PROTECTING OUR LEGACY; SECURING OUR FUTURE

I use this phrase often when I talk to our alumni and friends. Our legacy is important. We owe much to the faculty and students (now alumni) who made up our Department over the past forty years. Our emeriti faculty encourage and inform us – we are privileged to follow in their footsteps. Our alumni are successful and great ambassadors for our Department. Many come back to spend time with our faculty and students – and for that we are exceedingly grateful.

NIU Accountancy is a special place today because of the quality of our current faculty and staff – and I can assure you that they are working hard to continue the Department’s tradition (and secure our future). Some of their accomplishments are noted in this newsletter – but these words cannot express the amount of time and energy they put into their tasks. Over the past few months, here are just a few of their accomplishments:

Don Tidrick: AICPA Distinguished Achievement in Accounting Education Award and National Beta Alpha Psi Faculty Advisor of the Year
Pam Smith: NIU Presidential Teaching Professor

Our students also are excelling in their efforts to learn and prepare to enter the accounting profession. Our Beta Alpha Psi chapter – in addition to maintaining their status as a “superior” chapter – won a national ethics competition; our Ascend chapter won a national leadership case competition; a team of our graduate tax students received an honorable mention in the Deloitte tax case competition. Our students are hardworking, intelligent, have strong character, and are committed to service.

Finally, we cannot be successful as a Department without the strong support from our alumni, firms, and friends of the Department. They, too, are helping us secure our future. As you will read in the pages ahead, a group of alumni and friends of the Department have established the first endowed chair in our Department (and in the College) – with gifts in excess of $1 million. But in addition to large gifts like this, hundreds of our alumni and friends faithfully remember us. Please know that your financial commitment – whether large or small – is something that encourages me and the Department. Thank you for remembering… and helping us protect our legacy and secure our future.
ACCOUNTANCY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ESTABLISH THE
DONALD E. KIESO CHAIR IN ACCOUNTANCY

Ten former students – along with their spouses – have partnered together to honor a legendary NIU faculty member and the Department of Accountancy. The commitments made by these individuals will establish the Donald E. Kieso Endowed Chair in Accountancy, forever linking the Kieso name and legacy to NIU. This partnership reflects the group’s deep pride in the Department of Accountancy and Peat Marwick Emeritus Professor of Accountancy Don Kieso – who made an indelible impact in the lives of his students… and in the lives of accounting professionals around the world. With more than $1 million already secured, additional commitments are being sought to raise the total endowment to a minimum of $1.5 million.

Many of Don Kieso’s former students share that the long-time Northern Illinois University professor “wrote the book” – literally and figuratively – for the accounting program at NIU. His intermediate accounting textbook (co-authored with former student Jerry Weygandt) is now in its fourteenth edition. It has been the world-wide market leader for more than two decades, has been translated into more than a dozen languages, and is used in colleges and universities around the world.

Don came to NIU in 1963. During his 29 years as a faculty member and department chair, he helped transform the Department of Accountancy into a national leader. Under his leadership, NIU accounting students placed first in pass rates on the CPA exam in 1985, and since then the accounting program and its students CPA pass rates have continually ranked in the top 25 in the nation. He also established one of the first accounting internship programs in the country, placing more than 600 accounting students in internships that many alumni credit with launching their professional careers.

The Department extends its deep gratitude to the following donors whose generosity made this achievement possible. These individuals will be forever linked to the Kieso legacy at NIU.

Gary (B.S. 1976) and Mary Burge
Kevin (B.S. 1976) and Roberta Cleary
Chris (B.S. 1975) and Tim Cole
Ralph (E.M.B.A.1989) and Maria de la Vega
Dean (B.S. 1964, M.S. 1969) and Brenda DuCray

Jeff (B.S. 1974) and Doreen Eckmann
Bill (B.S. 1965) and Paula (B.S. 1966) LeRoy
Paul (B.S. 1976) and Karen (B.S. 1976) Keglevic
Robert (B.S. 1978) and Debra (B.S. 1978) (Distel) Peterson
Jerry and Enid Weygandt

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS VISIT NIU

Stephen Chipman, the Chief Executive Officer of Grant Thornton, LLP, spoke in September 2012 about “Our Profession at a Crossroads.” He provided insights from his perspective as the leader of a major accounting firm about forces shaping the accounting profession going forward, including increasing globalization, the changing regulatory environment, concerns about the relevancy of reporting, the impact of technology, generational changes, need for broader business skills, and competition for the pipeline for talent. While acknowledging a number of conspicuous challenges, Mr. Chipman exuded enthusiasm about the opportunities ahead for his firm and for our students who will soon begin their professional careers.

