



ACCOUNTING

Illinois State University Department of Accounting

Footnotes

Matthew Carlson and Taylor Hassan receive EXCEL Awards

Matthew Carlson B.S./M.P.A. '08, and Taylor Hassan B.S./M.P.A. '08, were two of 16 EXCEL award winners at the May 2009 New CPA Banquet in Chicago hosted by the Illinois CPA Society. To receive an EXCEL award, an Illinois CPA candidate must complete all four parts of the CPA exam within two consecutive testing windows, achieve a total average score of 90 or higher, and be in the top 5 percent of the scores of those who completed all the requirements to be a CPA in 2008 in Illinois.

Carlson started his career with RSM McGladrey in their tax department. He attributes his success on the CPA exam to hard work and taking classes that prepared him for the exam. Carlson decided to do a self-study approach to prepare for the CPA exam by using Gleim materials. He focused on studying for the exam like it was a job, and

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(left to right) Matthew Carlson and Taylor Hassan

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From the chairperson

It is with pleasure that I reflect on and highlight a few of the department's programs, initiatives, and accomplishments. Department of Accounting students graduating with a master of science in accountancy or with an integrated bachelor of science/master of professional accountancy from Illinois State University once again achieved national recognition for their performance on the CPA examination. As reported in NASBA's 2009 edition of *Candidate Performance on the Uniform CPA Examination*, Illinois State students with advanced degrees earned the second highest pass rate in the nation on the REG section and the third highest pass rate on the BEC section on the 2008 CPA examination. The department achieved similar national recognition in each of the last four years.

Many are aware that the Illinois CPA Society recognizes new CPAs at an annual banquet in Chicago. Part of the recognition ceremony acknowledges outstanding individual achievement on the CPA examination with an Excel Award. The Excel Award is granted to new Illi-



Gerry McKean

nois CPAs who achieved a total average score of 90 or more, completed all four parts of the exam within two consecutive testing windows, and were in the top 5 percent of the scores of those who completed all the requirements in 2008 in Illinois. Department of Accounting graduates Matt Carlson and Taylor Hassan were recipients of 2009 Excel Awards.

The continued success of our program in this area is a tribute to the quality of our students and the department's outstanding faculty.

Speaking of outstanding faculty, Debbie Lindberg was also recognized by the Illinois CPA Society at the annual banquet. Lindberg was one of three professors who received the 2009 Outstanding Educator Award. The award recognizes Illinois educators at a community college, college, or university who have made continuous and outstanding contributions to accounting education in the state.

The department welcomed two full-time faculty members in August. In a very competitive market, the department was delighted Liesel Mitchell (University of Illinois) and Daniel Ames (Southern Illinois University/Duke University) selected

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Alum speaks at Business Week

Business Week 2009 was held March 30-April 3. Jim Tyree, chairman and CEO of Mesirow Financial, was the keynote speaker. In addition to the keynote speech, Business Week events included an ice cream social, networking dinner, mock interviews for students, and transition seminars. Transition seminars are intended to provide information to students to help them make a smooth transition to the business world. One accounting alum, **James Schlessler '74, M.S. '76**, gave a presentation, "Decoding generational differences: The business model of the future," to the Student Accounting Society, the Society for Human Resource

Management, and Beta Gamma Sigma. Schlessler is a tax partner with Deloitte in Washington, D.C. Thanks, Jim, for participating in Business Week.

Chicagoland Alumni

The Department of Accounting is hosting an alumni luncheon at the Illinois CPA Society's 30th Annual Midwest Accounting & Finance Showcase. The showcase is August 24-25, 2010 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont. Registration for the August 24 Alumni luncheon will be provided through the ICPAS show Web site and registration materials.

Illinois State University to begin their academic careers. Mitchell and Ames complement the current faculty in the areas of cost/managerial and financial accounting.

A successful career in accounting and business information systems begins with deep technical knowledge, ability to think critically, ethical reasoning, and research and communications skills. The department and college do an admirable job in each of those areas. In an effort to better prepare our students for job opportunities and to help them throughout their careers, the department has added professionalism as an

essential ingredient of accounting and business information systems education. Through discussions with the faculty and the department's Advisory Council, a professionalism workshop was developed. The professionalism workshop includes: resume writing, interviewing skills, technology etiquette (including social networks), importance of credit history, dressing for success, and dining etiquette. The professionalism program received excellent reviews from a pilot group of select accounting students this fall. Lindberg and Deborah Seifert have been instrumental in developing and presenting the professionalism program.

The department continues to enjoy strong relationships with alums and our

partner firms that support our programs and provide opportunities for our students. The retooling of the spring internship option for accounting students was successful in its initial offering last spring. Ninety percent of the students interning in spring 2009 as part of the Spring Internship Plan of Study received offers for full-time employment.

On behalf of the Department of Accounting, thank you for staying connected with the department. We appreciate your support in so many ways. The department is one of 171 accounting programs in the world with separate accounting accreditation from the premier accounting program accrediting agency, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). As part of our accreditation effort, it is essential that we periodically update the career success of our graduates. Please take a moment and complete the card on the back cover of the newsletter.

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation to the Department of Accounting Newsletter Committee (Linda Leinicke, Joyce Ostrosky, and Harlan Fuller) for another outstanding job in publishing the spring 2010 edition of *Accounting Footnotes*.

Warm Regards,



Gerry McKean

EXCEL Awards, continued from page 1

he forced himself to study five days a week during summer 2008.

Carlson chose to attend Illinois State based on a visit to campus and because he received a presidential scholar designation. He selected accounting as a major as he wanted to work in the field of business. Carlson has many fond memories of his days at Illinois State. He made many friends while on campus, and he still keeps in touch with his old roommates. They get together several times a year.

Carlson's advice for current accounting students is to work hard at your accounting studies, and find time to have fun. He also wanted to acknowledge all of his Illinois State professors that helped him with his accounting education and his family and friends that "put up with him" while he was studying.

Hassan didn't consider herself a big "math" person while in high school, but she took some accounting courses because she had friends enrolled in the classes. This accidental exposure to accounting ended up being the beginning of her accounting career. When it came time to go to college, Hassan chose to come to Illinois State and major in accounting.

She attributes her success on the CPA exam to several factors. First of all, Hassan believes the accounting classes and teachers at Illinois State provided her with a well-rounded education. Second, Hassan mentioned the importance of the Advanced Auditing class taught by Tom Craig. She related

how the students were required to memorize, word for word, the auditing standards and the auditor's standard reports. Although some students thought those requirements were crazy, Hassan said they were immensely helpful for the CPA exam. Third, she credits taking the Becker CPA Review course as being extremely helpful. She stated that the entire CPA exam process is rather overwhelming at first, but this course truly helped break it down piece-by-piece to make it a lot more manageable. In addition, she believed the practice questions and simulations allowed students to get a feel for how the CPA exam is structured. Therefore, she wasn't surprised when she sat for the actual exam.

Hassan's advice to students currently in the accounting program is to take a variety of accounting courses to get an idea of the areas of accounting in which you are interested. She also stressed that students need to study hard while taking their accounting classes because it makes it easier to study for the CPA exam. Finally, Hassan emphasized the importance of EXCEL skills. She stated that EXCEL will be your best friend in the workplace and that having really strong EXCEL skills will set you apart from other coworkers.

The Department of Accounting faculty and staff wish to congratulate Carlson and Hassan on earning an EXCEL award. This is an outstanding accomplishment!

New faculty



Daniel Ames

The accounting and business information systems faculty welcomes Daniel Ames and Liesel Mitchell.

Daniel Ames is an assistant professor of accounting. He earned a B.S. in accounting

from Brigham Young University, an M.A. in accounting from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in accounting from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Ames's first teaching experience was as a teaching assistant for a political science/economics course while at Brigham Young. He also has experience teaching introductory financial accounting, statistics for business majors, and intermediate financial accounting I and II. Ames loves to teach because of the opportunity it

provides to positively influence his students at an often critical stage in their lives.

