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**Thank you**
- Student Workers & Graduate Assistants
Faculty Fundraising

This year, the Department of Accounting reached 100% faculty participation again for the university’s Family Campaign and Step Up for State. These events helped raise money for many departments and scholarships across campus. We look forward to next year’s fundraising campaigns and hope to continue to support the university’s mission.

Retiring Faculty

Mrs. Diane Eure

A retirement celebration was held for Diane Eure on Tuesday, May 2. Faculty, staff, students, family, and friends came to wish her a happy retirement. Dr. Ann Watkins presented Diane with the Texas State star containing the farewell wishes of her colleagues written on the back.

Diane, a Senior Lecturer, is retiring after spending 35 years in higher education with the last 12 years teaching at Texas State. Diane taught Introduction to Managerial Accounting to more than 240 Texas State business students and served as a course coordinator for more than 700 students who were enrolled in managerial accounting every semester. She is recognized as a rigorous instructor who encourages critical analysis and depth of thought by combining traditional and innovative teaching methods.

Diane received the 2016 Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA) Outstanding Educator Award. The Texas Society of CPAs Teaching Award is a statewide award that honors Texans who have demonstrated excellence in teaching and who have distinguished themselves through active service to the accounting profession. This award recognizes instructional innovation, student motivation, the pursuit of learning opportunities for students, involvement in student and professional accounting organizations, and research accomplishments and publications.

To help students excel outside of the classroom, Diane served as the academic advisor for the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA), where she provided assistance with their meetings, events and annual regional conference. She was honored with NABA’s Faculty Advisor of the Year award in 2012 and was a 2013 dean nominee for Texas State’s Presidential Award for Excellence in Service.

Diane and her husband Jack plan to continue to travel and spend time with their granddaughter Eva. Although she will be greatly missed by her colleagues and students, she is wished happiness and good health in her retirement. Happy travels, Diane!
Faculty Awards & Recognition

Mrs. Kathy Moffitt received the Department of Accounting Advisory Board Faculty Engagement Award. Students were able to vote on the professor that had the greatest impact on their academic career. It was a close vote, so the final decision was then handed to the advisory board to determine based on student feedback. Mrs. Moffitt received her award at the Inaugural Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet from advisory board member Michael Smith (below).

Student Comments

“She knows her students’ names and greets us by name in class. It may seem like a small gesture, but it stands out. It makes her more approachable and easier to ask for help. I have nothing but great things to say about her, and I fully believe that she deserves recognition for her effort. I have not had a professor as invested in her students as she is.”

“She helped me with everything from A to Z.”

“Professor Moffitt is by far the best teacher I’ve ever had.”

“Professor Moffitt really takes a genuine interest in her students.”

“Amazing professor. Gives you the ability to truly learn and excel at what you do. Always available to help or give advice about careers.”

“Professor Moffitt has easily had the greatest impact on my time here at Texas State... [She] embodies care and support and her students love and admire her for it... I have thoroughly enjoyed all of my accounting professors at Texas State, but Professor Moffitt is the one that stands above the rest and has made (and will continue to make) the greatest impact on my life.”
The Accounting Club is designed to be the primary link between students and potential employers. It is a stepping stone into honor societies like Beta Alpha Psi, graduate programs like the MAcy or MsAIT offered at Texas State, and internships and full-time employment with any one of the many wonderful firms that visit the club every semester.

Because our primary goal is helping students progress, the Accounting Club and Accounting Department teamed up to try something new. This semester was the first in which we hosted the Spring Firm Showcase, a shakeup of the traditional Meet the Firms event. Instead of the standard one day, three-hour format, we were able to spread the firms out over four days, each day lasting about three hours. This extra time allowed for the students to watch presentations by the attending firms before networking with the recruiters. The event allowed for a fresh experience praised by both firms and students.

This semester we also were able to send students on office visits at various firms, volunteer at Bobcat Build, and contribute around $5,000 to scholarship funds. We hope that through these opportunities, our students are able to grow into the best Bobcats they can be.

President | Matthew Morris
Vice President | Tulsi Bhakta
Vice President | Jacob Wright
Treasurer | Mostafa Kassem
Treasurer | Joslyn Paris

Special Events Coordinator | Candace Jenkins
Special Events Coordinator | Kevin Schryver
Program Director | Daisy Lara
Technical Administrator | Javier Garza
From the President

Neftali Palacio

The spring 2017 semester opened a wide variety of opportunities for the candidates and members of Beta Alpha Psi. The Kappa Eta Chapter continues to further develop students into future business leaders. With the help of all the officers, our chapter was able to bring in speakers from different types of companies, including big 4, mid-tier, and regional accounting firms, along with other financial institutions. During these meetings, professionals with industry knowledge shared their experiences with our members and helped them gain a better understanding of what to expect as recent college graduates.

The chapter also participated in the Best Practices Competition during the Regional BAP Conference that took place in Dallas, TX. The three members that participated started to prepare their presentation an entire semester before competition. This not only helped the team secure a spot in the top 3 chapters of the Southwestern Region, but it also provided us with a vision for our chapter.

