

The ECU Accountant



ECU

COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS

Department of Accounting

In this Issue...

FALL 2022

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

PIRATE ALUMNI...

OUR STUDENTS...

OUR FACULTY...

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This past spring, I had the opportunity to attend the Chancellor's installation and I left with a renewed spirit. I've worked closely with Chancellor Rogers over the last year and he is the right person at the right time for ECU. His background has prepared him for the changes that we are experiencing in Higher Education. When you add in that he grew up in Greenville and understands and appreciates Eastern NC, that is invaluable. ECU is well positioned for what the future holds.

Our mission at ECU is unique. We do not pride ourselves on who we exclude, but instead it is about who we include. I can assure you that we have some really amazing accounting students. This was one of the most difficult years we have ever had in selecting the recipient of our outstanding senior award. Our students are serving in leadership roles all around campus, presenting their Honors College research at National Conferences, serving in internships, and just working to pay their way through college. I wish you had the opportunity to meet each of our students as you will be proud to have each of these students join you as an alumnus of ECU.

Of course, none of this happens without our accounting faculty. While I always knew we had a great faculty, when you are in the Chair position it really gets re-enforced. One example that comes to mind is in conjunction with the offering of our undergraduate accounting program (BSBA) online. This past spring, I asked Debra Schisler and Linda Quick if they would be willing to participate in the University's Quality Matters Certification for online courses. This was a significant commitment of time and required them to engage with a consultant and rework their online accounting classes so the rest of the faculty could learn from them. Both embraced the challenge and now are QM certified. I can give example after example where our faculty work to make our accounting program the best it can be. They all are continuing to improve the educational experience for every ECU student. Yet, the faculty do so much more than teach, and you will see all of the other activities that they are involved in on campus, in research and within the community throughout the newsletter.

However, there will be something missing as we begin the fall semester as both Denise Dickins and Rick Niswander will be retiring. You will be reading more about their accomplishments, but I really cannot put into words what they have meant to not only our accounting department and the College of Business, but to the entire ECU community. While we are all excited for them in their next chapter of life, our department will never be the same.

I must also let you - the alumni - know what you mean to the accounting program. Because there is just something special about accountants!! Again, this year when the University had its annual Pirate Nation Gives, the accounting department had the largest number of donors on campus (not just the College of Business). We had 62 unique donors, keeping us in first place again in 2022.



Dr. Cal Christian

With your generous donations for the upcoming school year, we have been able to award 52 scholarships totaling \$120,950. This is amazing. This represents 30% of all the scholarship funds that the College of Business awarded and 25% of the scholarship recipients, while we have less than 10% of the College of Business students. While this is pretty impressive, it isn't anything new. The accounting department alumni have contributed to our program every year.

I am proud to call myself a Pirate! I am looking forward to seeing everyone this year, either on campus or at a CPE event. If you are on campus for a football game or any event this year, please stop by and let us know how you are doing. We love to hear about your life!! Go Pirates!!

Sincerely,

Cal

christianj@ecu.edu
252-737-1053

OUR ALUMNI ARE...*Successful*

Chris Judy (BSBA '79) is one of the founding partners of TJT, an accounting firm headquartered in Raleigh. Chris started his career with a local CPA firm in Raleigh that later merged with Arthur Young where he headed up the NC Entrepreneurial Service Group. Chris formed TJT in 1990 with three partners, two staff, one administrative staff and a handful of quality clients. His philosophy was to put his head down and do quality work, adding value for his clients, knowing his clients would grow and refer their friends. Chris led the firm for over 30 years of continuous organic growth with a few strategic hires along the way but without mergers. The firm now has 200 employees with offices in Raleigh, Durham, Emerald Isle and Wilmington. Chris is very involved with giving back to the community and served as past treasurer of Wake County Habitat for Humanity, chairman of Triangle American Red Cross, North American chairman of AGN International accounting association, and he is currently serving as the treasurer of Veterans Life Center. He is also actively involved in his church. We caught up with Chris to find out more about his post-ECU life.



Chris Judy

What do you like best about your current job?

The people that I work with and the clients we serve. Our firm has been blessed to have attracted genuine, talented and bright people who work so well together. Some of the bright spots in a day include working with our staff, whether it be mentoring and coaching a younger staff or brainstorming a difficult tax situation with another partner. When I think back of my most fond memories over the years it is helping clients navigate through their business situations to help them accomplish their goals. I receive a lot of satisfaction when a client communicates their appreciation for helping them.

One example is in early 2020 when the pandemic was starting, we knew a lot of law firms and CPA firms would rush to publish the rules for the anticipated stimulus. We heard our client say, "I don't care about the rules, I need to know how fast I can get my money." We teamed up with a local bank; between their SBA experience and our tax knowledge, we figured out the stimulus process. While other firms were laying off staff, we turned our tax department into an SBA loan processing center getting our clients and other businesses their proceeds from the Paycheck Protection Program as soon as it opened. The appreciation we received from those businesses we helped was unforgettable.

