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Spring 2016
Retiring Faculty

The Department extends its gratitude to Dr. Rosie Morris and Dr. Lu Montondon for a combined 50 years of service. The Accounting Club commemorated its appreciation with a $10,000 contribution to scholarships in their name.

Thank You, Dr. Rosie Morris, for 23 years of service!

Dr. Morris is featured in the photo to the left with her daughters, Rachel (right) and Ruth (left).

Contributions can be made to the Dr. Roselyn “Rosie” Morris Scholarship Fund by contacting the McCoy Foundation.

Thank You, Dr. Lu Montondon, for 27 years of service!

The Accounting Club surprised Dr. Montondon with a retirement celebration after the final meeting of the year.

Contributions can be made to the Dr. Lucille Montondon Scholarship Fund by contacting the McCoy Foundation.
Ms. Ludmila Krylova presented Texas State Faculty Stay Edgy in Teaching. (Or Texas State faculty are constantly improving teaching methodology) at the American Accounting Association-Southwest annual meeting in March 2016. Projects are an excellent tool to add fun and value to the classroom. Time-consuming grading is among the main factors that prevent instructors from using projects. Ms. Krylova shared her experience in administering financial and managerial projects in classes with large enrollment, providing valuable tips for using technology to speed up the grading process.

Drs. Cecily Raiborn, Janet Butler, Nate Cannon and Randy Young took 3rd place in the IMA’s Educational Case Competition with the case, Trust May Breed Trouble: Fraud Opportunities and Ethics at Saintly Church.

Accounting Scholarships and Honors

Mark Rodriguez is this year’s recipient of the TSCPA Accounting, Excellence Award. Mark served as Beta Alpha Psi’s VP of Volunteer Activities & Professional Activities. Among the many community outreach programs Mark organized multiple workdays for Habitat for Humanity. Mark has taken a fulltime position with EY in their Austin office.

Jordan Draper was named the Outstanding Undergraduate Accounting Student. Jordan completed an internship with PwC and will continue her graduate studies in the M.Acy program before beginning her fulltime position.

McCoy Graduate Fellows

Nathan Bannert | M.Acy
Trang Do | M.Acy
Collin Ganci | M.Acy
Lisa Ledesma | M.Acy
Nayeema Nasrin | MSAIT

Outstanding Student Awards

Camryn Havard | Accounting Club Endowed Scholarship
Jordan Draper | Accounting Club Graduate Endowed Scholarship
Blake Huffman | Charles R. Bracy CPA Memorial Scholarship
Jenny Nguyen | Danny & Lucy Davila Endowed Scholarship
Halie Woodfin | Diane Eure Endowed Scholarship in Accounting
Candace Jenkins | Otis G. Reese Endowed Scholarship
“...not only does the Accounting Club want to provide members the opportunity to grow, but we also want to provide opportunities for members to share their growth with others.”

The Accounting Club is a student-led organization dedicated to preparing its members for successful careers in accounting. With the support of professionals from various accounting firms and Texas State faculty and staff, the Accounting Club organizes events that provide members with many opportunities to network and learn valuable soft skills. The experiences gained from being involved in the Accounting Club, when paired with the knowledge obtained in the classroom, help members secure internships and full-time employment after completing their degree.

During the Spring 2016 semester, the Accounting Club introduced new Accounting Club apparel, including a polo shirt that could be worn to the biweekly meetings (dress code is business casual). Apparel provides members with another way to display their involvement with the Accounting Club. Being an aspiring accounting professional is something to be proud of, and not only does the Accounting Club want to provide members the opportunity to grow, but we also want to provide opportunities for members to share their growth with others.

Other highlights of the Spring 2016 semester include the “Meet the Firms” job fair, the Holmes High School Visit, and the Austin office visits – all events organized by the Accounting Club.

