

Spring 2014  "Placing the public interest above self-interest is the hallmark of a profession"... Eddie Stamp, 1983...

## Special points of interest:

- \* Letter from the Chair
- \* 2014 Mid-Year Meeting
- \* Featured speakers
- \* Public Interest Online
- \* Letter from the incoming Chair



**John M. Thornton, Ph.D., CPA**

**Chair of the Public Interest Section  
American Accounting Association**

**Professor, Leung Chair of Accounting  
Ethics**

**L.P. and Timothy Leung School of  
Accounting / School of Business and  
Management**

## A Letter from the Chair

### To the Members and Friends of the Public Interest Section,

As Chair of the Public Interest Section, I continually enjoy the collegiality and thoughtfulness you bring to accounting academe. Our Spring Newsletter is designed to highlight the many opportunities open to you to join with the Section in a continuing dialogue designed to stimulate thinking and research on how best our community of accounting scholars can serve the Public Interest. My special thanks to Lawrence Chui and Byron Pike, our media team coordinators, who not only oversee our website content and design, but continue to pioneer our efforts to use new technologies to keep you regularly updated on how you can contribute to and benefit from membership in our Section.

I look forward to seeing all of you in San Diego next month for the Public Interest Section Mid-Year Meeting. As a reminder, you only have a few days remaining to receive the early registration discount, so sign up today. Two of my favorite scholars, Steve Mintz and Brian Shapiro, have put together an outstanding program you won't want to miss, in a location worthy of the event. This is the first time we've held the PIS Mid-Year Meeting on the West Coast, and I especially encourage those in close vicinity to take advantage of this opportunity to bring the meeting to new territory. To our colleagues across the nation and globe, the extra distance promises to be worth the effort. Outstanding program. Outstanding colleagues. Outstanding venue. I hope to see you there.

Also, plan to join us August 2-6 in Atlanta, Georgia, at the AAA Annual Meeting preceded by the 19th Annual Symposium for Research on Accounting Ethics. Thank you Eric Lee, this year's AAA PIS Annual Meeting Coordinator, and Janet Mobus Luft, Ethics Symposium Co-Coordinator, along with the hundreds of reviewers, moderators, discussants, panelists, and presenters who have worked so hard to make these events a success.

Please take the time to read the remainder of this newsletter and learn all about the upcoming events. Also, consider talking with Chair Elect Pat Kelly regarding the important leadership roles he is looking to fill for the 2014-2016 academic years, along with an innovative media proposal led by Vice Chair of Research Mike Kraten that has the potential to strengthen the reach of the Public Interest Section as we move into 2014 and beyond.

Thank you for being my colleagues. I appreciate you!

Warmly,

John





Dr. Steve Mintz  
Cal Poly State University

2014 Midyear Meeting  
Co-Coordinator



Dr. Brian Shapiro  
University of St. Thomas

2014 Midyear Meeting  
Co-Coordinator

The early registration deadline has been extended to March 3. To register, please visit <http://aaahq.org/PublicInterest/meetings/2014/registration.cfm>

For additional information, contact Steve Mintz at: [smintz@calpoly.edu](mailto:smintz@calpoly.edu).



James R. Dalkin

## Join us in San Diego for the Mid-Year Meeting!



The Mid-Year meeting of the Public Interest Section will be held on **March 28-29** in beautiful (and warm) San Diego. The meeting includes a plenary panel on Regulation, Ethics and Professionalism in Accounting.

The purpose of this session is to engage meeting participants in a discussion about where we are and where we may be going with respect to academic requirements including mandatory ethics courses, oversight of the profession and regulatory concerns.

Speakers at this Mid-Year meeting include Ed Howard, Senior Counsel for the Center for Public Interest Law at the University of San Diego; Martin Martinnoff, from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales; and C. William Thomas, J. E. Bush Professor of Accounting, Baylor University. Karen Pincus, the past president of the American Accounting Association, will discuss efforts of the Association to build on its mission of being Thought Leaders in Accounting. Speakers at the concurrent sessions will address a variety of public interest concerns including corporate social responsibility, sustainability, risk management and controls, audit independence and regulation of the profession.



### Featured Luncheon Speakers....

We are excited to feature two distinguish speakers for our Friday and Saturday luncheon at the Mid-Year meeting.

**Friday luncheon speaker:** James R. Dalkin, Director, Financial Management and Assurance Team, U.S. Government Accountability Office.



**Saturday luncheon speaker:** Kirk O. Hanson, Executive Director, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University.



Kirk O. Hanson

## The Public Interest Section Online!



**Dr. Michael L. Kraten**  
Providence College

Vice Chair of Research

Would you be interested in receiving news, opinion pieces, and other information from the Public Interest Section on your tablet, phone, or computer? Would you like to see the Section expand its newsletter into an online information resource?

The leadership team of the Section is now considering its options for establishing a presence in cyberspace. Blogging, text messaging, web hosting, and other social media services can provide the tools to transform the Section from an association of colleagues into a vibrant academic social network.

We plan to reach out to the attendees of the upcoming Mid-Year Meeting for thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and recommendations regarding this opportunity. We look forward to engaging in this conversation with you!

# Online

### From Pat Kelly, the incoming Public Interest Section Chair:

*I look forward to serving as Section Chair for the next two years. I have been very fortunate to work with John Thornton as Chair-elect and thank him for his tremendous service to our Section.*

*One of the first things I need to do is recruit Coordinators for the 2015 and 2016 Public Interest Midyear Meetings, the 2015 and 2016 Annual Meetings, and the 2015 and 2016 Ethics Symposiums. I will also be seeking volunteers to serve as Public Interest Section Regional Representatives.*

*These are all terrific ways to serve our Section. If you are interested in any of these important service positions, please see me at the Midyear Meeting in San Diego or e-mail me at [pkelly@providence.edu](mailto:pkelly@providence.edu).*

*Thanks!*



**Patrick T. Kelly, Ph.D.**  
Incoming Public Interest Section Chair  
American Accounting Association

Chair, Department of Accountancy  
Providence College School of Business



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

School of Business

# See you in San Diego!