ACCOUNTABILITY

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**OUR MISSION**

The McCoy College of Business Department of Accounting is a student-centered learning community that prepares a diverse student population for professional success, creates and values research and other intellectual contributions, and provides service to the profession, university and community.

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**Anna Tallent**, EY

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Texas State University is a tobacco-free campus.

**SPRING EVENTS**

First Joint Meeting  
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Spring Firm Showcase  
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Business Leadership Week  
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VITA Clinic  
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Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet  
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Faculty Awards & Recognition

Faculty Externship with Grant Thornton

Seven accounting faculty members participated in Grant Thornton’s Annual Audit Summit Training in Houston held at the Rice Hotel in early January. The day-long training program included a lease accounting refresher with an update on the new lease accounting regulations, a discussion of issues related to ASC 606 and auditing revenue, and an overview of data analytics and innovation with a focus on new audit software and techniques. In addition to facilitating faculty currency with new financial accounting and auditing standards, the externship provided faculty the opportunity to discuss graduate skill sets and recruiter expectations. This provided important input in assisting faculty with curriculum updates. It was also a wonderful opportunity for faculty members to catch up with former students now working at GT. Faculty in attendance were:

- Dr. Jean Bradley
- Dr. Janet Butler
- Dr. Nate Cannon
- Dr. Carolyn Conn
- Dr. Trent Henke
- Mrs. Ashley Kruse
- Dr. Ann Wakens

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Mina Pizzini

The Annual Report 2017 for the McCoy College of Business featured a "Faculty Spotlight" article about the Department of Accounting’s Associate Professor, Dr. Mina Pizzini. This article highlights Mina’s research on efficiency wage theory as well as her completion of triathlons in between her teaching. In August 2017, Mina won USA Triathlon's Olympic-distance national championship, competed in the Ironman world championships in October, and is planning to complete her fourth Ironman triathlon this year, starting with the Ironman Texas 2018 qualifier in Houston.

For the full article on Dr. Mina Pizzini, please review the Annual Report 2017, p.17. Congratulations, Mina, on your many accomplishments!

Faculty Support TXST!

Once again, the Department of Accounting reached 100% participation in contributions to the Family Campaign and Step Up for State. This year, the department was one of the first campus wide to reach 100%. These events raise money for the excellence in education and research across campus. Our goal each year is to reach 100% faculty and staff participation. The Department of Accounting is dedicated to supporting the university’s mission.
Elizabeth Ponder, Lecturer in Accounting, served as Guest Coach for the Texas State football team during the Georgia State game on November 11, 2017. Laurie Hindson, Director of the Athletic Academic Center, arranged for the opportunity.

Elizabeth and her husband, Richard (bottom right), joined friends and parents of team members for a lunch before the game, “coached” the game from the sidelines, and joined the Bobcat Club in the lounge during halftime.

Mrs. Ponder and fellow Guest Coach, Daris Word Hale of the College of Fine Arts, visited with Head Coach Everett Withers prior to kickoff (top right). Coach Withers was interested in the faculty perception of the players in the classroom.

Mrs. Ponder was impressed with Coach Withers’ commitment to academics. She praised the players in her 9 am accounting classes for being in class after a Thursday night game in Lafayette, Louisiana on October 12.

“I had watched the team on TV the night before and knew the game ran late. I was totally surprised to see those guys in class at 9 am the following morning,” Mrs. Ponder said.

Despite their best efforts, the Bobcats were narrowly defeated by Georgia State by a score of 33-30. The highlight of the game for Mrs. Ponder was seeing three of her current accounting students on the field: Hunter (Hutch) White, John Lilly, and Nik Daniels. Hutch White, a sophomore from Kerrville, had a punt return and three receptions during the game. Nik Daniels, a sophomore from League City, was credited with two tackles. John Lilly, a freshman from Houston, was sidelined with an injury.

Mrs. Ponder and Dr. Jean Bradley have also been involved in recruiting efforts for the athletic department, talking to recruits who are interested in majoring in business during their campus visits.
Dr. Chris Proschko received the Department of Accounting Advisory Board Faculty Engagement Award. Once again, students were able to vote on the professor that had the greatest impact on their academic success and provide feedback as to how that professor met the demand. The vote was tied, so again the final decision was handed to the advisory board to determine based on the student feedback. Chris received his award at the Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet from Advisory Board Member Michael Desormeaux, partner with Grant Thornton (below).

**Student Comments**

"Dr. Proschko is the best accounting professor at Texas State. He is knowledgeable on the subject and has a very extensive accounting background. He makes the material interesting and applies it to real-life current situations."

"He has been one of the best professors I have ever had. [He’s] not only willing to teach us in the classroom but also during office hours. He helped us with our problems and really went above and beyond to make sure we knew the material. I had him for two classes and both of them were the best."

"Very knowledgeable and experienced. I learned so much from his tax class."

"Dr. Proschko was informative, enthusiastic, and entertaining. He was well versed in the subject matter and always happy to teach and answer questions. He was also extremely clear about his expectations of us as students and what the best courses of action were for us to learn, grow, and succeed in his classroom. Overall, I believe that he offers the best all around performance and execution of the course materials."

"[Dr.] Proschko is a great professor that cares for his students and creates an opportunity to learn. He is exciting to listen to and I think he is hysterical!"