As president of this professional organization, I have gained many new connections with current students with the same mindset as mine. It’s been a great opportunity to be a part of a team of officers that contributed to the continuous success of the chapter. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to give back to an organization that helped me grow as a student professional.

“I am truly grateful for the opportunity to give back to an organization that helped me grow as a student professional.”

Officers

President | Neftali Palacio
Vice President | Stephanie Cantu
Vice President | Taylor Rafford
VP of Finances | Melanie Schuchert
VP of Membership | Skylar Foster
VP of Media Relations | Mistik Castillo
VP of Media Relations | Nakyla Darby

VP of Volunteer & Professional Activities | Helen Boecker
VP of Volunteer & Professional Activities | Mallory Bruns
VP of Reporting | Halie Woodfin
VP of Special Projects | Nicholas Oloteo
Director of Finance Majors | Colton Thomas
Director of Finance Majors | Monica Sandoval
National Association of Black Accountants

From the President

Joshua Reeves

NABA is a student organization that helps students develop professional skills and network with other professionals in the field as well as students from other universities. We are usually a small group of students who get to know each other very well. My mission was to know every student in the organization and to try and help them reach their future goals. The speakers that we have are usually focused on accounting and finance but all majors are encouraged to join us for our meetings. We host speakers that you can network with that can help you in the future.

I had been a NABA member for 2 years before I became president and I have enjoyed every aspect of what the organization has to offer. If you are not a member of NABA, I would encourage you to join. In spring 2017, we have had a variety of speakers come and present to NABA, including those from Southwest Airlines, Dell, and VISA. All of the students in attendance really enjoyed learning about those companies. This semester we also visited the offices of the Texas Comptroller and Valero, both in San Antonio. This gave students the opportunity to not only hear about what the companies stand for, but they also had a chance to view their campuses. We also had the opportunity to go to events held by the national chapter to get to network with members from UT, UTSA, and Huston-Tillotson.

NABA was also able to help out in the community. We were able to volunteer and participate in the academic resource fair as well as Bobcat Build and the accounting showcases held at the beginning of the semester. Most of our volunteer events are done with Accounting Club and Beta Alpha Psi. It gives us a chance to meet the students in other organizations and build long lasting relationships.

Our faculty advisor, professor Diane Eure, will be retiring at the end of the semester. She has done a marvelous job getting to know the students in the organization and keeping in contact with them when they leave Texas State. Our new faculty advisor, professor Alex Hampshire, has done a great job in helping the organization. I have learned a lot since being president of NABA and it is never to late to join our organization. I hope to see some new faces next semester.

Officers

President & SCREP Coordinator | Joshua Reeves
Past President | Sierra Wright
VP of Membership & Treasurer | Sydney Kyle

Co VP of Communications | Bobby Nkemka
Co VP of Communications | Destiny Burruss
VP of Operations | Mostafa Kassem
The spring 2017 semester got off to a great start on Thursday, January 19. Beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Alkek Teaching Theatre, the Accounting Club held a joint meeting with Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) and the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) to create membership interest among business students by giving individual presentations on the benefits of joining each club. Together, the organizations encouraged students to join at least one club, if not all of them. Around 150 students gathered to hear what this coming semester held for the student organizations. Students who successfully completed Intermediate Accounting I with a B or higher for fall 2016 were also celebrated. The event concluded in spectacular fashion as Intermediate Accounting I “survivors” received their commemorative t-shirts sponsored by participating firms. Students then had a chance to engage with faculty over pizza provided by the Accounting Club.

The student organization presidents and officers are hopeful that these introductory joint meetings will help increase the number of applications for all three clubs.

Thank you to the firms who sponsored the “Survivor” t-shirts! If you are interested in sponsoring future “Survivor” t-shirts, email accounting@txstate.edu.
Spring Firm Showcase

This semester, the Accounting Club hosted its first Spring Firm Showcase. The Spring Firm Showcase is a series of four events at which CPA firms, big and small, recruit for full-time positions and internships. At each event, firms make presentations to students. Afterwards, students have a chance to meet with recruiters one-on-one. Each event had door prizes and volunteer opportunities. Overall, a total of 163 students participated. After receiving feedback from students and recruiters, the Accounting Club, as well as the Department of Accounting, looks forward to improving next year’s Spring Firm Showcase, hopefully achieving an even greater turnout.

Showcase #1

On Thursday, January 26, the first event of the Spring Firm Showcase went off without a hitch. Ten local and regional firms attended this event, nine of whom presented to 111 students. The firms and students were randomly divided up into three rooms for the presentations.

After the presentations, the students and firms were released to the 1st Floor of McCoy Hall for an open networking session. Dr. Ann Watkins and Accounting Club President Matthew Morris announced the drawing for two $100 gift cards. Students were eligible for the drawing once they joined one of the accounting student organizations. Ticket winners were Ayoung Kim and Conner Day.

Refreshments were provided courtesy of the sponsoring firms. Matthew Morris, Accounting Club President, feels that this was a wonderful start and received very positive feedback from attendees.

