

full disclosure

SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY
2023 NEWSLETTER



Difference-makers

Dear Alumni, Students, and Friends:

A few years ago, I started the newsletter with the following: “Dare Mighty Things! This powerful phrase is the ‘rallying cry’ of the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business at Utah State University. It is the thread that unites us and underscores the vision that guides us as we plan our strategic course. With this bold statement, we shape the questions that our faculty address through their research and the curriculum we create to ensure that our students are prepared to lead in a rapidly-evolving global marketplace.”

I am very proud of our students, alumni, and faculty who continue to set an ever-higher bar for excellence in all that they do. I have been deeply impressed with the many stories of daring mighty things, whether it be our students who have interned from Logan to London, England, or participated in SEED (Small Enterprise Education and Development) programs in impoverished nations. Our students have embodied the entrepreneurial spirit that guides the Huntsman School of Business.

Our alumni have continued to lead in the profession and to be difference-makers in the profession and accounting academy. We continue to update our curriculum to meet the needs of a constantly changing profession. To help guide us, we have made the strategic hire of Dr. W. Steve Albrecht as the inaugural Dr. Jay H. Price Jr./Arthur Andersen Endowed Professor of Accountancy. With Dr. Albrecht’s globally recognized leadership in accounting education and the business world, we look forward to continued change and growth.

An important part of our development will be the completion of the Kem and Carolyn Gardner Learning and Leadership Building, which will house much of the experiential learning programs in the Huntsman School of Business. This new state-of-the-art building will be located just east of the Jon M. Huntsman Hall and the George S. Eccles Business Building. To support the continued development of our students and alumni, we look forward to having a space where students participate in real-world experiential learning.

Through all of the excitement of this past year, we continue to find our programs and clubs being recognized as among the best. Beta Alpha Psi and Institute of Management Accountants student organizations continue their streaks of excellence, 45 and 28 years respectively.



It has long been our goal to make our program more accessible to qualified students. I am pleased to announce that beginning with Fall 2023, we are now offering our Master of Accounting degree to students throughout the state, nation, and even globally. This is not a new program but rather an extension of offering our students a synchronous live experience, wherever they may be.

Our faculty continue to impress with their research, teaching, and service to the profession. We congratulate Dr. Devon Erickson on his promotion to Associate Professor with tenure. This is a tremendous accomplishment. Additionally, we congratulate Dr. Grazia Xiong, on receiving the outstanding dissertation award from the Management Accounting Section of the American Accounting Association.

As you read our newsletter, I hope you feel inspired to engage with those around you to Dare Mighty Things, whether in business, education, or service. With this focus, I am confident that we will emerge from this time in our history as stronger individuals and leaders.

Continue to Dare Mighty!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Skousen, Ph.D." The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Chris Skousen, Ph.D.
EY Professor and Department Head



I hope you feel inspired to engage with those around you to “Dare Mighty Things,” whether in business, education, or service. With this focus, I am confident that we will emerge from this time in our history as stronger individuals and leaders.

OUR ADVISORY BOARD

Tyler Alleman

Partner, Jones Simkins

Heather Allen

Tax Partner, Tanner LLC

Hyun Kyung (HK) Bae

VP, Goldman Sachs

Kent M. Christensen

Partner, Haynie & Company

Orrin T. Colby, Jr.

Consultant, WESTLYNC Insurance Enterprises, Inc.

Ryan Dent

Partner, PwC

Geri A. Douglas

Partner, Larson CPAs

Kevin Ediger

Partner, Ernst & Young

Cara L. Galleni

Former Controller, Western AgCredit

AnnMarie Geddes

VP & Controller, Resideo

Matthew Geddes

Partner, Squire & Company, PC

Staci Gunnell

Financial Director, AutoLiv, Inc.

Darin Jacobs

CFO, Beauty Industry Group

Dave Jacobs

VP CTIS, Intermountain Healthcare

Kenneth D. Jeppesen

Partner, Eide Bailly LLP

Jonathan Liechty

Partner, KPMG

Aaron Meyer

CFO, Cypress Five Star, Inc.

Dennis Parker

Executive VP, Thermo King Northwest Inc.

Daniel P. Rinehart

Partner, WSRP

Tanya Lee Scott

Partner, Hutchinson and Bloodgood LLP

Eric Shipley

VP Aerospace & Defense Financing, Spartronics

Jason Wendel

Partner, BDO

David Wennergren

Senior Fund Manager, alterDomus

Clark A. Wilkinson

Partner, Wilkinson, Cooley and Company, PC

Dustin Wood

Partner, CMP

Wes Yeomans

Partner, Deloitte

WELCOME





Virtual MAcc

*Do you or
someone you
know desire to
get the MAcc?
There has never
been a better
time than now.*

We are pleased to announce that Utah State University now offers a virtual Master of Accounting degree. Students throughout the state of Utah, the country, and even the world can now join a live classroom in Logan, Utah from any remote location. What's more, these students are able to have the same interactive experience and engagement with other students and professors as if they were attending in-person.

The virtual Master of Accounting degree qualifies for a special program rate. This results in the cost of earning a Master of Accounting degree virtually at Utah State being just a few hundred dollars more than what Utah residents pay taking the same graduate accounting classes in-person on campus. The program can be completed virtually in 10-12 months or at a slower pace. This flexibility allows the program to fit within each student's individual needs and circumstances.

