



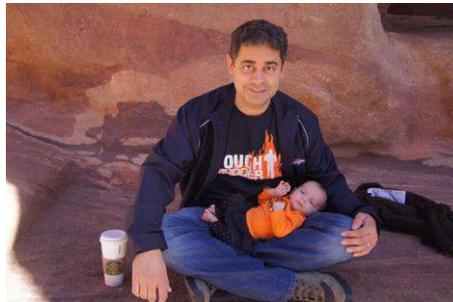
DANIELS
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY



SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY | ALUMNI NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2015

Get to Know Your Network: Meet Alumnus Patrick Gibbs (BSACC 2000)

Patrick grew up all around Colorado – from the heart of Denver near DU to the rural farm area around Fort Morgan. In the summer between his Junior and Senior years of high school, he participated in Harvard University’s Secondary School, a program that gives high school students a chance to attend real Harvard classes with real Harvard students. Patrick says, “It was a summer I will never forget, but I knew Colorado was my home, so moving to Cambridge after high school was never an option for me. I set my sights on what I called the ‘Harvard of the West’...The University of Denver. Back then, there was no Daniels building, Cable Center, or even a Ritchie Center, but I could feel something special about the school. I remember jumping up and down outside of the Margery Reed Building when my advisor told me I had been accepted.”



Patrick originally aspired to follow in his family’s footsteps and become a doctor, but a high school accounting teacher, Phil Stadler, inspired him to change his career path and pursue accounting. “He got me involved in DECA and FBLA and suddenly a spark was lit,” Patrick says. “I realized that I didn’t have to go into medicine, and since accounting was such a fun class, that’s what I thought I would study in college.” He initially thought accounting would be an easy major, one that would allow him to coast through college, but, as he says, “Boy was I in for a surprise!”

While earning his bachelor’s degree, Patrick started as a tax intern at PricewaterhouseCoopers, a position he found through his network at the School. At



the time, interns chose a specialty after their internships that largely defined their career path. Patrick chose Personal Financial Services (PFS), the tax group that advised individual clients on their income, estate, and gift taxes. Patrick quickly made his way up the ranks and soon started running the PFS practice, an experience that fit well with his entrepreneurial spirit.

In February 2015, he took a new position as a Tax Director at R.G. Fowler & Co.,

P.C., a small CPA firm specializing in serving ultra-high net worth individuals and their related private businesses. While he loved every minute at PwC, he saw this new opportunity as one he could not pass up and he’s been thoroughly enjoying his new role ever since. “It has been everything I had hoped it would be,” he says, “and I keep pinching myself thinking I’ll wake up from this pleasant dream called life.” Patrick plans to learn as much as possible in his new role, especially about running a

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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 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,

business. He says, "It is quite a different thing to run a practice inside a big-four firm [as he did with the PFS group at PwC] and running an entire business. I'm fortunate to have a great mentor in Mr. Fowler and a great team of professionals that he has put together."

Patrick credits the School of Accountancy for numerous aspects of his career growth, saying "I couldn't be more thankful to the School of Accountancy for helping launch my career!" In particular, Patrick applauds the School for how well it prepared him for public speaking – a part of his job he now loves. The professors' evaluations of not only content and technical correctness, but also presentation skills challenged him to improve beyond the basics. "Being able to take complex, even dry topics and translate them into a format that can be educational and even entertaining really paid-off in my career," he says.



At PwC, Patrick was given the opportunity to work in the Financial Education Practice, a group dedicated to personal finance education and wellness that presented to large groups of employees at clients like UPS and Pepsi. He traveled to nearly every state delivering personal financial planning workshops. "Public speaking became almost an addiction and gave me so much job satisfaction that PwC noticed," he says. PwC soon had Patrick speaking at high profile client proposals and teaching their national tax conferences, both experiences that helped advance his career. In his new role at R.G. & Fowler, P.C., Patrick still seeks frequent opportunities to speak in public, regularly instructing at the FBI's annual Economic Crimes Unit CPA Conference and even guest lecturing in the School's courses.



