information regarding the Chapter. Alumni are always welcome at any of the meetings. If more information is needed, please contact faculty advisor John Repsis ([jsrepsis@uta.edu](mailto:jsrepsis@uta.edu)) or President Tania Sederdahl



During the semester, BAP hosted a series of guest speakers from regional and national accounting firms including: Weaver, LLP; Grant Thornton; Ernst & Young; Whitley Penn; and PricewaterhouseCoopers. Many thanks to the speakers for taking the time to make their presentations and share their experiences with the students.



*Faculty Listing*

Name	email	Phone
Andrews, Carly	candrews@uta.edu	817.272.2736
Bitenc, Sandra	bitenc@uta.edu	817.272.1115
Brewster, Billy	bbrewste@uta.edu	817.272.0142
Efendi, Jap	jefendi@uta.edu	817.272.3060
Hall, Tom	tom.hall@uta.edu	817.272.3087
Henderson, Cherie	chenderson@uta.edu	817.272.3031
Ho, Li-Chin (Jennifer)	lichinho@uta.edu	817.272.3058
Mark, Richard	richmark@uta.edu	817.272.3059
McConnell, Don	mcconnell@uta.edu	817.272.3057
McGhee, Terra	tcbrown@uta.edu	817.272.0710
Pierce, Becky	bpierce@uta.edu	817.272.3080
Rasmussen, Stephanie	srasmuss@uta.edu	817.272.3047
Repsis, John	jsrepsis@uta.edu	817.272.0831
Srinidhi, Bin	srinidhi@uta.edu	817.272.1310
Subramaniam, Chandra	subramaniam@uta.edu	817.272.3388
Skantz, Terry	tskantz@uta.edu	817.272.3065
Taylor, Martin	mtaylor@uta.edu	817.272.3030
Tsay, Jeff	jefftsay@uta.edu	817.272.6009
Winterbotham, Glyn	gwinter@uta.edu	817.272.3040

*Out & About*

**Chili Cook-off**

Gamma Phi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi at UTA celebrated a successful Fall 2012 semester highlighted by the Annual Chili Cook-Off. The Chili Cook-Off was returned to campus by being held in the new Green at College Park space. Attendance by firms, students and faculty exceeded expectations because of the new venue.



Our deepest appreciation to the judges of the Chili Cook Off: Lana Wolff (left, foreground) – Arlington City Council Member – District 5; Dr. Alan Saxe (center foreground) – UTA, Political Science Department; and Kathy R. Kelly (right, foreground) – Executive Director, Fort Worth Chapter, Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants



Three legged races help burn off the calories after all the delicious chili consumed during the annual BAP & AS Chili cook-off.



Alumni Update

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

News About You: \_\_\_\_\_  
[recent \_\_\_\_\_  
promotions, \_\_\_\_\_  
professional \_\_\_\_\_  
attainments, etc.] \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_  
for future \_\_\_\_\_  
articles (who \_\_\_\_\_  
or what would \_\_\_\_\_  
you like to \_\_\_\_\_  
read about?) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to support the Department of Accounting.

I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_/pledging an amount of

- \$10,000     \$5,000
- \$2,500     \$1,000
- \$500        \$100
- \$50     Other

*My employer matches donation:*  
Yes  No

- I would like my gift to be used to:
- provide for faculty development
  - provide for technology
  - provide for scholarships for qualified and deserving students
  - provide for general support for the Department of Accounting
  - other (please designate) \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to the University of Texas at Arlington Department of Accounting and include an indication of the purpose for which the gift is intended:

Return this form and/or your check to:  
Dr. Chandra Subramaniam, Department Chair  
Department of Accounting  
Box 19468  
Arlington, Texas 76019

To make a gift online and for additional information if you prefer to make a gift by check, please click here: <http://www.uta.edu/giving/givenow.php>

**LET US HEAR FROM YOU**

Please take the time to complete the Alumni Update form provided on this page. Alumni information we report depends greatly on feedback received from each alumnus regarding developments in his/her life and career. Also give us ideas on how we might improve future newsletters. If there is insufficient space on the form to make all of your comments, feel free to include an additional page(s) and extend your remarks.