

Wildman award remarks

I appreciate how our research benefits from mentors and long-standing connections.

First, I appreciate Deloitte's commitment to the AAA in honoring academic research. I was a Deloitte alum right out of school and finished my professional practice as a Price Waterhouse senior manager. This practice background continues to shape my research interests daily.

Second, I'm grateful for my research mentors. Jack Kramer at Florida supervised my first research paper and presentation for a Beta Alpha Psi conference in 1981. Vic Bernard was my doctoral co-chair at Michigan until his untimely death, and he encouraged me to begin this stream of book-tax difference research. Russ Lundholm willingly stepped forward to co-chair with Public Economics professor Joel Slemrod. I've been blessed with many colleagues these eight years that improved my research. Michigan tax alums Ed Outsley and Doug Shackelford are both mentors and friends, and I appreciate Doug's invitation to write this paper. I especially thank my good friends and co-authors Kaye Newberry, Cristi Gleason and of course George Plesko. The University of Arizona is a great place to work, and I thank my UA colleagues for entertaining my enthusiasm for tax so generously.

Third, I've enjoyed practical insights into tax compliance via my association with the IRS Research division. Among many IRS colleagues I thank Dick Teed, Bunn Martin and John Miller. That work led to my invitation to join the Schedule M-3 development team with IRS co-chair Bob Adams and Treasury co-chair George Manouso. I'm further honored to join Charles Boynton at Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis on my sabbatical this year.

Finally, my family has provided unusually strong support. Many of you know that my father just died in May. He taught more than 20,000 students in his 46 years as a professor at the University of Florida. I miss being able to talk to him often about students, papers and academic politics. My husband Jim is here. He is a rocket scientist with a Doctorate in Optics from Rochester. I appreciate his curiosity about my research, and I'm very proud to have his respect.

The Mills/Plesko paper has affected practice via the new Schedule M-3. I believe the Schedule M-3 will affect tax compliance for the better. Thank you, Larry, for conveying the confidence of the AAA and the Wildman committee in this research.