

FISHER SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTING

 $Warrington\ College\ of\ Business\ Administration\ |\ University\ of\ Florida$



The 2013 Fisher School Annual Report is dedicated to the memory of Dr. John L. "Jack" Kramer, one of the School's most influential scholars, who passed away in April.

Dr. Kramer made a powerful impact and touched many lives during his 25 years at the Fisher School.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

There are several critical ingredients for a successful accounting program. Start with the best students possible, add world-class faculty and highly-engaged staff, then mix with an effective support infrastructure and state-of-the-art facilities and the recipe is almost perfect. The final special ingredient that holds everything together is the strong support of alumni and friends. Fortunately, we have all these ingredients at the Fisher

School. We are proud of the graduates who become leaders in the profession and the influential research produced by our faculty and Ph.D. students. Together we have built something of which we can all be very proud.

This report contains a snapshot of our many activities over the past year. We hope to see you on campus or at one of our alumni events in your city in the coming year.



fessors since 2010. These talented and vibrant scholars have enhanced Fisher's teaching and research reputations and invigorated the School with their energy and enthusiasm.

SONIA SINGH

Professor Singh joins the Fisher faculty as a full-time Lecturer.

Professor Singh has previously served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the Fisher School having taught Introduction to Accounting and Financial Accounting and Reporting II.



Professor Singh's professional experience ranges from her work as an Accountant and Tax Preparer for D. Singh Income Tax Services Inc., in Orlando, a Real Estate Sales Associate for Florida Pride Realty Inc., in Orlando and an Accounting and Tax Consultant for LiNil Visiting Nurses, Inc., in Winter Park, Fla.

Professor Singh, who is a CPA, has earned four academic degrees from the University of Florida. She holds a BS in Accounting (2009), Master of Accounting (2009), Juris Doctor (2012) and a Master of Laws in Taxation (2013).

MATT EGE

Dr. Ege joins the Fisher School from the University of Texas where he earned his Ph.D. in Accounting in 2013. During his time in Austin, Dr. Ege taught Managerial Accounting and was nominated for UT's Fred Moore Assistant Instructor Award for Teaching Excellence.



Dr. Ege also has experience in public accounting having served as a Manager, Senior Associate-IT Audit for KPMG and an IT Security intern at PwC. He also served as Director, Strategic Services for FishNet Security.

Dr. Ege earned a BBA in Accounting and a MS in Management Information Systems in 2002 from Texas A&M University.

LUKE WATSON

Dr. Watson arrives from Penn State University where he received his Ph.D. in Accounting in 2013. During his time at Penn State, Dr. Watson taught Principles of Taxation and was a Teaching Assistant for Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision-Making.



Dr. Watson, whose research interests are Corporate Taxation, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Executive Attributes, Expertise and Compensation, was a Tax Consulting Intern for EY in 2001 and 2002.

Dr. Watson earned a BBA in Accountancy (cum laude) and MS in Accountancy from the University of Notre Dame.

PAUL MADSEN

Dr. Madsen, an Assistant Professor. was awarded the J. Michael Cook Excellence in Teaching Award which recognizes superior performance in teaching.



Dr. Madsen's teaching methods are certainly unique. In his Financial Accounting class, he uses the board game Monopoly as a teaching tool. Students in small groups "play" the game throughout the year learning financial accounting concepts as well as how to prepare financial reports. In his graduate elective course on derivatives, he relies heavily on student input in designing the course's structure.

Dr. Madsen has taught at the Fisher School since 2010.

MARCUS KIRK

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Luciano Prida, Sr. Term Assistant ed a Warrington College of Business Administration 2012-13 Teaching Award (Undergraduate).

Professor Dr. Marcus Kirk was award-

At the undergraduate level, Dr. Kirk teaches Financial Accounting and Reporting I. In addition to his teaching and research, he has served on the Accounting Faculty Recruiting Committee, Doctoral Program Committee and as the Research Workshop Coordinator.

CHUCK **MCDONALD**

Dr. McDonald, a Senior Lecturer announced his retirement from the Fisher School.



Dr. McDonald has served the Fisher School for five decades. He began as an Assistant Professor and Graduate Coordinator in 1974, and went on to become an Associate Professor and the School's Assistant Director from 1977-1980. After departing to work for Deloitte's Executive Office Research Department in 1982, he returned to the Fisher School as an Associate Professor and taught for the next 15 years. He was appointed an Emeritus Professor in 2001.

Dr. McDonald co-authored four books and served in numerous capacities in accounting's elite academic and professional organizations.

DAVID REPPENHAGEN

Luciano Prida, Sr. Term Assistant Professors Dr. David Reppenhagen and Dr. Marcus Kirk are the inaugural recipients of the PwC Summer Research Excellence Grant.