Participating Firms
ADKF, PC
Atchley & Associates, LLP
ATKG*
Calhoun, Thomson + Matza, LLP
Harper & Pearson Company, PC*
Lane Gorman Trubitt LLC*
MaloneBailey, LLP*
Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P.
RidoutBarrett
The Mangold Group

*Refreshment Sponsors
Showcase #2

The 2nd week’s showcase was structured differently than the previous week’s event. For this event, three mid-tier firms were invited to present to the entire group of students. This event was hosted in McCoy 242 and sponsored refreshments were served in the Atrium on the 4th floor of McCoy.

With 97 students in attendance, the room was completely full. Overall, students enjoyed the presentations and meeting the representatives during the reception after.

Two $100 gift card door prizes were given away again after the presentations. For this event, the winners were Greyson Gillette and Isaac Silva. Before the drawing, gift cards were presented to the winners of the previous week.

“I liked that I was able to see how the firms presented themselves through public speaking. This gave me a great insight into each firm’s culture, their relationships, and how important it is for them to look their best.” —Anonymous Student

“I loved that we were able to talk a little bit about our company and what makes us unique. Then we had the opportunity to talk in more detail with each student individually.” —Anonymous Recruiter

Participating Firms
Briggs & Veselka Co.*
CliftonLarsonAllen
PMB Helin Donovan*

*Refreshment Sponsors
The third showcase was held on the 1st floor of McCoy Hall on Thursday, February 9. The focus of this event was to allow mid-sized public accounting firms to speak about the advantages they bring to their associates and clients. 113 students were informed about daily operations and other opportunities associated with each firm, such as internship positions. Students attended three brief presentations and were able to network with the rest of the firms at the reception. Refreshments were again provided, thanks to firm sponsors, so that students did not have to leave for dinner.

Student attendance remained high, as it had been at previous events. Two $100 gift cards, provided by the Accounting Club, were again given as door prizes. Ticket winners were Bonnie Anton and Andrea Reinke.

“Excellent format which allowed us to talk to multiple students at one time. In the future, maybe shorten the presentations and have the recruiters rotate rooms.” —Anonymous Recruiter
The final event for the Spring Showcase was a great success. We had an amazing turnout of 75 students, all of whom had to attend at least 2 other events to qualify for attendance.

This event featured the Big Four accounting firms. Despite minor technical difficulties, the presentations went very smoothly. The students all seemed to enjoy hearing from the firms and had good feedback about the event.

Thanks to the generous donations from the firms for all four weeks, the Accounting Club was able to present a Grand Prize, a $1,000 gift card, to a student during a random drawing. Each student entered into the drawing had attended all three prior events. The winner of the drawing was Daisy Lara, an Accounting Club officer who had worked directly with the firms to organize these events.

In addition to the Grand Prize, we were able to have a second surprise drawing. The prize was a sponsored gift certificate, acquired by Accounting Club officer Kevin Schryver, for a night’s stay in Austin courtesy of Hyatt Regency. The winner of the surprise drawing was Greyson Gillette.

“We want to thank all the firms for their time at our events! We also want to thank all contributing teachers, students, and administration for their devotion to the Spring Showcases. We are so grateful for all of the people that coordinate the events behind the scenes. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication!” —The Accounting Club
The Accounting Club: Austin Office Visits

PMB Helin Donovan, RSM, & Weaver

On Friday, February 24, the Accounting Club held office visits in Austin. Twenty students participated in visits to PMB Helin Donovan, RSM and Weaver. The purpose of these visits was for students to gain a better perspective of each firm’s culture and to learn about what a typical day is like for both tax accountants and auditors.

Each firm provided students with food and a few promotional items. The day started at PMB with representatives Alan Couoh, Kelly Logan, and Donald McPhee. They provided students with Jason’s Deli for breakfast. Next, students visited RSM, speaking with representatives Blythe Arguez, Jeff Anderson and several staff, partners and consultants. RSM provided Pluckers’ for lunch. Students concluded the visits at Weaver with representative Emily Garland who provided Tiff’s Treats for students as their day was coming to a close.

Maxwell Locke & Ritter, PwC, & Novogradac

On Friday, March 24, the Accounting Club hosted its second Austin office visit with 15 students in attendance. Students had the opportunity to visit Maxwell Locke & Ritter, PwC, and Novogradac.

The representative from Maxwell Locke & Ritter Company was Mr. R.J. Salome. Mr. Salome showed the students around the office and informed them about the firm’s tax internship. Torchy’s Tacos was provided. This particular firm encourages students to gain experience with other accounting firms before working with them to broaden their skills and expose them to a variety of work environments.

Next, students had the opportunity to visit PwC’s office. At PwC, the students were able to learn more about what opportunities and benefits the firm has to offer, such as points for going to the gym, eye doctor, and orthodontist because PwC wants to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Lastly, students went to Novogradac where the firm’s representatives, Ms. Andrea Sivells and Mr. Alex Teich, told the history of how Novogradac started. The firm provided Tiff’s Treats for the students. They were able to speak with a current intern and three of the partners. Students learned that at Novogradac, unlike most accounting firms, employees work on both tax and audit, rather than being required to pick one over the other!

