

Footnotes

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

Eller COLLEGE OF
MANAGEMENT
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

From the Department Head



*Dear Alumni and
Friends of the
Department,*

*This past year has
been an exciting time
for our department.*

*As you will see when
reading this newsletter, our students are
more involved and successful than ever,
our faculty continues to shine in research
and teaching, and all levels of our pro-
gram continue to grow. Demand for our
high-quality graduates is still strong and
the placement rates reflect this.*

*In January 2008, we were notified of
the successful results of the AACSB ac-
creditation review for our undergraduate,
master's, and doctoral programs. This
external review provided an opportunity to
highlight our strong programs and com-
mitment to continuous improvement. Rec-
ognition by the AACSB helps ensure that
the degree you earned at The University
of Arizona will continue to carry a strong
reputation in the business community.*

*As always, generous gifts of time,
expertise, and money from alumni and
friends are critical to our success. We
sincerely appreciate your efforts to help
us maintain the quality and reputation
of our program through being involved
with our student organizations, speaking
in classrooms, recruiting our students,
and making financial contributions. If
you have ideas on how to continue to
enhance the reputation of our program
and the quality of our graduates, please
do not hesitate to contact me. We look
forward to your future involvement with
our department.*

Thank you,

*Dan Dhaliwal
Lou Myers Professor of Accounting
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DID YOU KNOW?

*Fifty-five percent
of 2007/2008
Eller accounting
graduates remained
in Arizona.*



IN MEMORIAM

A long time member of our faculty, Professor Emeritus Dee L. Kleespie, passed away in September 2008. From 1962 – 1988, Professor Kleespie was a valuable member of the Department of Accounting. We will always be grateful for his contributions to our program.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



◀ **Judi Doing** recently retired from her position as Associate Department Head and Senior Lecturer after 14 years of dedication to The University of Arizona's Accounting program. Judi's passion for accounting and her willingness to assist students in their academic career will be sorely missed.

▶ We are proud to announce that Professor of Accounting **Leslie Eldenburg** was appointed Vice Dean of the Eller College for a three year term effective fall 2008.



◀ **Katie Cordova**, Accounting lecturer, was recognized as the Don Wells Outstanding Faculty Member for spring 2008. Katie was named the Director of Undergraduate Programs in Accounting, effective fall 2008. The department is grateful to have her on board in this position.



◀ **Kirsten Cook**, Assistant Professor, joined the Accounting faculty in August 2008. He completed his Ph.D. at Texas A & M. Kirsten teaches the Introduction to Federal Taxation class. We are proud to have Kirsten join our department as he has been honored with several distinctive awards, written multiple published articles (and is currently working on many others), given numerous conference presentations, and accumulated valuable experience. Kirsten is also affiliated with many professional organizations including the American Accounting Association, American Taxation Association, and National Tax Association.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ph.D. student **Landon Mauler** and his wife Melissa celebrated the birth of their first child, Austin Dennis, on September 11, 2008.

Adjunct lecturer **Amy Geile** and her husband Greg welcomed the arrival of their fourth child (third son), Gatlin K. Geile, on October 15, 2008 at 3:23 p.m.

And just over six hours later, Ph.D. student **Ben Hoffman** and his wife Kara celebrated the birth of their first child, Eleanora Dawn, on October 15 at 9:45 p.m.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Undergraduate Program

Approximately 317 students are declared Accounting majors this semester. Forty-six students graduated in December 2007, 80 students graduated in May 2008, and 18 graduated in August 2008. Forty-eight students are expected to graduate this December.

Master of Accounting Program

There are 50 students enrolled in the master's program this fall. Of those, 11 began the program in spring 2008 and 32 this fall. Eleven students graduated last December, 21 graduated in May 2008, and 8 students are expected to graduate this December.

Ph.D. Program

The Ph.D. program has 14 students enrolled this semester. Dane Christensen, Curtis Hall, Dave Kenchington, and Landon Mauler entered the program this fall. Kristian Mortenson, Rohit Singh, Jason Smith, and Nate Stephens completed the program in May and August 2008. See the Alumni News section to learn their whereabouts.

