



FARMER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
MIAMI UNIVERSITY

*Department of Accountancy*

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



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The Accountancy Annual Report is an annual publication of the Department of Accountancy for our alumni and friends.

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Many thanks to the accountancy students, faculty, staff, alumni, and other partners for their assistance in the compilation of this report.

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# Message from the Department Chair



Hello! I hope this letter finds you well, having enjoyed a peaceful and relaxing Holiday Season. My letter last year highlighted both the challenges facing our department and, more importantly, our capacity to overcome such challenges. While much work remains, I am pleased to report that we are making significant progress meeting our challenges, particularly in the areas of curriculum innovation, student placement, and alumni support. In doing so, we are taking the bold

actions necessary to ensure our accountancy programs remain at the forefront of accounting education.

With this letter, I want to take the opportunity to highlight several of the many things for which we, as a department, have been thankful for throughout the year.

First, we are thankful for you, our many talented and loyal friends and alums. The importance of the multi-faceted, generous support we reliably receive from our friends and alums is difficult to overstate. Simply put, the many successes we have enjoyed over the years would not have been possible without your support. In a time of increasing pressure on higher education, such support has become, and will remain, increasingly important. Thank you all for your many contributions!

Second, as faculty members who purposefully chose to work at an institution that focuses on and excels at undergraduate education, we

are thankful for our outstanding students. Employers from a wide range of organizations, when commenting on how well our students perform relative to their peers, often convey to me their amazement at our students' talents and abilities. Teaching such talented and motivated students is both a professionally and personally enriching privilege and a significant responsibility we do not take lightly.

Third, we, like you, are thankful for and proud of Miami University. The strength of Miami's students, the quality and dedication of our faculty and staff, the loyalty of our alums and friends, and the beauty of our campus all contribute to make Miami a truly special place. We are excited to collaborate with you, our alums and friends, to ensure Miami University, the Farmer School of Business, and Department of Accountancy all remain world-class, leading institutions of higher education.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles within this annual report, which further demonstrate why we are so thankful for our wonderful alums, students, faculty, staff, and university. As always, I welcome the opportunity to hear from you and/or meet in person. Please contact me in advance of your next visit to Miami, or simply stop by my office.

In closing, I would like to again express my sincere appreciation and thanks for your many contributions and wish you a Happy New Year!

Love and Honor,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Reffett". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Andrew Reffett  
Chair and Professor  
Department of Accountancy





# Miami University 2018–2019 Accountancy Advisory Group

The Farmer School's Accountancy Advisory Group (AAG) is an important link with the professional community. Comprised of members representing public accounting, corporate accounting, and accounting-related fields, the AAG provides advice and counsel regarding the continuing development of high-quality accounting programs for our students.

**Beth Carlton**  
Senior Manager,  
Commercial Lines Rate Revision  
Progressive

**Robert Craycraft**  
VP of Internal Audit  
and Chief Compliance Officer  
Cintas

**Shellie Creson**  
EVP and Chief Auditor  
Fifth Third Bancorp

**David Crowley**  
Partner  
Audit & Enterprise Risk Services  
Deloitte & Touche, LLP

**Joe DeSteiger**  
Partner  
McFawn Financial Services Group, LLC

**Donna Deye**  
(Retired) Totes Isotoner Corporation

**Doug Fleming**  
Associate Director, External Reporting  
Procter & Gamble

**Paul Gohr**  
Chief Accounting Officer  
CECO Environmental

**Bob Guido**  
Partner  
PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP

**Bradley Hunkler**  
Sr. VP & CFO  
Western & Southern Financial Group



**Tamara Izzo**  
Partner  
EY

**Lori Kaiser**  
CEO  
Kaiser Consulting

**Eric Lakner**  
Associate Vice President of Finance  
L Brands

**Ying Lee**  
Partner  
Grant Thornton

**Charlie Letson**  
Audit Senior Manager  
Crowe LLP

**Chris Linck**  
Partner  
BKD, LLP

**Jay Moeller**  
Partner  
RSM US LLP

**Andrew Reffett**  
Chair  
Department of Accountancy

**Lauren Roberts, CPA**  
Internal Auditor  
Cincinnati Public Schools

**Teri Schaffer**  
Partner  
BDO USA, LLP

**Terry L. Silver**  
Tax Partner  
Skoda Minotti

**Maureen Westrick**  
AVP, P&C Controllership  
Nationwide Insurance

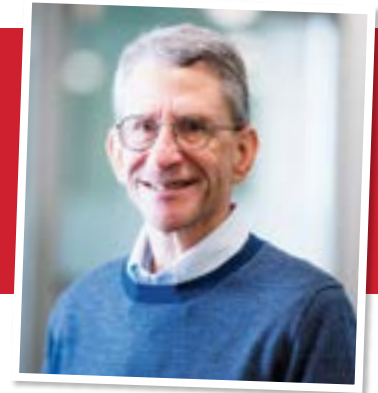
**Scott Wiley**  
President & CEO  
The Ohio Society of CPAs

**Robert Woolman**  
Chief Internal Auditor  
The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company

**Anne Zavarella**  
Partner  
KPMG, LLP

# Meet Terry Silver

## AAG Member Feature



*In this issue of the Annual Report, we'd like to thank Terry Silver '74, CPA, JD, who has served on our AAG since 2008 and is stepping down after the November 2019 meeting.*

Terry Silver is a Tax Partner at Skoda Minotti. In 2008, he was on campus for recruiting when Marc Rubin (who happens to be a childhood friend) asked if he was interested in the open position on the Accountancy Advisory Group. He gladly agreed, saying, "Miami's accounting program has been considered one of the best for many years, and I was excited about the opportunity."

### **What were some of your favorite Miami memories?**

My most memorable experience at Miami was meeting my wife (Sandra '75). I met her in my first two weeks of my sophomore (her freshman) year. We went out once, and I never saw her again until the last month of my junior year. My roommate had invited her and her sorority sisters to a party at our place that he hadn't told me about. We reconnected, and I found out that she had accounting class right before me in the same classroom. I started to show up early to see her, and the rest is history.

### **Tell us about your Miami family.**

A fun fact is that between 1993 and 2009, first, two of my nephews went to Miami, then all three of my children went to Miami. When one was a senior, the next one was a freshman.

My younger son (Kevin '09, Accountancy) ran track and cross country at Miami and was MAC runner-up in cross country his senior year. Traveling to meets led to a hobby. We have now been to 82 college campuses, from Harvard and Yale in the east to University of Hawaii in the west. We have not found a campus prettier than Miami.

### **Any favorite professors?**

I have fond memories of accounting Professor Gyan Chandra. I had him for class in his first year at Miami. He always took great interest in his students. One of my children was fortunate enough to have him for class. Another memorable person was history professor Richard Jellison, who would personally welcome any late-arriving student and guide them to a seat, announcing that "the lamp of learning never goes out at Miami University!"

### **Any final thoughts as you retire from the AAG?**

It has been great meeting my fellow AAG members and providing input on shaping the curriculum to be more responsive to future skills needed by our students and desired by employers. We have also had the opportunity to learn about the support system for students to facilitate their graduation in four years with a bachelor's and master's degree.