Ames has worked closely with former FASB board member Katherine Schipper. His research interests include executive compensation, earnings management, and investor behavior. Ames and his wife, Erin, are the parents of five children, including newborn identical twin boys. He also volunteers at his church by mentoring teens.

Liesel L. Mitchell, CPA, CMA, is an assistant professor of accounting. She received her B.S. and M.B.A. in accounting from the University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM).

Mitchell's professional experience includes working as a staff accountant for a small CPA firm in Tennessee, serving as the senior accountant at Jimmy Dean Foods' Newbern facility, and owning her own tax practice for several years. She also



Liesel L. Mitchell

taught principles of accounting at UTM before pursuing her Ph.D. in accountancy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is working on her dissertation, which examines the internal drivers of

financial performance, within the context of the ethanol industry. She is teaching Accounting 230 Cost Accounting.

Mitchell also served 10 years in the Tennessee Army National Guard as an engineer officer. Her husband, Greg, continues to serve in the Illinois Army National Guard. Their son, Bryant, began kindergarten at Olympia West this year. Mitchell is active in her church where she serves on the trustee committee.

Faculty awards and promotions

Each year the Department of Accounting recognizes the contributions of its full-time faculty members in teaching, scholarly productivity, and service. In 2009, the department was pleased to recognize the following faculty members for their outstanding performance: **Matt Nelson**



Debbie Lindberg

(teaching and scholarly productivity), and **Keith Jones** and **Den Patten** (service).

In November 2009, **Debbie Lindberg** received the McGladrey & Pullen, Arthur H. Winakor Outstanding Teacher

Award. The recipient of this award is selected by a student vote.

Matt Nelson was promoted to associate professor and earned tenure. All promotions and tenure were effective August 2009.

Four faculty members win awards

Sally Fitzgibbons was one of 15 Illinois State faculty members to be honored as a 2009 outstanding professor. Her award was given by the Illinois State University Panhellenic Association.

Rosie Hauck received the 2009 Manahan Family Award for Teaching Excellence in the College of Business (COB). The recipient of this award is selected by a COB committee, and the award is based on the scope and quality of the applicant's teaching through the submission of his/her teaching portfolio. Hauck received this award at the COB Fall Faculty Conference on August 13, 2009.

Debbie Lindberg received an Outstanding Educator Award from the Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS). She was one of three Illinois accounting professors to receive this honor. Lindberg received her award on May 18, 2009, at the ICPAS New CPA Banquet in Chicago. The ICPAS Outstanding Educator Award recognizes accounting teachers at Illinois two-year community colleges and four-year colleges and universities who excel at teaching and leadership, and who have made outstanding contributions to the field of accounting education.

Debbie Seifert was one of three recipients of the ADM Faculty Fellows Awards from the College of Business.

Department of Accounting Professional Advisory Council 2009–2010

Sarah Bohnsack
McGladrey & Pullen

Jeffrey Bonick
Clifton Gunderson

Peter Borowski
COUNTRY Financial

Rocco D'Alessandro
NICOR Gas

Gregory Donovan
Afn Inc.

Bryan Eovaldi
General Credit Forms Inc.

William Erlenbush
GROWMARK Inc.

Jon Farney
State Farm Insurance Companies

Arthur Gutshall
Hartmarx Corp.

Scott Johnson
Illinois State University

Eric Loughmiller
ADESA Inc.

Miron Marcotte
Protiviti

Keith Martin
Plante & Moran

Gerry McKean
Illinois State University

Bradley Mitchell
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Mike Olson
State Farm Insurance Companies

Larry Schaedel
RSM McGladrey

Tom Schramm
EquaTerra

Kevin Sears
Caterpillar Inc.

Jacklyn Serafin
Family Christian Center

James Svab
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Jeff VanDeCastele
Deere & Company

Mary Ann Webb
Sulaski & Webb CPAs

John Wenzl
KPMG

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CPA Exam results

Illinois State students continue to excel on the CPA Exam. For calendar year 2009, the Illinois Board of Examiners reported the following pass rates for Illinois State students: auditing 58 percent; business 61 percent; financial 63 percent; and regulation 72 percent.

The Department of Accounting congratulates the following 50 Illinois State graduates who passed all four parts of the CPA examination in 2009, and who also passed the ethics exam. Due to the testing format, we may not be aware of everyone who passed the exam in 2009.

Nicholas Ajster	Daniel Loughrey
Matthew Bernardi	Meghan Lutes
Lindsay Biernacki	Thomas Lyons
Christopher Blood	Michael McAndrews
Vasudeva Bommareddi	Andria Moore
Caroline Clark	Devin Murphy
Rebecca Corlett	Michele Pagana
Caryn Cyrulik	Hiren Patel
Nicole Davis	Stephanie Petri
Ashley Dehm	Natalia Powers
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Michael Hansen	Christopher Schmidt
Brian Hays	Bethany Shaffer
Lyndsay Howell	Scott Stanley
Paul Huston	Scott Stombaugh
Bryan James	Jason Tomkinson
Jodi Johnson	Sarah Tristan
Chris Kostogiannis	Scott Vaughan
Ryan Legg	Jared Volk
Kimberly Lewis	Kathleen Washko
Thomas Longo	Kelly Waterstraat



New Beta Alpha Psi Officers: Front row (left to right): Steve Krug, Jessica Frechette, Brandy Tatum, Alyse Larsen. Back row (left to right): Mike Pidgeon, Tim Thorp, Ryan VanLanduyt

Student achievements, awards, and honors

The Department of Accounting is proud of the following students who have distinguished themselves academically as well as in campus and community activities.

Beta Alpha Psi is the national honors fraternity for financial information professionals. This includes accounting, finance, and information systems majors. Students in these majors who maintain a 3.0 grade point average and complete 30 credit hours are eligible for membership. The following accounting majors were inducted into Beta Alpha Psi in spring 2009: **Angelica Alday, Josh Balsman, Marie Bergsma, Kevin Crotteau, Whitney Farrell, Brian Flynn, Brooke Goodwin, Lindsey Johnson, Caleb Kelson, Mackenzie Lee, Aaron Marsh, Jonathon Mazzanti, Valerie Melrose, Charles Mueller, Kyle Newnam, Alyssa Schulz, and Alexander Schumm.** The fall 2009 inductees were: **Evan Casas, Michael Ford, Jessica Frechette, Eli Johnston, Steven Krug, Alyse Larsen, Michael Pidgeon, Brandy Tatum, Timothy Thorp, Brian Tornga, and Ryan VanLanduyt.**

Aaron Householter and **Jessica McCormick** were inducted into the Illinois State Chapter of Red Tassel/Mortar Board, a national senior honor society for men and women. Membership in this society is limited to approximately 50 Illinois State seniors who are selected for membership based on scholarship, leadership, and service to the University and community.

Beta Gamma Sigma is the national business scholastic honor society. Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is one of the highest scholastic honors a student in a school of business can obtain. To be inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, a student must rank in the upper 7 percent of their junior class, upper 10 percent of their senior class, or upper 20 percent of master's degree recipients in the College of Business at Illinois State. The following accounting majors and BIS majors were inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma in spring 2009: **Joshua David Balsman, Lauren Elizabeth Butler, Rocco James DiBenedetto, Robert Lawrence Dzike, Brian Robert Flynn, Bryan Adam Geuther, Jonathan David Goodyear, Ashley Krista Greenaway, Jaclyn Elizabeth Haas, Steven Michael Hempel, Jackie Lynn Hilgendorf, Joseph Edward**



(left to right) Chris Jodlowski and Linda Leinicke



(left to right) Mieczyslaw Swiatkowski and Joyce Ostrosky



Becker CPA-review course scholarship winner Matt Bernardi (center) with Professor Debbie Lindberg (left) and Becker representative Susanne Doran (right)

Keavy, Alyssa Ryan Kettleborough, Nicole Elizabeth Kitto, Michael Philip Laier, Salvatore Michael Licata, Aaron Michael Marsh, Lisa Lynn Martin, Andrew P. McNamee, Brian Taylor Reller, Debra Lynne Shaw, Matthew Ryan Simms, Garret Lee Spiek, Kristen Elizabeth Spychala, Timothy Michael Thorp, Blake Garrett Tobeck, Jared Ryan Volk, Benjamin Thomas Wojdygo, and Jessica Sue Young.