Jim Davidson is a world-class mountain climber, having 30 years of climbing and expedition leadership experience. He is also an outstanding speaker whom we first met at the Beta Alpha Psi annual meeting in Denver in 2011. Jim speaks of a crisis that he barely survived in 1992, when he and his climbing partner fell into an 80-foot crevasse on Mount Rainier. This ordeal was the focus of an intense one-hour TV episode entitled “Killer Crevasse” on a series called “I Shouldn’t Be Alive” that runs periodically on Animal Planet and the Discovery Channel. In his October 2012, presentation entitled “Rally Your Resilience,” Mr. Davidson shared a gripping first-person account about overcoming seemingly insurmountable obstacles to accomplish a task that appeared to be impossible. Mr. Davidson (with co-author Kevin Vaughan) has written a fascinating book about this story, entitled The Ledge: An Adventure Story of Friendship and Survival on Mount Rainier. The funding for this presentation was made possible by the Ernst & Young Excellence Fund, which is very much appreciated by the Department of Accountancy. (Visit Jim Davidson’s web site: www.speakingofadventure.com for additional information.)
OUTSTANDING ALUMNI HONORED

NIU is privileged to have many outstanding accountancy alums who have achieved tremendous success in their careers. The support that we receive from our alumni provides a margin of excellence for our students, faculty, and programs. Each year we honor several alumni who have distinguished themselves in their careers and who have provided extraordinary support to the NIU Accountancy Program.

2012 Outstanding Alumni

Erica O’Malley — Partner, Grant Thornton LLP

After graduating with honors from NIU in 1987, Erica began her career at Arthur Andersen specializing in the area of employee benefit plans. In 2002, she brought her practice to Grant Thornton, and has since grown it into one of the country’s top specialty practices. As a successful partner at Grant Thornton and a mother of five children, Erica is a role model for work-life balance, and has been instrumental in organizing networking and leadership events for the firm and women in the business community. In 2011, Erica was appointed National Managing Partner of Women, reporting directly to the CEO on the recruitment, retention and advancement of women at Grant Thornton. In 2006, she received the Women to Watch Award presented by the American Institute of CPAs and the Illinois CPA Society to recognize women who have made significant contributions to the accounting profession and demonstrated leadership in the profession.
Matt Sapp — Partner, Ernst & Young LLP

Matt joined Ernst & Young after graduating from NIU in 1991. Now based in San Jose, Matt serves as the Cleantech Leader in Ernst & Young’s West Region. In that role, he specializes in serving cleantech and other high technology clients, from venture-backed development stage companies to public multi-national organizations. He has over 20 years of experience and has been an assurance partner since 2003. Matt is recognized for his technical proficiency and industry knowledge in the technology industry and is a frequent speaker and panelist at various cleantech industry events. He is also active in various people initiatives including mentoring programs and campus recruiting. He has extensive experience through his leadership on multinational clients in the U.S. as well as through a multi-year global assignment in Zurich, Switzerland where he was the lead technical partner on a publicly listed client and on Swiss operations of U.S. based clients.

2012 Honorary Alumni

Pat Delaney — Professor Emeritus (NIU)

Pat earned his bachelor’s degree in accounting at Lewis University and continued his studies at the University of Illinois earning master’s and Ph.D. degrees in accountancy. He joined the NIU Accountancy faculty in January 1970 and spent his 30-year career at NIU, 12 of them as chair of the Department. As the first Director of NIU’s CPA Review Program, NIU’s CPA exam candidates experienced some of the highest pass rates in the country. He was the coauthor of the most widely adopted CPA Review text in the country. Pat received the NIU Excellence in Teaching Award and Lewis University Distinguished Alumni Award. He was named an honorary member of the Illinois CPA Society and received its Outstanding Educator Award in 1991. Shortly after coaching his students on the eve of a CPA exam in November 1999 and just two months before his intended retirement, Pat suffered a severe stroke and passed away in May 2000. Those who knew Pat, knew that the most important things in his life were his faith, his family, the NIU accountancy department, and his students.

John Simon — Professor Emeritus (NIU)

John’s tenure in NIU’s Department of Accountancy has spanned forty years. He earned his B.S. from Lewis University and his master’s and Ph.D. degrees in accountancy from University of Illinois. Prior to joining the NIU faculty in 1973, John worked in auditing and tax for Wermer, Rogers, and Maher, CPAs and also taught at Lewis University and Illinois State University. John served as the Director of NIU CPA Review from 1980 to 1990 when NIU students had the number one pass rate on the May CPA exams from 1983 through 1986. He also taught in the NIU CPA Review for 30 years and wrote CPA materials for publisher John Wiley for two decades. His passion for teaching is most evidenced by his selection as an NIU Presidential Teaching Professor in 1997, an award established to recognize and support faculty who excel in the practice of teaching. John was appointed the Director of NIU’s MAS program in 1996, and even though he officially retired in 2000, John continues to serve the Department in this role.
2013 Outstanding Alumni