It is always interesting to be back on campus and hear about current developments at the university as well as Uptown. With Dr. Rubin stepping up to dean of the Farmer School of Business, Drew Reffett has become chair of the department and has built on the strong foundation in place. Under his leadership, the future of the department is very bright.

"Terry has been an extremely dedicated and valuable member of the AAG for over ten years, and a loyal alum and friend of the department for longer. The insights and other contributions Terry has reliably provided have greatly assisted the department in setting the direction of our academic programs and helped our faculty effectively address a variety of issues. On a personal note, it has been my pleasure to become friends with Terry. I have thoroughly enjoyed our conversations on a wide range of topics. On behalf of the Miami accountancy faculty, I would like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude for his loyalty and dedicated service to Miami!"

— Drew Reffett

# Experiential Learning – Making Classroom Learning Real

The Accountancy Department offers a variety of ways in which students can directly tie what they learn in class to real life. In this issue, we'd like to highlight some of these. In the words of Accountancy Professor Anne Farrell, "The goal of our experiential learning programs is to give students opportunities to (1) apply what they're learning to complex, ambiguous problems that are representative of what they'll quickly encounter in their careers; (2) help them become creative, holistic problem-solvers who think across boundaries and who recast 'failures' and 'challenges' as opportunities to learn; and 3) get comfortable with being uncomfortable."

## Classroom Enrichment

Experiential learning can be had inside the classroom. Faculty members often invite guest speakers from industry to lead a discussion of a topic in class while tying it to their own work. For example, speakers from DHL helped lead a class on managerial cost accounting. A graduate class offers students the opportunity to interview CFOs and write an article about financial leadership in organizations. Another enrichment offered to MAcc students is an improv workshop with Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, which stimulates students to find creative ways to solve unstructured problems.

## EY Undergraduate Teacher-Scholar Program

Students often have the opportunity to work with faculty on research that ties scholarship to practice. An example of this is the EY Undergraduate Teacher-Scholar Program. With support from EY, one student per year is chosen to conduct research with distinguished professors on an interesting topic, with the end goal of publishing an academic paper at the end of the experience.

This year, Snigdha Porwal spent her summer working with Tim Eaton on a project titled, "An Introduction to Alteryx: A Powerful New Data Wrangling Tool for Accountants," an instructional guide for accountants that also highlights how this new tool is different from Microsoft Excel. In addition, Snigdha helped with data gathering from Dr. Eaton's study examining fraud among accounting academics.

## Case Competitions

Accounting students have the opportunity to participate in regularly held case competitions, which exposes them to cases drawn from real life while earning course credit. Some cases also invite students to present solutions to current business problems.

- **Textron Case Competition:**

Six teams, with a total of 29 accountancy and finance majors participating, reviewed Textron's financial statements in order to make recommendations that will improve the business. Students presented their recommendations to leadership and staff from Textron Aviation. This year's winning team members are Jinghan Wang, Zach Hahn, Liam Henderson, Andrey Golubev, and Ursula Patel.

- **PwC's Challenge Case Competition:**

This case competition was held with six teams (27 students participating, with a combination of accountancy and other business majors), who are each assigned a PwC mentor. The case involved an acquisition of a theme park operator, which owned a subsidiary that developed computer games. Participants were asked to analyze company information and make a recommendation for the new owners to hold, buy, or sell the subsidiary.



*Bob Guido (far left), the PwC partner who oversees the Challenge case competition, poses with the winning team, "Kicking Names and Taking Assets," which includes Jacob Chin, Victoria Holvey, Matthew Munger, Alexandra Stahler, and Benjamin Webster.*

- Deloitte Audit Innovation Campus Challenge:

A team of five accountancy students represented Miami at the regional case competition held in Chicago. The "challenge" was to develop and propose a new, innovative service offering for Deloitte's assurance services that targets "less traditional, non-financial subject matters." Miami's team proposed creating an assurance and certification process for the college admissions process, which addresses concerns in light of recent litigation regarding race-based quotas in reviewing college applications. The team members were Frannie Hillyer, Tori Holvey, Morgan Pohl, Louie Raines, and Natalie Weirtz.

"The most impactful experiences from my time in the Accountancy program are the co-curricular activities I participated in. The level of personal interaction from Miami faculty during the strategy-based consulting experience in Cincinnati, OH and case competitions provided me with a better sense of the many career opportunities available to graduates in this field."

— Allyson Heitger, Accountancy and Information Systems & Analytics double major

## Study Away and Study Abroad

These "away" programs provide students with a detailed look at accounting principles in action. Recent offerings include a study-abroad program in Ecuador, which focused on social entrepreneurship. An annual Winter Term study away trip to New York and Washington DC allows students to meet with legislators, regulators, policy makers and other professionals in the accounting field. Students visit key organizations, which have included the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the American Institute for Certified Public Accountants, the Securities Exchange Commission, The Clearing House and NASDAQ.



*Dr. Farrell (back row, fourth from left) co-lead an Accountancy-Entrepreneurship study-abroad program in Ecuador, during which students did a consulting project for Social Entrepreneur Corps.*

Learn more about another component of experiential learning in the William Isaac & Michael Oxley Center for Business Leadership update on pages 8 and 9.



# Dispelling the Myth about Governmental Accounting

Jennifer West '96

***“The biggest myth is that governmental accounting is easy or boring.”***



Jennifer West '96, Financial Reporting Manager at the City of Dallas, is on a mission to dispel that myth. She has been a frequent panelist in ACC 256 (Accountancy Careers and Planning), where she shares, via webinar, insights on a government accounting career path with accountancy students.

Soon after she graduated from Miami, West started a lifelong career in governmental accounting, starting with the Auditor of State of Ohio (AOS) as the assistant auditor, then moving through different roles and gaining experience working

with local governments facing fiscal crises, helping them to prepare reconstructions and reconciliations of financial records. After 15 years with the State of Ohio, her family was ready for a change in scenery, and they moved back to Texas, where she was born. She started work in the City Controller's office in Dallas, Texas, in 2011, and was promoted to her current position in 2014.

## **A Technically Challenging Role**

West stressed that government accounting is not at all as easy as some might expect. “In governmental accounting, you have to understand three different measurement focuses of accounting: budgetary (cash) basis, modified accrual, and full accrual. Our financial statements are extremely complex.”

“Additionally, since the City of Dallas is such a large entity, we have many different lines of ‘business’ and in my role, I have to understand all of them! We provide traditional government services, such as police and fire protection. We also own Dallas Love Field Airport, the Dallas Water Utilities, a very large sanitation and landfill operation, a municipal radio station, Fair Park (where the State Fair of Texas is held), a convention center, and a hotel. We also report two different single-employer defined benefit pension plans. Almost every single GASB pronouncement ever issued applies to the City of Dallas. Myth BUSTED! My job is extremely challenging and is never boring!”

## **Working With People and Systems**

There is no “typical day” at the City Controller's office. Most days start with responding to multiple requests for assistance from City departments related to their accounting functions. “I work daily with staff in helping them to plan their work, as well as assisting them with resolution of issues and questions. I also spend a lot of time working on GASB statement implementations, and resolving complex accounting issues. Our team also has a very active role in software testing and implementation, as we have multiple platforms that all interface to our primary accounting system, CGI Advantage,” West shared.