Dr. Kirk and Dr. Reppenhagen have taught at the Fisher School since 2009. Among Dr. Kirk's research interests are financial reporting and disclosure choices, valuation and financial markets and institutions. Dr. Reppenhagen's research focuses on accounting choice, diffusion of accounting practices and history of accounting institutions.

- Standard Audit Report on the Financial Statements," Accounting Horizons, 2012; with A. Wright.
- "The Effect of Change in the Reporting Threshold and Type of Control Deficiency on Equity Analysts' Evaluation of the Reliability of Future Financial Statements," Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory, 2012; with A. Wright.
- "The Effect of Type of Internal Control Report on Users' Confidence in the Accompanying Financial Statement Audit Report," Contemporary Accounting Research, 2011; with A. Wright.
- Amending the Constitution of Ghana: Is the Imperial President Trespassing?" *African Journal of International and Comparative Law*, Volume 18 (2010): 192-216; with H. Kwasi Prempeh.

MARCUS KIRK

- "Does the Midpoint Range Earnings Forecasts Represent Managers' Expectations," Review of Accounting Studies, forthcoming, with W. Ciconte and J. Tucker.
- "Research for Sale: Determinants and Consequences of Paid-for Analyst Research" Journal of Financial Economics, Volume 100, 2011: 182-200.

JUSTIN LEIBY

""How Do Auditors Weight Informal Contrary Advice? The Joint Influence of Advisor Social Bond and Advice Justifiability," The Accounting Review (2013), with M. Peecher and K. Kadous.

W. ROBERT KNECHEL

- W. Robert. Knechel & Krishnan, Gopal. Pevzner, M.. Shefchik, Lori. Velury, Uma. (2013). Audit Quality: Insights from the Academic Literature. Auditing A Journal of Practice & Theory.
- K. Jones & Aier, J.. Brandon, D.. Carpenter, T.. Gaynor, L.., et al. (2012). Comments by the Auditing Standards Committee of the Auditing Section of the American Accounting Association on. Current Issues in Auditing.
- M. Causholli & Knechel, W. Robert. Lin, H.. Sappington, D.. (2012). Competitive Procurement of Auditing Services with Limited Information. European Accounting Review.
- Peter Carey & Knechel, W. Robert. Tanewski, George. (2013). Costs and benefits of mandatory auditing of for-profit private and not-for-profit entities in Australia. Australian Accounting Review.
- W. Robert. Knechel (2013). Do Auditing Standards Matter? Current Issues in Auditing.
- M. Donohoe & Knechel, W. Robert. (2012). Does corporate tax aggressiveness influence audit pricing?. *Contemporary Accounting Research*.
- W. Robert. Knechel & Niemi, Lasse. Zerni, Mikko. (2012). Empirical Evidence on the Implicit Determinants of Compensation in Big four Audit Partnerships. *Journal* of Accounting Research.
- Liesbeth Bruynseels & Knechel, W. Robert. Willekens, Marleen. (2013). Management Turnaround Initiatives and Auditors' Going-Concern Judgment: Memory for Audit Evidence. *Auditing A Journal of Practice & Theory*.
- The Effect of Audit Standards on Fraud Consultation," Accounting Review, 2012; with Anna Gold and Philip Wallage.
- "Auditor-Provided Non-Audit Services and Audit Effectiveness and Efficiency: Evidence from pre- and post SOX Audit Report Lags," Auditing A Journal of Practice & Theory, 2012; with D. Sharma.
- "Lending Relationships, Auditor Quality and Debt Costs," Managerial Auditing Journal, 2011; with Monika Causholli.
- "Non-Audit Services and Audit Efficiency: Evidence from New Zealand," Journal of Business Finance & Accounting, 2011; with Divesh Sharma and Vineeta Sharma.
- "An Examination of the Credence Attributes of an Audit," Accounting Horizons, 2011; with M. Causholli.

- "New evidence on the association between auditor tenure, non-audit services and audit quality," *International Symposium on Audit Research*, 2011; with Timothy Bell and Monika Causholli.
- "Response to PCAOB Release No. 2011-006: Concept Release on Auditor Independence and Audit Firm Rotation," PCAOB, 2011; with Keith Jones.
- "Audit Markets, Fees and Production: Towards and Integrated View of Empirical Audit Research," *Journal of Accounting Literature*, 2011; with M. Causholli, D. Gary and M. Demartinis.
- "Auditor Differentiation, Mitigating Management Actions and Audit Reporting Accuracy for Distressed firms," Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory (February 2011); with L. Bruynseels and M. Willekens.
- Litigation Risk and Audit Firm Characteristics," Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory (November 2010): 71-82; with J.Casterella and K. Jensen.
- "The Effect of Benchmarked Performance Measures and Strategic Analysis on Auditors' Risk Assessments and Mental Models," Accounting Organizations & Society, Vol 35 (2010): 316–333; with S. Salterio and N. Kotchetova.
- Accruals and the Pricing and Production of Audit Services," *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory* (May 2010): 221-250; with C. Schelleman.
- "Why Standards Matter," Published in Zicht op Schilder: Ethiek, controle en toezicht (Libor amicorum voor prof. dr. Arnold Schilder). University of Amsterdam Business School, 2010.