All 11 of our graduate accounting courses are taught twice in-person in a Logan classroom during the academic year. Now with

the virtual Master of Accounting program, one of those two course offerings will include the option for students to enroll and attend virtually from any remote location. Like in-person students, students taking classes virtually are able to join the program during the fall, spring, or summer semesters and can take full advantage of program scholarship and recruiting opportunities.

We remain fully committed to continue to serve our in-person students with the highest-quality instruction. While students are encouraged whenever possible to take classes in-person in Logan, students who normally attend in-person are welcome to take full advantage of attending classes virtually when they are out of town on internships or for other personal reasons.

Whether you attend all of your classes in-person, virtually, or a combination of both delivery methods, you have the opportunity to earn the same Utah State University Master of Accounting degree that will continue to open up numerous opportunities and positively jumpstart your promising career. ■

Dual Accounting/Finance Degree

Professor Devon Erickson currently chairs the curriculum committee for the School of Accountancy. After various conversations with undergraduate students who enjoyed their introductory accounting classes but shied away from pursuing an accounting degree due to their career interests, Erickson began brainstorming how to help all business students get better accounting training related to their varying degrees. Eventually, he met with faculty from the finance department and proposed the development of a dual degree path in accounting and finance. Under the reciprocal agreement, up to two accounting classes will count toward the finance undergraduate degree, and up to two finance classes will count toward the accounting undergrad-

uate degree. Beginning in the fall 2023 semester, students with career interests in private equity, investment banking, real estate, personal financial planning, and other areas with emphases in both accounting and finance can follow proposed tracks with courses from both disciplines aimed at better preparing students for these career paths. As a result of the reciprocal agreement, students who wish to complete the dual degree program can do so by adding approximately one additional semester of classes to their plans of study.

“Our focus as a department and throughout the school of business is on doing what is best for the student,” Erickson says. “By developing this dual-degree path, we believe the

School of Accountancy will maintain its high-quality undergraduate and MAcc paths for students interested in accounting-focused careers while enhancing the accounting and finance knowledge of students in other accounting-related careers. We believe accounting and finance students alike will benefit from enhanced cross-training in these disciplines.”

Ultimately, Erickson hopes to develop similar paths at the intersection of accounting and other undergraduate degrees, such as data analytics and management, to help students in those areas develop adequate understanding of the language of business to prepare them for their careers. ■

“We believe accounting and finance students alike will benefit from enhanced cross-training in these disciplines.”

—Devon Erickson
Associate Professor





Meet the Firms

The School of Accountancy had its most successful Meet the Firms ever. It was held in the Perry Pavilion in Huntsman Hall on September 7. We welcomed a record number of firms to campus, including several new firms, along with many alumni and friends. We also had a record student turnout with nearly 175 professionally-dressed students. The energy level inside and outside the Perry Pavilion was high as students engaged in conversations with nearly 100 professionals from local and national accounting firms, industry companies, and government agencies. Meet the Firms is one of many recruiting events sponsored by the School of Accountancy each fall where students are able to network with professionals and gain insight into accounting careers.

For the first time ever, the School of Accountancy also hosted a Spring Recruiting night on January 26 for firms who were interviewing during spring semester. We intentionally made this a smaller event, only allowing a maximum of three professionals per firm. There was great support from both firms and students. We look forward to holding this event for many years to come.

Thank you to the many firms and professionals who take time out of their busy schedules to support our program. ■





ACCREDITATION UPDATE

AACSB Accreditation Reaffirmed

We are delighted to report that the School of Accountancy and the Huntsman School of Business have successfully completed our five-year continuous improvement process with the AACSB. The AACSB has reaffirmed our accreditation!

AACSB accreditation is the premier accreditation for business schools and accounting programs. It is known worldwide as the most recognized form of specialized accreditation that an institution and its business programs can earn. Accreditation is a voluntary, nongovernmental process that includes a rigorous external review of a school's mission, faculty qualifications, curricula, and ability to provide the highest-quality programs, with less than seven percent of accounting and business programs achieving this designation.

At the Huntsman School, the mission is to develop leaders of distinction in commerce and public affairs. Its purpose is to be a career accelerator for students and an engine of growth for the community, state, nation, and world.

Our peer review team recognized the quality and accomplishments of our program and were genuinely impressed with our students and the direction our program is moving. This accreditation process also represented an opportunity for us to learn from tremendous individuals with significant knowledge in academia. We look forward to continuing to improve in all aspects of our program. ■



ADVISORY BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Matt Geddes

The School of Accountancy is pleased to welcome Matt Geddes to our advisory board. We are excited for the experience and insight that he brings to the board. Matt graduated with both his bachelor's '06 and master's '07 degrees from Utah State University. Upon graduating he joined Squire & Company, PC and has risen through the ranks to partner. He has experience in auditing financial statements of various entities, with a specific focus on government entities and employee benefit plans. Matt is known for his commitment to quality and serves as the firm's Quality Control Partner. Matt is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Utah Association of Certified Public Accountants. In his spare time, Matt enjoys spending time with his family and serving in the community. ■



BAP



BAP Is Superior!

USU's Delta Omega chapter of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) had another wonderful year. It continued its record of excellence by being awarded superior chapter status for the 45th consecutive year – the longest streak of any BAP chapter. Students networked and gained career advice during insightful professional meetings. They provided service in the accounting tutor lab, prepared tax returns through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, and put together approximately 200 meal kits for the Cache Community Food Pantry's Backpack Program. Club officers traveled to Seattle and Las Vegas where they networked with other BAP clubs, attended professional development sessions, gave presentations, and participated in service projects.



