PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CONT.

Integrated Accounting Program

The Accounting Department of the John Cook School of Business is pleased to announce a new Integrated Accounting Program for undergraduate students. The five-year program will allow students to be more competitive in the job market by completing both the B.S.B.A. with a concentration in Accounting and the Master of Account- ing degree in Accounting during the same seven-year period. Both degrees are awarded upon completion of 150 hours according to University and College of Business degree requirements. Students may apply for the Integrated Accounting Program if they:

• have completed a minimum of 75 semester hours of college credit (15 hours minimum at Saint Louis University),
• have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better, and
• have completed an upper-level accounting class at SLU with a grade of “B” or better.

Applicants will take the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) before the beginning of the summer before senior year and complete all other application requirements (personal statement, two letters of recommendation, resume). Applications are available in the Graduate Programs office, Cook 132.

Students in the Integrated Accounting Program begin taking graduate courses during the second semester of their junior year. They are required to take MGT 428, Business Information Systems in the fall of their sophomore year as part of their degree course work in the final semester of their fifth year. Because students earn their bach- elor’s degree and master’s degree after five years, they may be able to use SLU financial aid dollars throughout the entire five-year period.

Full-time Internship Program

Several accounting firms who typically recruit for internships in the fall have expressed an interest in offering full-time spring semester internships beginning in the spring of 2008. Those are pri- marily auditing internships which run from early in January until Spring Break. The targeted stu- dent candidates are in the second semester of their fourth year or may also be graduate students. In order to accommodate these internships and enable our students to complete a “full-time” semester, the Accounting Department is coordi- nating an offering of several “compressed” courses during the spring 2008 semester. Those “com- pressed” courses run for a six-week period and approximately the third week of March to early May (with final exams to follow). In a pattern similar to six-week summer sessions, each class meets twice a week for three hours and fifteen minutes.

Based on a survey of students conducted last spring, the following courses will be offered on a “compressed” basis during the spring semester of 2008:

ACCT 425 – Accounting Information Systems
ACCT 614 – Seminar: Accounting & Society
MGT 400 – Strategic Management & Policy

These three courses, along with academic credit for the internship, will enable students to com- plete twelve hours during the semester. While these three courses might not work for every stu- dent with an offer for a full-time internship, the intent is to serve the greatest number of students possible.

For students interested in earning a combined accounting degree and accounting internships, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Internships.

Fall 2007: Benne, Paul Daugherty, Matthew Graser, James Kazi, Ruman

Summer 2007: Bias, Matthew Domagalski, Kevin Johnson, Chris Knapp, Kate Rinella, Paul

Spring 2007: Gu, Quan Hermann, Andrew Misterka, Catherine Schroeder, Daniel Sherfy, Jay

James P. Jennings, Ph.D. 1938-2008

A longtime Saint Louis University professor has passed away. James P. Jennings, Ph.D., professor emeritus of Accounting, died Feb. 1, 2008. Dr. Jennings served as an accounting faculty in 1976 and as a full professor from 1981 until his retirement in 2007. Jennings received his undergraduate degree from Saint Louis University (Cook 51). He received his master’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, before he completed his Ph.D. more than three decades at SLU. Jennings served as department chair, founded the University chapter of the accounting honor society Beta Alpha Psi and twice received outstanding teaching awards.

Ananth Seetharaman, Ph.D., chairman of the department, was a man of deep convictions and principles. “He was not afraid to speak his mind and will be greatly missed,” Seetharaman said. Jennings was active in the formation of the faculty senate and served as vice president of the department and president of the departmental faculty. In addition, Jennings served on the editorial board of the Journal of Accounting Education and as a reviewer for many other accounting education journals. He also helped to develop an educational Web site that continues educating for real judges.

Conferences Attended by Faculty


SELECTED FACULTY RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS


Jennings, James and Ananth Seetharaman attended the ACBSP Workshop in Orlando in May 2008.

Dear Friends of the Department of Accounting,

Welcome to the second edition of the department newsletter. Time has flown by so fast that I find it difficult to realize that I’m in my fourth year as the Chair. It has been my privilege and honor to lead the department these last few years, and it has been a tremendous learning experience.

The department and its programs have undergone several changes that are detailed in this newsletter. By way of overview, an integrated accounting program (IAP) and an accounting scholarships program (ASP) are in place. Both programs seek to ensure that our best students have a way to seamlessly integrate their undergraduate and graduate studies at SLU. Additionally, a newly-launched full-time internship program is designed to ensure that our students remain competitive in the marketplace by doing a full-time/spring internship with one of our sponsoring firms. Students who are interested in any of these programs should plan their schedules well in advance.

Several new faculty members with outstanding potential have joined the department and each of them has been profiled in this newsletter. They have begun to change the face of the department.

I’m ever-grateful to our advisory board members for their time. There are more members now than there have ever been in recent memory, and we have included graduate and undergraduate student members to ensure broad participation by all our stakeholders. Based on input from the advisory board, several changes have been implemented. For example, a new IT Audit course has been added to the department’s course schedule. The IT Audit course is unique not only because it’s the first of its kind, but also because it engages the DSC/ITM department in full-fledged cooperation.

As many of you already know, based on competitive proposals, Becker CPA Review was invited to offer classes at SLU. Becker CPA Review classes are now in their fourth round, and by all measures, it has been a successful endeavor. These classes are taught by SLU instructors. Especially with the closing of E-LA, thereby restricting access to Becker’s Westport plaza location, the SLU instructors should prove very beneficial to many students.

I would like to extend my personal note of appreciation to all who have contributed generously and directly to the Department of Accounting. The accounting department development fund, to which account these gifts are credited, is used for program enhancement purposes including funding for Beta Alpha Psi events, Meet the Firms Night, other student-oriented events, faculty research or teaching projects, and teaching and research assistants.

Thank you for your support and best wishes for a great year.

Warm regards,
Ananth Seetharaman

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Beta Alpha Psi

Leislie Vaughan, faculty advisor for Beta Alpha Psi, reports that BAP had another successful year. Its membership grew as it initiated 32 members.

Leislie says, “at our National Meeting this year (August 2007), we were awarded ‘Distinguished Chapter’, for the fourth year in a row.”

Activities during the year included presentations from many area accounting firms. These firms included the Big 4, regional and local accounting firms.

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