

# UTA DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2012

## GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR



**DR. CHANDRA  
SUBRAMANIAM**

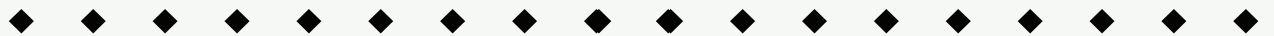
Welcome to the Summer 2012 edition of the UTA Department of Accounting newsletter. Last semester, I discussed with you in this newsletter about the success of the UTA accounting students highlighted in the most recent CPA Candidate Performance report (2010) from the National Associations of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). The performance of our graduate students was exemplary. This time I am proud to announce the recognition of Department of Accounting faculty by the College of Business (COB).

During the COB 2012 spring meeting, several accounting faculty were recognized for their research, teaching and leadership. **Dr. Billy Brewster** was awarded the Distinguished Research Publication Award, and **Drs. Jap Efendi** and **Stephanie Rasmussen** were recognized as the Graduate and Undergraduate Teacher of the Year, respectively. In addition, **Prof. Richard Mark** was awarded the Lockheed Martin Community and Professional Leadership Award. In the two years it has been awarded by the College, it has gone to Accounting, showing the department's strong relationship and leadership of organizations in the community beyond academia. Additionally, **Dr. Lichin (Jennifer) Ho** and **Dr. Don McConnell** were named as Endowed Faculty Fellows funded through the Dean's Excellence Fund. More information on this is available on page 4.

We have also completed a successful 2012 Spring banquet on May 4. We were honored to have the **Honorable Glen Whitley** as our keynote speaker. Judge Whitley is the founding member of Whitley Penn, LLP, presides over the Tarrant County Commissioners Court, and was recently appointed to the Government Accounting Standards Advisory Council.  
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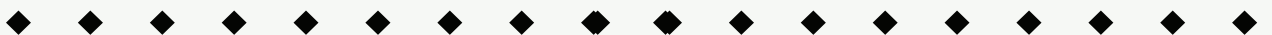
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## SAVE THE DATE

# UTA 2nd Annual CPE Day -- August 14, 2012

Click [here](#) for more details



*Faculty Publications 2011-2012 Academic Year*

**Brewster, Billy.** "How a Systems Perspective Improves Knowledge Acquisition and Performance in Analytical Procedures" The Accounting Review, Vol. 86, No. 3, 915-943.

**Efendi, Jap**, Smith, L. M. , and Wong, J. "Longitudinal Analysis of Voluntary Adoption of XBRL on Financial Reporting," International Journal of Economics and Accounting, Vol. 2, Issue 2, 2011.

Butler, J. B., **Henderson, Sandra**, and Raiborn, C. "Sustainability and the Balanced Scorecard: Integrating 'Green' Measures into Business Reporting," Management Accounting Quarterly, (forthcoming Winter 2011).

**Hall, Tom, Pierce, Bethane** and **Tsay, Jeff.** "How to Improve Audit Sampling Efficiency with the Excel Solver," Internal Auditing 26 (May/June 2011): 23-31.

**McConnell, Donald** and Brown, R.,. "Fraud Around the Clock," Internal Auditor, " (December 2011): 67-70.

Cassell, C.A., Drake, M.S., and **Rasmussen, Stephanie J.** "Short Interest as a Signal of Audit Risk." Contemporary Accounting Research Vol. 28, No. 4, 1278-1297, 2011.

Khallaf, A. and **Skantz, Terrance.** "Does the Firm Long-Term Performance Improve Following the Appointment of the CIOs?," International Journal of Accounting Information Systems, Vol. 12, No. 1, 57-78, 2011.

**Subramaniam, Chandra** and **Tsay, Jeff**, "Mandated recognition of employee stock option expense – The case of Canada" Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting, Vol. 23, No. 1, 62-91, 2012

**Subramaniam, Chandra** and Park, JinDong, "The effect of executive option repricing on managerial risk-taking" Journal of the Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies, (forthcoming)

*Alumni News*

**Elaine Hart ('74 B.B.A.)** was appointed Austin's Chief Financial Officer in April 2012 after a nationwide search for candidates. Hart has more than 30 years of experience in the financial industry, and 20 with the City of Austin. She most recently served as Senior Vice President of Finance and Corporate Services for Austin Energy, and previously served as Director of Financial Services, Controller and Deputy City Auditor for the City of Austin. She is a licensed Certified Public Accountant in the State of Texas.

