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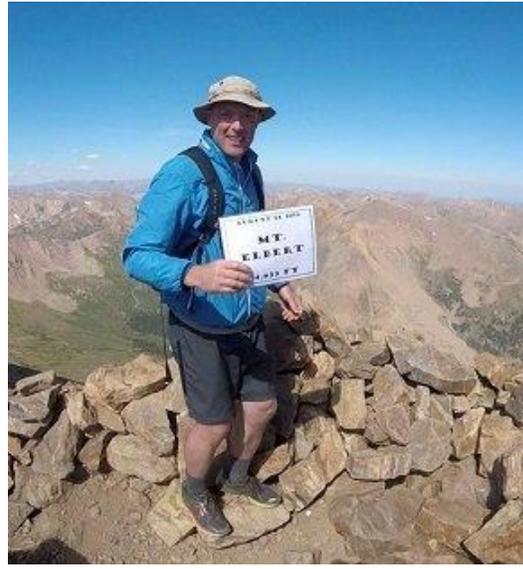
DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
School of Accountancy

School of Accountancy Alumni Newsletter | September 2019



Director's Update

Please join us in welcoming three new faculty members to the School of Accountancy.



Adam Booker, PhD, joins the School of Accountancy this fall as an assistant professor. Booker comes to the University after successfully defending his dissertation, “Collaborative Speculation and Overvaluation: Evidence from Social Media,” this past spring at the University of Arkansas where he was a distinguished doctoral fellow. At the University of Arkansas he earned his Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree in 2008, his Master of Information Systems in 2014 and his Master of Accountancy in 2015. While in his doctoral program, he taught intermediate accounting and accounting information systems to undergraduate students. Prior to his time at the University of Arkansas, Booker served in the Army and worked as an electrical engineer. Booker’s research focuses on financial accounting, social media and information systems. He is interested in how crowdsourced information reflects investor beliefs and influences markets. In addition to teaching and research, he enjoys hiking, traveling, running and spending time with family. Booker plans to hike all of the Colorado fourteeners.



George Ruch, PhD, joins the School of Accountancy this fall as an assistant professor after serving four years as an assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma's Steed School of Accounting. He earned his bachelor of science in accounting, Master of Accountancy, and PhD in accounting from the University of Alabama. Ruch has taught financial accounting at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Ruch's research focuses primarily on financial reporting issues. This past year, he's had papers accepted at the *Journal of Management Accounting Research*, the *Journal of Accounting, Auditing, and Finance* and the *Journal of Financial Reporting*. Prior to entering academia, Ruch worked as an auditor in the Birmingham office of Deloitte. In his free time, he enjoys early-morning workouts, reading, listening to podcasts and spending time with his wife, Morgan, and their three pups.



Andre Fall, MBA, CPA, joins the School of Accountancy as a teaching assistant professor. Fall received his bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1991 and his Master's of Business Administration in 2012 from Daniels College of Business and is currently pursuing his doctoral degree from the Daniels Executive PhD program. Fall's primary focus is teaching intermediate and managerial accounting. He has over 25 years of accounting, audit and advisory experience with KPMG and also in the corporate environment. Fall holds active CPA licenses in Colorado and Indiana. He enjoys skiing, travel and spending time in the mountains with his wife and sons.



Thanks to this year's Beta Alpha Psi participants and **Assistant Teaching Professor Jeffrey Brothers** for representing the DU Alpha Zeta chapter at the 100th annual national conference in Chicago this month. The chapter was the winner of this year's regional conference in Fort Collins and the team consisting of Sarah Cameron, Peyton Kidwell, Colleen Peterson and Shannon O'Loughlin presented their Best Practices project. They were joined by Kate Karyannis, VP of professional development and Megan King, VP of programming.



We are pleased to announce the promotion of **Lisa Victoravich, PhD** to full professor and **Adam Greiner, PhD** to associate professor with tenure. Victoravich and Greiner were also appointed to the Editorial Board of *Issued in Accounting Education*, the leading outlet for accounting education publications. Both of their contributions to the SoA have been important and we look forward to seeing what innovations the next year will bring!

