Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Department of Accounting and Management Information Systems at The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business. As chair, one of my distinct pleasures is engaging with the alumni, former faculty, and countless friends and partners who have helped build our department into one of the best in the world. This annual publication is just one way we are trying to remain connected with you.

As you will see, the following pages provide a look back at many of our accomplishments as a department in the past year, as well as a look ahead to some exciting new initiatives that will continue to elevate the value of a Fisher education.

This past year has been especially noteworthy as our college community has celebrated the people, milestones and programs that have marked 100 years of business education at The Ohio State University. Of course, our department has been an integral part of the college’s history—from the establishment of the Accounting Hall of Fame more than 60 years ago to the creation of one of the best Master of Accounting programs in the country. These contributions have added to the richness of our educational mission.

Our department is also focused on the future and on equipping the next generation of leaders with the skills to thrive in a 21st-century environment. A groundbreaking partnership with KPMG on an exciting new data and analytics initiative is evidence of our commitment to preparing our students for success and to building meaningful collaborations with industry leaders.

I invite you to take some time to explore all the wonderful news happening here at Fisher and in the lives and careers of our alumni and friends around the world.

Thank you for all that you continue to do to advance the practice of accounting and the reputation of Fisher College of Business.

Sincerely,

J. Richard Dietrich
Professor and Chair
Department of Accounting and MIS

go.osu.edu/AMIS
The Power of Partnerships
Fisher and KPMG are leading the way in audit data and analytics

As an audit leader at KPMG, Max Carrier (BSBA ’80) is acutely tuned in to the latest trends in the audit field. He’s seen the power of innovation and how technology has changed the industry. To prepare future audit leaders, KPMG has partnered with Fisher College of Business to launch a pioneering new program.

KPMG’s Master of Accounting with Data and Analytics Program was announced in August, with Fisher and the Villanova School of Business serving as the founding academic partners.

Beginning in autumn 2017, KPMG will select 25 of its top annual hires to its audit practice to enroll in Fisher’s Master of Accounting (MAcc) program. An additional 25 students will be selected to attend Villanova’s program. The students at each business school will receive a MAcc education with tuition, fees and a living stipend fully funded by KPMG.

“Data and analytics have become a critical component of the audit profession, and we’ve seen an increase across the industry in the demand for professionals capable of turning information into insights,” said Carrier, KPMG’s national partner-in-charge of eAudIT, global delivery center and audit data and analytics. “We are proud to partner with Fisher and Villanova—two of the nation’s leading business schools—in advancing this critical frontier within our industry.”

KPMG students in Fisher’s MAcc program will take a deep dive into the latest analytics technology and data sets, and will participate in applied learning experiences using KPMG’s proprietary tools. Upon graduating with a MAcc degree, these students will become full-time employees at KPMG on an accelerated leadership career track.

“For decades, the rigorous curriculum within the MAcc program at Fisher has differentiated it as among the best,” said J. Richard Dietrich, chair of the Department of Accounting and Management Information Systems. “Fisher’s emphasis on data and analytics in accounting as part of this program exemplifies our commitment to preparing future audit professionals.”

The new program will build on the success of Fisher’s MAcc program and serves as an example of the unique ways the college is partnering with industry leaders to complement theory with practice.

“Strong partnerships between leading companies and top academic institutions are essential to building an agile workforce equipped to meet today’s business challenges,” said Anil K. Makhija, dean and John W. Berry, Sr. Chair in Business. “Fisher is proud to join with KPMG and the Villanova School of Business in recognizing the importance of data analytics in accounting and in providing the next generation of industry leaders with a truly unique academic and professional experience.”
What brought you to Fisher?
I joined Fisher because of the people here. My Fisher colleagues are dedicated and passionate about their work. My students are curious and eager to better understand the business world. I have developed great professional relationships and friendships with them. I feel very fortunate to be surrounded by these wonderful people.

You served as an academic fellow and visiting financial economist at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. How does that experience inform and complement the way you teach in the classroom?
I served as a financial economist in the Office of Corporate Finance in the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis at the SEC. The main rule-making efforts in this office are financial reporting and disclosure issues, which are directly related to courses I teach at Fisher. I have always emphasized in the classroom that it is important to understand the incentives and objectives behind the accounting rules. The SEC experience took this understanding to a higher level, in addition to providing me with interesting short cases I can use in the classroom.

What was the most rewarding part of your fellowship at the SEC?
The most rewarding part of the fellowship at the SEC was the broad exposure related to both research and policy work. Many policy issues are examined and discussed at the SEC every day. The SEC fellowship allowed me to take a closer look at how these policy issues are deliberated and resolved. I also had the opportunity to interact with many SEC colleagues and market participants with different personal and professional backgrounds, which helps me better appreciate the importance of diverse views in the policymaking process and the difficulty of reaching policy goals of improving social welfare.

What are your research interests and some insights you have discovered through your research?
I am interested in research questions related to security and accounting regulations. My coauthors and I have conducted research related to disclosure regulations and accounting rule changes for financial derivatives, leases, fair values and asset securitization. Although the underlying business transactions can be very complex, I have come to learn that “simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.” It is the most important way to identify the key players and use economic tools to understand their behavior.

What is your life like away from teaching?
I enjoy traveling, reading and watching political comedy shows. I also recently started a new hobby to go outside to catch Pokémons with my husband and son.
Profs. Wang and Gao examine stock and bond market reactions to the key events leading to the passage of the Dodd-Frank Act to assess the markets’ expectations about the effectiveness of the act on systemically important financial firms. Using small and medium-sized domestic financial institutions as a control group, the researchers found that large financial institutions overall had negative abnormal stock returns and positive abnormal bond returns, suggesting that the markets expect the act to be effective in reducing these banks’ risk-taking. Profs. Wang and Gao document that larger and more interconnected financial institutions experienced more negative abnormal stock returns and more positive abnormal bond returns as compared to other banks in the sample, but these relations were not present during the final phase of the act’s passage.

The Creation and Segmentation of the Euronext Stock Exchange: A Solution to the Inadequacy of National Securities Regulators?

Professors Wang, Pownall and Vulcheva investigate the effect of exchange segmentation accompanying the Euronext merger on the liquidity and reporting quality of firms listed on the four exchanges (Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and Lisbon) participating in the merger. While Euronext integrated the four trading platforms and started clearing all trades through one system, the listed firms continued to be regulated by the regulatory agencies of their own home exchanges, and the strength of enforcement differed considerably across the four exchanges. At the same time, Euronext required higher, uniform disclosure for firms choosing to list on its two named segments, which could lead to increased liquidity if the segments successfully circumvented national limitations on regulation. The professors document significant increases in liquidity and accounting quality for segment firms relative to non-segment firms, in particular for those segment firms that complied more fully with the provisions of their pre-commitments. Taken together, the overall findings suggest that exchange segmentation at the time of across-border exchange merger might circumvent the inadequacy of national security regulators.

Deciphering Tax Avoidance: Evidence from Credit Rating Disagreements

Professors Bonsall, Koharki and Watson examine whether tax avoidance behavior leads to different assessments about credit risk by two major credit rating agencies: Moody’s Investors Service and Standard & Poor’s. They found that firms engaging in more tax avoidance experience more split ratings for newly issued debt, which increases firms’ cost of borrowing. The study documents an indirect cost of tax avoidance: higher borrowing costs through greater credit rating disagreement.
Disproportional Control Rights and the Bonding Role of Debt
Management Science (2016)
Xue Wang, Ayesha Dey and Valeri Nikolaev

Professors Wang, Dey and Nikolaev examine the governance role of debt in the context of U.S.-based dual-class ownership structures. They document that dual-class firms have higher leverage and a greater propensity to issue private debt; they also more frequently use cash sweeps and performance-based covenants. Dual-class firms with greater agency conflicts and a greater need to access the capital market appear to rely more extensively on debt. Taken together, the analyses suggest that dual-class firms use debt as a complementary governance mechanism.