Kevin Cleary — Partner, Grant Thorton LLP

Kevin began his career at Grant Thornton after his graduation from NIU in 1976. He was promoted to manager in 1982, received his MBA from University of Chicago in 1983, and in 1984, assumed the leadership role of the corporate finance group. Under his leadership, the group grew from five to sixteen consultants and was considered the premier corporate finance consulting practice at Grant Thornton. Kevin became one of the youngest partners at Grant Thornton upon his promotion in 1987. In 1990, Kevin founded Fort Dearborn Partners, Inc., widely recognized today as a market leader in the turnaround consulting industry in the Midwest. In 2002, he established Fort Dearborn Advisors, recognized for its expertise in selling distressed businesses. Fort Dearborn has received several awards in the turnaround business and in its mergers and acquisitions activity. Kevin has served on numerous boards including Eby Brown, Kehe Foods, Continental Datalabel, Catholic Charities, and the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Melvin Flowers — Corporate Vice President - Internal Audit, Microsoft, Inc.

Melvin graduated from NIU in 1975. During his 33 years in the finance and business performance management field, Melvin served as president of Pacific Earth Resources and chief financial officer for various companies, including Novatel Wireless, ACT Networks, and Spectra Med Inc. He joined Microsoft in December 2003. Before his promotion to corporate vice president, he was the chief financial officer for Mobile Communications and Music Business and senior controller for the Mobile and Embedded Devices business. Melvin currently oversees Microsoft’s Internal Audit Department and Financial Integrity Unit with the principal charge of ensuring that management has designed and implemented sound internal controls of compliance and business ethics. Melvin has served as a member of the Gold Coast branch of the MIT Enterprise Forum. He is currently on the advisory board of Blacks at Microsoft, is a board member of Enterprise Mobile, and serves as a mentor for the College Success Foundation.

Joe Steger — Partner, Global Technology Industry – Transaction Advisory Services Leader, Ernst & Young LLP

Upon graduation from NIU in 1982, Joe began his career in the audit practice of Ernst & Young. He served in the Chicago and Century City, California offices before his promotion to partner and transfer to the Tokyo, Japan office in 1997. In Tokyo, Joe served as engagement partner for large U.S. multinational corporations, primarily in the technology and media and entertainment industries. He also served as a U.S. GAAP technical resource, led several education programs on U.S. GAAP and SEC reporting issues, and was part of the Audit Quality Review teams for the Malaysia and South Korea practices. In August 2000, Joe relocated to the firm’s San Jose, California – Transaction Advisory Services practice to start a financial due diligence group. In 2006, Joe was named to his current position where he sits on the advisory panel of senior partners from across the firm and serves the firm’s largest clients in all aspects of acquisitions and divestitures. Joe is the creator, developer and co-editor of Ernst & Young’s Global Technology M&A Update, a quarterly publication addressing trends and issues in technology M&A and is frequently quoted in leading financial publications.
Aaron Forsberg — Financial Analyst, John Deere

Aaron received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Accountancy from NIU in 2006. He started his career with John Deere in 2005 as a summer intern and started full-time in January 2006 as a member of the Finance Development Program. Aaron transitioned to John Deere’s Internal Audit department in May 2008 and to Accounts Receivable Supervisor in 2009. In 2011, Aaron assumed his current role as Financial Analyst in the Comptroller’s Division at John Deere Worldwide Headquarters in Moline, IL. His primary responsibilities involve analyzing the spend of the enabling functions for Deere’s global enterprise. Aaron participated as a scholarship athlete and member of the NIU Men’s Tennis team for four years. He was selected as a Huskie Athletics Verizon Academic Excellence Award recipient all four years. He was also selected to the Men’s Tennis Academic All Mid-American Conference (MAC) team in 2003. Aaron is an active member in college recruiting activities at NIU. He is also actively involved in various activities in his local community, including Junior Achievement, United Way and youth mentorships.

John Wonak — Managing Partner, Sea Level Advisory Group, LLC

John graduated from NIU with a Bachelors’s in Accountancy in 1976 and a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) in 2008. John spent the first 20 years of his career in public accounting, including several years with BDO Seidman, and ten years with his own CPA firm which he sold in 1997. He currently serves as the Managing Partner of Sea Level Advisory Group, LLC, a financial and leadership consulting firm providing services to small and medium sized companies and their C-level executives. Prior to founding Sea Level Advisory Group, John cofounded the national telecommunications firm, OPEX Communications and served as its Chief Financial Officer, eventually guiding its sale in 2007. John is an adjunct professor of Finance in the MBA Programs at NIU, and has served as a coach in NIU’s Experiential Learning Center (ELC) and currently sits on the Advisory Board of the ELC. John has also served as an instructor at DePaul University’s Coleman Center for Entrepreneurship, and currently serves as a mentor for Coleman Center entrepreneurs and the Junto Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership, a post-accelerator school for start-ups in Chicago.

