

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 Accounting degrees while maximizing University and outside financial aid. Both degrees are awarded upon completion of 150 hours according to University and Business School 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), preferably in 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 senior year. They are required to take MGT 428, Business Law II, as part of undergraduate course work in the final semester of their fifth year. Because students earn their bachelor's degree and master's together 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. These are primarily auditing internships which run from early in January until Spring Break. The targeted student 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 coordinating an offering of several "compressed" courses during the spring 2008 semester. These "compressed" courses run for a six week period from 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 complete twelve hours during the semester. While these three courses might not work for every student with an offer for a full-time internship, the intent is to serve the greatest number of students possible. The schedule for future "compressed" course offerings may be modified. Students who are earlier in their programs should begin to plan for the possibility of a full-time internship in the Spring semester of their fourth year. The experience gained on these internships will provide students a huge boost to start their accounting careers.

Interested students may contact any of the department's full-time instructors to serve as the faculty advisor for full-time internships. Dr. Keithley and/or Allison Roba (Undergraduate Internship Coordinator) may be contacted for additional information concerning these full-time internships. Contact information is shown below:

Dr. John Keithley 314-977-3856
 keithley@slu.edu

Allison Roba 314-977-3857
 aroba@slu.edu

FACULTY NEWS & NOTES

New Faculty Stars

Weimin Wang earned his Ph.D. at Washington University in St. Louis and taught at Tulane University in New Orleans for six years before joining SLU in 2006. His teaching interest is in financial accounting. In his research, he studies the role of accounting information in capital markets.



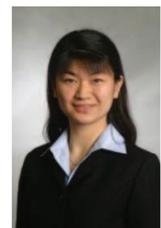
Dr. Weimin Wang

Frank Wang joined the faculty in 2007. He recently earned his Ph.D. from University of Texas at Arlington. Prior to that, he earned his master's degree in information systems management from Carnegie Mellon University. His research interests include executive compensation, corporate governance and control, financial analysis and reporting, and capital markets. Frank enjoys running, traveling, watching comedy, and listening to music.



Dr. Frank Wang

Yan Sun earned her doctoral degree in Accounting from Olin School of Business, Washington University in St. Louis and joined the faculty in 2007. Her principal teaching interest is financial accounting and reporting. Her primary research interests include financial accounting and reporting, voluntary disclosure, financial statement analysis, and earnings quality. Professor Sun is a member of American Accounting Association and Beta Gamma Sigma. In her spare time, Professor Sun enjoys spending time with family, traveling, and listening to music.



Dr. Yan Sun

Debbie Pike joined the faculty on a full-time basis in the fall of 2006 after previously serving as an adjunct professor. She completed her BSBA in Accounting in 1986 and earned her MBA in Finance from SLU in 1992. A member of the Missouri Society of CPAs and a CPA since 1988, she began her career as an auditor with KPMG. Debbie then commenced her professional tenure in industry, most of which has been with a large St. Louis-based corporation. Starting in the internal audit area, she progressed through the financial organization, ultimately leading the extensive project accounting team. In her free time, Debbie tremendously enjoys being with her family, supporting her children's extra-curricular activities, and is passionate about St. Louis Cardinals baseball.



Ms. Debbie Pike

Leslie Vaughan joined the faculty on a full time basis in the fall of 2006 after previously serving as an adjunct professor for three years. She is a licensed CPA and a member of Missouri Society of CPAs. She is the faculty advisor for Beta Alpha Psi, an honorary organization for Accounting, Finance, and MIS majors and Delta Sigma Pi, an International Business Fraternity. In addition to teaching, she has worked in corporate accounting for several years. Her primary areas of accounting interest are financial and managerial/cost accounting. In her spare time, Leslie enjoys SEC college football (WAR EAGLE!) and spending time with her family.

