



UNIVERSITY of  
DENVER

DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
School of Accountancy



SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY | ALUMNI NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2017

## Director's Update

Please join us in welcoming Anthony “Tony” Holder, PhD, CPA to the School of Accountancy faculty. Most recently, he taught at the University of Toledo and Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. Previously, he taught at Shanghai International Studies University and at the University of Cincinnati. He earned his BA in Accountancy at Park University, his Master of Accountancy at Wright State University, and his PhD in Accountancy at the University of Cincinnati. Prior to obtaining his PhD, he worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in their auditing and tax departments. Dr. Holder’s wide interest for research include the areas of financial reporting, accounting standard setting, and compensation. He also studies managerial incentives, earnings management, governance, ethics/fraud, and information systems. His work has been published in many reputable journals such as: the *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, *Accounting Horizons*, the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems*, *Issues in Accounting Education*, the *American Journal of Business*, *Advances in Accounting*, *Managerial Finance*, and the CPA journal. Dr. Holder has taught numerous classes, both at undergraduate and graduate levels, including Accounting Information Systems, Financial Accounting, Principles of Accounting, Intermediate Accounting, and Auditing and Managerial Accounting. Dr. Holder was born and raised in Springfield, Ohio. When not teaching, he enjoys reading fiction, traveling, hiking, and spending time with his family. He also likes good food (especially donuts and pizza), live sporting events, and wildlife. New to Colorado, he currently lives with his 14 month old son and his wife, Doina Chichernea, who will be joining the Reiman School of Finance’s faculty this year as well.



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## HAVE ANY EXCITING NEWS?

Promotions, marriages, new babies, major moves, job changes? Let us know! We'll share the news with your alumni family in the Alumni Notes section of our next newsletter. Contact [kristen.dimig@du.edu](mailto:kristen.dimig@du.edu) with any updates.

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## UPDATE CONTACT INFO

If you have a new email address, recently moved, changed employment, got married, or have any other information to update, please do so [here](#). Our alumni are our greatest assets so please keep us updated!



Our Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) Alpha Zeta Chapter at DU had a successful summer. The BAP Annual Meeting this year was held in Anaheim, CA August 2-5. We are proud of several notable outcomes related to our Chapter and the four members who represented us in Anaheim. Our Chapter was recognized as a "Superior Chapter" as a result of a lot of hard work through participation among our members at professional and volunteer events during the year. Our Chapter received a Certificate of Recognition regarding our VITA program. The certificate was for having both over 100 active members in our Chapter and high participation in VITA. Also at the conference, a recent Accounting Core III student, Chris Harris, was chosen to participate in Project Run With It. This program pairs participants

into groups with students from other schools across the nation to learn about a problem at a local non-profit, develop solutions for its needs, and present their findings...all in 36 hours! Thank you, Chris, for representing us in such an honorable way. Rachel Gustafson and Amanda Kendall presented on "Keeping a Strong Alumni Base." Amanda, Rachel, and Clive Greenberg participated in the community service day sponsored by KPMG's Family for Literacy and One Book program, in which they taught elementary school children about literacy through fun activities and gave them a book to take home.

Best,

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

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## Upcoming Events



Please join the School of Accountancy to celebrate another school year and KED's birthday. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and hosted bar. [RSVP today!](#)

**Sunday, September 10, 2017**

## ABOUT US

The School of Accountancy is one of the nation's oldest and most esteemed accounting programs, combining state-of-the-art learning with the personal touch of a small, motivated community to help our students get ahead. Our mission, as a part of a great private university dedicated to the public good, is to foster Enlightened Practice, Professional Achievement, Knowledge Creation and a Commitment to the Community. Our School's students, faculty and alumni work together to ensure that this mission is achieved by producing high quality, meaningful work that advances the field of accounting. As a result, our graduates are armed with the practical skills and knowledge needed to thrive in today's business world.