## **What it Takes to be in Government Accounting**

Resilience and persistence are two characteristics one must cultivate in government accounting, according to West: “Many of the things I work on take long-term commitment, and I have to push through every day to make progress. Also, I have to be able to deal with emergencies that may throw my entire day, week, or month off of its planned course, and I have to be ready to recover when those things happen.”



## On the Difficulty of Recruiting Government Accountants

In the past few years, West noted that it has become extremely difficult to find recent graduates with an interest in governmental accounting. Like any other accounting discipline, governmental accounting is a specialty. “I am passionate about disproving the myth that government service, especially service in government finance, is a boring, dead-end career path. Even though our work is often behind-the-scenes, accurate and timely financial information helps decision makers ensure the financial future of the community. Our work is extremely fast-paced, ever-changing, and extremely challenging.”

### Going Back to Texas

West was born in Texas and lived there until eighth grade, after which her family moved to Hillsboro, Ohio. She was excited to go back when the opportunity to work for the City of Dallas came up. Her husband, born and raised in Ohio, was a little apprehensive about the transition, but they both agree that they are very happy in Texas, especially with the milder winters: “Our son plays baseball nearly year-round!”

Texas has much to offer as a growing city, according to West: “Texas has a very steady economy and the pace of our recent growth as a State is amazing. The size of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex can be overwhelming at times, especially when it comes to traffic, but we are fortunate to have anything and everything we could ever need or want within a few minutes’ drive. We have several major sports teams, two international airports, multiple cultural centers, world-class hotels and shopping and restaurants with delicious foods from literally every country on the planet!”

As much as we love Texas, we do miss our family and friends in Ohio, as well as the history and small-town feel that even larger Ohio cities like Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, and Cleveland have to offer.”



# William Isaac & Michael Oxley Center for Business Leadership Update



## William Isaac & Michael Oxley Center for Business Leadership Inaugural Leadership Day

The Isaac & Oxley Center for Business Leadership held its inaugural Leadership Day event at the Boathouse Restaurant in Cincinnati, Ohio, this past April. Student participants included 35 CBL Student Fellows, as well as 20 students from Xavier University and the University of Cincinnati.

The purpose of the event is to help foster student development of meaningful executive leadership skills and to expose them to the real challenges faced by business leaders. Student attendees reported that Leadership Day helped develop their appreciation for and understanding of the challenges for effective executive leadership.

They also commented that Leadership Day provided them with tangible and useful examples and techniques for effective executive leadership. Speakers included:

- Brooke Balcom (Director of Business Capital, First Financial Bank)
- Tim Schroeder (CEO & Founder; Clinical Trial & Consulting Services)
- Julia Poston (Office Managing Partner, EY Cincinnati)
- Michael Fisher (President & CEO, Cincinnati Children's Hospital)
- Tara Mink (Director of Nursing, The Jewish Hospital Blood Cancer Center)
- Bruce Broxterman (President, Richards Industries)
- Mike Belza (VP Assets & Liabilities, Fifth Third Bank)

***The CBL plans to offer the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leadership Day in April of 2020.***



## Isaac & Oxley CBL Student Case Competition

The Isaac & Oxley Center for Business Leadership (CBL) Inter-Disciplinary Student Case Competition develops students' leadership abilities to perform more effectively (1) in unstructured decision environments and (2) using interdisciplinary approaches. The competition is a unique, semester-long case program, now in its sixth year, where students of all majors and years compete and work together to understand and solve complex, realistic business challenges.

Students report that participating in the case program increased their awareness of Duke Energy (the sponsor) as an organization (6.82 on a 1 to 7 scale). They also reported that participating in the CBL case program helped to improve their ability to work effectively in an unstructured decision environment (6.34 on a 1 to 7 scale), as well as improved their ability to work effectively in an inter-disciplinary manner (6.45 on a 1 to 7 scale).

The CBL is now seeking new corporate sponsors to sustain this exciting and uniquely impactful case program. Please contact CBL co-director Dr. Dan Heitger ([heitgedl@miamioh.edu](mailto:heitgedl@miamioh.edu)) or Faculty Fellow Dr. Brian Ballou ([balloubj@miamioh.edu](mailto:balloubj@miamioh.edu)) for more information about this case program.



*Student Presenters with Professional Judges*



*2019 Case Keynote Speaker Bob Johnson*

# A Different Perspective: An Accounting Internship in Israel

By Juanita Kwarteng

*Juanita Kwarteng shares her experiences during an 8-week internship at CrediFi in Israel. CrediFi is a Fintech firm that aims to use the power of big data to bring transparency to the commercial real estate industry for all its stakeholders.*

## Describe your role during the internship

As the financial administrative assistant, I was tasked with creating monthly employee expense and reimbursement reports, reconciling bank and credit card statements, updating cost accounting spreadsheets with information in the accounting system, conducting financial analysis on the company's expenditures, and utilizing Salesforce and QuickBooks to process and manage customer invoices and payments. Through these tasks, I worked directly under the Chief Financial Officer and the financial controller. I was initially intimidated by this,

since I worked in the same office as my bosses and was helping them complete tasks that were pertinent to the time-sensitive work that they were doing. This, mixed with the cultural differences and a different organizational structure, made the internship a bit of an adjustment.

However, after a few weeks, I began to appreciate how different the Israeli business culture is from the United States. The flatter organizational structure and more casual business culture made it easier for me to develop genuine relationships with my direct bosses and gave

me more responsibilities in the workplace. I had lunch with my boss (financial controller and sometimes both of my bosses) every day, and before leaving work for the day, both of my bosses gave me tips for enjoying the rest of my day, such as recommendations for restaurants, nice beaches to try, tourist attractions, and others.

## How did you get into this opportunity?

I got this opportunity through a business student organization that a friend introduced me to called Tamid—an areligious and apolitical student organization on 54 college campuses across the United States with the goal of exposing students to the business culture of Israel through pro bono consulting and funding projects throughout the year. At that time, I was in the China business program, so I only had business knowledge on China and the U.S. Thus, I was really interested in how a country the size of New Jersey was changing the way we addressed important problems like doing agriculture in arid environments and drip irrigation systems. The great thing about TAMID is that it exposes you to the Israeli business culture and the various social factors that allow the country to have a successful innovative ecosystem.

One of the coolest things about this fellowship was that I was introduced to students from across the United States, China, and India. I made friends with individuals from Columbia, NYU, USC, and many more. Additionally, each summer, members are given the chance to spend eight weeks in Israel on a capstone internship experience. I was initially attracted to this organization, and later the fellowship, because of Israel's reputation of being a startup nation. As a business student, I was also interested in learning about how business was conducted in a non-Western country. The internship helped me narrow my job search: I now know that I don't want to work for a company in just a support or clerical function, but in a more analytical position that would directly further a company's goals.







*Sunrise at Masada*



*Tamid interns pose in front of the Dead Sea.*

## How did you prepare for language and cultural differences before you left?

The business languages in Israel are Hebrew and English, so I had little difficulty communicating with my supervisors. My communication issues at work stemmed from differences in how Americans and Israelis communicated. From my experience, Americans tend to be more polite with their speech and phrase things in a way that doesn't hurt the feelings of others. For instance, Americans tend to utilize the compliment sandwich method (praise, criticism, praise) when giving feedback. However, Israelis tend to be blunter in their communication and don't use unnecessary polite words. So, even when the feedback to my deliverables was positive in nature, I always interpreted it as negative because I was not used to the difference in delivery styles.