The Accounting Club would like to thank all of the firms and their representatives for the opportunity to meet with them and share a meal. They are looking forward to hosting more office visits in future semesters because these visits are great opportunities for students to meet with the firms and experience their culture.
BAP Regionals

The Beta Alpha Psi Regional Conference took place at the Sheraton Hotel in Dallas, TX. A total of 7 members attended the conference, including the Leadership Development team. Stephanie Cantu, Collton Thomas, and Isaac Williams competed in the morning on Saturday, February 25. The team’s hard work and dedication paid off as they brought home 2nd place for Best Practices in Leadership Development! At the event, the Texas State Kappa Eta Chapter was passed down the torch to host next year’s Regional Conference that will take place in Oklahoma. Members look forward to continue representing Texas State University. Congratulations, team!

The team would like to thank everyone who supported them.

Beta Alpha Psi Outreach

Beta Alpha Psi continued their volunteer efforts, participating in numerous events over this semester. Volunteering is a core component of the organization as candidates and members are required to volunteer between 8-10 hours each semester. Through their efforts, they continue to support the university by volunteering for department events such as the VITA tax clinic and the Spring Firm Showcase as well as the San Marcos and Austin communities by volunteering for the Food Bank, Austin Animal Center, among the other events highlighted below.

Habitat for Humanity

Early in the semester, members of BAP volunteered at a Habitat for Humanity site in San Marcos, TX. The event, led by Nicholas Oloete, took place during the morning of January 27. Thirteen members successfully helped clean up a lot that will be used to build a home for someone in need.
Bobcat Build

The Kappa Eta Chapter participated in the annual Bobcat Build volunteer event on April 1. Accompanied by a few members of the Accounting Club, a total of 43 candidates and members participated. For the first time, our chapter’s participation was high enough to work on two different job sites. The students had the opportunity to get to know each other while helping two local San Marcos homeowners.

![Bobcat Build](image1.png)

Farmer Fred’s Spring Carnival

The annual Spring Carnival took place on April 13 at the San Marcos Plaza Park. A total of 19 members staffed 10 game booths. By taking charge of the booths and communicating with the families of San Marcos, BAP members further developed their communication and leadership skills. After the event, the San Marcos Parks and Rec Department hosted a pizza social for the volunteers.

More to Come

The high standards set for the candidates and members of Beta Alpha Psi compel the organization to continue to enhance students’ skills, ultimately benefiting the communities around them. BAP looks forward to volunteering in future semesters with their growing team!

![Farmer Fred’s Spring Carnival](image2.png)
Beta Alpha Psi Induction

On April 28, 24 new members were inducted into Beta Alpha Psi during the Induction Ceremony. The spring 2017 candidates showed their commitment throughout the semesters by attending weekly meetings and completing their service hours. We welcome all of them to the Kappa Eta Chapter, and we encourage them to stay active. During the ceremony, graduating students received special regalia: white for undergraduate students and red for graduate students. Current BAP president Neftali Palacio will be passing the torch to the new BAP president Nick Oloteo for fall 2017 (top right).

2017 Spring BAP Inductees

Jennifer Acero
Steven Alvarado
Bonnie Anton
Victoria Anton
Laura Bukstein
Mary Nelle Campbell
Cameron Chase Collinsonworth
Alexis Correa
Catherine Currie
Javier H Garza
Otto Gindler
Amber Hall
Desiree Hernandez
Lena Hood
Jessica M Hunt
Rebecca S Keffer
Ayoung Kim
Angelina Koteljarenko
Daisy Lara
Blake Lyssy
Marco Navarro
Kevin Schryver
Brittany Smith
Sirena Thering

Most Professional Hours
Daisy Lara

Most Volunteer Hours
Rebecca Keffer
Gracie Trevino
On Friday, March 3, eight NABA students visited the office of the TX Comptroller of Public Accounts in San Antonio. Organized by NABA member Mostafa Kassem and McCoy College Career Advisor Bruce Howard, this office visit allowed students to explore opportunities outside of public accounting and to compare the public and government sectors. Students were able to get an in-depth look at how the TX Comptroller operates, view their auditing practice first-hand, and learn about the many opportunities and benefits available.

Kassem and the other student participants were amazed by the benefits employees receive, such as high salaries, health insurance, flexible schedules, and especially the work-life balance. Students even learned about the "undercover" aspect of auditing after hearing from an auditor who posed as a customer in a bar to observe their service and make sure the right tax amount was entered for drinks.

"The auditor said the bartenders always freak out when she pulls out her badge," said Kassem.

Through this office visit, students taking the auditing class were able to see these processes in use.

"Our audit class clicked a bit more, because they actually showed us what they do, and I was like oh, tracing. Vouching. Inquiry. Materiality," said Kassem.

Similarities and differences in auditing practices between government and public accounting were also revealed during this visit.

