

# Accounting Programs Leadership Group



A Group of the American Accounting Association

Volume 28, No. 1, Spring/Summer 2004

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## Fall/Winter Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for material to be included in the Fall/Winter 2004 issue is Monday, October 11, 2004. Please send all information to me at the address below for delivery no later than that date to ensure the timeliness of the Fall/Winter issue.

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Accounting Programs Leadership Group  
A Group of the American Accounting Association  
Published Biannually  
American Accounting Association  
5717 Bessie Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34233-2399

## President's Message



Thomas F. Schaefer

Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2004 *Accounting Programs Leadership Group (APLG) newsletter*.

The mission of the APLG is to stimulate excellence in accounting education through outstanding leadership of accounting programs. As a section of the American Accounting Association, the APLG volunteers work to serve its members through organizing and presenting an informative and interactive annual meeting and providing resources on our website relating to accreditation and best practices. The APLG also engages in outreach efforts with other organizations such as the Federation of Schools of Accountancy (FSA), the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), and members of the practicing profession. Our volunteers include a board of governors, AAA regional meeting coordinators, Annual Meeting planning committee members, and several other committee memberships. Our newsletter hopes to keep our members informed about the section's activities.

The most popular way that our members participate in the APLG is through our annual meeting. Each year our members gather to take advantage of an informative program on topics that challenge accounting program leaders. The annual meeting also is a great time for the membership to share their experiences with other program leaders, to renew old friendships, and to make new friends. This year, in February, the annual meeting took place in Las Vegas, Nevada. By any measure the program was a huge success. Over 200 individuals registered for the meeting and the evaluations were very positive. Special thanks go to Silvia Madeo for chairing the main program planning committee, Bud Fennema for chairing the new chair-

persons' seminar, and for the very informative presentations made by individual speakers. Thanks also go to Blane Ruschak (KPMG), one of our board members from practice, for arranging generous contributions from Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG, and PricewaterhouseCoopers for our annual meeting events.

### APLG/FSA 2005 Annual Joint Meeting

For 2005, the respective governing boards of the APLG and FSA have agreed

to host a combined annual meeting for the two organizations. The first APLG/FSA combined annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 13 through Tuesday, February 15, 2005 and will be held at the Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. Both organizations embraced the idea of combining annual meetings as a way to better serve our respective memberships.

Given the common objectives of past FSA and APLG annual meetings, and common continuing interests, combining the annual meetings saves both time and money for our members—especially given that many individuals participate in both organizations. A joint planning committee with representatives from both organizations is currently preparing the program. As in the past, the meeting will include a new chairpersons' seminar, and many concurrent sessions on topics of interest to those interested in the future of accounting education. In addition to chairpersons of accounting programs, we hope the combined meeting will appeal to and attract a wide variety of accounting educators—including those involved with accounting graduate programs (Master's and Ph.D.), as well as accounting education opinion leaders.

(continued on page 3)

# Accounting Programs Leadership Group Minutes of Board of Governors' Meeting

October 31, 2003 — Chicago, Illinois

Attending: Frances Ayres, Greg Carnes, Dave Donnelly, Helen Gernon, Julia Karcher, Silvia Madeo, Linda Marquis, Eileen Peacock, Jack Ruhl, Blane Ruschak, Tom Schaefer, Kent St. Pierre, and Amy Thompson.

The Board meeting began at 9:04 AM on Friday, October 31, 2003, Happy Halloween, at the Chicago Hilton with President Tom Schaefer presiding.

## Minutes

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on August 3, 2003 in balmy Honolulu, Hawaii with President Linda Marquis presiding were discussed and approved.

## Treasurer's Report

Fran Ayers presented a Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2003. Fran reported that our cash balance is down compared to prior years at this time. Fran explained that the 2003 meeting expenditures were approximately \$10,000 in excess of inflows. There was considerable discussion about how difficult it is to get timely cost information from Dee Strahan. We will ask Dee to attend our February Board meeting in Las Vegas to explain the difference between the budgeted (\$17,000) and actual (\$30,000) New Orleans food costs. In the interim, Silvia will see that Dee provides her with some answers to questions she has about the projected costs of the Las Vegas meeting.