In terms of everyday living, I had a list of common words and phrases that may be needed like "ma ha'shaa?" (what time is it?) or "ma nishma?" (how are you?). In Hebrew, the pronunciation of words differs depending on the gender of the individual you are speaking to, which I struggled with. However, everyone was very friendly and willing to help me learn and tolerated my broken Hebrew. I was also able to learn a few words in Arabic. TAMID had language events that allowed members to learn how to speak conversational Hebrew. For example, we did a Hebrew tour of a small section of Tel Aviv where the tour guide spoke to us in Hebrew and taught us the words and the cultural background of some of the words.

For understanding cultural differences, I tried to do as little research as possible because I didn't want the opinions of others to paint how I saw the country. I was glad that I did this because I got to experience Israel for the first time with a fresh perspective. This made me more open to trying every experience offered to me in Israel and pushed me to interact more with the locals to hear their stories and lives in Israel.

Additionally, the fellowship had weekend events and trips to explore Israel and the different perspectives held in the country. For instance, we went to the Old City in Jerusalem and toured each of the four quarters (Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Armenian) with a guide who identified with the demographic of the specific quarter, or was very knowledgeable about it. Being able to hear about the country from its citizens instead of the news and the internet was a big plus for me.

## What was your favorite part of the experience?

Outside of the internship, one of the best things about the program was that I got to live life as a local, and not a tourist. Fellowship members were placed in apartments in Tel Aviv and received a fully loaded bus pass that allowed them to travel all of Israel and Tel Aviv. One of my favorite memories was my weekend spent in Masada National Park. Masada is a fortification in the Southern part of Israel overlooking the Dead Sea that was built by Herod the Great. A couple of fellowship members and I woke up at 3 am on a Friday morning to spend 2 hours climbing to the top of Masada to see the sunrise. The climb was



*View overlooking part of Masada*

definitely my least favorite part of the trip, but the sunrise was beautiful and made up for it. Afterward, we traveled to the Dead Sea and spent the rest of the day floating on the water and playing with mud. That, and the fact that Israel, which is the size of New Jersey, is composed of so many landscapes, were my favorite thing all summer.

**Note: Kwarteng received the 2019 Outstanding IMA Student Award from the Cincinnati North Chapter. She received a student membership in the IMA and an honorary seat on the board of directors.**

# Miami takes the DII Collegiate Water Ski National Championship Title

Maggie Peplow and Elizabeth Rowan, both graduating MAcc students, competed at the event in Rio Linda, California, on October 10-12, 2019. The team won first place overall, its third DII national title in the past four years.

Like many of their accountancy classmates, Maggie Peplow and Elizabeth Rowan completed summer internships in accountancy firms—Peplow at PwC, and Rowan at KPMG. When school started back in session, however, the two women launched into a schedule full of weekends away from campus—competing in regional and, eventually, national water ski events with the Miami Water Ski Club, a team of about 30 students. The competition season is very short—running from August to mid-October.

Peplow has served as the women's team captain for the past two years. She's been waterskiing since the age of 4, when she spent summers at her grandparents' lake house in Wisconsin. She spent her high school years show skiing, and when she came to Miami, she was pulled into the team pretty quickly—two months in, she was competing in national events.

Rowan, on the other hand, is in charge of the team's social media communications and team apparel. Originally from Lake Chautauqua, New York, she got involved with the team upon a hometown friend's encouragement, and has really enjoyed the "family away from family" that she found.

The club, which was established in 1986, participates in three events: slalom, trick, and jump. Members practice at a private lake in Harrison, Ohio, under the guidance of faculty advisor



*"A few years ago, we were at a tournament that our coach Libby couldn't attend. She specifically coaches us in trick skiing, as she has won 10+ National championships in trick skiing. One of the skiers said before trick we just need to think What Would Libby Do (WWLD). And that is where that mantra was born. She always tells us to keep our eyes up, smile, and treat every trick like a gem. Libby has always been so motivating and supportive of all our skiers. That picture was taken after our Women's Trick team skied at nationals this year. We won the event and all 5 girls got new Personal Best Trick Scores!," shared Peplow.*

Larry Downs and volunteer coach Libby van Treese '82, who was recently inducted into the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Hall of Fame. Under Coach Libby, the team has been to the nationals six times, with five of those in the past five years. "We can't take each season for granted,"

said Peplow. "Each year, the team is different depending on how many are graduating seniors." The team's strategy for winning? "Be aggressively average. Everyone's points matter," she shared.

Upon graduating, Peplow (who has a minor in sports management) plans to keep competing individually. She has accepted a full-time position at PwC in Chicago. Rowan will be attending the KPMG Master of Accounting with Data Analytics program at the University of Mississippi.





# Student Organization Updates

## Beta Alpha Psi Update

By Frannie Hillyer, Class of 2021

For the Omega chapter of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) at Miami University, 2019 has been quite the busy year. To start, BAP is celebrating its 100th year anniversary since its founding in 1919. BAP was founded 100 years ago as an international student organization for financial professionals. Today, BAP has expanded its reach to accounting, finance, and

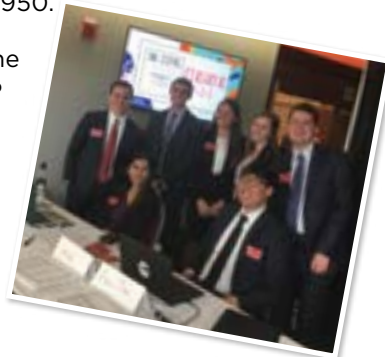


information systems and analytics majors. If you are interested in learning more about BAP's history, we encourage you to visit their website: <https://100years.bap.org/>.

This year, two representatives, President Tiffany Penwell and Vice President of Professional Relations Frannie Hillyer, attended BAP's national conference in Chicago,

Illinois. At the conference, they participated in numerous professional development, service, and networking events and returned with many ideas on how to improve the Omega chapter. Fun fact: The first female member inducted into BAP was from Miami University. Her name was Jeannine Skelton, and she was inducted in 1950.

One of the Omega chapter's big events is the annual Meet the Firms Night. This year, BAP hosted over 50 employers and over 300 students at this accounting, finance, and ISA career fair. In addition to professional development, BAP also focuses strongly on community service. In the spring, chapter members partnered with KPMG to travel to Kramer Elementary School and read



books to the kids. As for social events, the Omega chapter enjoys sharing meals together at weekly meetings and is looking forward to going to a trivia night at a local restaurant soon.

## NABA Update

by Adrian Awuah, Class of 2020



Students from Miami University, the Ohio State University, and University of Cincinnati NABA Student Chapters collaborated to host an event featuring guest speakers from the NABA Professional Chapter on April 27, 2019. One of the main speakers was Aisha Watkins, who serves as the President of the Columbus Professional Chapter. She

discussed her career path and gave advice on how to master the interview process and on being a minority in public accounting. Additionally, all three chapters gave a presentation; Miami NABA presented on professional branding.