ALUMNI NEWS

Nancy Meech (BSBA 1980) was presented the Eller College Associate of the Year Award in spring 2008.

Jason Smith (Ph.D. May 2008) accepted an Assistant Professor position at University of Nevada – Las Vegas. Congratulations to Jason and his wife, Lena, who gave birth to their son, Easton Jason, on March 21, 2008.

Nate Stephens (Ph.D. May 2008) accepted an Assistant Professor position at Utah State University. Nate and his wife, Kristie, celebrated the birth of their son, Joel Nathaniel, on April 28, 2008.

Kristian Mortenson (Ph.D. August 2008) accepted an Assistant Professor position at Oregon State University.

Rohit Singh (Ph.D. August 2008) accepted an Assistant Professor position at University of Wyoming.

Congratulations to **Tanya Rice** and **Roman Eskue** who were married on August 8, 2008. Both received their BSBA in May 2007 and Masters of Accounting in May 2008. Tanya is an auditor at Pricewaterhouse Coopers and Roman is an auditor at Ernst & Young.

Ron Butler was awarded the Outstanding Alumni of the Year for his success in the accounting industry along with his continuous

support of The University of Arizona through monetary contributions and recruiting efforts. Ron received his accounting degree from The University of Arizona in 1991, and has been actively involved in public accounting since his departure, starting with KPMG and later transferring to Ernst and Young. Ron is currently managing partner of the E&Y Phoenix office. Despite his busy schedule, he still sets time aside to attend Meet the Firms, BAP and ASA events, and Accounting Careers Day. He also devotes time to participate as a member in AICPA, ASCPA, and Financial Executives International meetings. Ron has therefore been recognized with this honor for his talent, persistence, motivation, strong ethical character, and loyalty to his university and firm (E&Y). We thank Ron for his consistent devotion and professionalism.

Alumni **Janeé M. Van Egmond** (#1 score), **Colin D. Malchow** (#2 score), and **Scott G. Moushon** (#4 score) were three of the top ten high scorers on the Arizona CPA exam in 2007. Janeé and Colin completed their Masters of Accounting at The University of Arizona in May 2007; Scott finished in December 2006. All three alumni also completed their undergraduate degrees in accounting at the UA. This is an amazing accomplishment considering both the difficulty of the exam and the immense number of participants.

NEW MAcc COURSES

The **Accounting Communications** class is focused on improving MAcc students' written and verbal communication skills through projects and assignments specific to the accounting profession. Topics include SEC filings content, board of directors/audit committee communications, investor relations, interfacing with non-accountants, and internal control evaluations. The class also covers interviewing, delivering feedback, persuasive messages, and diversity awareness.

The **Current Issues in Taxation** class addresses relevant topics in the tax profession that are not covered in depth in any of Eller's current MAcc courses. Tax subjects discussed include, state and local tax, sales and use tax, transfer pricing, and compensation plans. The class is facilitated by a UA faculty member and is taught by guest lecturers from the public accounting profession. The material highlighted in this course is intended to prepare tax students for the workforce through the diversification of their tax education.

ACCOUNTING CAREERS AWARENESS PROGRAM

Ernst & Young (E&Y) and The University of Arizona's Department of Accounting sponsored the fourth annual Accounting Careers Awareness Program (ACAP), which took place from June 1 – June 6, 2008. Twenty-nine high school juniors from across Arizona experienced what it was like to be part of the accounting profession and preview life as an Eller College business student.

The program is aimed at providing high school students from under-represented groups the opportunity to network with business professionals, and to learn about the many career paths in accounting. Throughout the weeklong event, students learn about accounting, marketing, and business planning, receive etiquette training from the resident assistants, visit the E&Y office in Phoenix, and tour the Desert Museum to learn about non-profit accounting. The program is facilitated by five or six resident assistants, one coordinator, and one professor,

all of whom are actively involved in the Department of Accounting (RA and coordinator positions are filled by current graduate and undergraduate accounting students). In addition, students develop a hypothetical business plan for a small organization that would sell food or beverages in the Tucson market.