The second issue that Fran discussed was that the APLG needs to develop and submit a policy regarding expense reimbursements from the AAA. It is our policy not to reimburse expenses of traveling to our annual meeting in February. APLG committee travel and expenses are reimbursed with the President's approval. Fran will take care of submitting our policies to the AAA.

## Newsletter

Greg Carnes reported that the APLG website is up and running and very user-friendly. Greg will update the bylaws, history, and strategic plan on the website. Good work, Greg!

The next newsletter is 50 percent complete. We decided to send our newsletter to all department chairs to enhance our visibility and membership numbers. We will list the names of all new accounting administrators in the newsletter.

Eileen Peacock, Amy Thompson, and Julie Karcher will form a subcommittee, APLG Board Subcommittee on Membership Outreach, to promote our annual meeting and identify new members for APLG.

The subcommittee's charge is as follows:

- Identify chairpersons of academic accounting departments who are not on the APLG membership roster. Construct mail and email address lists.
- Draft an "invitation to join the APLG letter" aimed at this group of accounting leaders that cites benefits of membership (or at least attending the meeting).
- Identify other information to be included in mailings that may encourage meeting attendance and membership.
- Work with AAA to accomplish the mailing and email distribution, hopefully before Thanksgiving.

## Annual Meeting 2004

Silvia Madeo presented the program for the annual meeting in Las Vegas and the Board agreed that it looks great. Thanks, Silvia.

## Annual Meeting 2005

The Board agreed to host a joint meeting with the FSA, however, we will have the meeting at the usual time in February and it will not conflict with the Super Bowl.

Possible meeting sites include Tampa and Atlanta. We will select the hotel. We will look for a "smallish" hotel that focuses on good service.

## AACSB Input from APLG

Eileen Peacock presented a summary of the issues. Our discussion focused on the fact that accounting standards are more rigorous than the business standards. Eileen will send the topics of our discussion to the writing group.

## 2004-05 Strategic Plan

Jack Ruhl reported that we would have two sessions in Orlando at the AAA Annual Meeting: one paper session and one panel on the AACSB maintenance process. We will again make an award for the best paper.

Jack led us through the March 2002 APLG Strategic Plan Summary so that we could make the appropriate revisions to the actions. The revisions follow.

Under Goal One, "Expand the set of accounting leaders in APLG" the sole action is "Identify current and future leaders and encourage these leaders to attend the APLG events, such as the annual seminar."

Under Goal Two, "Develop accounting program leaders," delete entirely: "Bring together schools of similar interests at the annual seminar to discuss common problems and opportunities. During our 2004 seminar, we will experiment with activities that would accomplish this action." No need to change any of the other actions.

Under Goal Three, "Support accounting program leaders," add: "Continue discussions with FSA about joint activities." No need to change any of the other actions.

The October 31, 2003 Board of Governors' meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM. Happy Halloween!

## APLG/FSA 2005 Annual Seminar

Mark your calendars for the 2005 Annual Seminar  
(which will be a joint meeting with the Federation of Schools of Accountancy):

**DATES:** Sunday, February 13 through Tuesday, February 15, 2005

**LOCATION:** Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort in Scottsdale

# Accounting Programs Leadership Group Minutes of Board of Governors' Meeting

February 8, 2004 — Las Vegas, Nevada

Attending: Frances Ayres, Greg Carnes, Dave Donnelly, Helen Gernon, Julia Karcher, Silvia Madeo, Linda Marquis, Eileen Peacock, Jack Ruhl, Blane Ruschak, Tom Schaefer, Kent St. Pierre, and Amy Thompson.

The Board meeting began at 10:15 AM on Sunday, February 8, 2004 at the luxurious Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada with President Tom Schaefer presiding.

## Minutes

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held on Halloween 2003 at the Chicago Airport with President Tom Schaefer presiding were discussed and approved.

## Food Costs in New Orleans

We had a lively discussion about not being able to get cost information in a timely fashion. The AAA needs to provide more of what we need. Jack Ruhl, Linda Marquis, Silvia Madeo, and Fran Ayres will write a memo to Tracey Sutherland describing our information needs.

