



DANIELS
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
UNIVERSITY of DENVER
SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY

Alumni Newsletter - April 2015

Get to Know Your Network: Dan Chenoweth (1973)

Daniel (Dan) Chenoweth was born in Trinidad, CO. When he was young, his father was a machinist for Colorado Interstate Gas Company. His family lived in Model (about 65 miles east of Trinidad), a small town built by the gas company to house the employees, known as a "booster station." Dan's family moved to Pueblo when he was five years old where he attended High School and college, graduating with a BS Accounting from Southern Colorado State College (now CSU- Pueblo).

Dan made his way through college by utilizing scholarships and working part time, graduating in May of 1970. He then applied to both CSU and DU for graduate school. After being accepted at CSU with an offer to be a graduate assistant to help pay for the program, Dan remembers, "I really had not considered going to DU, even if accepted, because the tuition was much more expensive than CSU and I was expecting to pay for my own education. Then Wayne Shroyer visited the SCSC campus to interview me and through his influence, I received a full-ride scholarship to DU, which included living expenses in addition to tuition and fees. There was no question I would go to DU because even in those days it had the superior program. I was thrilled and am forever grateful to Wayne Shroyer who evidently saw some potential in a young college kid and thought I might be a good fit for the DU program."

In This Issue

[Get to Know Your Network:
Dan Chenoweth \(BSAcc
1973\)](#)

[Student Corner](#)

[Recent Happenings](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[SoA Mentorship Update](#)

[Alumni Notes](#)

About the School of Accountancy

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



Dan enjoyed the caliber of professors and the learning at DU. He recalls, "Two professors are most prominent in my memory: The never-to-be-forgotten Dr. Jerome Kesselman, who was an absolute legend at the school even then, and Dr. James Sorensen who was a relatively new professor in accounting way back in 1970 and a true professional." Secondly, Dan enjoyed his fellow students and hockey. He had never attended a hockey game or knew anything about hockey until he started at DU, but he really got hooked and attended every game he could.

Dan remembers, "I had an unusual experience at DU in that I attended the summer

and fall quarters of 1970, then I was drafted into the Army. These were Vietnam War days and the 1968 lottery had me pegged for the draft. I ended up in the Finance Section vs. combat duty and spent a year at Fort Leonard Wood, MO and then a year in Germany where I spent every spare minute touring Germany and adjoining countries. This was my first time ever being outside the U.S." He returned to DU and finished fall quarter 1972 and winter quarter 1973. All of his friends from the first cohort had already graduated, so Dan found himself with a brand new group of students. On the one hand, this was a positive because he was able to meet more students but on the other hand, he found that he did not have the "traditional" university experience that most students had.

Being an educator was always Dan's passion. He originally sought a Master's Degree because he wanted to teach at the college level. After concluding that he needed a PhD in order to make teaching his career, Dan switched gears and went into public accounting. He interviewed most of the then Big 8 accounting firms and received offers from almost all of them, thanks to DU's reputation. "I began my work career with Haskins & Sells (now Deloitte) in Colorado Springs and then helped open a new H&S office in Albuquerque, NM. Because of the strong foundation in business and accounting I received at both SCSC and DU, I eventually became Controller / CFO of various companies after I left public accounting. I was the CFO of the printing / publishing subsidiary of U S WEST (now Century Link) in Loveland and was then promoted to be the General Manager. At that point my career took an interesting turn as I never again did traditional accounting work. I was two years the GM of the printing / publishing subsidiary, then Director of Quality at our parent company, U S WEST Direct (yellow pages), and finished my career at U S WEST heading a huge procurement improvement project for the phone company. In each of these last two positions, I was more or less an internal organizational development consultant. I left U S WEST in 1995 and have been a self-employed consultant and educator ever since. I partner with other consulting firms and worked two years in England with Vector Group, a consulting firm specializing in leadership development. Our clients included British Airways and Prudential Insurance

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.

(U.K.). Over the years I developed relationships with trade associations and have conducted strategic planning sessions for Colorado Youth Soccer Association (Denver), Utah Youth Soccer Association (Salt Lake City), US Youth Soccer Association (Dallas), Portland Cement Association(Chicago), National Precast Concrete Association (Indianapolis), as well as a number of other for profit and non-profit organizations (client list can be found here)."