"He is willing to help out a student even if they aren’t his students anymore. Very nice and approachable and very knowledgeable. Dr. Proschko rocks!!"
**Graduate Assistants**

**Sam Barton** was a research GA and plans on taking a much needed vacation after graduation. Congratulations, Sam!

Graduating August 2018
Joining **PwC**, Austin September 2018

**Mallory Bruns** has completed her GA assignment. She will be interning at **PwC** in the summer with hopes of receiving a full-time offer. Good luck, Mallory!

Graduating May 2018

**Gliffze Buling** has completed his GA assignment. Congratulations, Gliffze!

Graduating May 2018
Joining **EY**, San Antonio August 2018

**Katelyn Disney** will be interning with **PwC** in Austin this summer with hopes of receiving a full-time offer. Good luck, Katelyn!

Graduating December 2018

**Francis Dusse** is in the process of looking for an internship. Good luck, Francis!

Graduating August 2018

**Nudrat Hassan** was a research GA and is in the process of looking for an internship. Good luck, Nudrat!

Graduating December 2018 with an MBA

**Bethany Hernandez** has completed her GA assignment. Congratulations, Bethany!

Graduating May 2018
Joining **KPMG**, San Antonio October 2018

**Maggie Ilerich** renewed her roll as the English GA after the department asked her to return. She graduated last semester and has been a great asset to the department in thoroughly grading written assignments.

Graduating December 2018
ZACH McDOWELL was a research GA. He will be interning with Avangard Innovative this summer and hopes to receive a full-time offer after graduation. Good luck, Zach!
Graduating May 2019

PABLO ORTEGA has completed his GA assignment and plans to travel across the U.S. and Mexico after graduation. Congratulations, Pablo!
Graduating May 2018
Joining PwC, Houston January 2019

LEAH PORTERFIELD has completed her GA assignment. Congratulations, Leah!
Graduating May 2018
Joining RSM, Dallas fall 2018

MELANIE SCHUCHERT has completed her GA assignment and will be interning at RSM in the summer. Good luck, Melanie!
Graduating August 2018

RACHEL SCHUMACHER has completed her GA assignment. Congratulations, Rachel!
Graduating May 2018
Joining KPMG, Houston October 2018

KATHLEEN SLATTERY has completed her GA assignment. Congratulations, Kathleen!
Graduating May 2018
Joining PwC, Houston September 2018

THANK YOU (CONTINUED ON P. 9)

This semester, the department had 14 graduate assistants, six returning and eight new. Three of the GAs were dedicated to research while our English GA concentrated on grading written assignments. Our three amazing undergraduate student workers also returned to be the first point of contact for the department.
This spring, we also implemented the new Accounting Ambassadors program, which is an exclusive program for students who excel in accounting. Through participation as an ambassador, eight selected students helped organize and host our spring events while building leadership skills and learning about opportunities in accounting. The department is grateful to have had these students assist in preparing and
**Undergraduate Student Workers**

**Diana OloTeo**, an accounting major, started working for the department in August. She will return as a student worker for the summer and fall semesters. This summer, she will be attending the **PwC Elevate** program, a two-day leadership conference for sophomores at the Houston office.

*Graduating May 2020*

**Brooke Taylor**, an accounting major, started working for the department in April 2017 and will return as a student worker. After graduation, she plans to start the MAcy program and hopes to find an internship.

*Graduating December 2018*

**Jake Wright**, an accounting major, started working for the department in August. After graduation, he plans to start the MAcy program. He received an internship offer from **McCall Gibson Swedlund & Barfoot** that he plans to use for graduate credit the summer after graduating.

*Graduating December 2018*

**Thank You** *(Continued from p. 8)*

work our four Spring Firm Showcases and Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet.

The Department of Accounting strives to grow our undergraduate and graduate programs. In doing so, we look for talented students to assist us in our daily needs. It’s no surprise that our MAcy GAs plan to sit for the CPA exams as part of their career goals. Our student workers plan to start the MAcy program after graduation, and our Accounting Ambassadors excelled in Intermediate I last fall. We hope to keep these students with the department for as long as possible while fostering new talent for semesters to come.

To all of our students, we thank you for your hard work, dedication, and professionalism.
**ACCOUNTING AMBASSADORS**

**Christina Briceno** hopes to continue as an Accounting Ambassador and is in the process of finding an internship. She is considering applying for the MAcy program here at Texas State.

Graduating May 2019

**Alexis Danielson** plans to start MAcy and has an audit internship with RSM lined up for winter 2019.

Graduating December 2018

**Ashley Dyal** plans to complete the 5-year program at Texas State. She has an internship with Frost Bank this summer and PwC in summer 2019. She is also the President of the McCoy College Ambassadors.

Graduating May 2020

**Brett Goldberg** plans to start MAcy and has an internship lined up with Myers & Stauffer this summer.

Graduating May 2019

**Steven Kelly** hopes to continue as an Accounting Ambassador and is in the process of interviewing for internships. He is currently a manager for Chuys Tex-Mex.

Graduating December 2018

**Yanfei Shen** plans to start MAcy and work as a GA for the department. She is currently interviewing with KPMG.

Graduating August 2019

**Kasey Stovall** plans to start MAcy and intern at a public accounting firm in the busy spring season. Although she has received an offer from a Big 4 firm, she is still networking and making her final decision.

Graduating December 2018

**Lorin Wilson** will graduate with an MBA, and he will be CPA eligible in May 2020. He is currently interviewing for internships to make a career change into public accounting.

Graduating December 2018
Letter from the President

Every spring semester begins a new recruiting season. Accounting Club helps students prepare for interviews and potentially their professional career. We offer events such as Meet the Firms and the Spring Firm Showcases, office visits, panels, and mock interviews every year. This semester we hosted the Spring Firm Showcases, an industry panel, and an intern panel.