5 - 7 p.m.  
Marcus Commons, DCB



**SOA Town Hall, October 9, 2017**  
***"It's All about All of Us: The Rise of Global Narcissism in the Work Place"***

**6 - 8 p.m. | Reiman Theater, Margery Reed Hall**  
**1 HOUR CPE CREDIT AVAILABLE**

Our featured speaker is Kelsey Kay Dworkis, PhD, CPA, School of Accountancy Assistant Professor, whose research interests include the effects of narcissism on business decisions and outcomes. [Register today!](#)

### Calling All Mentors

We need your help! Become a SOA alumni mentor. [Apply today](#) to be a mentor in the School of Accountancy LEAD Mentorship 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.



### Speed Interviewing Workshop | SOA Alumni Needed

**Thursday, September 21, 2017 | 4 - 6 p.m.**  
**Daniels College of Business | Marcus Commons**

Daniels Career Services is seeking School of Accountancy alumni partners to serve as mock speed interviewers in order to make this workshop for current MACC students a success. The event will consist of mock interviews followed by an open networking session. [RSVP today!](#)

Check out [daniels.du.edu/events](http://daniels.du.edu/events) for additional events.

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**Get to Know Your Network**

**Meet Alumna Nichole Parker (BSACC, BA 2012; MACC 2013)**

Nichole was raised in southeast Aurora and is a graduate of Grandview High School. Her family has called Colorado home for 120 years, when her great grandmother immigrated here from Germany. Growing up, Nichole was a competitive dancer and a dedicated Girl Scout, earning her Gold Award by teaching a Spanish class to elementary school teachers. She always imagined that she would leave the state of Colorado to attend college. In fact, she applied to only one in-state school: DU. "About halfway through my senior year, I realized that I really love Colorado and decided to stay for college."



After making the decision to attend DU, Nichole and her mother, School of Accountancy alumna Diane Parker (BSACC, 1984), attended an event at DU to explore the different programs at the University. Nichole explains, "The one thing I swore was that I would NOT study accounting!" Even though she was sure that accounting was not the path for her, Diane insisted that Nichole talk to Dr. Ron Kucic who was representing the School of Accountancy at the event. Still not swayed, Nichole decided to double major in International Business and Spanish. However, she took her first accounting course as part of the general business requirements with Professor Eschenlohr, and began to realize that she was enjoying the class. "One day a few professionals came to our class to discuss what they do, and I connected with one of them after to discuss further what his day to day life was like, and I realized my mom was right all along,

knowing that accounting would be a great fit for me." Nichole called her mom later that day, admitting that she was wrong and had already changed her major to accounting.

Nichole describes the School of Accountancy as a great community designed to support students' learning and development into successful professionals. "While the program is extremely challenging, it taught me discipline and helped me build my confidence. I loved the opportunities available to me, not only to learn accounting, but to learn to communicate effectively and build professional relationships prior to graduation." The experience that most impacted Nichole was the opportunity to lead

the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program, which honed her leadership skills. “The School of Accountancy prepares students to think analytically and to have confidence in their abilities to understand complex issues and present solutions. The communication and presentation skills I learned at the School of Accountancy have benefited me consistently, especially as I have started giving more presentations to clients.”

Following graduation, Nichole began her career at PricewaterhouseCoopers in the audit practice. While there, she focused on technology and mining clients, but also spent some time in real estate and consumer products. “I really enjoyed getting to learn about different industries.” After about 3 years in the audit practice, Nichole decided that she was ready to try something new and transferred to the Capital Markets and Accounting Advisory Services (CMAAS) practice. “Since transferring to CMAAS, I have been mostly focused in the Accounting Advisory practice supporting the review of revenue recognition of target companies in buy-side diligence projects, as well as working on GAAP change projects to help clients determine the impact of and how to implement the new revenue recognition standard and the new leasing standard.”