Dan learned to never say never. In recent years he's found himself fulfilling his original goal of becoming an educator. He conducts many seminars for the Colorado Society of CPAs primarily around business ethics. In addition, he is a contractor with Executive Education (EE) out of Chelsea, Michigan. EE has relationships with 35 state CPA Societies and five Canadian provinces. Dan delivers his own seminars and others' seminars for EE throughout the country. He enjoys traveling to all parts of the U.S. and the meeting the participants. His career has gone full circle from wanting to be in the education arena to actually being in the education arena. "While I do no 'traditional' accounting work anymore, I am very active in the Colorado Society of CPAs. I served on the Education Committee, I was a member of the Board of Directors, and I am currently serving my 2nd year as the Chair of the Continuing Education Committee." Dan has seen significant changes in how education is delivered over the years. "These days in addition to traditional classroom training, CPAs have access to self-study classes, videos and webcasts. Most of the courses I deliver for Colorado are 'simulcasts' with seminar participants in a classroom with delivery occurring simultaneously via video to participants throughout the state. While this is challenging for instructors to keep up with the ever-changing technology, CPAs have more education courses available to them than ever before, in the media they want the education to be delivered, and at very reasonable prices. I must give credit to both Mary Medley, E.D. of the Colorado Society, and Rebecca Campbell, CPE Director for the Society, in their constant search for new ideas and ways to add value for CPA members here in our state."

Although work is very important to him, Dan gets the most enjoyment from spending time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He has three adult children, two girls and one boy in the middle. They take family trips and share all holidays together.

In January, Dan was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, cancer of the blood and the bone marrow. There is no cure but treatment options are promising. The prognosis is 7-10 years of relatively good health. His goal is to get through the treatments and be back on the education/speaking circuit in July/August. As you probably have guessed, Dan already has a number of dates booked through year-end and he is feeling very positive about the future. In the words of a true optimist, Dan says, "The good thing about having this sort of disease is that it puts your whole life in perspective. Little things that once irritated me don't irritate me anymore. Support from friends and family has been both overwhelming and humbling. And I thank God every day for the blessing of having my family nearby and the time I get to spend with them."

"Having a strong foundation in accounting and business from a great school like DU, coupled with public accounting and industry experience has served me well. I understand and can articulate the language of business due to my accounting background. And that background has taken me into engagements and opportunities I would never have imagined years ago when attending DU. My advice to today's accounting graduates is to keep your options open. An accounting degree certainly can lead to success in the accounting profession or even success in a variety of other occupations like education and consulting. Don't limit yourself. Use your accounting degree as the starting point for the career and life you would like to have." -Dan Chenoweth

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Student Corner

Two SoA students are going to FASB!



Alexis Tanoue (BSAcc/Macc, '15) and Andrew McClaskey (BSAcc/MAcc, '15) were both selected for prestigious, highly-competitive positions as Postgraduate Technical Assistants at the Financial Accounting Standards Board. Only a handful of students from across the country are selected for these positions every year, so we are incredibly proud and honored to have two of our own among that elite group. Alexis and Andrew will start in July 2015 and January 2016, respectively. Alexis graduated Summa



cum Laude from the dual-degree program this March after working as a teaching assistant for numerous quarters and completing an internship with EY. Andrew will graduate at the end of fall 2015 with his BSAcc and MAcc and an internship at KPMG under his belt. He is currently an SoA teaching assistant, President of Beta Alpha Psi (formerly VP of Membership) and a member of the national Business Valuations Challenge team. We are so proud of both of these extraordinary students and all of their accomplishments.

Volunteers Needed: Accounting Scholars Development Program

On May 12, 2015, the School of Accountancy is hosting a one-day Accounting Scholars Development Program and we need your help! The program is designed to introduce local community college students to what accounting looks like – from how to transfer to a four-year school and earn a bachelor's degree to what "CPA" means to what a day in the life of an accountant looks like. We are looking for volunteers to help in the afternoon with a resume workshop, mock interviews and a networking reception. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Jodye Whitesell](#) for more details. .

Graduating students ace the CPA exam!

