



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

DANIELS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
School of Accountancy

School of Accountancy Alumni Newsletter | December 2019



Director's Update

With students on winter break, the campus is quiet, but things are really heating up with opportunities for our SoA alumni community to connect.



Last month, the Alumni Engagement Council hosted the first in our professional development series: "Should Stay or Should I Go?" focusing on the merits of staying in public accounting versus going to other pursuits. We were pleased to offer CPE and a complimentary breakfast at the event.

Thanks to Sara Bohnen (BSAcc, MAcc 2009), EY; Joshua Schulz (MAcc 2013), DIA; Kyle Reppert (BSAcc, MAcc 2010), Experis; and Sunny Su (MAcc 2014, MT 2016), RubinBrown LLP for being panelists and Shivani Mohan (BSAcc 2008), Life Line Financial Group for moderating the discussion.

The Alumni Engagement Council will continue this series on Dec. 12, 2019, with "Managing an Accounting Department" and Jan. 24, 2020, with "What Else Can I Do?"

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 black ink that reads "Sharon Lassar".

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

Upcoming Events

presented by:
THE SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES



Managing an Accounting Department

Please join the Alumni Engagement Council for a panel discussion featuring SoA alumni who will discuss management of an accounting department. Breakfast will be served.

Panelists:

Regina Mattie, vice president corporate accounting, Empower Retirement
Brian Petersen, managing director, Versus Capital
Heidi O'Neil, director of accounting, Denver International Airport
Shivani Mohan of Life Line Financial Group will serve as moderator.

1 HOUR CPE AVAILABLE
(Personal Development - Non-technical)

Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019
7:30 - 9 a.m.
Schneider Boardroom | Daniels College of Business

This event is complimentary for SoA alumni, **but registration is required.**

RSVP

*Save the Date for Jan. 24, 2020! The Alumni Engagement Council presents the third topic in the Professional Development Series: **What Else Can I Do?***



YOU'RE INVITED
SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY
ALUMNI RECEPTION &
DU v. CC
HOCKEY GAME

You're invited to the School of Accountancy Alumni Reception and the DU v. CC hockey game. Revisit your alma mater, catch up with other alumni and cheer on the Pioneers as we take on our rivals. Tickets go fast, so make sure to sign up early!

Friday, Dec. 13, 2019

SoA Reception

6 p.m. | Studio D | Ritchie Center

Pre-game meal and drink ticket will be provided

DU v. CC Game

7 p.m. | Ritchie Center

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of J2T Recruiting, a donation of \$10 per ticket will be made to the Wayne Shroyer Memorial Endowed Fund supporting scholarships for SoA students.

\$30 each

RSVP



*Exclusively serving the Denver and Boulder markets since 2000, **J2T** has collaborated with clients of all sizes to successfully create thriving and effective teams. As a Colorado-born recruiting firm specializing in accounting and finance, J2T advocates for a variety of organizations and works with exceptional individuals in the local community.*

**The Alumni Engagement Council presents
the Sixth Annual Winter Mixer**



Reconnect with your classmates, meet School of Accountancy faculty members and get to know your vast alumni network. Enjoy short presentations by featured alumni and faculty before mingling with fellow alums in a networking reception.

Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020

6 - 8 p.m.

Reiman Theater | Margery Reed Hall

2306 East Evans Avenue

Denver, CO 80208

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and hosted bar. This event is complimentary, but registration is required.

RSVP



**Calling all mentors!
Become an SoA alumni mentor.**

Apply today to be a mentor in the School of Accountancy's Mentoring 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](mailto:Kristen.Dimig) for more information.

Get to Know Your Network

Meet Alumna Sara Bohnen (BSAcc, MAcc 2009)



Why did you decide to receive your degree from the School of Accountancy?
Were there any particular experiences that triggered your interest in accounting?

My favorite toy was my mom's 10-key calculator, and I recall having fun helping my parents with monthly billing for their small business. I also went with my mom to meetings with a CPA. I saw how the CPA used her technical skill to help her clients solve problems. Taking a high school accounting course confirmed my accounting interest and led me to the DU School of Accountancy. I felt confident in my choice knowing accounting was a professional career that I could take anywhere and choose from a wide variety of career paths.