Does Real-Time Reporting Deter Strategic Disclosures by Management?
Xiaoli Tian

In the last decade, the SEC has issued a number of regulations to move disclosure more toward real time. Real-time reporting is expected to deter disclosure bunching by management. However, managers still have discretion over the timing of underlying reporting events under a real-time reporting regime. Using the poison pill setting, Professor Tian’s findings suggest real-time reporting is effective at reducing strategic disclosure bunching only when managers’ ability to time the underlying information event is constrained.

Review of Accounting Studies (2015)
Zahn Bozanic, Dan Amiram and Ethan Rouen

The findings from Professor Bozanic’s paper, which created the Financial Statement Divergence (FSD) Score using Benford’s Law, have been incorporated into data vendor Audit Analytics’ “Accounting Quality and Risk Matrix” (AQRM) screening tool alongside other popular screens for accounting quality and risk, such as prior financial restatements, Altman’s Z-Score, and Beneish’s M-Score. In addition, Bloomberg terminal subscribers have the opportunity to flag and screen firms on the FSD Score using the AQRM application. As stated in Professor Bozanic’s paper, the FSD Score provides “the investment and regulatory communities with an easily implementable, parsimonious approach for assessing errors in financial reports” based on Benford’s Law.
Faculty Research (continued)

Forward Contracting and Incentives for Disclosure
Review of Accounting Studies (2015)
Anil Arya, Brian Mittendorf and Austin Sudbury

Traditional views in business research posit that retail firms are reluctant to disclose information about profitability publicly out of fear that suppliers will use the information to raise wholesale prices. In this article, the authors revisit such views in light of the fact that suppliers often offer forward contracts to customers to shield them from price risks. The authors find that a supplier can not only use such contracts to protect a retailer from price hikes but can also provide incentives for the retailer to disclose more information in doing so.

Making Sense of One-Dollar CEO Salaries
Contemporary Accounting Research (2015)
Sophia Hamm, Michael Jung and Clare Wang

Professors Hamm, Jung and Wang show that CEOs take a $1 salary either as a gesture of sacrifice during a downturn or crisis or to better align their equity incentives with shareholders’. CEOs taking a token salary for the first reason tend to receive praise for their noble sacrifice, but the action rarely makes a difference to the depressed firms. Those who notch up their stock option amounts in lieu of a salary are often depicted as greedy executives who are deceiving shareholders with the $1 salary gimmick, but they end up delivering better future firm performance.

Managerial Ability and Credit Risk Assessment
Management Science (2016)
Sam Bonsall, Eric Holzman and Brian Miller

This study examines how managerial ability affects the credit rating process. Professors Bonsall, Holzman and Miller first document that higher managerial ability is associated with lower variability in the performance of firms. They show that higher managerial ability is associated with better credit ratings and narrower yield spreads on newly issued debt.

On the Synergy Between Disclosure and Investment Beauty Contests
Journal of Accounting and Economics (2016)
Anil Arya and Brian Mittendorf

In this study, Professors Arya and Mittendorf examine the effects of public disclosure on a firm and its industry in circumstances where investments exhibit complementarities (often dubbed “investment beauty contests”). Such circumstances include situations where consumers want compatible products, firms need to coordinate on standardized platforms, or technology developments can be shared among firms. Professors Arya and Mittendorf show that in such cases it can be mutually beneficial for firms to include disclosures about investment choices in their accounting reports as a means of better coordinating behavior to meet customer and industry needs.
The Role of Commitment Devices in Budgeting
Managerial and Decision Economics (2015)
Eric Spires, David Wallin, Richard Young and Steven Schwartz

There is a rich literature concerning why, within a non-strategic temptation setting, individuals make commitments that limit their choices. This study explores the role of commitment devices within a strategic bargaining setting, specifically, an ultimatum game with one-sided information about the available surplus. The primary finding is that, in general, when superiors make an unobservable commitment, either when imposed or when chosen voluntarily, they are much more acquiescent (i) than normally found in similar games where commitments are observable to the subordinate, and (ii) than superiors who respond to the subordinate’s request without having made a commitment. In particular, they commit to approve very large budgets, implying a willingness to accept a small share of the project’s expected profits. Professors Spires, Wallin, Young and Schwartz conjecture that the results are due to the lack of visceral emotions present.

The Usefulness of Historical Accounting Reports
Journal of Accounting and Economics (2016)
Darren Roulstone, Michael Drake and Jake Thornock

When firms file 10-Qs or 10-Ks, investors rush to download these forms from the EDGAR database in order to extract value-relevant information. However, investors commonly use EDGAR to download “historical” 10-Qs and 10-Ks, i.e., financial filings that have been in the public domain for months or even years. Why do investors download these filings when they no longer contain news? Professor Roulstone and his co-authors show that investor acquisition of historical filings is greater when firms are more complex and when their earnings involve greater accounting discretion. In addition, negative earnings shocks and negative shocks to firm value also stimulate investors to acquire older information that provides context for current analyses of the firm.

Will the Chan Zuckerberg Pledge Change the Way Charity is Done?
Brian Mittendorf and Jeffrey Hoopes

The announcement that Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg would devote $45 billion to charitable endeavors not through a traditional charity but instead through a limited liability company (LLC) sent shockwaves through the charitable sector and led many to speculate that Chan and Zuckerberg were charting a path that will change the way charity is done. In this article, Professors Hoopes and Mittendorf explain how the Chan and Zuckerberg choice reflects the unique tax circumstances faced by the couple, and as a result such a move is unlikely to be replicated widely.
**Awards & RECOGNITION**

**Sam Bonsall** was awarded a grant in February 2016 from the National Center for the Middle Market. He also received the Distinguished Faculty Award in September 2016.

**Eric Spires** received the 2016 MAcc Outstanding Faculty Award. He also received the 2016 Daniel Westerbeck Teaching Excellence Award.

**Sam Bonsall** was promoted in June 2016 to the rank of Associate Professor. He was also appointed to the AAA FARS Nominations Committee for the 2015–2016 year.

**Anil Arya** was appointed in July 2016 as Associate Dean for Faculty and Research.

**Bruce Barnes, Alan Lacko** and **Rob Whittington** were appointed in August 2016 to the rank of Senior Lecturer.

**Darren Roulstone** was appointed as the FARS Nominations Committee Chair for the 2015–2016 year. He was also named Fisher College of Business Distinguished Professor in September 2016.

**Brian Mittendorf** was named Fisher College of Business Distinguished Professor in September 2016.

**Tzachi Zach** was appointed in August 2016 as Director of the Master of Accounting Program.

---

**Leadership & SERVICE**

**Anil Arya** was appointed in July 2016 as Associate Dean for Faculty and Research.

**Sam Bonsall** was promoted in June 2016 to the rank of Associate Professor. He was also appointed to the AAA FARS Nominations Committee for the 2015–2016 year.

**Darren Roulstone** was appointed as the FARS Nominations Committee Chair for the 2015–2016 year. He was also named Fisher College of Business Distinguished Professor in September 2016.

**Brian Mittendorf** was named Fisher College of Business Distinguished Professor in September 2016.

**Tzachi Zach** was appointed in August 2016 as Director of the Master of Accounting Program.

---

**go.osu.edu/AMISFaculty**
The Accounting Hall of Fame
A look back at its inaugural class

For more than six decades, the Accounting Hall of Fame at The Ohio State University has served to honor accountants who have made, or are making, significant contributions to the advancement of accounting. In its 66 years of existence, the Hall of Fame has inducted 93 members from across the country and around the world.

As Fisher College of Business celebrates 100 years of excellence in business education, our centennial year has provided numerous opportunities to look back on our storied history. Included among these myriad events and milestones is the induction of the Hall of Fame’s first members.