NABA members attended the Central Regional Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, on October 11-13, 2018. There were many networking sessions and workshops throughout the conference; members had an opportunity to attend and learn more about different career paths within the accounting and finance profession.



# Miami Accountancy Alumni Yearbook: Coming Back Home

Seven members of the Accountancy department are Miami alums, who have come back to share their experience and knowledge with the next generation of Miami accountants.



**Jan Eighme '74**  
Associate Teaching Professor

Jan Eighme taught introductory financial and managerial accounting at Miami from 1992-1995, before pursuing her Ph.D. at Florida State University (Tallahassee, Florida). She came back to Miami because she enjoyed working with Miami students and wanted to live in a small town near her parents and sisters.

Eighme serves as the chief departmental advisor and currently teaches ACC 361 (Modeling Business Processes in Accounting Information Systems), ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting), and ACC 468/568 (Accounting for Governmental and Not-for-Profit Organizations).

"I am incredibly lucky to work at Miami. I have wonderful colleagues and students. They, along with Miami's commitment to excellence, its long history, its beautiful campus, and my experience as a Miami student, make Miami an ideal place to work."



**Eric Marinich '99**  
Assistant Teaching Professor

After Eric Marinich finished his undergraduate degree at Miami, he worked in investment banking and technology for 6 years. After earning his master's (University of Cincinnati) and doctoral (Michigan State University) degrees, he came back home to Oxford: "I came back to teach at Miami because I love it and it's my home."

Marinich currently regularly teaches ACC 222 (Introduction to Managerial Accounting) and, occasionally, ACC 333 (Managerial Cost Accounting).

"I love Miami because I think our university takes good care of its students and employees. I've always felt valued here. I feel like Miami is part of my family."



**William Moser '95**  
Assistant Professor

Bill Moser graduated from the University of Arizona with his PhD, and his first application package went to Miami University (despite the fact they were not in the market for a new accounting professor). "After 11 years of college at many different schools, I can honestly say that the best teaching professors I had in my life were Department of Accountancy professors

from 1993-1995. I wanted to be part of that environment, culture, and atmosphere.” As his family grew, he and his wife looked for a place where they could settle and raise their family, and when a position finally opened up at Miami, they took the chance and relocated back to Oxford.

Moser teaches ACC 343 (Introduction to Federal Income Tax) and ACC 445/545 (Taxation of Corporations and Partnerships. His research interests include examining how taxes affect firm stock price, firm cost of capital, and firm equity structure. He is also interested in the interactions among shareholders and firm bankruptcy, as well as shareholder class action lawsuits and firm reputation.

“It is a tremendous honor to contribute to the legacy of developing Miami University students for careers as future business leaders. During my time at other institutions, I observed how much time and effort the professors had to devote to their academic research—to the exclusion of student development. The wonderful thing about coming back to Miami University is that I now work at an institution that values the time and effort professors put into teaching their students.”



**Jonathan Pyzoha '04**  
**PwC Assistant Professor**

Upon graduating from Miami, Jon Pyzoha worked at KPMG as an auditor, then pursued his PhD at Virginia Tech and taught at Case Western Reserve University before heading home to Miami. “I was drawn back to Miami because it is truly a special place; it is the quintessential college experience. I have so many great memories from being a student and now we have made so many more with my family.”

At Miami, Pyzoha has taught ACC 443/553 (Financial Statement Auditing) and ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting), and is currently creating a new course, ACC 480 (Accounting and Business Ethics). His primary area of research is studying auditor judgment and decision-making.

“I love being back at my alma mater as a professor. It is an exceptional school with intelligent and engaged students who I greatly enjoy teaching and getting to know every semester.”



**Amanda Pyzoha '06**  
**Academic Program Coordinator**

Amanda Pyzoha (a Miami Merger with Jon P.) worked in public accounting for PwC (Chicago, Columbus, and Charlotte) and then in financial reporting for Advance Auto Parts (Roanoke, VA) before making her way back to Oxford.

As the Academic Program Coordinator, she assists accountancy majors with academic planning, certification planning, and career exploration; she also serves as advisor for MAcc students: “I had so many amazing people helping me when I was a student so it’s nice to be on the other side, and I love getting to help our students achieve their goals.” In the Spring 2020 semester, she will also be teaching ACC 256 (Accountancy Career Exploration).

“I truly feel privileged to work here and help our students transition from high school to college and finally to the ‘real world.’ Graduation weekend is my absolute favorite, and seeing students I’ve known for four years walk across that stage is such a special day!”



# Miami Accountancy Alumni Faculty Yearbook: Coming Back Home *(continued)*



**Marc Rubin '75**  
Dean and Professor

Marc Rubin earned his master's degree at University of Illinois, worked as a CPA in Chicago, and then pursued his Ph.D. at the University of Texas, before starting his academic career at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He came back to Miami as a faculty member in 1990, becoming chair of the accountancy department in 2003 and serving as dean of the Farmer School of Business since 2017.

Rubin considers Miami University his home: "I would have never entertained the thought of being an academic if I did not come to Miami and interact with the faculty, especially in the Department of Accountancy, during my undergraduate years. This is what I thought college should be like and where I wanted to be as the member of the academy."

"It is truly an honor and privilege to serve Miami as a faculty member, department chair, and now as dean. Not many can literally come home and find it as rewarding as I have. The staff and students are terrific, and the campus is still one of the most attractive anywhere. Miami is in a small class of universities, a medium-size state university that emphasizes a strong undergraduate education and a holistic experience. This is an environment that I really enjoy and appreciate."



**Katherine Tew '93**  
(MAcc '97)  
Instructor

Katie (Zehnder) Tew started her career after graduation at KPMG, in assurance. After marriage and having four children, she continued to work in both full and part time capacities. When her youngest child entered first grade, they were living in Cincinnati, and she was ready for her dream job: a full-time teaching position at Miami. She returned in the fall of 2016 to

Oxford: "The students and faculty at Miami drew me back to Oxford. The students are high-quality people, and likewise, the accounting faculty have always been warm, personable, and outstanding in teaching excellence from my undergraduate days until now."

Tew created and now teaches our department's accounting course for all non-business majors. This course focuses on preparing students for life and all the financial and accounting knowledge they will need to be successful in their careers, personal lives, and as a member of society.

"I get excited about making accounting come alive for students who previously have had no knowledge or training in accounting and financial matters. I consider it an honor to have such a privileged place in their lives while they are away from home and learning how to become an adult. Often, they stop by office hours to talk about accounting, but soon enough they are talking about the challenges they are facing in life, interviewing, and getting a job. I can use those opportunities to listen to them and coach them in other areas besides accounting."

# Department Updates

## **KPMG Partners with the Accountancy Department on Curriculum Innovation**

*By Drew Reffett*

The accountancy programs at Miami University have long been at the very forefront of accounting education. Maintaining our leadership position requires that we continuously innovate and enhance the educational experience we provide. Specifically, we must ensure that the accountancy curriculum equips our students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to thrive in an increasingly dynamic business world. Accordingly, we view curriculum innovation as one of our most critical departmental initiatives.