During his time at DU, Patrick met his wife Hayley and in 2008, they were married at the little chapel on DU's campus, with their reception in the Tuscan Ballroom in the Hospitality Management building (Joy Burns). They now have a three-year-old son named Elliott and a three-month-old daughter named Penelope. Because of Patrick's love of traveling, Elliot is already a seasoned traveler and hopes to learn how to ski this winter. Penelope just recently learned how to smile and grab at objects nearby. "They grow so fast," Patrick says, "so I'm just trying to enjoy these early years as much as possible." As a new hobby, Patrick has started producing and editing short family home videos. "I'm a sentimental and nostalgic kind of guy" he says, "so preserving our family memories for future generation appeals to me."

Patrick remains an active member of our vast alumni community and we look forward to watching his career continue to grow.

Know someone who would make a great spotlight? Send us their name at Jodye.Whitesell@du.edu.



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.



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Student Corner

We need your help! Become an mentor in our 2016 Mentor Match Program

Apply today to be a mentor in the School of Accountancy Mentor Match 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. [Fill out your application for the January program start today.](#) Email Jodye Whitesell for more information.

2016 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance: Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help prepare and review tax returns for Beta Alpha Psi's 2016 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Volunteer trainings will take place in late January for sessions in January, February, March and April. Contact Sonia Crosby-Attipoe and Shawnte Roberts at vita.dubap@gmail.com for more information.

Beta Alpha Psi Updates

This fall, our Beta Alpha Psi chapter launched BAPmasters, a program modeled after Toastmasters aimed at developing students' presentation and public speaking skills. Between ten and twenty BAP members showed up each week to face their fears by addressing their peers. At each meeting, members rotated roles as Host, Master of Ceremonies, Prepared Speakers, Evaluators, and Impromptu Speakers. Top performers were awarded with a ribbon after a vote each week. Members were also encouraged to complete a certification program, a significant resume booster that can be completed within a quarter. The program kicked off this Fall under the direction of Roy Harris, VP of Professional Development, and has been received well. Even professors have enjoyed participating in the meetings! We are excited to see the program continue to grow in the coming years, as it has a huge potential impact on students' skills.

Beta Alpha Psi is welcoming a new group of officers in January that will serve for the first two quarters of 2016. We're excited to watch the chapter continue to evolve and deliver exemplary programs to our students. The new officers are:



President - Mallory Bennett
VP Programming - Ari Parrilla
VP Membership - Rachel Meek
VP Reporting - Jane Yu
VP Treasury - Julio Pinto
VP Development - Justin Koppstein
VP Service - Zoey Chapman

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Recent Happenings

Awards, Presentations and Publications

Dr. Keith Sellers presented his paper titled "The Effect of Taxes on Value: Evidence versus Theory" at the AICPA's Annual Forensic & Valuation Services Conference. The presentation covered material from his new professional book, [Taxes and Value: The Ongoing Research and Analysis Relating to the S Corporation Valuation Puzzle](#), coauthored with Nancy Fannon.

Dr. Sellers also recently presented a half-day CPE program for the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the National Association of Certified Valuators and Analysts (NACVA) focusing on the valuation of employee stock options and the valuation of pass-through entities.

Dr. Sellers and Dr. John Tripp published an article in the November issue of *Journal of Accountancy* titled "Converting from C to S Corp. may be costlier than you think."

Dr. Ryan Casey published an article titled "Do Compustat Financial Statement Data Articulate?" in the inaugural issue of the new *Journal of Financial Reporting*.

Dr. Hugh Grove published two papers this month, one with the help of his research assistant Helen Ryu (MACC '16). "Chinese RTO Mining and Energy Companies and the Ghost City Benefits", coauthored with Mac Clouse, will be in the December issue of *Oil, Gas and Energy Quarterly*. "The Application of Accounting Fraud Models to South Korean Companies Listed on the United States Stock Exchanges and the Implication for Auditors", coauthored with Mac Clouse and MACC student Helen Ryu, will be published in the *International Research Journal of Applied Finance*.