At 12:28 Tracey Sutherland arrived at our meeting and we reiterated our frustrations.

We need solutions and we are willing to participate in the solution.

## Treasurer's Report

Fran Ayres presented and reviewed a Treasurer's Report dated December 31, 2003. Fran will contact the AAA and request that APLG members who have not renewed their membership yet, be billed. In the future, we may increase our annual meeting registration fee in order to cover the cost of the meeting.

## Newsletter and Website

Greg Carnes reported that he left the official APLG digital camera at home, so he bought a disposable one to take photos at the meeting.

Greg would like ideas for the *APLG newsletter*.

Greg will see that our website has a list of our members with affiliations. In addition, Greg will see that links to the Annual Meeting presentations are on our website. Our bylaws are in the process of being updated. Thanks to Greg, the APLG website looks good!

## Annual Meeting 2005

Our 2005 meeting will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona. This will be our first joint meeting with the FSA. Jack Ruhl will send a letter of understanding to the FSA President, Jim Benjamin, so that both or-

ganizations are aware of all costs and agree as to who is responsible for what in advance. Casper Wiggins and Dan Hollingsworth will be the program co-chairs. Jack may visit the potential sites.

## AACSB Input from APLG

Eileen Peacock gave an update and informed us that there will be a vote on the new standards in April.

## Nominations

Linda Marquis and her committee are identifying a slate of officers.

## 2004 Orlando Meeting

Jack Ruhl reported that the APLG will have two sessions in Orlando. One session may be a report on the supply of Ph.D. students. We decided that the APLG would annually survey and report on the supply and demand of Ph.D. students.

The APLG Board of Governors' meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

This will be the last time that this particular secretary will be reporting the minutes of the APLG Board of Governors' meetings. It has been my pleasure to serve the APLG membership as your secretary for the past four years.

All the best, Helen Gernon

## President's Message

*(continued from page 1)*

Additional plans are being made by the AACSB to offer a business and accounting accreditation seminar immediately prior to the APLG/FSA annual meeting and in the same location. Given the April 2004 approval of a new set of accounting accreditation standards, interest in the AACSB seminar will likely be of interest to many of our members. Especially important will be the emphasis of the new standards on departmental strategic planning and the assessment of how well our individual accountability programs are achieving their learning objectives and overall missions.

## APLG's New Leadership

Last year our members elected Jack Ruhl of Western Michigan University as the next APLG president. Jack becomes our new president effective at the AAA Annual Meeting to be held in Orlando in August 2004. Please feel free to contact Jack with

your ideas for APLG activities or initiatives, or if you would like to become more involved with the organization.

I'd like to thank each member of the APLG Board of Governors for their time, effort, and support during the past year. Although I have for many years appreciated the APLG as a major force in my own professional development, I have a new appreciation for the effort that goes on behind the scenes of an effective organization. The voluntary dedication of those involved in making the APLG activities successful is truly remarkable. As one of many examples, Greg Carnes does an outstanding job in all aspects of this newsletter and web communication.

The phrases "change is ever present" and "moving target" are frequent clichés. However, no accounting program leader would argue against the notion that rapid change is now simply a fact of life for us. Clearly, our educational efforts must evolve

at an ever increasing pace. By maintaining relevant and responsive educational programs, we will maximize our potential in attracting highly qualified individuals to our discipline. A hallmark of good leadership is helping others to remain focused on an organization's mission and to manage operational changes needed to accomplish that mission. Academic leaders also must help others by clearly articulating both short- and long-term educational objectives and implementing processes to see that these objectives are met as our environments change. The APLG provides much help to accounting program leaders in these efforts of identifying, analyzing, and implementing needed change. The APLG is represented by a talented and dedicated set of officers, committee chairs, coordinators, and membership. I strongly encourage you to get involved with the APLG and help our community of academic scholars continue to achieve excellence in accounting education.