The Spring Firm Showcases consisted of four days of presentations put on by different firms followed by networking opportunities. After the Spring Firm Showcases, internship applications opened up and the interview process started. Different firms held on-campus interviews for selected students. At each panel, students had the option of asking the panelists different questions about their experiences.

The Accounting Club’s goal is to help students successfully transition from student to professional. We hope that our events have prepared each student for the next step in their life.

Kaitlyn Kanke

We hope that our events have prepared each student for the next step in their life.

Officers

President | Kaitlyn Kanke
Vice President | Diana Oloteo
VP of Communications | Betti Negussie
Treasurer | Chris Moffitt

Special Events Manager | Lauren Tomassetti
Faculty Advisor | Ms. Alex Hampshire
Faculty Advisor | Dr. Carolyn Conn
We had another great semester with the Kappa Eta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi here at Texas State. Our chapter competed in the “Launching into the Next Century” category at the BAP regional conference in Oklahoma City and we earned third place. I’d like to thank Steven Alvarado, Erick Garza, and Alex Barbosa for all stepping up and participating during the competition. They all did a great job and made the trip really fun. I’d also like to thank Dr. Kebodeaux for helping us refine our speech.

Our chapter has continued to develop our candidates and members by offering professional events such as Toastmasters to improve soft skills and, too many to remember, volunteer events to get members involved in the community. For example, this semester we got to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity pretty much every Saturday. It was a lot of fun watching this patch of grass turn into a house in a matter of weeks. There’s still a lot of work left to do but I’m very happy that our organization got to play a major role in giving someone a great home. We also had a member who became really passionate about Habitat and I’m glad that they’re an officer now. My goal with Toastmasters and Habitat was to get just one person to see and appreciate the value that these opportunities can bring to yourself and others. For that, I like to believe that I succeeded.

Even though my time as president has come to an end, I look forward to what our new president does and I’m excited to see how our chapter evolves over the coming semesters and years. I had a great time and if I can leave you with any last advice it’s this. Step out of your comfort zone, do what others are unwilling to do and you will achieve what they never can. That’s what will make the difference in your life.

Nicholas Oloteo

"Step out of your comfort zone, do what others are unwilling to do and you will achieve what they never can."

President | Nick Oloteo
Vice President | Stephanie Cantu
Treasurer | Alex Barbosa
VP of Membership | Bea Castillo
VP of Media Relations | Mistik Castillo
VP of Volunteer Activities | Peyton Dilts
VP of Professional Activities | Diana Oloteo

VP of Reporting | Erick Garza
VP of Special Projects | Sirena Thering
Director of Finance Majors | Steven Alvarado
Director of CIS Majors | Monica Sandoval
Faculty Advisor | Ms. Laurie Brown
Best Practices Coach | Dr. Keith Kebodeaux
The National Association of Black Accountants is an organization that prioritizes improving diversity and inclusiveness for minorities in the accounting industry. Our goal is to provide a multitude of professional and interpersonal opportunities to ensure our members are well-rounded business professionals and have the abilities needed to uphold our motto, “Lifting as we Climb”.

The Texas State Chapter, with the support of the Austin Cen-Tex Chapter, strives to create a personable environment that exposes minority students to opportunities that are available specifically for them. This environment allows our members to not only showcase their individual skills to prospective employers but it also allows them to learn from these employers in a comfortable setting.

The spring semester was filled with opportunities for our members to interact with employers, other organizations on campus, and with each other. Our organization had the opportunity to network with many different public accounting firms at the Spring Firm Showcase. We also hosted speakers from Malone-Bailey and BKD at our chapter meetings to inform our members of the importance on developing their soft skills. The organization even took an office visit to BKD’s San Antonio office to be further exposed to the firm’s culture. During NABA week, our members were treated to a private showing of the film Black Panther, a film filled with minority representation, at our social event, “Night in Wakanda”. Lastly, we were honored with the opportunity to collaborate with the Texas State NAACP Chapter to enhance our knowledge on the impending affects that the termination of the U.S. Census will have on minorities.

I am honored to be serving as chapter president and as president there is nothing more important to me than continuing to honor the legacy of the NABA organization by creating opportunities for any and all bobcat students. I know that the sky is the limit for the NABA organization as long as we have the continued support of the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusiveness, the Accounting Department, and the McCoy College of Business. Thank you to our amazing e-board, our devoted members, and other individuals who continue to support our endeavors.

CHRISTIAN PITRE

OFFICERS

President | Christian Pitre
VP of Communications | Babacar Tall
Treasurer | Sydney Kyle
Advisor | Dr. Sherri Benn
On Thursday, January 18, the Accounting Club, Beta Alpha Psi, and NABA held the first joint meeting of the spring semester. Each president gave a short presentation about their organization and what they do throughout the semester. After the presentations, Bruce Howard, the Career Advisor for McCoy College, gave a quick presentation about Jobs4Cats and how students can use it.

Following the informational presentations, Dr. Watkins and the Intro to Financial Accounting professors announced the Accounting Stars (p. 29) from the fall semester and gave them engraved tops (bottom right) for their achievements. Then fall Intermediate I survivors, about 85 total, received their t-shirts (bottom left), sponsored by our platinum firms for the 2017-18 academic year.

Once the meeting concluded, students and faculty enjoyed pizza and had time to network with the platinum sponsor firms: EY, PwC, Cohn Reznick, and Weaver.

