

The ECU Accountant



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FALL 2021

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

My 21st year at ECU has been an eventful one! Some of you may have missed that I am now serving as the Department Chair. It took me 20 years to finally talk the Dean into this! Seriously though, what an honor to represent our faculty, our students, and our alumni.

I was able to confirm in my first year on the job that we have an amazing faculty. After adjusting in 2020 to the craziest Spring semester ever, faculty began the Fall 2020 semester, not only teaching in a full pandemic, but also teaching in two 8-week blocks versus the traditional 15-weeks. Our faculty did not just adapt, they excelled. They held live virtual office hours, created hands-on video lectures and demonstrations, and to the extent possible, accommodated students' individual learning requests. In addition to teaching, they published research articles, kept student clubs, fraternities, and recruiting events going, served on university, college, and department projects and committees, and served the community. The University operates from a model called shared governance, which means that faculty members are an integral part of the University's oversight functions. Our faculty continued executing their shared governance-responsibilities and did more. In their personal time, they also volunteered at organizations like the Ronald McDonald House and local animal shelters.

Our students, for whom the shared governance model also applies, are equally as impressive. Many of our students serve as leaders in student government, Greek organizations, Student Accounting Society, Beta Alpha Psi, and more. While adapting to the virtual learning environment and dealing with COVID, they continued to actively participate in these organizations. We have several student-athletes that not only had to miss a season of competition, but they also found out that due to State budget constraints their sport was eliminated. Some students faced greater hardship than others, but all persevered. You can read some of their stories in this newsletter.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention our great alumni. Through my travels around NC, I engage with more and more graduates every year. The Accounting Pirate Nation is growing in the business community and at the University. On March 17th, ECU held its annual day of giving, which is referred to as Pirate Nation Gives. This year, the Accounting Department had more donors than any other department on campus!! Over 80 alumni and faculty gave over \$44,000 to the Accounting Department in a single day. We are the envy of every department on campus. Your donations make a difference in a lot of students' lives. This year alone, we were able to award 39 scholarships totaling \$111,950.



Dr. Cal Christian

In addition to helping our current students financially, we are making sure that an accounting education is available to everyone that wants it. Demand is strong for an ECU accounting degree, so for students that can't get to Greenville, we plan to take a degree to them. Beginning Fall 2021, our BSBA will be offered both face-to-face and fully online. Our goal is to add a fully online MSA in Fall 2022. So, keep giving and promoting ECU!

We are grateful for every donation, no matter its size. Every dollar makes a difference. If even 10-percent of our nearly 3,000 accounting alumni gave back, we could do so much more to improve the current student experience, attract and retain future students, and increase the number of Pirate alums. Please consider donating at: <https://bit.ly/2KWZqAV>.

On behalf of the accounting faculty, thanks for all you do for Pirate Nation. ARRGG 

Sincerely,

Cal

christianj@ecu.edu

252-737-1053

PIRATE ALUMNI... *are Successful*

Dipthi Ramakrishnan (MSA 2006) is a Partner at PwC's New York office in the Deals practice. She has been with PwC for more than ten years advising clients in the Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences, and Healthcare sectors. Dipthi's experience includes assisting financial and strategic buyers and sellers in a wide variety of public and non-public deals ranging in size from \$50 million to over \$100 billion. Her clients include household names like J&J and Merck. Prior to joining PwC, Dipthi spent four years in Deloitte's audit practice where she started in the Atlanta office. Dipthi lives in Edgewater, New Jersey with her husband and her two children, a 4-year-old daughter and 1-year-old son. She also loves travel and interior design but admits trying to find time for these is a juggling act! We caught up with Dipthi in the Spring and asked her a few questions.

What do you like best about your current job?

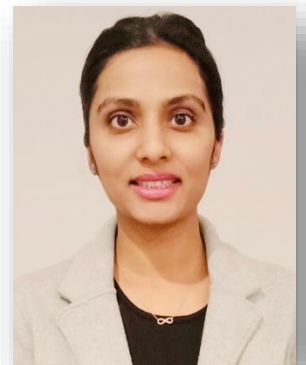
I get to work with a wide variety of corporate and private equity clients on transformative transactions, in a fast paced, dynamic environment. I also enjoy working with people and being a mentor and role model for others, especially for women in the M&A industry.