On May 19, 1950, nearly 500 registered attendees gathered at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel in Columbus for the Accounting Hall of Fame’s inaugural induction. With Ohio State president Howard Bevis presiding, George Oliver May, Robert Hiester Montgomery and William A. Paton became the first honorees.

GEORGE OLIVER MAY
May was a senior partner at Price, Waterhouse and Company from 1911 to 1940 and served the accounting industry in a number of roles, including president and director of the National Bureau of Economic Research; vice president of the American Economic Association; director of the American Statistical Association; and director of the Council on Foreign Relations. He also served as a lecturer on the faculty of the Graduate School of Business Administration at Harvard.

He championed principled accounting, serving as the first chairman of the committee on accounting procedure at the American Institute of Accountants.

COL. ROBERT HIESTER MONTGOMERY
Montgomery was a founder of the firm of Lybrand, Ross Brothers and Montgomery. He pioneered accounting education as a member of the faculty of an evening school sponsored by the Pennsylvania Institute of Accountants as early as 1902. This subsequently led to the organization of a School of Accounts and Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, where he later lectured.

He was president of the American Association of Public Accountants, the predecessor of the American Institute of Accountants, from 1912 to 1914, and also held the presidency of the American Institute from 1935 until 1937. His books on federal taxes and auditing have become accounting classics.

WILLIAM A. PATON
Paton was one of the early members of the American Association of University Instructors in Accounting, later to become the American Accounting Association, for which he served as president in 1922 and research director from 1936 to 1939.

He was published in the Journal of Accountancy and The Accounting Review, and his books, Essentials of Accounting and Advanced Accounting, in particular, were accounting staples. With Professor A. C. Littleton, he wrote Introduction to Concepts and Standards of Corporation Financial Statements, which is one of the earliest explanations of accounting theory. The Accountants’ Handbook, for which he was the chief contributor and an early editor, is a standard reference work.
Six accounting graduates from Fisher were among a select few who earned nationwide recognition for their outstanding performance on the CPA exam.

George Bloomfield, Joshua Furmage, Grant Joslin, Maria Khrakovsky, Grant Searcy and Austin Zarbuck were named recipients of the 2015 Elijah Watt Sells Award.

The award is given to candidates who score a cumulative average of 95.5 or better across all four sections of the exam on their first attempt. In all, 93,742 individuals sat for the CPA exam nationwide, and 75 received the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

“This is a tremendous honor for these alumni as well as for the entire accounting department,” said J. Richard Dietrich, chair of Fisher’s Department of Accounting and MIS. “These prestigious awards speak volumes for the talented students that occupy our classrooms, for the dedicated faculty and staff members who work so hard to prepare them for success in the field of accounting, and for the overall strength of the program here at Fisher. To account for nearly 10 percent of all Elijah Watt Sells Award recipients in 2015 is truly a monumental accomplishment.”

Maria Khrakovsky
(BSBA ’14, MAcc ’15)
Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), Postgraduate Technical Assistant

Describe the significance and meaning of being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

Receiving the Elijah Watt Sells Award shows the breadth and depth of my foundation of knowledge in the area of accounting. The CPA exam covers a variety of different subjects and is designed to test knowledge as well as stamina and self-discipline. Scoring well on the exam shows that someone has put in more time and effort than is required. The award is certainly prestigious, and I consider myself privileged to be one of its recipients.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

Fisher is the reason that I am an accountant. I came into my undergraduate career unsure of what exactly I wanted to pursue, and I found my niche at Fisher, and specifically in the Honors Accounting program. That program provided a solid foundation of accounting theory and practice for me to build upon. The variety of accounting courses I took in my MAcc year also helped me to succeed on the CPA exam.

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?

It is hard to choose one or even two Fisher faculty members as my favorite because throughout my time at Fisher, I had the opportunity to interact with so many wonderful professors. Professor Richard Young, director of the Honors Accounting program, was pivotal in my education. He encourages all his students to think critically and independently and also to question everything. Professor Tzachi Zach was my first accounting professor, and I was lucky to be able to work as his teaching assistant for three years. He was always very encouraging of me to pursue different opportunities, and he always added an element of fun to every class. Professor Anil Arya cares so immensely about each and
Best in Class (continued)

every MAcc student in addition to being a wonderful professor. And finally, Professor Larry Tomassini was always very supportive not only inside the classroom, but also outside. He took a personal interest in my singing (a hobby) and came to every one of my performances.

---

“Fisher is the reason I am an accountant.”
—Maria Khramovsky

George Bloomfield (MAcc ‘15)
Plante Moran, Assurance Staff

Describe the significance and meaning of being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

Being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award means that, even if people discount your ability, you can accomplish anything you want in life if you truly dedicate yourself to a goal.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

The most significant way that Fisher helped me prepare to excel on the CPA exam was by developing my critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Fisher prepared me to think outside the box when faced with a question on the CPA exam, rather than simply trying to recall the answer from memory.

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?

My favorite business faculty member at Ohio State was Professor Eric Spires. He consistently challenged my ability to think past the surface of a problem and to bring creativity when addressing a situation. In addition, I always thought he enjoyed what he did each day and brought fun into accounting. His attitude toward his work is something I want to emulate in my career, as it is important to enjoy your work and have fun.

Grant Searcy (MAcc ‘15)
EY, Staff

Describe the significance and meaning of being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

Being named an Elijah Watt Sells award winner is a great blessing to me! It was just one way that God has shown me His love and that He can help me do anything.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

My Fisher experience helped me think critically, and it helped me gain a deeper understanding of accounting concepts and theories. This was essential in doing well on the CPA exam.

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?

I really liked Dave Williams. He sat down with me and talked about my life and things that were important to me outside of the classroom. I appreciate the advice he gave and the care he showed to me.

Grant Joslin (BSBA ‘15, MAcc ‘15)
Deloitte, Analyst

Describe the significance and meaning of being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

One of my work mentors summarized it like this: the breadth of the CPA exam reminds us how many areas we are not experts in. Even a long career in my group would only cover narrow areas of one exam part in great depth. In that way, it speaks to the breadth of the profession.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

Fisher’s focus on depth of understanding rather than quick rote memorization of a list of facts was valuable. Even two years after taking courses, it was easy for me to get back up to speed with my review materials. I knew how to conceptualize and think about the problems rather than just how to follow formulas to get to a correct multiple-choice answer.
Best in Class (continued)

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?

Professor Rick Young. He took a subject—managerial accounting—that can be very dry if not taught skillfully, and made it into a fascinating exploration of incentives, controls, economic rationality, risk aversion and much more. On top of that, he did it in a way that integrated oral presentations, writing, careful analysis and current academic research. I don’t use managerial accounting directly in my job in any way, but still find myself returning regularly to the same concepts and skills I learned in his two courses.

“I knew how to conceptualize and think about the problems rather than just how to follow formulas to get to a correct multiple-choice answer.”

—Grant Joslin

Austin Zarbuck (MAcc ’15)
Grant Thornton, Staff Auditor

Describe the significance and meaning of being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

It is an incredible honor to receive this award and be recognized as one of the top performers in the nation.

Joshua Furmage (BSBA ’15)
EY, Assurance Staff

Describe the significance and meaning of being named a winner of the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

This award is a culmination of the hard work and dedication I’ve put in throughout my academic career.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

The professors I had during my time at Fisher helped immensely. The material I learned in my classes was very relevant in relation to the exam. I had previously learned the majority of the topics on the exam in my classes, which made studying easy, as I was already familiar with the material.

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?

Anil Arya and Dave Williams. Both are so smart and even more caring.