The first joint meeting not only gives current and potential accounting majors important information about student organizations and events but has grown into a celebration of student achievements and a networking event with faculty and recruiters. It gives young students a nice preview into the world of an accounting major.

Firms interested in sponsoring our next survivor shirts will need to register as a sponsor for our 2018-19 academic year. Details for sponsorship packages will be released this summer.
**Spring Firm Showcase**

The Department of Accounting and Accounting Club hosted four public accounting firm showcases in the LBJ Student Center between January 23—February 1. The Spring Firm Showcases are a series of four events. The first three events focus on either local, regional, or national public accounting firms. The final event showcases the Big 4, the four largest international firms.

The evening began with firms making presentations to students about their firm’s history, client profile, and culture, which differentiates this event from Meet the Firms. After firm information sessions, students were invited to meet with recruiters one-on-one during a reception to further discuss internship and full-time job opportunities. Twenty-five firms participated over the four evenings, drawing over 175 student and faculty participants. This showcase allowed students to network and learn about each firm in order to make an informed decision about their place in the accounting world.

The department would like to thank Accounting Club and the Accounting Ambassadors for all their hard work in putting this major event together. We would also like to thank our GA volunteers (below) who helped ensure things ran smoothly each night. We received great feedback from recruiters and students and hope to continue to improve our future showcase events. Without our hardworking students, dedicated faculty, and participating firms, this event would not be possible.

*(Pictures p.16: 1. Our volunteers help set up before the showcase begins. 2. Students arrive early to sign in. 3. Students wait in designated rooms for presentations to begin. 4. Dr. Ann Watkins and Ms. Alex Hampshire draw names for door prizes. 5. Students network with recruiters after presentations. 6. Students and recruiters enjoy refreshments.)*

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**Firms in Attendance**

**January 23: Mid-Tier**
- BDO
- BKD
- CliftonLarsonAllen
- CohnReznick
- Dixon Hughes Goodman
- Grant Thornton
- RSM

**January 25: Local & Regional**
- ADFK
- Atchley & Associates, LLP
- ATKG
- Calhoun, Thomson+Matza, LLP
- Harper & Pearson Company, PC
- Lane Gorman Trubitt LLC
- The Mangold Group
- Ridout Barrett

**January 30: Mid-Tier**
- Baker Tilly
- Briggs & Veselka Co.
- Carr Riggs Ingram
- MaloneBailey LLP
- Melton & Melton, L.L.P.
- Novogradac & Company LLP
- Weaver

**February 1: Big Four**
- Deloitte
- EY
- KPMG
- PwC
NABA Hosts MaloneBailey

On Tuesday, February 6, NABA hosted Raven Fournier of MaloneBailey for their first meeting of the spring semester. Raven discussed good interview etiquette and preparation techniques with NABA members. Alex Middlebrooke, the Employer Relations Coordinator from Career Services, also came to reinforce these techniques as well as to discuss the Handshake app for upcoming interviews on campus. NABA members received directions on how to use Handshake to set interview times. After the meeting, members were able to socialize and enjoy Gumby’s pizza.

BAP’s First Spring Meeting

Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) kicked off its first meeting of the spring 2018 semester on February 8. Before getting into the requirements and other specifics of BAP, President Nick Oloteo gave a 15-minute presentation about risk management. Every semester the Student Organization Council (SOC) requires the president of each organization to present its members with the information contained in a PowerPoint provided by SOC. During this presentation, Nick went over anti-hazing, fire safety, sexual harassment, liability and negligence, and travel rules. He also stressed the importance of being aware of one’s surroundings and what other individuals are doing and saying, and to report any suspicious activity to an officer or the faculty advisor.

After the training, Nick got right into the meeting by first introducing the BAP officers. Nick then used candy as an enticing visual aid to demonstrate how many hours candidates have to get during the semester:

- **16 Professional hours** (portrayed as Skittles)
- **16 Volunteer hours** (portrayed as M&Ms)
- **4 Outside hours** (portrayed as Nerds)

The four boxes of Nerds represented the maximum of four outside hours candidates are allowed to have. In the past, a few candidates have gone over that amount.

Then, Nick stressed the need to get involved with the organization by meeting new people at the professional and volunteer events. Members can check the BAP calendar for a complete list of activities:

http://www.txstatebap.com/calendar.html
NABA Hosts BKD

On Tuesday, February 13, NABA hosted Anna-Marie Parker, the campus recruiter for BKD, to discuss elevator speech. Anna-Marie presented an informational PowerPoint that discussed what elevator speech is, what employers look for in elevator speech, and the structure of elevator speech. NABA members learned that professionalism is very important in elevator speech and that they needed to end the speech with a call to action, such as asking for a business card or a way to follow up about an open position. The presentation stressed that elevator speech is about selling yourself, so recruiters can see how a student will fit into a particular position. When giving this 30-45 second speech, students need to remember:

"Be Precise, Be Persuasive, Be Professional."

BAP Hosts PwC

On Thursday, February 15, BAP hosted PwC at the second chapter meeting in McCoy. PwC is a Big 4 public accounting firm with 100’s of offices around the world that hold over 200,000 employees.