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Upcoming Events



Daniels Annual Snowball

Thursday, December 10
6 - 9 p.m.
The Cable Center
2000 Buchtel Blvd.
Denver, CO

Meet School of Accountancy faculty, staff, and other alums at the photo booth at 7:30 pm for a fun group photo!

\$40 per person | \$30 recent graduate (2010 - 2015)
Includes cocktails, heavy appetizers, photo booth and parking

Festive cocktail attire

[Register Today!](#)

Get to Know Your Network: Winter Alumni Mixer

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

January 7, 2016

6-8pm

Reiman Theater, Margery Reed Hall

[Register here](#)

Spring Financial Planning Workshops

Maximize your personal finances by attending one or more of our financial planning workshops. Let our 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).

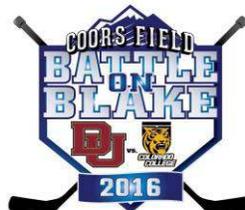
- January 14, 2016 - Navigating the Stormy Seas: Investing in the Stock Market and Saving for Retirement
- April 28, 2016 - Get Your Foot in the Door: Investing in Real Estate
- May 19, 2016 - Using Your (Human) Resources: Financial Implications of HR Decisions

[Register here](#)

Battle on Blake: DU v. CC Hockey Game at Coors Field

For the first time in Colorado history, Coors Field will play host to an OUTDOOR hockey match-up between the University of Denver and arch-rival Colorado College this February.

Note: The club-level alumni reception is sold out. Regular tickets are available at the link below.



When: Saturday, February 20, 2016

4:30 pm - Gates Open

6:30 pm - Game Time

Where: Coors Field - 2001 Blake Street, Denver, CO 80205

[Buy your tickets here](#)

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Alumni Notes

Jeff McPherson (BSACC, MACC '04) and John Reeves (BSACC, MACC '04) were both recently promoted to partner at EKS&H. During their time at DU, McPherson was a Trueblood Scholar and Reeves was a Lewis Scholar. Both gentlemen are continuing to grow as ethical business leaders and we are so proud of their major accomplishment!

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On the Lighter Side - Humor from Hugh Grove

I Love My Doctor - Dr. Feelgoodinthemorning

Q: Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life. Is this true?

A: Your heart is only good for so many beats, and that's it... Don't waste them on exercise. Everything wears out eventually.. Speeding up your heart will not make you live longer; it's like saying you extend the life of car by driving faster. Want to live longer? Take a nap.

Q: Should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A: No, not at all. Wine is made from fruit. Brandy is distilled wine. That means they take water out of the fruity bit so you get even more of the goodness that way. Beer is also made of grain. Bottoms up!

Q: How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?

A: Well, if you have a body and you have fat, your ratio is one to one. If you have two bodies, your ratio is two to one, etc.

Q: What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

A. Can't think of single one, sorry. My philosophy is: No pain...good!

Q: Aren't fried foods bad for you?

A: YOU'RE NOT LISTENING! Foods are fried in vegetable oil these days. In fact, they are permeated by it. How could getting more vegetables be bad for you?!?

Q: Will sit-ups help prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?

A: Definitely not! When you exercise muscle, it gets bigger. You should only be doing sit-ups if you want a bigger stomach.

Q: Is chocolate bad for me?

A: Are you crazy?!? HEL-LO-O!! Cocoa bean! Another vegetable! It's the best feel-good food around!

Q: Is swimming good for your figure?

A: If swimming is good for your figure, explain the whale to me...

Q: Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?

A: Hey! 'Round' is a shape!

Well... I hope this has cleared up any misconceptions you may have had about food and diets.

And remember, life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - chardonnay in one hand, chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO-HOO, what a ride!!"

AND.....

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting nutritional studies.

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
2. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
4. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
5. The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans..

CONCLUSION: Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

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School of Accountancy | Daniels College of Business | University of Denver
2101 S. University Blvd. Suite 355
Denver, CO 80208
303.871.3337

University of Denver
2199 S. University Blvd.
Denver, CO 80208

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