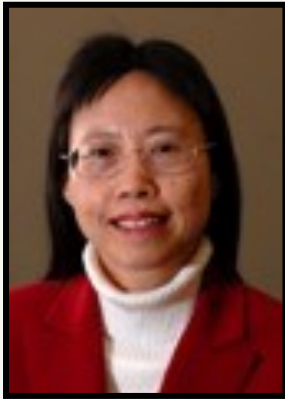


UTA DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING NEWSLETTER

SPRING, 2015

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR



DR. L.C. JENNIFER HO

Dear UTA Accounting Alumni and Friends:
Hello and best wishes from your UTA Accounting Department!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Spring, 2015 edition of the UTA Department of Accounting newsletter. We have completed another successful spring semester and academic year. Please allow me to share with you some of the highlights of the semester just concluded. In the spring 2015 commencement ceremony, we awarded 66 students the BBA/BS in Accounting degree while 26 students received the MPA/MS in Accounting and 7 students received the MS in Tax degree.

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Each year the Accounting Departments of UTA and TCU co-sponsor a Distinguished Accounting Speaker series. In early February of this semester, we were pleased to host the renowned accounting researcher and educator, Dr. Katherine Schipper of Duke University. Dr. Schipper spent her day on the UT Arlington campus interfacing with our PhD. students and faculty. In the evening, Dr. Schipper spoke to a combined gathering of UTA and TCU students, faculty, and guests. The title of Dr. Schipper's presentation was "The Aftermath of IASB-FASB Convergence Efforts". Following her remarks, Dr. Schipper participated with faculty representatives from UTA, TCU, and UNT in a panel discussion.

Our annual Spring Scholarship Banquet was held April 17, 2015. During the evening's activities, we awarded more than 50 scholarships worth approximately \$55,000 to our high-achieving students. We take pride in all of our accounting students and congratulate all the award winners. Winning these competitive awards is a testament to their hard work, leadership, and dedication to excellence. The keynote speaker for the awards banquet was Ms. Sherri Elliott-Yearly, an author, speaker, coach and trainer on the multi-generational workforce. The subject of her address was "Bridging the Generational Gap".

The UTA Department of Accounting has a long-standing tradition of faculty excellence in both research and teaching. Continuing our tradition of excellence, at the College of Business Spring Faculty and Staff Meeting in May, several Accounting faculty members were recognized for their outstanding service during the academic year. Those

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR *cont'd*

receiving awards and recognition were: Carly Andrews, Outstanding Adjunct Instructor Award; Dr. Bin Srinidhi, Outstanding Research Publication Award; Dr. Don McConnell, Distinguished Professional Publication Award; and Dr. Jeff Tsay, Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award. Additionally, Dr. Nandu Nagarajan was recognized for his continuing research endeavors. Pam Wheaton, the Department of Accounting Administrative Assistant was honored with an Outstanding Maverick Award 2014-2015. We congratulate these dedicated members of our Accounting Department family for their continued efforts on behalf of our students and the department.

This year's fifth annual CPE Day for Alumni and other accounting professionals will be held on August 20, 2015. At last year's event, we experienced our largest attendance to date, with approximately 185 attendees. Again this year, our expanded session offerings will be facilitated by a diverse mix of outstanding guest speakers. We will also host a networking event in the Hospitality Suite in College Park at the conclusion of the day. We hope you will mark your calendars for August 20th and join us.

The academic year of 2015/2016 will mark the 50th anniversary of UT Arlington's College of Business. In conjunction with our annual chili cook-off, the Accounting Society and the Department of Accounting is planning a special two-day event to help the College celebrate its 50 year milestone. The event will begin with a 60's band on Friday night, October 30th, at the deck area in the College of Business building courtyard, and will continue with the chili cook-off on Saturday, October 31st. We will be sending out information to our alumni and other friends of the department as the dates get closer. We hope you will be able to join the celebration with us.

As always, we appreciate you...our alumni and friends. Your support, both financial and otherwise, is critical to our continued success. Our sincere thanks to each of you who have reached out to support UTA Accounting!

We would love for you to continue to stay connected with UTA Accounting by letting us know where you are and what you are doing. At the end of this newsletter is our "Alumni Update" form. If you have had a professional change, or a promotion or if you have not previously connected with us, please fill in the information on the form and email it to accounting@uta.edu. Thank you for your interest and support of UTA Accounting.