BAP Golf Tournament

The BAP Golf Tournament looked a little different this year as it took on a flamingo theme. Participants were encouraged to dress in their most flamingo-like attire and had the opportunity to try their hand at various flamingo-themed challenges such as the prettiest putt, farthest flier, and the freshest feathers. Golfers also competed for the title of "Fanciest Form" by attempting to sink a one-legged putt. Professionals and students enjoyed a day of networking, food, and fun on the golf course. We look forward to doing it again next year. ■





IMA News

It was another great year for our IMA student chapter. We were able to achieve the Gold Award of Excellence for the 28th consecutive year. We held six outstanding chapter meetings, with four of these featuring former student chapter officers. These alumni included Scott Morrison '96, Tommy Marcheschi

'08, Cody Crofoot '20, and Jason Wendel '98. Geri Douglas '85, audit partner with Larson & Company, gave an excellent presentation on ethics. We were able to visit the Space Dynamics Laboratory for our plant tour. In October, nine chapter officers attended the student leadership conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, along with Frank Shuman, our faculty advisor. Continuing our tradi-

tion of giving, we were able to raise \$414 for Sub-for-Santa during the holiday season. Congratulations goes to Allison Hansen, who served as chapter secretary, for being awarded a \$2,500 IMA national scholarship. Lane Dudley will serve as chapter president for the 2023-24 academic year, and plans are being made to attend the next conference in Detroit, Michigan. ■

PCAOB Scholarship

The School of Accountancy was excited to nominate and have Kaitlyn Paskins selected to receive a \$10,000 PCAOB scholarship. Kaitlyn Paskins is from Layton, UT and is the oldest of 4 kids. Outside of living and breathing accounting, she enjoys watching the latest movies and TV shows, playing pickleball with her husband, and spending time with her dog, Luna. She has always been a big fan of math and numbers and has known she wanted to study accounting since high school. Her involvement with accounting started in DECA and FBLA and has led to college involvement as a Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) member and officer, a Quigley Ambassador, an Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) member, an Undergraduate Teaching Fellow of 3 Accounting 2010 classes, and a Huntsman Scholar.

Kaitlyn has already had great experience in the

accounting field. She started out as a chief bookkeeper for a local business (The Sportsman), then did an audit internship in Spring 2023 with Eide Bailly, and now she's currently a property accountant at Wasatch Commercial Management. She has loved seeing different sides of accounting through these jobs, and she looks forward to gaining even more experience and opportunities.

Kaitlyn has loved her time at USU, especially getting to know all the amazing faculty and staff in the School of Accountancy. She will be working on her master's degree for the 2023-2024 school year thanks to this amazing scholarship and will finish up the program in June 2024. She is very hardworking and proactive, and she can't wait to continue moving forward in the accounting world. ■



STUDENT AWARDS

2023

Kendall Mortensen

UACPA Outstanding Student



Kendall Mortensen graduated from Utah State University in June 2023 with his masters in accounting. Growing up, Kendall loved doing anything outside, from golfing with his family to racing mountain bikes and skiing with his friends. Academically, Kendall loved being involved in many of the clubs and jobs the School of Accountancy has to offer. He served as IMA president, UACPA ambassador, and Quigley ambassador. Kendall also worked as a graduate teaching assistant and an accounting tutor for the past two years. Kendall loved his time at Utah State and has accepted a full-time offer as an audit associate with PwC starting this fall.

Kylee Beckstrom Nash

School of Accountancy Outstanding Student Leader



Kylee is from Syracuse, Utah. While growing up, she enjoyed school and always seemed to get involved. People are her lifeline. The connections she makes with others are incredibly important to her. Kylee graduated with her bachelor's degree in accounting in 2022 and graduated with her master's degree in accounting in the spring of 2023. While attending USU, she was involved with the Quigley Ambassadors, Business Council, She's Daring Mighty Things, and was an IMA Officer. Kylee recently married her best friend, Cooper, and is continuing to manage financial statements of private equity firms at Alter Domus. ■



Quigley Ambassadors

The Quigley Ambassadors are student representatives of the accounting program who focus on recruiting students into the accounting major, encouraging accounting students to pursue their aspirational career goals, and creating connections among students and alumni. The Quigley Ambassadors were actively involved in the SOA through planning and executing various activities and creating other resources to help current accounting majors and those who are interested in the major during the 2022-2023 year. The landscape of the profession has changed significantly over recent years, and this year, the Quigley Ambassadors responded by holding an information session for non-accounting majors that highlighted the benefits of an accounting major. The session was well attended. The Quigley Ambassadors also held their inaugural Dare Mighty Things Cash Camp, which focuses on recruiting underrepresented minorities into accounting. Some other activities of the past year included: The Quigley Game Night, which focuses on recruiting students into the accounting major, and the Kickoff Meeting that highlights the Accounting Timeline so current majors know important deadlines and dates for internships and meet-the-firms. The female Quigley Ambassadors also played a significant role in planning and running the Women in Accounting Luncheon. We are grateful to these students who put so much energy and effort into helping the SOA, and we look forward to resuming more frequent activities in future semesters. ■



Game night with Jim & Bonnie Quigley

Deloitte London

It is not uncommon for a USU School of Accountancy student to intern with the Deloitte US Business Tax (USBT) group in London, England. What is uncommon is when three students from USU's School of Accountancy intern in a single year. Michael Moore and Ariel Campos both interned this past spring and Jacob Rees interned over the summer.