2013 Honorary Alumnus

Kapila Anand — Partner, KPMG

Kapila is the leader of KPMG’s Travel, Leisure and Hospitality practice. She is also the Firm’s National Partner-in-Charge - Public Policy Business Initiatives responsible for coordinating the U.S. Firm’s response to Public Policy and Regulatory changes that impact the Firm and its clients. In her 30 years with the Firm, she has also held leadership roles as a national advisory sector leader for the Real Estate & Hospitality sectors and for the advisory services delivered to KPMG’s U.S. Private Equity clients. Kapila serves on numerous boards including the Franciscan Ministries, Michigan State University (her alma mater), and various KPMG boards. Kapila has been awarded numerous honors, including the Illinois CPA Society “Women to Watch” award. She is a frequent speaker nationally at industry conferences and forums and has authored numerous articles on investment and finance in publications and conferences. Kapila is KPMG’s account executive for NIU.

2013 Young Alumnus

Aaron Forsberg — Financial Analyst, John Deere

Aaron received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Accountancy from NIU in 2006. He started his career with John Deere in 2005 as a summer intern and started full-time in January 2006 as a member of the Finance Development Program. Aaron transitioned to John Deere’s Internal Audit department in May 2008 and to Accounts Receivable Supervisor in 2009. In 2011, Aaron assumed his current role as Financial Analyst in the Comptroller’s Division at John Deere Worldwide Headquarters in Moline, IL. His primary responsibilities involve analyzing the spend of the enabling functions for Deere’s global enterprise. Aaron participated as a scholarship athlete and member of the NIU Men’s Tennis team for four years. He was selected as a Huskie Athletics Verizon Academic Excellence Award recipient all four years. He was also selected to the Men’s Tennis Academic All Mid-American Conference (MAC) team in 2003. Aaron is an active member in college recruiting activities at NIU. He is also actively involved in various activities in his local community, including Junior Achievement, United Way and youth mentorships.
Football brought Nabal Jefferson to NIU and to the Department of Accountancy. The sport helped him receive well-deserved recognition as a National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete, a NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Award Winner, and a place on the 2012 Capital One Academic All-American Football Team. His 3.78 cumulative grade point average, his four seasons in the Northern Illinois defensive line rotation, two years as a starter and 144 career tackles, including 58 as a senior, are all impressive. He helped lead the Huskies to two Mid-American Conference Championships, and four bowl games as a member of the winningest senior class in school history, capped by the team’s historic appearance in the Discover Orange Bowl in January 2013.

Nabal has drawn admiration from his teammates, coaches and professors. “Nabal’s story is a great one,” said NIU head coach Rod Carey. “He has overcome so much in his life and it is a credit to him that he has put himself in position to receive these honors. Everyone can learn something from Nabal Jefferson, I don’t care who you are.” Nabal and his nine siblings were raised by his grandmother in the Beverly neighborhood on Chicago’s south side until her death in 2004.

NIU has completed his second summer as an intern at KPMG in Chicago. He plans to pursue his Master’s in Accountancy at NIU in the fall. The Department of Accountancy could not be more proud to have Nabal Jefferson as its representative.

As a 13-year-old, Nabal made a decision to stay in Chicago while the rest of his family moved to Florida with his mother. He lived with relatives, and others, and was watched over by members of his community and his church. He worked various jobs to earn money to attend Marist High School. He received scholarships that enabled him to afford tuition, and worked every summer as a caddy at Lakewood Country Club to fund his education.

Perhaps Nabal’s greatest accomplishment is his commitment to service in his hometown of the Beverly neighborhood on Chicago’s south side. A constant “big brother” and mentor to the area youth, he continuously speaks to kids about the consequences of making bad decisions and the importance of hard work. One of Nabal’s former teachers, Mrs. Margret Sullivan, wrote a letter describing his continuing connection to the church, his former school and his neighborhood. She wrote, “We are all very proud of Nabal’s many accomplishments, but I am most proud of how he has chosen to give back to the community. He is admired by his peers as well as the younger children of the community. He constantly reinforces with them that the only way out of a bad situation is through hard work and dedication. He guides them toward making good decisions about everything from school choices to social issues and behavior”.

