ABOUT THE
FISHER SCHOOL
OF ACCOUNTING

The Fisher School is committed to providing global thought leadership by developing future professional and academic leaders through graduate education programs, creating influential research, and engaging with the global professional community.

The School provides a detailed focus on the complex skill of accounting. As one of the nation’s few free-standing accounting schools, students in the program experience a curriculum dedicated to growth in an intricate field. As a professional school in a top 10 public research university, the School is committed to scholarly research, teaching, and service to advance knowledge and prepare future leaders for business, professional, and academic careers.
As the Fisher School completes its 41st year as one of the earliest Schools of Accounting, I’m pleased to report that we continue to grow and improve across all dimensions. The pace of change in the accounting profession has accelerated in ways I’ve not seen in my career, and all of us at the Fisher School work hard to ensure we remain both relevant and forward looking.

The items in this report tell the story of high performing students, very productive faculty members, and a staff that cares deeply about our programs. We continue to be externally recognized with top-10 program rankings, some of the highest in our history. Our students continue their quality engagement both inside and outside the classroom, excellent placement, and leading performance on the CPA exam. Our alumni continue to be recognized for significant achievements. Our faculty continue to distinguish themselves in both research and teaching. We are proud of these achievements and the many other activities of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni that didn't make it into these pages. It takes all of us to make the Fisher School of Accounting what it is.

I thank you all for your part in our success. We hope to see you on campus or at one of our alumni events in your city in the coming year.

Thank you,

GARY MCGILL
J. ROY DUGGAN PROFESSOR
Director, Fisher School of Accounting
OUR SHARED PURPOSE

The Fisher School serves business and accounting professionals and educators through innovative and high-quality teaching and research with a focus on providing the education necessary for successful careers in leadership positions. The School promotes the understanding and practice of accounting and business through its research, teaching and service.

OUR SHARED VALUES

→ The achievement of continuous improvement
→ Knowledge enhancement through high-quality research, which is broadly defined to include discovering new knowledge, integrating and applying that knowledge, and communicating it to others
→ High-quality, innovative and relevant professional and doctoral education
→ Broad faculty and staff involvement in the full range of mission-related activities by recognizing and utilizing the unique skills and contributions of individual faculty and staff members
→ The sentiments and advice of the faculty are important to faculty governance
→ Academic excellence in all actions undertaken to fulfill our mission
→ An environment of collegiality and mutual respect.
→ Active participation and support by our alumni and friends for our programs
→ Outreach to the business and professional community
Our measures of success:

- Overall recognition of the Fisher School brand
- High level and improving placement in appropriate media rankings of accounting programs
- Consistent ranking among the top ten public university accounting programs
- Consistent ranking in the top half among the accounting programs of a set of defined peer schools
- External recognition of the high quality and diversity of our students, faculty and staff
- General satisfaction of stakeholders including students, faculty, administration, supporters, parents, recruiters and others
- Alignment of resources and mission, objectives and activities
- Adequacy and quality of physical and intellectual resources
The success of a faculty member at Fisher is measured by the influence of their research and the impact of their students on the business world. As leaders in accounting education, this high standard sets the bar to ensure the Fisher School is focused on making a difference.

**Faculty Publications**

The research component of the Fisher School mission is very important. Over the last five years, 12 current faculty members published 63 articles in peer-reviewed journals. These include:

- The Accounting Review
- Journal of Accounting Research
- Accounting, Organizations and Society
- Contemporary Accounting Research
- Review of Accounting Studies
- Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory
- The Journal of the American Taxation Association
- National Tax Journal
- Management Science
- and 19 other journals

These papers address important issues in accounting, auditing, and taxation. A number of faculty also are involved in producing textbooks used around the world.

Fisher faculty frequently speak at academic and professional conferences, present their research at other universities, participate in leadership roles in national organizations, and advise private and government entities.

For more on Fisher’s faculty, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
DR. W. ROBERT KNECHEL

HIGHLIGHTS

→ Dr. Knechel received an honorary doctorate from BI Norwegian School of Business this June in recognition of his significant contributions to the field of accounting and auditing.

→ Dr. Knechel serves on the Foundation for Auditing Research (FAR) Board, which maintains a total budget of about 6 million euros.

→ Dr. Knechel is part of the Standing Advisory Group (SAG) that advises the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). He held many internal seminars for the PCAOB economic staff.

→ Dr. Knechel was commissioned to prepare a report on the “Future of Assurance in Capital Markets” by the Global Public Policy Committee (GPPC).