To support their business proposal, each team conducts market research, determines the cost of raw materials and fixed assets, creates a budget, and projects financial statements. After performing a financial analysis and feasibility study, every team gives a presentation on their product to a panel of E&Y professionals. After judging the case competition, the panel awards each winning group member with a \$500 book scholarship pending their enrollment at The University of Arizona. For the last four years, the program has successfully provided early outreach through which talented students have been recruited to our accounting major.

HOMECOMING GOLF TOURNAMENT

In the fall of 2007, accounting professionals from across the state of Arizona participated in the annual Accounting Department golf tournament, sponsored by ASA and BAP. Last year was our largest year to date, with 36 professionals, 35 student golfers, 20 student volunteers, and six faculty members in attendance. The winners of the tournament received golf gifts while the other participants had the opportunity to win various prizes in an incredible raffle. A social time was added after the tournament to encourage networking. The 2008 event was held Homecoming weekend, October 24. We invite all alumni to participate in the 2009 tournament. Please contact the department if you are interested.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI

Take a moment to reflect on your experience with the Eller College of Management. What is it that you remember most? The classes where you developed the skills that you would later call upon in your professional life? The professors who mentored you and helped you realize your full potential? The friends who have become an integral part of your personal and professional network? The department-awarded scholarships or TA positions that lessened your financial burden?

Whatever it was that effected you the most, the result is a diploma from a highly-ranked program. The Department of Accounting is ranked 25th in the nation among public school programs and, to continue to excel, we rely on the generosity of our alumni.

It is the support we receive from alumni like you that allows us to continue to provide both rigorous academic work and relevant professional development opportunities for our current students. This support takes many forms – recruiting and hiring current students, participating in panel discussions for new Accounting majors, and making financial contributions. A donation of any amount helps the college to bridge the funding gap, and also helps the college in its nationwide rankings.

If you have contributed in the past, we appreciate your willingness to provide ongoing support for the program. If you have not contributed previously, we encourage you to consider a donation to help ensure future students receive the same high quality education as you. The amount you contribute is not as important as the act of contributing, and with a matching gift program offered by many employers, you can quickly double your donation! Be sure that your name appears in next year's newsletter on the donor list.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The **Accounting Student Association (ASA)** is a local, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting interest in the accounting profession. ASA has open admission to anyone who is interested in joining, regardless of year in school, or major. Membership dues are \$35 in the fall and \$40 in the spring (more in the spring due to the annual banquet). Every other week, accounting professionals are invited to speak about their firm, current events, and accounting as a career.

ASA also participates in many philanthropic events during the semester, some of which are held with recruiters. Specifically, ASA sponsors an annual golf tournament with Beta Alpha Psi, an event that allows members of both organizations to network with recruiters on the golf course. Events such as the golf tournament provide members with the opportunity to network with each other, as well as those already in the profession.

ASA is a great organization for those who want to get involved, but are only able to dedicate a small time commitment. Active members will range from freshmen to seniors, with most of the members in their sophomore and junior years.

Additional information for ASA can be found at the ASA website, www.uaasa.com, or by contacting Christine Chao, at cchao@email.arizona.edu.

ACCREDITATION REVIEW

Every five years the Association of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) performs an accreditation review of the Department of Accounting. In January 2008, the department was notified that our accreditation status was extended for an additional five years. In the final report, the accreditation team highlighted a number of strengths and effective practices of our department. Among these were a positive structure and atmosphere for all levels of faculty, and the Accounting Careers Day panel discussions hosted for all first semester juniors.

CONT. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) is a nationally recognized honorary organization for financial information students and professionals. Students must meet and maintain strict grade point average requirements to be eligible for membership.

The primary objective of Beta Alpha Psi is to encourage and give recognition to scholastic and professional excellence in the business information field. This includes promoting the study and practice of accounting, finance, and information systems; providing opportunities for self-development, service, and association among members and practicing professionals; and encouraging a sense of ethical, social, and public responsibility.

