

SACRED HEART
UNIVERSITY



JACK WELCH COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Heart *in* Accounting

Journal Entry from the Chair



Big Dream and Hard-work in the Year of Red Monkey: God-gifted talents year!

As we begin the year of 'Red' Monkey,' the year of endless talents, I am pleased to present an inaugural issue of Heart in Accounting. Believe it or not it's my 17th year at SHU. Dur-



ing these years, University has shown remarkable progress and Jack Welch College of Business becomes a premier high quality business education institution for its both graduate and undergraduate programs.

The Department of Accounting and Information Systems recently ranked No. 2 in the State of Connecticut. Our Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program started only a year ago attracts high quality candidates and has shown fruitful accomplishments

with relatively high professional exam passing rates and excellent job placement records.

Dedicated and passionate

faculty, hard-working students and supporting parents can move the mountain, TOGETHER!!!

"Without a Big Dream No Need to do Hard-work, Without Hard-work No need to Dream" is my college year motto which is continued to be preached in my classes. I wish and hope all our accounting graduates have a Big dream, achieve their dreams with hard-work and make a positive meaningful contributions to the our world.

Eunsup Shim

Eunsup Daniel Shim, Ph.D.

Chair of Accounting and Information Systems

SHU's Accounting Ranked 2nd in CT

Hard work and dedication has paid off. Congratulations to Accounting professors and students. Accounting Degree Review, an independent resource for existing and potential accounting and finance students, ranked SHU's accounting program at the Jack Welch College of Business second overall in its top 10 Undergraduate Accounting Program rankings for the state of Connecticut. Rankings were

determined by the school's accreditation, academic quality, cost, return on investment and reputation in the field, according to Accounting Degree Review. "This speaks volumes to the work we have done at the Jack Welch School of Business," said John Chalykoff, Dean.

"The Department of Accounting is providing high-quality education with strong career orientation and professional certifi-

cates (CPA, CMA, CVA). ...The Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program provides a 5th-year master degree and attracts outstanding candidates.... This great work has been recognized by Accounting Degree Review, and I expect more external recognition will come for our fine program." said E. Daniel Shim, professor and chair of the Accounting and Information Systems Department.

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MSA Inside Stories

MSA's Second Cohort Exceeded the Goal.

This year's cohort of our MS Accounting program included a record thirty-four students. The students are from various universities including our own Sacred Heart University, Marist College, Quinnipiac University, Western Connecticut, University of New Haven and Stonehill College.

The MSA program includes a course in the forensic accounting concentration that is part of the education program for a Certified Valuation Analyst Certification. It gives students an introduction to eventually pursuing a CVA designation. We are one

of five universities in the country offering a course tied to this certification offered by the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts (NACVA). The Connecticut Chapter of NACVA is also providing a scholarship opportunity for our students.



Congratulation MSA Class of 2015



MSA's Fall 15 Guest Speakers

Jay Ludy, Finance Director/ Assistant Controller Unilever NA.



Jay holds a BA Accounting from Penn State and an MBA Finance from Pace University and is a licensed CPA in the state of NY. Jay gave an excellent overview of a career in finance/accounting in one of the largest consumer products company in the world, Unilever. He spoke about the company's strategic plans and what it's like to be a senior finance professional in a global organization.

Christine M. Oliver, CPA, Partner Deloitte & Touche LLP

Christine is an audit partner based in Deloitte's Stamford office. She brings 24

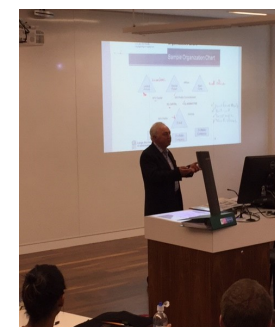
years of experience providing audit and advisory services to several of Deloitte's largest multinational clients, both public and privately held, across a number of



industries. Christine has managed client service teams in more than 20 countries. Her experience includes U.S. GAAP, IFRS and SEC reporting and significant experience advising clients on a diverse range of transactions, including public equity and debt offerings, spin-offs, acquisitions and divestitures. Christine gave the class an excellent presentation on her path and experience to becoming a partner in Deloitte.

Mr. Michael Puglia, M.S., CPA Internal Revenue Service

Michael Puglia has been with the IRS since 1984. His current role is a Team Manager in the Large Business and International Division. He holds degrees in foreign languages and education. He earned his teaching certificate at the University of Connecticut.



Subsequently, He fulfilled his requirements in accounting at the University of New Haven and in 1986

earned the Master of Science Degree in Accounting. He has held the CPA certificate in Connecticut since 1996. Michael gave the class a great presentation on the day in the life of an IRS agent and an excellent overview of careers working for the IRS.

Undergrad Program's Inside Stories

VITA news

The Accounting Department VITA (Voluntary Income Tax Assistance) program, developed and coordinated by the disciplined, diligent and highly intelligent Prof. Danny A. Pannese, is going into its 20th year of operation. Yes, two decades!!! Can you imagine; and Prof. Pannese barely look two days older that when he first started with the program.

In any event, over the past two decades, the Accounting Department VITA program prepared well over 3,200 tax returns for low and lower middle income families

and households. Last tax season, Spring 2015, they prepared over 300 tax returns. This is done with training and help from IRS agents; two of which were recent Sacred Heart University graduates who went and worked for the IRS after graduating.