As the new school year gets started, we have some exciting events and opportunities for alumni. We would love to have you participate and see you back on campus.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Lassar".

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

Upcoming Events

SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY'S TOWN HALL

Why Denver?



Please join us for a panel discussion featuring financial executives from companies that have recently moved headquarters or major operations to the Denver metro area. A networking reception will follow the panel discussion.

Panelists:

Scott Roe, vice president & chief financial officer, VF Corporation

Kent Clark, senior vice president, operational services, Charles Schwab

Rick Seidlitz, vice president & corporate controller, Arrow

Randy Lynch, senior vice president, finance, treasurer & corporate development, Maxar

J.J. Ament, CEO, Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation will serve as moderator.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019

6-8 p.m.

Reiman Theater | Margery Reed Hall

[RSVP HERE](#)





**Calling all mentors!
Become an SoA alumni mentor.**

Apply today to be a mentor in the School of Accountancy's Mentoring Program. Mentors work one on one with current undergraduate accounting students throughout their first year in the program as they complete the Core, apply for jobs and figure out what accounting, the CPA and the "real world" is all about. Please email **Kristen Dimig** for more information.



SAVE THE DATE
*Beta Alpha Psi Kickball
Tournament*

Alumni: Choose to play and compete or simply network and eat!

Sept. 27 | 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Campus Green

Between Sturm Hall and Sturm College of Law

Get to Know Your Network

Meet the SoA Alumni Engagement Council



Back row: Zach Fryer, Nick Tremaroli, Mallory Bennett, Rachel Meek, Allyson Lindsey (Chair), Molly Weiss, Steven Li

Front row: Heidi O'Neil, Allie Pacienza, Rebecca Kelley, Shivani Mohan, Alex Stephenson (Vice Chair)

Not pictured: Jim Tripp, Danika Greiner, Doreen Liang, Lindsay Gordon, Taylor Murphy, Philip Lithopoulos, Ryan Stine, Donna Shepherd, Megan King (student member), Peyton Kidwell (student member)

The School of Accountancy's Alumni Engagement Council (AEC) is comprised of dedicated alumni who work together to provide opportunities for advancing the mission, vision and strategic goals of the SoA. The photo above was taken at the annual retreat last week. As a council, they initiate, promote and organize events and educational/networking opportunities to build connections among students, faculty, alumni, friends and the business community. Alumni events such as the Fall Reception and Winter Mixer were born from the AEC. They also establish relationships with current SoA students to build connections and commitment. The AEC established the successful SoA Mentoring Program and last spring hosted a panel discussion on data analytics at a Beta Alpha Psi meeting.

The AEC is led by an Executive Committee and supported by three sub-committees: Alumni Engagement, Student Engagement and Vision Promotion. There are currently 20 alumni members and two student representatives who serve on the AEC. Alumni members represent the graduating classes of 1985-2019. While the majority reside in the Denver metro area, two members live outside Colorado and participate remotely. The AEC is interested in welcoming additional members. The council is especially interested in recruiting alumni members who work in the nonprofit or private sector.

If you would like to learn more, please email SoA Alumni Engagement Coordinator [Kristen Dimig](mailto:kristen.dimig@soa.edu), or reply to this email.

Alumni Notes



Congratulations to **Nick Girardi (BSAcc 2009)** and his wife, Caroline, who welcomed their first baby, Jillian Love Girardi, on May 31, 2019, in Houston, Texas. Congratulations also to Jillian's Aunt, **Allyson Lindsey (BSAcc, MAcc 2014)**!

Kyle Reppert (BSAcc, MAcc 2010) and his wife, Ashton, are thrilled to announce the arrival of their second baby. Daughter Quinn Olivia was born in August 2019. Congratulations!



Congratulations to **Baxter Cochennet (BSAcc, MAcc 2012)** who recently accepted a position as a strategy & operations consultant at Slalom.



Doreen Liang (MAcc 2012) has accepted the role of manager-national tax, tax accounting and risk advisory services at EY. Congratulations on the new job, Doreen!