Officers

President | Giffze Buling
Treasurer | Matthew Perry
Electronic Communication Admin. | Eric Easthope
External Relations Coordinator | Andrew Gonzalez
Special Projects Coordinator | Nayab Dhukka
Dept. Relations & Scholarship Coord. | Mostafa Kassem

Vice President | Aimee Jiang
Treasurer | Collin Ganci
Electronic Communication Admin. | Ellery Capuozzo
External Relations Coordinator | Joseph Courville
Special Projects Coordinator | Leah Lund
Program Director | Alex Carlos

Spring 2016 Beta Gamma Sigma Inductees

Andrew Arnold
Carly Battelli
Kira Davidson
Eric Easthope
Megan Garvin
Otto Gindler
Bethany Hernandez
Jackson Hvizdos
Logann King
Blake Lyssy
Connor Madere
Nicholas Oloko
Joslyn Paris
Shea Prihoda
Claudia Sanchez
Victoria Wetherington
Kristen Hartman-Bueche **
Jody Pyle *
Yi Zhang *
Ben Udomsinachi Akanoh *
Chistopher Choma *

*Graduate
**Second recognition of graduate student
“As the honors organization of McCoy, we supersede expectations—consistently giving back to our community while shaping ourselves into valuable professionals.”

This semester, our chapter has seen tremendous growth. We continue to recruit the top students of McCoy to represent accounting, finance and CIS at Texas State. As the honors organization of McCoy, we supersede expectations consistently giving back to our community while shaping ourselves into valuable professionals.

We also continuously strive to better our organization. Earlier this year, a group of members suggested a project that would enable better communication among our large group of over 100 members: a BAP app. We are currently working on this tool to improve networking within our membership in and outside of our events. Whether our members need interview advice or help in a class, the goal of the app is to provide them with support and resources to help them succeed.

BAP is full of brilliant minds, and this is just the start of new projects to come. Just how the business world is always progressing, we must reflect that within our organization. I’m excited to see where our rising members will take our chapter in the future.

**Officers**

President | Ximena Arbelaez  
Vice President | Kendra Dix  
Vice President | Halie Woodfin  
VP of Finances | Melanie Schuchert  
VP of Media Relations | Caitlyn Vinklarek  
VP of Vol. & Professional Activities | Erika Aucoin  
VP of Regional Conference/FES | Warren Quanstrom

VP of Membership | Taylor Rafford  
VP of Special Projects | Sarah Dresner  
VP of Media Relations | Janie Parada  
VP of Vol. & Professional Activities | Daniel Uribe  
VP of Reporting | Leah Lund  
VP of Fundraising | Ken Satchell
The National Association of Black Accountants is dedicated to improving opportunities and empowering minorities in the Accounting, Computer Information Systems and Finance professions. We strive to support our members by providing education, resources, and meaningful connections to facilitate professional excellence and civic responsibility that echoes our motto, “lifting as we climb”.

Through the support of the Austin Cen-Tex Chapter, we are able to provide our members with highly applicable skill sets. The Texas State Chapter strives to provide such opportunities as well as increase the diversity of students in these professions. This semester, we incorporated a new tradition of NABA week and we were able to host speakers from companies like Amegy Bank and the Texas Comptroller’s Office to educate as well as to create an environment for students to network with working professionals and potential employers. By doing this, we hope to invigorate and empower our members to pursue their dreams and career aspirations while instilling the importance of giving back to the community and others. Lastly, NABA is a great organization for students to improve their professional, interpersonal, and leadership skills.

I am extremely proud to be serving as the chapter president. Continuing the legacy of this great organization is an honor made possible through the support of the Accounting Department and the McCoy College of Business Administration. Thank you to all who have supported us throughout the years; I know that we will continue to grow as diligent NABA members, supporters and proud Bobcats. Thank you.

Officers

President | Valerie Amadi
VP of Operations | Nicole Garza
VP of Communications | Sierra Wright

VP of Membership | Anthony Blumenthal
Treasurer | Christopher Villarreal
Faculty Advisor | Diane Eure

NABA Spring Alumni Panel and Mixer 2016
Student Workers

Beginning at the left: Gliffze Buling, Mark Junek and LaNajha Porter

Student workers are an essential part of the department. Thank you for all that you do!

Gliffze Buling, Mark Junek and LaNajha Porter have been the first impression of the department office this spring. They have worked hard, always striving to be the best in self-sacrificing leadership, keeping everything at the front desk running smoothly.