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

The experience I had at ECU prepared me in three ways. The classroom taught me the debits, credits and accounting theory. I was also involved in a fraternity where I learned leadership and organizational skills that lead me to be the treasurer and then president. I also received some practical experience working for a local alumnus preparing individual income tax returns. I really felt like the four years I spent at ECU helped me grow from a teenager to a well-rounded young adult ready for the workforce.

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

Stick with it! Accounting is not easy but you will gain such a tremendous background that can be a tool to prepare you for whatever industry you settle in. I'm glad I went into public accounting. It offers a very flexible schedule with the exception of a few months out of the year. I really enjoy working with the entrepreneurial clients who solve problems or meet needs in a creative way to start a profitable business. I have worked in the Triangle for over 40 years, and it is incredible the relationships I have developed. Almost every day I receive an unexpected phone call with an opportunity to help a client solve a problem or issue. I truly feel blessed and I am living the dream!

Robert Nelson (BSBA '14, MSA '15) is the Director of Accounting at Pendo.io Inc., a company that provides software that makes software better by providing analytics, in-app guides, and feedback. At Pendo, Robert has a broad set of responsibilities including the global month-end close process, financial reporting, and compliance. Additionally, he has experience in transfer pricing, treasury, M&A, and secondary stock transactions. Prior to Pendo, he started his career in the audit practice of DHG before serving as the Controller for MetaMetrics. Robert lives in Raleigh with his wife Allie and their dog Sadie. In addition to spending time with his family, he is an avid triathlete and enjoys researching and investing in real estate.



Robert Nelson

What do you like best about your current job?

I'm an entrepreneur at heart and working at a pre-IPO tech company allows me to tap into that on a daily basis. I'm surrounded by some of the most talented people in the profession and we are building an accounting infrastructure from scratch that will ultimately support us as a public company. Being able to collaborate with an incredible team on projects like this is what makes me excited to go to work every day.

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

ECU's accounting program not only helps prepare you for the technical side of an accounting career, but the faculty does a great job at teaching the soft skills that employers want to see. The professors take a genuine interest in their students and are eager to mentor and teach them about all the career paths they can embark on once they graduate.

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

This probably sounds a bit cliché but the best advice I could give today's accounting students would be to be comfortable being uncomfortable. When you put yourself into an uncomfortable situation by taking that harder elective class, stretch assignment, or new job, it forces you to learn new things that you otherwise wouldn't have learned. It might sound trivial but those decisions compound on one another and will set you up for a lifetime of success.

PIRATE ALUMNI ARE...*Busy*



Stephanie Coleman

Stephanie Coleman (BSBA '00; MBA '01) began her role as the Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance for ECU in August 2021. We are excited and proud to have one of our alumni serving in this position! This role was held in the past by **Dr. Rick Niswander**, a member of ECU's Accounting faculty who retired this year.

Zach Nichols (MSA '16) is the Controller of LGM Enterprises, the parent company of *Flyexclusive*, which is a private jet charter business headquartered in Kinston at the Global TransPark. The company currently operates a fleet of 70 jets offering domestic and international service as well as an aircraft paint shop. LGM Enterprises owns *Flyexclusive* as well as several



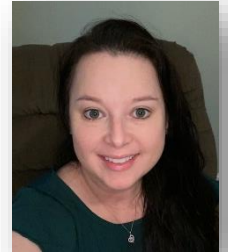
other small businesses ancillary to the charter business. The business was started by **Jim Segrave** (BSBA '93), a member of ECU's Board of Trustees.

Alex Stauffer (BSBA '20) was recently promoted to the role of Treasurer with Raven Butene-1, LLC and their parent company, Arcanum Infrastructure, LLC.

In 2021, **Olivia Richardson** (BSBA '13; MSA '14) began a new job as a Senior Accountant with Southern Industrial Constructors of Raleigh, NC.

Stephen Watson (BSBA '11; MSA '13) was promoted to Senior Manager in EY's Strategy and Transactions practice.

LeAnn Bagasala (BSA '09, MSA '10) began a new job as Audit Director at Mauldin and Jenkins, a public accounting firm that began in 1918 and currently has over 400 professionals and 12 offices in five states. LeAnn focuses on serving local government clients across North Carolina. Her current focus is to hire North Carolina residents to one day open a local office to serve North Carolina clients.



LeAnn Bagasala

Justin DiMascio (BSBA '16) is working in his third year as a Financial Crimes Compliance officer at Credit Suisse in Morrisville, NC.