**Candace Blair ('05 MS Tax )**, CPA was promoted to Tax Manager at Sanford, Baumeister & Frazier, LLP in June 2012.

**Drew Chumley ('10 MSA)** achieved his CPA certification. He works as a Fund Accountant at Oak Hill Advisor, L.P.

**Angelia Moss ('89 BBA)**, CPA joined Sanford, Baumeister & Frazier, L.L.P. as an Audit Partner. She was formerly the Audit Department Head and partner at Travis Wolff, a regional accounting firm. She has also served at Grant Thornton and KPMG.

**Sabrina Wells ('06 MSA & '04 BBA)** is now controller at Mesa Well Servicing LP. She was previously a Audit Senior at Whitley Penn.

*In Memoriam*

Susan Faye (Sellers) White, 41, of Fort Worth, died on Sunday, April 15, 2012. Susan was born and raised in Fort Worth, graduated high school as valedictorian in 1988 from Lake Country Christian School, and received a B.B.A in Accounting from UTA in 2008. While at UTA, Susan was a member of both Accounting Society and Beta Alpha Psi. Susan was an Associate Auditor for Rylander, Clay and Opitz. Throughout her life, she was a vital member of the DFW Metroplex as a mother, teacher, and auditor. We extend our sincerest condolences to her husband of 21 years, Allan Scott White, their three children, River, Robyn and Elizabeth, and her extended family, friends and colleagues as they adjust to a new life without Susan.

He is also the immediate past president of the National Association of Counties, and was named the 2010 County Leader of the Year by *American City and County* magazine. More than 30 highly qualified and deserving students received scholarships. On May 13, we also celebrated our first Commencement ceremony at the new College Park Center. More than 100 students were awarded degrees. It was a spectacular celebration of achievement, shared by our newest alumni together with their family and friends.

As you know, we have been working for several years to identify the right person to receive the Chuck Carlock Endowed Professorship. We believe we have found the right person. Starting in the Fall, **Dr. Bin Srinidhi** will join us as the Carlock Endowed Professor. He is currently the Chair Professor of Accounting at the City University of Hong Kong. Dr. Srinidhi graduated from Columbia University, and served in New York University, Rutgers University and Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He has publications in elite journals in accounting, management and decision sciences, and has been involved in consulting activities with Deloitte and Touche, Prudential Insurance Company, Duracell, and NYNEX, among others. His addition will definitely raise our research profile and provide guidance for our young research faculty and doctoral students.

I am also proud to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Free CPE Day for alumni. The event is set for August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the University Center. Please set your day aside for this event. We expect to continue offering four hours of Ethics for all alumni who need it, and another 7 hours of additional CPEs. Please highlight this event at UTA to your friends and co-workers. The event will feature **Dave Salsberry** (Executive VP and CFO of JPS Health Network), **Rahul Gupta** (FASB Practice Fellow), **David Woodcock**, (Director of the SEC Ft. Worth office), **Steven Hanebutt** (Principal at Sales Tax Specialists of Texas), **Lourdes Ramboa** (Principal Consultant and owner of Workforce Development Solutions), **Mitch Sowards** (Founder and Consulting Service Mgr, Entrust Technology Consulting Services), **Brian Reed** (Partner, Weaver, LLP), **Eugenio Alemán** (Director and Senior Economist, Wells Fargo), **Jeffrey Matthews** (Vice President, CRA Associates), **Richard Mark** (Associate Professor, UTA) and **John Repsis** (Senior Lecturer, UTA).

This event will be held in the E.H. Hereford University Center on the campus of the University of Texas at Arlington at 300 W. First. St., Arlington 76019. Parking is free in Lot S47 immediately south of the Business Building, and in the new College Park parking garage east of the University Center. Registration forms will be sent separately. Look for them in your email soon.