NIU has completed his second summer as an intern at KPMG in Chicago. He plans to pursue his Master’s in Accountancy at NIU in the fall. The Department of Accountancy could not be more proud to have Nabal Jefferson as its representative.

Several NIU Accountancy students won awards in the 2012 PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) xTAX Challenge. The xTAX (short for extreme tax) Challenge is a program designed by PwC to foster interest among students in the world of tax and provide them with exposure to a “real world” tax case. xTAX teams have two weeks to research an assigned high level question about an important tax issue that has no one correct answer. The topic is generally one that students have not encountered before. Teams must consider multiple stakeholder viewpoints, collect information about alternatives and select a course of action. Developing a position on these important issues is difficult, challenging and exciting. The teams then prepare a presentation supporting their conclusions for a team of PwC professionals.

In addition to gaining experience with teamwork, critical thinking and communication skills, students also network with members of the tax profession.

NIUs first place team won $1,000. Congratulations to our winners!
As accountants, we tend to be comfortable with (and even gravitate toward) numbers. So here are a few to think about: 18, 375, and 1. I’ll explain.

As the new director of the NIU CPA Review, I have the responsibility – or much better said, the privilege – of working with the Review’s 18 outstanding professors. Our 18 professors work diligently to create, update, and teach thousands of pages of technical materials to our future CPA’s. Each year, they instruct hundreds of CPA candidates across our four classroom locations (DeKalb, Naperville, Hoffman Estates, and Chicago). For good measure, they create videos, generate on-line quizzes, and support our ON-THE-GO students, who receive all the same instructional materials as our LIVE classroom students, but have elected to study “at their own place, at their own pace.”

A question I often get from potential candidates, especially those who have not attended NIU, is: What sets the NIU CPA Review apart from other review programs? To me, it’s an easy question. It’s the fact that we have not just a few, but 18 experts --- who collectively have 375 years of teaching experience -- helping the students achieve their immensely important goal of passing the CPA exam. In accounting, we learn about assets, and it’s a tremendous advantage to our candidates that they can tap our key asset -- 375 years of rich college teaching experience.

Our professors’ extensive experience comes alive -- in the classroom, on audio, and on-line -- via the substantial efforts of our two vital cogs, Sue Anderson and Mary Hamell. While they often operate behind the scenes, Sue and Mary, together with our student workers (Spencer, Neil, and Kristina), keep our ship sailing true, handling a myriad of technical and administrative matters. I have also enjoyed meeting the “345’ers” (in the 345 Barsema Accountancy suite), and thank them for their help and patience as I learn the ropes. And I would be remiss not to give a special thanks to Barb Fox, the interim director, who’s been indispensable. She’s a pro, undeniably diligent and conscientious.

One of the best parts of my role is advising CPA candidates as they embark on their multi-month journey to pass the CPA exam. We talk through meeting the state’s educational requirements (that will change starting July, 1, 2013, for all candidates other than MAS students), completing the not-overly-easy steps to apply for the exam, and we schedule out a by-month plan to review and test for each of the four sections of the exam (Financial Accounting, Auditing, Regulation, and Business Environment). It’s fabulous to see the students’ energy and enthusiasm.

I am a very lucky person. I was lucky to have great professors at the University of Illinois and Northwestern University, fortunate to have strong mentors at Ernst &Young and in Corporate America, and privileged to have taught hundreds of students at five colleges and universities. I’m blessed to have a loving and supportive family. And now the luck has even re-doubled, as I’m surrounded at NIU with wonderful (and really smart!) people, all in a role where I get to help others pursue a dream.

At this point you may be thinking…but hey, Hogan, you said you’d talk about three numbers, and you didn’t talk about the “1.” Well, while I may be a tad biased, I tell everyone I talk to that I am proud to be associated with the best — the #1 — CPA Review program in the country!
ACCOUNTANCY EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following professionals have provided significant service to the Department by serving on our advisory council. We are grateful for the guidance and assistance that they provide.

Greg Bergmann, Deloitte LLP
Howard Blumstein, BDO USA LLP
Marcus Bode, SpearMC Management Consulting
Gary Burge, Consultant
Matt Garling, SunCoke Energy Inc.
Gordy Gruszka, Motorola Mobility LLC
Dianne Guensberg, United States Government Accountability Office
Steve Hajdukovic, KPMG LLP
Julie Hansberry, Cincinnati Tool Steel Company
Tony Harmon, Grant Thornton LLP
Jim Hendricks, Emeritus Faculty – NIU
Ernest Iannotta, PwC LLP
Terry Jimenez, IBM
Joe Joyce, Joyce & Associates, LLC
Paul Keglevic, Energy Future Holdings
Mark Kramer, IDEX Corporation
Jim Kranjc, Ryan, LLC
George Krull, Grant Thornton LLP
Gaylen Larson, Financial Accounting Standards Board
Jeff Markert, KPMG LLP
Ricky Max, Miller Cooper & Co.