This award is well-recognized by almost all CPAs. It is a tangible benefit of the countless hours spent preparing for the test that I can carry with me for the rest of my career.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

Given the rigor of the exam and the vast number of people who take it, it really says something that so many people from Fisher won this award. Fisher and the MAcc program prepared me by not focusing solely on the technical knowledge I needed to pass. Instead, the program helped me build the critical thinking skills and habits needed to master such a difficult task. My fellow students were also a huge help by providing a support network. Without others to share the studying experience with, it would have been much more stressful to prepare for the exam.

Anil Arya and Dave Williams. Both are so smart and even more caring.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

Given the rigor of the exam and the vast number of people who take it, it really says something that so many people from Fisher won this award. Fisher and the MAcc program prepared me by not focusing solely on the technical knowledge I needed to pass. Instead, the program helped me build the critical thinking skills and habits needed to master such a difficult task. My fellow students were also a huge help by providing a support network. Without others to share the studying experience with, it would have been much more stressful to prepare for the exam.

Anil Arya and Dave Williams. Both are so smart and even more caring.

How did your Fisher experience help prepare you to excel on the CPA exam?

Given the rigor of the exam and the vast number of people who take it, it really says something that so many people from Fisher won this award. Fisher and the MAcc program prepared me by not focusing solely on the technical knowledge I needed to pass. Instead, the program helped me build the critical thinking skills and habits needed to master such a difficult task. My fellow students were also a huge help by providing a support network. Without others to share the studying experience with, it would have been much more stressful to prepare for the exam.

Anil Arya and Dave Williams. Both are so smart and even more caring.
Forty-four minority high school students from across Ohio recently spent a week on campus as part of the Accounting Careers Awareness Program (ACAP-Ohio) at Fisher College of Business. The residency program provides minority students an opportunity to explore careers in accounting and business.

“ACAP-Ohio represents a unique opportunity for the best and brightest minority high school students from throughout Ohio to experience what an accounting and business education at Fisher is all about,” said Trish Jefferson, director of undergraduate admissions and recruitment at Fisher.

In its 22 years of existence, 842 high school students have participated in the ACAP-Ohio program. This year’s class marked the 20th cohort of students to attend the program at Ohio State. Students explored varieties of accounting fields; learned career management skills such as résumé writing, networking and interviewing; heard from a number of influential speakers; and participated in a college fair.

“For 20 years, Fisher College of Business has proudly served as an ACAP-Ohio partner to connect high school students with enriching experiences in accounting and business here at Ohio State,” said David Harrison, director of Fisher’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion Student Services and Corporate and Community Outreach. “Every year I am amazed by the quality of the students who attend ACAP-Ohio and by those who choose to continue their education at Fisher. We are grateful to all the partners who have helped make this a program a success for these future leaders.”

The annual program provides a number of students with unique insights into careers in accounting and business and showcases Fisher College of Business and The Ohio State University as a destination for a premier business education.

ACAP-Ohio continues tradition of excellence
Annual program introduces minority high school students to careers in accounting

ACAP-Ohio
BY THE NUMBERS

- Years the ACAP-Ohio program has been in existence (20 at Fisher): 22
- Minority high school applicants to the 2016 ACAP-Ohio program: 86
- High school students selected to participate in the 2016 ACAP-Ohio program: 45
- High schools represented the 2016 ACAP-Ohio program: 34
- Ohio cities represented in the 2016 ACAP-Ohio program: 25
- Fisher graduates who have served as ACAP-Ohio coordinator: 15
- Total scholarship amount awarded in 2016: $5,000
ACAP STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

“I've realized that getting an accounting degree gives me the flexibility to do a lot of things within business. I would love to do external auditing and be able to travel.”
—David Carlton
Lakeside High School (Ashtabula)

“My dad went into medicine, but he’s always said he wished he'd gone into accounting. So he encouraged me to check it out. It’s appealing to me because it provides financial freedom and allows me to get involved with personal interests like foreign languages and cultures.”
—Sarah Khoury
Hilliard Davidson High School (Hilliard)

“I didn’t know that accounting had so many facets to it. This program has really opened my eyes to all the possibilities that accounting can be.”
—Deja Malone
Summit Country Day School (Cincinnati)

“I've been interested in business and the financial fields my entire life. My father’s a CPA, my mother works in human resources at a local hospital and my sister just graduated with a degree in finance. My family is business-oriented. I thought this program would be a great opportunity to get some exposure to business, see the campus and check out this great business school.”
—Carson Miller
Archbishop Hoban High School (Akron)

“I plan on attending Fisher to study accounting, so I wanted to learn some things that I know I would need in the fall. I've learned that accounting isn't really math-based, but that it incorporates so many other skills. I like how it challenges you to think analytically.”
—Oluwaseyi Adeyemi
Franklin Heights High School (Columbus)

“Go.osu.edu/ACAPOhio
Student Internship Spotlight

Lindy Gill

Lindy Gill, a senior majoring in management information systems who's scheduled to graduate in 2017, spent her summer interning with PwC’s Risk Assurance group in New York City. While there, she tested IT controls of a high-value payment system. She also assessed the functionality and effectiveness of the payment system by testing system and application controls for security of data, accurate data transmission, and compliance with policies and procedures. By providing a strong foundation of knowledge, Lindy’s experience at Fisher prepared her for the challenges of an internship with one of the world’s largest multinational banking and financial services companies.

“My accounting knowledge helped me to understand the bigger picture of the work I did,” she said. “It helped me to see how the controls I tested affected the bottom line of financial statements. My MIS background made understanding the system and processes much easier; I knew where to look for weaknesses and was able to ask the right questions when looking for potential risks. Fisher helped me feel confident in my ability to interact in a professional environment. In return, my internship has prepared me for a career by giving me the opportunity to gain real-life experience and receive real-time feedback to help me determine which skills I would like to acquire or enhance for the future.”

“FISHER HELPED ME FEEL CONFIDENT IN MY ABILITY TO INTERACT IN A PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT.”

John Parkinson

John Parkinson, an accounting student scheduled to graduate in 2018, spent the summer as an audit intern at Deloitte. He had the opportunity to gain experience with a real estate investment trust headquartered in Midtown Manhattan, where he worked on the entity’s second quarterly review and filing, as well as a variety of other projects.

Thanks to his experience as a Fisher student, John was entrusted with responsibilities that would typically be given to a person in his or her first or second year in the field. “Fisher’s accounting program is excellent. It provides the skills and knowledge for successful internships and future careers because emphasis is given to more than just the topics of accounting,” he said. “In classes, we are asked to critically think and develop presentation skills. Throughout my internship, I found myself using these skills to develop work papers included in the audit file, to present in client meetings, and to navigate tasks in subject areas that I had never seen before.”

“EMPHASIS IS GIVEN TO MORE THAN JUST THE TOPICS OF ACCOUNTING. WE ARE ASKED TO CRITICALLY THINK AND DEVELOP PRESENTATION SKILLS.”

[go.osu.edu/AMISUndergrad]
Students experience San Francisco
as part of Fisher’s annual Accounting Honors trip

Thirteen Accounting Honors students traveled to San Francisco to gain insights and industry experience and to network with accounting alumni at leading companies. Led by Professor Tzachi Zach, the students spent a week visiting the offices of Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC—the Big Four public accounting firms, as well as meeting with associates at BDO, Western Digital, Uber and TPG Capital.

“This trip is a great opportunity for students to get a feel for the Big Four and companies outside of public accounting. Our week of travel provided a unique opportunity to ask real questions in a small-group setting. It allowed for more authentic discussion and better networking,” said student Elizabeth Dudek. “I also found the trip extremely helpful in opening my eyes to the career opportunities that I hadn’t previously considered. Taking this trip gave me a sense of confidence about trying new things and pushing myself to explore all of my options when considering my career path.”

The students met with Accounting Honors alumni Ibi Krukrubo, of EY, Michael Renn, of Uber, and Colin Whiteman and Jeff Fox of PwC. In addition, they visited with Fisher alumnus Steve Milligan, CEO of Western Digital.