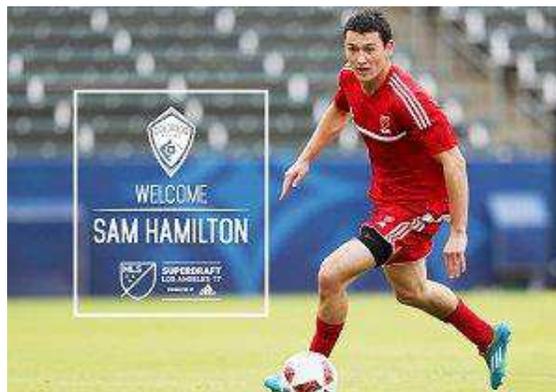
Outside of work, Nichole enjoys spending time with family and friends, including her boyfriend, Victor, and their two dogs, Nala and Summer. The couple loves to try new restaurants, travel, and explore new places. Nichole and Victor recently completed an eleven-month renovation of their home, taking on much of the work themselves and consuming their free time with the extensive project. “Now that we have moved in, I’m looking forward to having friends and family over and planning some trips to celebrate!”

In the future, Nichole would like to continue working on projects that help her clients solve challenging problems. “I may look into international opportunities or opportunities to work in other US offices to help build my skill set and network.” Currently, Nicole is serving as a valuable member of the School of Accountancy’s

Alumni Engagement Council.

### Alumni Notes

Congratulations to [Sam Hamilton](#) (BSACC, MACC 2017) on taking the field with the Colorado Rapids. Sam began his rookie year after he helped the University of Denver reach the 2016 College Cup and after being selected as the 2016-17 Summit League Scholar-Athletes by the Summit League’s faculty athletic representatives. We are proud of you!



On June 1, the COCPA, in collaboration with the AICPA, honored individuals with the 2017 Women to Watch Award. SOA alumni **Rebecca Kelley, CPA (BSACC, 2005)** and **Ksenia V. Popke, CPA (MACC, 2007)** were both designated "Emerging Leaders" as they have demonstrated leadership and have made significant contributions to the profession and their communities, while still on the path of the highest levels of advancement. Congratulations to Rebecca and Ksenia on this prestigious award!

**Marina Mungova (BSACC, MACC 2012)** resides in Ft. Lauderdale and was recently promoted to Director of Onboard Accounting at Norwegian Cruise Line. Congratulations, Marina!

### Job Opportunities

Please see [du.edu/pioneercareers](http://du.edu/pioneercareers) for job opportunities.

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### Faculty Updates

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Adam Greiner on his recent marriage to Danika Tibbetts (BASCC, MACC 2013). We wish you a lifetime of happiness together!

Dr. Adam Greiner attended the American Accounting Association (AAA) Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, August 7-9 and presented his research, co-authored with School of Accountancy Professor Dr. Lorenzo Patelli and Dr. Matteo Pedrini entitled, "Do Auditors Price the Tone of Corporate Voluntary Disclosure." Dr. Greiner also presented this study at a workshop with colleagues at DU in early August. Another study by Dr. Greiner and Dr. Mark Kohlbeck entitled, "Do Auditors Care about Gains Trading," was presented at the AAA Meeting by their co-author Dr. Thomas Smith.

Dr. Lisa Victoravich attended the AAA Annual Meeting and served on the panel: *Taking on a Role in University Administration-Joining the Dark Side or Shaping the Future?* Additionally, she presented "The Effect of CEO Friendships and Compensation Saliency on Earnings Management: The Mediating Role of Social Distance" co-authored with Andrea Gouldman of Weber State University.

In addition to attending the AAA Annual Meeting over the summer, Dr. Lorenzo Patelli's paper entitled "Properties of Performance Measurement and Management Systems Used Dialogically between Parent Companies and Foreign Subsidiaries" has been accepted for publication in *Advances in Management Accounting*.

Professor Hugh Grove's paper, co-authored with Tommi Johnsen and Pei Lung, "SEC Comment Letters: An Unlikely Secret Weapon for Forensic Accountants, Short Sellers, and Other Financial Statement Users", appearing in *Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting*, 2016, was awarded the AAA Forensic Accounting Section Research Paper Award.

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## On the Lighter Side - Humor from Hugh Grove

### Philosophers?

"If life were fair, Elvis would still be alive today and all the impersonators would be dead." - Johnny Carson

"Hollywood must be the only place on Earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap." - Steve Martin

"The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone." - George Roberts

"As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder." - John Glenn

"When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife." - Prince Philip

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