SAVE THE DATES

**5TH ANNUAL UTA CPE DAY
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 2015**

**CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE UT ARLINGTON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
& THE ACCOUNTING SOCIETY ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF
OCTOBER 30 & 31, 2015**

ALUMNI NEWS

NEW JOBS & PROMOTIONS

Brook Aslin (MSA '13) is a Senior Accountant at Capacity Energy. LLC.

Curtis J. Berchtold (BBA '91) is joining Pinnacle Airlines Corp. as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

Candace Blair, CPA (MS-Tax '05) is now a Tax Partner at Sanford, Baumeister & Frazier, LLP.

Stephanie Bowman (BBA '87) was named CFO of BenefitMall.

Jacob Briggs, CPA (MPA '12) made Senior Accountant—Operations at Cash America.

Patrick Brooke (BBA '79) has been appointed as Chief Financial Officer to Bethel University.

Wayne Burgdorf (BBA '81) joined Coldwell Banker Commercial Alliance DFW as Vice President.

Christy Cardillo (MS '02) was named Partner for the CPA firm Shinn & Co.

Uma L. Datla (MPA '05) was promoted to Chief Accounting Officer for Approach Resources, Inc.

Elaine Hart, CPA (BBA '74) was named Chief Financial Officer for the City of Austin.

Carey Hendrickson (MBA '96) will assume the role of Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Belo Corp.

Adam Henning, CPA (BBA '08) joined J. Taylor as Assurance Manager.

Willie Houston (MBA '05) has joined Satori Capital as Chief Financial Officer.

Chiao Huang, CPA (MST '13) is a Tax Senior at Holthouse Carlin & Van Trigt, LLP.

Lauren Landivar, CPA, (MBA, MPA '11) is the new Senior Analyst/Assistant Manager at BNSF Railway.

Joseph Loretto (BBA '99) was named an Audit Partner, International Business Center Director for the Americas and Central Region, Grant Thornton LLP.

Sandy J. Martin (BBA '83) was appointed Chief Financial Officer at Entech Solar.

ALUMNI NEWS — cont'd

Michael J. Murray (BBA '88) was recently promoted to Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for D. R. Horton.

Cris Neely (BBA '79) has been appointed to Chief Financial Officer at ONE Holdings, Corp.

Victor Perez (MBA '80) has been named Glori Energy's Chief Financial Officer.

Daniel Reynolds (MS '13) was appointed VP and CFO and was named to the Board of Directors of Callaway's Nursery.

Kenneth Sanders, CPA (BBA '79) has joined AuldridgeGriffin PC as a Partner.

Benjamin Sparks (BBA '99) will be joining Shackelford, Melton, McKinley & Norton firm as Counsel.

John Stanbery, CPA (BBA '83) has joined AuldridgeGriffin PC as a Partner.

Chat York (BBA '87) is now the Chief Financial Officer of Saulsbury Industries.

ANNIVERSARIES

Josh Audi (MBA '11) has marked his 9 year anniversary at Catholic Charities of Fort Worth.

Vanja Djuric (MBA '07) had a 6 year anniversary with Djuric CPA, plc.

Tishia Jordan (BS '07) is celebrating her 4th anniversary with the City of Desoto.

Amber Marquez, CPA (BBA '06) had a 2 year anniversary at Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP.

Bud Patel (MBA) has been with Chase Paymenteck for 3 years.

Brian Smith (MBA '08) at Brake Check marked his 2 year anniversary.

Sue Ann Turner (BS '10) has been with Burnett Oil Co., Inc. for 5 years.

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES

Susan Anderson (Ph.D. '91) received the 2015 American Taxation Association/Deloitte Teaching Innovation Award.

John J. Checki, Jr., CPA, CFP, CRC (BBA '75) released a video describing industry best practices. The video and story were featured on Insurance News.Net.

ALUMNI NEWS — cont'd

Michael Clock (BBA '92) who is with Le Duff America, was awarded CFO of the Year, Restaurant Category, by the Dallas Business Journal.

Joan Cox (BA '80) who is with Head Start of Greater Dallas, was a finalist for the non-profit category for CFO of the Year, by the Dallas Business Journal.

Susan Drake (BBA '84) of the Kimball Art Museum was awarded CFO of the Year by the Fort Worth Business Press.

Jim Krause (BBA '87) of Higginbotham & Associates was honored as Fort Worth's top CFO for a mid-sized business.