# DEVELOPMENT OFFICER: THE NEW HAT FOR DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

David Donnelly, University of Missouri–Kansas City

The Department Chair position has always required wearing multiple hats. As state budgets continue to get tighter, department chairs are being asked to wear one more, the hat of the development officer. We are now being asked to take on greater responsibility for identifying outside sources of funds. Often these funds are critical for the success of the department and its ability to accomplish its established educational goals and objectives. Unfortunately, most department chairs have little training or expertise in this area, and we are being forced to learn by trial and error. The purpose of this article is to identify seven keys to successful fund-raising that can keep chairs from making some very common mistakes. I do not hold myself out as an expert in this area. However, I have made a lot of mistakes and have learned a lot about what works for me, and what doesn't. The ideas I present have provided me with a process that makes fund-raising easier and more effective.

## I. Self-Evaluation

I have found the key to effective fund-raising starts with an in-depth self-evaluation. The department must perform an assessment of its needs. The assessment should result in a list of funding priorities and a statement explaining how the funds will contribute to the department's mission and educational objectives. This step should result in a formal document that can be used to provide potential donors with a list of funding priorities to support. Most donors have a particular area of interest, and a document presenting a variety of areas in which funding is needed gives them a greater opportunity to become financially committed to the department.

## II. Make Fund-Raising a Part of the Job

Fund-raising is time-consuming. To be effective, you must make a continuous commitment to the process. To achieve this I develop an action plan. The action plan makes fund-raising a primary part of my job and not something that gets done only if time becomes available. I prefer to use a one-year action plan that identifies specific fund-raising activities and measures. Examples of action items and measures include: "I will identify and meet with 20 new potential donors this year" and "I will raise \$50,000 for technology upgrades." Sharing the plan with the Dean and/or the faculty communicates your planned activities and makes it a part of your job. The use of specific measures in the action plan allows you to evaluate your effectiveness.

## III. Relationship Building

Friend-raising is a critical part of fund-raising. Most donors give because of the relationship they have developed with individuals in the department. They give to people to help them achieve their objectives. Therefore, you must identify and develop relationships between external constituents and the department. This requires personal contact. Fund-raising is not performed behind the desk. It requires chairs to leave the office. I have found that the most effective relationship building is done one-on-one. This can be accomplished through a variety of ways.

I use one-on-one meetings, lunches, and even golf outings with past donors, employers, alumni, and friends.

## IV. Communication

There are a lot of potential donors that haven't given simply because they are not aware of our dependence on outside funding. Communication is key. I have found that most external constituents still believe that our programs are well supported by the state. They don't understand our dependence on outside support. I use every opportunity available to explain the realities of state funding and our department's critical funding requirements. I use newsletters, presentations to professional groups, alumni meetings, and advisory council meetings. I am amazed at the number of people who will talk to me after such a presentation and indicate they had no idea we were so dependent on outside support.

## V. Advisory Councils

There are a lot of different models for the establishment of advisory councils. Too often the council is nothing more than a group that comes together once or twice a year to hear what is going on in the accounting department. I have found that the advisory council can be an outstanding resource for fund-raising. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways. One is council dues. This is easiest to accomplish if you are just developing a council or are going through a major change in the council bylaws. Another technique that I have found to be very effective is to present the council with the department's list of funding priorities and have the council take on one of the items to accomplish during the year. This results in several benefits. It changes the council from a passive observer to an active participant in the accomplishment of the department's mission. It helps the council understand the financial needs our department. Also, it allows them to select a project in which they share an interest. Finally, this approach does not require the council members to individually provide the financial funding for the project. They can accomplish the project with support from their firms/companies, other alumni/friends, and in-kind gifts. A side benefit is that it often leads to the identification of outside potential donors and council members.

## VI. The Ask

I know department chairs that have told me they are uncomfortable with asking alumni for money. This feeling normally occurs because their image of fund-raising is cold calling on individuals with your hand out. This image is far from the reality of the process. Part of the benefit of the earlier steps has been to identify, document, and communicate real needs that are directly related to the educational goals of the department. Through the relationship building you have identified whether the individual has an interest in helping the department and the area of interest. The ask is simply matching the donors interest and the departments needs. However, the ask should be a formal presentation that explains the funding needs and specifically how the funds will be used. A key is not to ask for too little. Donors are not insulted by too large an ask; in fact, they are normally flattered.