What did you enjoy most about getting your degree from the School of Accountancy? Any highlights of your college career you'd like to share?

The learning environment at the School of Accountancy was rewarding. I was challenged and guided by the faculty on a daily basis, which helped me develop and grow. My peers were great team members for group projects and our camaraderie created a network ripe for learning, support, and relationships that have lasted well beyond our years at DU.



How has your education from the School of Accountancy benefited you in your career?

The School of Accountancy prepared me for my career in and out of the classroom with critical thinking, technical writing, and soft skills. The school's connections to the Big 4 firms opened doors to internships in both New York City and Denver, which then led to a full-time audit role at Ernst & Young (EY) in Denver. DU's study abroad programs at Oxford and the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands expanded my global mindset and equipped me for serving global clients, including working with EY teams across five countries and traveling to South America to serve a client with operations in the Amazon.



Tell us about your career. What led you to your current point? What do you find enjoyable, rewarding, and/or interesting about your professional life?

I joined EY in 2009 and am currently a senior manager in the assurance practice serving both public and private clients in a variety of industries. Every day is dynamic and rewarding serving in my many roles at the firm. I enjoy being a trusted resource for my clients as well as a formal counselor to four EY seniors. My role as the DU recruiting team leader allows me to return to Daniels often and connect with students to share a wealth of positive EY experiences. Additionally, I mentor a student through the SoA mentorship program. I also spend 2-3 weeks each year travelling to teach training to our new managers across the West region. Serving as co-chair of the EY Denver Professional Women's Network lets me aid in our mission to inspire, connect, and empower our women professionals through a variety of events. I feel grateful to work with my teams and be part of a world class organization.



What do you enjoy doing outside of work? Hobbies? Interests?

I am an Orangetheory fitness junky, play on two or three different volleyball teams throughout the year, and like to ski and travel. I also love to cook and have competed in a few beef cookoff challenges in search for the perfect tenderloin. As a Colorado native, I cheer on the Broncos, Avalanche, Nuggets, Rockies and of course our DU Pioneers! In the community, I am engaged in organizations such as Boettcher Scholar Alumni, Back on My Feet, United Way, Downtown Denver Partnership and Young Guns for the National Western Scholarship Trust. I am also an avid fan of my 11 nieces and nephews, and you can often find me on the weekends cheering for their Stratton Eagles or Limon Badgers.



What are your plans for the future?

I aspire to be a mentor to others at the firm while also taking on more senior leadership roles and expanding my portfolio of clients. I look forward to what the upcoming years will bring!

Alumni Notes



Congratulations to **Nichole Parker (BSAcc, BA 2012; MAcc 2013)** and her husband, Victor! They got married on October 6, 2019 in Morrison, CO. The pair included their two pups, Nala and Summer in the festivities. Parker also started a new job at Tableau as a Revenue Manager in early September, and they officially relocated to Seattle last month.

Job Opportunities and Professional Development

Daydream Apartments is looking for a Real Estate Accountant and Accounting Manager at their Denver office. Please see the [posting](#) for more information.

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

HAVE ANY EXCITING NEWS?

Promotions, marriages, new babies, major moves, job changes or awards? Let us know! We'll share the news with your alumni family in the alumni notes section of the newsletter.

Email kristen.dimig@du.edu with any updates.



UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have a new email address, recently moved, changed employment, got married or have other information to update, please do so [here](#).

Faculty Updates

Last month, Associate Professor Ryan Casey, PhD, CPA presented his paper *Do Shareholders Benefit from Firms' Tax Savings?* at Marquette University.

On the Lighter Side - Humor from the Grove

My wife told me I had to stop acting like a flamingo. So I had to put my foot down.

I bought my friend an elephant for his room.
He said "Thanks"
I said "Don't mention it"

So what if I don't know what Armageddon means? It's not the end of the world.

Have you heard about those new corduroy pillows? They're making headlines.

[View in browser](#)



School of Accountancy | Daniels College of Business |
University of Denver
2101 S. University Blvd.
Suite 355
Denver, Colorado 80208

To manage which emails you receive from us, please [log in](#) to your account.
To unsubscribe from our emails, [click here](#).