→ Dr. Knechel made numerous presentations, including speaking engagements at Stanford and INSEAD, a top business school in Europe.

To read more about Dr. Knechel’s achievements, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
Gary McGill, Associate Dean and Director of the Fisher School of Accounting at the University of Florida Warrington College of Business, received the Ray M. Sommerfeld Outstanding Tax Educator Award from the American Taxation Association (ATA) this summer at the American Accounting Association’s annual meeting.

The Ray M. Sommerfeld Outstanding Tax Educator Award recognizes, honors and rewards the outstanding contributions of a faculty member teaching taxation at a recognized academic institution. Recipients are recognized for their distinguished career including their work in curriculum and program development, superior research and teaching, participation in student activities, service to an academic institution, participation in professional activities, and activities which further taxation as an academic field of study and research.

“I am honored,” McGill said. “Many of the prior recipients of this award were valuable mentors and role models to me. To be recognized in this group is humbling.”

To read more about the prestigious honor, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
OTHER FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

PAUL MADSEN
EY TERM ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure.

JENNIFER WU TUCKER
COOK/DELOITTE PROFESSOR
was invited to visit and present research activities at Lancaster University in England. She was also an invited discussant at the JAAF Conference in South Korea.

To read more Fisher faculty highlights, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
NEW FACULTY

BOBBY CARNES
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

EDUCATION

→ Ph.D. Accounting, Penn State University, 2018

→ M.S. Accounting, Summa Cum Laude, University of Notre Dame, 2006

→ B.A. Business Economics with an emphasis in Accounting, Highest Honors, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2005

NOTABLE

→ Conducts empirical archival research in the areas of auditing and financial reporting, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions (M&A), internal control audits, and financial disclosure

→ Married with three children under five years old
Over the course of their time at Fisher, students are shaped into accounting professionals. They spend time with like-minded, driven students and are immersed in accounting knowledge, ensuring they are prepared to be productive employees on their first day on the job.

Michael Dougherty was named the Chrislynn Freed Master of Accounting Outstanding Student of the Year at the Fisher School of Accounting Spring Awards Banquet on April 19 at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center.

“Winning the Chrislynn Freed Master of Accounting Outstanding Student of the Year Award was an honor because only one student out of over 100 accounting students receives the award each year,” Dougherty said. “This award is a recognition of all the hard work I have done, along with the time I have put in as a TA at the Fisher School.”

Victoria Liu received an academic scholarship from the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) for the 2018–2019 academic year in the amount of $10,000.
Jane Lazzara was selected for the Financial Accounting Standards Board’s Postgraduate Technical Assistant Program. This prestigious year-long program allows recent accounting program graduates to learn about standard setting, and the profession, from the ground up.

What is your role in the FASB PTA program?

“My role in the program is to assist with research and outreach to stakeholders related to the board’s current projects. In particular, my focus for the upcoming year will be the Emerging Issues Task Force and the Not-for-Profit Advisory Council projects.”

What do you hope to gain from the FASB PTA program?

“I hope to gain perspective about the process of standard setting that I can take with me throughout my career. Standard setting poses significant implications for businesses, and I look forward to learning from the FASB professionals who work together to improve standards.”

How does this program set you up for success in a future job?

“In the future, I will regularly apply standards as an accounting professional. This experience will give me a greater understanding and appreciation of how and why standards develop over time.”

How did your time at the Fisher School prepare you to succeed in this program?

“The Fisher School taught me the current standards and challenged me to think critically about accounting concepts, which helped me throughout the interview process. Many graduate courses allowed me to develop technical research and writing skills, which will be essential to my role at the FASB.”
Prioritizing Career Readiness

Early in her time as a student at the Fisher School of Accounting, Kriss Camacho knew the importance of joining student organizations across campus. Now heading into her senior year, she has experienced the benefits firsthand.

Camacho has participated in over 10 organizations on the UF campus, and she feels ready to begin her first job because of it.

“The Fisher School has given me all of the necessary experiences and knowledge I need for the public accounting field,” Camacho said. “Whether it be time management, team collaboration, hard work, networking or building strong relationships, I am ready for it all thanks to the Fisher School of Accounting.”

For more about Camacho’s involvement in campus organizations, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
ASSISTING EMERGING ENTREPRENEURS

The Fisher School played an important role in the Big Idea Competition, a four-month contest hosted by Warrington’s Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center that helps students grow their business ideas.