Internships are a crucial part of student learning and success, and those who complete international internships have a unique growth experience that exposes them to new cultures and work environments. The School of Accountancy highly encourages every student to complete an internship that will give them a greater chance of success in the workplace after graduation.

Michael had this to say about his internship experience:

This rewarding internship allowed me to work with diverse cultures, gain exposure to European businesses, and live in central London. I worked closely with people from the US, China, India, Ghana, England, and Vietnam. I learned to appreciate different ways of thinking and communicating, which enriched our team.

Working with USBT enhanced my skill-set and deepened my learning base. The team provided US business tax advisory services to European multinational private equity firms. While working with these clients, I gained insights into the US tax code and international accounting standards.

Interning within the USBT group was a rewarding and memorable experience that enhanced my professional development. I'm grateful to the School of Accountancy for preparing me for such an opportunity.

Ariel shared this about her experience:

I would have never thought that I would end up in a place like London gaining more experience in something I enjoy doing. It was nice getting to enjoy a new culture and visit many new places I thought

I would never get to see. Overall, the experience was great. I learned a lot of skills that I can continue applying as I grow in my career, as well as others I can use in my personal life. I met and learned from great people and gained many friendships along the way. I am beyond grateful I was able to experience something so great!

Jacob added his thoughts as well:

Working in London was a unique experience, and I'm so glad I had the opportunity to do so. London is such a cultural hub with so many kinds of people all around. I had the chance to work with lots of great people from around the world, with many of whom I have shared experiences. I even met people who graduated from Utah State and some from my hometown in Texas.



Jacob Rees far left enjoying global comradery



Ariel Campos



Michael Moore

Deloitte also provided great learning opportunities for me. Despite only being an intern, I was given the chance to get lots of real-world analyst experience, not just coffee runs and making PowerPoints. It wasn't always easy, but, as my professors always told me, pain is the feeling of my marketability rising. I would recommend anyone considering a London internship to go for it. It was an invaluable experience and I would do it again in a heartbeat.

We are proud of how each of our students represented Utah State University, the Huntsman School of Business, and the School of Accountancy. The demand for our students continues to be high because of our outstanding Aggie interns and alumni. ■

ALUMNI



DISTINGUISHED Alumni Award

Robert Phillips

Robert Phillips '90 was awarded the "Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award" at the School of Accountancy Awards Banquet this past spring. Robert is currently the President and CEO of Brighton Corporation. Brighton Corporation is a real estate development company that develops both residential and commercial properties. Brighton currently ranks as the 34th largest private company in the state of Idaho. Prior to joining Brighton in 2019, Robert and his wife, Michelle (also a Utah State graduate), served as mission leaders for their church in the Canada Montreal Mission from 2016-2019. Before leaving for Montreal, Robert served for 16 years as the President of the Hawkins & Smith Companies, managing all activity associated with more than 200 projects and 12 million square feet of retail space across 23 states. Robert's experience also includes time as a licensed attorney at Givens Pursley in Boise, Idaho, as a CPA at PwC in Richmond, Virginia, and as an accountant for Space Dynamics Laboratory in Logan, Utah.

Robert earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from USU in 1990 and was chosen as the valedictorian for the College of Business. He later graduated with high honors from J. Reuben Clark Law School in 1995. Robert and Michelle have five children, all of whom have attended Utah State University, two of which have earned MAcc degrees.

Congratulations, Robert!



JAEDEN MAY

Utah Business Magazine

School of Accountancy alum, Jaeden May '20, was recently recognized by *Utah Business* magazine as one of 30 women to watch. Jaeden graduated with her MAcc degree in 2020 with an emphasis in Personal Financial Planning. She is the only woman in the state of Utah who holds CFP, CPA and NSSA certifications. Jaeden is a wealth advisor for Adams Wealth Advisors in Logan, Utah and specializes in social security, investment management, and financial planning.

Jaeden had this to say about her time at Utah State, "My experience at the Huntsman School of Business absolutely jumpstarted my career. The connections I made with students, faculty, and other professionals while studying accounting are invaluable to me. Accounting opens many doors, and I am very grateful for the opportunities I encountered while at Utah State. Go, Aggies!"

Congratulations, Jaeden!



A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE

Over the years, several School of Accountancy alumni have decided to pursue a career in academia. They have been able to attend notable PhD programs, with some currently in these programs and others serving as faculty members at incredible institutions.



One of those to recently begin a PhD program is Matt Hall. After some time in practice, including several years with PwC in Washington D.C., Matt decided to pursue his doctoral studies at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA. Matt indicated, “I decided to pursue a PhD in Accounting because of my passion for learning and the freedom it offers to explore research projects that I find interesting and important. I also had great teachers and mentors at Utah State and am excited about the opportunity to pay it forward to future students.”



Another with ties to the University of Georgia is Braiden Coleman, who is currently an Assistant Professor in Athens. A Cache Valley native who completed his doctoral studies at Indiana University, Dr. Coleman wrote, “My USU accounting professors are the primary reason I pursued a PhD! I am a first-generation student. When I started at USU, I honestly wasn’t aware of many different career options (let alone in academia). Professors Doyle, Simon, and Olsen introduced me to the profession and the unique advantages it offers. I am so grateful for their influence because I love my job! I am fortunate to work with bright students, and I truly enjoy the entrepreneurial aspect of conducting research. I sincerely appreciate the positive impact my professors and the School of Accountancy have had on my life.” Braiden is off to a great start in his academic career, having published papers in top academic journals, including *The Accounting Review*, *Management Science*, and *Review of Accounting Studies*.