Meetings with alumni and other business professionals introduced students to potential career paths and provided advice for their future plans. “This trip helps students get a glimpse of their very promising futures and appreciate the long-term value of the foundation and exposure you get from the Accounting Honors program,” said Krukrubo (BA ’02), an audit partner at EY. “I hope it gave them a sense of the richness of the opportunities and experiences that are available to them. My wife, Tasha DuBose (MAcc ’04), is also a graduate of Fisher, and we reflect with fondness on the memories, education and foundation we received there. Hosting the students was special for us, and I appreciated the opportunity to spend time with this group of very talented students.”

The group also experienced the sights of San Francisco, attending a Giants game, exploring Chinatown, touring Alcatraz and visiting several museums. The trip to San Francisco marked the fourth such Accounting Honors trip; previous trips included Chicago, New York City and London.

“Our week of travel provided a unique opportunity to ask real questions in a small group setting. It allowed for more authentic discussion and better networking.”

—Elizabeth Dudek

“Our trip was a great experience for me, but most importantly for the students,” said Associate Professor and MAcc Program Director Tzachi Zach, who accompanied the students on the trip. “Many of the students experienced, for the first time, what a big city environment is like. Some alumni were able to connect with students in an informal setting to address many of their questions. The variety of opportunities for the students was amazing.”
The Omicron chapter of Beta Alpha Psi is a student honors organization at Fisher that enhances the university educational experience by providing interaction with practitioners; conducting technical and personal development programs through campus, regional and national meetings; and promoting and encouraging community service. It recognizes outstanding academic achievements in the field of accounting and finance; promotes the study and practice of accounting and finance; provides opportunities for self-development and association among members and practicing accounting and finance professionals; and encourages a sense of ethical, social and public responsibility.

Approximately 35 members regularly participated in BAP events throughout the 2015–16 academic year. Membership in Beta Alpha Psi recognizes students’ scholastic and professional accomplishments and acknowledges their capacity for professional success.

During the academic year, Beta Alpha Psi worked to maintain the group’s commitment to community service through volunteering. A large portion of members were certified at the advanced level within the IRS and participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) to file tax returns for local low-income families. Additionally, they partnered with KPMG for a book drive, where members collected books and helped distribute them to schools in the Columbus area.

Beta Alpha Psi’s largest event took place in April, when new members were inducted and the Distinguished Alumni Award was presented. Seventeen new members were inducted, and Jonathan Glover (BSBA ’88, PhD ’92), now a professor at Columbia University, was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. This prestigious award, established in 1967, is given to former Omicron chapter members who have achieved outstanding personal and professional development and serve as excellent models for Beta Alpha Psi members.
## Undergraduate Class of 2016 Career Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salary Information</th>
<th>Accounting</th>
<th>Information Systems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Salary</td>
<td>$52,009</td>
<td>$58,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Salary</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$58,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary Range</td>
<td>$33,000–$95,000</td>
<td>$32,000–$80,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Geographic Distribution**

- Beijing, China
- Seoul, South Korea

**Companies Making Multiple Offers**

- Amazon
- BDO USA LLP
- Cardinal Health
- Cohen & Company
- Crowe Horwath LLP
- Deloitte
- EY
- Fifth Third Bank
- Ford Motor Company
- GBQ Holdings LLC
- Grant Thornton LLP
- JPMorgan Chase
- KPMG
- Marathon Petroleum Company
- Nationwide
- Plante Moran
- PNC
- PwC
- Reynolds & Reynolds
- RSM US LLP
- Schneider Downs
- WP Glimcher
What is your favorite business school-related memory from Ohio State/Fisher?

The MAcc Autumn Reception stands out for me, although I have a lot of great memories from this year. Arya’s speech was hilarious and essentially a roast of many of the students and faculty; Pat Turner read a very entertaining poem of his own creation; and Emily Topp (a MAcc alum and one of my future coworkers at Plante Moran) gave a great speech about what to expect following graduation.

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?

It’s impossible to mention just one faculty member—if I had to name a top 10 of instructors I’ve had through college, law school and the MAcc program, odds are good that at least seven of those spots would go to MAcc faculty. Stephanie Lewis is fantastic in the tax department, both in the classroom and with her involvement in various extracurricular events like the VITA program. Tzachi Zach’s research class was one of the most interesting courses I’ve taken in any subject. Anil Arya is without question the most caring, involved program director I have ever encountered, and an excellent instructor as well.

Which Ohio State/Fisher programs made a significant impact in your life? Why?

The entire Office of Career Management and all of the events that they organized were incredibly helpful, and were invaluable in finding the job I’m very much looking forward to starting after graduation. Steve Singer especially was extremely proactive in making sure we were prepared for interviews, had plenty of opportunity to connect with recruiters, and knew exactly what to expect throughout the process.

Why did you choose your area of study at Fisher?

I was looking to transition from law to a field distinct enough to be an interesting challenge but useful in combination with the degree I already had. I had frequently seen accounting on top 10 lists of fastest job growth and career security, and it seemed like a good fit given my background. I liked that it was a little more specialized than a general business degree, especially given the flexibility to take electives in other areas offered by Fisher.

What are your professional plans following graduation?

I will be joining the tax department at Plante Moran here in Columbus.
Kunjue Wang

What is your favorite business school-related memory from Ohio State/Fisher?
During the MAcc orientation, we had the opportunity to participate in outdoor team-building activities. The experience was all about teamwork, communication and trust. I had to learn to rely on others and be creative in order to successfully finish various tasks within a time limit. The activities were also about going outside of one’s comfort zone. I tried the 55-foot rope zip line, which I didn’t plan to do; it was a little scary, but I am still glad that I challenged myself.

Why did you choose your area of study at Fisher?
I didn’t have a clear preference for a major when I applied for colleges. I thought that business might be a good start due to some family influences, so I first came to Ohio State as a pre-business student. My freshman year experiences were critical in deciding my area of study, as I constantly attended events to discover what people do in different fields. Gradually, my strong interest in analytical thinking brought me toward accounting and finance, but I was hesitant to choose one over the other. Later, I received an invitation from the Accounting Honors program to attend its information session and to apply for the first introductory class. My positive initial experience with this program and its faculty was the deciding factor for my choice in major.

Which Ohio State/Fisher programs made a significant impact in your life? Why?
Ohio State and Fisher equipped me with tremendous and valuable knowledge for my future career. I also learned to tackle problems on my own, to always take initiative, to think deeper, and to have a great work ethic. The Accounting Honors program had the most significant impact on me as it completely changed my understanding of accounting. I would not have chosen my current path without it. I am also grateful to the MAcc program for further developing my social skills and expanding my horizons.

What are your professional plans after graduation?
I am continuing my education as a PhD student in accounting at Columbia University.
Kim Maples

What is your favorite business school-related memory from Ohio State/Fisher?
My favorite business school-related memory is participating in MAcc Gives Back. I went with a group of MAcc students to volunteer at the Capital Area Humane Society, and we not only got to learn about the great work they do, but we also helped clean up the shelter and put together pamphlets for adopters.

Do you have a favorite business faculty member or mentor who helped shape who you are today?
Professor Arya was a great mentor in pushing me to look into other paths that I could take with accounting. Like most accounting students, I had always been told that the regular path was to become a public accountant and then move into private industry. Professor Arya introduced me to the idea of working in fields that involve more conceptual accounting, or possibly pursuing a PhD. These are definitely paths that I will consider as I get farther in my career.

Which Ohio State/Fisher programs made a significant impact in your life? Why?
The MAcc program itself has really impacted how I see accounting and my future career as an auditor. My undergraduate studies helped build that basis of accounting, but the MAcc program delved more into knowledge that will be directly applicable to my job.