Students enrolled in the VITA program first receive training from the IRS and are awarded a Certificate upon successfully completing the training program. The VITA program offers our students invaluable experience to interview and interact with actual families from various socio and economic backgrounds; primarily low and lower middle income levels. In

giving of their knowledge, skill and time the students get back so much in return in meeting and speaking with these families and touching their lives. The gratitude, appreciation and thanks from these families oftentimes overwhelm and humble our students.

This year's VITA class, which was filled almost immediately, is capped at 14 students.

Congrats are in order to Prof. Danny A. Pannese, the IRS and the students enrolled in the program. You all make the Accounting Department proud.

IMA SHU Student Chapter

Vincent Santucci, President, IMA SHU Student Chapter

This semester at Sacred Heart University, accounting students with the help of co-advisors Dr. Shim and Professor Scarpati reestablished a student chapter for the Institute of Managerial Accounting (IMA). IMA offers many great opportunities and resources to student members looking to develop a career in accounting. Serving on the inaugural executive board are Vincent Santucci as president, Mario



SHU Students' Presentation at the IMA Coastal Fairfield County Chapter, May 2015

Prassas as vice president, Tim Kelly as Secretary, and Zach Chilelli as treasurer. There are currently 16 founding members of our student chapter, but hopes are high that many more will join in the coming semester as word spreads of the great opportunities available to student members. We are very proud of the leadership and ambition showed by our accounting students here at SHU and can't wait to see what else they can accomplish.

Congratulations for Students' Achievements

Florencia Gelabert – Was recently promoted to “Senior” at Deloitte. Florencia graduated from with an Accounting degree from the College of Business approximately 2 and ½ year ago.

Michael Slaughter – Recently published a motivational book “From failure to Triumph” which has an “Amazon readers” rating of 5 out of 5.

Melissa Bolivar – Achieved an NHA Scholarship.

Alexander Harwood – A recent Accounting graduate received a full time job offer with at BlumShapiro.

Spring 16 Semester Starts!

We are ready!!!



Faculty's Professional Activities

First Federal Tax Institute.



On December 4th, 2015, the Welch College of Business sponsored the first Federal Tax Institute. Approximately 40 CPAs and attorneys attended the 8 hour session. Topics

included a Federal Tax Update (Paul Iannone & Danny Pannese), Foreign financial instrument reporting (David Buckley), Asset Planning & Protection

(Kevin Kelly), Estate Planning for Closely held businesses (Edward Renn) and a Valuation update (Danny Pannese, Edward Pratesi, Dan Fusco & Russ Engel). The institute was organized by Associate Professor Pannese.

Invited Guest Speaker

On November 17th, Dr. Barbara Tarasovich was invited to be a guest speaker at the Institute of Management Accounting (IMA) Coastal Fairfield County Chapter Meeting. Barbara presented

“What’s in your Leadership Toolbox?” a presentation based on her research and her recent article “What’s in Your Leadership Toolbox?” published in the March 2015 edition of “*Strategic Finance*.”



The article summarizes six key competencies Finance and Accounting leaders need to success in our new global economy. The article was based on interviews Barbara and Prof. Lyons conducted with Human Resources and CFO’s of major global corporations.

Faculty's Publications



Eunsup Daniel Shim, Ph.D. published an article entitled “An Empirical Examination of the Relationship between Top Executive Compensation and Firm

Performance in the Post Sarbanes-Oxley Period” in a peer-reviewed journal *Advances in Management Accounting*, Vol. 25, pp. 207-228 (2015). In this article, Dr. Shim and his co-author Euijoo Kim investigated the impact of the Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) Act on top executive compensation and examined the changes in relationship between top executive compensation and corporate performance expectations.

Barbara M. Tarasovich, DPS. has a refereed article titled “What’s In Your Leadership Toolbox”, which appeared in the *Strategic Finance* journal, Vol. 96.9, pp. 40-47 (2015).



Dr. Tarasovich and her co-author finance department faculty Bridget Lyons, PhD. interviewed CFOs and human resources (HR) executives and identified the key required competencies that today’s finance

leaders must have to be successful.

Dr. Tarasovich published another article “The Impact of Patent Cliffs on Acquisition Activity: An Empirical Investigation within the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industries” in the *Journal of Business and Economic Perspectives* (2015). In this study, she empirically examined the likelihood that a company will engage in an acquisition as it approaches the patent cliffs and the impact on acquisition premiums. paid for the acquisition and the proximity to significant patent cliffs was also found to be statistically significant.

Mahfuja Malik, Ph.D. published an article titled “Value-Enhancing Capabilities of CSR: A Brief Review of Contemporary Literature” in the *Journal of Business Ethics*, Vol. 127, Issue 2, pp 419-438 (2015).



In this article, Dr. Malik developed a theory of “value-enhancing-capabilities” of corporate social responsibility (CSR). By using the evidence from real world and synthesizing the literature, she introduced a model,

which demonstrates that firms’ social and environmental initiatives improve the profitability of a firm. Dr. Malik’s another research, “Corporate Governance and Real Earnings Management: The Role of the Board and Institutional Investors”, appeared in a peer-reviewed journal, *Journal of Knowledge Globalization*, Vol. Issue 1, pp 37-87 (2015). In this article, she investigated whether corporate governance can mitigate real earnings management, manipulation of earnings through real activities such as abnormal reduction in R&D and SG&A expenses and abnormal gain on sale of fixed assets.

Editorial Board

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