How did your experience at ECU prepare you for your career?

Coming from India in August 2004 with no background or family in the United States, the ECU accounting department faculty made me feel like a part of the family and were extremely warm and welcoming. The professors were amazing at not only the academic classes but also in mentoring and coaching on career paths coming out of the program. My first internship at Deloitte was through a professor who emailed an ECU alumnus.

What advice do you have for today's accounting students?

In today's digital world, it is important to be skilled in digital tools, analytics, and technologies, because these prepare you to be an accounting professional today. Careers in accounting, particularly in the Big 4 M&A industry, tend to be demanding but fulfilling and rewarding. So, work hard, stay hungry, passionate, and focus on your goals. It's also important to be an inclusive and empathetic leader.



Dipthi Ramakrishnan

PIRATE ALUMNI... *are Busy*



Lyle Barlow & wife



Latrish Davis's Kids



Andrew Wasilick

Lyle Barlow's (BS '79) firm of more than 20 years, Homes, Lowry, Horn & Johnson, merged with Citrin Cooperman in December 2020. After two months of onboarding - BAM! - right into tax season and working at home. Keeping his sense of humor during the pandemic, Lyle reports that his wife always wanted to better understand what he does for a living. Now that he's working from home, she gets to see it all, unedited!

In 2020, **Lucy Brenner** (MSA '09) was promoted to Director of Private Client Services at The Lanning Group in Mt. Pleasant, SC where she specializes in ultra-high net worth individuals.

Based on the title of the book they are reading, it looks like **Latrish (Martin) Davis's** (MSA '10) kids can't wait to follow in her footsteps!

In late 2019, **Scott Fedyshyn** (MSA '04) co-founded Redwood Tax Specialists, a tax planning firm for high-net worth individuals. In less than a year Redwood grew to include 300 managing directors across the nation, and in February 2021 Redwood was in Fortune Magazine.

Randy Gray (BS '87) of William Scarborough Gray got great press when his advice about the impacts of COVID-19 on taxpayers was quoted by Channel 12 News. See: <https://wcti12.com/news/local/cpa-breaks-down-pandemic-changes-for-taxpayers>.

Planning to donate half of his profit from sales of his book, Saving the Earth - One Straw at a Time, to Releaf of Greenville, author and alumnus **David Liu** (BSBA '19) is committed to mitigating climate change, reducing plastic usage, and empowering children in these areas. You can purchase a copy from most booksellers.

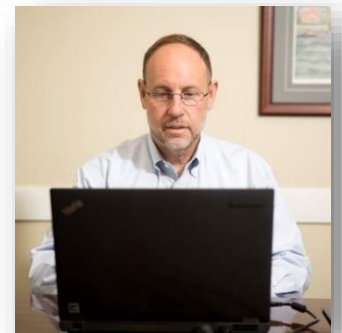
Cathryn Meegan (BS '90) earned her PhD in Accounting at Florida State University in May 2020 and is now an Assistant Professor of Accounting at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, FL.

Katelyn Metcalf (BS '17) has taken on a new role as an Accounting Manager with Streamline Developers in Morehead City, NC. Streamline is a general contractor and new home builder in Eastern NC.

After completing a judicial clerkship with the Honorable Mark Holmes at the United States Tax Court in Washington D.C., **Andrew Wasilick** (MSA '16) started a new job this past December as a Tax Associate for Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton in New York City.



Lucy Brenner



Randy Gray



Cathryn Meegan

Many Pirate alumni reported passing the CPA Exam including **Alanna Aungvibool** (MSA '18), **Taylor Chappell** (MSA '20), **Thomas Dehnel** (MSA '20), **Tyler Hinnant** (MSA '20), **Luke Holloman** (MSA '20), **Wilson Jolly** (MSA '20), **Andrew Lundgren** (MSA '20), **Samantha Schisler** (MSA '20), and **Mary George (Harper) Sowers** (MSA '16).