Why did you choose your area of study at Fisher?
Accounting has clicked with me since I took my first introductory course in my undergraduate studies. I wanted to continue learning about accounting topics that are more complex and a little grayer than what I learned in pursuing my bachelor’s, and getting a master’s degree also helps me in attaining my CPA certification.

What are your professional plans following graduation?
I will be starting with KPMG full-time as an audit associate in Miami, Florida.
The MAcc Association is a group formed each year by the incoming Master of Accounting students. The association places an emphasis on student leadership in community service. The students organize several community service opportunities each year. Students, faculty and staff participate, creating a bond rooted in bettering the community. The organization’s largest event is MAcc Gives Back, where students, faculty, and staff visit local nonprofits for a day of service. Nonprofit organizations vary each year, and 2016 included organizations such as the Capital Area Humane Society, Boys and Girls Club of Columbus, Franklin Park Conservatory, COSI, Meals on Wheels and many more.

The group also participates in the Financial Education Teaches Children Healthy Habits (FETCH!) program hosted by the Ohio Society of CPAs, where students visit local elementary schools to facilitate a game that teaches budgeting, smart spending and saving for the future. In 2016, they served fifth-grade students at the Columbus Gifted Academy. Students in the MAcc Association also leads the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which offers free tax preparation to low- to moderate-income households. During the 2016 tax season, volunteers served 291 clients, helping them claim $417,656 in refunds and saving them an estimated $58,200 in preparation fees.

“I have used VITA services for the last 10 years. I have never had any issue receiving my refunds. It is a great service. It also helps those of us in the community afford quality income tax preparation on a minimum-wage paycheck.”

—Elaine Williams
Taxpayer and VITA participant

“MAcc volunteers had a huge impact beyond immediate staff and animals here. They stepped in at a time when we, as a community of Animal Welfare Staff, were gearing up to pay our 557 volunteers special tributes as part of the annual National Volunteer Appreciation Week. By helping us prepare a slam-dunk of a Volunteer

Week, the volunteers saw just how much they are appreciated, which translates into more smiles, more playtime with the pups, more cuddle time with the kittens, which bubbles over to happier and healthier animals, who grab the attention of potential adopters, who find a new friend to take home. The adopters see just how loved our animals are and, all because the MAcc group helped, we get more people who want to volunteer and continue this ripple effect!”

—Amy Stover
Volunteer Programs Manager, Capital Area Humane Society

“FETCH! is a really quick, fun way to introduce kids to financial literacy. It complements another financial literacy program that we use for our fourth graders, so it’s great to have a collaborative program between the university and what’s already established at our school. Most importantly though, I’m so appreciative of the FETCH! program and volunteers because the game actually helps me to teach many of the state standards in the economic strand that I might struggle to get to on my own without their help.”

—Debbie Ferrell
Teacher, Columbus Gifted Academy

FETCH! is a really quick, fun way to introduce kids to financial literacy. It complements another financial literacy program that we use for our fourth graders, so it’s great to have a collaborative program between the university and what’s already established at our school. Most importantly though, I’m so appreciative of the FETCH! program and volunteers because the game actually helps me to teach many of the state standards in the economic strand that I might struggle to get to on my own without their help.”

—Debbie Ferrell
Teacher, Columbus Gifted Academy
The annual EY MAcc Speaker Series helps students develop a richer understanding of the complex world they will confront as professionals. The 2015–2016 series featured the insights of renowned experts from a variety of industries, addressing topics to inspire and educate students. Issues discussed included leadership skills, auditing practices, professionalism in electronic communications, work-life balance, ethics, new accounting regulations, and insights about organizations where speakers held positions.

Major Joseph Da Silva
Instructor
United States Military Academy

Major Joseph Da Silva currently serves as an instructor of international relations in the Department of Social Sciences at the United States Military Academy. He is a 2002 graduate of West Point and has been on active duty service since his graduation. As an infantry officer, he deployed four times on overseas service. He subsequently attended the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, where he earned his master’s degree in international economics and strategic studies.

Thomas J. Linsmeier was appointed as a member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) in July 2006, and reappointed to a second term in 2011. An award-winning teacher and researcher with particular expertise in financial reporting for derivatives and risk management activities, Linsmeier was formerly the Russell E. Palmer Endowed Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Accounting and Information Systems at Michigan State University. He has also served as academic fellow and special consultant to the Office of the Chief Accountant at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Linsmeier has served as chairman of the Financial Accounting Standards Committee and president of the Financial Accounting and Reporting section of the American Accounting Association. He received his PhD and MBA degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his BBA degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Tom Linsmeier
Board Member
Financial Accounting Standards Board

Dave Yost works to build a legacy of fighting fraud. Since 2011, he has helped to turn more than 80 corrupt public officials into convicted criminals and has identified nearly $19 million in stolen and misspent tax money. After taking on student attendance data rigging in his first term, he is currently working to bring increased accountability to Ohio’s charter schools. Yost also helps state government, local communities and schools become more efficient through performance audits. He also recently launched the ShareOhio program to help communities share heavy equipment and save tax dollars. Yost earned his undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and his law degree from Capital University. A former Columbus Citizen Journal reporter, he moved into public service as Delaware County’s auditor and prosecutor.

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
State of Ohio

Auditor Dave Yost
Larry Katzen is an entrepreneur, a businessman and an author. After graduating from Drake University in 1967, he started working at Arthur Andersen. He quickly rose through the ranks to eventually become the Great Plains regional managing partner. He stayed with the firm for 35 years, serving clients on five continents (North America, Australia, Europe, Asia and Africa) until the firm’s demise in 2002. Since leaving Andersen, Katzen has served as a member of the board of directors for three public companies and three privately held companies.

Susan Blasik-Miller is a trial lawyer with extensive experience defending physicians, hospitals, long-term care providers, businesses and employers in a wide variety of cases. She has tried cases in both state and federal courts throughout Ohio. In addition to her trial practice, she advises businesses and health care professionals regarding minimization of risk. She lectures on the topics of trial advocacy, health care risk management and professional malpractice liability. Blasik-Miller also represents physicians and nurses in license investigations and disciplinary proceedings before the Ohio State Medical Board and the Ohio Board of Nursing. From 2006 to 2016, she was named one of the “Best Lawyers in America”; she was also recently named a fellow by the Litigation Counsel of America.

“The MAcc talks were each engaging, enjoyable and valuable in different ways. I was able to apply these presentations to my own life, as they augmented my professional skills and helped me decide my own possible career path. The MAcc talks were something that I looked forward to each time I saw one on the schedule. I am grateful that each speaker took time to speak to our class.”

—Ryan Hochberg (MAcc ’16)
MAcc Class of 2016 Career Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Salary</th>
<th>Median Salary</th>
<th>Companies Making Multiple Offers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$53,445</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
<td>Cohen &amp; Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Signing Bonus</td>
<td>Salary Range</td>
<td>Crowe Horwath LLP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,350</td>
<td>$40,000–$70,000</td>
<td>Deloitte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates with Bonuses</td>
<td>Graduates with Job Offers</td>
<td>EY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>Grant Thornton LLP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates with Job Offers</td>
<td>Domestic Graduates with Job Offers</td>
<td>KPMG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Plante Moran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PwC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RSM US LLP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates with Job Offers: 79%
Domestic Graduates with Job Offers: 95%
International Graduates with Job Offers: 61%

Geographic Distribution:

- Beijing, China
- Hong Kong, China
As part of its centennial celebration, Fisher College of Business welcomed back to campus PhD alumni from around the world for a reunion and weekend of industry discussion. The Department of Accounting organized several panel discussions featuring the insights of numerous PhD alumni.