*(continued on page 5)*

## DEVELOPMENT OFFICER: THE NEW HAT FOR DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

*(continued from page 4)*

They will tell you if it is too high and will suggest an alternative amount. But when this happens you have the satisfaction of knowing that you did not ask for too little. Also, be creative in the ask. Don't limit it to cash. Often times the departmental needs can be achieved with in-kind gifts as easily as with cash.

### VII. Donor Recognition

Always provide donor recognition. For small gifts a thank you letter is sufficient. For larger gifts use naming opportunities (scholarships, chairs, rooms), displays/plaques, departmental/university recognitions (outstanding alumni), and/or donor level

recognition in newsletters and departmental/college/university publications. Recognition is our way of visibly thanking the donors. It is always appreciated by the donor and encourages future contributions.

Fund-raising is an increasingly important part of the chair position. As state funding tightens, the level of external support will likely determine the quality of our programs. This is an area in which we must be successful. I have identified seven keys that have helped me in this process. Hopefully you will find some of them to be helpful and worth incorporating into your own process.

## Accounting Programs Leadership Group 2004–2005 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

### Officers

President

Jack Ruhl

Western Michigan University

President-Elect

Kent St. Pierre

University of Delaware

Vice-President–Accreditation

Eileen Peacock

Oakland University

Vice-President–Communications

Gregory Carnes

Northern Illinois University

Secretary

Bud Fennema

Florida State University

Treasurer

Fran Ayres

University of Oklahoma

### At-Large Board Members

Academic-at-Large Board Member

Dave Donnelly

University of Missouri–Kansas City

Academic-at-Large Board Member

Julia Karcher

University of Louisville

Academic-at-Large Board Member

Lydia Rosencrants

LaGrange College

Academic-at-Large Board Member

Kevin Stocks

Brigham Young University

Practice-at-Large Board Member

Allen Boston

Ernst & Young

Practice-at-Large Board Member

Amy Thompson

PricewaterhouseCoopers

### Regional Coordinators

Northeast

Ron Huefner

SUNY at Buffalo

Mid-Atlantic

Jeannie Welsh

LaSalle University

Southwest

Phil Harmelink

University of New Orleans

Southeast

Ed Arrington

The UNC at Greensboro

Ohio

Tim Fogarty

Case Western Reserve University

Midwest

Ken Winter

University of Wisconsin–LaCrosse

Western

Betty Chavis

California State University, Fullerton

### 2004–2005 Nominating Committee Members

Silvia Madeo

University of Georgia

Doug Ziegenfuss

Old Dominion University

Dan Hollingsworth

Mississippi State University

# THE ACCREDITATION MAINTENANCE PROCESS

Eileen Peacock, Oakland University

The accreditation maintenance process has changed significantly in recent years. This article addresses timelines, team makeup, application and eligibility, comparison schools, and outcomes. For details, examples, extended explanations, and sample reports visit <http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation>.

## Timelines

The accreditation cycle is now five years. A school is visited five years after the previous visit. For each of those five years an annual maintenance report must be written reporting on the previous year, and the AACSB Business School Questionnaire must be completed.

- In year three of the five-year period a school submits a Maintenance Review Application requesting a review, including all degree programs, request for programs to exclude, and list of peer schools, aspirant schools, and competitive schools. Request for exclusions can be sent in at any time prior to year three if clarifications are needed earlier.
- In year four, the Accreditation Coordinating Committee rules on the exclusions and therefore on the scope of the review. The team is selected from the peer and aspirant schools and the visit date is set.
- In year five, the year of the visit, the Fifth-Year Maintenance Report is submitted no later than 60 days before the visit, along with the annual reports from the previous five years (that includes the reports from the year of the previous visit, plus years one to four). In addition the school submits policies on faculty management, and an Executive Summary. AACSB provides

statistical reports on peer and aspirant schools to the school and the team.

- Elements of the Fifth-Year Maintenance Report include situational analysis, mission statement, strategic management planning process, assessment tools and procedures, financial strategies, new degree programs, and faculty sufficiency and faculty qualifications tables.