Innovating curriculum, and then implementing the consequent curricular changes, however, is a daunting task that we cannot successfully accomplish alone. In fact, over the last several years, we have relied heavily on many of our alums and stakeholders for insights and support to guide our efforts—thank you all who have contributed!

In this regard, I am ecstatic to report that one of our department's highly valued stakeholders—the active and retired partners and employees of KPMG LLP and the KPMG foundation—recently committed to provide significant resources to partner with us on our curriculum innovation efforts. Specifically, in addition to contributing up to \$250,000 over the next five years, KPMG will also provide valuable expertise in assisting our faculty develop cases that will enhance our students' ability to learn and apply new technologies to more effectively and efficiently solve problems and communicate solutions to a broad range of stakeholders.

“Supporting Miami University is an important part of how we give back to our community and aligns with our continued mission to support lifelong learning,” states Patty Basti, Partner, Risk Advisory Solutions, KPMG. “Our investment and support will help ensure the curriculum is focused on teaching our future leaders the innovative techniques the students need as they prepare to enter the workforce.”

KPMG's financial support and expertise will be instrumental in ensuring that our curriculum innovation efforts produce a state-of-the-art educational experience that equips our students with the skills and abilities they need. We thank KPMG for their generous commitment and look forward to our partnership to ensure the success of our students and that Miami's accountancy programs remain at the forefront of accounting education for many years into the future!

## **PwC Establishes Seth Kelling Memorial Scholarship**

Seth Kelling '12 (MAcc '13) was a Miami alum and PwC employee who recently lost his battle with cancer at 29 years old. PwC, with the support of Kelling's coworkers and family, has established a memorial scholarship in his honor. Mark Ross '87, Managing Partner at the Cleveland office where Kelling worked, described Kelling as an optimistic and caring worker who “could always be counted on to show up.”

While at Miami, Kelling was active in many organizations, including the Miami University Student Transfer Organization and intramural athletics. He also was a graduate assistant in the accounting department. He was a hard and dedicated worker, known for his leadership. Kelling's professors remember him as a significant contributor in the classroom who was well respected by his fellow students, and who helped others whenever he saw the opportunity. “Seth was an outstanding student, but more importantly, an even better person,” shared Andrew Reffett.

The Seth Kelling PwC Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to one or more students enrolled in the Farmer School of Business who demonstrate financial need, with preference given to students majoring in accounting. It may be renewed for three subsequent academic years to the same student(s) regardless of program of study, provided the recipient(s) remain in good academic standing.

## Department Updates *(continued)*

### **FSB Teaching Abroad - Exposing Miami Faculty to International Learning Environments**

In January, accountancy professor Karen De Meyst and marketing professor Gregory Fisher participated in the FSB Teaching Abroad Program at Christ University in Bangalore, India. De Meyst gave guest lectures on the potential role of sustainability in accounting and on managerial accounting topics, including measure management and transfer pricing, to graduate and undergraduate students.

In addition, both professors interacted with Christ University faculty, administrators, and students, providing feedback on their curriculum. "It was interesting to learn about a different educational system. It also made me appreciate more the support and teaching environment at Miami University," remarked De Meyst.

The FSB faculty members visited the campus of Infosys, a technology company, the Taj Mahal in New Delhi, and points of interest in Bangalore, taking in the various food, local living conditions, art, and languages of the area. According to De Meyst, "The visit was truly enriching because it confronted us with our biases about India and opened our eyes to the diversity and the strengths of India. My experiences at Christ have been helping me to better connect to students with South Asian backgrounds at Miami."



*Gregory Fisher and Karen De Meyst at a flower market in Bangalore*

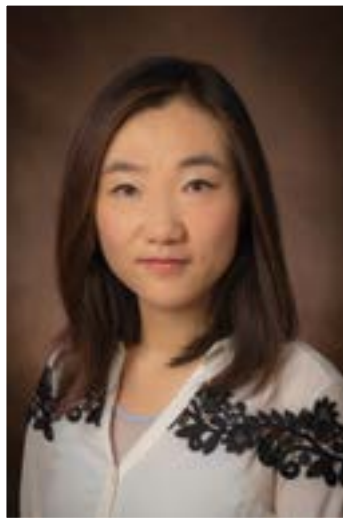




*The Department of Accountancy celebrated the graduation of 56 Master of Accountancy students in a ceremony on May 13, 2019 featuring graduation speaker Tom Laine, who is Senior Manager of Transaction Advisory Services at EY in Cincinnati.*

# Department Updates *(continued)*

## New Faculty



**Sydney Shu,**  
**assistant professor,**

teaches ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting). Prior to coming to Miami, she worked as an assistant professor at San Diego State University. Shu received her master's degree from Baylor University (Waco, Texas) and her Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma (Norman, Oklahoma).

Shu enjoys the balance of research and teaching in academia—which drew her to Miami's top-ranked graduate and undergraduate accountancy programs. She likes

working on interesting research ideas that have practical relevance to investors, practitioners, and regulators. In particular, she is interested in conducting theory-driven empirical studies on the interaction between corporate governance schemes and corporate financial reporting practices. Her research has received coverage in Compliance Week, Accounting Today, CFO Magazine, CPA Practice Advisor, and ValueWalk.

As a professor, Shu likes working with students to help them understand complicated and controversial financial accounting topics. In her free time, she enjoys a balanced and healthy lifestyle, which includes Pilates, watching soccer games, and travelling.



**Harshini Siriwardane,**  
**visiting assistant professor,**

teaches ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting) and ACC 333 (Managerial Cost Accounting). Originally from Sri Lanka, she came to Rolla, Missouri, for graduate studies more than 30 years ago. She earned both her Master's and PhD degree in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri-Rolla (now Missouri Science and Technology University), and she is a Certified Management Accountant as well as a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA, UK). Her research interests

include management controls and accounting education.

As an accountancy professor, Siriwardane finds meaning in the difference she makes for students, saying, "When I get an email from a past student, especially when it is to share their accomplishments, that really makes my day!"

Siriwardane and her husband, a physicist, have three adult children, all of whom pursued business-related fields—"When it comes to careers, he has no company at home," quipped Siriwardane. The family migrated to Oakwood, Ohio, in 2013, after living in Singapore for five years. In her spare time, Siriwardane enjoys reading, traveling, hiking, and volunteering at the hospice.

# Research Notes

## Performance Appraisals and Gender

*By Michele Frank and Anne Farrell*

Appraising employees' potential to be successful at higher ranks in an organization is often a prelude to allocating resources such as training and mentoring, and supervisors who appraise employees' potential rely on performance measures to make those judgments. However, inherent weaknesses in measurement systems make appraising potential a challenging task. Measures of employees' current job performance may not be predictive of future success if the current and higher-level jobs are quite different, and measures of whether employees have the abilities to succeed in higher-level jobs may not exist if employees haven't had to demonstrate those abilities in their current jobs. To complicate things, many organizations have explicit or implicit goals to reduce the underrepresentation of employees from particular demographic groups. In such cases, supervisors may feel pressure to avoid appearing biased against employees from these groups, or to believe high-performing employees from these groups are particularly valuable compared to equally-high-performing employees from other groups.