Dave Misura, Plante Moran, PLLC
Ian Nelson, PwC LLP
Dino Orfanos, PwC LLP
Patrick Picha, Accenture
Christina Pierce, Grayson & Graham
Ken Pinsky, Warady & Davis, LLP
Adam Regelbrugge, Deloitte LLP
Barry Shaw, Wolf & Co.
Lance Smith, Ernst & Young LLP
Russ Smyth, The HAVI Group, LP
Rob Stoettner, McGladrey LLP
John Stomper, Grant Thornton LLP
Dave Swinehart, Healthscape Advisors
Dave Templin, Caterpillar, Inc.
Jim Thomas, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
Rawley Thomas, LifeCycle Returns, Inc.
Rick Thompson, Sikich LLP
Charlotte Vrba, Crowe Horwath LLP
Don Wagner, Caterpillar, Inc.
Jim Wong, Clear Focus Financial Search, LLC

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND UPDATE

Tim West Named First Grant Thorton Professor of Accountancy

The Department of Accountancy is pleased to announce the establishment of the Grant Thorton LLP Professorship in Accountancy—and also to announce Tim West’s selection by Grant Thorton to hold the professorship. Grant Thorton has been a strong supporter of NIU’s Department of Accountancy through its presence on campus and with our students. With this step, the firm is providing additional salary and research support needed to attract, develop, retain and recognize its most deserving faculty, which in turn, benefits NIU’s students and programs. The Department wishes to express our sincere appreciation to Grant Thorton for this tangible demonstration of their commitment to the NIU Accountancy Program.

Jim Young Receives Illinois CPA Society Educator of the Year Award

For his ability to help others find the significance and excitement in the profession of accounting and in recognition of a professional lifetime working to improve how the subject is taught, the Illinois CPA Society named Jim Young its 2012 Outstanding Accounting Educator. Jim’s award continues a long tradition in the NIU Department of Accountancy. Prior Illinois CPA Society Educator of the Year award recipients include NIU Accountancy members Don Kieso (1988), Pat Delaney (1991), Richard Baker (1993), Debra Hopkins (1997), Pam Smith (2008), and Don Tidrick (2010). The Illinois CPA Society, founded in 1903, boasts more than 23,000 members and is the fourth largest CPA society in the nation. Jim received the award for his curriculum and classroom innovations and for his efforts in shaping accountancy education on a broader scale through service to a wide range of state and national organizations including the American Accounting Association’s Accounting Programs Leadership Group, the Accounting Accreditation Committee of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, and the AAA/AICPA Pathways Commission.
Lisa Madlinger Receives Department Excellence in Undergraduate Instruction Award

Lisa Madlinger was selected by the Department’s undergraduate accountancy majors to receive the 2011-2012 Excellence in Undergraduate Instruction Award. This award was established by the Provost to honor excellent undergraduate teaching in the University, specifically among non-tenure-track educators. The award is given to an instructor who inspires students and stimulates student growth, applies rigorous standards to student performance, and works actively with students to promote their learning and understanding. Congratulations Lisa!

Linda Matuszewski Receives Department and College Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award

Linda Matuszewski was selected by the undergraduate accountancy majors in the Department and undergraduate business majors in the College of Business to receive the 2011-2012 Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award. The award is given to a faculty member who instills and develops in students a deep interest in the class topics, demonstrates extraordinary commitment to students and their welfare, and works actively with students, faculty, and administrators to improve undergraduate education at NIU. This is a testament to Linda’s abilities in the classroom. Congratulations Linda!

ACCOUNTANCY STUDENT GROUPS CONTINUE TO EXCEL

Accountancy Leadership Advisory Council (ALAC)

ALAC members are nominated by student organization presidents, faculty members, or current ALAC members for their leadership potential. This group of students helps the department by serving as student liaisons at various department events, assisting with an etiquette dinner, talking to potential students/families at university open houses, and helping with teaching evaluations. Professor Rebecca Shortridge serves as the faculty advisor for ALAC.

Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA)

The Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA) is a leading national professional association dedicated to enhancing opportunities for Latinos in accounting, finance and related professions. ALPFA is open to professionals and students of all races and majors who share our values, mission, and principles. ALPFA NIU's purpose is to develop the professional skills of its members by providing activities and events that promote growth and personal development, build relationships with business professionals, as well as create awareness of the accounting and finance professions within our communities. This is accomplished by presentations from global business leaders, national networking conventions, mentorship programs, community service, and a variety of cultural/social events. Membership is approximately 30 members. Three students attended the national convention this past summer. Professor Natalie Churyk is the faculty advisor. The current officers are: Cristian Tinoco—President, Erika Delgado—Vice President, Araceli Flores—Secretary, Juan Rosales—Treasurer, Reynaldo Gil—Public Relations, Jeanette Bonilla—Fundraiser Director, and Omar Lazaro—Director of Community Service.