**The team** for an accounting accreditation visit consists of an accounting chair and an accounting team member. If there is a business visit, simultaneously there is a business chair and a business member.

**Eligibility** application includes a discussion of how diversity in accounting programs is demonstrated in the accounting programs. In addition, a description of established expectations of the institution or accounting programs for ethical behavior by administrators, faculty, and students is required.

## Exclusions

To request a program to be excluded you must satisfy the following conditions:

- independence—using the 25 percent or less (undergraduate) or 50 percent or less (graduate) rule for business content,
- distinctiveness—all programs announcing themselves as business/accounting programs must be included, and
- autonomy—control over planning, design, students, and faculty determines autonomy.

Other reasons for exclusions can be that the program is subject to another accreditation, it serves a specialized field, it has a different location, or the school's name is not named as the degree-granting institution.

## Comparison Groups

Accounting programs may choose different comparison schools than the college. Choices must be from accredited accounting institutions.

- Peers—At least six names must be submitted. Individuals from these schools may be chosen as team members.
- Aspirants—Any number of names may be submitted. Individuals from these schools may be chosen as team members.
- Competitive—Any number of names may be submitted. Individuals from these schools will not be team members.

## Outcomes of a Visit

A team can recommend an extension of accreditation, which extends the school's accreditation status for six years, or a Sixth-Year Review, which requires a sixth year focused on specific standards cited in the maintenance review. If a Sixth-Year Review occurs, a team will be formed consisting of one member of the original team and one additional member. The outcome of a Sixth-Year Review can be an extension of accreditation or continuing review for up to two years.

## Transition from Old Process to the Maintenance Process

Schools must start their annual reports six years before the scheduled visit (e.g., if you were accredited or reaccredited in 2002 for 10 years, you must start writing annual reports in 2006). Schools in this type of situation should have already received a letter to this effect.

# SNAPSHOTS from the 2004 APLG Annual Seminar



*APLG members and their guests visit during an evening reception.*



*Barbara Ley Toffler, author of Final Accounting, was a keynote speaker.*



*Dee Strahan, Shawna Gazaway, and Jack Ruhl visit during a break.*

*Casper Wiggins speaks at one of the concurrent sessions during the seminar.*



*Tom Schaefer leads the Board of Governors' meeting at the Annual Seminar.*



# Illinois Education Summit Promotes Interaction between Academia and Profession

Gregory Carnes, Northern Illinois University

**Note:** The Illinois CPA Society recently sponsored an Education Summit to promote cooperation between accounting academicians and the profession on issues currently facing the profession. This article summarizes the format of this Summit. Other states may wish to consider similar events. This article is reprinted courtesy of *INSIGHT Magazine*, The Magazine of the Illinois CPA Society. For the latest issue, visit <http://www.insight-mag.com>.

The accountancy profession has been presented with many challenges over recent years, but challenges always bring opportunities. The Illinois CPA Society (ICPAS) has initiated several projects to address these challenges and opportunities, not least of which is the creation of the Accounting Education and CPA Issues Task Force.

The objective of this task force is to examine ways in which to improve the working relationships between accounting academicians at Illinois universities and the Illinois CPA Society, in order to positively impact the pipeline of future accounting students and CPA professionals. It is vital to attract not only a sufficient number of students into the profession, but also the right students, in terms of having the skills, competencies, and traits necessary to move the profession forward. To this end, a synergy between the profession and the academic community is essential.

The Society took a significant step to meet this objective last March by hosting an Education Summit at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. The summit was intended as a forum in which academicians from Illinois colleges and universities with four-year accounting programs could collaborate with accounting

professionals to devise ways in which to deal with important issues facing the profession. Thirty academicians from 15 universities participated, with a wide range of issues discussed, including:

- How can the Society help recruit the best and brightest students into the accountancy major at universities?
- How can the Society work with professors to provide information, resources, and experiences that are beneficial to the professors' research efforts? And, in turn, how can research results benefit the Society?
- How can the Society work with professors to provide information, resources, and experiences that are beneficial to their teaching efforts?
- How can accounting academicians help the Society better serve the accounting profession in general and its members in particular?
- How can the Society help academicians gain relevant practical experience that will help keep their knowledge and skills current?
- How can the Society help to educate deans and other university administrators about the "value of accounting"?

