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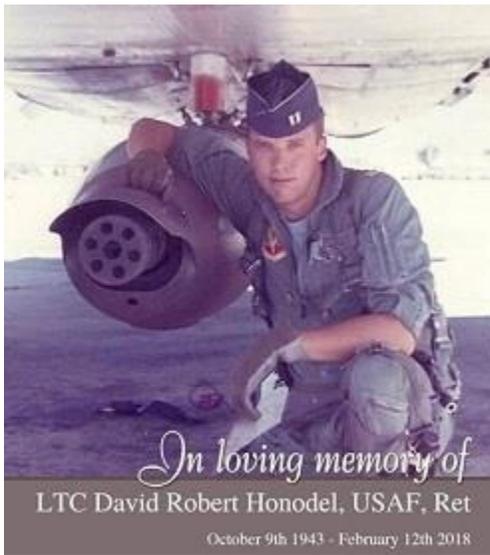
DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
School of Accountancy



SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY | ALUMNI NEWSLETTER | MARCH 2018

## Director's Update

It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of David "Buff" Honodel. Buff was an esteemed member of the School of Accountancy faculty, teaching from 1989-2015. Along with Dr. Pollart, he developed and taught the Core curriculum. Buff challenged his students to live up to the highest academic standards, as evidenced by this [video](#) of his teaching that was posted to the [SOA Facebook page](#). Our hearts go out to Buff's family and friends and all those in our DU community whose lives were touched by his presence. The School of Accountancy is still collecting notes from former students to deliver to Professor Honodel's family. Notes can be sent to: [Kristen.dimig@du.edu](mailto:Kristen.dimig@du.edu). Please address all notes to Buff's wife, Mary Honodel, daughters Amy Honodel and Norah Lile, and son Todd Pitcher.



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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!



We are also saddened to share the news of the passing of [Lester "Les" Pedicord](#) (BS, 1953, MBA, 1957, Accounting). Les was an integral member of the SOA alumni community and was honored in 2010 as the School of Accountancy Alumnus of the Year. He will be missed tremendously and our deepest sympathies go out to Les' family and friends. A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 9, 2018, 1 p.m., Hope United Methodist Church, 5101 S. Dayton St., Greenwood Village.

Congratulations to SOA students Trip Renard and Colin Orłowski on their recent scholarship awards. Financial Executives International (FEI) awarded Renard a generous scholarship (pictured, right) at their most recent monthly dinner. Renard attended the dinner with Associate Professor





Lorenzo Patelli, PhD. Orłowski was presented with a generous scholarship (pictured, left) at the IMA Student Night dinner with Patelli and Assistant Professor Kelsey Dworkis, PhD, CPA, in attendance. We are proud of our students for earning these well-deserved awards.

Best,

*Sharon Lassar*

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

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## Upcoming Events



**The Future of Colorado PERA: Lecture and Seminar**  
**Tuesday, May 1, 2018 | Reiman Theater, Margery Reed Hall**  
**Check-in and Welcome Reception: 5:30 p.m.**  
**Lecture and Seminar: 7 p.m.**

Colorado Public Employees' Retirement Association ([PERA](#)) provides retirement and other benefits to more than 560,000 current and former teachers, State Troopers, snowplow drivers, corrections officers and other state and public employees. PERA acts as a substitute for Social Security for these employees and is pre-funded and administered by the PERA Board of Trustees. As with most public pension plans, PERA is currently underfunded. The PERA Board, Governor Hickenlooper and other parties have each submitted proposals to return PERA to long-term sustainability. These proposals are being discussed by the Colorado General Assembly at the current legislative session, which ends on May 9, 2018.

Please join the School of Accountancy in partnership with the Morgridge College of Education for a seminar on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, to discuss the proposed changes and their potential impact on PERA members, employers and taxpayers. This event is sponsored by Truth in Accounting and is open to the community. [Please RSVP today!](#)

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

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## 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.



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## Get to Know Your Network

### Meet Alumnus Christine Stopps (BSACC 1984)

Christine Stopps was born and raised in Canada. As a child, she enjoyed skiing in Banff and traveling to Norway on several occasions to visit her father's family. When she began high school, her family made a big move to Houston.

The decision to pursue accounting was easy for Stopps. She explains, "My Dad was the CFO for a Canadian oil drilling company, and from my first accounting class in high school, I decided that I wanted to be an accountant." Stopps spent her first two years of college at a university in Texas, but decided to transfer to a smaller school. "DU was very appealing to me because it had a great accounting school and was close to the mountains so I could resume skiing!"

Stopps enjoyed the small classes at DU and the opportunity to really get to know her fellow classmates. "I have three very good friends that I met in the accounting program. We have remained friends and stayed in touch and see each other regularly. This summer we are going on a bicycle trip in France, all together with our spouses."

Stopps met her husband of 31 years, Brian, while attending DU. Brian was a Hotel Restaurant Management major. When the pair graduated, they were able to begin their careers in Denver, both primarily in the real estate world.



Stopps believes that DU has always had a very good reputation, especially the School of Accountancy and the Daniels College of Business. The education she received at DU prepared her well for the opportunities she has had. "I started at Peat Marwick (now KPMG) and after two years went to work for one of the clients I had worked on, which was a real estate developer." Stopps then went to work for a company that owned and operated mobile home parks. Stopps was there for 13 years and experienced many different

corporate transactions and structures until the company was sold. "In late 2007, some of the principals from that company 'got the band back together' and we started Yes! Communities. That has been the highlight of my career – starting a company from scratch and being part of its growth and evolution." Yes! Communities is now one of the largest privately held Real Estate Investment Trusts in that space. "I am very proud of what we do; we look at the value proposition for the customer and provide affordable housing to thousands of families, and we do it with the YES! Attitude!"

In their free time, the Stopps family spends a lot of time at their second home in Dillon. "We have been going there for many years, and we are grateful for all the great times we have spent there with our boys who are now excellent skiers and outdoor adventurers." Stopps is starting to think about retirement in the coming years. "At present, visions of this concept includes world travel, skiing, hiking and boating in Dillon and spending time in Denver with friends and family."



Stopps has participated in the LEAD mentorship program and currently serves on the School of Accountancy Advisory Board and is an active member of the Alumni Relations committee.

### Alumni Notes

Congratulations to **Richard Lorange (BSBA, 1968)** and his wife, Susan. They celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary on Feb. 14. We wish you many more!

### Job Opportunities

TTEC (formerly Tele Tech) is seeking a Staff Accountant with a BSACC and two years of accounting experience. Please log on to [Pioneer Careers](#) to see the full listing and application instructions. Reference Number: 21006701104947

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

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### Faculty Updates

"2017 Tax Law Impacts for Mining Companies with Foreign Operations," authored by **Professor Hugh Grove, DBA, CPA, John J. Gilbert Professor, Director, School of Accountancy Sharon Lassar, PhD, CPA** and **Professor Rick Leaman, JD, CPA** has been accepted for publication by *The Oil and Gas Energy Quarterly*.

On Feb. 21, 2018, **Assistant Professor Adam Greiner, PhD, CPA** was honored at the sixth annual Research, Scholarship and Creative Work Faculty Recognition Dinner hosted by the Office of the Provost for his recent research accomplishments.

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### On the Lighter Side - Humor from Hugh Grove



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