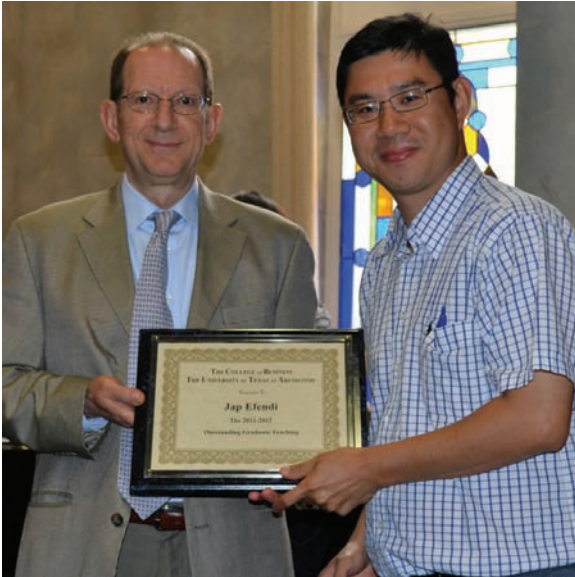
As I close this letter, I want to thank those who have contributed to our campaign to raise funds for the Endowed Graduate Scholarship in Accounting. For those who are able to contribute, this is a great opportunity to invest in education at UTA, especially with a Maverick grant matching your dollars. Please 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.



David C. Salsberry, Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer for JPS Health Network spoke to the Governmental Accounting classes (ACCT 4325 & ACCT 5320) about his experiences working in governmental healthcare. His insight into the importance of the budget and reporting processes gave students a glimpse of what the future may hold for them. The Q&A that followed sparked some candid discussion. We hope Mr. Salsberry will return to campus again.







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On April 20, Dean Dan Himarios presented annual awards for faculty and staff in the College of Business. The following awards were announced during the college’s spring faculty meeting and the Accounting Department was well represented. **Outstanding Graduate Teaching** Dr. Jap Efendi, Assistant Professor of Accounting (pictured above left). **Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching** Dr. Stephanie Rasmussen, Assistant Professor of Accounting (pictured above right) **Distinguished Research Publication Award** Dr. Billy Brewster, Assistant Professor of Accounting (pictured below left) **Lockheed Martin Community & Professional Faculty Leadership Award** Prof.. Richard Mark, Associate Professor of Accounting (pictured below right). **Recipients of summer research stipends:** Dr. Billy Brewster, Assistant Professor of Accounting and Dr. Stephanie Rasmussen, Assistant Professor of Accounting . **Recipients of endowed faculty fellowships:** Dr. Don McConnell, Associate Professor of Accounting and Dr. Li-Chin Ho, Professor of Accounting . Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the Department of Accounting, the University, the community and the accounting profession.



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*VITA & UTA*

Accounting students from UTA serve as volunteers on behalf of low-income families of Tarrant County in the VITA program run by Foundation Communities of Arlington and Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fort Worth. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) provides free income tax preparation for these hard working families. By using VITA, families are able to have their tax returns prepared at no cost.

UTA VITA volunteers almost exclusively staff the Arlington center, serving as intake specialists, tax preparers, and quality reviewers. Volunteers train for an average of 16 hours and become certified by the IRS using their VITA curriculum. In 2010, we had 19 students volunteer for more than 350 hours. In 2011, we had 41 volunteers work almost 900 hours. In 2012, we had 19 volunteers work almost 266 hours.

We would like to thank two of our outstanding volunteers from 2012. Hahn Nguyen volunteered 52.5 hours and Magarita Luna volunteered 26.5 hours. Training for the 2013 season will begin this fall at UTA and the VITA center will open in February. If you would like to volunteer please contact John Repsis at [JSRepsis@uta.edu](mailto:JSRepsis@uta.edu) for more information.

*2012 Spring Accounting Banquet*

The Department of Accounting and Beta Alpha Psi held their annual banquet on May 4<sup>th</sup> to recognize scholarship recipients and enjoy an evening of dinner with the Accounting Department Advisory Board, faculty and invited guests. The Honorable Glen Whitley, Tarrant County Commissioners Court Judge was the keynote speaker. Judge Whitley is a member of the Governmental Accounting Standards Advisory Council and a Partner with Whitley Penn. More than \$30,000 was awarded to 34 students. In addition to monetary awards, students were recognized for outstanding achievements. The Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Accounting Excellence Award was presented to Jorge Minetto; the Federation of Schools of Accountancy Student Achievement Award was presented to Deepak Silwal, and the Financial Executives Institute Outstanding Student Award was presented to Taraz Yazhari.