PAUL MADSEN

- The Integration of Racial Minorities and Women into the Auditing Profession Since the Civil Rights Period," forthcoming in *The Accounting Review*.
- "Evaluating Accounting Standards: A Comment on Ramanna (2013)," forthcoming in Accounting, Economics, and Law – A Convivium.
- $\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,\,$ "How Standardized is Accounting?" The Accounting Review 86 (5): 1679-1708.

DAVID REPPENHAGEN

"Contagion of Accounting Methods: Evidence from Stock Option Expensing," Review of Accounting Studies, Volume 15, Issue 3 (2010): 629-657.

GARY MCGILL

- "Through a Glass Darkly: What Can We Learn About a U.S. Multinational Corporation's International Operations From Its Financial Statement Disclosures?" *National Tax Journal*, December 2012, 65(4), 9061-984, with M. Donohoe and Ed. Outslay.
- "The Effects of Increased Book-Tax Difference Tax Return Disclosures On Firm Valuation And Behavior," The Journal of the American Taxation Association, Volume 33, No. 2, Fall 2011; with M. Donohoe.
- "Achievement Goals, Feedback, and Task Performance," Human Performance, Volume 23, Issue 2, April 2010, 131 – 154; with A. Cianci and J. M. Schaubroeck.

JENNY TUCKER

- Causes and Consequences of Disaggregating Earnings Guidance," *Journal of Business Finance & Accounting*, 2012: 26-54; with B. Lansford and B. Lev.
- "Does the Midpoint Range Earnings Forecasts Represent Managers' Expectations," Review of Accounting Studies, forthcoming, with M. Kirk and J. Tucker.
- "Non-earnings corporate guidance," Financial Management, 2012: 947-977; with Richard Lu.
- "Large sample evidence on firms' year-over-year MD&A modifications," Journal of Accounting Research, 2011, Vol. 49 (2): 309-346; with S. Brown.
- "Do managers use earnings guidance to influence street earnings exclusions?" Review of Accounting Studies, 2011, Vol. 16: 501-527; with Ted Christensen, Kenneth Merkley, and Shankar Venkataraman.
- "Selection bias and econometric remedies in accounting and finance research." Journal of Accounting Literature, Winter 2010, Vol. 29: 31-57.
- ➣ "Is silence golden? Earnings warnings and change in subsequent analyst following." Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance, Volume 25 (3), Summer 2010: 431-456.
- "To guide or not to guide? Causes and consequences of stopping quarterly earnings guidance," *Contemporary Accounting Research*, Spring 2010, Vol. 27, No. 1, pp.143-185; with Joel Houston and Baruch Lev.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: JAY BARRETT

A career in accounting seemed natural for Jay Barrett. After all, accounting was in his blood. His father, Jim, was a financial executive for the Internal Revenue Service who then spent the next 25 years in private industry.

But after being introduced to the complex subject matter and competitive environment at the University of Florida, Barrett admitted he had a moment of panic.

"I think I changed my major to English for a day," Barrett said. "It was tough at the beginning, but I talked to my dad and he encouraged me to work my way through it. I woke up the next morning, buckled up and got back to work."

Thankfully, that fatherly encouragement worked setting Barrett, 62, on an extraordinary path to success as one of Las Vegas' most successful financial and real estate leaders. It has been 40 years since Barrett (BSBA '73) began his Western adventure, but the lessons he learned four decades ago are still guiding him today.

"I owe it [success] all to my family and the University of Florida," Barrett said. "I'm still

a big cheerleader for UF. The foundation it gave me I still use as a resource today."

Barrett's day-long hiatus from accounting all those years ago may have been a blessing in disguise. To truly find out if accounting was his calling, Barrett visited with an accounting program counselor. Barrett's doubts were quickly erased and his eyes were open to a future he hadn't before realized.

"I was inspired by the success Isaw."

"I learned that accounting was the language of business," Barrett said. "[With an accounting degree you can go into many other fields like marketing or risk management. That meeting, and the encouragement of my professors, really drove me."

At first, Barrett was taken aback by UF's size. Barrett said his statistics class of about 600 students was larger than the 500-student enrollment of his high school, Chaminade (now Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory) in Hollywood, Florida.

