



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
School of Accountancy

## School of Accountancy Alumni Newsletter | October 2019



### Director's Update

In an effort to best support our alumni community, the Alumni Engagement Council will be hosting a professional development workshop series beginning in November. Please keep an eye on your inbox for registration and additional details. If you have ideas for specific topics you would like to see discussed or if you would like to volunteer to be a presenter, please reply to this email.



Thank you to everyone who attended the School of Accountancy Fall Reception last month. A tradition at the SoA, this reception is held the afternoon prior to the first day of school each fall. Students, professors and alumni gather to mingle, meet new people and reconnect with their network.



The SoA has a new team member! Please join me in welcoming Tara Crampton (pictured, left). Tara is the School of Accountancy's academic advisor. Tara holds a Master of Science in Accountancy from Illinois State University. We are thrilled to welcome her to our School of Accountancy family and look forward to introducing her to you all next time you're on campus.

Best,

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

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## Upcoming Events



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

*Brought to you by the SoA  
Alumni Engagement Council*

November (date TBD)\*

7:30 - 9 a.m.

Daniels College of Business

*Presentations / panel discussions and breakfast*

*\*Date will be announced soon*

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## Get to Know Your Network

### Meet Alumna Olivia Wiss (MAcc 2017)



Olivia Wiss grew up in DU's backyard, in Littleton, Colorado. She points to SoA alumni she met at Beta Alpha Psi and recruiting events as the reason she decided to get her master's degree at the SoA. She explains, "They spoke so highly of the SoA and really sparked my interest in the MAcc program. I was looking for a change and new challenges and the SoA sounded like a great fit."

Wiss especially enjoyed the sense of community at the SoA. "Coming from a larger university, it was definitely a nice change of pace to work so closely with professors and get to know my peers. Both the students and staff were very supportive of each other in the MAcc program and went the extra mile to help me succeed."

The tax classes offered through the MAcc program were crucial to Wiss' career in tax. The classes helped establish a foundation for tax concepts that allowed her to take on different challenges while working in the tax profession. "I also thought the writing and communication aspects that were

ingrained in all classes were essential for working in a professional environment and day-to-day life,” she said.



Wiss’ first job after graduation was at Deloitte Tax LLP. “I worked on the international team for a couple of years and learned a lot about tax and the public accounting industry. It was a valuable and challenging experience and it was a great place to start my career.” Recently, Wiss made a change and joined Armanino LLP, a California-based accounting firm that is new to the Denver area. She is a senior tax associate and works primarily in international tax. “I’m still new to the firm and appreciate the entrepreneurial spirit of the people. Everyone has opportunities to pursue what they are interested in and having a company that supports that was what really got me interested in the company. I am excited to work with the new team to build a culture and a presence in the Denver market,” Wiss said.

Outside of work, Wiss likes to hike, camp and get outdoors in general. She loves music and enjoys playing the piano and going to concerts during her free time. “I also recently began volunteering at Freedom Service Dogs, a nonprofit devoted to rescuing dogs and training them as service dogs for people with disabilities and veterans with PTSD.” As for the future, Wiss plans to continue to learn and grow personally and professionally.

### **Alumni Notes**



Congratulations to **Catherine G. (Parr) Turner (BSAcc 1985)** who just published her first book, "Mama Mae." Turner spent the majority of her life in Colorado Springs and now resides in Maryland with her family, where she is actively involved in her church, the military community and her entrepreneurial passions surrounding financial literacy empowerment. More information about "Mama Mae" can be found on [Turner's website](#).



Congratulations to **Mallory (Blanchard) Schmitz (BSAcc, MAcc 2014)** who recently accepted a position as an investor relations manager at VF Corporation.

### **Job Opportunities and Professional Development**

The Alumni Career and Professional Development office at the University of Denver is hosting events open to all University of Denver alumni.

- Oct. 10: StrengthsFinder Workshop: Discover Your Talents & Develop Your Strengths - Learn more and register [here](#).
- Oct. 23: Live Webinar: David Morelli - Leader Coach - Learn more and register [here](#).
- Oct. 29: Connecting DU: Careers in Policy, Politics & Campaigns - Learn more and register [here](#).

Please see [du.edu/pioneer-careers](http://du.edu/pioneer-careers) for additional job opportunities.

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## HAVE ANY EXCITING NEWS?

Promotions, marriages, new babies, major moves, job changes or awards? Let us know! We'll share the news with your alumni family in the alumni notes section of the newsletter.

Email [kristen.dimig@du.edu](mailto:kristen.dimig@du.edu) with any updates.



## UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have a new email address, recently moved, changed employment, got married or have other information to update, please do so [here](#).

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## On the Lighter Side - Humor from the Grove

A sign in a shoe repair store in Vancouver reads:

"We will heel you. We will save your sole. We will even dye for you."

A sign on a blinds and curtains truck:

"Blind man driving."

At an optometrist's office:

"If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

On a plumber's truck:

"Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."

In a non-smoking area:

"If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and will take appropriate action."

At a car dealership:

"The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."

In a veterinarian's waiting room:

"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

Take time to laugh. It's the music of the soul.

[View in browser](#)



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