After the office visit, Kassem was able to schedule his contact, Ronald Kosin, to make a presentation at the next NABA meeting.

“The Comptroller’s office said they would like this to be a consistent thing,” said Kassem.

At the meeting on March 6, Kosin reiterated the benefits of working for the Comptroller that he had discussed during the office visit. He said that they do not offer internships, but they do offer full-time positions for students after graduating.

This additional meeting with Kosin had more students interested in working for the government.

NABA hopes to continue making office visits and exposing students to the many opportunities available in accounting.

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Mostafa Kassem and Bruce Howard arranged another office visit on Friday, March 24 to Valero’s headquarters in San Antonio. Eight students participated and were shown around by two Valero interns and a recruiter. Valero currently does not recruit out of Texas State due to their on-going internship that spans fall, spring, and summer semesters. This office visit allowed students to see opportunities in the industry and also allowed Valero to get to know Texas State students. They even encouraged Texas State students to apply for their full-time positions. Students also learned about the benefits Valero offers such as 24/7 free gym access, a credit union, free daycare, an on-site cafeteria, basketball courts, tennis courts, and a free on-site physician’s office.

“I learned Valero is a very young company. They started out in 1980 in Corpus Christi and grew through buying out other companies,” said Kassem.
“Valero supplies 80% of the gas in San Antonio, and they were the first to enter ethanol refining.”

Students learned that Valero is very involved in the community, having been on “The Civic 50” list for the past five years.

Students were also very impressed with Valero’s departments and campus. They even got to see the executive suite. After the tour, students received free cups to take home.

“One thing that stuck out to me was that the interns stressed the learning curve they faced with SAP and Excel,” said Kassem. “One cool job I heard of was their scheduler role, who is tasked with making sure buyers get their gas at the best times. It is a fast-paced job, which I would probably enjoy.”

Kassem’s primary goal for scheduling the office visit was for students to learn about industry jobs in general. “Everybody got to see the life of an industry accountant and finance person,” he said.

Kassem is the current VP of Operations for NABA and the Treasurer for the Accounting Club.
NABA Scholarship Luncheon

Valerie Amadi attended the NABA Austin Centex Chapter 12th Annual Scholarship and Award Luncheon on April 28 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Austin. The event went well with various companies such as Dell, Farm Credit Bank, and 3M in attendance in order to support and network with the students. Representatives for Becker offered a raffle drawing. Students were served a nice meal during which the students were able to interact with their peers and the professionals seated at their table. Amadi said it was really inspiring to hear the story of a faithful NABA member who expressed her gratitude towards the organization for helping her succeed and flourish throughout her college years. The keynote speaker Ms. Clarissa Okpaleke gave a great presentation on “The confident, competent you.” The graduates of Texas State University, the University of Texas – Austin, the University of Texas – San Antonio and Huston-Tillotson University were recognized and celebrated. Lastly, the main event of the day were the three recipients of the scholarship awards. As a third year member of this great organization and attendee of the luncheon, Amadi left the luncheon feeling inspired, motivated, and connected with her peers and professionals.

Joint Meeting: Intern Panel

On Thursday, April 6, all three accounting organizations at Texas State University held an intern panel in McCoy Hall. Tax and audit interns from different CPA firms shared their experiences with students. Both faculty and current students had the opportunity to ask questions and gain further knowledge of the internship experience. After the panel, the interns and students got the chance to ask one-on-one questions during a pizza social. The intern panel is a great way for students looking for an internship to get helpful tips and information as they go through the process of acquiring their own. We would like to thank the faculty, interns, and officers that made this event possible!

Department of Accounting Website

We have been making improvements our department website. We recently created a recruiting tab that features recruiter logos with a link to each of their websites. This page will allow students to research recruiters that the department currently works with. We also tested application pages for our spring events with success. This summer, we will continue to work on improving our website by adding more resources for recruiters, faculty, and students. We hope to turn our website into an important resource for anyone needing information about our department and upcoming events. Be sure to check out our new calendar with a list of student organization meetings, events, and important dates!
The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) clinic provides free tax return preparation for taxpayers in the San Marcos community. The clinic ran from February 13 through March 29 and was a great opportunity for Texas State student volunteers to learn more about the field of tax through assisting taxpayers to organize their tax information and file their returns. The clinic provided a valuable, free service to Texas State students, personnel, and the residents of San Marcos.

Several people contributed to the success of the clinic this year. Professors Chris Proschko (Site Coordinator), Keith Kebodeaux, and Tom Puffer volunteered many hours guiding student preparers and filing returns. Graduate Assistant Rebecca Keffer helped make sure the clinics ran smoothly by filling in as a site coordinator as needed. In all, 27 students volunteered their time to the clinic as either greeters or preparers. Neiloufar Hariri attended 7 out of 12 clinics, volunteering roughly 21 hours of work as a greeter and intake facilitator. As a preparer, Gracie Trevino attended every clinic and filed 18 returns (11 more than she filed last year!).