Phil Hoft (BSBA '79) is keeping his family business, BA Hoft, Inc., thriving. BA Hoft has been supplying commercial and institutional building hardware, doors and frames since 1974. Phil's father started the business, and after Phil's graduation from ECU, he began working at BA Hoft the next week. The business began in a hotel suite in an executive workplace at the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh. In 1976, they purchased their first building and operated from there until 1987, when they built a 23,000 square foot facility where they still operate today. The business started with 3 employees: Phil's father, mother, and brother. Today, the business has 36 associates and a second office in Charlotte. One of the company's significant projects, and at the time one of the single largest contracts in North Carolina, was the ECU Medical School. Recently, Phil and his brother sold their stock to Phil's niece, Lorah, making BA Hoft a 100% woman-owned company and a fourth generation in this industry. Phil credits Lorah for her dedication to propelling the business forward into today's fast-paced, technological age. Phil plans to retire in 2026.



Stephen Juras (BSBA '14) started as a Senior Consultant with Deloitte Consulting's Healthcare Practice in Charlotte, NC.

In January 2022, **Rachel Eker** (BSBA '18) started a job at Warren Equity Partners as a Senior Tax Analyst in Jacksonville, FL.

Kendal Banks (BSBA '10, MSA '17) accepted a position as an Internal Revenue agent with the IRS Small Business/Self Employed Division.



Steve Bulluck

Steve Bulluck (BSBA '80) is the former Vice President of Internal Audit for Anthem and Amerigroup in Virginia Beach, VA. He is now enjoying his days in retirement.

Jeremy Russell (BSBA '05; MSA '08) has held many positions since starting his professional career, including Staff Accountant, Cost Accountant, BU Controller, Business Controller, Senior Controller, Director of FP&A, and Senior Director of FP&A & Business Analytics. His most recent promotion in 2022 was to the role of VP of North America FP. In addition to his CPA license, he

holds the title of Certified Corporate FP&A Professional (FPAC).



Jeremy Russell

In August 2021, **Joy Schaub** (MSA '12) started a new job in the Finance Department at Wake Med in Raleigh, NC. Six short months later, she was promoted to Manager of Revenue Reimbursement!

Drew Flowers (BSBA '12, MSA '13) was promoted to Accounting Manager at Gregory Poole Equipment Company.

Taylor Chappell (BSBA '19, MSA '20) became a licensed CPA in the state of Virginia and started a new position with Nucor as an Internal Audit Analyst. In this new role, she travels to different divisions and conducts internal audits and SOX compliance audits.

Michael Schertzinger (BSBA '97; MBA '98) has been working with the AICPA for over 3 years now after spending 20 years in public accounting, mainly with RSM and then some time with the NC Office of the State Auditor and Cherry Bekaert. With the AICPA he investigates allegations of AICPA and state CPA society members who may have violated professional standards (e.g. GAAP, GAAS, Uniform Guidance, and Government Auditing Standards) mainly in the Governmental, Nonprofit, and Single Audit industries but also including some corporate industries. The process involves reviewing working papers, financial statements, and/or other documents to determine compliance with professional standards. His duties with the AICPA also include working with the Professional Ethics Executive Committee with standard setting projects and helping members with questions about independence in regard to the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct.



Michael Schertzinger

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. Mandi Peterson (petersonam@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, 2021 to December 31, 2021. If an individual donated through their organization, they may not be individually listed below.

Mr. Johnathan D. and Mrs. Samantha S. Akers
Mr. Charles H. and Mrs. Tracey Hill Allen
Mr. James R. Anderson
Mr. Steven R. and Mrs. Jody L. Ayers
Mr. Gary O. and Mrs. Mary H. Bartlett
Miss Rachel J. Beauchamp
Mrs. Kristy L. Bell
Mr. Willard Clay Blue, Jr. and Mrs. Victoria H. Blue
Mr. Jerry W. and Mrs. Desiree C. Bowling
Mr. Lee M. Bowman
Mr. Brian W. and Mrs. Rachel L. Brassine *
Ms. Lucy W. Brenner
Mrs. Stefenie H. Brinson
Mr. William I. and Mrs. Sarah E. Bruce
Mr. Henry B. and Mrs. Deborah G. Bunn
Ms. Melanie M. Burke
Mr. Charles C. B. Gullette
Mr. Stephen R. Campbell
Mr. Russell S. and Mrs. Angela M. Cayton
Ms. Taylor J. Chappell
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving

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Mr. Patrick B. Mitchell
Mr. Robert H. Mitchell, Jr. and Mrs. Meaghan C. Mitchell
Miss Marianne Elizabeth Moore
Dr. Assad and Mrs. Azita Movahed *
Ms. Tiaria S. Mulbah
Mr. David Rhett Nance
Mr. James D. and Mrs. Christine G. Nance
Mr. Lucas W. Nash
Mrs. Terry Pritchard Ng and Mr. Anthony Cheuk-Shoon Ng
Dr. Rick D. and Mrs. Debi Jeanne Niswander *
Dr. Dennis M. and Mrs. Cassandra B. O'Reilly *
Cozart & Edwards, P.A.
Mr. Alexander T. and Mrs. Dee S. Pappas
Mr. Jay A. and Mrs. Amy E. Parris
Dr. Mandi and Mr. Greg Peterson *
Mrs. Sarah Davis Phillips
Mr. William L. Porter, Jr. and Mrs. Robin F. Porter
Mr. William H. Powell, III
The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving
Dr. Linda R. and Mr. Brandon F. Quick *

Dr. Eugene G. Chewning, Jr.
 Dr. Cal and Mrs. Kay Christian *
 Mr. Andrew S. and Mrs. Lisa A. Coats
 Mr. Jonathan J. Coffman
 Mr. Andrew L. Coleman
 NC Association of CPAs
 Mr. David N. Crawford
 Mr. Willie R. and Mrs. Linda B. Creech
 Ms. Mary Margaret Cunningham
 Ms. Theresa Marie Decosta
 Mr. William F. and Mrs. Kathleen M. Dickenson
 Dr. Denise E. Dickins *
 Mr. John Wesley and Mrs. Jennifer W. Dostert
 Dr. Edwin A. Doty, Jr. and Mrs. Carol Doty
 Mr. Bobby Brian Dunn
 Mr. Jared P. and Mrs. Rachael D. Edens
 Mr. Michael C. and Mrs. Laura H. Edwards
 Bank of America Employee Giving Campaign
 Mr. Michael S. and Mrs. Crystal S. Fedyshyn
 Ms. Diane Lynn Finkenaur
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
 Dr. Zhan Zhang Furner & Dr. Christopher Paul Furner *
 Mr. John R. Futrelle
 Dr. Davidson Burton Gillette *
 Mr. Ronald B. and Mrs. Anne H. Gregg
 Mr. Kenneth M. Gunn, Jr.
 Mr. William A. and Mrs. Kristi R. Haddock
 Mr. John A. and Mrs. Marilyn G. Haney
 Ms. Meredith Anne Hardison
 Ms. Mary George Harper
 Mr. Edwin L. and Mrs. Margaret Mitchell Henry
 Mr. Ralph Milton Howell, III and Mrs. Angie Howell
 Mrs. Emily B. Hutchinson
 Ms. Allison S. Johnson
 Mr. Gregory M. Jounigan
 Mr. Jeffrey T. and Mrs. Lee Ann F. Joyner
 Mr. Christopher P. Judy
 Mr. William L. Lanier, Jr. and Mrs. Paula Lanier
 Mrs. Jessica Schisler Lawrence
 Mr. Steven and Ms. Brenda Sue Ledbetter
 Mr. Luther Gary Leonard and Mrs. Kathryn Leonard
 Ms. Kimberly A. Mallard
 Mr. Josh and Mrs. Maci Raney Maness
 Mr. Joseph E. McKoy
 Mr. Christopher Edward McLawhorn

Ms. Megan Elizabeth Reisch
 Dr. John T. and Mrs. Michele H. Reisch *
 Mr. Jeffrey L. and Mrs. Melissa B. Robinson
 Mr. Jordan and Mrs. Karissa M. Rogers
 Ms. Suzanne M. Rusnak
 Mr. Charles Edgar Sams
 Mr. John Bruce Satterfield, Jr. and Mrs. Tula M. Satterfield
 Mr. Michael C. and Ms. Kathryn I. Scarabelli
 Ms. Samantha Nicole Schisler
 Dr. Dan L. and Mrs. Debra Schisler *
 Dr. Douglas K. Schneider *
 Mr. Ronald V. Siengo
 Mr. Wesley W. and Mrs. Karen J. Stallings
 Ms. Danielle Oleta Stanley
 Mr. Constantine S. and Mrs. Lisa C. Stephanos
 Mr. Terray F. and Mrs. Carolyn W. Suggs
 Mr. Thomas C. Swanner, Jr. and Mrs. Pamela K. Swanner
 Mr. Lowell G. and Mrs. Lori F. Taylor
 Mrs. Stacie Lea Tronto *
 Ms. Nora D. Tucker *
 Mr. Martin Lewis and Mrs. Elizabeth H. Vernon
 Mr. Charles Michael Walker
 Ms. Neena Pauline Wanko
 Mr. Taylor M. and Mrs. Logan M. Ward
 Mr. Andrew M. and Mrs. Mackenzie W. Wasilick
 Mr. Stephen Allen Watson, Jr.
 Mr. Thomas E. Wheeler, Jr. and Mrs. Debra B. Wheeler
 Mr. John R. Wiley, Jr. and Mrs. Katherine D. Wiley
 Mr. Paul B. and Mrs. Lorri M. Williams
 Mr. Jerry Lewis Wilson
 Mr. Robert L. and Mrs. Kellie A. Woodruff
 Mr. Lee D. and Mrs. Jan S. Workman*
 Mr. Casey J. and Mrs. Lauren S. Worley
 KPMG Foundation
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 Ms. Alanna Aungvibool
 RSM US LLP
 Ms. Michelle Godette
 Bank of America
 Mr. Galen Olsen and Ms. Rachele Manansala
 Mr. Matthew and Mrs. Jennifer Worsley
 Mr. Ryan and Mrs. Angie M. Rowland
 Mr. Van and Mrs. Jennifer R. Isley