Ascend Pan-Asian Leaders in Finance and Accounting (Ascend)

Ascend is the premier professional organization dedicated to enabling its members, business partners and the community to leverage the leadership and global business potential of Pan-Asians. The goal of the organization is to generate awareness of the growing influence of Asians in business globally while helping its members to be better prepared to take advantage of this change and grow professionally. Ascend’s goals are achieved through professional, social, and service events. Professor Carol Yu serves as Ascend’s faculty advisor.

Important Dates for Employers!

Awards Banquet—September 4, 2013
Career Fairs—September 26, 2013 and January 29, 2014
Beta Alpha Psi (Gamma Pi Chapter, Founded in 1971)

NIU’s Gamma Pi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) has maintained its positive trajectory through the 2011-2013 academic years, and has continued to be recognized nationally as a “Superior Chapter.”

Two distinctive characteristics of Beta Alpha Psi membership at NIU are (1) at least a 3.2 GPA requirement associated with academic accomplishment; and (2) a commitment to at least 8 hours of designated service activities each semester. In 2011-12 and 2012-13, we initiated 55 and 53 students, respectively, into permanent BAP membership. Our speaker and guest-of-honor at our 2012 initiation banquet was Mr. David L. Landsittel, COSO chair; and our guest-of-honor at our April 2013 initiation banquet was NIU’s own iconic Mr. Dennis Barsema, for whom (along with his wife, Stacey) Barsema Hall and the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center at NIU are named.

A group of NIU BAP members participated in the Midwest Regional Meeting in Chicago, and another group represented NIU at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore last summer. In spring 2013, NIU was again well represented by the Chapter’s officers at the Midwest Regional Meeting in Chicago. Another group is eagerly looking forward to attending the Annual Meeting in Anaheim in 2013, where NIU alumnus (and honorary BAP member) Mr. Ralph de la Vega (President & CEO, AT&T Mobility & Consumer Markets) will receive BAP’s prestigious Business Information Professional of the Year Award.

We continued to be fortunate to have outstanding professional presentations on Wednesday evenings throughout the fall and the spring semesters on a variety of interesting topics. A sample includes the following: “Professional Ethics & Enforcement” (Crowe Horwath); “Tax Careers in Public Accounting” (Ernst & Young); “International Issues in Accounting” (KPMG); “Building Your Personal Brand” (Plante Moran); “The Small Firm Advantage” (Miller Cooper & Co.); “Corporate and Professional Ethics” (John Deere); and “Identity Theft” (U.S. Secret Service), to name just a few of the recent BAP programs.

Gamma Pi Chapter appreciates the continuing support of the many NIU alumni and friends who make our professional programs, service projects, and social events so meaningful for NIU students. Professor Don Tidrick, a longtime member of BAP himself, continues to serve as Gamma Pi’s faculty advisor.

The National Association of Black Accountants (NABA)

The National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) is the premiere professional association for developing and promoting greater participation by African-American and other minorities in the accounting and finance professions. The goals of the association are to promote and develop the professional skills of our members; to encourage and assist minority students in entering the profession; to provide opportunities for members to fulfill their civic responsibilities; to ensure long-term financial stability, and provide adequate resources to implement chapter, regional and national programs; and to represent the interests of current and prospective minority accounting professionals. These goals are achieved through the use of guest speakers and a variety of other activities. Professor Tim West is the faculty advisor. The current officers are: Channing Moffith-Mixon – President, Radford Thomas – External Vice President, Reuel Brummel – Internal Vice President, Rudy Hancock – Treasurer, and Crystal McNutt – Public Relations Director.

Student Accountancy Society (SAS)

SAS brings professionals, organizations and public accounting firms together to speak to the members about professional accounting careers and current business issues. Some of the main topics discussed include professional ethics, leadership, networking, academic accounting opportunities, communication skills, and business etiquette.

SAS is an active participant in many community service opportunities including a clothing drive, blood drive, and food drive; assisting on bingo nights at the Oakcrest Retirement Center; serving and preparing food at Hope Haven; and assisting at the DeKalb Animal Shelter. Other events include a golf outing, bowling, an ice cream social and attending sporting events.
RECENT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS*

Meghann Cefaratti
Member, American Accounting Association (AAA).
Assistant Midwest Regional Coordinator, AAA Forensic & Investigative Accounting Section.