This year, volunteers assisted with 64 returns and filed 57 of those returns; 7 returns could not be filed for various reasons. The work of our greeters was invaluable and helped keep the clinic organized and flowing. Student preparers broadened their knowledge by preparing tax returns that held some complex information like Schedule C business income, Schedule D investment income, and Schedule E royalty income. From a musician to a former writer for Warner Brothers, the clients of the clinic represented an interesting and diverse population.

VITA will be offered again next year, and we are hoping to process even more returns. Thanks to all of the volunteers who gave their time to help make the clinic a success – we hope to see you again next spring!

**Highest Individual Refund**
$7,629

**Total Refunds Generated**
$56,812

Gracie Trevino was honored at the Inaugural Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet (p. 20) for the VITA Clinic Volunteer Recognition. She earned both awards for Most Returns Completed and Most Evenings Worked and was presented a gift card from professor Chris Proschko. Thank you for all of your hard work Gracie!

Rebecca Keffer was our department GA specifically assigned to help run the VITA clinic. She expects to graduate in May 2018. This fall, she will be completing her final three classes before she starts her internship in the spring with PMB Helin Donovan in Austin. We hope to have Rebecca back as a full semester GA. Thank you Rebecca for all of your hard work!
Accounting Banquet

The inaugural Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet was held on Thursday, April 20 in the Reed Brantley Parr ballroom of the JC Kellum building. This event honored scholarship and award winning accounting students and faculty. In addition, accounting students achieving outstanding GPAs were invited to attend and network with sponsoring firm representatives.

Bruce Howard, a Texas State Career Advisor for McCoy College, was the master of ceremonies and welcomed over 150 guests in attendance. Dr. Chris Proschko presented the VITA clinic volunteer recognition awards. Gracie Trevino, a MACy student, received a gift card and was recognized for Most Returns Completed and for Most Evenings Worked.

After dinner, Dr. Mina Pizzini recognized students receiving awards and scholarships (p. 23). Faculty awards (p. 3) were presented by Dr. Ann Watkins. Advisory board member Michael Smith presented Kathy Moffitt with the first Accounting Advisory Board Faculty Engagement Award. A special award was presented to Frank Arnold, a retiring advisory board member, in recognition for his many years of service to the Accounting Advisory Board.

The banquet featured guest speaker Mychal Wilson, Esq., who was introduced by Dr. Cecily Raiborn. Mychal Wilson is a whistleblower and entertainment law attorney. As a Qui Tam attorney, he has currently assisted state and federal governments in the recovery of over $580M in American taxpayers’ dollars, the details of which he discussed in his presentation. Mychal related his experience exposing questionable business practices while a pharmaceutical representative for Bristol-Myers Squibb. He was accompanied by co-speaker Andy Prough.

The Department of Accounting would like to again thank the firms sponsoring this event. Their table sponsorship fully funded the event and enable high achieving accounting majors to attend.

Additional proceeds from the event were used to fully fund the Dr. Roselyn “Rosie” Morris Endowed Scholarship for accounting majors.

The banquet was brought to a close with a few gifts of appreciation and a thank you from Bruce Howard and Elizabeth Ponder, lead coordinator for the event.

The Department of Accounting would like to extend its appreciation to everyone who helped coordinate the event. Special thanks to Bruce Howard, Elizabeth Ponder, Kelly Laxson, Meagan Hernandez and students working the event. We look forward to the next banquet in spring 2018!

Mr. Frank Arnold (p. 21) receiving his award.
Frank Arnold was recognized during the Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet for his many years of service on the Accounting Advisory Board. Frank graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas State University (then Southwest Texas State University) in accounting. He has 33 years of public accounting experience and is a Partner at Weaver in their San Antonio office where he specializes in Tax and Strategic Business Services. Frank joined the Accounting Advisory Board over 13 years ago and helped the department obtain initial AACSB accreditation for its Accounting programs.

Banquet Sponsors

**SILVER SPONSORS**

- Calhoun, Thomson +Matza, LLP
- KPMG
- Grant Thornton

**BRONZE SPONSORS**

- BAKER TILLY
- BKD
- CRI
- CliftonLarsonAllen
- COHN REZNICK

“Survivor” T-shirts for Spring 2017

The spring 2017 “Survivor” t-shirts were distributed shortly after final exams grades were completed on Wednesday, May 10. The t-shirts were sponsored by seven firms and featured a new logo for the MAcy program. Overall, 95 students were eligible to receive a “Survivor” t-shirt. The Department of Accounting continues to appreciate the sponsoring firms as do the students! We look forward to creating and distributing next semester’s t-shirts!