Gary McGill, Director of the Fisher School, and a team of eight upper-division accounting and Master of Accounting students participated in a workshop to assist competitors in preparing financial information for inclusion in their business plans. This benefited the competitors and also gave Fisher students hands-on experience in providing consulting expertise to clients.
PREPARING SOPHOMORES FOR CAREERS IN ACCOUNTING

The Fisher School of Accounting hosted the second annual Careers in Accounting banquet at the Hilton UF Conference Center Hotel.

The event aims to help address the uncertainty business students have about careers in accounting by hosting some of the College’s top-performing sophomores whose present academic track has them on course for a bachelor’s degree in accounting.

Representatives from large accounting firms—BDO, Deloitte, EY, Grant Thornton, KPMG, PwC, and RSM—along with a panelist from industry—Availity—provided students with useful information about the diversity of potential careers in accounting.

The event also included a networking reception to give sophomores increased time to interact one-on-one with graduate accounting students and firm reps.
The Fisher School of Accounting hosted the 11th Annual Women in Accounting Symposium in September, recognizing the distinctiveness of its women students and alumnae.

Sponsored by Deloitte, EY, Grant Thornton, KPMG, PwC and RSM, the Women in Accounting Symposium brought together accounting students with Fisher School alumnae and other women working in accounting to network and learn insightful strategies.

“I never dreamed that when I started in 1973 in public accounting that I’d be in a room with this many women accountants or accounting students,” said Barbara Jean Raskin, BSBA ’73, CPA, and speaker at the event. “It’s just incredible.”

**SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS**

- Stephanie Gardner (BSAc ‘02), RSM
- Lynn Sedwick, RSM
- Mari Chumley (BSAc ’01, MAcc ’01), RSM
- Becky Sproul, KPMG
- Sarah Anderson (BSAc ’00, MAcc ’01), PwC
- Danielle Poritz, PwC
- Marissa Van Regemorter (BSAc ’09, MAcc ’09), Deloitte
- Sarah Senior, EY
- Kira Warnock (BSAc ’12, MAcc ’12), Grant Thornton

To read more about the Women in Accounting Symposium, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
The Fisher School partnered with the North Central Florida Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors to host the student audit case competition in March. There were 26 students from Fisher involved, and they presented their audit/investigation plans in front of a panel of three judges from PwC, SantaFe HealthCare and RSM.

“The students learned that accounting decisions are rarely clear cut and one must balance the effect of their decision on all stakeholders,” said professor Chris Falk, who assisted students with the case competition. “It is also a chance to practice presentation skills and network with professionals.”
It's important that alumni and friends remain connected to the Fisher School. As the School continues to grow in its influence and international reputation, it becomes even more thankful for alumni and friends who are generous with their resources.

For more on staying connected with Fisher, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher

The Fisher 45 Legacy Challenge is both a celebration of 40 years of the Fisher School of Accounting and a lasting tribute to the School's bright future. During this five-year challenge, we are asking our alumni and friends to consider making an estate commitment to benefit the Fisher School of Accounting. We currently have 20 documented estate gifts and are hoping to bring that number to 45, representing the number of years since our School was founded.

Estate gifts can support Master of Accounting scholarships, enable the Fisher School to recruit and retain top faculty, provide a forward-looking curriculum and state-of-the-art learning environment for students and faculty, and support many other goals.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have

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Andrea Fourman
Director
UF Office of Estate and Gift Planning
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→ afourman@uff.ufl.edu
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→ Gina Babicz Memorial Fellowship
→ Batson-Siegel Accounting Scholarship
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→ J. Michael Cook / Deloitte Professorship Fund
→ Bob Crouch Family Accounting Excellence Fund
→ William E. Crown, Jr. Fellowship
→ Joy McCann Culverhouse Excellence in Accounting Fund
→ Richard E. Darby Accounting Scholarship
→ William E. Davis Family Fellowship in Accounting
→ Deloitte Partners Professorship Endowment
→ Duggan, Joiner & Co. Accounting Endowment
→ J. Roy Duggan Professorship
→ Ernst & Young Endowment
→ Ernst & Young Excellence Fund
→ Ernst & Young Professorship of Accounting
→ Frederick E. Fisher Accounting Fund
→ Frederick E. Fisher Eminent Scholar Chair
→ Fisher School of Accounting Enhancement Fund
→ Fisher School of Accounting Commemorative Gallery Fund
→ Fisher School of Accounting Director’s Excellence Fund
→ Chrislynn Freed Master of Accounting Student of the Year Award
→ Gerson Hall Excellence Support Fund
→ Gerson, Preston and Co. CPA Fellowship
→ Grant Thornton Faculty Fellowship
→ KPMG Professorship in Accounting
→ Jack Kramer Professorship
→ Robert N. Lowe, Jr. Family Accounting Scholarship
→ Joseph Lumia Memorial Fellowship
→ Roddy & Leslie Melendez Student Excellence Fund
→ Joelen K. and Robert G. Merkel Endowment
→ Don Miller 5th Year Accounting Scholarship
→ Ralph W. Miller Scholarship
→ Randall L. Parks Endowment
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— Go Gators!
DESIGNED FOR GROWTH

With a widespread range of educational offerings, the Fisher School is consistently preparing accounting experts at all levels of expertise. Students are able to spend time with world class faculty to ensure they are prepared to stand out in their professional journey.