Natalie Churyk
Caterpillar Professorship.
Editorial Board, Journal of Forensic & Investigative Accounting and Journal of Accounting Education.
Treasurer, American Accounting Association Teaching Learning & Curriculum Section.
Chair, American Accounting Association Teaching Learning & Curriculum Membership Acquisition and Retention Committee and Forensic and Investigative Accounting Membership Acquisition and Retention Committee.
Member and Chair of committees within the American Accounting Association Teaching Learning & Curriculum Strategic Planning Committee.
Faculty Advisor, Association of Latino Professionals in Finance & Accounting (ALPFA).

Doug Clinton
Member, Institute of Management Accountants, American Accounting Association.

Brad Cripe
Editorial Board, Journal of International Accounting, Auditing and Taxation.
Member, AICPA, American Accounting Association, American Taxation Association, and American Taxation Association Outstanding Manuscript Committee.

Ann Dzuranin
“The Effect of Tangible and Intangible Noncash Rewards on Performance and Satisfaction in a Production Setting” with Nathan Stuart, Management Accounting Quarterly, Summer 2012, Volume 13, No. 4.
Member, Institute of Management Accountants, AICPA, American Accounting Association (AAA), Strategic Human Resource Management.
Presenter, AAA Information Systems Section, January 2012 and IMA Annual Conference, June 2012.

Chih-Chen Lee
Chair, Publications Committee, American Accounting Association, Forensic & Investigative Accounting (FIA) Section.
Member, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Illinois CPA Society, Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) , AAA, Phi Beta Delta, Zeta Gamma Chapter at Northern Illinois University and CAPANA (Chinese Accounting Professors’ Association in North America).

Kate Mantzke
Contributor, SWFT Comprehensive Text, 2013.
Reviewer, American Accounting Association (AAA).
Member, Illinois CPA Society, AAA, American Taxation Association.

Linda Matuszewski
“The Effect of Personality Traits and Fairness on Honesty in Managerial Reporting” with A. Drake, and F. Miller, forthcoming in Advances in Management Accounting, Volume 22, 2013.
Contributor, NIU CPA Review Book, financial accounting and reporting sessions on fixed assets, intangible assets, and natural resources.
Member, AICPA,IMA, American Accounting Association (AAA).

*For articles and textbooks, please contact faculty member for complete citation and co-authors.
Mark Riley

Rebecca Shortridge
Selection Committee, Innovation in Accounting Education Award.
Member, Indiana CPA Society, AICPA, American Accounting Association.

Dave Sinason
Co-Author, Auditing and Assurance Services, 5e, with Timothy Louwers, Robert Ramsey, Jerry Strawser, and Jay Thibideau, 2012.
Presenter, AAA national meeting, August 2012.
Reviewer, Journal of Accounting Education.
Member, AICPA, Illinois CPA Society, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Institute of Internal Auditors, American Accounting Association, IAEP (Internal Audit Educational Partnership) Marketing Committee.

Pam Smith
Presenter, AAA Ethics Symposium: Assessment of Ethics Education, August 2012.
Editorial Board, Issues in Accounting Education.
Member, NIU College of Business Ethics Program, Building Ethical Leaders with an Integrated Framework (BELIEF).

Tammy Waymire
Reviewer, Journal of Accounting Education, American Accounting Association Government and Nonprofit Section Mid-Year Meeting.
Member, Association of Government Accountants, Institute of Management Accountants, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and American Accounting Association, Academy of Accounting Historians, American Accounting Association.
Co-Author, CPAexcel.

Jim Young
Member, Illinois Board of Examiners (IBOE) Education Advisory Task Force, AACSB Accounting Accreditation Committee, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Illinois CPA Society, American Accounting Association Council.
President, Accounting Programs Leadership Group (American Accounting Association).
Commissioner, AICPA/AAA Pathways Commission.

Carol Yu
Member, Illinois Board of Examiners (IBOE) Education Advisory Task Force, AASCB Accounting Accreditation Committee, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Illinois CPA Society, American Accounting Association Council.
President, Accounting Programs Leadership Group (American Accounting Association).
Commissioner, AICPA/AAA Pathways Commission.
Congratulations to the following students for their excellent performance, which has resulted in their receipt of the following scholarships and awards. We also express our appreciation to the individuals, companies, and firms that provided the financial support for these awards. Over $450,000 of scholarships and awards were presented at our Awards Banquet in September.

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15
Annual Accountancy Scholarships and Awards, 2012-13, continued

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Please fax this completed alumni questionnaire to (815) 753-8515, or mail to the Department of Accountancy, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL  60115-2854, or e-mail this information to margberg@niu.edu.