



SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY | ALUMNI NEWSLETTER | MAY 2018

## Director's Update

Last week, Daniels held the annual Honors Convocation Breakfast. Teaching Associate Professor and Assistant Director Kathleen (KED)



Davisson was honored with the *Daniels Award for Excellence* and Annette Fertig was awarded the *Adjunct Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award*. Davisson and Fertig (pictured, above with Dean Chrite and Sharon Lassar) are exceedingly deserving of these awards and we are very proud of all they do for the SOA and Daniels. Professor Hugh Grove, Teaching Assistant Professor Ronald Thompkins and Professor of Finance Thomas Cook were also honored as they will each retire this Spring, collectively contributing over 80 years of service and scholarship to Daniels.



Daniel O'Laughlin (BSACC, MACC 2014) was featured in the April edition of Strategic Finance. The profile focused on O'Laughlin's path to earning the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) credential while still an accounting student. The [full article](#) is available online. Additionally, O'Laughlin visited campus and shared his CMA story with current SOA students.

The Best Practices team received third place for "Branding Your Chapter" at the BAP regional meeting in Park City, Utah earlier this month. Congratulations to team members Abby Toscana, Catherine Ray, Camille Kitten, Brenna Mellum and Serena Santiago.

Best,

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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.

## 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!

## ABOUT US

*Sharon Lassar*

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

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## Upcoming Events

### Mark your calendar for One Day for DU

One Day for DU is on May 23! It's the one day when DU asks the entire community to come together and show their support by making a gift. This year, Beta Alpha Psi will be featured as a crowdfunding project.

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

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## Get to Know Your Network

The Alumni Relations Committee from the School of Accountancy Advisory Board is pleased to announce the recipients of the Alumna and Young Alumnus of the Year awards. The awards were given at the SOA Spring Banquet held on April 27. Congratulations to our 2018 Alumna of the Year Mary-Margaret Henke and Young Alumnus of the Year Andrew Rosenthaler!

### Meet Alumna of the Year Mary-Margaret Henke (BSACC, 1991) Senior VP, General Auditor | Western Union

Mary-Margaret has over 25 years of experience in the auditing, accounting and risk functions for financial services firms. She joined Western Union in March of 2007 and oversees the global internal audit function providing audit, compliance and risk management guidance. During her tenure at Western Union, she has also led various CFO strategic initiatives including Oracle and Wall Street system implementations, Enterprise Risk Management as well as acquisition/integration activities. Prior to joining Western Union, Mary-Margaret was the General Auditor for Janus Capital and the Assistant Controller at CoBank, a \$30 billion bank in the farm credit system. In that role, she managed the corporate accounting, investment and derivative accounting, financial reporting, and tax units of the controller division. Mary-Margaret began her career with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and spent 10 years specializing in financial services. Mary-Margaret received her BS in



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.



Accounting, summa cum laude, from the University of Denver and is a Certified Public Accountant. She is married and has three children.

### Meet Young Alumnus of the Year Andrew Rosenthaler (BSACC 2009) Manager - Mergers & Acquisitions | KPMG

Andrew is currently a manager in the Mergers & Acquisitions – Tax practice at KPMG, LLP. He has nine years of experience in the field of tax transaction services. Currently Andrew oversees a team of CPAs and lawyers that specialize in structuring and modeling complex partnership transactions in a variety of industries, including alternative energy, oil & gas, and consumer goods. He also assists the Internal Affairs Committee for the nonprofit organization, Brent's Place. Brent's Place serves to provide safe, clean housing for severely immune-compromised patients. Prior to KPMG, LLP, Andrew worked for EKS&H, LLLP where he interned and worked as the



Transaction Services & Tax Manager at EKS&H for seven years. Andrew consulted for public and closely held upstream oil & gas companies on tax compliance and exit strategies. Andrew received his BS in Accounting in 2009 from the University of Denver and is a Certified Public Accountant. He has served as a mentor to accounting students and was an integral member of the Alumni Engagement Council. In his free time, he enjoys being active with his wife, Katie, so they can justify trying all the new restaurants around Denver.

### Alumni Notes

Young Alumnus of the Year, **Andrew Rosenthaler (BSACC, 2009)**, and his wife Katie welcomed Dylan Lee Rosenthaler (Pictured, at right) on April 26. She weighed in at 7 pounds, 15 ounces and is 20.5 inches long. Congratulations, Andrew and Katie!



**Dustin Palmer (MBA 2009)** and his wife Libby welcomed baby Vivienne Eimear Palmer (pictured, at left) on April 15. Congratulations to the Palmer family!