Valerie Melrose was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship from the Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS). She is the second Illinois State University ICPAS Student Ambassador. Melrose will speak to accounting classes, individual students, and student organizations about the ICPAS, as well as announce ICPAS student scholarships. At least once per semester, she will conduct an ICPAS student membership drive. In addition, Melrose was awarded a \$2,000 Margaret Wakeley Scholarship from the Women's Division of the McLean County Chamber of Commerce, as well as a \$1,500 Margaret Keldie Scholarship sponsored by the Chicago Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants.

Ashley Brewer and **Brittany Minkler** each received \$4,000 scholarships from the Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS). This ICPAS scholarship is awarded to college seniors or graduate students who have one year of schooling to complete and who plan to sit for the CPA exam in Illinois.

Accounting majors **Ashley Brewer, Lisa Martin, Rebecca Meyer, Kyle Newnam, and Amanda Preston** received scholarships from Archer Daniels Midland (ADM). Nine students were selected out of 75

Accountants with guns

More than 70 accounting students experienced what it takes to be criminal investigators with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) during a day-long fraud investigation simulation at Illinois State on September 18, 2009. The students took part in the IRS's "Adrian Project" Student Fraud Conference to solve hypothetical financial crimes using forensic accounting techniques.

IRS special agents are sometimes referred to as "accountants with guns." The Adrian Project allows students to experience the inner workings of a fraud investigation through the eyes of IRS special agents and learn about forensic career opportunities open to students with degrees in accounting. This project was initiated through the efforts of IRS special agent **James Peacock '96**.

Students worked in groups under the direction of current and retired IRS special agents to investigate crime scenarios such as business owners skimming funds from their companies, a bar owner who keeps two sets of books, a multifiler tax scheme, and a drug trafficking operation. In addition to using forensic accounting to follow a paper trail of financial wrongdoing, students employed the tools available to federal law enforcement officers, including the use of undercover operations, surveillance, subpoenas, and search warrants. Participants also made mock arrests of suspects in the crime scenarios. The suspects were other special agents and volunteer accounting faculty. The students particularly enjoyed arresting their professors.

"The Adrian Project fraud investigation simulation was a great out-of-class experience for students," said Gerry McKean, interim chairperson of Illinois State's Department of Accounting. "It gave students a chance to see the forensic accounting and criminal investigation work done by IRS special agents and learn more about an exciting career option in governmental service."



(left to right) Linda Leinicke, Gerry McKean, IRS Special Agent James Peacock



SAS president Erin Santos cuffs accounting professor Debbie Seifert



John Lust and Gerry McKean practice their shooting skills



Accounting students practice shooting the bad guys

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Meet the Firms Night

On February 9, 2009, Student Accounting Society's Meet the Firms Night introduced 15 firms and companies to more than 100 Illinois State accounting and business students. The firm representatives started their evening by having dinner with Student Accounting Society officers, chairpersons, and Accounting Department faculty. They then moved to the Bone Student Center Ballroom to meet with the students. Participants were:

Archer Daniels Midland, represented by **Ashley Debm B.S./M.P.A. '08**, and Courtney Jacobs

BKD, represented by **Stephanie (Glasscock) Petri '08** and Kraig Ritter

Clifton Gunderson, represented by Scott Davis, Todd Davis, and Trevor Ziegler

Corbett, Duncan & Hubly, represented by **Mark Briden '08**, **Jim Laubinger '96**, and Darla MacLean

COUNTRY Financial, represented by Renee Haning, **Kami Logsdon '08**, and Beth Nolan

Enterprise Rent-A-Car, represented by **Ashley Bozzi '08**, Scott Lanning, and **Anthony Petrozza '06**

Heinold-Banwart, represented by Glen Birnbaum and Nancy Wright

Henning, Strouse, Jordan & Stephens, represented by **Mark Nicholas**

'87 and **Robert White '03**

Kraft, represented by Shawn Schatteman, Steve Schilsky, and **Rori (Snider) Tidabeck '01**

McGladrey & Pullen, represented by **Lindsay (Nissen) Biernacki '07**, **Zach Fortsch '83**, **Bridget Heitman '07**, **M.S. '08**, Allison McGarry, Greg Miller, and **Matt Swiatkowski '07**

Miller Cooper, represented by **Amber Heimsath '06**, **Phil Johnsen '03**, **M.S. '04**, Daniel Mullen, and **Andy Peterson B.S./M.P.A. '06**

PricewaterhouseCoopers, represented by Beth Compton, Keith Crow, **Bernie Heine B.S./M.P.A. '08**, **Michelle (Vollrath) Hubble '93**, Erica Kottabi, and **Bethany Struebing B.S./M.P.A. '05**

Sikich, represented by Karie Collins, **Korey Davis B.S./M.P.A. '06**, and **Christy Wavering '99**

State Farm Insurance Companies, represented by Laura Books, Erin Conton, and Elizabeth Hoffman

Sulaski and Webb CPAs, represented by Deanna Mocchi and **Corrine (Lydigsen) Wilson '03**

If you are interested in getting more information about future Meet the Firms events, contact Gerry McKean at gwmckea@ilstu.edu or (309) 438-7651.

Scott Hoffman, RSM McGladrey, Chicago
Michael Hoskins, KPMG, Chicago
Daniel Jarach, RSM McGladrey, Chicago
Timothy Johnson, RSM McGladrey, Chicago

Marcy Kaiser, Clifton Gunderson, Peoria
Audrey Karrick, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington

Timothy Kenwick, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Chicago
Nicole Kitto; Eder, Casella & Co.; McHenry

Brent Levitt, Sikich, Aurora
Lisa Martin, Heinold-Banwart, East Peoria
Beth Mearida, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington

Jennifer Meyer, Clifton Gunderson, Peoria

Rebecca Meyer, RSM McGladrey, Chicago
Brittany Minkler, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Chicago

Collin Ottinger, RSM McGladrey, Chicago
Gabriel Papini, FS Agri-Finance, Bloomington

Joseph Pikel, Shepard, Schwartz and Harris, Chicago

David Price, Topel Forman, Chicago

Brett Rovey, BKD, Decatur

Kenneth Sinn, RSM McGladrey, Chicago
Matthew Speicher, RSM McGladrey, Chicago

Amy Swanson, Caterpillar, Peoria

Summer 2009 internships

Madilyn Ahsue, Kraft, Northfield

Brittany Antonelli, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Chicago

Kristin Brinkman, Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, Springfield

Lauren Butler; Kerber, Eck & Braeckel; Springfield

Kimberly Calmes, Sikich, Springfield

Nick Draus; Raimondo, Callahan & Associates; Des Plaines

Timothy Flaherty; Eder, Casella & Co.; McHenry

Brian Flynn, Sikich, Springfield

Drew Foreman, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Peoria

Kyle Hangartner, Heinold-Banwart, East Peoria

Galen Huette, COUNTRY Financial Services, Bloomington

Kyle Johnson, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Peoria

Christopher Kadonsky, Mississippi River Construction, O'Fallon

Jacquelyn Lee, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington

Student internships

The Department of Accounting has a successful internship program designed to encourage closer ties among employers, students, and faculty.

During the spring, summer, and fall 2009 semesters, the department placed 69 student interns with various organizations. If you are interested in participating in the internship program, contact Harlan Fuller: phone: (309) 438-5192; fax: (309) 438-8431; or e-mail: hjfulle@ilstu.edu.