At this meeting, Rachel Von Gonten spoke about PwC’s “Be Well, Work Well” initiative. The initiative focuses on maximizing employee health and happiness through the four major energy channels: physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual. Employees are asked to take an energy audit and change their negative habits into positive ones. These habits can be found at habitbank.pwc.com, and BAP members were asked to pick one habit from each of the four energies to develop in the future. Some examples of habits are:

- **Physical**: taking a walk around the office
- **Emotional**: spending more time outside
- **Mental**: breathing properly
- **Spiritual**: asking “Why?” for context

Another activity Rachel had members complete was to write a thank you card to a family member or friend expressing gratitude to them (center right). BAP members each wrote out five things they were thankful for about that person and addressed the card, so Rachel could mail it to them in the near future.
Business Leadership Week

Business Leadership Week (BLW) is an annual event that supports the Texas State University common experience. The common experience is a year-long, university-wide event that promotes student engagement and encourages conversation on a theme by bringing in speakers and exhibits related to the theme. The common experience theme for 2017/2018 is “Searching for Justice”. In an effort to better tie the common experience theme with the study of business, the Business Leadership Week committee, in consultation with Dr. Denise Smart, settled on the McCoy College of Business BLW 2018 theme of “Integrity in Business”. The Department of Accounting was responsible for two key BLW events.

First, the Accounting Club hosted a panel of four industry professionals (top right). The four panelist (Sarah Barbatto, Supervisor, Income Tax Energy Transfer Partners; Sue Clark, Controller, Horizon Structural Systems Inc.; Dusty Whitaker, Sr. Capital Asset Accountant, Summit Hotel Properties; and Robert Zearfoss, CFO and Executive VP, Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union) discussed their unique career paths after obtaining a university degree and answered student questions (p. 20).

The second event was a distinguished lecturer event. Dr. Cecily Raiborn invited Mr. Billy Petty CFE to come speak as a distinguish lecturer (middle). Mr. Petty currently works as a forensics specialist with Heyman & Associates PLLC. Approximately 130 students were on hand to listen to Mr. Petty who provided insights that he has gained over a 25+ year career in financial crime investigations. Mr. Petty closed his lecture by providing practical, cost-effective controls that management can implement to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of fraud.

These events provide students with an opportunity to learn more about what it is like working as a business professional and the options available to accounting majors. Accounting majors have numerous career path options and it is not easy choosing which path is best, so the Department of Accounting encourages all student to attend events hosted by student organizations (Accounting Club, BAP, NABA, etc.) and BLW to learn more about these career opportunities.

BLW 2018 Committee

Dr. Randy Young, ACC
Dr. Kevin Jetton, CIS/QMST
Dr. Janet Hale, FIN/ECO
Dr. Yvonne Eixmann, MGT, Chair
Dr. Annie Liu, MKT
On Thursday, February 22, professional accountants in industry were featured in a panel discussion. Panelists provided information about their paths to industry and gave students advice about choosing a career in industry as compared to other sectors. Some individuals were first employed in public accounting and then changed to industry; others began in industry and have remained there. Panelists described the benefits of both approaches and also discussed pursuing certifications such as the CPA and CMA. The panelists included (top, left to right):

**DUSTY WHITAKER**, Senior Capital Asset Accountant, Summit Hotel Properties, a publicly-traded real estate investment trust that owns 79 premium-branded hotels located in 24 states

**SUE CLARK**, Controller, Horizon Structural Systems Inc, a 22-year old company that specializes in pre-engineered metal buildings, built to each customer’s specifications

**SARAH BARBATO**, Supervisor, Energy Transfer Partners, a large master limited partnership with energy assets totaling more than 71,000 miles of natural gas, crude oil, natural gas liquids, and refined product pipelines with facilities in 38 states

**ROBERT ZEARFOSS**, CFO, Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union, one of the largest credit unions in the United States. Based in Texas, they serve more than 500,000 members and have more than $6 billion in assets

Before starting the panel, Accounting Club’s previous president, **Tulsi Bhakta**, discussed the IMA Conference that some officers had attended last semester. **Mr. Bruce Howard** then led the panel session by asking structured questions, including what the best and worst parts of their day were.

After the structured questions, students were allowed to ask their own questions and then speak with each of the panelists while enjoying pizza. Over 30 students and multiple faculty members came to enjoy the Industry Panel during this year’s Business Leadership Week.
On Thursday, February 22, the Texas State BAP chapter flew to Oklahoma City to co-host the Beta Alpha Psi South West Regional Conference and to compete in the Best Practices “Launching into the Next Century” topic. Participating BAP members and faculty advisors included:

**Steven Alvarado**  
**Alex Barbosa**  
**Mistik Castillo Garcia**  
**Erick Garza**  
**Nick Olooteo**  
**Ms. Laurie Brown**  
**Dr. Keith Kebodeaux**  
**Dr. Ann Watkins**

On Friday, the group got up early to setup the registration desk, the Cards for Kids table (below right), and help the other BAP students register for the conference. The conference started at 1:00 pm, and after the professional partners and President Elect spoke, Nick gave a short speech explaining what makes Texas State and our chapter, KappaEta, amazing and then introduced the keynote speaker, Carlos Johnson.

On Saturday morning, Steven, Alex, Erick, and Nick gave their presentation on “Launching into the Next Century” and placed 3rd. There was a lot of interest from other BAP chapters about their presentation and more specifically their Financial Literacy Course that is coming along smoothly.

We are very proud of our BAP chapter and all of their hard work! Thank you to our faculty advisors, especially Dr. Keith Kebodeaux, who work with the students to prepare for this competition every spring.
**BAP Hosts EY**

On Thursday, March 1, Beta Alpha Psi hosted Ernst & Young (EY) during their third meeting of the semester. EY is another Big 4 accounting firm that has 100’s of offices around the world and over 200,000 employees. They are also a platinum sponsor, host the EY Etiquette Dinner every fall, and heavily recruit at our university. BAP is always happy to host them because they do so much for accounting students.