But he acclimated quickly, making

friends and showing signs of being a leader and motivator.

"He was always about putting things and people together," said Robert Anderson (BSBA '73, JD '76), a classmate and lifelong friend of Barrett's. "He was putting field trips together, building and moving and connecting people. We didn't use the word networking back then, but he was good at networking."

Barrett's people skills came in handy during his professional career. His journey led him to Reno, Nevada, where his family had moved while Barrett was in college. Barrett fell in love with the state the moment he got there.

"Nevada reminded me of Florida in the 1950s and 60s." he said. "There were few people, but a progressive attitude toward business."

Barrett jumped in feet first as a junior accountant with Chanslor, Barbieri & De Whitt-where he would later become an Audit Partner—then was a Managing Partner in his own accounting firm, Barrett & Smith CPA's. For those 13 years. Barrett got a firsthand look at some of the state's major financial and real estate dealings. Although he enjoyed his role documenting the transactions, the exposure drove him to play a greater, more creative role.

"I was inspired by the success I saw," Barrett said. "I saw the idea, the hard work and the fulfillment that came from that. I saw the opportunity to take an entrepreneurial approach beyond public accounting to creating and developing projects. I wanted to make that transition from an independent advisor to being involved in the deal making."

For the next 25 years, Barrett was involved in some of Las Vegas' largest real estate dealings. In 1985, Barrett became the senior financial executive and a member of the Board of Directors of The Marnell Companies, which was composed of smaller business units involved in planning, architecture, construction, real estate development and various investment activities. Barrett oversaw treasury management, capital and operational budgeting, financial reporting, forecasting, credit and bonding relationships, risk management and tax planning for Marnell, which averaged \$500 million in combined revenues through the 2010 fiscal year.

One of the units in the Marnell family of companies was Marnell Corrao Associates. the oldest and largest design build firm for hotel casinos in the United States, which had designed and built over \$12 billion of hotel casino related properties. Marnell Architecture, the company's architectural unit, has

designed some of Las Vegas' most prominent hotel casino resorts including Bellagio. Caesars, Rio, Mirage, Borgata and The M Resort.

In addition to serving various leadership roles with The Marnell Companies, Barrett served as President and member of the Board of Directors of the Rio Hotel & Casino. Inc.. America's first all-suite hotel casino. The Rio, which opened in 1990 with 454 suites. grew to 2,500 suites, 5,000 employees and 100,000 square feet of gaming space in nine years. The Rio was acquired by Harrah's Entertainment. Inc., for \$800 million in 1999.

Despite all the success the Rio enjoyed—and the major role he played in that success-Barrett doesn't consider his time as Rio president to be the pinnacle of his achievements. Barrett said what gives him the most satisfaction is the totality of his work.



"The Rio was a tremendous amount of work." Barrett said. "But the crown jewel. for me, is when you stand back after all those years and look at everything that went into it. We always had a commitment to do things the right way, a commitment to our principles and integrity and to finding the right people. We definitely had great people help us get there."

After spending 25 years developing some of Las Vegas' most recognizable hotel/casino properties, retirement seemed logical for Barrett. Instead his entrepreneurial spirit motivated him to start his own company— The JABarrett Company-which provides financial and organizational guidance to private businesses and their owners.

"I love being involved in companies; where they are and where they want to go," Barrett said.

Barrett said he has never forgotten the lessons he learned during his time at UF. and is adamant that those experiences shaped his path to success.

"I'll never forget the alumni who came back and spoke to us," Barrett said. "That connection to the real world helped tremendously. I can't emphasize enough the incredible, life-lasting impact that UF and the college of business had on me."

UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATE

	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total
F12-Su13	30	106	11	147	15	94	9	118
F11-Su12	45	137	26	208	15	103	12	130
F10-Su11	39	142	21	202	16	98	4	118
F09-Su10	48	122	10	180	14	94	9	117
F08-Su09	41	152	11	204	16	83	10	109
F07-Su08	37	108	10	155	23	68	10	101
F06-Su07	46	119	19	184	11	76	7	94
F05-Su06	58	118	26	202	30	95	14	139
F04-Su05	46	103	29	178	17	74	16	107
F03-Su04	47	92	34	173	8	65	29	102
F02-Su03	35	100	25	160	26	80	23	129
F01-Su02	43	95	30	168	10	71	19	100
F00-Su01	52	77	24	153	21	42	39	102
F99-Su00	52	99	41	192	20	69	37	126
F98-Su99	60	102	48	210	21	55	47	123
F97-Su98	66	95	30	191	17	62	29	108
F96-Su97	59	120	30	209	17	68	32	117
F95-Su96	57	92	31	180	19	61	21	101
F94-Su95	32	102	29	163	23	91	21	135
F93-Su94	55	113	21	189	22	99	15	136
F92-Su93	52	113	31	196	29	95	16	140
F91-Su92	70	109	33	212	37	44	10	91
F90-Su91	82	106	31	219	27	42	48	117
F89-Su90	83	106	71	260	15	19	39	73
F88-Su89	67	77	68	212	19	24	33	76
F87-Su88	58	72	47	177	19	10	23	52
F86-Su87	57	84	53	194	32	12	24	68
F85-Su86	54	78	70	202	18	21	47	86

PLACEMENTS

Virtually all of the Fisher School graduates looking for employment accepted jobs by graduation. Most begin their career in public accounting with starting salaries averaging \$53,500.