If we left you out of this year's updates, please send news you would like to share in next year's newsletter to Dr. Denise Dickins (dickinsd@ecu.edu). We look forward to hearing from you.

PIRATE ALUMNI... *are Generous*

Thank you to all the individuals and organizations who have contributed financially to the success of our accounting students, faculty, and programs. We could not do what we do without your support. **You can make sure your donations benefit accounting students by** visiting: <https://bit.ly/2KWZqAV>.

The following is a list of individuals and organizations that contributed at least \$100 to support the Accounting Department during the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 (or during Pirate Nation Gives 2021). If an individual donated through their organization, they may not be individually listed below.

Mrs. Tracey Hill Allen	Mr. William Andrew Haddock	Mr. Charles Raymond Powell
Mr. James R. Anderson	Mrs. Marcie Haines	Mr. William H. Powell, III
Mr. Steven Ayers	Mr. John Haney	Dr. Linda Rusnak Quick*
Mrs. Mary H. Bartlett	Ms. Meredith Anne Hardison	Dr. John T.* & Mrs. Michele Reisch*
Mrs. Shelley Basnight	Ms. Camille Hefner	Ms. Megan Reisch
Miss Rachel Beauchamp*	Mrs. Margaret Henry	Mrs. Karissa Rogers
Mrs. Kristy Bell	Mrs. Dorothy Hobbs	Mr. Ryan Rowland
Mr. Billy Biggs	Mr. Ralph Milton Howell, III	Mr. Charles Edgar Sams
Mr. Willard Blue	Mr. Van Isley	Mr. John Bruce Satterfield, Jr.
Mrs. Desiree Bowling	Ms. Allison Somers Johnson	Dr. Dan L.* & Mrs. Debra Schisler*
Mr. Lee Bowman	Ms. Cristen Anne Jones	Dr. Douglas Kenneth Schneider*
Mrs. Rachel Brassine*	Mr. Jeffrey Thomas Joyner	Mr. J. Shearin
Ms. Lucy Brenner	Mr. Christopher Judy	Mr. Ronald Vincent Siengo
Mrs. Sarah Bruce	Ms. Brenda Sue Ledbetter	Mr. Wesley Stallings
Ms. Melanie Burke	Mr. Daniel Edward Lefairve	Ms. Danielle Stanley
Mr. Stephen Campbell	Mr. Luther Gary Leonard	Mr. Constantine Steve Stephanos
Dr. Eugene G. Chewing, Jr.	Mr. Tyler Lindsey	Mr. Terray Suggs
Dr. & Mrs. J. Cal Christian*	Ms. Rachele Manansala	Mr. John Taylor
Mr. Jonathan Coffman	Ms. Maci Maness	Mr. Lowell Godwin Taylor
Mr. Andrew Lavar Coleman	Mr. Joseph Marks	Mrs. Stacie Lea Tronto*
Mr. Willie Ray & Mrs. Linda Creech	Mr. Christopher Edward McLawhorn	Ms. Angel Trujillo
Mr. John Morris Davis	Mr. Patrick B. Mitchell	Mr. Martin Vernon
Mr. William Fulton Dickenson	Mrs. Azita Da Movahed*	Mr. Charles Walker
Dr. Denise Dickins*	Ms. Tiaria Shantez Mulbah	Mr. Andrew Wasilick
Mr. John Wesley Dostert	Mr. David Rhett Nance	Mr. Stephen Allen Watson
Dr. Edwin Doty Jr.*	Mr. Lucas Nash	Mrs. Debra Bryant Wheeler
Mr. Bobby Dunn	NC Association of CPAS	Mr. Michael Whitfield
Mr. Jared Edens	Mrs. Allison Neiss	Mr. John Randolph Wiley, Jr.
Mr. Michael Edwards	Mrs. Terry Pritchard Ng	Mr. Paul Williams
Mrs. Kimberly Mallard Everett*	Dr. Frederick D. Niswander*	Mrs. Kellie Ann Woodruff
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund	Mr. Robert D. Norman	Mrs. Jan Skillen Workman*
Dr. Zhan Furner*	Dr. Dennis Michael O'Reilly*	Mrs. Lauren Suggs Worley
Mr. John R Futrelle	Mr. Alexander Pappas	Mrs. Jennifer Worsley
Mr. Davidson Burton Gillette	Mr. Jay Arthur Parris	Mr. Fred Zaytoun
Mrs. Anne Howard Gregg	Dr. Amanda Peterson*	
Mr. Kenneth M. Gunn, Jr.	Mrs. Robin Porter	