Spring 2009 internships

Katherine Anderson, RSM McGladrey, Chicago

Jennifer Bahar, Friedman & Huey, Homewood

Ashley Brewer, Deloitte, Chicago

Heather Bunting, KPMG, Chicago

Adam Corbitt, Deloitte, Chicago

Keith Crow, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Chicago

Bethany Dodd; Martin, Hood, Friese & Associates; Champaign

Jenna Doran, Sikich, Springfield

Stacie Droege, RSM McGladrey, Chicago

David Dudek, RSM McGladrey, Chicago

David Elliot, KPMG, Chicago

Jessica Frechette, Clifton Gunderson, Peoria

Danielle Hoffman, Caterpillar, Peoria

Peter Makuch, P.M. Tax Service Inc., Lamont
 Stacy Maley, Delta Communities Companies, Bloomington
 Tara Osterhoff, COUNTRY Financial, Bloomington
 Erin Santos, Eder, Casella & Co., McHenry
 Alexander Schumm, John B. Sanfilippo & Sons, Elgin
 Patrick Schwappach, Memorial Health Systems, Springfield
 Joseph Tulig, Beam Global Spirits and Wine, Deerfield
 Ryan VanLanduyt, Vistabon, East Moline
 Gregory Visser, White Eagle Golf Club, Naperville
 Terrance Ward, CBIZ Mayer Hoffman McCann, Chicago

Fall 2009 internships

Kristine Atkinson, ProPartners, Bloomington
 Kyle Barber, Afni Inc., Bloomington
 Jamie Hazekamp, Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association, Bloomington
 Brittany Hocking, Illinois National Guard, Springfield
 Lindsey Johnson, Gorenz & Associates, Peoria
 Andrew McNamee, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington
 Laura Morris, ProPartners, Bloomington
 Kiley Riddle; Henning, Strouse, Jordan & Stephens; Bloomington
 Jason Stratton, Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association, Bloomington
 Christine Wynn, COUNTRY Financial Services, Bloomington

Accounting alum inducted into COB Alumni Hall of Fame

In April 2009, in conjunction with Business Week activities, Interim Dean Charles McGuire inducted eight outstanding alumni into the College of Business Hall of Fame, which was established in 2002 to recognize the achievements of outstanding alumni. One of the outstanding alums was **Jim Schlessner '74, M.S. '76**.

Schlessner earned his B.S. degree in mathematics but directly entered the accounting program to earn his M.S. degree. His two years of intense study of accounting undergraduate courses and graduate accounting courses paid huge returns in that he became the

Alumni Early Career Achievement Awards



ECAA honorees: Front row: Lori (Sacre) Gondry. Back row: (left to right) Aaron Larson, Bob Glazik, Ryan Prevo

In 2008, the College of Business (COB) started a new award—the Early Career Achievement Awards (ECAA). In 2009, the ECAA were presented to 15 outstanding young alumni who have experienced significant professional success. They were selected from nominations made by current and retired faculty and staff and COB alumni. The nominations were reviewed by departmental teams. The honorees were recognized on October 16, 2009. The award winners participated in panel discussions with students and faculty before being honored at a public reception.

The accounting and BIS alumni that were ECAA honorees were **Bob Glazik '98; Lori (Sacre) Gondry, M.S. '98; Aaron Larsen '01; and Ryan Prevo B.S./M.P.A. '05**.

Glazik is a CPA and a director of audit services with McGladrey & Pullen's Great Lakes practice. Since joining the firm in 1998, he has performed audit, accounting, and consulting services for clients, specializing in manufacturing and wholesale distributing firms.

Gondry is a CPA and has served as the director of financial reporting for Stored Value Solutions since January 2009. Stored Value Solutions, located in Louisville, Kentucky, provides gift and retail card services for 40 percent of the nation's largest restaurants and retailers.

Larsen is a senior cost engineer for Bechtel Corporation within the Oil, Gas, and Chemical Division. He is working with senior management to oversee the project budget, identify scope changes, validate scope changes, and quantify construction progress on a \$1.25 billion coker expansion project at the Conoco Phillips refinery in Wood River.

Prevo is the supervisor of the Life/Health Financial Reporting department for COUNTRY Financial. He is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for three life companies and six subsidiaries. Prevo also researches new financial reporting guidelines and prepares regulatory filings for various states and regulatory agencies.

first Illinois State University student to earn the Illinois CPA Society's Gold Medal for the highest scores on the CPA exam. In addition, he also received one of the AICPA Elijah

Watts Sells awards for one of the highest scores in the nation.

Upon graduation, Schlessner joined one of the, then, Big Eight CPA firms of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells in their

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Practicing professionals visit campus

The students and faculty gain valuable insights and knowledge into professional practice each time a practitioner visits campus. We thank the professionals listed below for coming to campus and sharing their knowledge and experience with our students and faculty. This year the following firm representatives visited classes and/or held seminars with the faculty:

Keith Crow, Illinois State University intern, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Peoria

Melinda DeBuysere, senior associate, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Peoria

Kirk Gomsak, senior associate in the assurance practice, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Chicago

Michelle (Vollrath) Hubble '93, managing director, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Peoria

Brian Kobischka, partner, Sikich, Rockford

Dennis Kerfoot, senior group controller, Archer Daniels Midland, Decatur

Jamie Lamers, audit manager, KPMG, Chicago

Wes Logan '08, price analyst, Northrop Grumman, Rolling Meadows

Craig McGregor '81, business support manager, Enterprise Product Cost, Caterpillar, Peoria

Kristi (Georgy) O'Dell '01, senior accounting supervisor, Archer Daniels Midland, Decatur

James Peacock '96, special agent, IRS-criminal investigation, Springfield Abbey Strubhar, senior associate, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Peoria

Matthew Taphorn '88, business resource manager, Remanufacturing Division, Caterpillar, Peoria

Jake Thompson B.S./M.P.A. '07, senior accountant, Sikich, Rockford

Four faculty members win awards, continued from page 3

The awards were based on research topics that related to areas of interest to ADM. Seifert's research topic deals with how global companies can address the issues of anxiety and ambiguity surrounding the transition to IFRS through intervention activities. A final report on her research project is due in summer 2010. Seifert was recognized as one of the award recipients at the COB Fall Faculty Conference in August 2009.

Student achievements, awards, and honors, continued from page 5

COB students who applied for the ADM awards. Each student received a \$3,000 award.

Hussein Badrudin and **Carlos Torres** were named student Caterpillar Scholars in fall 2009. Students must write a 1,000-word essay describing how they exemplify the characteristics of leadership and excellence. A faculty committee chooses the scholarship recipients based on their written essay and academic record. Each student received a \$2,500 scholarship funded by the Caterpillar Foundation.

Tyler Carlson and **Chris Kadonsky** each received \$500 textbook scholarships from the Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS). This scholarship is for junior, senior, or graduate accounting students and covers book and curriculum-materials expenses.

Matthew Bernardi received a Becker CPA review course Scholarship for Success. This is a full scholarship for the Becker CPA review course. Bernardi was one of 50 scholarship recipients nationwide.

Accounting alum inducted into COB Alumni Hall of Fame, continued from page 7

Chicago office, and he is still with that firm today. He began his career in auditing but transferred to the tax area to develop an area of specialization and expertise. Within 10 years, Schlessler was made a tax partner at Deloitte.

Schlessler served as the Chicago office and Midwest region tax managing partner prior to his decision to focus on regulatory and risk management issues



Jim Schlessler

for the tax area. In June 2007, he transferred to Deloitte's Washington, D.C. office to be a national partner within the risk management group.

Although Schlessler works in Washington, D.C.,

he and his wife, Kathy, are maintaining a home in Naperville. In his spare time, he has been involved in several nonprofit organizations in the Naperville area. Congratulations on being inducted into the COB Alumni Hall of Fame!

Count me in!

I want to support quality education in the Department of Accounting.

NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

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DAYTIME PHONE

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EMPLOYER

YOUR POSITION

Make your check payable to the Illinois State University Foundation. If you want your entire contribution to support the department, write "Department of Accounting" on the memo line of your check. Send to: Illinois State University, Department of Accounting, Campus Box 5520, Normal, IL 61790-5520.