Perspectives on PhD Education
Moderated by faculty member and Ohio State PhD alumnus Rick Young, the panel featured Jonathan Glover (Columbia University), Chris Hogan (Michigan State University), Dan Jensen (Ohio State University) and Gary Taylor (University of Alabama), all Fisher PhD alumni.

The faculty panelists discussed the strengths and unique aspects of the PhD program at Ohio State and how these features have influenced their careers. Their perspectives underscored the unique role the university has played in developing accounting and MIS faculty over the years, and the program’s ability to bring about diverse viewpoints and contributions through its graduates.

Developments in Accounting and MIS Education at Ohio State
Moderated by J. Richard Dietrich, chair of the Department of Accounting and MIS, the discussion highlighted the variety of programs offered by the department and the ways in which the department leverages its excellent staff and faculty in providing innovative and diverse programming. It also provided an opportunity for alumni to offer input on the department’s future and how best to continue the school’s tradition of leadership in accounting and MIS education.

Career Advice
PhD alumni Jeff Yu, Bret Johnson and Reining Petacchi shared their thoughts on starting careers as researchers and teachers. The panel emphasized working with faculty and other PhD students, as well as the merits of focusing on one research topic versus working with many researchers on different topics.

Brown Bag Session
Alumni Reining Petacchi, Henock Louis and Michael Iselin presented their research papers and provided the audience with insights into topics and trends in today’s accounting industry.

Celebrating a Century
Reunion brings back PhD alumni for centennial-year event

Alumnus named dean at Cornell
Mark Nelson (MAcc ’89, PhD ’90) was recently named the 12th dean of the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University.

He joined the faculty at Cornell in 1990 and served as associate dean for academic affairs from 2007 to 2010, a role in which he oversaw the school’s tenure-track faculty and research.

“I’ll always be grateful to the faculty and fellow PhD students at Ohio State for preparing me for my academic career,” Nelson said. “In particular, each week’s research colloquium forced me to critically evaluate research and identify opportunities for improvement. The skills I developed in that workshop helped me with my own research as well as in my role as colleague, reviewer, editor and mentor to PhD students.”

After earning his degrees at Ohio State, Nelson served on the Advisory Council of the Financial Accounting Standards Board for four years and as an area editor for The Accounting Review.
PhD Student Profile  Hailey Ballew

Perspective can play a significant role in guiding a PhD student’s research focus, and Hailey Ballew brings a well-rounded perspective to her studies and research at Fisher.

Before she moved from Colorado to central Ohio with her husband and three kids and enrolled in the accounting PhD program, Ballew earned her CPA license and worked in public accounting at EY as an auditor. She also has private accounting experience, working as a financial reporting and tax manager at Lockton Companies.

“My industry experience has greatly helped to inform my research, mostly by allowing me to understand the institutional details and to shape ideas of questions that might be important to people outside of academia,” Ballew said. “The faculty’s interest in both their own research and in their colleagues’ research is tremendous,” she said. “The intelligence level at Fisher is very high, and on top of that, the attention to detail, to really getting things right and asking and answering important questions, is evident here. There’s a very concentrated effort on doing important and careful research, and I think those traits are a very critical part of our PhD training.”

“Hailey is a great student to have around,” said Darren Roulstone, PhD program director at Fisher. “With experience in public accounting and teaching at the university level, I have a good understanding of what issues might be interesting to explore and knowledge of the details necessary to answer those questions.”

Ballew, who’s now in her third year as a PhD student, considered several programs before deciding on Fisher. Part of what drew her to the college was the quality of research being produced by Fisher faculty members.

“The faculty’s interest in both their own research and in their colleagues’ research is tremendous,” she said. “The intelligence level at Fisher is very high, and on top of that, the attention to detail, to really getting things right and asking and answering important questions, is evident here. There’s a very concentrated effort on doing important and careful research, and I think those traits are a very critical part of our PhD training.”

“Hailey is unusually good at relating her work experience to thinking about research questions,” said Dr. Anne Beatty, Deloitte and Touche Chair in Accounting. “This was apparent during her doctoral course work, where she frequently provided a perspective that was different from those of the other students in the class. This perspective is also very important in her research projects that examine critical institutional features in the financial services industry.”

But Ballew has noticed that quality goes beyond Fisher’s faculty and their research. She’s also been impressed with the caliber of the Master of Accounting students and students she’s worked with from the Accounting Honors program. Prior to Fisher and her work as a CPA, Ballew attended the University of Kansas for both her undergraduate and master’s degrees, where she initially gained teaching experience. She also taught auditing, financial accounting and managerial accounting at the University of Colorado-Denver in the MBA program.

“The level of commitment that I’ve seen in the Fisher students I have worked with has been impressive,” she said. “They’ve set in our seminars, participated in conversations and shown up even when they’re not getting credit. Their exposure to and interest in accounting research is a key difference from the students I have previously encountered.”

Ballew’s research interest has been focused on the financial services industry, particularly banking and broker-dealer firms. She and her colleagues have studied the impact of federal regulatory costs and how they impact banks and influence the drive for mergers of smaller banks to achieve economies of scale, which are necessary to remain viable in the highly competitive industry. She has also been studying the influence of investment activities in banks through their broker-dealer subsidiaries, and the impact of listing choices on bank outcomes.

The research experience at Fisher has been positive, Ballew noted, because of the curious nature of the faculty members and the level of support she’s received from her peers.

“They’re open to our ideas and what our background leads us into,” she said. “It’s given me the flexibility to explore what I’m interested in.”

Her PhD studies keep her very busy, but when she’s not reading accounting papers, she enjoys spending time with her family, snow skiing and running.

“The intelligence level at Fisher is very high, and on top of that, the attention to detail, to really getting things right and asking and answering important questions, is evident here.”

—Hailey Ballew

go.osu.edu/AMISPhD
The Accounting and MIS PhD program aims to help students prepare for productive careers as faculty members at leading research-oriented universities. The program currently boasts nine students. In the 2015–2016 academic year, PhD alumna Allison Nicoletti received a faculty position at The University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business.

Mary Cowx and Sean Kannengieser joined the program for the start of the 2016–2017 academic year.

**Mary Cowx**  
BBA in Accounting, Kent State University  
MA in Taxation, University of Akron  

“I chose Ohio State because of the business school’s excellent reputation, impressive group of research-active faculty and recent success in placing PhD candidates.”

**Sean Kannengieser**  
BA in Economics and Biochemistry, Rice University  
MS in Accountancy, CUNY-Baruch College  

“I chose Ohio State’s PhD program in Accounting because Ohio State has an active and distinguished accounting faculty with an expertise in research areas that overlap with my own broad interests. In addition, my discussions with the faculty and PhD students when I visited campus indicated to me that Ohio State would be a great place to be a PhD student.”
Jennifer Phipps

When Jennifer Phipps graduated from Fisher in 2003 with both her bachelor’s and Master of Accounting degrees, she began a career not unlike many other young accountants who start out working for a Big Four firm. But more than six years after beginning her work at EY, she knew she was ready for a change.

That’s when she started a new phase in her accounting career at Cardinal Health, a Fortune 500 health care company based in Dublin, Ohio. After more than seven years in corporate accounting, she has no regrets about making the transition.

“After starting my career working for a Big Four firm, I decided I wanted to seek out new opportunities,” she said. “At Cardinal, I love being able to make a difference in my organization, and I’m getting to work as a business partner on the front end of decisions rather than reacting to other people’s decisions.”

Transitioning into corporate accounting gave Phipps new opportunities for involvement and the chance to explore different aspects of accounting that she hadn’t had exposure to previously. She’s now director of pharmaceutical accounting at the company, and she believes that her Fisher degrees prepared her to succeed in her career by teaching her how to solve problems.

“I wasn’t just learning about the rules of accounting; I was thinking through problems,” she said. “Accounting often involves judgment. It’s not just black and white; there’s a lot of gray within the discipline.”