This past month, five School of Accountancy students – Alex Grecnik, Patrick Herrmann, Tim Raff, Spencer Solove, and Alexis Tanoue – successfully passed all four parts of the CPA exam on their first attempt. All five students performed exceptionally on the exams and we are so proud of this major accomplishment! Herrmann, Raff, Solove and Tanoue graduated this March with both bachelor and master degrees in accountancy. Grecnik will finish up classes this spring and graduate in June, also with his bachelor and master degrees. Congratulations to you all and welcome to our alumni family!

Student Presentations and Tour

On Friday, March 6th, at the end of the Corporate Consulting course, two student teams gave their final presentation to the CFO and Controller of Ciber and School of Accountancy Board Member, Christian Mezger.



Douglas Mark, Dylan Luan, Andrew Livingston, Eugene Brown, Jue Wen and Jeffrey Edwards presented the findings of the business analysis they performed on a major competitor of Ciber. Jessie Liu, Sonya Gu, Ross Pelton, Patrick Eckrich, Simon Latimer, and Patrick Herrmann presented the consequences of the new revenue recognition standard FASB 2014-09 and offered recommendations to help Ciber transitioning to the new rules.

The presentations marked the completion of a quarter-long learning experience during which students interacted with Ciber executives on a weekly basis to discuss actual problems faced by the company.

On the same day, Prof. Patelli accompanied a group of Core I students (Cynthia Rodriguez, Roy-Michael Harris, Clay Sugg, Matthew Dalton and John Rider) to tour the production facilities of Never Summer and Vollmer's Cheesecake Factory. Students had the opportunity to see two different manufacturing operations and learn more about production planning.



[\[return to top\]](#)

Recent Happenings

Presentations, Publications and Awards

Dr. Erin Nickell had an article accepted for publication in the journal *Accounting and the Public Interest*. The article is titled "The Public Interest Imperative in Corporate Sustainability Reporting Research."

Dr. Adam Greiner presented his research entitled, "The Impact of Real Earnings Management on Current and Future Audit Fees," at the Daniels College of Business Research Colloquium on March 27, 2015. This study is co-authored with his colleagues Dr. Mark Kohlbeck at Florida Atlantic University and Dr. Tom Smith at the University of South Florida.

Dr. Jim Sorensen and co-author Dr. Thomas Barrett worked together on the publication of *Human Services Program Evaluation - How to improve your accountability and program effectiveness*. Both Dr. Sorensen and Dr. Barrett are

leaders in the area of Program Evaluation and data driven decision support.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Upcoming Events

Join your fellow Daniels Pioneers - Denver's Red Hot Real Estate: How Business Can Revitalize Community

Wednesday, April 22, 2015 | 6 - 8 p.m.

3350 Brighton Blvd.

Denver, CO 80216

Cost: \$15 per person

Includes light appetizers from Comida and one drink ticket.

[RSVP Online](#)

Special Remarks by Kyle Zeppelin, Principal, Zeppelin Development
Zeppelin Development is committed to promoting social change through intelligently designed projects that address unmet needs in the market and provide a catalyst to surrounding neighborhoods.

Join us for a banquet honoring the retirement of two beloved School of Accountancy Professors, Dr. F. Lee Pollart and Professor David "Buff" Honodel, both of whom will be retiring after spring quarter

Sunday, May 17, 2015 - 6:00 PM

Dinner - 6:30 PM

\$75/person

Tuscan Ballroom

Joy Burns Center

University of Denver

[RSVP Online](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

School of Accountancy Mentorship Program

The School of Accountancy Mentorship Program is moving along wonderfully. Our



alumni are engaging with their mentees by meeting once a month to coach and guide the students through important topics like networking, industry expectations, internship recommendations, etc. We were excited to receive a picture from alumnus Elliott Parks (BSAC, MAcc 2006) and his mentee Diego Garcia (SoA Junior) after they attended a recent DU hockey game.

Thank you to all of our alumni who have volunteered to be mentors to our students. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated. With a 100% employment placement rate, the School of Accountancy is preparing the students well to find employment. Our alumni, through mentorship, are taking the School's efforts a step further by sharing their experience, networks and knowledge with our students.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Alumni Notes

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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