Accounting Club Intern Panel

On Thursday, March 28, Accounting Club hosted a meeting to inform students about the importance of networking early on in their college career, making the most of the recruitment process, and how to handle an actual internship. The panel was made up of Texas State students: who are in the recruitment process, have secured an internship but haven’t completed it yet, and just finished their internship. Bruce Howard moderated the panel. Students included in the panel were:

Amanda Craig          Diana Oloteo
Joey Courville        Sarah Paciocco
Tyler D’Angelo        Rose Tavera-Mondragon

In addition to the moderator, there were multiple accounting faculty in attendance including Dr. Watkins, Dr. Young, Dr. Conn, and Mrs. Moffitt. The panelists shared their own experiences, which demonstrated to students that there in no one way to obtain an internship. After the meeting, students and panelists had the opportunity to network further, while enjoying pizza.

This information is available in alternate format upon request from the Office of Disability Services.

<table>
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<th>Upcoming Events Calendar</th>
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<td>Registration Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounting Club Guest Speaker: Michael E. Anderson</td>
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<td>Bobcat Build</td>
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<td>Guest Speaker: Glenn Hegar</td>
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<td>Last day to withdraw/Go to zero hours enrolled</td>
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<td>Accounting Excellence Banquet</td>
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The Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) Southwest Regional Conference took place on February 22nd and 23rd in Dallas, TX. Texas State chapter Kappa Eta had 7 students and 1 faculty advisor attend. Members carpooled to Dallas, TX on the 22nd, arriving by 1p.m. for the Opening Session. Once that had concluded, the Keynote speaker, Geoffrey Roberts, gave a presentation on ethics and values in the workplace. Mr. Roberts had previously worked for Enron. The afternoon ended with a Leadership Activity that allowed all the student attendees to network with other chapters. Once the Leadership Activity ended, everyone was released to explore Dallas for the evening.

On Saturday, February 23rd, the first event was Best Practices. There were the competitive categories: Roots, Branches, and Shade. The Kappa Eta chapter had a team of three students compete in the Shade category. The chapter did not place, however the participants were happy and proud to represent the chapter in the competition.

Chapter Operations was the next event held. These presentations were put on by members of other chapters to share innovative things their chapters have done, and how other chapters can implement what they have accomplished. Some of the initiatives included a mentorship program, networking opportunities, and more.

After lunch, there were professional sessions that students and faculty advisors could attend. Some of the topics included ethics, leadership, networking, changes in the industry, and more.

The last event of the conference was the Closing Session, in which the hosts wrapped up the events and presented awards for Best Practices. After the Closing Session, the attendees were released.

Representatives from EY presented at a National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) meeting. The topic of improving soft skills through digital communication and virtual communication channels discussed. In a profession, such as accounting, which is going through many technological changes, as a soon to be entry-level employee, you must adept and excel in all facets, including your soft skills.

Darin Hardy and Aimee Jiang discussed how technological changes in communication are shifting communication mediums towards a more intrapersonal norm. For example, video conference calls are becoming more useful and cost efficient than flying to meet clients. But, of course, technology is not without its issues and communication technology issue can lead to serious problems in a client-serving environment.

To be able to navigate through the negatives, Darin presented us with tips for success when working in virtual teams or communicating with clients: •Always practice your active listening skills. •Respond knowing that barriers exist, such as different time zones, languages, norms and customs, when teams are global. •Understand that one person’s standard communication channel is not everyone’s communication channel, so be adaptable. •If you do not have time to write a well thought out reply, respond saying that you will reply when you have the time and space to give the message your full attention.

After the discussion, Darin, Aimee, and Callie Jones talked about the internship opportunities at EY including the Launch minority internship which EY has available next summer.
NABA Visits RSM Office

National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) had the opportunity to visit the RSM office located in Austin, Texas on March 29, 2019. This was a great opportunity for members to see RSM in action and be able to gauge the company’s atmosphere as well as employees typical work day. The members had the opportunity to meet a wide range of staff, from the partners to the associates of RSM and hear each of their unique experiences in their career thus far. To kick off the visit, members toured the RSM office and had the chance to see amazing views of Downtown Austin. The tour was followed by a discussion from three different panels.

Members had the chance to hear an Audit Panel at RSM, where they discussed the Master’s versus the Community College route, to achieving the 150 necessary hours for CPA eligibility. Members also had the chance to hear about what drew each panelist to Audit and what their typical work day consisted of. Our second panel was made up of tax employees at RSM. With a tax intern on the panel, members had the chance to hear about her experience so far as well as the overall internship process. The panel also discussed how RSM has contributed to their career growth, as well as the firm’s growth in the near future. The final panel helped members to learn more about the consulting side of the firm. Not only did members learn what employees do in this area, but also had the chance to talk about their background and how they got into Consulting.

Overall, this was a great experience for our members to make personal connections with RSM employees and be able to envision life as an RSM employee.

AAA Management Accounting Section Secretary/Treasurer

The Management Accounting Section (MAS) of the American Accounting Association (AAA) strives to stimulate and improve the teaching, research, and practice of accounting that assists in the effective and efficient management entities. Dr. Mina Pizzini, Secretary/Treasurer, helps MAS stay organized and efficient in achieving its goals.

According to the president of MAS, Anne Farrell, “Mina works year-round to maintain official section records, organize leadership meetings, coordinate sponsorships and other contributions, approve expenditures, analyze section financials, support meeting coordinators, and awards committees … you can’t imagine how long the list of ‘other duties as needed’ is. Mina is a point person and valuable sounding board for virtually everything that happens in the section. I know I couldn’t do my work without her, and I have no doubt Past-President Shane Dikolli would say the same”.

Congratulations Dr. Pizzini on your recognition for the work and time you’ve dedicated to make MAS successful.
PwC Offers Analytics and Automation Academy to Faculty

Five Texas State faculty members attended PwC’s Analytics & Automation Academy. Dr. Billy Brewster, Dr. Nate Cannon, Dr. Keith Kebodeaux, Ms. Ludmila Krylova and Dr. Ann Watkins attended the academy March 14 & 15 hosted at PwC’s Dallas, TX office.

Using hands-on exercises and demonstrations, this 2-day interactive academy provided faculty members an introduction to the practice of data automation, dashboard visualizations, and robotics. Faculty worked with tools including Alteryx, Power BI, and Tableau and viewed a demonstration of UiPath.

As part of the academy, faculty members gained insight into how self-service analytics and automation tools can be used to analyze the impact of things like varying tax rates across different jurisdictions. Faculty also learned how to manage and blend large volumes of data to generate meaningful analytics through simple-to-use tools. They are looking forward to sharing their insights and the impact of this technology in the classroom.