At this meeting, **Callie Jones** gave a presentation about EY’s new interview process. Callie explained the process, best practices for using the technology, and gave great advice when it came to typical interview questions. In the past, EY did the standard in-person interviews on campus and then an in-person interview in their office.

Now, EY has adopted an online interview. In this interview, students answer pre-recorded questions and then have three attempts and three minutes to answer them. The previous attempts are deleted. Students move on to in-person interviews on campus if they pass the online interview. If they get the offer, students go on an EY office visit to learn more about the firm while participating in special games and activities.

**Did You Know?**

- EY was presented with an award recognizing **5 YEARS OF DEDICATION** during last fall’s EY Etiquette Dinner.
- EY is the **FIRST** member of the **1976 SOCIETY** recognizing significant support to the department and its students.

**BAP Hosts Grant Thornton**

On Thursday, March 22, Beta Alpha Psi hosted Grant Thornton during their 4th meeting of the semester. Grant Thornton is the 6th largest accounting firm in the United States. It has 59 offices in 30 states with 550 partners and over 7,000 employees.

**Katie Beatty**, a senior manager at the Houston office, gave a presentation about emotional intelligence. She spoke about the 5 pillars of emotional intelligence which are self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills. She stated that emotional intelligence is two times more important than IQ and technical skills.

After her presentation she had the students go through two separate exercises. The first exercise was over conflict. Members were split into groups of 3-4 people and they had to come up with six different synonyms to describe conflict. Next, they had to partner up with another group and trim their list of six down to four. Finally, students had to group up with the entire class and narrow the list down to just two synonyms. There was some debate during this activity, but ultimately the more vocal and dominant group won out on choosing the final two synonyms.

The second exercise was a solo exercise. Students wrote down significant experiences in their lives that shaped them into the people they are today. Three students then shared what they wrote who also happened to be the three most vocal students during the previous exercise.

These exercises created interesting discussions between BAP members and allowed them to learn more about each other.

"This was one of the more interesting meetings due to the exercises, and I actually learned quite a bit about the students in our org from this one," said Nick Oloteo, President of BAP.

BAP looks forward to hosting Grant Thornton again in the future.
**Returning Intern Panel**

On Thursday, March 27, **Mr. Bruce Howard** hosted a returning interns panel for a crowd of 40 students. The six interns, three tax and three audit, discussed their experiences going through the entire internship process, from the interview to completion. These six interns included (left to right):

- **Stacy Schaul**, KPMG
- **Angelina Kotlarenko**, PwC
- **Pablo Ortega**, PwC
- **Rachel Schumacher**, KPMG
- **Hau Le**, RSM
- **Austin Knoll**, RSM

All of them described their experiences as entirely different. For example, Rachel and Stacey both discussed their interview process for KPMG; Rachel stated her interview was smooth and easy while Stacey described hers as tough and lengthy.

As moderator, Bruce asked the panel a number of prepared questions, such as “What was the hardest thing you had to learn?” and “What was the funnest part of your experience?”. The panel was thorough and clear about what to expect and how it can be awkward in the beginning, but necessary to learn.

Thank you to our interns for sharing your experiences and helping to prepare students who are about to go through the internship process themselves. Returning intern panels are hosted each spring.

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**AAA-SW Panelist**

Accounting Club member **Alexander Cannon** (left) teamed up with **Matthew DisSalvo** of St. Edward’s University (right) to serve as panelists for a presentation at the American Accounting Association Southwest (AAA-SW) regional meeting held in Albuquerque in March of this year. Alex and Matt were two of only three undergrads who gave presentations at the conference. The topic of the panel was "Claims Denied from Natural Disasters: Should There be an Accounting?" Their focus was on the need for financial statement note disclosure of claims not paid for property insurance losses. Both students have family and friends who suffered serious losses during Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey. Their presentation was attended by accounting faculty from a five-state area, and they received numerous compliments for their work. The panel was moderated by **Dr. Carolyn Conn**, Clinical Assistant Professor here at Texas State.
IMA Student Case Competition Finalists

Five accounting students have earned one of only four team finalist positions in the Student Case Competition sponsored by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA).

The team is comprised of three students from our undergraduate Cost Accounting classes and two from the graduate Cost class: Elisa Amkreutz, Joey Courville, Peyton Dilts, Julia Lara, and Greg Russell. To qualify as finalists, the team prepared quantitative analyses of accounting data and evaluated qualitative factors associated with a strategic planning decision for a hypothetical company. They then wrote and produced a 15-minute video of their recommendations.

On June 17, the team will do a live presentation before a panel of judges at the IMA Annual Conference and Expo. The team says they intend to "bring home the gold!"

VITA 2018

The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) clinic provides free tax return preparation for taxpayers in the greater San Marcos community. The clinic ran from February 12—March 28 and was a great opportunity for Texas State accounting student volunteers to learn more about the field of tax accounting via organizing, preparing, and filing tax returns for their clients. The clinic provided a tremendous free service to Texas State students, personnel, and the residents of San Marcos.

This year, volunteers assisted with 60 returns and filed 53 of those returns. The greeters kept the clinic organized and answered client questions, while the student preparers received real-life experience by preparing tax returns that held Schedule C business income, Schedule D investment income, and Schedule E royalty income. Clients ranged from full-time students to families with children and from restaurant servers to Hollywood scriptwriters. Overall, the clinic helped generate over $52,000 in refunds for the clients, including a $5,000+ refund for one family.