FELLOWSHIPS

Graduate Fellowships totaling \$95,500 were awarded to 37 students at the 2013 banquet.

RANKINGS

Fisher's undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs ranked in the top 15 among U.S. public accounting programs in the 31st Annual Survey of Accounting Professors published by *Public Accounting Report (PAR)*.







(Among Publics)

"The Fisher School's students, faculty and staff continue to improve along all dimensions," said J. Roy Duggan Professor Dr. Gary McGill, Associate Dean and Director of the Fisher School. "Our revised undergraduate curriculum is fully in place, and our new generation of faculty has already begun to make a difference at the Fisher School. Our students continue to add value when they enter the profession, and we are all pleased to see the continuing recognition of their quality by our peers around the country."

Additionally, Fisher's undergraduate program ranked fifth among public programs in *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Colleges 2013" issue.

INCOMING STUDENTS

The average GPA for undergraduate students admitted in Fall 2012:

3.67

► The average GPA for graduate students admitted in Fall 2012:

3.59

Average graduate accounting GPA:

3.39

Average GMAT Score:

627

CPA PERFORMANCE

Exam performance for 2012 was recently released, and the results show 112 undergraduate and 27 graduate students from the Fisher School of Accounting took part or the entire exam in 2012. FSOA first-time candidates (both undergraduate and graduate) distinguished themselves by scoring an overall passing rate of 78% for all parts of the CPA exam attempted during 2012. This pass rate placed 10th in the nation among 255 large academic institutions (defined as having at least 60 candidates) participating in the CPA exam during 2012. It also placed the FSOA 23rd in the nation among all 781 academic institutions (defined as having at least 10 candidates) taking part in the CPA exam during 2012.

Approximately \$95,500 in academic fellowships and awards were distributed. In addition, exemplary performance was

to the Fisher School of Accounting.

recognized including Beta Alpha Psi initiates, FSOA Student Council gold members and presidents of student organizations.

Blake Hebbel was named MAcc Student of the Year. This award is selected by faculty vote and is the highest student honor the Fisher School awards. Hebbel has also been named the Federation of Schools of Accounting Student of the Year, and is a prior winner of the Ralph Miller Fellowship. Graduating

in the top 5% of his class, Hebbel was also an undergraduate advisor for two years and a student assistant.

Hebbel was one of our student representatives at our annual FICPA conference, leading a discussion concerning proposed regulations on mandatory audit firm rotation. He completed an audit internship with PwC in New York, and will start his career with PwC in Atlanta.

FELLOWSHIPS

- ▶ Fisher Fellowship Nicholas Pinto
- ▶ Don Miller Fellowship − Allison Mansell
- Ralph Miller Fellowship —
 Corey Tober
- William Crown Jr.
 Fellowship Brigitte Bakshi, Eric
 Chan, David Efraim, Ali Lakhani, Lee
 Milam, Jonathan Molina, Caitlen Smaga
- Gerson, Preston, Robinson &
 Co. Fellowship Andrew Bryan,
 Ashley Meral
- Batson Siegel Fellowship Jared Armenti

- ► Lovelle Ahrano
 Fellowship Jeff
 Bennett, Jeffrey Brill,
 Jeremy Ferman,
 Brian Gordon,
 Samantha Goudis,
 Eric Malinasky,
- Kayann Moo Young, Christian Paparcuri, Amber Petrik, Norangeli Ramirez, Thomas Regan, Mathias Rodriguez, Ben Suarez, Yuan Wen
- Richard Darby Fellowship Katie Auld, Ryan Sweeny, Stephano Eckardt
- ► FICPA Fellowship

 Nominees Amanda Barrist, Emily

 Deng, Gregory Kurth, Marion Smith

Dr. Gary McGill with Blake Hebbel, MAcc Student of the Year.