* Current accounting faculty

OUR STUDENTS...*Standout*

Mary George King is an accounting major who serves as Vice President of Beta Alpha Psi and Secretary of the Student Accounting Society. During her time at East Carolina University, she has been actively involved in student and Greek life. She served as an orientation assistant in addition to holding the executive positions of secretary and president of Chi Omega sorority. Mary George is also a member of the following honor societies: Beta Gamma Sigma, Sigma Alpha Pi, and Phi Kappa Phi. Outside of coursework and extracurricular activities, Mary George worked part time as a sales associate at Monkee's of Greenville, a local boutique for 2 years.



Mary George King

To what or whom do you attribute your success?

Growing up my parents taught me the importance of success in every aspect of my life. I learned at a young age that hard work and dedication are key factors in reaching your goals. It has always been important for me to give 100% effort in both my schoolwork and extracurricular activities. My parents have provided both emotional and financial support. Their encouragement has allowed me to go outside my comfort zone and try new adventures. I am blessed to come from a very close extended family that also provides love and encouragement. My supportive family and my faith have helped me get to where I am today.

Who at ECU has influenced you the most?

The accounting department at East Carolina has many excellent faculty members that strive to make every student feel important and successful. To choose one person is very difficult for me. During freshman orientation, **Dr. Cal Christian** was one of the speakers and was so impressive that I decided to take Financial Accounting. **Mrs. Debra Schisler** was my professor for that class, and she is the reason I decided to become an accounting major. However, if I had to choose one person that influenced me the most it would be **Dr. Douglas Schneider**. As a student, attending his class, it was clear how much he cares about his students. He is dedicated to ensuring his students understand the material. Dr. Schneider not only teaches his students accounting fundamentals but also life lessons they will carry with them forever. As the advisor for Beta Alpha Psi, Dr. Schneider devotes time, out of his personal life, to mentor his students. Dr. Schneider also endows a scholarship, in honor of his parents, to help accounting students with tuition.

What are your post-graduation plans?

After graduation this May, I will begin a summer internship with the state and local tax group at RSM in Charlotte. My internship will provide real life work experience which will help me decide the area of accounting that is best for me. Following completion of my internship, I will return to East Carolina in the Fall of 2022, to obtain my Master of Science in Accounting. I hope to sign with RSM or another large accounting firm to begin working after graduation in May 2023. I would like to live in a city like Raleigh or Charlotte for a few years and then move back to eastern North Carolina when I marry and start a family. An accounting career will allow me to do that.

Manuel Reyes is an accounting major graduating in May 2022. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and Beta Alpha Psi and works for Streamline Developers as an accounting intern and a construction helper. Streamline is a construction company that builds houses throughout eastern North Carolina, focusing mainly on beach communities. Before this opportunity, he worked as a janitor for KP Services and a flooring installer for Eastman's Carpet and Flooring. Manuel was also recipient of the Accounting Department's Howard Award in 2022, which recognizes successful students who overcome great obstacles.



Manuel Reyes

To what or whom do you attribute your success?

I attribute my success to my parents who have given up a lot and struggled to get me to this point in my life. My parents have pushed to learn as much as I can while I have the chance. I'm able to pay them back by doing well in school. Also, my coach from high school was the one who pushed me to come to ECU, without him I might not have attended college here.

Who at ECU has influenced you the most?

Dr. Schneider has had the most influence on me during my time at ECU. Before meeting him, I learned my boss from Streamline was his graduate assistant. She told me he had a major influence on her and that she enjoyed working with him. I've asked Dr. Schneider for advice, and he helped me decide to attend the MSA program at ECU. Also, **Dr. Christian** helped me out with some great advice for an interview I had with PwC. Although I didn't get the internship, I think his advice really helped me present myself to them better and I later used his advice in other interviews.

What are your post-graduation plans?

After graduating with my BSA, I plan to continue at ECU in the MSA program and earn my CPA license. Once I finish at ECU, I plan on continuing to work for Streamline where they have offered me a job. I've worked for them since the summer of 2021, and I enjoy the work environment and people, so I'm glad I'm able to continue working there. Also, Streamline is in Morehead City, which is a bonus to be at the beach.