To understand how supervisors use performance measures when appraising potential and whether this differs for employees of different genders, Anne Farrell and Michele Frank asked professionals with an average of 20 years of experience to complete an appraisal for a fictitious employee in a fictitious bank. Participants received performance information for either a female employee, a male employee, or an employee whose gender was unknown. In all cases, performance measures indicated that the employee's past performance was strong, and no mention was made of diversity and inclusion goals for the organization.

Results suggest that the way subordinates' gender influences appraisals of potential is complicated. Participants were less likely to believe that strong past performance was driven by high ability when the fictitious employee was female. Despite those beliefs, participants were more likely to appraise the employee as having high potential when the employee was female. This pattern did not occur because employee gender influenced the participants' beliefs about how useful past performance measures were for appraising potential or the overlap in the abilities required in the current and higher-level jobs. The results suggest that implicit pressures in today's business environment may cause supervisors to become less concerned with how to consistently use performance measures in appraisal judgments and more concerned with reaching judgments that they believe are consistent with organizational goals or norms. The study is currently under peer review at a top accounting research journal, so preliminary information provided here is subject to change.



# Faculty Updates

## **William Brink**

Taught ACC 343 (Federal Income Tax Accounting) and ACC 646 (Taxes and Business Decisions). Published (with V. Hansen) "The Effect of Tax Authority Developed Software on Taxpayer Compliance," in press at Accounting Horizons; (with L. Lee) "Trust in Cloud-Based Services: A Framework for Consumer Adoption of Software as a Service in press at Journal of Information Systems; (with J. Grenier, J. Pyzoha, A. Reffett, and N. Zielinski, "Practitioner Summary: The Effects of Clawbacks on Auditors' Propensity to Propose Restatements and Risk Assessments," in press at Current Issues in Auditing; (with J. Grenier, J. Pyzoha, and A. Reffett, "The Effects of Clawbacks on Auditors' Risk Assessments and Propensity to Propose Restatements in the Journal of Business Ethics. 158(2):313 - 332; (with L. Lee, and J. Pyzoha), "Values of Participants in Behavioral Accounting Research: A Comparison of the M-Turk Population to a Nationally Representative Sample" in Behavioral Research in Accounting 31(1): 97 - 117; (with T. Eaton, J. Grenier, and A. Reffett) "Deterring Unethical Behavior in Online Labor Markets" in Journal of Business Ethics 156: 71-88.

## **Qing Burke**

Taught ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting) and 422 (Financial Accounting Research). Published "Why haven't U.S. GAAP and IFRS on Insurance Contracts Converged? Evidence from an Unsuccessful Joint Project," forthcoming at Journal of Contemporary Accounting and Economics; (with M. Wieland, and T. Warfield) "Value Relevance of Disaggregated Information: An Examination of the Volume and Rate Analysis of Bank Net Interest Income," forthcoming at Accounting Horizons.

## **Karen De Meyst**

Taught ACC 333 (Managerial Accounting) and invited lectures through the FSB Teaching Abroad Program. Participated in the Alumni Teaching Scholars Program of the Center for Teaching Excellence.

## **Tim Eaton**

Taught ACC 422/522 (Financial Accounting Research) and led the ACC 490D (Accounting and Tax Policy study away course in New York and Washington DC. Served as the 2019 EY Teaching Scholar. Published (with J. Grenier and D. Layman "Accounting and cybersecurity risk management," forthcoming in Current Issues in Auditing. Presenting

research in November (2019) in Geneva, Switzerland, at a special conference on Business and Human Rights.

## **Jan Eighme**

Taught ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting), ACC 361 (Modeling Business Processes in Accounting Information Systems), and ACC 468/568 (Accounting for Governmental and Not-For-Profit Organizations). Served as the chief departmental academic advisor. Served as an advisor for Summer Orientation for the class of 2023. Served on the editorial board of the American Journal of Business.

## **Anne Farrell**

Taught ACC 333 (Managerial Accounting) and ACC 635 (Financial Leadership in Organizations). Presented the working paper, "It's complicated: How a subordinate's gender influences supervisors' use of past performance information when appraising potential" (with Michele Frank) at the University of Georgia Terry College of Business J.M Tull School of Accounting Research Workshop, the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Business Accounting Research Workshop, and the University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation Accounting Research Workshop. Attended the American Accounting Association Management Accounting Section Conference in Fort Lauderdale, FL, and the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA. Served as Editor of Behavioral Research in Accounting and the research book series, Studies in Managerial and Financial Accounting, and on the editorial board of Management Accounting Research. Served as President of the American Accounting Association Management Accounting Section and on the research board of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. Received the American Accounting Association Outstanding Service Award.

## **Michele Frank**

Taught ACC 343 (Federal Income Tax Accounting). Published (with J. Pyzoha and J. Grenier) "How Disclosing a Prior Cyberattack Influences the Efficacy of Cybersecurity Risk Management Reporting and Independent Assurance," forthcoming in Journal of Information Systems. Served as the Ohio Region Coordinator for the American Accounting Association's Public Interest Section.

### **Jonathan Grenier**

Taught ACC 453 (Financial Statement Auditing) and ACC 650 (Fraud Examination). Published/forthcoming: (with P-C. Chen, B. Ballou, and D. Heitger) "Sustainability assurance's link to reporting quality" in the *Journal of Accountancy*; (with A. Farrell, J. Leiby, E. Retcher, and M. Shackell) "The upsides and downsides of online labor" in the *Financial Management Magazine*, September 23; (with W.D. Brink, J.S. Pyzoha, A. Reffett, and N. Zielinski) "Practitioner Summary: The effects of clawbacks on auditors' risk assessments and propensity to propose restatements" in *Current Issues in Auditing*; (with T. Eaton and D. Layman) "Accounting and cybersecurity risk management." In *Current Issues in Auditing*; (with W. Brink, T. Eaton, and A. Reffett) "Deterring unethical behavior in online labor markets" *Journal of Business Ethics* 156(1): 71-88; (with W. Brink, J. Pyzoha, and A. Reffett) "The effects of clawbacks on auditors' risk assessments and propensity to propose restatements." In the *Journal of Business Ethics* 158(2): 313-332; (with J. Brown, J. Pyzoha, and A. Reffett) "The effects of specialist type and estimate aggressiveness on juror judgments of auditor negligence" in *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory*; (with M. Frank and J. Pyzoha) "How disclosing a prior cyberattack influences the efficacy of cybersecurity risk management reporting and independent assurance." In *Journal of Information Systems*. Presented at the Auditing Midyear Meeting in Nashville, TN.

### **William Moser**

Taught ACC 343 (Federal Income Tax Accounting) and ACC 445/545 (Taxation of Corporations and Partnerships). Published (with I. Khurana and K. K. Raman) "Tax avoidance, managerial ability, and investment efficiency," *Abacus* 54(4): 547-575; Forthcoming: "The audit pricing of terrorism" in *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory*, and (with L. Biggerstaff): "The reaction of firm ex ante cost of capital to resolution of shareholder class action lawsuits" in the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*. Attended the Journal of the American Taxation Association meeting in February 2019.