The publication also ranked Fisher’s graduate program No. 8 among U.S. public accounting programs and No. 23 overall.

For more on Fisher academics, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
ALL FISHER SCHOOL PROGRAMS IN TOP 10 AMONG PUBLICS IN PAR RANKINGS

The Fisher School of Accounting’s undergraduate, master’s and doctoral programs all rose on the Public Accounting Report’s (PAR) 37th Annual Survey of Accounting Professors. Each of the programs was ranked in the top 10 among publics and the top 15 overall.

The undergraduate program rose to No. 5 among publics and No. 8 overall. The master’s program at the Fisher School rose to No. 4 among publics and No. 7 overall. The Fisher School’s doctoral program also jumped to No. 10 among publics and No. 13 overall.

“We are so proud that accounting professors across the nation view our programs as some of the best,” said Gary McGill, Associate Dean and Director of the Fisher School of Accounting. “We strive for excellence in all we do, and we’re grateful for this recognition from our peers.”

To read more about how Fisher’s standout PAR Rankings, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
The Fisher School continues to prepare graduates for success on the CPA Exam.

The School’s first-time candidates distinguished themselves by earning an overall passing rate of 80% for all parts of the CPA exam attempted in 2017. This pass rate placed eighth in the nation among 264 large academic institutions (defined as having at least 60 candidates) participating in the CPA exam. It also placed the School 12th in the nation among all 797 academic institutions (defined as having at least 10 candidates) taking part in the CPA exam during 2017.
STUDENT PROFILE

INCOMING GRADUATE STUDENTS (FALL 2017)

AVERAGE GMAT SCORE
617

AVERAGE ACCOUNTING GPA
3.32

TOTAL
641

African American = 2%
White = 61%
Asian = 8%
Hispanic = 20%
Other = 9%

51% ♂ 49% ♀
UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES CONFERRED

2017-18
28 fall + 115 spring + 6 summer = 149 total

2016-17
38 fall + 112 spring + 4 summer = 154 total

2015-16
57 fall + 127 spring + 7 summer = 191 total

2014-15
38 fall + 124 spring + 8 summer = 170 total

2013-14
38 fall + 123 spring + 7 summer = 168 total

MASTER’S DEGREES CONFERRED

2017-18
2 fall + 103 spring + 4 summer = 109 total

2016-17
5 fall + 95 spring + 4 summer = 104 total

2015-16
6 fall + 92 spring + 3 summer = 101 total

2014-15
11 fall + 74 spring + 5 summer = 90 total

2013-14
13 fall + 93 spring + 9 summer = 115 total
Graduating from the Fisher School isn’t just about a piece of paper. It’s a commitment to excellence for the rest of your career. Graduates are encouraged to be leaders in their profession and continue to build the School’s reputation as they make an impact on the accounting industry.

CLASS NOTES

LAURA CLARK (BSAc ’05, MAcc ’05) has been promoted to shareholder at certified public accounting firm Caler, Donten, Levine, Cohen, Porter and Veil, P.A. (CDL). She joins 11 shareholders in leading CDL’s departments and personnel, and serving the firm’s clients.

KATIE DAVIS (BSAc, MAcc ’04), née Veal, has been admitted to the partnership of James Moore & Company. As a certified public accountant and senior manager with James Moore, her focus is on providing proactive strategies associated with ensuring continued, accurate financial reporting and compliance with regulatory agencies.

BRAD GOULD (BSAc ’98, MAcc ’98), a shareholder at Dean, Mead, Minton & Zwemer’s Fort Pierce office, has earned Board Certification in Tax Law from The Florida Bar Board of Legal Specialization & Education. He is the only attorney in St. Lucie County to achieve the designation as a board-certified attorney in tax law.

STACY JOYNER (BSAc, MAcc ’07), née Bingham, has been admitted to the partnership of James Moore & Company. As a Certified Public Accountant and trusted advisor, Stacy provides extensive tax advisory and compliance services for her clients.