OTHER AWARD WINNERS

- ▶ J. Michael Cook Student Leadership Award — Michael Vu
- ► Ed Triplett Student Leadership

 Award Mason Brannon,

 Andrew Zaleski
- J. Michael Cook Excellence in
 Teaching Award Dr. Paul Madsen

The Fisher School of Accounting Council (FSOAC) is part of the campus-wide Board of College Councils. The FSOAC serves as a liaise between faculty and students and undertakes a variety of activities such as informing students about career opportunities, holding social events for students and faculty and providing community service.

- ▶ Published six issues of The Fisherman.
- ➤ Fall and Spring trips for Council Gold members were to
 Miami (visits to PwC, Royal Caribbean and Burger King
 Headquarters) and Tampa (visits to Grant Thornton, EY,
 and SunTrust), respectively.
- ▶ Intramurals including softball, soccer, flag football and volleyball.
- ▶ Stock Market Game 14 students
- Mentorship program to help lower-division accounting students.
- ▶ Raised \$4,000 through fundraising events to sponsor professional and social activities.



- ➤ The Council also held community service events, the most notable of which included:
 - \triangleright Participated in Climb for Cancer.
 - > Participated in Gators March for Babies 5K walk benefiting the March of Dimes Foundation. Council raised over \$1,100 and was recognized as one of the top three organizations to raise funds.
 - > Participated in American Cancer Society's Relay for Lif
 - > Hosted over 200 guests at the School's annual Spring
 Awards Banquet.
 - Participated in St. Baldrick's event to help kids with cancer, where several members shaved their heads for charity. Council raised over \$300 in total for the foundation.
 - Volunteered at Saint Francis House serving meals to the hungry.
 - > Participated in VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)
 Program helping low and moderate-income taxpayers
 complete their annual tax returns at no cost.
- **▶** Social Events included:
 - > Coffee with Council
 - > Skate Station
 - Splitz Bowling/Laser Tag
 - > Mother's Pub
 - > Painted the 34th Street Wall

Beta Alpha Psi provides a program of chapter activities each year including:

▶ FSOA Accounting Firm Social – This event is an opportunity for smaller to mid-sized, local and regional accounting firm representatives to return to campus and meet and recruit our accounting students. This event was designed to make students more comfortable with recruiting functions and expose them to opportunities with smaller, regional, and boutique-style firms.

- ▶ Professional Speaker Series A formal course featuring speakers from the professional community.
- ▶ Opportunities for Beta Alpha Psi members to interact with accounting professionals in various activities.
- ▶ Opportunities for Beta Alpha Psi members to participate in various community service activities.

2012-2013 FISHER ADVISORY BOARD

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FISHER GRAD RECEIVES **UF HONOR**

Allison McCarthy (BSAc '98, MAcc '98) was a recipient of the University of Florida's Outstanding Young Alumni Award in April.

McCarthy is a Partner at Holland & Knight, one of the 30 largest law firms in the country. Based in the firm's Fort Lauderdale office, McCarthy practices in the areas of commercial real estate and commercial lending.

McCarthy, who earned her law degree from Duke University, has developed a specialized practice in representing clients in connection with the acquisition, ground lease, financing, development, construction, operation, leasing, and disposition of hotels and resorts and mixed-use projects with a hospitality component.



6th ANNUAL WOMEN IN **ACCOUNTING SYMPOSIUM**

December 2012 marked the Sixth Annual Fisher School of Accounting's Women in Accounting Symposium. The event was held at Gainesville's Sweetwater Branch Inn and featured female accounting professionals from the Big Four and other successful firms.



Speakers:

- ▶ Kerensa Butler Partner, McGladrey
- Adrienne Figur Partner Tax. EY
- ▶ Jill Loftus Tax Partner. PwC
- ▶ Karen Mann Exec. Director of Finance & Admin, Estée Lauder Cos.
- ▶ Allison McCarthy Partner, Holland & Knight
- ▶ **Joan Millett** *Director Tax Controversy Services, Deloitte*
- Karen Mitchell Curran Managing Partner, KPMG
- ▶ Dawn Olivardia Partner Tax Services, Grant Thornton
- Cynthia Pekrul VP & Deputy Controller, Turner Broadcasting
- ▶ Thais Rodriguez-Caez Senior Manager Assurance, EY
- ▶ Loreen Spencer Partner Audit & Enterprise Risk Services, Deloitte
- Becky Sproul Audit Partner, KPMG
- Julie Williams Partner, PwC

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: LARYSA SWITLYK

Larysa Switlyk (BSAc '07, MAcc '07) was following a successful path that many Fisher graduates before her had travelled. She completed a bachelor's and master's degree in Accounting in four years and went on to earn her CPA License. She completed a coveted internship with a Big Four Accounting firm—PwC in New York City— and landed a full-time accounting position in her adopted hometown of Sarasota.

Switlyk seemingly had it all. Except there was one problem: She wasn't fulfilled.

