



**DANIELS**  
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER  
SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY

Alumni Newsletter - May 2014

## Meet the 2014 School of Accountancy Alumnus and Young Alumnus of the Year

### 2014 Alumnus of the Year Steve Betts



Steve has nearly 30 years of business experience in environmental engineering, real estate development, financial services and public Environment and public accounting. His roles have included Controller, VP-Finance, CFO and COO at privately and publicly held companies. Currently, Steve is Senior Vice President and Global Market Finance Director for the Nuclear Market at CH2M Hill where he is responsible for managing and directing all financial and administrative functions worldwide accounting.

Steve is a licensed CPA and has written and spoken on business ethics, management and leadership. He earned his Master and Bachelor of Science degrees in Accounting from the University of Denver. He served on the School of Accountancy Advisory Board for nearly 10 years. Steve is a member of the American Institute of CPAs, Colorado Society of CPAs and Financial Executives International.

Mr. Betts is a proud father of teenage daughters Natalie and Annie and is married to Nancy Simenstad-Betts (also a DU grad). He enjoys skiing, golfing and traveling with his family. Because of his many fond memories at DU as a student and alumnus, Steve continues to be a proud and avid supporter of the School of Accountancy and the University of Denver.

### 2014 Young Alumnus of the Year Ingrid Grygiel

Ingrid graduated with her dual degree in accounting in August 2009. During high school, Ingrid took two years of accounting courses but not because she wanted a career in accounting. She wanted to be a doctor and enrolled in accounting courses so that she would understand how to manage the financials of her practice someday. During her junior year of high school and her second year of high school accounting courses, Ingrid's teacher advised her that she should consider a major in accounting since she was doing well in the course, seemed to enjoy it, and it was a good field to be in that paid well. When senior year came around and it was time for Ingrid to apply to college, Ingrid took this advice to heart and decided to focus on applying to schools that offered accounting as a major. Ingrid narrowed her college decision down to Pepperdine and the University of Denver and was forced to decide between the mountains or the beach. Having grown up in two landlocked states (Arizona and Montana) along with the fact that Ingrid's parents actually met during Law School at the University of Denver made it an easy decision.



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## Upcoming Events

### - SoA Events -

#### SoA Personal Financial Planning Workshops

- Advice for Major Life Events  
Thursday, May 8 | 7:30 - 8:30 AM  
- So I'm Making Money, Now What?  
Tuesday, May 20 | 7:30 - 8:30 AM  
All workshops will be held at the Daniels College of Business Room 310  
[RSVP](#)

### - Daniels Events -

**Voices of Experience**  
Featuring Jim Lentz, CEO of Toyota Motor North America  
Wednesday, May 7 | 6 p.m.

After deciding to attend the University of Denver and declaring her major as accounting, Ingrid received some very exciting news – she was being considered for an accounting scholarship. A couple of months later Ingrid received a letter in the mail indicating that she had been awarded the John J. Gilbert Scholarship. The scholarship came with a wonderful perk – the scholarship donors. During her freshman year of college Ingrid had the opportunity to meet her scholarship donors Margot Gilbert Frank and M. Allan Frank. Since meeting Margot in 2005, Margot has been a trusted mentor and close friend of Ingrid's. Ingrid was very blessed and will be forever grateful to Margot and Allan not only for the generous scholarship they provided but also for the lifelong friendship that resulted.

After graduating in August 2009, Ingrid took a year off before starting her full-time position with PwC in Denver. Ingrid spent the first three months completing the CPA exam. After completing the CPA exam, Ingrid set off on a nine month long travel adventure. During those nine months, Ingrid spent time in New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Panama, Costa Rica, and Mexico. She fell in love with New Zealand and Mexico and hopes to have the opportunity to live in one or both of those countries at some point in the future.

Ingrid returned from her year abroad and started her career with PwC in audit in September 2010. In June 2011 Ingrid caught the travel bug again. She took a 6 week sabbatical and traveled to India to participate in a 200 hour yoga teacher training course. Ingrid remained at PwC until February 2013 when she left to pursue an opportunity as a financial analyst with Catholic Health Initiatives Institute for Research and Innovation – a wholly owned, start-up subsidiary of Catholic Health Initiatives based in Englewood, CO.

Since graduating, Ingrid has remained involved with the School of Accountancy and the greater University community, serving on the School of Accountancy's Alumni Engagement Council (SOAAEC) and the University's Sesquicentennial Committee. Ingrid has enjoyed her involvement with the SOAAEC as it has given her the ability to remain connected with the school as well as her former classmates and to work through the committee and its events to reconnect and reengage with the greater School of Accountancy alumni community.