The clinic’s success this year would not have been possible without a team of exceptional volunteers. In total, over 20 individuals volunteered at the clinic this year. Our top preparer was Tazeen Khandker who was honored with the Most Returns Completed and Most Evenings Worked awards at the Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet. Melanie Schuchert and Katelyn Disney served as our “Senior Managers” this year at the clinic. The two graduate assistants attended every clinic, where they set up and tore down the clinic, prepared returns, and acted as low-level reviewers. Melanie also obtained site coordinator certification. Kelly Laxson handled all of the logistics and ensured the clinic ran smoothly. Dr. Chris Proschko served as the site coordinator and faculty sponsor.

VITA will be offered again next year, and we are hoping to help even more individuals with their taxes. Thank you to all of the volunteers who gave their time to help make the clinic a success. We hope to see you again next spring.
The second annual Accounting Excellence Awards Banquet was held on Thursday, April 19 in the LBJ Student Center ballroom. This event honored scholarship and award winning accounting students and faculty. The banquet also honored accounting students achieving outstanding GPAs. Prior to the banquet students and sponsoring firms enjoyed a reception.

Bruce Howard, a Texas State Career Advisor for McCoy College, was the master of ceremonies and welcomed over 125 guests in attendance. Dr. Chris Proschko presented the VITA clinic volunteer recognition awards. Tazeen Khandker received a gift card and was recognized for Most Returns Completed and for Most Evenings Worked.

After dinner, Dr. Proschko, scholarship committee member, served as the reader to recognize students receiving awards and scholarships. Fred Timmons, member of Texas Society of CPAs Board of Directors, presented awards for the TSCPA, and Van Alston, partner, presented two RSM scholarships totaling $5,000 to deserving students (pictured page 28). Dr. Ann Watkins presented the faculty awards. Advisory board member Michael Desormeaux, audit partner with Grant Thornton, presented Dr. Chris Proschko with the Accounting Advisory Board Faculty Engagement Award.

Anna Talent, EY Partner, accepted a plaque designating EY as the first member of the department’s 1976 Society. 1976 represents the year accounting was established as a separate department. Members of the 1976 Society represent individuals, firms, or companies who have provided outstanding support to the department.

The banquet featured guest speaker Fred Timmons, principal with CliftonLarsonAllen and member of the Texas State Accounting Advisory Board. Timmons talked to students about becoming a CPA and opportunities in the profession.

The Department of Accounting appreciates the support of firms sponsoring this event. Their table sponsorship fully funded the event and enabled high achieving accounting majors to attend. Additional proceeds from the event were used to fund the Department of Accounting Excellence Fund.

The Department of Accounting would like to extend its appreciation to everyone who helped coordinate the event. Special thanks to Elizabeth Ponder, lead event coordinator, Bruce Howard, Kelly Laxson, Meagan Hernandez and students working the event. We look forward to the next banquet in spring 2019!
BAP GIVES BACK

BAP HONORS MEMBERS
Student Awards & Recognitions

Spring 2018 Beta Gamma Sigma Inductees

Graduate Students
Samuel Barton*
Ellery Capuozzo*
Kelle Huerta*
Stacy Shaul*

Undergraduate Students
Alexandra Antoniadis
Jaclyn Blue
Macy Brown
Peyton Buie
Eric Campos
Samantha Capetillo
Cassandra Chapa
Kelsey Christ
Ngoc Chu
Kayla Cochran
Kaitlyn Dalrymple

Kira Davis
Cameron Deike
Victoria Duggins
Rachel Dziuk
Carley Garrett
Leticia Garza
Adrian Gonzalez Barron
Malcolm Graham
Blake Hall
Austin Henry
Desiree Kittel
Rachael Kling
Hunter LaBrie
Hector Loya
Savannah Luna
Sara Martin
Benjamin Maxedon
Samantha McDaneld
Walter Murray
Jerry Noe
Diana Oloteo
Sarah Paciocco
Elohor Palma
Matthew Pittman
Jacob Prewitt
Taylor Rafford
Brandon Requenez
Kayley Roberson
Song-Hee Roy
Brian Rybicki
Erick Sanchez
Sherry Satsky
Kelsie Sicking
Zachary Spivak
Seidle Stapleton
Sandra Vazquez
Brandon Vizcarra
Richard Ward
Aaron Yarbrough

* 2nd recognition

Invites by Major

Fun Facts

50th class inducted at Texas State
200+ active members at Texas State
160 countries have BGS chapters