Professors Doyle, Simon, and Olsen introduced me to the profession and the unique advantages it offers. I am so grateful for their influence because I love my job! I am fortunate to work with bright students, and I truly enjoy the entrepreneurial aspect of conducting research. I sincerely appreciate the positive impact my professors and the School of Accountancy have had on my life.” Braiden is off to a great start in his academic career, having published papers in top academic journals, including *The Accounting Review*, *Management Science*, and *Review of Accounting Studies*.



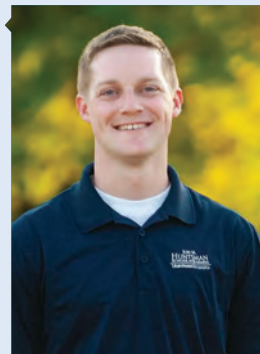
Brady Twedt completed his PhD at Texas A&M University and subsequently served on the faculties of Indiana University and the University of Oregon. His list of publications is long and impressive, including articles published in *The Accounting Review*, *Contemporary Accounting Research*, *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, *Management Science*, *Review of Accounting Studies*, and others. Dr. Twedt indicated, “My favorite thing about my career is the extent to which it satisfies my intellectual curiosity. (This is also the reason I decided to pursue a PhD.) After more than a decade of doing research, I still feel like I learn something new every day, and I am never bored. The process of both documenting and increasing our understanding of how the world works continues to be fascinating to me.” Impressively, Brady was recently appointed as a Chaired Full Professor at Texas A&M, going full circle back to his PhD granting institution, a rare occurrence that provides a clear signal of his excellence.

Brady Twedt completed his PhD at Texas A&M University and subsequently served on the faculties of Indiana University and the University of Oregon. His list of publications is long and impressive, including articles published in *The Accounting Review*, *Contemporary Accounting Research*, *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, *Management Science*, *Review of Accounting Studies*, and others. Dr. Twedt indicated, “My favorite thing about my career is the extent to which it satisfies my intellectual curiosity. (This is also the reason I decided to pursue a PhD.) After more than a decade of doing research, I still feel like I learn something new every day, and I am never bored. The process of both documenting and increasing our understanding of how the world works continues to be fascinating to me.” Impressively, Brady was recently appointed as a Chaired Full Professor at Texas A&M, going full circle back to his PhD granting institution, a rare occurrence that provides a clear signal of his excellence.

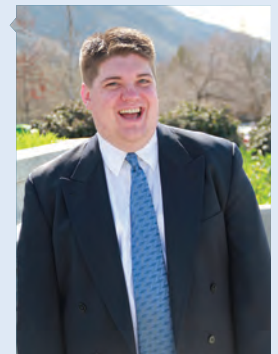
Nick Wilson recently began his academic career at the University of South Dakota. Nick graduated from the University of Nebraska and shared the following advice he received from a recent mentor, “Recently, my retiring PhD committee chair offered me invaluable advice. He emphasized the importance of working in an environment where you genuinely enjoy what you do and where rewards are apparent. I can confidently say that academia has brought immense joy to my life; being part of my students’ learning [journeys] as they grasp accounting theory and principles is an incredibly fulfilling experience.”



Another, who began his PhD journey this fall, is Andrew Zilles, who explained, “I was attracted to a PhD for the opportunity to continue learning. Some of my favorite undergraduate courses were in economics and finance. Being able to take principles that I learned from economics and finance and explore them deeper and learn from them in accounting research has been rewarding.” Andrew is attending the University of Oklahoma.



Mitch Stanton similarly began his doctoral studies at Florida State University this fall. Mitch shared, “I decided to pursue a PhD because I was impressed with the flexibility it offers with regards to life and work. I’m grateful for the opportunity I had to teach a couple of classes and was initially drawn to that aspect of pursuing a PhD. I also began to develop an interest in research as I talked with my professors about their research, attended workshops and conferences, and assisted in a couple of research projects.”



We are so proud of these and other alumni in academia, their research contributions, and the impact they have had and will continue to have on so many students in their careers!

YOUNG ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Aubree Matheson graduated from the School of Accountancy in 2020 with her master's degree in accounting. Aubree was very involved as a student, holding leadership positions in BAP and the IMA, as well as serving as both a Quigley Ambassador and a University Ambassador. Her career interests differed from the typical accounting path, but she saw value in studying a hard skill and the credibility that her degree and CPA license would bring her.

After working as an auditor for Deloitte in Salt Lake City, Aubree pivoted to be an Implementation Consultant for Divvy (now Bill), a fintech company focused on spend and expense management software. She has quickly risen in the ranks, and currently, she manages the team that helps sell large corporate deals and encourages implementation of the Bill platform.

Reflecting on how her MAcc degree helped to prepare her for her current career path, Aubree said, "While at USU, I listened to a guest speaker who was a CEO and studied accounting. He said that although he doesn't use his accounting background every day, he meets with his CFO every Monday, and each time they meet, he is grateful he studied accounting. He said that his accounting knowledge allows him to understand his company's performance and make wise decisions for the organization. That speech really stuck with me. In my current role, my accounting and CPA background instills instant trust in clients who are facing accounting-related issues. I believe accounting is a field that can serve as an underlying foundation setting you apart, no matter what career path you ultimately choose." ■



Chris Skousen with Mark Erickson from Tanner LLC

The School of Accountancy is proud to recognize firms and businesses that achieved 100% participation in the alumni giving campaign with an "All-In" Award.