Thank you again to our sponsors! If you are interested in sponsoring next semester’s “Survivor” t-shirts, email accounting@txstate.edu.
Accounting Stars was held on Thursday, April 27 to honor students who were making an “A” in ACC 2361: Introduction to Financial Accounting. An award letter was sent out to over 60 accounting and non-accounting majors, inviting them to the special event. Students were presented a certificate from their professor to honor their achievements and watched a video on how becoming a CPA can lead to many career opportunities such as working with the FBI, sports teams, and movie production companies. During the event, MAcy students Valerie Amadi, Jordan Draper, and Courtney Hartmann as well as treasurer of Beta Alpha Psi Melanie Schuchert answered questions from the audience pertaining to their experiences in the undergraduate and graduate accounting programs at Texas State. They discussed what led them to major in accounting, what their internships were like, and tips for succeeding like getting involved in student organizations. Dr. Ann Watkins also discussed the accounting program and congratulated the students for already showing an exceptional aptitude for accounting. The event ended with the give away of a $100 Visa card to ticket winner Kurt Barnett. After the event, a reception was held for students and faculty to network.

Congratulations to the following spring 2017 Accounting Stars:

Daniel Adams
Alyssa Aguillard
Dustin Asbury
Joseph Barmore
Kirk Barnett
Jarrod Becak
Bethany Blair
Anh Bui
Peyton Buie
Gerald Byrd
Eric Campos
Alexander Cannon
Diana Centeno
Ming Ming Joy Chia
Andres Chinea
Jordan Choate
Kayla Cochran
Collin Collard
Karrie Cook
Bryce Curtis
Kaitlyn Dalrymple
Kaitlyn Eben
Jack Farrar
Hannah Faulkner
Tanner Friesenhahn
Daniel Galindo
James Garcia
Leticia Garza
Anastasiya Gay
Raquelle Gonzalez
Jillian Hamrick
Kyle Haynes
Shawn Hope
Alex Jensen
Jay Jonse
Brady Kern
Luke Laney
Rebecca Lindberg
Antoine Lolliot
Savannah Luna
Molly McIndoe
Andrea Mendoza De Leon
Christopher Moffitt
Justin Murray
Jonathan Nguyen
Diana Oloteo
Hailey Painter
Elahor Palama
Julian Palomo
Warren Parker
Daniel Poole
Ashley Procell
Michael Richardson
Jesse Rodriguez
Sabrina Rodriguez
Zacarry Saenz
Antonio Salazar
Alec Schenosky
Marco Polo Solorzano Tamayo
Cassidy Trevino
Dylan Wild
Megan Williamson
Hailey Wingfield
Aaron Yarbrough
Spring 2017 Beta Gamma Sigma Inductees

Madison Bearden  Matthew Frazier  Komal Modhiya  Claudia Salinas
Mallory Bruns  Mary Huvar  Catherine Moreau  Ryan Walther
Katelyn Burger  Megan Jones  Katelyn Nyland  Margaret Weimer
Jordan Draper  Kaitlyn Kanke  Theodore Rowlett  Leonard Youngren

5th Year Scholarship Recipients

Valerie Amadi  Cassie Coppedge  Brittany Howie  Geovanny Orduna Loya
Ximena Arbelaez  Chase Cullison  Lisa Ledesma  Tyler Shope
Nathaniel Bannert  Collin Ganci  Katelyn Nyland  Jessica White
Stephen Britz

Accounting Scholarship & Award Recipients

Samuel Barton: McCoy College Outstanding Accounting Undergraduate Award
Kelsey Christ: Diane Eure Endowed Scholarship in Accounting
Cassie Coppedge: TSCPA-Austin CPA Chapter Scholarship
Jordan Draper: FSA 2017 Student Award
TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship
TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Accounting Excellence Award
Otto Gindler: TSCPA-Austin CPA Chapter Scholarship
Desiree Kittel: Gary and Mary Whittington Scholarship
Lexington Kjorlien: Accounting Club Scholarship
Phuong Le: TSCPA-Austin CPA Chapter Scholarship
Matthew Morris: Charles C. Bracy CPA Memorial Scholarship
Katelyn Nyland: TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship
Bailey Pasqua: TSCPA-Austin CPA Chapter Scholarship
Theodore Rowlett: Bill Bishop Scholarship
Kathelyne Xiquin: Otis G. Reese Scholarship
Graduate Assistants

As always, the Department of Accounting would like to give a big thanks to all of the GAs this semester! Their hard work and positive attitudes were invaluable to the faculty, staff, and students.

Many of our GAs will be graduating this May and August. Ten out of thirteen to be exact. We are so proud of all of them and are sad to see them go. Sometimes we only get to work with our GAs for one semester before they graduate, but we are happy to have had the opportunity. Our department has had some truly amazing GAs! Good luck to you all.

Valerie Amadi

is expected to graduate in August 2017. After her graduation, she will spend the next six months studying and sitting for the CPA exams. She has a full-time offer from KPMG and will start in January 2018. Good luck, Valerie!

Nathan Bannert

will be graduating in August 2017. He will begin working at EY in Dallas for their Financial Service Offering Tax team. He is beginning to study for the CPA exams and hopes to pass all sections before his graduation date. Good luck, Nathan!

Helen Boecker

plans to graduate in summer 2018. This summer she will be interning at Carrs, Riggs, & Ingram in Austin, TX.

Michelle Daniel

will be graduating this May. She will be working in the tax department for Pannell Kerr Forester of Texas. After graduation, Michelle plans to take a trip to Disney World to celebrate! Congratulations, Michelle!