### **Jon Pyzoha**

Taught ACC 453/553 (Financial Statement Auditing) and ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting). Published/forthcoming: (with W. Brink, J. Grenier, A. Reffett, and N. Zielinski). Practitioner Summary: The Effects of Clawbacks on Auditors' Propensity to Propose Restatements and Risk Assessments. Forthcoming. *Current Issues in Auditing*; (with M. Frank and J. Grenier) "How Prior Cyberattacks Influence the Efficacy

of Cybersecurity Risk Management Reporting and Independent Assurance" Forthcoming, *Journal of Information Systems*; (with J. Brown, J. Grenier, and A. Reffett) "The Effects of Specialist Type and Estimate Aggressiveness on Juror Judgments of Auditor Negligence" in *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory* 38 (3): 47-69; (with W. Brink, J. Grenier, and A. Reffett) "The Effects of Clawbacks on Auditors' Propensity to Propose Restatements and Risk Assessments" in the *Journal of Business Ethics* 158 (2): 313-332; (with W. Brink, and L. Lee) "Values of Participants in Behavioral Accounting Research: A Comparison of the M-Turk Population to a Nationally Representative Sample." In *Behavioral Research in Accounting* 31 (1): 97-117; (with J. Jenkins) "Practitioner Summary: The Influence of Auditor Quality and Executive Compensation Structure on Financial Reporting Executives' Restatement Decisions in a Clawback Environment." *Current Issues in Auditing* 13 (1): 28-36.

### **Dale Stoel**

Taught ACC 495/595 (Accounting Analysis). Published (with B. Ballou and D. Heitger) "Data-Driven Decision-Making and Its Impact on Accounting Undergraduate Curriculum in the *Journal of Accounting Education*, 44, 14-24; (with W. Brink) "Analytics Knowledge, Skills and Abilities for Accounting Graduates," in *Advances in Accounting Education: Teaching and Curriculum Innovations*, Vol. 22, 23-43.

### **Matt Wieland**

Taught ACC 622 (Information for Business Valuation and Decisions) and ACC 321 (Intermediate Financial Accounting). Published (with Q. Burke and T. Warfield) "Value Relevance of Disaggregated Information: An Examination of the Volume and Rate Analysis of Bank Net Interest Income," forthcoming at *Accounting Horizons*. Attended the 2019 Young Scholars Symposium in Financial Reporting at the University of Illinois.

### **James Zhang**

Taught ACC 361 (Modeling Business Processes in Accounting Information Systems). In press (with Tawei Wang and Carol Hsu): "The effects of voluntary GDPR Adoption and the readability of privacy statements on customers' information disclosure intention and trust" in the *Journal of Intellectual Capital*, and "The impact of vivid graphical presentation of financial information in digital annual reports on investors' impressions of management and firm performance" in the *Journal of Information Systems*. Received the American Accounting Association AIS Outstanding Dissertation Award 2019.

# Class Notes

*Have you recently started a new job? Retired from an old job? Gone to graduate school? Are wedding bells soon to ring or is a baby on the way? Let your fellow alumni know through the class notes section of the accountancy annual report. If you would like to update your fellow alumni, please send an e-mail with all pertinent information (including your graduation date and maiden name, if applicable) to [acdept@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:acdept@MiamiOH.edu).*

**Joseph Beatty, Sr., '76, CPA, MBA**, is Project Manager of Finance at Cleveland Clinic-South Pointe Hospital.

**Larry Cox '78 (1979 MBA), CPA, CMA, MCP**, is Manager, Digital & Emerging Technology at EY in Cincinnati, OH.

**Geoffrey Morgan '86, CPA** (inactive), is Vice President at Quidel Corporation, following its acquisition of Diagnostic Hybrids, Inc. (an in vitro medical diagnostic device company), where he served as CFO.

**Steven Skaggs '86** is Senior Vice President, Credit Administration, at Peoples Bank. He was promoted to this role on June 3, 2019.

**Chris Boggs '88, CPA**, is Managing Director in the Exempt Organization Tax Services practice at EY in Charlotte, NC. He previously worked at EY in Indianapolis from 2000-2016, and Crowe in Indianapolis from 1989 to 2000. He primarily serves health care, higher education, and social impact organizations. Chris' father, Dr. Robert E. Boggs, was a professor of Accountancy

at Miami from 1962 until 1984 and his sister, Ann Boggs Bader ('81, MA '82), is a Senior Assistant Director in the Office of Admission.

**Mike Zimmer '01, CPA, CGMA**, recently accepted the position of Director of Fiscal Operations for the Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati after being Treasurer of the Board of Directors on a volunteer basis for the past seven years

**Joshua Lance '05, CPA, CGMA**, is Managing Director at Lance CPA Group. Josh was recently named for the third year in a row as "40 under 40" by CPA Practice Advisor. This honor was given to Josh for his efforts in growing and scaling the CPA firm he started five years ago and for his work as Adjunct Faculty at Northwestern University, teaching Accounting to both undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, Josh was recently named to the board of directors of the Illinois CPA Society and the AICPA PCPS Executive Committee.

**Jordan Schoenfeld '09, PhD, CPA**, is Associate Professor of Accounting at Dartmouth College Tuck School of Business.

**Michael Graft '06 ('07 MAcc), CPA**, is Senior Manager at RSM. He relocated in August to Wisconsin to lead the Milwaukee office's consumer products practice and growth teams. He and his wife welcomed a baby girl, Daisy, in July, and started a non-profit in memory of their son, the What Everett Takes Foundation (<https://www.whateveretttakes.org>). They hosted their first annual golf tournament in May at Olympia Fields Country Club in Chicago, raising over \$25,000 for NICU Family support.

**Brent Schmidt '11** joined the accounting faculty at Penn State University after receiving his PhD from The Ohio State University in the spring of 2019.

**Evan Paine '17, MAcc, CPA**, is Senior Technical Accountant at PolyOne Corporation, a career move that gave him the chance to work at a Fortune 1000 company in his hometown (Avon Lake, Ohio).

**Eric Dann '18** is a graduate assistant at the University of Maryland and expected to graduate with his master's degree in accounting in December 2019.

## Congratulations to Oscar Ryland '18,

winner of the 2018 Elijah Watt Sells Award, given by the AICPA to recognize outstanding performance on the CPA Exam. Oscar is an Audit Associate with Grant Thornton LLP in Cincinnati, Ohio.



## Dean's Message

It is with a bit of nostalgia that I sit to pen this note. This summer, after 30 years as a faculty member and administrator, I will be retiring.

The department, school and university have grown so much since I first arrived as a student in 1971. All these years later, my decision to attend Miami, and then my decision to build my family and career here, are among the best decisions I have ever made. I wouldn't change a thing.

Looking through this annual report reminds me that other things certainly have changed. Whether it's designing innovative curriculum, faculty (and their students) advancing knowledge through research or teaching abroad, or connecting with alumni and recruiters to ensure that we are in step with industry needs and best practices, this department is constantly seeking ways to provide even more value to our students, the profession, and the industry. Perhaps that's why our undergraduate program was just ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the #17 public program in the country.

In short, although I will miss interacting with our incredible students, faculty and staff, and meeting with alumni and recruiters, I am looking forward to reading the next annual report and cheering from the sidelines.

Love, Honor.



Marc A. Rubin  
Interim Dean and PwC Professor  
Farmer School of Business





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