Firms receiving the School of Accountancy's All-In Award for 2022 include: Haynie & Company and Tanner, LLC. As more Aggies enter the workforce, achieving "All-In" status becomes increasingly difficult, so we congratulate each of them for their dedication to this campaign. The generosity of the individuals from these firms (and many others not listed) enables us to support student scholarships, build permanent endowments, and continue to provide educational opportunities for our students.

If your firm would like to join the list for the 2023 calendar year, please contact the School of Accountancy at soa@usu.edu for more information. ■

DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY AUGUST 2022 -AUGUST 2023

Diamond Circle

\$10,000 or more

Dent, Ryan & Karen
Erickson, Mark & Jennifer
Lampros, Jack
Parker, Dennis & Julie
Quigley, James & Bonnie
Rasmussen, Eric & Michelle
Skousen, Cliff & Janice
Wheeler, Justin & Kiersha

Gold Circle

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Colligan, Tom & Stephanie
Doyle, Jef & Sheryln
Hess Corp
Janes, Craig & Lisa
Janes, Lynn & Irma
Jensen, Preston & Amy
KPMG
Phillips, Robert & Michelle
PwC

Silver Circle

\$2,500 - \$4,999

EY
Jones Simkins
Morrill, Steve & Megan
Nixon, Scott & Shiree
Smith, Elaine
Stanton, Bentley & Carolyn
Tanner LLC
Vasquez, Becky
Ward, Larry

Bronze Circle

\$500 - \$2,499

Anonymous
Banks, Darin & Sandy
Beckstead, Sidney & Patricia
Bott, Lorenzo & Myrna
Brinton, William
Cole, Robert & Sue
Condie, Caroline
Cooper Savas
Duwe, Charles & Ellen

Erickson, Todd & Sally
Hale, Dawson
Hansen, Douglas & Lynda
Heninger, Lynn & Colleen
Judd, Paul & Jan
Kirkham, Tyler & Cristina
Larson, Robert & Karen
Lawrence, Ben & Betsy
Lee, Roger T.

Liechty, Jonathan
Loaiza, Andrew & Stephanie
Lucherini, Tyson & Jessica
McNeely, Josh & Joni
Miles, Corey & Michelle
Quinn, Paul & Lisa
Rodgers, Kenneth
S&P Global
Sandberg, Brent & Allyson

Snow, Steven & Phyllis
Strain, Joseph & Mari
Sweet Candy Company,
Thomson, Theo & Arla
Vicki Wang & Frank Juan
Wendel, Jason
Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation

Associates Circle

\$100 - \$499

Barker, Dean & Lyn
Bassett, Greg & Joni
Bingham, Jason & Stacy
Bluth, Parker & Kirsten
Broadbent, Curtis & Marilyn
Campbell, Carli "Bri"
Chern, Shiann-Jang & Jin-jy
Choi, Anthony
Choi, Sarah
Clement, Cody & Stephanie
Coombs, Ward & Suzette
Davis, Alexander
Dent, Mark
Droesbeke, Derek

Earl, Don & Regina
Fargam, Behzan & Kathryn
Fullerton, Herb & Rosemary
Geary, David & Ann
Gilbert, Arlo & Ann
Gillespie, Daniel
Hadfield, Ron & Bonnie
Hales, Brad & Colleen
Hart, Steven & Cherri
Howe, Emily
Hulet, Carl & Shanna
Hummel, Benjamin & Rebecca
Hurd, Steve & Karen
Illario, Clarence & Cheryl

James, Alan & Linda
Jensen, Heather & Darrell
Johns, Brent & Kara
Jones, Jason & Lesley
Karren, Dale & Janet
Klamm, Charles & Bonnie
Lawson, Carl & Jacque
Lin, I-Rong
Lindstrom, Erik & Julie
Marler, Wesley
Miller, Michael & Tracy
Niebauer, Edward
Patino, Ana
Richards, Stephen

Sellers, Craig & Gaylenne
Shiple, Eric & Kelly
Simmons, Stephen & Elizabeth
Skabelund, Hoyt & Carmen
Sorensen, Don & Colleen
Tichenor, Mark & Jennifer
Walker, Gary
Wang, John
Warnes, Craig & Barbara
Warnick, Clark & Lisa
Weeks, Darwin
Willie, Daniel & Sonia
Young, Robert & Karen

Friendship Circle

Up to \$99

Alvey, Christopher
American Express Foundation
Bagley, Brady & Lisa
Belnap, Quentin
Berrett, Anna
Boekweg, Jonathan & Rebecca
Brown, Clayton
Burt, Whitten
Butterfield, Brooke
Carter, Madeline
Christensen, Nate & Abygail
Clark, James
Clark, Morgan & Krista
Cottle, Paige & Kaden

Edman, Tyler
Fackrell, April
Fidel, Shaylen
Fullmer, Darin
Graves, Eric
Hale, Tiffany
Hatch, Rebekah
Haynie, Annika
Hepworth, Kyle
Hlavaty, Paige & Steven
Huang, Chia-Hwa & Chin-mei
Hulet, Don & Kaysee
Knowles, Carolyn
Lake, Matthew

Larson, Sandra & Kirt
Lee, Nathan & Brianna
Lewis, Clint
LME Tax & Accounting
Lund, Craig & Kimberly
McLeskey, Michael & Kara
McMurdie, Chace & Shareesa
Meadows, David
Merrill, Kyle
Nethercott, Kai & Morgan
Nye, Kenneth & Vickie
Palmer, Fred
Peaden, Kevin
Peterson, Brandon

Rave, David & Connie
Rawson, Allyson
Rees, Brenda
Roberts, Daniel & Julianne
Sainsbury, Malissa
Sargent, Kent & Diana
Siler, Richard & Lynette
Smith, Hyrum & Melissa
Stevens, Tyler & Jaslyn
Tolbert, Kelsie
Watts, Brianna
West, Katie
Wolfley, Tyler

ALUMNI

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

“As a first-generation college student, I am thrilled to be able to continue my educational experience in the Master of Accounting program at Utah State University. This scholarship will help me to be better able to do that, as it will ease the financial burden of this path that I have embarked on. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.”