* Accounting Faculty

OUR STUDENTS... *Standout*

Russell Sherrod is a first-generation college student from Rocky Mount. He is a member of Beta Alpha Psi and the Student Accounting Society and has served as a resident advisor to first-year residents since January 2020. Russell's activities extend outside of ECU. He is a referee for the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA), officiating wrestling events for middle and high schools around the eastern North Carolina region. He also volunteers as a referee for the National Governing Body for the Sport of Wrestling in the United States, USA Wrestling. Russell has been a member of the USA Wrestling's Officials Association, United States Wrestling Officials Association (USWOA) since April 2014. These activities have afforded Russell the opportunity to travel across the US. In September 2020, he joined the Board of Directors of the NC USA Wrestling (state affiliate of USA Wrestling) where he is a member of the Finance Committee; and in Summer 2021, Russell has an Embark Scholar internship with KPMG in their Tysons Corner, VA office.



Russell Sherrod

To what or whom do you attribute your success?

My parents worked hard and sacrificed so much for me to become the first person in our family to earn a college degree. My parents' work ethic, drive, and never-give-up attitude are the characteristics that I attempt to demonstrate every day of my life. The school grade teachers, coaches, and college instructors who saw potential and mentored and encouraged me, also challenged me to do great things. So many people have contributed their time, finances, advice, and mentorship. I feel obligated to give them a big return on their investment. Sometimes I succeed and sometimes I fail, but I always strive to do my best.

Who at ECU has influenced you the most?

The entire College of Business faculty has influenced and encouraged me in my academic journey. I took my first accounting course with **Mrs. Jan Workman**. She was able to explain the material in a digestible and intriguing manner effortlessly. Mrs. Workman was also able to show me that I belong in accounting and she was responsible for converting me from management to an accounting major. **Dr. Linda Quick** assisted me in exploring and evaluating internship and career opportunities. Without Dr. Quick's encouragement and help with navigating the public accounting world, I would not have formed some of the relationships I have with students, alumni, and firms. I also would not have thought it possible to achieve and obtain some of my academic and career aspirations. Dr. Quick helped me realize that the career and educational opportunities available to me are realistic and attainable. I am also influenced by my talented and skillful peers and ECU alumni, and I am motivated to do my part to continue the legacy.

What are your post-graduation plans?

I plan to attend ECU to obtain my Master's in Accounting, then will obtain my CPA designation and pursue a career in public accounting.

OUR STUDENTS... *are Active*

We are grateful to all the firms and individuals who sponsor ECU's Accounting Honorary Fraternity and Societies including, but not limited to, Becker Professional Education, Dixon Hughes Goodman, EY, Hughes Pittman & Gupton, RSM, and Tatum & Edwards.

BETA ALPHA PSI

Thirty-three accounting majors were inducted into honorary fraternity, BAPsi - Iota Xi Chapter during the 2020/2021 academic year. Fall 2020 semester BAPsi officers were **Drew Hill** - President, **Jill Coffey** - Treasurer/Secretary, and **Aaron Prince** and **Philip Unger** - Vice Presidents. Spring 2021 semester officers were **Ashlyn Watkins** - President, **Gabrielle Banks** - Secretary, **Andrew Obimma** - Treasurer, **Alisa Diercksen** - VP of Membership, and **Anastasia Douds** - VP of Records.



