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Director's Update

We are thrilled to announce that two of our recent graduates, Mallory Bennett (BSACC, MACC '16) and Rachel Meek (BSACC, MACC '16), have accepted positions as Postgraduate Technical Assistant at the Financial Accounting Standard Board (pictured at right). These positions are highly competitive, with only 12 students from across the country selected each year.

Mallory and Rachel join other SoA alums Danika Tibbetts (BSACC, MACC '13), Andrew McClaskey (BSACC, MACC '15) and Alexis Tanoue (BSACC,

MACC '15) who have all served as PTAs in the past three years. We are proud of the legacy these students have built for the School of Accountancy and look forward to continuing it for years to come.



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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 Jodye.Whitesell@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



The SoA has a new team member! Please join me in welcoming our new Alumni Relations and Development Coordinator, Kristen Dimig (pictured at left). Kristen will be taking over Jill Whelan's responsibilities and will be the primary point of contact for our alumni going forward (kristen.dimig@du.edu). Kristen holds a BS from Colorado State University and has experience in communications,

marketing, higher education, and development. We are thrilled to welcome her to our School of Accountancy family and look forward to introducing her to you all next time you're on campus.

Best,

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

Dr. Sharon Lassar, Director, School of Accountancy

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Upcoming Events

Spring Financial Planning Workshops

Maximize your personal finances by attending one or more of our financial planning workshops. Let financial experts advance your financial literacy and help you make

responsible decisions for your future. All workshops run 6-8 pm and will be held in the Daniels College of Business (room TBD).

April 28, 2016 - Get Your Foot in the Door: Investing in Real Estate
May 19, 2016 - Using Your (Human) Resources: Financial Implications of HR Decisions

[Register here](#)

2016 Elevate Ethics: Ethical Leadership in American Business

Join Daniels for an engaging discussion on ethical standards, guidelines, and their meaning in today's business environment. Enterprise Ethics will feature Deborah DeHaas, Vice Chairman of Deloitte; Gary Burandt, Executive Director of ICOM; and Robert Swieringa, alum of the SoA and Independent Director on the Board of General Electric Company.

April 12, 2016, 5-9pm
Margery Reed Hall 113, Reiman Theater
[More Information Here](#)

Save the Date: 2016 SoA Town Hall

Mark your calendars! This year's Town Hall event will take place the evening of October 24, 2016. Our featured speaker is [William D. Cohan](#), best selling author of numerous titles including Money and Power, House of Cards, and The Last Tycoons. Keep an eye out for an invitation in the coming months.

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Get to Know Your Network

Meet Alumnus Danny O'Laughlin (BSACC, MACC '14)

Danny was drawn to DU because of its close proximity to the mountains and its small program size. On an early visit to campus, he was able to meet with Carl Williams, a founding father of the cable industry who worked alongside Bill Daniels and Bob Magness. "Even though Carl was not an alumni of DU he had nothing but the best to say about the University, and Daniels College of Business in particular," Danny says. This meeting with Carl and hearing that DU placed a strong emphasis on ethics were both major contributors to Danny's decision to attend DU, where he started as a finance major in the fall of 2009.

During his study abroad experience his junior year, he found he had a difficult time succeeding unless he was adequately challenged. When he returned to DU from abroad, he asked around and heard that accounting was the most difficult major at Daniels. Excited about the challenge this presented, he immediately switched to the School of Accountancy and five weeks later, found himself taking a quiz on the very first day of the Core – a quiz that confirmed the rumors about the difficulty associated with the accounting major.

While challenging, Danny's experience in the Core was certainly rewarding as well. "The friends I made in the Core are definitely one of my favorite memories from DU,"



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.





he says. While finishing his MACC, Danny participated in a national business valuation case competition where he and his teammates took home first place. Not only was this a memorable experience for the team, but two of them – including Danny – now work in valuations. Even since graduating, Danny has maintained close ties with the valuation team coach, Dr. Keith Sellers, a professor he credits with sparking his interest in valuation. They frequently bounce questions off of each other on emerging issues and Danny regularly guest lectures in Keith's valuation class.

Danny's focus on valuation started in Dr. Sellers' class. "I was beginning to realize I was a jack of all trades, and a master of none, so it was difficult for me to choose a career path," he says. The diversity of the valuation profession was a huge draw and Danny loved the creativity and flexibility that the gray areas of valuation allows.