—Josh Allmendinger,
current MAcc student



YOUR DONATIONS CONTRIBUTE
TO FURTHERING THE GOAL.

Scholarships

A. James Larson Scholarship
Beta Alpha Psi Scholarship
Buehler Honoring Brent Sandberg Scholarship
Buehler Honoring Larzette Hale Scholarship
Cliff & Janice Skousen Scholarship
Cooper Savas Scholarship
David & Barbara Hulme Scholarship
David Luthy Scholarship
Eric & Michelle Rasmussen Scholarship
Ernst & Young Scholarship
Frank & Anita Shuman Scholarship
Frank & Caroline Condie Scholarship
Ima Scholarship Fund
James & Gayle Brackner Scholarship
Jay H. Price Jr Scholarship
Joe & Mari Strain Scholarship
John E. Clay Scholarship
Jones Simkins Scholarship
Joseph & Diane Keller Scholarship
Larzette G. Hale Scholarship
Lorenzo J. Bott Scholarship
Lynn E. & Irma Janes Scholarship
Mark & Jennifer Erickson Scholarship
Newel & Eunice Rees Scholarship
Normon & Virginia Cannon Scholarship
Panda Group Scholarship
Paula Rosson Scholarship
PCAOB Scholarship
PwC Scholarship
Ralph & Roberta Peck Scholarship
Richard & Carol Jenson Scholarship
Richard & Lura Buist Scholarship
Robert V. Doyle Scholarship
Roland Monson Scholarship
Ryan & Karen Dent Scholarship
School Of Accountancy Scholarship
Scott & Shiree Nixon Scholarship
Steven R. Smith Memorial Scholarship
Stokes Brothers' Scholarship
Tamara & Vance Grange Scholarship
Tanner LLC Scholarship
Tim R. Thomas Memorial Scholarship
Tom & Stephanie Colligan Scholarship
V. D. Gardner Scholarship
Vernon & Maree Buehler Scholarship

Students

Allison Hansen
Aubrie Doxey
Bear Shipley
Cabrin Woolf
Caleb Baker
Carter Green
Carter Ray
Courtney Hudson
Davis Flood
Devon Semadeni
Elaena Crowther
Eric Nelson
Jack Roberts
Jessica Powell
Joel Holt
Joseph Fica
Josh Almendinger
Julie Andrews
Kaitlyn Hogge
Kendall Mortensen
Lacie Wright
Lane Dudley
Lauren Coakley
Maddie Bingham
Megan Beckman
Megan Clark
Michael Moore
Peyton Kipping
Shealee Calder
Spencer Rawle
Tyler Parks
Whitney Lloyd
Zachary Eskelson

FACULTY



Congratulations to Professor Devon Erickson on being promoted to Associate Professor. Professor Erickson is originally from Bountiful, Utah. He completed his undergraduate and master's degrees at Brigham Young University. During that time, he worked as an accountant at The Thackeray Company (a real estate development company) and completed an internship with KPMG in Salt Lake City. Professor Erickson also taught Spanish while completing his degrees, and after developing a love for accounting, research, and teaching, he chose to pursue a PhD to combine these interests. He completed his PhD at Indiana University, after which he took his first academic position at Northeastern University in Boston. Although he had no plans to return to Utah, a visit to the Utah State campus in 2016 immediately convinced him to actively pursue his current position, and he has been at Utah State since that time. Professor Erickson, his wife Erin, and his four daughters absolutely love living in Cache Valley and being part of the Utah State School of Accountancy. Since arriving at USU, Professor Erickson has taught Principles of Financial Accounting, Intermediate Financial Accounting 1 and 2, and Financial Statement Analysis in the MAcc program. Professor Erickson spends his free time golfing, wake surfing, and mountain biking. He also enjoys streaming popular movies and shows so that he can incorporate them into his teaching materials and make lectures more engaging for students. ■

FACULTY AWARDS



Kathryn Brightbill
Teacher of the Year



Devon Erickson
Researcher of the Year



Lynn Rees
Undergraduate Research
Mentor of the Year



Jayson Talakai
Faculty Service Award



Brad Lindsey
Graduate Mentor of the Year



Lacey Wilkey
Undergraduate Mentor
of the Year



Best Management Accounting Dissertation Award

The Management Accounting Section Best Dissertation Award Committee selected SOA faculty, Dr. Grazia Xiong, as the winner of the 2023 MAS Best Dissertation Award for her dissertation, “How the Level of Firm Support for Employee Volunteering Affects Employee Productivity and Altruistic Behavior Inside the Firm.”

The award is sponsored by the Institute of Management Accountants and includes a cash award and recognition plaques for both Grazia and her advisor, Dr. Drew Newman. Grazia is donating her cash award to the University of South Carolina Accounting Doctoral Program where she received her PhD.