LAUREN KOLSTEDT (MAcc ’12) is a tax manager at CBIZ’s Tampa Bay practice. She works with mid- to large-sized private companies focusing on providing tax planning, compliance and consulting services.

MICHAEL LESSNE (BSAc, MAcc ’06) was appointed a board member of Leadership Broward, an educational program to help emerging and recognized leaders expand their skills and enhance their knowledge of local and state issues, as well as leverage their institutional passion to make positive change in the community.

KYLE PAXTON (BSAc ’17, MAcc ’17) was promoted to Associate Accountant in the James Moore & Company, P.L. Gainesville office. He will assist with business advisory services and perform research and preparation of individual and corporate tax returns.

BRIAN SCHLANG (BSAc ’08, MAcc ’08) has been named a Principal in MBAF’s Tax and Accounting department. He has extensive experience providing compliance and consulting services to entities in various industries.

JOHN VANDUZER (BSAc, MAcc ’08) has been admitted to the partnership of James Moore & Company. As a CPA and consultant, VanDuzer serves as a trusted advisor for a wide array of clients.

To read more class notes, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/classnotes
PURSUING A DREAM

If you asked 10-year-old Chris Winfrey what he wanted to become in life, you wouldn’t have found any hesitation. Even at a young age, Winfrey saw two options for his future—be the CFO of a major company or be a corporate lawyer.

Now serving as the CFO of Charter Communications, Winfrey (BSAC ’96, MBA ’98) has reached his childhood goal. Winfrey isn’t shy about the impact the Fisher School had on his career.

“The program provided an excellent foundation for my entry into private equity and then the cable industry,” Winfrey said. “It is top notch and set me up for success.”

To read more about Chris’ journey, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
The Fisher School appreciates Dan (BSBA ’49) and Margaret Goodrum naming an auditorium in Gerson Hall.
Michael Donohoe was honored by the UF Alumni Association as a 2018 Outstanding Young Alumni.

Donohoe (BSAc '01, Ph.D. '11) is Associate Professor of Accountancy and PwC Faculty Fellow at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Gies College of Business. After graduating from Fisher, he was recognized with the American Taxation Association Outstanding Tax Dissertation Award and has established an influential academic publication record. He has also been honored with the Head’s Award for Excellence in Accountancy Education from the University of Illinois, and further serves his field by sitting on the Board of Trustees from the American Taxation Association.

“Being a Gator has always been a source of personal pride. But, to learn that the Gator Nation is proud of me for my accomplishments is quite uplifting and motivating. In short, it means the world to me. You can’t stop a Gator!”

To read more about Michael’s honor, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
FISHER ALUMNI AMONG UF’S MOST RESPECTED ENTREPRENEURS

Two Fisher School alumni were honored in February at the fourth-annual Gator100, which highlights the 100 fastest-growing, Gator-owned or Gator-led businesses in the world.

RotoGrinders.com, led by COO and Co-Founder Cameron MacMillan (BSAc ’07), came in at No. 26 and was honored for the second consecutive year.

Ctrip, led by CEO Jane Sun (BSAc ’92), was a first-time honoree and came in at No. 34.

To read more about the Gator100, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher
FISHER GRADUATE EARNED

DISSERTATION

AWARD

Fisher School alumnus Devin Williams received the Outstanding Auditing Dissertation Award from the American Accounting Association in January.

Williams graduated from the Fisher School of Accounting Ph.D. program in 2016. He has been consistently recognized for his work in accounting education, including being named an American Accounting Association/Deloitte/J. Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium Fellow and an American Institute of CPAs Accounting Doctoral Scholar, in addition to receiving the Warrington College of Business’s Ph.D. Teaching Award in 2015 and being one of only 10 Ph.D. students across the U.S. to receive a $25,000 grant through the Deloitte Foundation Doctoral Fellowship program.

“I am grateful to the Fisher School of Accounting for its support of me acquiring the data and the additional resources to pursue a non-traditional idea and data source for my dissertation,” Williams said. “Knowing they supported me in novel research demonstrates their commitment to academia and expanding knowledge in the field of business. I am particularly grateful to Professor Robert Knechel, my dissertation chair. I also thank the members of my dissertation committee, who were instrumental in my education and training. They are Paul Madsen, Steve Asare, and Gulcan Onel.

“I am pleased that a dissertation from the University of Florida won the award. It demonstrates the high quality of an accounting education from the Fisher School of Accounting. The faculty and staff are some of the best in the world.”

To read more about Williams’ achievement, visit news.warrington.ufl.edu/fisher