Advisory Board President, Jeff Slate (left) visits with Interim Dean David Gray (center) and Patricia Gray (right) before the start of the banquet.



Honorable Glen Whitley (above) delivered an inspiring address at the 2012 annual banquet.



Faculty members, Terra McGhee (left) and Melanie McGee join in the celebration of the accomplishments of our students and scholarship awardees.





The Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Accounting Excellence Award was presented by Judge Glen Whitley (right) to Jorge Minetto (center) along with Dr. Subramaniam (left).



The Federation of Schools of Accountancy Student Achievement Award was presented by Judge Glen Whitley (right) to Deepak Silwal, (center), along with Dr. Chandra Subramaniam (left).



The Financial Executives Institute Outstanding Student Award was presented to by Judge Glen Whitley (right) to Taraz Yazhari (center), along with Dr. Chandra Subramaniam (left).

*2012 Spring Accounting Banquet*

**Accounting Excellence Awards**

Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants  
Accounting Excellence Award  
**Jorge Minetto**

Federation of Schools of Accountancy  
2012 Student Achievement Award  
**Deepak Silwal**

Financial Executives Institute  
Outstanding Student Award  
**Taraz Yazhari**

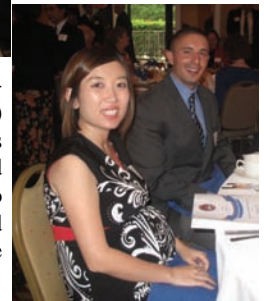
**Recognition**  
TSCPA Accounting Education  
Foundation Scholarships  
**Amber Nguyen**  
**Deepak Silwal**  
**Taraz Yazhari**

**Departmental Scholarship Awardees**  
Pratibha Adhikari  
Taiba Sheerin Ahmad  
Opeyemi Akinlade  
Whitney Alblinger  
Susant Baskota  
Darron Davis

- Alnawaz Devani
- Daniela Dimayuga
- Vi Dinh
- Gregory Garza
- Susan Houghtalini
- Mary Huning
- Paul Isham
- Jason Jiao
- Rachel Jones
- George Karam
- Aaron Kauffman
- Yuping Liu
- Michael Lott
- Rino Manfroni
- Monica Mirea
- Elyse Morris
- Brittany Nguyen
- Shalyn Redding
- Tammy Reed
- Daniel Robinson
- David Rodriguez
- Lorena Russell
- Tania Sederdahl
- Deepak Silwal
- Chiao Smith
- Karen Stailey
- Kamala Timalshina
- Joyce Williams



Awardees share the excitement of receiving a scholarship (left) for their hard work and dedication to the coursework required for their chosen degree plan.



Awardees enjoy the celebration (right and below) of their achievements earned by their hard work and dedication to the coursework required for their chosen degree plan.



Congratulations to all for your dedication and hard work! The UTA Accounting Faculty wish you continued success in your future endeavors.

# BAP Regional Meeting 2012



On March 2 and 3, Gamma Phi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi at UTA attended the fraternity's Regional Meeting in San Antonio. In attendance were President Ziad Syed, Vice-President Andrea Markovic, Treasure XinXin Lao and Director of National Reporting Aman Shrestha, as well as faculty adviser John Repsis.

The meeting featured not only many educational sessions, but also the opportunity to meet students from other universities in the Southwest Region. Our Chapter won second place in the Best Practices: Out of the Box competition by presenting on the use of the annual chili cook-off as a networking event for the students, accounting firms and accounting faculty. The presentation was made by President Ziad Syed and Vice-President Andrea Markovic.

BAP President Ziad Syed (above) making his award winning presentation at the BAP Regional Meeting in San Antonio



BAP Officers and Faculty Advisor at the Regional Meeting in San Antonio (Pictured from left to right: Director of National Reporting Aman Shrestha; Faculty Advisor John Repsis; Vice-President Andrea Markovic; Executive Event Coordinator Linh Tran; Treasurer Xin Xin Liao; and President Ziad Syed.)