Gliffze and LaNajha will continue on this summer while Mark completes his internship with KPMG, in Houston. Good luck, Mark! We know you’ll astound KPMG with your strong work ethic and courteous character.

Thanks for all your hard work!

Graduate Assistants

The department would like to thank all our graduate assistants for such excellent work this semester. Graduate assistants are a crucial part of the department and their work is valuable to their assigned faculty, students and the department.

We would like to congratulate and wish the best of luck to all of our graduates this semester. All are working to complete their CPA exam prior to employment with their firms. David Acosta-Rickard will begin with Deloitte in late September as an audit associate in Houston. This summer, Wanetia Adams will work for the county auditor in her hometown and will begin with Deloitte in Houston in early October. Haylie Hardin will be doing consulting with EY in Austin beginning in July 2017. In the meantime, she will be the temporary VP of Finance for a local start up called Gnack. Kristen Hartman-Bueche, will be an Audit Associate beginning in September with KPMG, Austin. Andrew Jung will head to San Francisco to work with Deloitte in audit. Orlando Martinez will start with EY in September in San Antonio. Jonathan Stumpff will begin with Grant Thornton in Houston in October. Corey Walkup starts with EY in Austin in September.

Sarah Kierein will be continuing on with us this summer; she begins at PMB Helin Donovan in January. Lauren Cooper will be finishing her master’s this summer and will begin at KPMG in Houston in late September. Amber Fleming will also be returning this summer having completed her internship with KPMG in San Antonio.

Featured in photos | Our Graduate Assistants: David Acosta-Rinkoard, Lauren Cooper, Haylie Hardin, Kristen Hartman-Bueche, Andrew Jung, Sarah Kierein, Orlando Martinez, Jonathan Stumpff, Corey Walkup. Special appearance: ‘photo-bomber’ in top graduate assistant photo who made us all laugh. Our Graduate Research Assistant: Wanetia Adams.
“Meet the Firms” is the semiannual job fair organized by the Accounting Club. The job fair focuses on introducing students to the opportunities available in public accounting. The Accounting Club invites many public accounting firms, along with a few other professional organizations, from around Central Texas. These firms range in size from small, single-location firms to the “Big Four”, the largest international public accounting firms.

For the Spring 2016 semester, over 90 professionals from over 30 different organizations attended the event, February 5, 2016.

“Meet the Firms” provides students with the opportunity to interact with professionals and learn more about their organization prior to interviews. While many of the firms offer very similar services, each firm has its own culture, and students are encouraged to find the organizations that fit their personalities best.

Even if students are not interested in public accounting – because there are definitely plenty of options for those with a degree in accounting – “Meet the Firms” can still be an excellent learning opportunity for those students. The Accounting Club does its best to prepare students for all job fairs (not just “Meet the Firms”) and the interview process. The professionals who attend “Meet the Firms” are also happy to provide students with career advice and answer any questions they may have related to accounting.

Firms Represented

Novogradac & Company  BDO USA, LLP  Melton & Melton  Becker
Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP  KPMG  MaloneBailey, LLP  RSM
Grant Thornton  Weaver  Deloitte  Gary W. Lambert  EY  BKD, LLP
DeVry  ATKG  Montgomery Coscia Greilich  Harper & Pearson Company
PwC  Hein & Associates  PMB Helin Donovan  Lane Gorman Trubitt
Holmes High School Visit

Each spring semester, the Accounting Club invites students from Holmes High School (from San Antonio) to the Texas State campus. The objective of the visit is to encourage high school students to pursue a college degree, specifically a degree in business. This event is an excellent opportunity for high school students to explore the campus and learn more about college life from current college students.

The Accounting Club recruited 23 college students to show up, eager to share knowledge with high school students, to campus at 8:00 AM on a Friday morning. From the LBJ Student Center Ballroom, these volunteers were split up to lead ten tour groups, each with 8 to 12 Holmes students. The ten groups went to different starting locations, and each began a two-hour tour around campus. During these tours, the Holmes students could ask the tour guides any questions, including those not directly related to the tour or Texas State specifically.