Learning to balance career and family can be a challenge for any working professional, but Phipps approaches the work-life balancing act by looking at it from a broader perspective.

“I think of it as more a question of ‘Am I getting to fulfill the accomplishments I want to from both a personal and professional perspective?’” she said. “Some weeks may be balanced more toward work, while others may be balanced more toward family. I try to prioritize and deliver on my commitments, so setting priorities and figuring out how to accomplish them is key.”

Phipps typically returns to campus each year to speak to accounting students, where she recommends they work hard and ask plenty of questions—no matter what field they choose.

“Be open to new challenges and opportunities,” she said. “Don’t be so set in your career that you miss out on other opportunities.”

She also stays in contact with several of the faculty she met during her time at Fisher.

“I had very engaged faculty members who cared about me and my career,” she said. “They helped me navigate college and today are still people I very much enjoy keeping in touch with.”

Phipps lives in Canal Winchester, Ohio, with her husband, James, and their three children.

“"I wasn’t just learning about the rules of accounting; I was thinking through problems. Accounting often involves judgment. It’s not just black and white; there’s a lot of gray within the discipline." —Jennifer Phipps
Donor Honor Roll

We recognize and thank the following donors for their contributions to the Department of Accounting and MIS during the 2015–2016 academic year. Your generous support ensures the continued success of our academic programs for future generations.

AMIS ALUMNI

Douglas J. (1962 BSBA) and Sarah O. Abbott
Dr. Matthew F. (1993 BSBA) and Elaisor R. Alvarez
Melissa D. (1992 BSBA) and Curtis L. Ashley
Julie G. (1977 BSBA) and Leonard V. Assante
John M. (2010 M) and Eva Baderstcher
Dr. Andrew D. Bailey (1971 PhD) and Irene S. Fennito
Diana R. (1987 BSBA) and William H. Ballard
Jeffrey S. Balmer (1997 BSBA) and Dean D. Barr (1972 BSBA) and Jennifer York-Bar

John L. (1977 BSBA) and John C. (1989 BSBA) and Judy G. (1977 BSBA) and George C. (1969 BSBA) and continued success of our academic programs for future generations.

Accounting and MIS during the 2015–2016 academic year. Your generous support ensures the

AMIS FRIENDS

Randal C. and Lori Z. Anstre
Anil Arya and Bade V. Guney
Philip B. and Ann M. Bartlett
Leonard E. and Rebecca A. Berry
Stephen C. and Tamara A. Blowers
Thomas H. and Sharon G. Brinker
Jason C. and Jessica M. Cran
Donna L. Cross

Dr. J. Richard and Carolyn N. Deitch
Dr. David L. Ebischer
Joseph E. and Patricia A. Ellingr
Alyssa N. Fry
Amanda J. Gitlen
Robert M. and Linda H. Haubricht
Joel T. Heinen
Grant and Virginia B. Hellwarth
Thomas L. Kugl
Harry L. Krieger
Donald R. McCue and Carol A. Korcan
James P. Ross
Thomas and Elizabeth Bubkal
Dr. Douglas A. Schroeder
Sanjay K. and Rita Sehgal
Robert M. and Linda H. Haubricht

Terasa J. Ziegler
Thomas J. and Tami Van Tassell

Great care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please alert us to any errors or omissions by contacting the college at givetolfe@kent.edu.

Terasa J. Ziegler

Great care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please alert us to any errors or omissions by contacting the college at givetolfe@kent.edu.
Give Back to Fisher
The George C. and Ruby Biehl Honors Accounting Scholarship Fund

Created to honor the legacy of Thomas J. Burns, the George C. and Ruby Biehl Honors Accounting Scholarship Fund provides critical support to Fisher’s Accounting Honors program and scholarship support to Accounting Honors students.

The fund is named for George Biehl and his wife, Ruby. George served in a number of leadership positions at Southwest Gas Corp. from 1990 to 2010, including chief financial officer, executive vice president, senior vice president and corporate secretary. Additionally, he spent 16 years in a number of roles at the former Deloitte Haskins & Sells (now Deloitte & Touche).

George and Ruby live in Las Vegas, where George is a member of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Las Vegas Program. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and serves on various committees of several trade associations. He graduated with a degree in accounting from The Ohio State University in 1969.

The Impact of Giving

“Scholarship support has encouraged me to continue pushing myself in my education. I’m reminded why I work so hard on a daily basis. It is inspiring to know that my hard work does not go unnoticed.”
—Taylor Ruby
Accounting student

AMIS Rankings

RESEARCH RANKINGS:

2nd globally in leading journal publications 2010–2015
Brigham Young University Accounting Research Rankings

10th worldwide in top three accounting journal publications 2010–2015
The University of Texas at Dallas Research Rankings

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM RANKINGS:

14th in the nation
U.S. News & World Report 2017

8th in the nation (5th among public universities, tie)
Public Accounting Report 2016

MACC PROGRAM RANKINGS:

9th in the nation (6th among public universities)
Public Accounting Report 2016

PHD PROGRAM RANKINGS:

15th in the nation (12th among public universities)
Public Accounting Report 2016
Stay in touch

We would love to hear from you with recent professional developments to include in the next edition of AMIS Review. Be sure to include a photo, your graduation year and the name of your degree.

alumni@fisher.osu.edu go.osu.edu/AMISReview

Accounting Advisory Board
Craig Marshall, Chair, EY
Corrine Burger, JPMorgan Chase
Max S. Carrier, KPMG
David Evans, Battelle
Don Kimbie, KeyCorp
Matt Kramer, KPMG
Stu Laws, Cardinal Health
Todd Layfer, L. A. Freierman’s Relief Association
John P. McEwan, Deloitte & Touche
Reginald Momah, The Hanover Insurance Group
Michael A. Petrecca, PwC
Peter S. Richards, NetJets
Michael S. Thompson, Deloitte & Touche
Tami Van Tassell, PwC
Mike Voinovich, BDO
Melinda B. Whittington, Allscripts
Scott Wiley, Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants
Lisa Young, EY

Accounting and MIS Faculty and Staff

Professors
Anil Arya, John J. Gerlach Chair in Accounting
Anne Beatty, Deloitte & Touche Chair in Accounting
J. Richard Dietrich, Department Chair
John C. Fellmingham, H.P. Wolfe Chair in Accounting
Brian G. Mittendorf, Fisher College of Business
- Distinguished Professor
Waheed A. Muhanna
Darren T. Rouliostone, Fisher College of Business
Distinguished Professor and PhD Program Director
Lawrence A. Tomassini
Richard A. Young, Accounting Honors
- Program Director and Beta Alpha Psi Advisor

Associate Professors
Samuel B. Bonsall IV
Douglas A. Schroeder
Eric E. Spires
Andrew Van Buskirk
David E. Wallin
Xue Wang
David D. Williams
Tzachi Zach, MAcc Program Director
Haiwen (Helen) Zhang

Assistant Professors
Zahn Bozanic
Sopha J.W. Hamm
Xiaol (Shaolee) Tian

Emeritus Professors
William F. Bentz
Pai-Cheng (PC) Chu
Daniel L. Jensen
James C. Kinard
Felix P. Kollantsch
Raymond J. Krasniewski
Richard J. Murdoch

Senior Lecturers
Bruce Barnes
Alan Lado
Stephanie L. Lewis, Assistant Department Chair and VITA Program Advisor
Marc H. Smith
Cynthia W. Turner
Patrick A. Turner
Robert Whittington

Lecturers
Chris Debo
Jerry Esselstein
Jeffrey Gabriel
Douglas Huffner
Krish Krishnasamy

Staff
Amber Coffey, Program Assistant
Kaylin Ward, Academic Program Coordinator

AMIS Review Contributors
Joe Arnold
Amber Coffey
Tom Meehan
Autumn Theodore
Kaylin Ward