In 2008, The University of Arizona's chapter of Beta Alpha Psi was once again recognized nationally as a Superior Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi. On regional and national levels, members participated in the Beta Alpha Psi Regional Leadership Conference in Los Angeles and the Beta Alpha Psi National Community Service Day and Professional Conference in Anaheim, California. **Liana Barrett** was nominated and selected to compete in the Moss Adams Project Run-With-It Case Competition at the National Convention. Liana did an outstanding job representing The University of Arizona.

On a local level, members aided in numerous community service projects including the Special Olympics, Ronald McDonald House, Ben's Bells, the Tucson Community Food Bank, the Eller Philanthropy Project, and the Valley of the Moon Fundraiser. Departmental contributions included homework helps for ACCT 200 and 210, and exam reviews for ACCT 200. In addition to weekly professional events, including presentations by a variety of local, regional, and national accounting and finance firms, Beta Alpha Psi hosted its annual spring banquet and annual alumni golf outing.

STUDENT NEWS

Kristin Thayer, accounting and entrepreneurship double major, and **Aaron Gandara**, accounting major, were acknowledged as the Outstanding Accounting Seniors in May 2008 and December 2007, respectively. This prestigious award is based upon academic excellence, contribution to the accounting department, UA community and general public, and participation in extracurricular activities.

Alison Milco and **Jason Hipp** received the Academic Achievement Award in spring 2008 and fall 2007 (respectively) for outstanding academic performance. Alison is now employed at Deloitte & Touche in San Jose, CA. Jason joined the U.S. Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer.

Brianna Reams accepted the William B. Barrett Award in spring 2008 for her academic achievements and service to the college and its students.

Henry Brandt, **Melissa Bell**, and **Wiran Korala** received the ASCPA Scholarship for their outstanding academic accomplishments. All three of these students have recently entered the UA Master of Accounting program.

Aaron Gandara and **Trevor Goss** accepted the Ernst & Young Foundation Scholarships for their academic excellence and involvement with underrepresented communities such as Accounting Careers Awareness Program (ACAP) and the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA). Both students are currently enrolled in the UA Master of Accounting program.

Congratulations to **Alex Yanine**, **Nicholas Bracamonte**, **Nancy Hernandez**, **Noe Zepeda**, and **Maria Sierra** for presenting in the KPMG/ALPFA Audit Case Competition on behalf of The University of Arizona. This year the format of the competition was altered to focus on the business strategy and related accounting risks of a particular corporation rather than specific accounting topics. Presentations were held on August 11, 2008, at the JW Marriot in Scottsdale, Arizona. Although the team did not advance to the national competition, they did an extraordinary job representing The University of Arizona and the Accounting Department in the regional presentations. This team of motivated students was directed by an outstanding faculty member and leader, **Katie Cordova**.

James Chyz was awarded the Deloitte Foundation Doctoral Fellowship for 2008, which he will receive for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Linda Chen, **Grace Lee**, and **James Chyz** were all winners of the 2008 Eller College Doctoral Student Dean's Awards for the areas of research, teaching, and service, respectively.

Sonia Taylor and **Andrea Valdez** were both recipients of the Boeing Company Scholarship for their accomplishments within the Department of Accounting (fall 2007).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Arizona Accounting Benefactors

We are grateful to those who have made individual contributions and to employers who have matched individual gifts, given gifts in kind, or provided separate, designated grants. We would also like to encourage contributions by those of you who have been unable to give in the past.

Gifts to the Arizona Accounting Benefactors Club are divided into the following categories: (personal contribution, or personal contribution and employer match)

Platinum	\$3,000 or more	Bronze	\$500 – \$999
Gold	\$1,500 – \$2,999	Copper	\$100 – \$499
Silver	\$1,000 – \$1,499	Brass	up to \$99

We wish to thank the following individuals and employers for their contributions from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, as posted by The University of Arizona Foundation. If we have excluded you, or have not correctly acknowledged your contribution, please call the accounting department at (520) 621-2697 so we can correct any error in acknowledging your generosity.

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The Department of Accounting Needs Your Support

Throughout the year, our alumni, donors, staff, faculty, students, and corporate partners make countless contributions to the Eller College. These generous partnerships and commitments help us strengthen our mission, achieve excellence, and educate students.