BAPSI Officers: Watkins, Diercksen, Banks & Douds

This past academic year, BAPSI pledges and inductees attended numerous meetings, presentations, and events (mostly virtual) including those sponsored or held by Clifton, Larsen & Allen, Dixon Hughes Goodman, ECU Internal Audit, KPMG, RSM, and Thomas, Judy & Tucker. BAPSI members also volunteered for a food drive.



Dr. Douglas Schneider has served as faculty advisor of BAPSI for more than 25 years. You can visit the ECU BAPSI Chapter's Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/ECUBAP>.

STUDENT ACCOUNTING SOCIETY

SAS Officers for the 2020/2021 academic year were: **Anastasia Douds** - President, **Cameron Barker** – Vice President, **Gabby Banks** – Secretary/Treasurer, **Natalie Royal** – Community Event Chair, and **Paige Assa** – Social Media Coordinator.

This year SAS members heard virtual presentations including an internship panel with students who had recently completed internships, **Margaret Henry** (MSA '05) - Vice President and Controller at SmartSky Networks, **Wayne Poole** (BSBA '90) and Sarah von Stein - ECU Internal Audit Department, and Lara Moore from Southern Bank. Our own **Dr. Cal Christian** spoke on professional accounting ethics. SAS members served food at Community Crossroads Center (CCC) and participated in a local highway clean-up. SAS has taken responsibility for annually maintaining a section of Route 264 between AgriSupply and DSM Pharmaceuticals for more than 20 years and has provided dinner at CCC four times a year for more than 20 years.



Brassine & Quick – SAS faculty advisors at CCC Dinner

To find out more about SAS, visit the SAS Facebook page. If you are a prospective employer willing to speak at an upcoming SAS meeting, please contact one of the SAS faculty advisors, **Dr. Linda Quick** or **Mrs. Rachel Brassine**.

CPA EXAM FIELD TEST

Thanks to the efforts of **Dr. Schneider**, even during the pandemic ECU continues to serve as one of the few host schools in the country for the CPA Exam Field Test. The Field Test is operationally identical to the actual CPA Exam, so students learn how to navigate the exam platform. They also get to practice questions that could later appear on the actual CPA Exam. Approximately 35 accounting students participated in this past year's Field Tests using their home computers.

OUR STUDENTS... are Recognized

Kunal Chakraborty recently won 1st Place in ECU's Research and Creative Achievement Week for his co-authored project, "Activity Based Costing for Management Decision Making in Quality Assurance Laboratories." Kunal's presentation can be viewed at: <https://symposium.foragerone.com/research-and-creative-achievement-week/presentations/14417>.



Haley Hagwood

Haley Hagwood was recognized by the Accounting Department as this year’s Outstanding Senior. We asked Haley to share the secret to her success. She replied, “By the time you wake up, half the world has already finished their day, so take every opportunity that is placed before you, persevere, and do everything in your power to stand out from the crowd. Remember that being uncomfortable is a sign of growth and setting small habits today will reap large successes in the future. Join organizations, set goals to be inducted into honor societies, and make connections with professors and potential employers on campus. An ounce of effort can go a long way and these simple steps will set a solid foundation for your success at ECU.”

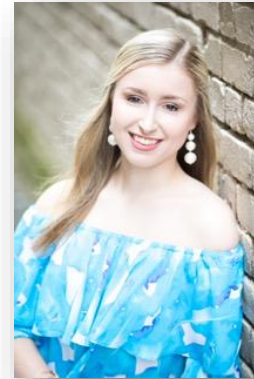
Great advice, Haley!

Mason Lewis was selected as this year’s recipient of the Howard Award. The Howard Award recognizes successful students who overcome great obstacles. Mason takes pride in being knowledgeable about whatever work he is doing. He never backs down from a challenge.