**Ingrid Stiver (BSACC, MACC 2009)** recently accepted a position at PwC as Senior Manager, Health Research Institute. Congratulations, Ingrid!

### Job Opportunities and Professional Development

#### Excelling in Interviews

Learn how to best prepare for, execute and follow up on virtual and in-person

interviews.

Wednesday, May 9, 5-6 p.m. [RSVP today!](#)

### Alumni Career Studio

Join professional career advisors in an informal environment to receive feedback on your resume, cover letter or LinkedIn profile that you can immediately apply. Staff will be available as participants sit and work on their materials or they can talk you through other various career questions you may have, including interview preparation or salary negotiation.

Tuesday, May 22, 4-7 p.m. [RSVP](#)

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

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## Faculty and Staff Updates

**SOA Program Coordinator Alix Saunders** and her husband, Dan, greeted Aiden Antonio Saunders (pictured, at right) on April 11. He was 20 inches long and weighed in at 7 pounds, 4 ounces. Everyone is doing well and trying to get some rest at home. Congratulations to the Saunders family!



**Associate Professor Ryan Casey, PhD**, along with co-author Johathan Greinier, PhD, of Miami University published "Save Money by Having Your Sustainability Report Assured" in the April 2018 edition of *Journal of Accountancy*. This article garnered a shout-out in the KPMG Denver newsletter written by the Managing Director: *This is really cool - we have some KPMG press in the Journal of Accountancy courtesy of Ryan Casey, an associate professor of accounting at the University of Denver. Casey wrote an article explaining how sustainability reporting has become a common business practice in the U.S. and now research shows that sustainability assurance efforts more than pay for themselves in a majority of companies. According to a survey conducted by KPMG in 2017, independent assurance of sustainability reports is growing but remains uncommon in the U.S.*



**Assistant Professor Kelsey Kay Dworkis, PhD, CPA** (pictured, at left) recently traveled to Los Angeles to film the ACTG 4660 lecture content for the MBA@Denver, the online platform.

**Assistant Professor Adam Greiner, PhD, CPA, and Associate Professor Lorenzo Patelli, PhD**, (pictured, at right) presented their research "Characteristics of Managerial Tone Priced by Auditors: Evidence Based on Annual



Letters to Shareholders of Large U.S. Firms,” to the Daniels Executive Advisory Board on April 26.

**John J. Gilbert Professor and Director of the School of Accountancy Sharon Lassar, PhD, CPA**, along with **Professor Rick Leaman, JD, CPA**, and **Professor Hugh Grove, DBA, CPA**, will publish “2017 Tax Law Impacts for Mining Companies with Foreign Operations” in *Oil, Gas and Energy Quarterly*, June, 2018, Volume 66, No. 4, pp. 573-578.

**Grove**, along with **Associate Professor Anthony Holder, PhD, CPA**, and **Professor Mac Clouse, PhD**, recently published “Emergence of Artificial Intelligence, Cryptocurrencies, and Quantum Computing: Implications for Accountants and Auditors” in *Internal Auditing*, March/April, 2018.

**Grove** and Clouse published “Coal Mining Jobs Verses Technology” in *Oil, Gas and Energy Quarterly*, March 2018, Volume 66, No. 3, pp. 471-477.

**Professor Hugh Grove, DBA, CPA** will retire at the end of the Spring quarter. To commemorate his time at Daniels and honor his impact, the School of Accountancy is preparing a memory book. Please send anything you would like to include to [kristen.dimig@du.edu](mailto:kristen.dimig@du.edu) by May 15. This could include: personal notes or memories, pieces of wisdom, a favorite joke of his or anything else.



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## On the Lighter Side - Humor from Hugh Grove

### Favorite Quotes

#### Warren Buffett:

"Only when the tide goes out do you discover who's been swimming naked."

"Beware of geeks bearing formulas."

"Our favorite holding period is forever."

"If past history was all there was to the game, the richest people would be librarians."

"The Three 'I's' of Every Business Cycle: Innovators who see opportunity where others don't; Imitators who take note of what the innovators are doing and mimic it with varying degrees of success; and Idiots who jump on the bandwagon far too late with poorly executed attempts to cash in on what everyone else is doing."

"We enjoy the process far more than the proceeds."

"You only have to do a very few things right in your life so long as you don't do too many things wrong."

#### Winston Churchill:

"Diplomacy is the art of telling people to go to hell in such a way that they ask for directions."

"When you're 20, you care what everyone thinks; when you're 40, you stop caring what everyone thinks; when you're 60, you realize no one was ever thinking about you in the first place."

"An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last."

"However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results."

"A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on."

"Life is fraught with opportunities to keep your mouth shut."

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