ACC (29.76%)
MSAIT (2.98%)
Macy (2.38%)
MBA (8.93%)
CIS (3.57%)
ECO (3.57%)
Fin (11.90%)
MGT (21.43%)
MKT (15.48%)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scholarship/Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olufadeke Adeniyi</td>
<td>TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Anton</td>
<td>Accounting Club Graduate Endowed Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Barton</td>
<td>Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madison &quot;Mo&quot; Bearden</td>
<td>Federation of Schools of Accounting (FSA) 2018 Student Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethany Blair</td>
<td>Dr. Roselyn &quot;Rosie&quot; Morris Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Blanchette</td>
<td>TSCPA Austin CPA Chapter Scholarship</td>
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<td>Anh Bui</td>
<td>Daniel and Lucy Davila Endowed Scholarship</td>
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<td>Peyton Buie</td>
<td>RSM Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ellery Capuozzo</td>
<td>TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Excellence Award</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Craig</td>
<td>Mary Katheryne Terry Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Duggins</td>
<td>Mary Katheryne Terry Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erick Garza</td>
<td>Charles R. Bracy CPA Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malcolm Graham</td>
<td>Gary and Mary Whittington Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abigail Hays</td>
<td>Mary Katheryne Terry Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelle Huerta</td>
<td>TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation Scholarship</td>
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<td>TSCPA Austin CPA Chapter Scholarship</td>
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<td>Benjamin Maxedon</td>
<td>Mary Katheryne Terry Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alisa Medrano</td>
<td>McCoy College Outstanding Accounting Undergraduate Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Noe</td>
<td>Bill Bishop Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Pittman</td>
<td>Mary Katheryne Terry Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theodore Rowlett</td>
<td>ACFE Austin Chapter Scholarship</td>
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<td>Miguel Santibanez</td>
<td>Otis G. Reese Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yanfei &quot;Effie&quot; Shen</td>
<td>RSM Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelsie Sicking</td>
<td>Mary Katheryne Terry Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emilee Williams</td>
<td>Accounting Club Undergraduate Endowed Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juan Zirion</td>
<td>Diane Eure Endowed Scholarship in Accounting</td>
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On January 18, 24 new members were inducted to Beta Alpha Psi during the Induction Ceremony. The fall 2017 candidates showed their commitment throughout the semesters by attending weekly meetings and completing their service hours. BAP welcomed them to the Kappa Eta Chapter and encourage them to stay active.

Olufadeke Adeniyi
Emilee Adrio
Amanda Amaya
Alex Barbosa
Bea Castillo
Peyton Dilts
Erick Garza
Lucas Gitzendanner
Brett Goldberg
Kelle Huerta
Mary Huvar
Alisa Medrano
Gabriela Mendoza
Christopher Moffitt
Valentine Nnamah
Emily Ordonez
Maria Perez
Hector Rodriguez
Jiahuan Qi
Tyler Reese
David Starck
Rosibel Mondragon
Lauren Tomassetti
Juan Zirion

Two members received special recognition for going above and beyond their requirements:

Most Overall Hours for a Member: Daisy Lara
Most Overall Hours for a Candidate: Diana Olooteo
On February 27, Mr. Bruce Howard, also known as Uncle Bruce, was surprised with a great Texas State honor of being named a Bobcat Preview Den Namesake. Bruce is the career advisor specifically for business students and has greatly influenced and advised McCoy students to reach their career goals. Bruce was nominated because he is a Bobcat who has dedicated himself to the students of McCoy College.

Bobcat Preview co-chairs Zareah Horton and Nyra Tanner surprised him in office with his award, wearing his den color for the Fall Bobcat Preview, baby blue.

What is Bobcat Preview?

Bobcat Preview is a transition program that provides “just in time” information for new students so they can have a smooth transition to the university environment. This takes place a week before school starts, right after student check-in. Texas State University is the only college to offer such a program for incoming students, and they introduce the best faculty to these new Bobcats.

Bruce Howard was nominated from thousands of Texas State faculty and stood out due to numerous compliments from the students he advised as well as from his fellow staff members.

What Nominators Said:

"If you haven’t met Bruce Howard yet, you are missing out. He is incredibly kind, generous, wise, and caring and serves as a mentor to many students and also staff. I am lucky to have had the opportunity to work with him while I was a Career Advisor in Career Services, and I can honestly say that he changed my life. The way that he is able to motivate people and encourage people to be the best that they can be is unmatched. Texas State is so lucky to have Bruce as a staff member. Bruce Howard is a great example of someone deserving this recognition."

Congratulations, Uncle Bruce! We are grateful to have you as part of our McCoy family!

To see the footage of Den Howard’s surprise, check out Career Services’ Facebook page at

https://www.facebook.com/TxStCareers/
or our own department Facebook page at

https://www.facebook.com/accountingTXST/

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Articles and photo are submitted by hosting student organizations as part of their officer duties. Officers, faculty advisors, and staff work hard to create the department newsletter every fall and spring, highlighting department events, special guests, and student accomplishments. For a list of current student org officers, see p. 11-13.
Thank You to Our Sponsors for 2017-18

Sponsorship packages for the 2018-19 academic year will be released this summer. Firms may visit http://accounting.mccoy.txstate.edu/recruiting/recruiter-registration.html for details on sponsorship packages and deadlines.

The Department of Accounting thanks you for your support!
Looking for a Full Time Position, Internship, or Part Time Job?

Log onto your Jobs4Cats account to update your profile, upload a resume, and search for opportunities! You can access your account from the Career Services website at www.careerservices.txstate.edu.

Click on the Students tab and then the Jobs4Cats logo. Call Career Services at 512-245-2645 if you need assistance or stop by the main office in LBJSC 5.7-1.

Graduate assistant positions are also available with the department every semester. Visit the Department of Accounting website and click on Student Employment under the Student Resources tab. Or visit http://accounting.mccoy.txstate.edu/student-resources/student-employment.html.

Read through the requirements and fill out the application by the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Questions can be directed to accounting@txstate.edu.
ACCOUNTING EXCELLENCE AWARDS BANQUET (CONTINUED FROM P. 25)
CONTACTS

ACCOUNTING CLUB | www.txstateacctclub.com

BETA ALPHA PSI | www.txstatebap.com

NABA | www.txstatenaba.com

McCoy Undergraduate Advising | www.advising.mccoy.txstate.edu | 512.245.1993

Registrar | www.registrar.txstate.edu | 512.245.2367

CATS Registration Help Line | 512.245.7888

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