Department of Accounting annual golf outing

The annual accounting scholarship-fund golf outing was held on September 25 with 60 participants. This outing will provide scholarships to outstanding junior accounting majors at the spring Annual Accounting Awards Ceremony. This year, first time participants included two McGladrey teams from Peoria, a team from COUNTRY Financial Services, and rain. While all of the teams got in at least 12 holes, five of the teams were not going to let the rain keep them from finishing. The team of Korey Davis, Robert Wilburn, Tom Krehbiel, and Nick Applebaum continued the Sikich tradition of turning in the best score that a mulligan check could buy. Father and son, Al and Trevor Ziegler, played together with the Clifton Gunderson team, and the Eovaldi family had their annual family reunion. Former accounting chairperson Jim Hallam and retired faculty member Herb Sieg braved the weather to greet former students. Participants enjoyed a short morning of golf, ate an early lunch, received awards, and got back to their offices to get in some billable hours.

One of the traditions continued as accounting faculty member Charlie Thomas warmed up for the Re-Max World Long Drive Championships by crushing tee shots at the 347-yard, par-four, tenth hole. Only five of the teams were able to enjoy Thomas' spectacular drives, and the Dorsey Packard team made its twelve-foot eagle putt.

Emeritus faculty member Max Rexroad visited with participants over coffee and donuts before they hit the links. Graduate student and golf scholarship recipient Brittany Minkler was the official photographer. Faculty members Debbie Seifert and Debbie Lindberg served as the official beverage cart operators and candy distributors. College of Business development officer Norris Porter and faculty member Tom Craig joined the group for lunch. McGladrey & Pullen brought the most participants, with 16. A number of teams brought three people and used a department faculty member to fill out the foursomes. We hope to see everyone come back and bring even more alumni next year.

Participants included: Daniel Ames, faculty; Bernie Anderson, NICOR, Bloomington; Nick Applebaum, Sikich, Springfield; **Dan Baiardo '07,**



(left to right) Jim Hallam, Jim Morris, Herb Sieg, Dorsey Packard



Faculty member and professional long-drive participant Charlie Thomas crushes a drive on the 10th hole.



(left to right) Debbie Seifert and Debbie Lindberg delivering refreshments during the annual golf outing



(left to right) Chris Korsgard, Jay Rich, Gerry McKean, Jason Evans

McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; **Lindsay (Nissen) Biernacki '07,** McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; Tony Bilden, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Chicago; **Vince Boone '73,** Boone and Johnson, CPAs, DeKalb; **Pete Borowski '74,** COUNTRY Financial, Bloomington; Drew Butts, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Chicago; **Matt Carlson B.S./M.P.A. '08,** McGladrey & Pullen, Rockford; **Tom Davey '73,** Thomas J. Davey & Associates, Burr Ridge; **Korey Davis B.S./M.P.A. '06,** Sikich, Springfield; **Jason Eidenberg '07,** McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; Doug Ellerman, COUNTRY Financial, Bloomington; George Eovaldi, State Farm Insurance Companies, retired, Bloomington; **Steve Eovaldi, M.S., '81,** Eovaldi & Associates, St. Louis; **Bryan Eovaldi '86, M.B.A. '87,** General Credit Forms, St. Louis; **Terry Eovaldi '89** finance, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington; **Dan Ermel '05,** McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; **Jason Evans '97,** Sikich, Aurora; Dennis Ewald, McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; **Clint Fisbel '05,** McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; **Zack Fortsch '83,** McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; **Joe Glawe '76,** Clifton Gunderson, Peoria; **Bob Glazik '98,** McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; Ron Guidry, faculty; Jim Hallam, chairperson emeritus of the Department of Accounting, Normal; **Rodney Harrison '73,** Morton Metalcraft, Morton; **Paul Huston '08,** McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; Scott Johnson, dean of the College of Business; Keith Jones, faculty; **Greg John-**

son '02, McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; Gary Koppenhaver, chairperson, Department of Finance; **Kris Korsgard '84,** Sikich, Aurora; **Tom Krehbiel '86,** Sikich, Springfield; John Lust, associate dean of the College of Business; **Keith Martin '72,** Plante & Moran, Elgin; Gerry McKean, emeritus faculty and interim chairperson of the Department of Accounting; **Steve Michels '73,** Tri Star Marketing Inc., Urbana; Greg Miller, McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; Jim Morris, Dorsey Packard, CPA, Minier; **Dan Myers '06,** McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; James Nelson, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Chicago; Amanda Nesboe, McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; **Gary Neubauer '79,** Sikich, Springfield; **Dorsey Packard, '91,** Dorsey Packard, CPA, Minier; **Jill Prescher '03,** McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; Jay Rich, faculty; **Barry Roman '85,** Clifton Gunderson, Peoria; **Brett Schaefer B.S./M.P.A. '07,** McGladrey & Pullen, Chicago; Brice Seifert, faculty; **Herb Sieg '67,** emeritus faculty; Brett Slides, COUNTRY Financial, Bloomington; David Stauffer, COUNTRY Financial, Bloomington; Mike Sterricker, Plante & Moran, Elgin; Craig Thompson, Heinold-Banwart, East Peoria; Craig White, NICOR, Bloomington; Ron Whitehouse, NICOR, Bloomington; **Robert Wilburn '00,** Sikich, Springfield; **Joel Wolford '97,** McGladrey & Pullen, Peoria; Al Ziegler, Clifton Gunderson, Peoria; and Trevor Ziegler, Clifton Gunderson, Peoria.



Award recipients: *Front (left to right)* Connie Stoller, Marissa Witzig, Katie Miller, Rocco DiBenedetto, Michelle Miller, Jessica McCormick, Robyn Rittis, Patrick Schwappach, Andrew McNamee, Bridget Willenborg, Hussein Badrudin. *Middle (left to right)*: Kristen Mense, Ashley Bell, Galen Huette, Kevin Crotteau, Mackenzie Lee, Julie Kaeb, Jessica Frechette, Jordan Blackburn, Madilyn Ahsue, Adam Donahoe. *Back (left to right)*: Dustin Huber, Joseph Novotny, Bryan James, Ashley Brewer, Brittany Minkler, Caleb Kelson, Jarrad Koon.

The following awards were presented at the 25th annual Accounting Awards Ceremony in April 2009. The department is proud of the accomplishments of these students and wishes to thank the organizations that provided financial support for these awards.

8th annual BKD LLP Award

Patrick Schwappach

27th annual Clifton Gunderson LLP Award

Jessica Frechette

3rd annual COUNTRY Financial Award

Dustin Huber

16th annual Deere & Company Awards

Valerie Melrose
Michelle Miller

29th annual Dunbar, Breitweiser & Co. LLP Award

Julie Kaeb

3rd annual Enterprise Rent-A-Car Award

Jessica McCormick

37th annual Glen Webb Education Fund, Growmark Foundation Award

Katie Miller

1st annual Heinold-Banwart Award

Caleb Kelson

29th annual KPMG Award

Michael Welton

10th annual PricewaterhouseCoopers Awards

Mackenzie Lee
Brittany Minkler

3rd annual RSM McGladrey Awards

Rocco DiBenedetto
Joseph Novotny

3rd annual Sikich LLP BIS Award

Jordan Blackburn

2nd annual Sikich LLP Accounting Award

Kevin Crotteau

2nd annual State Farm Insurance Companies Award

Andrew McNamee

8th annual Sulaski & Webb Award

Connie Stoller

20th annual Accounting Alumni Association Award, James A. Hallam Scholarship

Joseph Novotny

28th annual Andersen Alumni Award, Raymond W. Esworthy Scholarship

Hussein Badrudin

8th annual BIS Alumni Award

Kristen Mense

1st annual David Currie Scholarship Award

Galen Huette

5th annual Herbert C. Sieg Scholarship Award

Garret Spiek

2nd annual Kate King Wu & Horace C. Wu Scholarship Awards

Madilyn Ahsue
Jarrad Koon

12th annual Max Rexroad Scholarship Awards

Robert Baker
Adam Donahoe

11th annual Nims Associates Award, Bill Spaniol Memorial Scholarship

Robyn Rittis

1st annual James E. Schlessler Scholarship Award

Marissa Witzig

William Townes Memorial Scholarship Award

Ashley Bell

11th annual Alumni Golf Outing Awards

Kevin Crotteau	Rocco DiBenedetto
Adam Donahoe	Jessica Frechette
Mackenzie Lee	Dustin Huber
Galen Huette	Valerie Melrose
Brittany Minkler	Connie Stoller
Marissa Witzig	Michael Welton