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

This past academic year, Beta Alpha Psi pledges and inductees attended numerous meetings, presentations, and events including those made or sponsored by KPMG; Hughes, Pittman & Gupton; PWC; RSM; PBMAres; Dixon, Huges & Goodman (DHG); Clifton, Larson & Allen; NC State Auditor; Hyster-Yale; and Williams, Overman & Pierce.

BAPsi members volunteered for NCPacks4Patriots this year. NCPacks4Patriots provides needed supplies to U.S. Troops serving at remote locations overseas. Accounting students helped by counting inventory and preparing boxes of supplies for shipment.



2022 NC Packs

This year, BAPsi National Executive Office recognized ECU's chapter as a "Mission-based" chapter because of the activities they participated in this past academic year. We are very proud of our members and **Dr. Doug Schneider** (faculty advisor) for achieving this!

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

STUDENT ACCOUNTING SOCIETY

This year SAS members participated in multiple events, including highway cleanup, serving dinner at the Community Crossroads Center (CCC) and a speed networking activity. 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.

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**, ECU continues to serve as one of the few host schools in the country for the CPA Exam Field Test. During the 2021-2022 academic year, the AICPA Examinations Team (that develops and scores the CPA Exam) invited ECU MSA students to sit for the CPA Exam Field Test where prospective CPA Exam questions are tested for use on actual future CPA Exams by MSA students answering the questions on the Field Test.

The experience is beneficial to MSA students who will sit for the CPA Exam because the Field Test is operationally identical to the actual CPA Exam, which provides students an opportunity to learn how to navigate the actual CPA Exam.

In the Fall Semester the Field Test covered the Regulation (REG) section of the CPA Exam. The simulations on the Field Test covered new concepts related to Tax and Tax Compliance & Planning (TCP) and the analysis of calculations, schedules, organizers, and forms completed manually or by software. The Field Test consisted of 4-5 simulation-like tasks.

In the spring semester, questions related to the upcoming Information Systems and Control (ISC) discipline section were tested that will appear on future CPA Exams. Feedback from the students indicates the CPA Exam Field Test was a positive part of their MSA experience.

OUR STUDENTS ARE...*Recognized*

Eighteen accounting majors were inducted into the honorary fraternity, Beta Alpha Psi (BAPsi) - Iota Xi Chapter during the 2021/2022 academic year. Fall 2021 semester BAPsi officers were **Ashlyn Watkins** - President, **Gabrielle Banks** - Secretary, **Andrew Obimma** - Treasurer, **Alisa Diercksen** - VP of Membership, and **Anastasia Douds** - VP of Records. Spring 2022 semester officers were **Allison Levesque** - President, **Gabrielle Banks** - Secretary, **Sydney Braxton** - Treasurer, and **Mary George King** - VP of Membership and Records.



The following accounting majors were newly inducted into the honorary business fraternity, Beta Gamma Sigma, during the 2021/2022 academic year: **Miguel Andrade-Urioso**, **Kaitlin Carter**, **Xiaona Hong**, **Jacqueline Ambriz-Huerta**, **Lacy Galloway**, **Noah Lennon**, and **James Wyatt**. The following MSA students were inducted: **James Wyatt** and **Alisa Diercksen**. One of our own, **Jordan Anderson**, is the student Vice President for Beta Gamma Sigma!



With your help, this year we were able to award 53 scholarships totaling \$130,950! The recipients include: **Abby Baukema**, this year's recipient of the \$10,000 Rebecca Fay Memorial Scholarship; **Allison Levesque**, the recipient of the \$10,000 Zeke Sigler Memorial Scholarship; **Mazen Algaradi** and **Bridget Cannon**, who were awarded \$10,000 MSA Scholars' Fund Scholarships; **Mazie Murphy**, recipient of a \$5,000 Gwen Potter Scholarship; and **Lacy Galloway**, **Stephen Hoggard**, and **Jessica Whelan**, who were each awarded \$5,000 NCACPA scholarships. The NCACPA scholarships, Rebecca Fay Memorial Scholarship, and Zeke Sigler Memorial Scholarship are awarded annually with funds raised through a partnership with the NCACPA.

Cameron Barker was the recipient of a \$10,000, merit-based scholarship sponsored by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). The purpose of the scholarship program



Cameron Barker

is to encourage accounting students to pursue careers in audit. Fewer than 250 students nationwide are selected each year to receive these scholarships.