Victor Perez (MBA '80) with Glori Energy was named finalist for the Houston Journal's CFO of the Year.

John Pinkerton (MPA '82) was named to the Board of Directors of Lonestar Resources, Ltd.

Dan Reynolds (BBA '85, MS '13) of Calloway's Nursery was awarded CFO of the Year by the Fort Worth Business Press.

Les Shuler (BBA '77) of Worthington National Bank was awarded CFO of the Year by the Fort Worth Business Press.

Jeanne Smith, CPA (BBA '92) was recognized as Great Women of Texas by the Fort Worth Business Press.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Each year, for over 10 years, the Departments of Accounting of UT Arlington and TCU have co-hosted a Distinguished Speaker Series. On February 6th of this year UTA was privileged to host the distinguished accounting researcher Dr. Katherine Schipper of Duke University's Fuqua School of Business as the speaker for this year's event. UTA Department of Accounting PhD. students and faculty members were privileged to spend the day with Dr. Schipper prior to her address that evening before approximately 275 UTA and TCU students, faculty and guests. The title of Dr. Schipper's presentation was "The Aftermath of IASB-FASB Convergence Efforts".

Dr. Katherine Schipper is the Thomas F. Keller Professor of Business Administration at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. Dr. Schipper holds a BA degree summa cum laude from the University of Dayton, MBA, MA and PhD degrees from the University of Chicago, as well as honorary degrees from Notre Dame University, the Norwegian School of Economics, the Stockholm School of Economics, and the Singapore Management University.

Prior to joining Duke University's faculty, she was a Board member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). She has also been a faculty member at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Chicago. Dr. Schipper has published research papers on a wide range of topics including financial reporting, corporation finance and corporate governance. She is a frequent speaker on matters related to international accounting convergence, financial reporting standard setting, and financial reporting quality. She has been named the American Accounting Association's Outstanding Educator and Distinguished International Lecturer, and has been elected to the Accounting Hall of Fame.

Dr. Schipper has served the American Accounting Association as Director of Research, as President, and as President of the Financial Accounting and Reporting Section. She is or has been a member of the governing boards of two public companies, a mutual fund and a not-for-profit entity.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Accounting Degree Review has ranked the University of Texas at Arlington's bachelor's degree in accounting as one of the most affordable in the nation. UT Arlington ranked 25th out of 170 institutions accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the organization founded in 1916 to accredit schools of business.

Dr. Rachel Croson, Dean of the UT Arlington College of Business, said the ranking is further recognition of the University's ability to offer the highest quality accounting education at an affordable price. "UT Arlington accounting graduates are in high demand. Our program's quality has been widely recognized. This additional ranking further confirms our position as one of the best options for students to consider," Croson said.



Rachel Croson, Dean of the
UT Arlington College of Business

Did you know that UT Arlington's Master of Science in Taxation program has ranked in the top 10 nationally for three consecutive years, according to Tax Talent.com.

Did you know that approximately 170 firms recruited UT Arlington accounting students during academic year 2014/2015?

Did you know that UTA accounting students contribute to our community by serving as volunteers for the Tarrant County United Way in the VITA program? Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) provides free income tax preparation for low income working families. By using VITA, families are able to maximize the deductions and credits available to them and avoid expensive tax preparation fees.

VITA also provides referrals for additional social, financial, and educational services. UTA VITA volunteers serve as intake specialists, tax preparers, and quality reviewers. Volunteers train for an average of 16 hours and become certified by the IRS using the VITA curriculum. VITA is one of the many ways that UTA accounting students contribute to the Arlington community in which we all live and work.

SPRING 2015 ACCOUNTING AWARDS BANQUET

On April 17th, Beta Alpha Psi and the Department of Accounting held the Spring 2015 Scholarship Awards Banquet. During the evening more than 50 scholarships worth in excess of \$55,000 were presented to UT Arlington accounting students. You will find a list below of this year's award recipients. We are very proud of our honorees for their hard work and academic excellence. We are also extremely grateful to the alumni and friends of the Department who so generously provide the resources that enable so many of our fine students to continue their education.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Ms. Sherri Elliott-Yearly, author, speaker, coach and trainer in the area of Human Resources and Talent Management. The subject of Ms. Yearly's remarks was "Bridging the Generational Gap".

Ms. Yearly's human resource management experience spans more than 20 years during which she has consulted with companies of all sizes ranging from start-ups to large global organizations. She has experience in all areas of human resource management.