2009 Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award

Ashley Brewer

2009 Outstanding Master of Professional Accountancy Award

Bridget Willenborg

2009 Outstanding Master of Science in Accountancy Award

Bryan James

Federation of Schools of Accountancy Award

Bryan James



Alumni news

We are proud of the accomplishments of our alumni. If you have professional accomplishments you would like to share with us, please report them to our alumni editor, Harlan Fuller, by using the "Keep in Touch" form on the back page. You may also reach him by e-mail at hjfulle@ilstu.edu, by phone at (309) 438-5192, or by fax at (309) 438-8431.

Michael Koziol '78, CPA, FHFMA, is the senior vice president and CFO for Maine General Health in Augusta, Maine.

Jennifer Murray '82, M.S. '84, is the chief of staff for the president of the North America Foodservice division of Coca-Cola in Atlanta.

Robert Meegan '83, is a software engineer and a Sun Certified Java developer for Northrop Grumman in Bellevue, Nebraska.

Monte Weirman '93, CPA, is managing director of The Siegfried Group in Chicago.

Jefferson Gilkeson, M.S. '05, is an IT audit manager dealing with cyber security for NASA in Washington, D.C.

Amber Heimsath '06, CPA, is a staff auditor with Miller Cooper in Deerfield.

Mark Kazzaz, B.S./M.P.A. '07, CPA, is an assistant financial analyst at State Farm Insurance Companies in Bloomington. Kazzaz is also teaching ACC 362, Advanced Business Systems Analysis, at Illinois State.

Ryan Legg '07, M.S. '08, CPA, is a second-year audit associate with KPMG in Chicago.

Jane Poynter, B.S./M.P.A. '07, CPA, is an internal auditor with U.S. Foodservice in Rosemont.

Brett Schaefer, B.S./M.P.A. '07, CPA, is a senior associate of audit services at McGladrey & Pullen in Schaumburg.

Nicole Davis, B.S./M.P.A. '08, is an accounts payable analyst at Medline in Mundelein.

Brandon French, B.S./M.P.A. '08, CPA, is a staff auditor with Miller Cooper in Deerfield.

Sharing a passion for numbers, an accounting legacy

By Crystal Person-Tillman

Paul Kelson '78 always had a passion for numbers. He wanted to be a math teacher since he was in high school, but changed his mind when he gained some experience in bookkeeping and began working with payroll and ledgers.

"Accounting was what I really wanted," Paul explained. He realized that accounting was his career path and began attending Eastern Illinois University in order to follow it. When he moved back home to Fairbury, he transferred to Illinois State for his junior and senior years. He was working 20 to 30 hours a week and commuting to Illinois State.

Paul had an especially great experience with teachers at Illinois State. "The teachers were very good. They were very helpful and knowledgeable."

After graduating, Paul worked at a public accounting firm in Peoria for 3 1/2 years. While in Peoria, Paul married and had two children. When his family moved back to Fairbury, they had two more children. In Fairbury he worked as a controller for a large business and was a partner in a computer service bureau before starting his own accounting firm in 1988.

As fate would have it, two of his children share his passion for numbers. "When we would take family car trips together, we would play math games together," Paul explained. Both **Wendi Kelson '08** and **Caleb Kelson** chose the accounting path at Illinois State. Just like her father, Wendi changed from a math education major to accounting.

"I really liked accounting in high school," Wendi said. "I started with math education and stayed for the accounting program. Illinois State was close to home, and the teachers were personable."

Wendi was a presidential scholar, which provided full-ride tuition along with a special curriculum and a 130-hour service project. She also had a job at the Citizen State Bank of Cropsey, where she has worked for seven years in various positions. She is now a financial officer, managing operations at the bank, and living in Forrest.

Caleb began his education in accounting right out of high school.

"I chose accounting because I enjoy it, and it's my best skill," he said. He plans on graduating in May 2011 with a B.S./M.P.A., and a second major in business information systems. "I chose Illinois State because it was close to home, and it has an excellent accounting program," he said. Caleb is involved in the business fraternity Beta Alpha Psi and received the first annual Heinold-Banwart Award at the accounting awards in spring 2009.

The Kelsons have had great experiences at Illinois State and wish to express their appreciation to the University and the accounting program. "The accounting major teaches you problem-solving," Wendi said. "I use what I learned in financial accounting every day."

"I've enjoyed the classes at Illinois State and have had great professors," Caleb said.



(left to right): Caleb Kelson, Paul Kelson, and Wendi Kelson



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Student Accounting Society

Student president
Rob Kamentsev
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The Class of 1984—
where are they now?

Two hundred six students graduated
with bachelor's degrees and seven with
master's degrees from the Department of
Accounting 25 years ago. The information
presented below was compiled by Illinois
State's Alumni Services. If it is incorrect or
incomplete, please contact Harlan Fuller by
e-mail at hjfulle@ilstu.edu, by phone at
(309) 438-5192, or by fax at
(309) 438-8431.

Master's degrees

Patricia (Scott) McKinley, Verizon
Communications, Irving, Texas

Wayne McManus, board member,
Endeavour Mining Capital Corporation,
Cayman Islands

Anita (Sheppard) Munden, United
Methodist Church

Jennifer Murray, chief of staff for the
president, North America Foodservice
Division, Coca-Cola, Atlanta

Thomas Noland, associate professor,
University of Houston, Houston

Sunil Patel, Wanstead, London, England

Benjamin Pettie, accountant/CPA,
self-employed, Bloomington

Bachelor's degrees

Timothy Adelman, CFO,
InsuranceNoodle Inc., Chicago

John Amraen, KPMG Foundation,
New York

Brian Anderson

Dottie (Karr) Anderson, Ameren
Energy Fuels & Service, Dawson

Jeffrey Anderson, department chief/
internal audit, state of Illinois,
Springfield

Keith Anderson, Green Tree, St. Paul,
Minnesota

Deborah (Peterson) Archer,
reimbursement specialist, Provena
St. Mary's Hospital, Kankakee

Lucinda (Walden) Baier, executive
VP/CFO, Movie Gallery Inc., California

Arnold Bender, insurance sales,
self-employed, Bannockburn

Diane (Sroka) Benjamin, custom
programmer, self-employed, Ellsworth

John Bloom, project manager,
State Farm Insurance Companies,
Bloomington

Rick Boatman, cost accountant,
Delvetron, Longmont, Colorado

Cynthia (Misovye) Bogs, vice
president and global controller, The
Marketing Store World Wide, Westmont

Desiree Booth, plant controller,
International Paper, Plant City, Florida

Kathleen (O'Donnell) Boudeman-
Nicholas, staff accountant, Striegel
Knoblock & Co, Bloomington

Teri (Waldschmidt) Boylan, Grundy
County FS Agency, Coal City

Kathryn Brady, analyst, State Farm
Insurance Companies, Bloomington

R. David Brown, Midcon Corporation,
Naperville

Craig Buckridge, Prime Leasing,
Burr Ridge

Charles Burns, associate professor,
Eureka College, Eureka

Mildred (Floyd) Burns, Publishing
Business Systems, Austin, Minnesota

Stanley Burton, controller, Clifford
Jacobs Forging, Champaign

Gary Bushue, partner, Kendall Rowley,
Michigan City, Indiana

James Cagle, director of business
operations, University of Illinois,
Urbana-Champaign