Other accounting students receiving scholarships this year included: **Jackie Ambriz-Huerta; Jordan Anderson; Gabrielle Banks; Graham Barefoot; Joel Brookhart; Connor Bruss; Cameron Callahan; Taylor Cooper; Madison Cullipher; Jeremy Dawson; Maile English; Natalie Erwin; Landon Floyd; Evelyn Gonzalez; Connor Gorlesky; Jillian Graves-Mobley; Ruby Higuera; Jorge Hipolito Canario; Mason Hudnall; Patrick Jones; Mary George King; Andriana Mahairas; Ryan Meling; Andre Messier; Hau Nguyen; Tyler Peacock; Tatum Phillips; Nicholas Pittman; Alex Ramsey; Frank Raya-Viera; Natalie Royal; Russell Sherrod; Sarah Stewart; Morgan Tingen; Stephen Waldman; Ashlyn Watkins; Rory Williamson; Hannah Wood; Jaelyn Woods;** and **Shannon Xiong**.



Allison Levesque

In addition to receiving the Zeke Sigler Memorial Scholarship, **Allison Levesque** was recognized by the Accounting Department as this year's Outstanding Senior!



Tonishka Adams

Tonishka Adams was recognized at the Chancellor's Service Ceremony for her SECU Public Fellows Internship with Hope Restorations, a single-family home rehabilitation program.

Students in the ECU Honors College are required to write a thesis to complete their course work. **Sydney Braxton**, one of ECU'S 2022 Honors College graduates and current MSA student, worked with **Dr. Linda Quick** on her project, "Why Accounting? Perceptions of the Accounting Industry and Factors that Affect Choosing a Major." She was selected to present this paper at the American Accounting Association's Southeast Region Meeting in May. She did a fantastic job and represented ECU well!



Sydney Braxton

OUR STUDENTS ARE...*Sought After*

Accounting students receiving internships this year included: **Tonishka Adams** at RISE29; **Mazen Algaradi** at Carr, Riggs & Ingram (spring), and Ernst and Young (summer); **Paige Assa** at RSM; **Gabby Banks** at PwC; **Cameron Barker** at Atlantic Food Group and RSM (summer); **Cameron Callahan** at DHG; **Jorge Hipolito Canario** at Ernst and Young and Mr. Beast; **Jonas Cole** at Myers & Stauffer; **Chas Connors** at KPMG; **Lacy Galloway** at Seiler, Singleton and Associates and PBMares (summer); **Madie Gentry** at PBMares; **Grace Gregory** at Dominion Energy; **Mary George King** at RSM; **Elizabeth Martin** at Hyster-Yale Group; **Ryan Meling** at Alliance One International and CohnReznick; **Walter Newman** at DHG; **Natalie Royal** at Carr, Riggs & Ingram; **Garris Stokes** at Johnson Lambert and Ernst and Young (summer); **Ugo Umeofia** at Carr, Riggs & Ingram; **Molly Catherine White** at Thermo Fisher; and **Shelbi Wymard** at Langdon & Company.

Michael Dejulio attended DHG's summer leadership program in 2021.

[Insert photo: 2022_Woods]

Jaelyn Woods attended the Johnson and Lambert ELITE Summer Leadership Program in 2022.

ECU welcomed accounting firms from across the region for our annual Meet the Firms event where students and firms can meet and discuss future opportunities for internships and full-time positions.

The firms that participated this year were: Carr, Riggs & Ingram; CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen); CohnReznick; DHG; Hall CPA Group; Hughes Pittman & Gupton; Hyster-Yale; Johnson Lambert; KPMG; Langdon & Company; Myers & Stauffer; NC State Auditor; PBMares; Rogers & Company; RSM; Seiler, Singleton &



Jaelyn Woods

Associates; Thomas, Judy and Tucker; U.S. Army Agency; VA Auditor of Public Records; WEC (Wall, Einhorn & Chernitzer); and Williams Overman Pierce.

OUR FACULTY ARE...*Research-Focused*

In 2021, ECU Accounting faculty members were in the top decile of the country for the number of Accounting cases published over the last 6, 12 and 20 years ([source](#))!

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.

Dr. Denise Dickins and **Dr. Joseph Reid** co-authored two articles with others: "Auditing While Black: Revealing Microaggressions Faced by Black Professionals in Public Accounting" in *Current Issues in Auditing*; and "CPA Mobility: How to abide by the rules" in the *CPA Journal*. They also co-authored "Integrating a foundation for the development of critical thinking skills into an introductory accounting class," in *Accounting Education*.

Dr. Denise Dickins and **Dr. Linda Quick**, along with **Rachel Hull** (BSA '19; MSA '21), co-authored, "The Most Effective Study Methods for High-Stakes Tests: The CPA Exam" in *Advances in Accounting Education*.

Dr. Mark McCarthy and **Dr. Doug Schneider**, along with a co-author, published, "Cash and Non-cash Equity Income and Credit Ratings" in the *Journal of Theoretical Accounting Research*.

Dr. Rick Niswander and **Dr. Dan Schisler** updated their co-authored textbook, *Fundamentals of Taxation*, now in its 15th Edition.