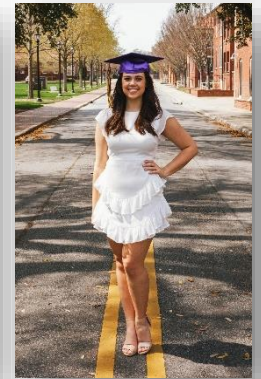


Mason Lewis

With your help, this year we were able to award 39 scholarships totaling \$111,950. Some of the larger scholarships were awarded to **Elizabeth Martin**, this year’s recipient of the \$10,000 Rebecca Fay Memorial Scholarship, **Anastasia Douds**, the recipient of the \$10,000 Zeke Sigler Memorial Scholarship, and **Nicholas Pittman**, **Emma Renfrow**, and **Angel Torres** who were each awarded \$5,000 NCACPA scholarships. These five scholarships are awarded annually with funds raised through a partnership of the NCACPA and the accounting faculty



Elizabeth Martin



Anastasia Douds

In addition, **Caitlin Deans** and **Jordon Hess** each received \$10,000 MSA Scholars’ Fund scholarships.

Alisa Diercksen and **Margret (Maggie) Weddle** were the recipients of \$10,000, merit-based scholarships sponsored by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). The purpose of the scholarship program is to encourage accounting students to pursue careers in audit. Fewer than 250 students nationwide are selected each year to receive these scholarships.

Russell Sherrod is a 2021-2022 AICPA Legacy Scholarship recipient. The Legacy Scholars program assists students with the cost of their college education and provides educational and professional development opportunities.

Other accounting students receiving scholarships this year included: **Tonishka Adams**, **Jordan Anderson**, **Mazen Algardi**, **Lucy Archer**, **Graham Barefoot**, **Cameron Barker**, **William Batchelor**, **Abby Baukema**, **Sarah Benoist**, **Ryan Brennan**, **Robert Bruss**, **Cameron Callahan**, **Austin Dail**, **Cody Ellison**, **Matthew Eugene**, **Karsyn Guffey**, **Haley Hagwood**, **Makayla Horton**, **Elaina Irvin**, **Allison Levesque**, **Tyler Peacock**, **Jay Pike**, **Daniel Signorelli**, **Gurk Singh**, **Jerry Underwood**, and **Jessica Whelan**.



Caitlin Deans



Jordon Hess



Alisa Diercksen



Maggie Weddle

The following accounting majors were newly inducted into the honorary business fraternity, Beta Gamma Sigma, during the 2020/2021 academic year: **Mazen Algaradi, Charles Ausherman, William Batchelor, Abby Baukema, Rachel Beauchamp, Teresa Callison, Kunal Chakraborty, Patrick Chapepa, Kayla Clark, Olivia Elgin, Erica Gore, Rachel Hull, Allison Levesque, Chelsea Marsteller, Andre Messier, Lacey Ross, Samantha Schisler, Dane Straeter, Joshua Wrenn, Chandler Woods, and Mackenzie Yetman.**

Students in the ECU Honors College are required to write a thesis to complete their course work. This past year, **Austin Bland** was an Honor's College student. Austin worked with **Dr. Linda Quick** on his project titled, "Factors influencing risk tolerance in cryptocurrency investing." In addition, 2019-2020 Honor's College student, **Rachel Hull**, received notice that the paper resulting from her project titled, "The most effective study methods for passing the CPA exam: a research note," would soon be published in *Advances in Accounting Education*.

Elizabeth Martin was awarded the Panhellenic Association Academic Award for the Most Deserving 4.0 and was a member of the Chancellor's List.



Austin Bland



Rachel Hull

OUR STUDENTS... *are Sought After*

Accounting students receiving internships this year included: **Hannah Capestany** at Baker Tilly, **Austin Cunningham** at Barrow, Parris, and Davenport, **Mason Miles** at Commonwealth of Virginia, **Chelsea Marsteller** at BDO, **Jordan Hess** at Deloitte, **Kunal Chakraborty** at Electrolux North America, **Brittney Kudla, Nick Rios** and **Nicholas Tauber** all at Ernst & Young, **Tonishka Adams** at Keiter and SECU, **Anastasia Douds** and **Russell Sherrod** at KPMG, **Alisa Diercksen** at Rödl & Partner, **Abby Baukema** at the Virginia State Corporation Commission, and **Caroline Haller** at Wall, Einhorn, and Chernitzer.