After the tours were completed, all ten groups returned to the LBJ Student Center Ballroom where they were joined by accounting faculty members for lunch, catered by a local restaurant. After lunch, there was a panel discussion. Holmes High School alumni, who had become Texas State students, were present to answer questions about their college experiences. Each panelist had their own perspective and shared different lessons he or she learned when transitioning from high school to college.

Overall, the event was a massive success. Both Texas State students and Holmes High School students learned from the experience. This upcoming fall semester, the Accounting Club will be bringing Texas State students to visit Holmes High School.

Austin Office Visit

The Accounting Club hosted a visit to three Austin offices. There were 13 student participants who arrived in Austin around 9:30 AM, and thus began the office visit triathlon. KPMG was the first firm of the day. They treated us to a nice breakfast while a panel of individuals ranging from intern to manager told us about the firm and filled us in on some of the great opportunities that they offer for undergraduate students.

Novogradac was next on our journey. They provided lunch while we learned about their interesting specialized-focused firm, and discussed the many avenues one can take in the spectrum of accounting careers. BDO led a very constructive question and answer discussion that allowed us to gain a greater understanding of their experiences with a large public firm.

Heading home, we were all pretty exhausted from the day. It was a lot to take in, but everyone benefitted in many ways. Lots of discussion and connections made for some great networking on this visit, which is a valuable asset to have. As the wise Andrew Gonzalez said, “Sometimes it’s not about the grades you make, but the hands you shake.” All-in-all, it was a very good experience, and we are looking forward to future office visits with the club!
Student Leaders Reception

Texas State University President, Dr. Denise M. Trauth, invited the presidents of all on-campus student organizations to a Student Leaders Reception at the President’s House on April 13, 2016. Ximena Arbelaez and Glifze Buling, the presidents of Beta Alpha Psi and the Accounting Club, respectively, attended the reception.

The event was an excellent opportunity for the organization presidents to share information about their organizations and their accomplishments not only with Dr. Trauth, but also with other student leaders, the deans of various colleges, and Texas State staff. All of the on-campus student organizations work diligently to provide opportunities for students, improve the university, and give back to the community. There is a wide array of student organizations on-campus, and there are opportunities for many more to be formed, so all students can find at least one organization they would be interested in.

BAP Outreach

Beta Alpha Psi recently participated in Bobcat Build at the beginning of April. We had thirty of our members come out to volunteer. The morning of the kickoff started with getting our teal bobcat build t-shirts, breakfast, coffee and snacks. Once kickoff was over we got our tools from the tool tent and carpooled to our jobsite. Beta Alpha Psi was assigned a local house only a mile or so away from campus. When we arrived the homeowner was eagerly waiting and gave us instructions on what she wanted done. We took a yard that had weeds in the flower beds and an unrecognizable walk way and turned it into a new yard. At the end of the day we had mulched, cut the grass, trimmed the bushes and created a whole new walk way. Bobcat Build is one of Beta Alpha Psi’s favorite events because it gives us chance to make a difference in the community that we live in. We also like Bobcat Build because we get to know each other over some simple yard work. Not only is it a great volunteer event but also a great chance to bond.
REGIONALS
At the regional meeting, the opening event consisted of a group project to balance a federal budget as an ice breaker for the attendees to network with students from other schools. While at regions, we were able to attend professional workshops held by the representatives from various firms. There was also an opportunity to create lunches to be donated to and handed out by the Houston Food Bank.

ALIGNMENT OF OFFICER ACTIVITIES
The Alignment of Officer Activities group consists of Erika Aucoin, Gliffze Buling, Bethany Hernandez, and Janie Parada. Communication is key to our success as a chapter. In order to prevent “working in silos,” we primarily rely on weekly face-to-face meetings, email, and our university’s portal system to ensure that information is available for all officers, members, and candidates. Our president delegates responsibilities among the officers because she oversees all projects and activities, which allows her to know where additional resources, such as time or materials, are required. The president has historically held that role in our chapter without fail. The other officer roles have evolved to meet the evolving needs of the chapter and the strengths of the officers each semester. We have created additional officer positions as new opportunities arise, as well as expanded existing positions.