Ingrid is engaged to the love of her life Michael Stiver. Ingrid and Michael are in the process of planning their wedding for July 3, 2015. Ingrid is also assisting Michael and her father in their endeavor to open a brewery in the West Colfax neighborhood where Ingrid and Michael live. When she is not working, wedding planning, or helping with brewery planning, Ingrid loves to practice yoga, hike, road trip, travel, drink beer and cook vegan meals.

Congrats to Steve and Ingrid. We are grateful for the wonderful support of our alumni.

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## Student Corner

### Beta Alpha Psi Succeeds again at the Regional Meeting



In April, a team of 18 Beta Alpha Psi students traveled to Salt Lake City, UT to compete in the 2014 Regional Best Practices Competition. Three teams competed, one in the Leadership category, one in Strategic Planning and one in Collaboration. The Collaboration team, represented by Rodney Castillo, Roberto Galvan and Michaela Diamond took 1st place and the Leadership team took 2nd, represented by

Shawni Johnson, Cari Winkler and Rachel Firmin. We are so proud of all of our students who competed in this event and look forward to seeing how they progress at Nationals in Atlanta this summer.

Newman Center for  
the Performing Arts  
[RSVP](#)

**Daniels Spring BBQ**  
Thursday, May 8 | 4 -  
7 p.m.  
Carnegie Green -  
Daniels West Lawn  
[RSVP](#)

**Elevate Ethics - Ethical  
Leadership in American  
Business - A Dialogue**  
Wednesday, May 14 | 5 -  
7 p.m.  
[RSVP](#)

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

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## 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 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.

## Upcoming Business Valuation Case Competition

We are excited to announce that our current School of Accountancy graduate students Paul Diegnau, Danny O'Laughlin, Ryan Stine, Suyun Gu and Jordyn Michaud were recently chosen to compete at the Business Valuation Resources/Seattle Pacific University Valuation Challenge. Our team, along with 23 other universities prepared and submitted a 30 minute video presentation of their valuation process and conclusions. The six best presentations were selected by a group of business valuation professionals. The top six teams (including the team from DU) will participate in the in-person Challenge at Seattle's Columbia Tower Club on May 9. At that time each team will make a presentation of up to 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes of Q&A from the panel of judges. In the evening of May 9 there will be a dinner and speaker at which time the winners of the Challenge will be announced.

The 2014 BVR/SPU Valuation Challenge is an opportunity for students to assess the stand-alone value of an actual private company. Student teams have access to the extensive array of databases available at Business Valuation Resources, LLP, resulting in a realistic business valuation engagement.

Good luck team!

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## Recent Happenings

### Meetings, Presentations and Publications

Dr. Adam Greiner attended the 2014 PCAOB/American Accounting Association Annual Meeting in Washington D.C., April 24-25, 2014

The School of Accountancy's Dr. Lisa Victoravich and John Balkcom, an independent director and former executive compensation consultant, will present at a breakfast held by the Daniels Institute of Enterprise Ethics on May 8. The title of the presentation is, "How to Think About the Ethics of Executive Compensation".

Dr. Lorenzo Patelli and Dr. Philipp Schaberl attended the annual meeting of the Western Region of the American Accounting Association in Salt Lake City on April 24-26. At the conference, Dr. Patelli presented his paper: *What Influences the Degree of Interactive Use of Performance Measurement Systems Employed within Relationships between Headquarters and Subsidiaries?* Philipp presented two papers and moderated a session at the meeting. His two papers include *Beyond Accounting and Back: An Empirical Examination of the Value Relevance of Accounting Data* and *"Other" Forward-Looking Information and Reporting Location and the Value Relevance of Accounting Information: The Case of Other Comprehensive Income*. While in Salt Lake City, Philipp and Lorenzo were able to organize a visit of the offices of Goldman Sachs and met with recruiters and others from the Finance Division.

Dr. Hugh Grove presented two papers at the 2014 Forensic & Investigative Accounting Research Conference on May 28-29. The conference is sponsored by the American Accounting Association. The two papers presented include: *Using Fraud Models and Ratios to Improve Cross-Border Forensic Analysis: Chinese IPO and RTO Companies* (co-author Mac Clouse, DU finance Professor) and *Longtop Financial Technologies Ltd: Phony Cash From the IPO Onward?* (Co-author Lisa Victoravich). The second paper was just accepted for publication in the Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting.

Dr. John White was recently published as the feature article in the ISACA Journal. The title of his article was *The Effect of the COSO 2013 Update on IS Professionals*. John was also published in the May issue of the Journal of Accounting with his article titled *How to Use COSO to Access IT Controls*.

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## Class Notes

**Ben Hrouda** (MAcc, BSAC 2001) recently became the Real Estate Controller at Sage Hospitality.

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