Dr. Dennis O'Reilly and **Dr. Mandi Peterson** co-authored, "The Internal Auditors' Role in Reducing Operational Earnings Management" in *Internal Auditing*.

Dr. Mandi Peterson also published, "COVID-19 Relief and First-Time Single Auditees: How CPAs Can Help" in the *Tennessee CPA Journal*.

Dr. Doug Schneider co-authored, "After-Tax Salvage Value for Capital Budgeting Decisions - Implications of MACRS Half-Year Convention" in *Advances in Financial Education*.

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.

Dr. Cal Christian continues to present ethics classes on behalf of the NCACPA and serve as ECU's NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative, in addition to his role as Department Chair. He also represents the entire ECU faculty in welcoming approximately 4,000 freshmen and their parents to ECU during the ten new student orientation sessions each summer.

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

Dr. Rick Niswander currently serves as Treasurer and Board Member of the AICPA Foundation, which was established in 1922 to advance accounting as a learned profession and promote its future through accounting education and outreach; scholarships and fellowships; and diversity and inclusion. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation includes eleven trustees, one of whom currently serves on the AICPA Board of Directors. The Trustees include a president, a treasurer, and nine other members, including a representative of the Accounting Doctoral Scholars Advisory Group. The Board's secretary and assistant treasurer are AICPA staff members.

Until recently (May 2022), **Dr. Rick Niswander** served as 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.

In August 2022, **Dr. Mandi Peterson** assumes the role of Education Chair for the American Accounting Association's Government and Nonprofit Section.

OUR FACULTY ARE...*Generous*

Our accounting faculty also volunteer in areas of importance to them:

Mrs. Debra Schisler has spent a great deal of time volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House of Eastern NC in recent years, and she was inducted into ECU's Servire Society in recognition for her efforts. **Dr. Mandi Peterson** has begun assisting in this role with the Ronald McDonald House.

Mrs. Staci Tronto volunteers her time with the Humane Society of Eastern Carolina. In recognition for her volunteer service with them, **Mrs. Staci Tronto** was inducted into ECU's Servire Society.

In November, **Dr. Doug Schneider** was recognized and interviewed by WITN-TV for his decades of donations to and support of Toys for Tots.



Mrs. Staci Tronto

OUR FACULTY ARE...*Recognized*



Over the past year, **Mrs. Azita Movahed, Dr. Joseph Reid, Dr. John Reisch** and **Dr. Doug Schneider** were all recognized as Honored Instructors by ECU's Campus Living. The award is given in recognition for having made a significant impact on a nominating student's educational experience at ECU.

Congratulations to **Dr. Doug Schneider** for receiving ECU's Certificate of Service for 30 years of service to ECU!



Dr. Doug Schneider

OTHER NEWS



The Department of Accounting hosted its fourth annual Accounting Research Roundtable Gathering (ARRG!) this year. Six accounting doctoral students presented their research ideas in an informal format much like a roundtable discussion. Ph.D. candidates represented Florida State University, Georgia State University, University of Central Florida, Virginia Commonwealth University, University of North Texas, and University of South Carolina.

We are excited to announce that **Dr. Davidson Gillette** is joining the Accounting faculty in fall 2022. Dr. Gillette has been a Pirate for life. He is originally from the Greenville area and completed his BSBA ('08) and MSA ('12) at ECU. After earning his MSA, Dr. Gillette worked at KPMG in Norfolk, VA for 5 years in the tax department. He then completed his Ph.D. at the University of Alabama. We are excited to welcome Dr. Gillette, his wife, and son back to ECU!



Dr. Davidson Gillette

This year we said goodbye to two beloved faculty members upon their retirement: **Dr. Rick Niswander** and **Dr. Denise Dickins**. Both have contributed to our department and the College of Business tremendously over the years they have spent with us.

Dr. Denise Dickins has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles and has been recognized as one of the top accounting education researchers in the country. In 2022, she was awarded the John B. Thurston Award by the Institute of Internal Auditors in recognition of her co-authored work, "Illuminating the Black Experience in Internal Auditing" published in the April 2021 issue of *Internal Auditor*. She has also served as the editor of *Current Issues in Auditing* since 2020 and is a board member on various corporate boards including currently with Watsco Inc. and NV5 Global Inc.



Dr. Denise Dickins and
Dr. Rick Niswander

Dr. Rick Niswander has held an impressive array of roles, both within and outside of the University, including Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance at ECU, Dean of the College of Business, W. Howard Rooks Distinguished Professor, Chairman of the NCACPA, Treasurer and Board Member of the AICPA Foundation, and Chairman of the Lifelong Learning Committee of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). He also provides an annual economic update to the Greenville-Pitt Chamber of Commerce, serves as a member of the UNC Investment Committee, and presents to the UNC System BRIDGES conference for Women each year.

We are thankful for all their contributions, and they will be greatly missed!

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