Robert Cameron, partner, Cameron
Smith & Co., Springfield

Evelyn (Herrmann) Campbell,
accountant, Farrell & Associates,
Rockford

Judy (Zebr) Campbell, systems
engineer, Mitsubishi Motors
Manufacturing of North America Inc.,
Normal

David Cederwall, controller,
Snap-On-Tools, Algona, Iowa

Christine (Billisits) Cerri, DesPlaines

Wayne Cherry, administrator,
Community Health Care, Sterling

Laura (Riedle) Coe, accountant,
Snyder Corporation, Bloomington

Verna Corbett, CFO, Show Department
Inc., Lansing

Christopher Corcoran, controller,
Darco, Jacksonville, Florida

Lisa (Haiges) Crane, human
resources, Omega Cabinetry,
Clinton, Tennessee



Ann (Delatbouwer) Cripe, project manager, Cincinnati Insurance Company, Mason, Ohio

David Cripe, tax manager, WellPoint, Inc., Mason, Ohio

Carol (Grawe) Crocker, tax manager, Clifton Gunderson & Company, Peoria

Caroline (Gage) Damask, assistant treasurer, Tab Products Company, Vernon Hills

James Debrock, Bank of America, Chicago

Nancy del Castillo, assistant treasurer, Joseph Behr & Sons, Rockford

Rocco DiTrani, vice president, Northern Trust Company, Chicago

Scott Dyball, senior director of corporate accounting, Bally Total Fitness Corporation, Chicago

John Ellis, accounting manager, Hollister-Whitney Elevator, Quincy

James Engelkes, accounting manager, Haldex Hydraulics Corporation, Rockford

Todd Fanning, senior VP/CFO, Citizens First National Bank, Princeton

Elizabeth Ferris, New Court Financial, Glenview

Bryan Forbes, business education teacher, School District 18-Junior and Senior High School, Morrisonville

David Forrest, financial analyst,

Good Samaritan Regional Healthcare, Mt. Vernon

Catherine (Verdun) Fraher, office manager/CPA, Fraher Ford Chrysler Jeep, Pontiac

Todd Franson, owner, CLIX, Lindenhurst

Lori (Call) Frantz, Martin Luther Homes, Pontiac

Cynthia (Marzinzik) Frisbman, Valencia, California

Kapina (Hobbs) Frye, owner, Kapina Frye Business Services, Midland, Michigan

Elizabeth Gargano, application service support, Dell Financial Services, Austin

Deborah (Graham) Gibbon, senior manager, Bennett Thrasher, Marietta, Georgia

Karen (Brown) Giroux, consultant, Resources Global Professionals, Downers Grove

Thomas Golas, VP/Controller, First Savings Bank of Hegewish, Mokena

James Goode

Lee (Baker) Gossett, supervisor-taxes, Nalco Chemical, Naperville

Kerry Grossweiler, marketing product manager, Beyer Crop Science, Durham, North Carolina

Alan Guest, Nestle, Bloomington

Norma (Bonser) Hadley, McDonalds

Corporation

Jeffrey Hagen, divisional cost accountant, Consumer Products, Eagle, Wisconsin

James Hagerman, tax manager/CPA, Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, Springfield

William Harrison, controller, Mechanical Devices Company, Minier

Timothy Hart, vice president, Feldman and Ingardona, Wheeling

Wendy (Ward) Hart, CDW Computer Centers Inc., Wheeling

Deborah (Goetz) Hedera, bond underwriter, CNA Insurance, Downers Grove

Daniel Heraty, director of development, Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund, Chicago

W. Matthew Hobulin, accounting manager, Caterpillar Inc., Morton

Francine (Chromik) Holmes, homemaker, Elmhurst

John Holt, KPMG Foundation, Northern Virginia, Virginia

Chris Horner, Rocor International, Greenville, Tennessee

Timothy Houghton, vice president, BellSouth Corporation, Atlanta

Ko-Cheng Hsu, associate professor, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama

Terri (Martin) Huber, CPA, self-employed, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Doretta (Hilst) Irwin, data process analyst, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington

Dean Ishmael, real estate agent, Morristown, Tennessee

Brian Jasiek, CPA, Bokus & May CPA, Peru

Mary (Terracciano) Jones, controller, J & M Tool Inc., Arlington Heights

Jennifer (Farmer) Jordan, homemaker, Aurora Hills, California

Kenneth Judd, Chicago

Peggy Kant-Johnston, homemaker/CPA, Heyworth

Thomas Kavanagh, CPA, Internal Revenue Service, Springfield

Victoria (Massari) Kemp, Wheeling

Charles Killian, controller, Motion Picture Industry PHP, Studio City, California

Fall 2010 accounting alumni golf outing

On September 24, 2010, the department will sponsor an alumni golf outing. If you are interested in playing golf with the Department of Accounting faculty and alumni, please indicate below.

Yes, I would like more information about the fall 2010 golf outing!

NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

HOME PHONE

BUSINESS PHONE

E-MAIL

Please mail this form to Harlan Fuller, Illinois State University, Department of Accounting, Campus Box 5520, Normal, IL 61790-5520, or fax to Department of Accounting at (309) 438-8431.



Featured alumnus

We are pleased to recognize the accomplishments of our graduates. In each newsletter we will try to feature the accomplishments of one outstanding graduate. In this newsletter we recognize **Miron Marcotte '85**.

There is no doubt that my time at Illinois State in the early 1980s impacted many aspects of my life today, mostly in a good way. My journey to Illinois State started in the mid-1970s. I was a farm boy from a town of 650 people, 90 minutes south of Chicago. I had asthma, so staying on the family farm didn't seem like a viable option. No one in my extended family had graduated from college (one or two had attended a semester or two but had problems balancing their studies with their new-found freedoms). My favorite subject in school was math and I was hoping for a career that leveraged my interest in math. During my sophomore year in high school, I had my first accounting class. My teacher was a graduate from Illinois State and spoke highly of his college education. In this pre-Internet era, I began to explore the former teacher's college with the Big Red Marching Machine and one of the world's tallest dormitories. Over the next year, I took my second accounting class and continued to speak with my accounting teacher. I made a trip to visit the campus with my parents. We spoke with the chairperson of the Accounting Department, Jim Hallam. He was terrific—my research was complete. I applied only to Illinois State and was accepted to start during fall 1981.

While at Illinois State, I met some great people. During my first two years, I lived on the sixth floor of Manchester. My classes went well. I became best friends with the Milner Library. I was at the library so much that I could probably be located using the Dewey decimal system. Unfortunately, unlike many of my friends,



Miron Marcotte

I missed out on the opportunity to take some of the more critical classes like golf, bowling, etc. However, I didn't miss out on some of the other opportunities to participate in the nonacademic experiences. I learned what a keg was and visited a number of fraternities to work on my socialization skills.

During my junior year, I participated in a field trip with other junior accounting students to visit some public accounting firms in Chicago. Other than attending a Cubs game as a kid, this was my first exposure to Chicago. While I grew up with a negative impression of Chicago, it didn't seem too bad. Additionally, in my junior year, I was elected president of the Student Accounting Society, the largest organization on campus at the time. This provided me with another opportunity to get exposure to many career opportunities as I met many prospective employers of accounting students at our events. I also had a great group of fellow officers and chair-

persons who were willing to tolerate my sense of humor at our meetings and events. In the spring of my junior year, I interviewed for an internship for my last semester at Illinois State, and was paired up with Arthur Andersen (AA). On January 2, 1985, on the first day of my internship, I arrived about 20 minutes late (due to the fact that our dry-run occurred on New Year's Day and we underestimated the traffic on a typical work day). I was so nervous that I had tarnished my 10-week internship and wouldn't be offered a job. Overall, I had a great internship experience with AA in Chicago, I was offered a full-time position as a staff auditor, and I started with them on a full-time basis upon graduation from Illinois State in May 1985. I was convinced that my tenure at Illinois State had prepared me well for a job with one of the "Big Eight" accounting firms.

