



DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS | UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY

Alumni Newsletter April 2013

In This Issue...

- [**Get to Know Your Network:**](#) Meet our School of Accountancy alumna and Thornton, CO native, Andrea Mitzen. Andrea has spent the majority of her successful career in Europe as she enjoys all that Amsterdam has to offer.
- [**Recent Happenings in the School of Accountancy:**](#) Nominations are being accepted for the Alumnus of the Year and the Young Alumnus of the Year. Also, see Dr. James Sorensen's interviews with FOX31 Denver regarding Adams 12 Five Star School District's recent budget issues.
- [**Student Corner:**](#) VITA Team will exceed 250 tax returns this weekend. BAP team succeeds again at the BAP Regional Meeting.
- [**Upcoming School of Accountancy, Daniels and DU Events**](#)
- [**Join the School of Accountancy on Facebook and LinkedIn**](#) Join the School of Accountancy in a reception honoring alumnus Krishen Mehta as he is honored as one of the 2013 Master Scholars at the University of Denver.
- [**Alumni and Friend News**](#)
- [**Contact Information Request**](#)

Get to Know Your Network: Andrea Mitzen (BSAC, MAcc 1999)

We recently received word that School of Accountancy alumnus Andrea Mitzen was promoted to Senior Manager of Transfer Pricing and Technical Accounting for Liberty Global. Andrea, who is originally from Thornton, CO, has spent much of her career working abroad in Europe. Get to know Andrea, learn about her career and her two, almost three, best friends.



Why did you decide to go to DU/School of Accountancy?

I wanted the best education I could get and DU had the best Accountancy program. It also ended up being the most affordable with the scholarships that were available.

What did you enjoy most about getting your degree from the SoA?

I like the small classes and the quality of the professors. The diversity of the courses and opportunities that the University offered was key.

How has your education from DU impacted your career?

Besides the top quality accounting classes and great connections to the top accounting firms, I was fortunate enough to sign up for a study abroad program when I was a sophomore at DU. This was before these programs widely accessible to all students. I spent a semester in London and it changed the course of my life. I ended up doing a summer session in Prague and also a three week course in Scandinavia before I left DU.

I got bit by the travel bug during my studies in London and after that I wanted to travel and work abroad.

Tell us about your career.

I started my career in audit at Deloitte after graduation. A few years later I was hired at IHS in Denver, and then moved to their Epsom office in the UK when my ex-husband was transferred to the Deloitte London office. I worked in the UK for two years and then moved back to Denver. I worked in the international group at CH2M Hill for about 18 months before my husband, at the time, took a job in Amsterdam and we moved. I joined Liberty three months after moving to Amsterdam and I have been working in their Global European headquarters in Amsterdam for seven years.

Tell us about your current role at Liberty Global

My current role is as Senior Manager of Transfer Pricing and Technical Accounting. My primary role is reviewing all the non-routine transactions for the corporate entities and ensuring they are recorded properly for US GAAP. I am in charge of the five transfer pricing models that are run out of corporate and help identify and develop new models with our corporate tax group. I also oversee the management reporting and various other reporting aspects for the corporate jet part which was part of my original role which has followed me through my role changes at Liberty.

What do you like best about your job?

I like that I get to see a lot of different things. Liberty is a very dynamic company, just when think you have a handle on what you are doing things change, someone comes up with something new or puts a twist on what would otherwise be a normal transaction. It can be quite challenging. I love the diversity in transactions and that I get to work with a variety of different business groups. There is never a dull moment.



How do you like living in Amsterdam?

I really like Amsterdam. It's very laid back. The weather could be better, but you learn to appreciate the good weather when it does finally come. I love the café culture. At the first sign of sun and warm, everyone is at the outdoor café areas and in the park. I enjoy riding my bike; it is by far the fastest and easiest way to get around Amsterdam and good exercise as well. The work life balance is fantastic. People respect your time off and by law anyone can work part time unless your employer can prove it's not feasible with your role. I have taken advantage of that! I'm not sure if I will ever be able to go back to full time. What's not to love about 5 weeks of vacation a year!

What has been challenging about living abroad?

The lack of customer service, the store hours, the lack of flexibility sometimes and being away from family. Living so far away from family and old friends is challenging but also good. It's forced me to meet different people and develop a good support network locally.



What are your hobbies?

I love to cook and bake. I'm passionate about wine, chocolate and good food in general. I play squash, scuba dive, salsa dance, hang out with friends and enjoy reading when I can find the time. I can't forget spending time with my lovely dogs who enjoy playing in the park on those warm days that seem to be so rare. And I love to travel.

Tell us about your family?

My Amsterdam family is myself my Welsh Terrier Colwyn, my Lakeland Terrier Kendal and an Airedale Terrier Emmie, a very special dog that will join the family very soon.

What are your future plans?

Very good question. As long as I'm happy in Europe I'll be staying here. When a new opportunity presents itself then I'll decide what to do at that point. I'm just going to see where life takes me.