OUR STUDENTS... *are Multi-Talented*

Our accounting student-athletes **Ryan Brennan** (swimming), **Alisa Diercksen** (tennis), and **Chelsea Marsteller** (swimming) have had a quiet year due to the pandemic. Alisa reports that the environment is very strict and the athletic training facility, trainers are very careful. Student-athletes are tested weekly for COVID until they are vaccinated and must wear masks. We're looking forward to more "normal" times when our student-athletes only have to worry about juggling practice, events, and schoolwork!



Ryan
Brennan
(above right)



Alisa
Diercksen



Chelsea
Marsteller
(right)

OUR STUDENTS... *are Resilient*

We asked students how they survived online classes throughout the pandemic. Here are a few of their responses.



Caroline Haller & Emma

“I survived studying through a pandemic with the help of my dog, Emma! After studying for the CPA exam, we both needed a nap.” **Caroline Haller**

“I survived the pandemic by setting up a dedicated space for completing schoolwork. This allowed me to create a healthy school/home-life balance.” **M. Caitlin Deans**

“One of the things that helped me the most was taking walks before starting my day to get some time off the screen and plan my day.” **Gurk Singh**



M. Caitlin Deans

Student Center – ECU Main Campus



OUR FACULTY... *are Research-Focused*

Dr. Cal Christian updated his CPE courses “North Carolina Accountancy Law: Ethics, Principles & Professional Responsibilities,” and “North Carolina Professional Ethics.” Since 2010, the accounting faculty has teamed with the NCACPA to offer online ethics courses. Through this partnership, a percentage of the revenue generated benefits ECU students enrolled in our MSA program that plan to pursue a career in public accounting. This year’s scholarship recipients are reported in the “Student News” section of the newsletter. You can help ECU students by taking your annual ethics CPE on-line through the NCACPA (available at: <https://ncacpa.inreachce.com/>).

Drs. Denise Dickins, Mark McCarthy, Dennis O’Reilly, and Doug Schneider co-authored, “Evidence of the impact of changes in reporting discontinued operations on credit ratings” published in *Advances in Business Research*. Dr. Dickins also co-authored “Understanding and avoiding auditing-related enforcement actions” in *Today’s CPA*, “The role of politics in state-level disciplinary actions of CPAs sanctioned by the PCAOB” in *Journal of Business Ethics*, “The process of identifying and disclosing CAMs – early evidence” in *International Journal of Disclosure and Governance*, and “Initial insights on critical audit matters” in *Tennessee CPA Journal*.

Dr. Zhan Furner co-authored, “A picture is worth a thousand words: How images influence information quality and information load in online reviews” published in *Electronic Markets*, and “Seeing is believing: The effects of images on trust and purchase intent in eWOM for hedonic and utilitarian products” in *Journal of Organizational and End User Computing*.

Dr. Rick Niswander and **Dr. Dan Schisler** updated their co-authored textbook, *Fundamentals of Taxation*, now in its 14th Edition.

Dr. Joseph Reid, along with **Dr. Dickins** and other co-authors, published “Illuminating the Black experience in internal auditing” in *Internal Auditor*.

Dr. Peterson co-authored, “Funding implications of the single audit,” published in *Journal of Government Financial Management*.

Along with Dr. Brenda Killingsworth from the MIS department, **Mrs. Stacie Tronto** authored, “How internal audit can champion continuous monitoring in a business operation via visual reporting and overcome barriers to success” published in *International Journal of Digital Accounting Research*.

OUR FACULTY... *are Service-Focused*

Our accounting faculty members continue to help advance the missions of various professional accounting associations. Here are a few examples.

Even during the pandemic, **Dr. Cal Christian** was able to find places where he could talk! In addition, to presenting ethics classes on behalf of the NCACPA, he presented at annual meetings of the American Public Power Association and the Mississippi Society of CPAs. In addition to his role as Department Chair, he continues to serve as ECU’s NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative.