Since graduating in 2014, Danny has worked in Valuation Services at RSM McGladery, in addition to earning a myriad of certifications (CPA, CMA, CVA, and CFA Level I). "I love the variety of my professional life," he says. He has worked with teams in China and Luxembourg and valued assets around the world, from bankrupt restaurants to billion dollar alternative energy projects. "The breadth of courses and experiences [provided at the School of Accountancy] have greatly assisted me in my career," he says. "My education at DU, especially the upper level accounting courses, helps me



provide creative solutions to my clients." Danny plans to continue working his way towards manager and will be sitting for the CFA Level II exam this June.



In his spare time, Danny competes in triathlons and loves skiing, mountain biking, and traveling. In the two years since his graduation, he has been to Costa Rica, Peru, and Eastern and Central Europe and is currently planning a trip to Southeast Asia with some of his study abroad friends. Professionally, Danny hopes to translate this love of travel into a rotation abroad.

At DU, Danny remains actively involved in the School of Accountancy, not only by guest lecturing in Dr. Sellers' valuation class, but also by serving as a mentor in our undergraduate mentor program. If you are interested in similar involvement opportunities, contact our new Alumni Coordinator, [Kristen Dimig](#).

Alumni Notes

SoA Alum and Adjunct Professor **David Dassler** (BSACC, MACC 1990) is proud to announce that his daughter Kellyn has been selected as a 2016 Boettcher Scholar. Kellyn (at right) is currently a senior at Chaparral High School in Parker, CO where she ranks 8th out of 454 students.





She is also a National Merit Finalist, a 2016 DECA National Qualifier, earned her Girl Scout Gold Award in September of 2015, and serves as the Captain of the tennis team and Co-President of her high school's Interact Club. This fall, she will start school at CSU studying biology and english. David's older daughter, Leah (at left), is also making waves. She was recently awarded a 2016 Critical Language Scholarship from the U.S. State Department and will be heading to Shaanxi Normal University in Xian, China for nine weeks this summer to study Chinese. Leah is a sophomore at Whitworth University in Spokane, WA majoring in economics and minoring in Chinese.

We are continuously impressed with the Dassler family and cannot wait to hear more about their upcoming experiences!

Job Opportunities

Gart Properties is looking for a Property Accountant and would love to hire a DU alum. Contact [Jodye](#) for a detailed job description and send your resume to Ian Nichols at inichols@gartproperties.com to apply.

Pioneer Works, a unique non-profit based in Brooklyn, is looking for a COO/CFO/Director. Through educational programs, performances, exhibitions, and more, the company serves to transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries, to foster community, and to provide a space where alternative modes of thought are supported in tangible ways. Contact [Jodye](#) for a detailed job description and contact their retained search partner, Larry Stybel (lstybel@stybelpeabody.com), for a more in-depth discussion of the position.

Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF) is hiring a Staff Accountant to support their organization by providing accurate, timely, and accessible financial information that will help their team make well-informed financial decisions. The ideal candidate has 2-3+ years of accounting experience. [See full job description and application instructions here.](#)

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Faculty Updates

Dr. Hugh Grove attended part of the recent NCAA basketball tournament here in Denver. He even got to hang out with Gonzaga's mascot, Spike the Bulldog (pictured at right).



On March 7th, ten students from Core I toured the

NeverSummer factory and Vollsmer Bakery with Dr. Patelli (pictured below). The tours were part of a hands-on look at local businesses that coincided with Patelli's Cost Management course. We're grateful to have such wonderful opportunities for our students to dive deep into local business.



This past Winter quarter students of Professor Loving's ACTG 4575 AIS Risk, Control and Audit competed to design and

execute the strongest IT audit for the fictitious company, Fast Freddy's Furniture Depot. Students are assigned to an audit team where they work for two weeks to develop and execute an audit over IT controls in security, backup





Daniel Suprenant (pictured at left).

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and recovery and change control. The student audit teams must interview the company's CIO to request necessary audit evidence. The CIO, who bears a strong resemblance to their professor, is not easily forthcoming with information and students require proper planning, teamwork and soft skills to successfully navigate the interview. Students prepare workpapers, identify audit issues and present their audit findings to management. There were 14 audit teams this winter quarter and the winning team was Group L: Andrew Fink, Monica Heath, Sophie Jiang, and

On the Lighter Side - Humor from Hugh Grove

Inner Peace

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can sleep without the aid of meds,
Then You Are Probably The Family Dog!

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