Sherri graduated from the University of Alberta with a degree in Human Resource Management, and has also earned numerous professional certifications. She is also an International Coach Federation (ICF) certified executive coach. Ms. Yearly is commonly known as the "Generational Guru" because of her expertise in helping employees and employers bridge the generation gap in order to work more productively and achieve a competitive advantage in the marketplace. Ms. Yearly is an adjunct faculty member supporting Corporate Education programs at the University of Texas at Dallas.

STUDENT AWARDS

The following students received the five top awards for Accounting Excellence for the 2014-2015 academic year:

*Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants
Accounting Excellence Award*

Awardee: Jeremy D. Smeltz

*Federation of Schools of Accountancy
2015 Student Achievement Award*

Awardee: Kristen Scott

*Financial Executives Institute
Outstanding Student Award*

Awardee: Shilpa Shrestha

TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship

Awardee: Maureen Elizabeth Vignaux

*Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB)
Scholarship Award*

Awardee: Kristen Scott

SPRING 2015 ACCOUNTING AWARDS BANQUET - cont'd

2015 Departmental Scholarship Winners:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Adam A. Abdulmujeeb | Douglas P. Mann |
| Arsala Barakzai | Jordan H. Murillo |
| James R. Boutwell | Nikita Nathu |
| Tin-long Chan | Frederick D. O'Lenick |
| Xi Cheng | Antonio L. Pazo |
| William D. Covalt | Tyler Peschka |
| Quynh-Chau H. Doan | Kathryn A. Price |
| Priscilla Fredrickson | Kristen R. Scott |
| Charles P. Ganley | Rachel M. Shaffer |
| Ashraf Gilani | Jihyun Sim |
| Robert J. Gil | Jeremy D. Smeltz |
| Andres Godinez | Xiaoxiao Song |
| William R. Gough | Katelyn Sprinkle |
| Desiree R Grubbs | Yuetao Sun |
| Jessica L. Gullion | Forrest Taylor |
| Eszter Gyurgyak | Sanjok S. Timilsina |
| Mariah Halstead | Hieu Tran |
| Daliah M. Hamdan | Gabriel G. Trotta |
| Sihame Hamdane | Ngoc T. M. Truong |
| Gouwen Jiang | Filipe S. M. Vidal |
| Naoki Jitsuyama | Suye Wang |
| Vickie A. Karam | Xue Wang |
| Aaron M. Kauffman | Courtney Whitten |
| Vu D. Le | Hulyun Wu |
| Vanessa Lim | Marney Yu |
| Liliana Lopez | |

We are very proud of our scholarship awardees and, indeed, all of our UT Arlington Accounting students! We wish each of these students continued success as they pursue their degree.



The Tax Executives Institute Scholarship
Presented to
Douglas Mann, Kristen Scott, Katelyn Sprinkle, and Ashraf Gilani
Presented by
Mr. Jeffrey Fair and Mr. Mark Liniado

The Rueben and Mary Taniguchi Graduate Fellowship in Accounting
Presented to
Frederick D. O'Lenick, Jordan H. Murillo, and Courtney Whitten
Presented by
Mrs. Mary Taniguichi.

SPRING 2015 ACCOUNTING AWARDS BANQUET - cont'd



Texas Society of CPAs Accounting Excellence Award
Jeremy D. Smeltz



TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship
Maureen Elizabeth Vignaux



Federation of Schools of Accountancy
2015 Student Achievement Award
Kristen Scott



Accounting Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship
Xi Cheng



Financial Executives Institute Outstanding Student Award
Shilpa Shrestha



Bill Ross Endowed Scholarship
Sanjok S. Timilsina

*STUDENT ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES***ACCOUNTING SOCIETY**

The Accounting Society has had an active spring semester by helping mentor accounting students and by providing exposure to the variety of career opportunities available to our students.

The Society's Friday evening meetings included presentations by various professionals who represented both public accounting as well as other types of career opportunities for accountants.

The major event during the semester occurred on February 20, 2015 when the Accounting Society hosted its annual Firm Night event. Each year this evening provides an excellent opportunity for public accounting firms and other companies to share their unique opportunities with our accounting students while allowing our students to sharpen their networking skills. This year's event included representatives from twenty-five firms. More than one hundred fifty accounting students participated in the evening's activities.

Prior to the event, representatives of the UTA Career Development Center held several informational and coaching sessions with student-participants the purpose of which was to offer coaching advice on appropriate dress, resume preparation, and networking technique.

