Bringing Global Vision to Accounting

“If you look at the strategic pillars of the Huntsman School, global vision is a standard. We really have to understand what is happening outside of Cache Valley, Utah, and the United States,” noted Dr. Chris Skousen, associate department head of the Accounting Program. This year Dr. Skousen was elected President of the International Accounting Section of the American Accounting Association (AAA).

Born and raised in Cache Valley, Dr. Skousen thrived at Utah State University starting at a young age. As a child he attended the Edith Bowen Laboratory School while his father taught Accounting on campus. Later, he received his undergraduate and MBA degrees from Utah State University. He then went on to receive his PhD from Oklahoma State. He has been a faculty member of the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business since 2007.

The American Accounting Association is the premier community of accountants involved in academia throughout the country. The AAA was founded in 1916 and upholds a reputable history of research and thought leadership for teaching, networking, and leadership in the accounting field. Within the AAA are several branches that make up the community of accountants. One branch is the International Accounting Section, with responsibility for expanding the AAA globally.

Dr. Skousen has always been dedicated to student success and continues to find ways to help the Huntsman School thrive. “This provides me with a lot of international networking opportunities,” says Dr. Skousen. “We may be able to set up accounting visits for our students to these countries because of the connections and networking opportunities this new role will bring.”

The culture of excellence and focus on student success displayed by Professor Skousen and all of the faculty and staff of the accounting program have played a large part in the national ranking of the program and continuing success of accounting students in passing the CPA exam and placement with firms and companies around the world. From London to San Diego, accounting students place at all big four accounting firms, and with Fortune 500 companies.
“It’s important we have visibility. Through this opportunity with the AAA we will continue to build, grow, and develop international opportunities for our students, alumni, faculty, and friends,” says Dr. Skousen.