Dr. Denise Dickins serves as the Academic Editor of the AAA’s publication, *Current Issues in Auditing*.

Dr. Rick Niswander is the Chairman of the Lifelong Learning Committee of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). The Committee is responsible for the creation and administration of the CGMA exam. CIMA is a U.K.-based joint venture with the AICPA that has over 220,000 members in over 170 countries.

Dr. Linda Quick is a member of the NCACPA’s Young CPA Cabinet.

OUR FACULTY... *are Recognized*



Dr. Denise Dickins

Dr. Dickins was recognized by ECU for her research and scholarship, and Dr. Dickins and **Dr. Joseph Reid** were awarded a grant by ECU's Office of Equity and Diversity for their research project, "The impact of macro- and microaggressions on leakage in the accounting academic pipeline: The Black experience."

Congratulations to **Dr. Amanda Peterson** who was promoted to Associate Professor!



Dr. Amanda Peterson

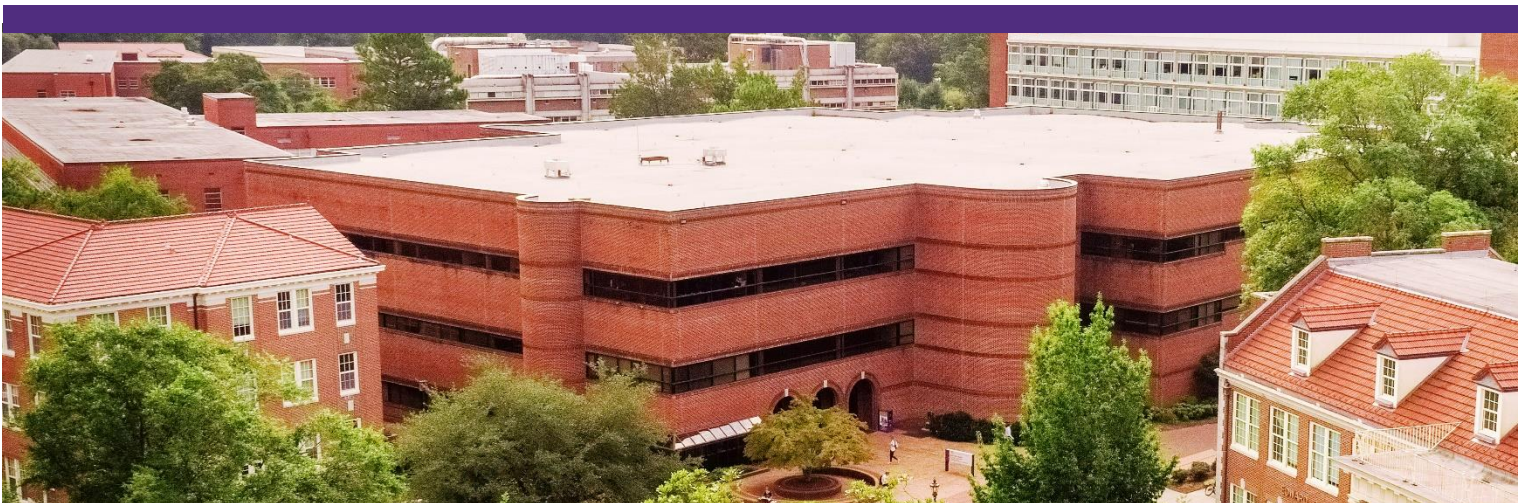


Dr. Joseph Reid

Dr. Joseph Reid received an honorary appointment to the Engagement and Outreach Scholars Academy (EOSA). The EOSA was created to increase the knowledge, motivation, and resource capacity for community engagement with external partners.

In recognition for their volunteer service, **Mrs. Debra Schisler** and **Dr. Dickins** were inducted into ECU's Servire Society. Mrs. Schisler volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House of Eastern NC, and Dr. Dickins volunteers at the Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League.

"We look forward to the return of students, faculty and staff to campus!"



Stay Connected!

business.ecu.edu/connect