As the College continues to advance and grow, we hope you will make a commitment to invest in the future of the Department of Accounting.

Your gift provides opportunities for our students and faculty that would not otherwise be available. For more information, or to make your pledge now, visit www.eller.arizona.edu/invest.

Yes! I/We would like to support the Department of Accounting as follows:

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I/We wish to make a tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to Eller College of Management DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

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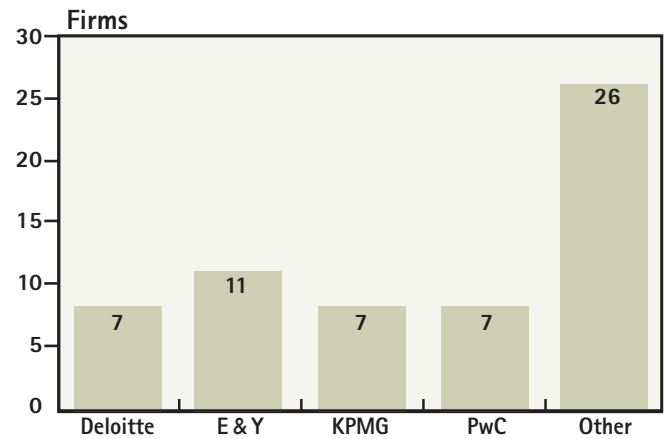
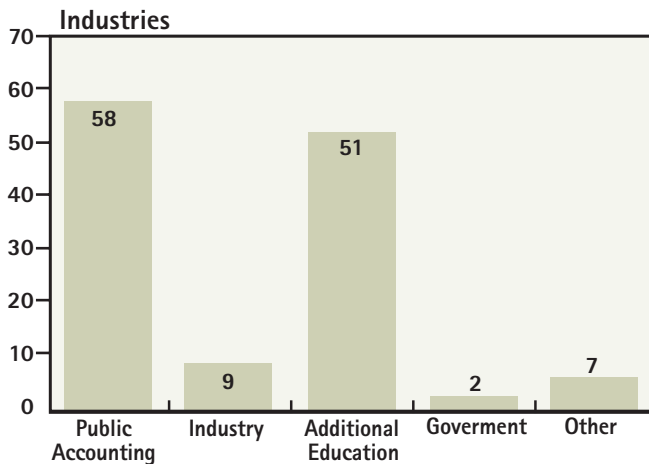
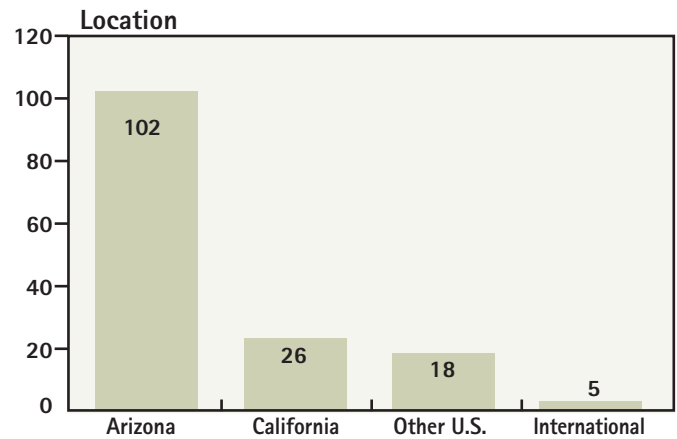
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 Tucson, AZ 85721-0108
 Phone: 520.621.2620
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 Email: accounting@eller.arizona.edu

www.accounting.eller.arizona.edu

WHERE DO OUR GRADUATES GO?

A survey of our December 2007,
 May 2008, and
 August 2008 graduates says...



These numbers do not reflect all Undergraduate and Master of Accounting graduates, just those reporting.

Where are you and what's new?

Please share news of your work, family, and adventures with us. We may include your news in future alumni notes. You can bring us up-to-date by emailing the department at accounting@eller.arizona.edu.