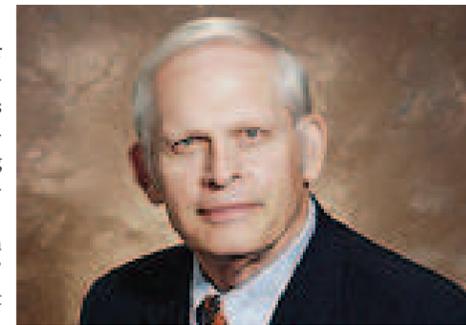


Ms. Leslie Vaughan

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 Friday, Feb. 1, 2008. Dr. Jennings joined the Saint Louis University accounting faculty in 1976 and served as a full professor from 1981 until his retirement in 2007. Jennings received his undergraduate degree from Saint Louis University (Cook '61). He received his master's degree and doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1962 and 1970, respectively. During his 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 of accounting, says Jennings 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 and chair of the compensation committee, taking a leading role in the development of phased retirement and improvements to the TIAA plan as well as providing alternatives to TIAA-CREF. He also was the first faculty representative on the Board of Trustees finance committee. 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 received recognition as an accounting expert by the court system where he provided continuing education for trial judges.



Conferences Attended by Faculty

Ananth Seetharaman and John McGowan attended the Ernst and Young Tax Symposium in Washington D.C. in October 2007. John McGowan attended the PwC University for Faculty in July 2007.

SELECTED FACULTY RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Carnes, G., and A. Seetharaman, 2007. "The "Placed in Service" Decision: Ambiguity Necessitates Careful Planning to Maximize Benefits," *The Tax Adviser*, (November): 640-42.

Iyer, G. S., and A. Seetharaman, 2008. "The Effects of Standardized Tax Rates, Average Tax Rates, and the Distribution of Income on Tax Progressivity," forthcoming, *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*.

Lynn, S., C. Seetharaman, and A. Seetharaman, 2008. "The Incremental Value Relevance of Unrecognized Deferred Taxes: Evidence from the U.K." Forthcoming in the *Journal of the American Taxation Association*.

McGowan, J.R., 2008. "The Aftermath of Abusive Tax Shelters: CPA Prosecutions on the Rise," *The Tax Adviser*, (March).

McGowan, J.R., 2008. "Tax Practitioners Opinion on the New Section 6694 Penalty," *The Asset*: Missouri Society of CPAs. January.

Frankel, R., W. Mayew, and Y. Sun, 2007, "Do Pennies Matter? Investor Relations Consequences of Small Negative Earnings Surprises," Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Accounting Association. Chicago, Illinois.

Sun, Y., 2007, "Inventory Increases, MD&A Disclosures, and Firm Performance," Annual Meeting of the American Accounting Association. Chicago, Illinois.

Guithues-Amrhein, D., S. Farewell, and R. Pinsker, 2007, "REA and XBRL GL: Synergies for the 21st Century Business Reporting System," 7th Bryant XBRL Conference.

Beta Alpha Psi - continued

counting firms as well as others like Edward Jones, Boeing, and Express Scripts. Other activities included a fundraiser "Trivia Night" in which money was raised to send two officers, Tracy Dillenger and Renee McCormack to the Beta Alpha Psi Regional Meeting in Kansas City. Tracy and Renee competed in the Best Practices Competition on Sustained Community Service at the meeting and won second place. Members also participated in SLU's Make a Difference Day, the second annual JCSB Service Day, Scouting for Cans with the Boy Scouts and multiple tutoring sessions in accounting.

At the end of the year, the following officers for the 2008-2009 year were installed: **Jessica Gray**, president; **Annette Bettag**, vice president; **Christopher Tkach**, reporting secretary; **Nicole Pournay**, corresponding secretary; **Bingxing Su**, treasurer; and **Hope Robinson**, webmaster. Dr. Keithley received the Faculty Member of the Year Award this year.

This upcoming year is promising to be a great year. Most all meetings have been scheduled and can be viewed on our website on the Accounting home page. We welcome all faculty and students to come to our meetings which will be held on Mondays from 4-6 in DS 273. Please mark your calendars for our Third Annual Trivia Night to be held on Monday, October 1st in the Saint Louis Room in the BSC from 6-9PM.

