



SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY | ALUMNI NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2017

Director's Update

Associate Professor Ryan Casey, PhD, CPA, is teaching an International Accounting Topics course. The students completed pre-departure classes this fall and are now in London to further explore, from both academic and practical perspectives, issues experienced in a global economy. Travel with them by following their progress on [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).



SOA alum, Alexie Tune (BSACC, MACC, 1995), will be presented with the Alumni Ambassador Award at Daniels Snowball 2017. This award is presented to an individual who demonstrates a commitment to the vision and purpose of Daniels. The individual who earns this award is of service and provides time to benefit the pursuits of Daniels. This award is for the individual who is a living example of the ethical standards of Daniels. Congratulations on this well-deserved award, Alexie!

As we enter the holiday season, I am thankful for you-- the dedicated SOA alumni community. I hope to connect with many of you at the winter events below. From the SOA family to yours, we wish you a happy and healthy holiday season.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Sharon Lassar'.

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

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Upcoming Events

**School of Accountancy Alumni Reception and DU v. CC Hockey Game
Friday, Dec. 8, 2017**

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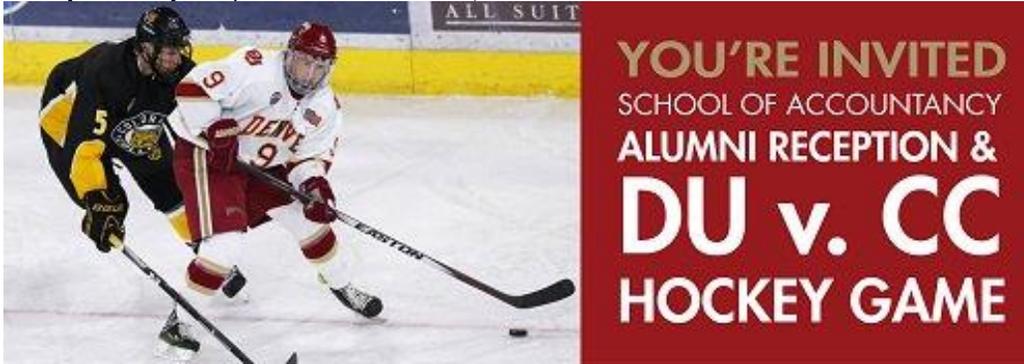
HAVE ANY EXCITING NEWS?

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 with any updates.

UPDATE CONTACT INFO

If you have a new email address, recently moved, changed employment, got married, or have any

Reception: 6 p.m. | DU Ritchie Center, North Concourse



There are still a few tickets left for the School of Accountancy Alumni Reception and DU v. CC hockey game. Catch up with SOA faculty and alumni while cheering on the Pioneers. This event is expected to sell out, so [register today!](#)

Daniels Snow Ball 2017

This annual gala will feature alumni awards, a silent auction and a wine pull.

Come and enjoy cocktails, heavy appetizers and holiday cheer!

Dec. 7, 2017 | 6:30 - 10 p.m. | Mile High Station

\$50 per person | \$30 for recent undergraduate alumni

[RSVP today](#)



For more information on Snow Ball, please contact katie.shipley@du.edu.

Calling All Mentors

We need your help! Apply today to be a mentor in the School of Accountancy LEAD Mentorship Program. SOA mentors work one-on-one with current undergraduate accounting students throughout their first year in the program as they complete the Core and apply for jobs. Help students figure out what accounting, the CPA, and the "real world" is all about. Become an SOA alumni mentor and fill out your [application for the January program](#) start today. Email [Kristen Dimig](#) for more information.



other information to update, please do so [here](#). Our alumni are our greatest assets so please keep us updated!

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.





Winter Alumni Mixer
Jan. 11, 2018 | 6 - 8 p.m
Reiman Theater, Margery Reed Hall
[Register today!](#)

Reconnect with your classmates, beloved School of Accountancy faculty members, and our newest faculty members. Get to know your vast alumni network while enjoying presentations by featured faculty and alumni before mingling at a networking reception. Keep an eye out for more details and registration information in the coming months.

Check out daniels.du.edu/events for additional events.

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Get to Know Your Network

Meet Alumnus Megan (Schoenbauer) Lewczyk (BSBA, MACC 2011)

Megan Lewczyk was born and raised in Longmont, CO with parents Christopher and Cris Ann Schoenbauer and older sister, Rachel. Her first job was Lifeguarding at Union Reservoir. "It was there that I learned that when young boys yell 'Snake!' it might be legitimate and in my experience, adults, not children, are more likely to need assistance when swimming in a reservoir." Outside of school and summer employment, Lewczyk was a member of the Longmont Youth Council, the liaison to City Council, and dabbled in several creative pursuits including dance, photography, studio art, choir and theatre. "One of my defining moments growing up was being selected for the Skyline High School dance team after two unsuccessful years of auditioning for the team. It showed me that hard work and dedication pays off."