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT
The Leadership and Management group consisted of Caitlyn Vinkleak and Gracie Marie Trevino. The presentation centered on how we teach our members leadership and management skills through our professional and volunteer requirements. We allow members to shadow officers to give them an opportunity to see what the job requirements of that position are before they commit to it. We measured our success of teaching these skills through our high employment rate upon graduation and then went on to showcase our newest improvement for the chapter. The Kappa Eta Bap App is our newest improvement to the chapter—it is an app that incorporates the best parts of all our social media into one place so our members have one source for all information. They are able to ask and answer questions pertaining to certain events and get into contact with officers who can answer their questions directly. Although still in the process, it will soon become the best way for our chapter to communicate.

CHAPTER OPERATIONS
Chapter Operations was presented by Ximena Arbelaez and Kendra Dix, with a focus on meaningful service projects. We showcased our alliance with our local community center, the parks and recreation center of San Marcos. The Kappa Eta chapter began its relationship with the parks and rec center in 2011 and has volunteered consistently throughout the years. We attend many events hosted by them and have our members help setup and assure they run smoothly. Through this partnership, the Kappa Eta chapter gives back to the community by hosting safe events for the children of San Marcos to go out and enjoy, as well as cleaning up the very popular river in town. Our members are able to meet the locals of San Marcos while leaving a positive impression of Texas State University as well as Beta Alpha Psi.
NABA Spring Events

The spring semester was filled with opportunities for Texas State NABA students to network with other NABA student chapters and professionals through a variety of events hosted both on and off campus.

At our on-campus meetings this spring, we hosted a variety of speakers from different backgrounds including Dr. Matari Gunter, management professor from Texas State, Javier Zermeno, credit analyst from Amegy Bank, Daniel Moriel, auditor from the Texas Comptroller’s Office, and Elaine Mays, Chief Information Officer from the Texas Juvenile Justice Department. NABA also participated in Business Leadership Week co-sponsoring the alumni panel which featured Justin Wilhelm from the IRS, Javier Zermeno from Amegy Bank, Anna Tallent from EY, Johnna Kethan from C.L. Thomas, and Tom Tabler from Mensor Corporation. Experiences were shared and advice was offered regarding working in a global environment and conducting “Business Beyond Borders”.

A series of informal events were held during NABA week promoting the organization and inviting students to meet our members that ended with a social and game night where prizes were distributed to those that participated in the week’s events. A fundraiser game night was also held where spectators enjoyed the “Almost Newlywed Game”, featuring several NABA students that recently became engaged. Fun was had by all and the money raised will go to support NABA scholarships.

NABA participated in Bobcat Days welcoming potential Bobcats and providing information about what it’s like to be an accounting student.

The theme of this year’s Annual Austin Cen-Tex Chapter Scholarship and Awards Luncheon was “Accelerate Your Growth and Advancement”. The event was held in Austin, Texas, on April 21, 2016 and provided students an opportunity to network with NABA professionals and students from other NABA chapters including UT-Austin, UT-San Antonio, and Houston-Tillotson. Maya McCrory, Chief Accounting Officer from Dell, and Jaime Gaertner, Group Talent Acquisition Manager from Enterprise Holdings shared some of their professional experiences that will help graduating students transition from college to their professional positions. Also, Valerie Amadi was recognized for her contributions as President of the Texas State Chapter.

The first NABA Alumni Panel and Mixer capped off the spring semester. Former NABA members including Raven Orr of EY, Alan Couoh of PMB Helin Donovan, Shannalee Downs of Novogradac & Company, Marissa Perry of KPMG, Jennifer Jones of PWC, and Louis Holley, Officer of the Inspector General, shared their experiences since leaving Texas State. Everyone agreed it was great for our current students to connect with alumni and for our former Bobcats to reconnect with each other.

Many of our NABA members will be graduating this semester but we look forward to having them back on campus in the future to share their experiences with new NABA students and continuing to uphold the NABA motto “Lifting as we Climb”.

Accountability
**Be an Accountant!**

In this short promotional video, several alumni share their experience with the McCoy College of Business Administration Accounting and M.Acy programs.

**Connect**

[Social media icons: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, Camera]

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*The rising STAR of Texas*

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