For Switlyk, fulfillment came half a world away. It was on a hunting trip in New

Zealand where Switlyk, who grew up afraid of guns and had never fired a rifle, found her calling.

"I didn't know I had that in me," Switlyk said. "But I loved it, and I was excited with this newfound passion. I'm sure my parents were thinking, 'What is wrong with our daughter?'"

Switlyk did what many people with unfulfilling careers are afraid to do: Take an adventure.

That adventure has led Switlyk, 27, to the cusp of fame and celebrity. The Fisher alumna starred in two television programs this summer both highlighting her passion for the outdoors. Her own show, "Larysa Unleashed," debuted July 24 on NBC Sports Network. Switlyk was also a contestant on

Animal Planet's "Top Hooker," a reality show where contestants' fishing skills are tested.

So how did Switlyk go from crunching numbers to hunting big game all over the world?

Switlyk's love for the outdoors was nurtured during her time at Fisher. She was an avid fisherwoman during her college years, and performed well in local and state tournaments. Switlyk, born and raised in Albany, New York, also engaged in skeet shooting which she said acted as a stress reliever when her studies got the best of her.

But the moment that changed everything for Switlyk was a backpacking trip to Australia. What was supposed to be a brief vacation turned into a six-month journey that changed her forever.

"I fell in love with it and didn't want to come home," Switlyk said. "You always hear about people wanting to go find themselves. It took me going to Australia and New Zealand to find myself, but I did."

When Switlyk returned home, she decided to combine her passion for the outdoors with her career. She quit her accounting job and became a licensed real estate agent which allowed Switlyk a more flexible work schedule while still funding

her venture. Then, she began to learn the intricacies of how to get a television show about the outdoors on the air. She flew to trade shows, networked with television executives and learned how to secure sponsors. Her accounting background played a crucial role in her efforts.

"I love my background," Switlyk said. "I could understand business so I felt like I could do anything I ever wanted to pursue. It wasn't easy. I made my mistakes along the way, and it's more work than you could ever imagine. But I love what I'm doing."

What's impressive about Switlyk's success is that although she's a relative newcomer to the television industry, she's been able to maintain artistic and commercial control over her brand. She started her own production company, Larysa Unleashed LLC, and does much of the editing, field producing and marketing for her show. Since Switlyk—not NBC Sports Network—owns her show, she owns the air time allocated for her show, and is responsible for acquiring commercial sponsorship. Switlyk said networks have offered to buy her show, but she's resisted. She said that may change in the future. But, for now, Switlyk said maintaining personal brand control while partnering with NBC Sports Network is an ideal fit.

"NBC Sports Network is a great brand,"
Switlyk said. "Everybody knows the
peacock. It's really the perfect spot for my
show. NBC Sports Network is in 85 million
households, and I think it will reach a lot of
people who don't normally hunt or fish to
watch my show."

"I want to help change people's viewpoints."

"Larysa Unleashed" is essentially two shows in one. Half of the season's episodes will be devoted to hunting ("Larysa Unleashed") while the other half will focus on fishing ("Larysa Unleashed Gone Fishin"). The show takes Switlyk to locales all over the United States and the world, including Spain, Argentina and Costa Rica, creating memorable cultural experiences in some of the world's most beautiful and pristine settings.

Switlyk realizes there is a significant segment of the population that does not approve of hunting, and, therefore, might be turned off by her show. Switlyk said her show does not glorify hunting, but instead emphasizes outdoors education and con-

servation while encouraging young people to get involved in the outdoors.

"I'm not a trophy hunter," Switlyk said.

"I'm not going to kill something I'm not going to eat. What I don't eat, I donate to shelters. My goal is to educate the general population about why people hunt and fish. My own family was quick to judge.

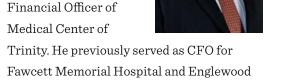
They didn't understand why I was bringing home elk meat. They didn't realize it's a lot healthier and there are no hormones. They understand it now. I want to help change people's viewpoints."

Although Switlyk's hard work is coming to fruition this summer, she doesn't plan on slowing down. She said she will continue to produce quality shows, promote a likable and recognizable brand, continue her charity work for children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses and promote her passion for the outdoors to the world. Succeeding in all those ventures should lead to Switlyk to achieving her dream.

Said Switlyk: "I want to be the girl that everybody thinks about when it comes to hunting and fishing."

To follow Larysa's adventures, visit www.larysaunleashed.com where you can view trailers to her hunting and fishing shows.

Community Hospital.



Chrislynn Freed was a recipient of The California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CalCPA) 2013 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award. She is a Professor of Clinical Accounting at the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business.

Michael Shapiro was named to Barron's annual list of America's Top 1000 Advisors for the fifth consecutive year.