Lewczyk credits Professor Jaqueline Eschenlohr for introducing her to accounting. "Not only did she allow me to transfer into her class after the term had already





started (even though I got a zero on the first quiz since I couldn't make it up), but near the end of the semester she called a small group to her office to convince us to be accounting majors. At least two of us are now CPAs, and I'm grateful for her encouragement."

Though unconventional for a CPA, Lewczyk's undergraduate degree is not in accounting. She started out as a Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management major. That was not for her, and she switched to General Business at the end of her freshman year. "Realistically, I was already too far down the road with my management and marketing credits to switch to accounting as an undergraduate." When Lewczyk decided to pursue her MACC, she had to get creative to fit in the required prerequisites. "I still remember the look Dr. John Bazley

gave me when I enrolled in graduate-level Intermediate I/II waived down to undergraduate credit. He skeptically asked 'Are you sure?' and gave me his blessing, even though he clearly thought I was insane." Lewczyk is thankful for the unconventional path. "The variety of classes I took in my undergraduate degree prepared me very well for my role as COO of Yaeger CPA Review. Who knew my class in e-marketing would be so helpful now?"

When looking back at her time at DU, it's the simple things that Lewczyk remembers most. "I remember many days sitting in the SOA conference room studying with friends. Even though it was hard work, we sure did have a lot of fun too." She feels fortunate to have had the opportunity to work on group projects with so many talented peers at DU. "I recognize how talented everyone was in grad school more now, outside the DU bubble. It's been fun to see where everyone has taken their accounting career 6+ years out."

Lewczyk's favorite classes combined information technology and accounting, and shaped her career at KPMG in the IT audit and attestation group. "Something that DU did an excellent job with was teaching me how to read and use the professional literature, not just an accounting textbook, to find guidance. Especially given how much the standards have changed since I graduated, it's such an important skill that not a lot of CPA candidates learn. I would be lost without that now as I write content for CPA candidates and industry blogs for going concern."



Lewczyk realized after a year at KPMG that her career was going to need to become more flexible as a military spouse. She embarked on building momentum in remote roles, since that would help with many of the challenges associated with military lifestyles and frequent relocation. She is encouraged that remote opportunities for accountants have exploded since she first began working remotely over four years ago. "I find it interesting how my dots have started connecting, as Steve Jobs said, now that I am further into my career. I still have a fascination for the impact IT has on accounting, and that has continued to shape the jobs I've taken after leaving public accounting."

Though it sounds a little sappy, Lewczyk really enjoys helping accountants achieve their dreams in her current role as COO of Yaeger CPA Review. "Passing the CPA Exam and getting my CPA license has changed my life for the better. I am glad I can help others on their journey as a CPA candidate."

As for life outside of her career, Lewczyk continues to dabble in her creative pursuits. "I don't

know why you have to stop doing extracurricular activities when school is over.” She currently enjoys performing with a dance company in Charleston, SC and creating hand-thrown pottery in a weekly wheel class and on her own wheel. “I also enjoy going to the beach with my dog and spending time and traveling with my husband.”

Alumni Notes

Danika Tibbetts (BSACC, MACC, 2013) was recently promoted to Manager at KPMG. Tibbetts has been employed at KPMG in Denver since completing a rotation in 2014 as a FASB postgraduate technical assistant. Congratulations on the promotion, Danika!



Job Opportunities

Please see du.edu/pioneercareers for additional job opportunities.

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Faculty Updates

Assistant Professor Kelsey Dworkis, PhD, CPA, and her husband, Zach, welcomed their second daughter, Edison Bayes Dworkis this week. Congratulations, Kelsey and Zach!

Last month, Lorenzo Patelli, PhD, CPA, accompanied students Colin Orłowski and Connor Gillespie to the IMA Student Leadership Conference in Houston. The conference included an opportunity to hear from Andrew Fastow, former Enron CFO. Fastow addressed the ethical blind spots and malpractices that led to Enron’s collapse.

Associate Professor Lorenzo Patelli, PhD, and Associate Professor, School of Accountancy; Assistant Dean and Director, Undergraduate Programs Lisa Victoravich, PhD, CPA were faculty models in a dress code event designed to teach students how to dress professionally depending on the circumstances. This event was part of the Daniels Professional Development Program. Both Patelli and Victoravich represented the SOA well!





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On the Lighter Side - Humor from Hugh Grove

An elementary school teacher presented students in her classroom with the first half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders. Their insight may surprise you.

Teacher: Strike while the...
Student: bug is close.

Teacher: It's always darkest before...
Student: Daylight Savings Time.

Teacher: A penny saved is...
Student: not much.

Teacher: The pen is mightier than the...
Student: pigs.

Teacher: If at first you don't succeed...
Student: get new batteries.

Teacher: Better late than...
Student: pregnant.

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