Grazia joined USU in Fall 2022. During her one-year time at USU, she has already published articles at *Journal of Management Accounting Research* and *Issues in Accounting Education*. She has an active research portfolio including five working papers being submitted to top accounting journals. Her students call her “Dr. X” and are glad that she became a Utah State Aggie. ■

PERFORM and EVALUATE

Rachel Martin researches various factors that influence performance evaluations and employee motivation. She recently co-authored a paper that was published in *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, a premier accounting journal, with Tyler Thomas (a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Madison). This paper examines how managers’ knowledge of the performance evaluation process influences the way they set performance targets for employees. Performance targets are useful for employee motivation but can introduce risk to the employee if the target is not well-balanced; employees may be demotivated if targets are unrealistic, too difficult, or too easy. Many firms get around this problem by giving managers the ability to adjust compensation at the end of the performance period. In theory, this ex-post compensation discretion means that managers can ensure employees are properly rewarded and properly motivated, even if the targets were overly difficult or too easy in hindsight. The evidence provided in this paper highlights that this desire to protect and motivate employees on the back end introduces them to more risk on the front end. Managers who know they will be able to adjust compensation at the end of the performance period set more difficult targets for their employees, spend less effort setting targets, and rely on the ability to make adjustments later rather than setting appropriate targets early. This tendency leads to a higher propensity to make compensation adjustments which can reduce the motivating effect of subsequent targets. Martin and Thomas’ research highlights the need to understand the unintended consequences of evaluation and compensation policies. ■



DR. W. STEVE ALBRECHT

Academic Leadership

We are thrilled to announce the hiring of Dr. W. Steve Albrecht as the inaugural Dr. Jay H. Price, Jr./Arthur Andersen Endowed Professor of Accountancy. Few accounting academics have had the profound effect on accounting education and the profession that Dr. Albrecht has had.

Dr. Albrecht is a certified public accountant, internal auditor, and fraud examiner. He has enjoyed an inspiring academic career, including teaching at BYU, Stanford, and the University of Illinois. While a professor, Steve has been highly involved in the business world, including consulting with over 100 companies, being an expert witness in 38 major fraud cases including Enron, Adelphia, Cendant, and Tyco, and serving on ten different corporate boards of directors.

Steve has had many leadership positions in academia and the profession, including being associate dean of the Marriott School of Management at BYU, director of the School of Accountancy at BYU, president of the American Accounting Association (the organization of accounting professors in the U.S.), president of the 80,000-member Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, and a Trustee for the two top accounting rule-making bodies in the U.S. Steve is the author or co-author of over 25 books and monographs and over 125 academic and professional articles, most of which are on fraud, integrity, money management, corporate governance, boards of directors, and financial and managerial accounting.

His career also includes service on many corporate boards, including SkyWest Airlines, Cypress Semiconductor, ICON Health & Fitness, and Bonnevill International. He currently serves on the board of directors at the Larry H. Miller Company. His unique skillset and ability will help us refine and develop our approach to accounting education and an experiential learning environment.

Needless to say, we are thrilled to have Dr. Albrecht's experience and leadership to help guide us into the future. ■

FACULTY



CHRISTOPHER J. SKOUSEN

EY Professor

We are happy to share that Dr. Chris Skousen has been named the EY Professor at Utah State University in the Huntsman School of Business! This is a particularly meaningful professorship for him to hold. His mentor, Dr. Larry Walther, and accounting legend, Dr. Larzette Hale, previously held this professorship. Even more meaningful for Chris is that his life-long hero and greatest supporter, his father and former USU School of Accountancy Department Head, Clifford Skousen, also held the EY Professorship at USU! Chris said, "I've truly followed in my father's footsteps and have loved every aspect of it. I deeply appreciate all that have helped me along the way and supported my teaching and research." A special thank you to EY for their support of higher education and the students at Utah State University! ■



Jon M. Huntsman
School of Business
UtahStateUniversity

School of Accountancy

3540 Old Main Hill
 Logan, UT 84322-3540
 huntsman.usu.edu/acct

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

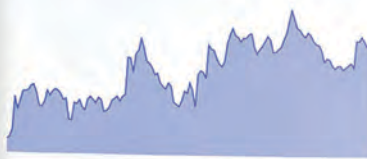
Virtual MAcc



Financial report

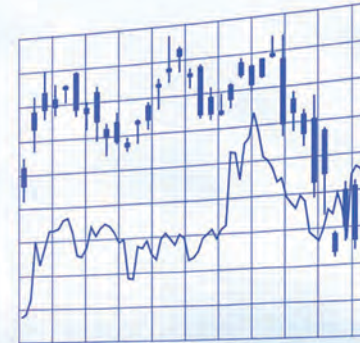
Balance sheet

Assets	
Current assets	1,734,826
Non-current assets	88,905
	1,645,921
Liabilities	
Current liabilities	166,630
Non-current liabilities	110,327
	56,303
Equity	
Paid-in capital	74,393
Retained earnings	72,921
	1,472



Equity statement

Current year	1,774,576
Comprehensive income	15,897
Issue of share capital	88,905
Dividends	23,853
Previous year	166,630
Comprehensive income	110,327
Issue of share capital	56,303
Dividends	67,676



Income statement

Revenues	12,978,516
Net sales	12,873,892
Investment	104,624
Expenses	6,372,535
Research and Development	1,385,395
Operating expenses	4,439,118
Marketing	548,022
Net income	6,505,981



Cash flow statement

Operations	12,978,516
Earnings	12,873,892
Depreciation	104,624
Investing	6,372,535
Real estate	1,385,395
Equipment	4,439,118
Financing	6,505,981
	6,505,981