Please mark your calendars on May 2nd for the annual Spring Banquet. At this meeting, new officers and pledges are installed, an award is given to an outstanding alumni. Awards are also given to the outstanding professor, BAP officer and member.

Cracking the CPA Exam

Congratulations to the following Saint Louis University graduates who passed the Missouri Certified Public Accountants Exam:

October/November 2007 period:

Benne, Paul	BSBA ACCT	1/05
	MACC	1/06
Daugherty, Matthew	BSBA ACCT	5/06
	MACC	5/07
Graser, James	BSBA ACCT & MIS	5/07
Kazi, Ruman	BSBA ACCT & FIN	5/06

July/August 2007 period:

Bias, Erica	MACC	5/07
Brauch, Teresa	MBA	8/97
Dowell, Michelle	BSBA ACCT	5/00
	MACC	5/01
Hartz, Benjamin	BSBA ACCT	5/05
Hintmann, Margarete	HBSBA	5/06
	MACC	5/07
Moritz, Brandon	BSBA ACCT & FIN	5/06
	MACC	5/07
McGowan, Grace	BSBA IB & Spanish	1/04
Pribyl, Kate	BSBA ACCT	5/06
	MACC	5/07
Rinella, Paul	BSBA ACCT & FIN	1/06

April/May 2007 period:

Gu, Quan	MACC	5/05
Hermann, Andrew	BSBA ACCT	5/05
	MACC	5/06
Misterka, Catherine	BSBA ACCT & FIN	5/06
	MACC	5/07
Schroeder, Daniel	BSBA ACCT & FIN	5/04
Sherfy, Jay	BSBA ACCT & FIN	5/05
	MACC	

NEXT ISSUE OF NEWSLETTER: WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Dr. John McGowan has assumed the position of Editor of the Accounting Department Newsletter. The Associate Editor is Dr. Yan Sun. The next issue of the newsletter will be published in the spring of 2009. We would like to include a section titled "Alumni News and Notes." Please therefore consider sending in news items and pictures that you would like to share for publication. News items may include promotions, job transfers, marriages, births, back-to-school decisions, etc. Please email your items to macc@slu.edu and they will be routed to the proper location.



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Department of Accounting



2008 NEWSLETTER



Seated from left to right: Dr. Jack Kissinger, Dr. Denise Amrhein, Dr. Ananth Seetharaman

Standing from left to right: Dr. Weimin Wang, Ms. Leslie Vaughan, Ms. Debbie Pike, Dr. John McGowan, Dr. John Keithley, Ms. Debbie Barbeau, Dr. Yan Sun

Not Pictured: Dr. Frank Wang.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS

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 scholars 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 coop-

eration.

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 its fourth round, and by all measures, it has been a successful endeavor. These classes are taught by SLU instructors. Especially with the closing of I-64, thereby restricting access to Becker's Westport plaza location, the SLU location 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

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

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Accounting Scholars Program

The recently-launched Accounting Scholars program provides for a smooth transition of our top students from undergraduate to graduate studies. Students are identified as Accounting Scholars at the freshman level based on extremely high academic criteria. These students are then guaranteed admission into the MACC or Integrated Accounting Program (IAP) and not required to take the GMAT exam (if they meet certain continuing GPA standards). The Accounting Scholars program seeks to ensure that the very top students stay right here, at SLU. These students also become eligible for scholarships for the Master of Accounting Program. Currently, there are 10 students identified as accounting scholars. More information about the accounting scholars program may be obtained by contacting Dr. John Keithley or Dr. Ananth Seetharaman. Pictured below are five of our accounting scholars at a recent breakfast meeting.



Front row (left to right) - Kevin Eichhorn, Jessica Walker, Keeley Farmar, Mary Renee DuFaux, Dr. Ananth Seetharaman. Back row (left to right) - Dr. John Keithley, Jonathan Dirnbeck. Not pictured: Steven Werner, Allison Hopke, Kimberly Krumske, Elizabeth Niemann, and Anne Smegner (the last three are studying abroad this semester)