Although only a starting point, the summit was a tremendous success. The task force has since met with ICPAS President/CEO Elaine Weiss to summarize the ideas generated at the summit, and to begin the process of implementing them. The Society will be planning another Education Summit over the next year in order to strengthen the relationship between academicians and board members further—and to further develop their ability to address challenging issues now and in the future.

That said, the task force encourages each accounting professional and academician in Illinois to look for opportunities to work together in achieving any number of objectives, including bringing practical cases into the classroom, collaborating on research projects that deal with important issues facing the profession, organizing events that will attract the best and brightest into the profession, and providing opportunities for accounting students to gain practical experience.

If these types of activities flourish across the state, there is no doubt that the student pipeline into accounting will strengthen. And the benefits to the profession will be felt for many years to come.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Nominations Committee of the APLG is seeking nominations from the membership for the various offices listed below for the 2005–2006 year. This is the opportunity to offer to serve as an officer yourself or to nominate one of your colleagues for a position. While there is always work involved with these officer positions, there are also many benefits from being an integral part of the decision processes of this organization.

Please send nominations for the 2005–2006 slate of officers to:

Thomas Schaefer

Department of Accountancy, Mendoza College of Business, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556  
Voice: (574) 631-7324 • Fax: (574) 631-5544 • email: [schaefer.12@nd.edu](mailto:schaefer.12@nd.edu)

The Nominations Committee seeks nominations for the following offices by November 1, 2004:

<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Regional Vice-Presidents</b>
<b>Vice-President—Accreditation</b>	Mid-Atlantic
<b>Treasurer</b>	Northeast
<b>At-Large Board Members (3):</b>	Ohio
Two (2) academic members	Southeast
One (1) professional member	Midwest
<b>Nominating Committee (three nonboard members)</b>	Southwest
	Western

## NEW ADMINISTRATORS OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAMS

The following new administrators have been reported to the Editor since the Fall/Winter issue:

**College/University**

The University of Texas at San Antonio

University of Missouri–Kansas City

**Department Chairperson/School Director**

Elaine Sanders

David Donnelly

Please report changes in administrators (Chairperson or Director) and send any news items, essays, or other contributions that you believe might be of interest to APLG members to:

Gregory Carnes  
Department of Accountancy  
College of Business  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, Illinois 60115  
Email: gcarnes@niu.edu

Name of New Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## APLG SESSIONS AT 2004 AAA ANNUAL MEETING

The APLG will sponsor the following two sessions at the AAA Annual Meeting in Orlando:

Title: Current M.Acc. Program Issues  
Moderator: Jack Ruhl, Western Michigan University  
Panelists: Austin Dailey, Texas A&M University  
Alan Lord, Bowling Green State University  
Kevin Stocks, Brigham Young University

Title: AACSB: New Standards, New Processes  
Moderator: James Benjamin, Texas A&M University  
Panelists: Shawna Gazaway, AACSB International  
Kenneth Lambert, University of Memphis  
Philip Reckers, Arizona State University

## CHAIR/DIRECTOR POSITIONS

The following positions were listed on the American Accounting Association website as of June 15, 2004. For more information, consult the following site: <http://aaahq.org/placements/default.cfm>

- Cleveland State University, James J. Nance College of Business Administration, invites applications for the position of **Chair, Department of Accounting**.
- College of Charleston, School of Business & Economics, invites applications for **Chair of the Department of Accounting and Legal Studies**.
- The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Cameron School of Business, invites applications for **Chair of the Department of Accountancy and Business Law**.
- Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Business, invites applications for the position of **Chair, Department of Accounting**.

## BECOME AN APLG MEMBER!

The mission of the Accounting Programs Leadership Group is to stimulate excellence in accounting education through outstanding leadership of accounting programs. APLG members include directors and chairpersons of accounting programs, as well as individuals who anticipate they may assume such positions.

If you are not a member of the Accounting Programs Leadership Group, it is easy to become one.

Annual dues are only \$50. Mail this application form along with your check or credit card information to:

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