Over the first 17 years of my career, I progressed within the

- Fredric King**, controller, Schaumburg Schools, Schaumburg
- Jeff King**, CEO, PSD Solutions, Chicago
- Marc Kingry**, controller, Centru Bank, Ladd
- Penny Kleen**, visiting professor, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri
- Peter Klein**, managing director, The Shamanic Astrology Mystery School, Tuscon, Arizona
- Bonnie Kletz**, insurance analyst, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington
- Thomas Kliebhan**, auditor, Litton Industries, Beverly Hills, California
- Subie (Patel) Knierly**, senior accountant, State Farm Insurance Companies, Bloomington
- Jeanne (Fritz) Koeller**, systems accountant, U.S. Transportation Command, Marrison
- Roy Koelling**, accountant, Applied Systems, University Park
- Katleen Kohl**, director of purchasing, Stepan Co., Maywood, New Jersey
- Bradley Kolkborst**, contribution administrator, Aon Consulting, Clayton, Missouri
- Christopher Korsgard**, partner—technology division, Sikich, Aurora
- Judy (Jacob) Krones**, accountant/auditor; Bacon, Smith, Koelling, Ing & Ohm; Kankakee
- Robert Kubn**, CFO, AptarGroup Inc. (Seaquist), Crystal Lake
- Andrew LaFrence**, partner, KPMG Foundation, Minneapolis
- Janet (Swinland) LaFrence**, senior product manager, Wells Fargo, Minneapolis
- Carl Labus**, consultant, Blue Cross Blue Shield, New Lenox
- Kevin Lane**, director of financial planning, Catalytica Energy Systems, Gilbert, Arizona
- Colleen Lavery**, assistant director of finance, City of Elgin, Elgin
- Linda (Ebersole) Learned**, contract coordinator, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Jeffrey Lederer**, accountant, Farmington, Michigan

continued on page 19

Do you know how to hire the best Illinois State accounting graduates?

Each year the Illinois State Career Center hosts a fall employment and internship career fair. In 2010, the fall employment and internship career fair is scheduled for October 6. This event is a convenient way to get your firm/company in front of a large number of students. At the fall 2009 employment fair, more than 1,200 Illinois State students attended. Of these attendees, 630 were from the College of Business and 186 of them were accounting and BIS majors.

For more information, contact Maureen Roach at (309) 438-2200, or register at www.CareerCenter.ilstu.edu.

Firms recruiting accounting majors that attended the 2009 employment and internship career fair were:

Aflac
Allstate Insurance Company
Archer Daniels Midland Company
BKD
Caterpillar Inc.
CBIZ/Mayer Hoffman McCann
Central States Funds
Clifton Gunderson
Corbett, Duncan & Hubly
COUNTRY Financial
Eder, Casella & Co.
Enterprise Rent-a-Car
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
GROWMARK Inc.
Heinold-Banwart
Illinois Casualty Company

Illinois Office of the Auditor General
Illinois Tool Works
John Deere
Kerber, Eck and Braeckel
Kraft Foods
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State Farm Insurance Companies
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(Left to right) Michelle Hubble '93, PricewaterhouseCoopers with accounting student David White



(Left to right) Accounting student Dane Anderson with Connie Lusietto '05, Archer Daniels Midland



(Left to right) Matt Carlson '08, McGladrey and Pullen, with Jennifer Dronenberg '08, M.S. '09



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(Left to right) Accounting student Deanna Gillet with Andrew Hall '09, Office of the Auditor General



(Left to right) Accounting student Iliia Krastev with Mark Kazzaz '07, State Farm Insurance Companies



(Left to right) Jonathan Virkler '06, Heinold Banwart, with accounting student Jeff Tennill



(Left to right) Nick Helmond '07, Jeff Bonick '88, and Andrea Zurkamer '00, Clifton Gunderson



(Left to right) Accounting student Dane Anderson with Curt McQuellon '98, Caterpillar



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Gifts from Department of Accounting alumni and friends were made between October 1, 2008 and September 30, 2009. The students, faculty, and staff of the Department of Accounting thank all who have supported the department and the University. This significant support is testimony to the enhanced sense of mutual responsibility to ensure quality education in accounting and business information systems.

During the fall semester telefund, many accounting alumni received calls from Illinois State students requesting financial support for the College of Business. More than 370 accounting alumni pledged \$119,758 to support quality education in the department and college. This represents a 0 percent decrease in donors and a 71 percent increase in dollars thanks to a pledge of more than \$50,000. Donors this year represent 7 percent of the Department of Accounting alumni. The goal of the telefund is to have 20 percent of our accounting alumni supporting the University each year.

You can help the department reach its goal by completing the form on page 8 and mailing your check payable to the Illinois State University Foundation. By writing “Department of Accounting” on the memo line of your check, your entire contribution will go to support the department.

Once again the students, faculty, and staff of the Department of Accounting thank you for your past and future support.

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Featured alumnus, continued from page 14

Chicago Office of AA. I started out in the external audit practice and, as a senior manager, I was given an option to become an external audit partner or to help grow a new practice called the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) practice. I chose the BPO practice and enjoyed building that practice. I had the opportunity to lead a global methodology committee that helped develop, standardize, and implement all aspects of our BPO engagements. Six months after making partner, I was asked to lead the Chicago BPO practice. I enjoyed working with a great group of talented people (roughly 150-person practice) and finding ways to serve new and existing clients. Along the way, I received many Sequoia Mentoring Awards, was selected to attend some partner-level leadership training, and participated on the Assurance and Business Advisory Leadership team for the Chicago Office (our largest office in the firm). I believed at that time that I would never leave AA.

Unfortunately, in 2002, things changed. AA found itself in the middle of a crisis resulting from some well-publicized clients such as Enron. I watched this crisis unfold, as all of our roughly 85,000 employees, most having never worked on Enron and other publicized audits, and waited to determine the fate of this 90-year old firm. While many efforts were made to save the firm, we began the process to wind-down the firm and to seek options beyond AA. This was a difficult time for me and my family. Not only were there financial consequences associated with being a partner at the time, I had never seriously contemplated leaving AA before. Thankfully, many options arose, and I chose to become part of a group of 600 people across the country who decided to start a company called Protiviti. We viewed it as an opportunity to build a new consulting firm. I personally viewed it as an opportunity to practice my entrepreneurial and team-building skills.

Today, Protiviti has approximately 3,000 employees in 60 offices across 17 countries. In November 2007, I was given the opportunity to transfer to Minneapolis to lead our office in the Twin Cities. This wasn't on my short list of relocation options. I didn't enjoy ice fishing in a shanty, building ice houses in sub-freezing temperatures, etc. I had always envisioned transferring to a place like Bermuda, Honolulu, London, or Sydney.

Having spent two years in Minneapolis, it's been terrific. My wife of 19 years (who I met at AA), my 14-year old daughter, our three horses, three dogs, and cat have found ways to stay warm. The people are great, the business climate is vibrant and diversified, and the winters haven't been any worse than Chicago (alright, maybe it's a little colder). I am enjoying leading our office, although I would have preferred a better economic climate. My experience at Illinois State provided me with a foundation that has served me well.

Over the years, I have traveled to many countries including Australia, India, Brazil, France, Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, the United Kingdom, etc. I have enjoyed interacting with people from all over the globe. Things are different than my early days on the farm in Illinois and my days at Illinois State.

Since graduating from Illinois State, I have enjoyed trying to give back in some small ways. I have recruited and hired students from campus, made annual financial contributions, served for more than 10 years on the Accounting Department Advisory Council, have spoken to many classes, and was the founding president of the Chicago West Alumni Chapter. I have recently connected with several Illinois State alums in the Minneapolis area. I find that we have lots of things in common and enjoy reminiscing about our time on campus. I will always cherish those days on the campus of Illinois State.

Go Redbirds!



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