Jordan Draper

will be graduating this May. She will be taking a two month trip to Europe before starting full-time with PwC, Houston in September. She recently passed all four of the CPA exams within a two month period. “It wouldn’t have been possible without all of the amazing professors, especially Ms. Moffitt, and my peers at Texas State. Everyone has had a profound impact on my life and I am immensely grateful for it. Thank you!” Congratulations, Jordan! (see her scholarships on p. 23)

Adriana Gutierrez

will be graduating this May. She plans on studying for and taking as many CPA exams as she can before her October start date for RSM, San Antonio. She will be working full-time in their tax department. Good luck and congratulations, Adriana!
Courtney Hartmann
will be graduating this May. After she graduates, she plans on studying for the CPA exams before she starts working full time in August at BDO, Austin in the Corporate Tax department. In between all of her work and studies this semester, she was able to teach her dog to catch treats! Good luck and congratulations, Courtney!

Jacob Moore
was our English GA this semester and helped grade for our writing intensive class. He expects to graduate 2019 and is beginning to think about his thesis. He will be taking on a position as a copyeditor and associate fiction editor for Front Porch, the MFA program’s literary journal. He is currently thinking about getting a cat!

Katelyn Nyland
will be graduating August 2017. After she graduates, she plans to sit for the CPA exam and then will be working with KPMG in January 2018. Good luck, Katelyn!

Weston Smith
will be graduating in May. He is moving to Houston in September to work in the audit department at Grant Thornton and is currently trying to finish the CPA exams. Good luck and congratulations, Weston!

Jessica White
will be graduating August 2017. After graduation, she plans to take all four parts of the CPA exam with the goal of passing all of them before January 2018. She has received and accepted a full-time offer with KPMG to practice in their Federal Tax division. Good luck and congratulations, Jessica!

Jonathan Vanshellenbeck
will graduate December 2017. He plans on taking all four parts of the CPA exam after his graduation. Later next year, he will be starting full-time in the KPMG Austin office, but hopes to travel to another country before his start date.

Christopher Villarreal
will be graduating in May. He will be studying for the CPA exam and has a job lined up with Grant Thornton, Houston. Good luck and congratulations, Chris!
Jessica Hunt

will be graduating in spring 2018. She will continue to work at the front desk in the Department of Accounting and is currently interviewing with accounting firms. This summer, she is expecting her first niece or nephew!

Melanie Schuchert

will be graduating in May and will be starting the MAcy program in the summer. She is currently interviewing for internships. Melanie will be back in the department, this time as a GA! Congratulations, Melanie!

James Williams

will be graduating in May and plans to become gainfully employed in the financial sector. Thank you for all of your hard work in the department, James. Congratulations and good luck!

Thank you to all of our hardworking GAs and student workers.

The department would not run as smoothly without you!
In fall 2016, the McCoy College of Business and its Department of Accounting hosted the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International Peer Review Team visit for an accreditation review. This spring, Santiago Iniguez de Onzono, AACSB International Board of Directors Chair, informed Dean Smart that accreditation had been extended for McCoy College of Business Administration business and accounting programs. “Congratulations to Dr. Ann Watkins and the Department of Accounting on the success of its first Continuous Improvement Review,” wrote Dean Smart. “Although maintaining accreditation is an on-going process, preparing for the Peer Review Team visit allowed us to think about our mission, processes and strategic initiatives, and what we are most proud of in terms of innovation, engagement and impact. We have a lot to celebrate and in the spirit of continuous improvement, the extension of our accreditation leaves us with a positive impetus going forward.”

“AACSB provides internationally recognized, specialized accreditation for business and accounting programs at the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral level. The AACSB Accreditation Standards challenge post-secondary educators to pursue excellence and continuous improvement throughout their business programs. AACSB Accreditation is known, worldwide, as the longest standing, most recognized form of specialized/professional accreditation an institution and its business programs can earn.” —AACSB Website

Advisory Board Meeting

The Accounting Advisory Board met Friday April 21. Dr. Ann Watkins provided Board members with a departmental update and a review of endowments and discretionary funding. Bruce Howard provided a summary of student organization recruiting events. Dr. Mina Pizzini discussed her research exploring the relationship between employee compensation, employee effort, and employee aptitude. Laurie Brown gave a report on student spring internships. Accounting Club Vice President, Jake Wright, Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) President, Neftali Palacio and National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) President, Joshua Reeves, gave overviews of student organization activities for the academic year. The meeting was followed by lunch with student organization representatives and faculty.

Advisory Board Members

T. Van Alston  
Jennifer Bazan  
Fernando Calegari  
Brian Cox  
Danny Davila  
Mike Desormeaux  
Michael Draper  
Jason Eikner  
Trisha Fortune  
Michael Gallier  
Bert Gentles  
Bruce Howard  
John Landers  
Rich Matza  
Kathie Schwerdtfeger  
Matt Stille  
Tom Tabler  
Anna Tallent  
Michael Smith
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Chancellor, Brian McCall

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