Attorney Gary Ray Driver, Jr., was one of 28 attorneys recog-

nized by Florida Trend's "Legal Elite" every year for the past 10 years.

Jordan B. Taylor was named to the Board of Directors of Temple Beth AM Day School.



He is an attorney with Greenberg Traurig.



Laura Spencer was named CFO of The Sarasota County Comnunity Foundation.

Frank R. Hammond Jr. joined Cantor Fitzgering Director focused on institutional sales and structured products.

Andy Glick of Rock Creek Property Group was featured in *The Washington Post* for his savvy real estate investments.

EY announces the promotion of Erik Stefan Harris to executive director from senior manager. Erik has more than eight years of experience serving various industries for EY. As an executive director. Erik will continue his commitment to quality client service and building a better working world on a daily basis.

Submit a class note for the Fisher School's warrington.ufl.edu/fisher/alumni

IN MEMORIAM: DR. JOHN L. "JACK" KRAMER

Tampa Bay Happy Hour

Atlanta Alumni Event



Dr. John L. "Jack" Kramer passed away the evening of April 17 after a long illness. He was surrounded by his wife of 43 years, UF accounting professor Dr. Sandra Kramer, and family, including his four sons. He was 66.

Jack, a U.S. Navy veteran, joined the University of Florida as an Associate Professor in 1980, after serving on the faculty at the University of Texas-Austin from 1975 to 1979. He earned his Ph.D. and MBA from the

University of Michigan and his BBA from University of Michigan-Dearborn.

At the University of Florida, he retired as the Arthur Andersen Professor of Accounting in the Fisher School of Accounting. He served many roles at the University, including Director of the Fisher School of Accounting. Associate Dean in the Warrington College of Business Administration, and as Interim Dean of the College of Business Administration in 1989-90.

Professor Kramer's contributions to the world of tax academia are legendary. He authored numerous research papers and textbooks, served as the Editor of The Journal of the American Taxation Association and as President of the American Taxation Association. He received the ATA Ray Sommerfeld Outstanding Tax Educator Award in 2001 for lifetime achievement, the highest honor the organization bestows on tax academics.

He leaves behind an important legacy, and his contributions continue through the work of the many former students and colleagues he influenced. Any tax professor and any student of taxation owes a debt of gratitude to Jack. Former students, friends and colleagues recently contributed more than \$600,000 to endow the Jack Kramer Professorship at the University of Florida.

"Jack was a friend and mentor to many,"

said Dr. Gary McGill, Director of the Fisher School of Accounting and a friend and colleague of Jack's for more than 25 years. "He brought rigor to the classroom and the tax literature, and he always had time to help students and colleagues. And he had a wicked sense of humor, a top-notch bowling game and an appreciation for fast cars. He had a critically important influence on the accounting programs at the University of Florida. I personally joined the faculty at UF largely because Jack was here."

PAST ALUMNI EVENTS

Accounting Firm Social

Fisher School Alumni BBQ

New York City Alumni Event

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Accounting Firm Social

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Fisher School Alumni BBQ FICPA & FSOA Alumni BBQ

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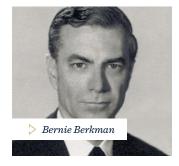
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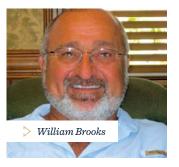
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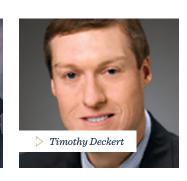
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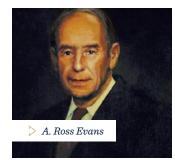


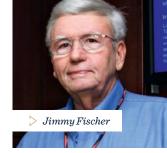










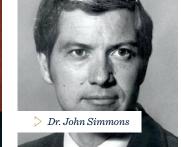
















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Devoted alumni and friends,

I want to thank you for the generosity you exhibited this past year. Several programs and resources our students depend on for a first-class accounting education would be severely diminished without private giving from our alumni and friends. Because of your efforts the Fisher School remains one of the nation's leaders in accounting education.

As we celebrate the culmination of another exciting academic year, we invite you to continue supporting the Fisher School. Your gift—whatever the amount—makes a genuine



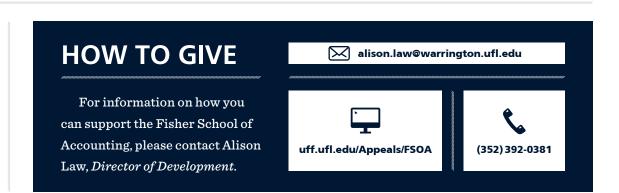
difference in the lives of our students. The names on the preceding and following pages represent the strength and loyalty of our incomparable alumni base, and we're proud to recognize your generosity!

Thank you!

Gary McGill, Ph.D.

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