BAP Vice-President Andrea Markovic (above) making her award winning presentation at the BAP Regional Meeting in San Antonio.

This summer, the Chapter will attend the annual national meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. The 2013 Southwest Regional Meeting will be in Dallas.



BAP President Ziad Syed, Vice-President Andrea Markovic, and Faculty Advisor John Repsis (pictured above) are presented with the Second Place award in the Best Practices: Out-of-the Box Competition for Social Networking by Scott McQuillan, BAP Competition judge.



BAP Officers and Faculty Advisor attending the BAP Regional Meeting in San Antonio pose with their Second Place Award for Best Practices: Out-of-the-Box Competition.



*Corporate Connections*



FBI Special Agent Vicki L. Marwood (pictured at right) explains to a joint meeting of BAP and the Accounting Society students (pictured at left) the important role which accountants in the FBI play in law enforcement. FBI training and recruitment were also discussed.



A representative from KPMG, Rachel Daniel (MPA '09), (pictured at left) shared with BAP members the characteristics that firms look for in students during the interview process. During the presentation she shared valuable information that covered everything from dressing for the interview to tips for building a winning resume. Several other members of the KPMG Fort Worth Office also attended and answered students' questions (pictured at right).



Triumph Group, Inc/Vought Aircraft representative Jesse James (pictured at right) discussed the opportunities the aerospace industry has for students during one of the Accounting Society meetings. The future and opportunities of the company were also discussed. Members of Accounting Society (pictured at left) were recognized for outstanding service and involvement in the organization. Each person recognized volunteered and played a key part in making Accounting Society a success.





# Firm Night 2012



Accounting Society Officers and Advisor, Terra McGhee (pictured left) along with Accounting students (pictured right) enjoy networking with DFW accounting firms



Representatives from Sanford Baumeister & Frasier (pictured left) and Weaver (pictured right) share their insights about working in the accounting profession.



Representatives from Ernst & Young (pictured left) and PSK, LLP (pictured right) speak with students about career opportunities working in the accounting profession.



The Accounting Society hosted its annual Firm Night on February 12, 2012. More than 100 students attended, dressed in their professional best with resumes at the ready. Also in attendance were 13 accounting firms and other organizations who are interested in our students for internships and entry-level accounting positions. Firm Night is an excellent chance for accounting firms and our students to meet and learn more about each other. Thank you to all of the firms who participated.



*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	mconnell@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
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*



Many thanks to our volunteer judges, Joe Foster, PSK, Kim Saunders of TSCPA and Dr. Alan Saxe, UTA distinguished professor, for their hard work at the Fall 2011 cook-off

**Chili Cook-off**

Fall is right around the corner and that means we'll be gearing up for our Annual Chili Cook-off! This fall we are moving the event back to campus. Come join us to see what's new on the UTA campus and participate in this fun, family-focused event. It's a great chance to catch up with firms, alumni, students, faculty and accounting professionals in a casual setting. There will be prizes, games, competitions, and of course, chili. Firms and organizations are encouraged to join the competition for the coveted Best Chili award. Spectators are invited to bring the kids along to enjoy the chili and the festivities. Email Terra Brown McGhee at [tcbrown@uta.edu](mailto:tcbrown@uta.edu) for more information. We hope to see you on November 3, 2012

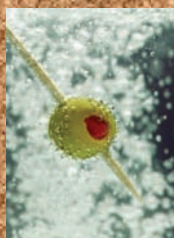


**REMEMBER THE MOVIE  
"COCKTAIL" ?????**

**Come watch the accounting faculty & alumni as they shake their shakers, uncork their spirits & pour it all out!**

**Join us on Tuesday October 16 for UTA Accounting Alumni "Celebrity Bartending"**

**GRACE  
777 Main Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
5-7pm  
Cash Bar, but FREE appetizers!**



Picture d (right) are members of the Weaver, LLP team, unanimous winners of the Best Theme and Best Chili Name for their Udderly Awesome Chili in Fall 2011.





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.