Firm Night 2016 will be held on Friday, February 19, 2016. For more information please contact Terra McGhee at tcbrown@uta.edu.

Firm Night participating firms included:

Accountemps/Robert Half	Pickens, Snodgrass, & Koch
Auldridge Griffin	PMB Helin Donovan
Becker Professional Education	Price Kubecka
Crowe Horwath	PwC
Ernst & Young	Rylander, Clay, & Opitz
GM Financial	Salmon Sims Thomas
Grant Thornton	Sanford, Baumeister, & Frazier
HCVT	Snow Garrett Williams
Institute of Internal Auditors	Sproles Woodard
J Taylor & Associates	Travis Wolff
KPMG	Weaver
Lane Gorman Trubitt	Whitley Penn
Montgomery, Coscia, & Greilich	

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to each of the firms that participated in this year's Firm Night!

Lastly, a note of thanks and appreciation is due for the leadership provided by the slate of Accounting Society officers for the semester just concluded. Officers for the spring semester were:

President: Renato Ganoza	Treasurer: Chloe Huang
Vice President: Sihame Hamdane	Secretary: Derrick Angafor
VP Finance: Yvette Popal	Webmaster: Tara Prabhu
Controller: Paul Anderson	Faculty Advisor: Terra McGhee

*STUDENT ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES— cont'd***BETA ALPHA PSI**

Gamma Phi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi had a very successful spring semester. During the semester, representatives of Snow Garrett Williams, Travis Wolff, Whitley Penn and other accounting firms spoke to BAP members offering insights into beginning a career in accounting and advice about landing that first professional job. In February, BAP members were privileged to hear Mr. Dennis Whitley, Senior Vice President of the Institute of Certified Management Accountants (IMA) who spoke about careers in management accounting, the CMA certification, and the IMA's resources available to students and professionals. In March, a delegation of Gamma Phi Chapter attended the 2015 Southwest Regional Meeting of Beta Alpha Psi held at the Omni Hotel in Dallas. In April BAP along with the Department of Accounting hosted the Spring 2015 Scholarship Awards Banquet. It has been a busy spring semester.

The active semester just completed was, in large part, the product of the hard work and leadership of this semester's slate of officers. Our thanks and appreciation to this semester's officer group for their dedication to BAP. Beta Alpha Psi officers for the spring semester of 2015 were:

President: Kristen Scott

Vice President: Sarah DeVore

Secretary: Shilpa Shrestha

Executive Events Coordinator: Rachel Shaffer

Director of Fundraising: Renato Ganoza

Director of Membership Activities: William Gough

Director of National Reporting: William Covalt

Director of Multimedia: Jeremy Smeltz

Faculty Advisor: John Reppis

UTA'S ACCOUNTING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The UT Arlington Accounting Internship program plays a very important role in preparing UTA accounting students for success in their chosen careers. Students who have had the internship experience are sought-after by employers who recognize the benefits gained by adding to student's classroom knowledge with "real world" experience in an entry level accounting position. Additionally, many employers use the program as a means of observing and evaluating prospective future employees. Employers participating in the program range from public accounting firms to industrial and service firms. The internship program has become an important part of UT Arlington's accounting education.

From summer 2014 through spring 2015 ninety-three accounting students enrolled in the internship course, where they received college credit for real-world experience gained during an internship. Countless other students worked in internship positions over the year without electing to enroll in the course. Internships are offered by companies throughout the year, with spring being the most active season.

Internships may be for one semester or longer, can be in the summer, fall, or spring timeframe, and can be either part-time or full-time placements. There is a busy season option (spring) in which the student works full-time during the first half of the semester, and then returns to campus to take classes during the second half of the semester.

As noted above, a wide variety of employers recruit accounting students for internships. Public accounting firms range from the big four to single CPA firms and every size in between. In addition to public accounting, our interns serve companies in many industries, including oil & gas, defense & aerospace, transportation, financial services, real estate, manufacturing, retail, governmental, nonprofit, and education. For more information about employing a UT Arlington accounting student as an intern, please contact Terra McGhee at tcbrown@uta.edu.

SAVE THE DATES

**5TH ANNUAL UTA CPE DAY
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 2015**

**CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE UT ARLINGTON COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
& THE ACCOUNTING SOCIETY
ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF
OCTOBER 30 & 31, 2015**

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. L.C. Jennifer Ho, 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.