Help us build our alumni network. Send your photo(s) and bio to [Jill Whelan](#) to be featured in the newsletter.

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Recent Happenings in the School of Accountancy

Nominations for Alumnus of the Year Award and Young Alumnus of the Year Awards

The University of Denver School of Accountancy Advisory Board Alumni Committee seeks to celebrate alumnae who have had exceptional achievement. The awards will be presented during the annual School of Accountancy's spring banquet.

Recognition criteria for the Alumnus of the Year Award are as follows:

- An alumnus of the School of Accountancy
- Demonstrated achievement of notable measure in the field of accounting;
- Demonstrated leadership capability;
- Demonstrated public service in their community and/or volunteer activities to the School of Accountancy, Daniels College of Business or University of Denver;
- Demonstrated efforts to be a Daniels Pioneer through Ethical Practice, Thought Leadership and Global Impact
- Additionally, the Young Alumnus will have graduated within the past 10 years.

If you know of an individual who meets these criteria please forward their name and year of graduation (if known) to Jill Whelan at jwhelan@du.edu. Nominations will be accepted through Friday, April 12th.

Questions? Contact Jan Weiss at jan@golfspecialties.com

FOX31 Denver Interview Expert Dr. James Sorensen

School of Accountancy professor, Dr. James Sorensen recently spent two months reviewing the Adams 12 Five Star School District's finances, budget process and allegations that the school officials were hiding tens of millions of dollars. [Watch the interview with FOX31 or read the article and Dr. Sorensen's findings.](#)

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Student Corner

VITA Team Will Exceed 250 Tax Returns This Weekend

The VITA team will conclude their final sessions this weekend. To date, they have prepared nearly 180 returns and look forward to meeting with 80 additional clients this weekend. They hope to reach or exceed their goal of 250 returns. The VITA team has had roughly 60 student volunteers put in about 490 hours. And, as if they don't have enough on their plate at this time of the year, there have been 16 firm member volunteers put in 100 hours. Current students Steven Li and Ally Girardi have put in considerable time and effort. We are excited about their fantastic accomplishments.

Rocky Mountain Beta Alpha Psi Regional Meeting Results



The Alpha Zeta chapter had two teams compete in the Best Practices competition at the Rocky Mountain Beta Alpha Psi meeting. The Innovation Team (Ryan Stine, Parag Sheth, Dan Gerstel) presented of "Elevating Etiquette". This program focuses on improving soft skills necessary to be successful in different business scenarios, such as dining experiences. The team has hosted both an American and Chinese etiquette dinner thus far. The Imagination Team (Natalie Daubert, Leslie Zwirn, Crista Thompson) presented on improving business

writing skills. The program offers resume, cover letter, thank-you note, and memo workshops with knowledge experts. Both teams gave distinguished presentations, and took second place overall.

Danika Tibbetts, BAP President, and Mariah Bloom, BAP Vice President of Community Service, also presented on Chapter Operations at the regional meeting. They explained programs in place at DU and led a panel of topics regarding 'Keeping Members Active'. They have been asked to present on a similar Chapter Operations topic at the Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA this summer.

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Upcoming SoA, Daniels and DU Events

Join the SoA to Honor

Krishen Mehta - 2013 DU Master Scholar

Dessert Reception 7 PM

Presentation "Global Trade, Tax and Social Justice" 8 PM

Tuesday, April 23rd

7 PM

Joy Burns Atrium

2044 E. Evans Ave

[RSVP](#)

SoA Student Awards and Spring Banquet

Friday, May 17

Wellshire Events Center

Please [visit here](#) to view more upcoming events.

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

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[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Alumni and Friend News



Mark Kozik (BSAC 1977) recently joined Holland & Hart LLP in the firm's Tax practice. Kozik is of counsel and is based out of the firm's Denver office. Kozik advises clients on state and local tax matters, including income, franchise, sales, and use tax issues. He also represents clients in state and local tax controversies. He spent 20 years as a tax accountant in the federal and state tax practices at the Denver office of a national accounting firm. He also taught as an adjunct and full-time professor for over 20 years at the University of Denver in the Graduate Tax Program. Kozik is a member of the tax sections of the American Bar Association and the Colorado Bar Association, and a member of the Denver Bar Association. In addition, he is a member of the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants.

In addition to his undergraduate degree from the University of Denver, Mark holds an LL.M. in taxation from University of Miami School of Law, a J.D. from Drake University Law School.\

If you would like to have a news note included in the next edition of the School of Accountancy News, please send it to Jill Whelan at jwhelan@du.edu.

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Contact Information Request

The School of Accountancy is always updating alumni contact information so we can stay in touch. If you know of other alumni who are not currently getting the School of Accountancy Newsletter, please invite them to send in their email address so we can stay connected. Please send any updated address, work or email information to Jill Whelan at jwhelan@du.edu. Also, if you have any news that would be of interest to your classmates, please let us know!

[\(Back to Top\)](#)