Congratulations to **Nick Miscioscia (BSAcc, MAcc 2014)**. He was promoted to audit manager in the Audit & Assurance Services group at Deloitte.



Shivani Mohan (BSAcc 2008) has accepted the position of accountant at Life Line Financial Group, LLC. Congratulations, Shivani!



Congratulations to **Nick LaPorta (BSAcc, MAcc 2017)**. He is an external auditor and was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte.

Job Opportunities and Professional Development

Colorado Public Radio is seeking a controller. More information is available in Pioneer Careers:

<https://du.12twenty.com/JobPostings#/jobPostings/31999903741186>

Please see du.edu/pioneer-careers for additional job opportunities.

Faculty Updates

A study by Associate Professor Adam Greiner, PhD, CPA, Associate Professor Lorenzo Patelli, PhD and their co-author Matteo Pedrini, PhD (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart) has been accepted for publication in *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory*, the leading auditing research journal. Their study examines the relation between audit pricing and source credibility reflected in managerial tone of corporate voluntary disclosure. They find that more assertive and optimistic tones (lower source credibility) in annual letters to shareholders are associated with higher audit fees, whereas a more collaborative tone (higher source credibility) is associated with lower audit fees. Additional analyses show that a more optimistic tone among firms with negative client-performance prospects and aggressive accounting choices is associated with higher fees. The results indicate that source credibility reflected in three characteristics of managerial tone affects auditors' assessments of engagement risk. Their findings suggest that disseminating efficient and objective textual analysis packages and linguistic statistical techniques to audit team members might assist with assessments of source credibility of client management. They also inform investors and analysts who seek to develop assessments of source credibility based on auditors' pricing decisions.



Associate Professor Adam Greiner, PhD, CPA and his wife, **Danika Greiner (BSAcc, MAcc 2013)** are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Adela Rae Greiner. Weighing 5 pounds, 5 ounces, Adela was born on Aug. 13, 2019, bringing them incredible joy and happiness. Though the doctors and nurses called her a peanut, at 19 inches, Adela makes herself known with her flailing long arms and legs (and an occasional cry).

Associate Professor Lorenzo Patelli, PhD was recently appointed to the editorial board of *Advances in Management Accounting*, a top journal. He was also recently selected to join the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Committee on Ethics.

Patelli taught an international immersion course for MBA@Denver students, "If You Can Measure It, You Can Manage It: Key Performance Indicators" in Trieste, Italy, in June 2019.

Patelli also recently attended the American Accounting Association annual meeting in San Francisco where he discussed a paper on pay ratio disclosures.

Patelli and Assistant Professor Nate Waddoups, PhD recently attended the AIMA World Conference on Management Accounting Research in Monterey, California.



“Contract Framing, Expected Disappointment, and Effort: The Moderating Role of External Locus of Control” by **Assistant Professor Nate Waddoups, PhD** and his co-authors, Michael Majerczyk (Georgia State) and Joel Owens (Portland State) has been accepted for publication in *Journal of Management Accounting Research*, a premier journal. Their study examines incentive contracts. Incentive contracts are among the most prescribed means for alleviating agency problems. Accordingly, understanding when and why certain types of incentive contracts are effective is of crucial importance to organizations. Prior research documents that while employees generally prefer to work under contracts that include bonuses, employees exert more effort under economically equivalent penalty contracts. One reason for this is that penalties cause employees to experience greater expected disappointment than do bonuses. This study extends prior research in this area by documenting that external locus of control (ELOC), an individual characteristic, helps explain how different employees respond to incentive contracts. The researchers predict and find that, compared to individuals with higher ELOC, individuals with lower ELOC are less susceptible to contract frame-induced differences in expected disappointment and are thus not as motivated by penalty contracts compared to bonus contracts. This finding extends theory on contract framing and has important implications for how organizations implement incentive contracts in practice. The results suggest that penalty provisions are most efficacious at lower ranks in the organization where higher ELOC is more common.

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 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](#).

On the Lighter Side - Humor from the Grove



[View in browser](#)



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