Draft of PhD Student Fund Operating Document

Please note that this document is still evolving. As such, some wording or details may change but the intent of the fund – to support, attract, and retain management accounting doctoral students – and strong oversight of it will not change.

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Operating Document for the Management Accounting Section (MAS) PhD Student Fund

Purpose

The Management Accounting Section (MAS) has a responsibility to attract and foster future generations of highly qualified management accounting faculty whose teaching, research, and service are respected by colleagues throughout the academy. In her January 2016 acceptance speech for our Lifetime Contribution to Management Accounting Award, Dr. Susan Haka of Michigan State University challenged our members to include financial support amongst our efforts to attract and foster management accounting doctoral students. She earmarked her $3,500 award to seed a support fund and committed to personally match contributions up to that amount. With outside programs such as the Accounting Doctoral Scholars (ADS) program providing funding only for doctoral candidates pursuing audit or tax, this initiative was recognized by the MAS as filling a critical need to support doctoral candidates engaging in the study of management accounting.

Thereafter, the MAS created the MAS PhD Student Fund to include Sue Haka’s original seed funding and members’ additional contributions. It is a temporarily restricted fund for the purpose of attracting and supporting management accounting doctoral students. Possible uses include offsetting management accounting doctoral students’ costs to attend management accounting conferences or to conduct research.

Oversight of PhD Student Fund

A PhD Student Fund Board will be established to manage contributions to and uses of the fund. Board membership and operating guidelines will be developed by the PhD Student Fund Task Force that was established in 2018. Final guidelines will be approved by the MAS Executive Committee, incorporated into the MAS Operations Manual, and regularly updated thereafter.

The PhD Student Fund Board will be overseen by the MAS Operating Committee.

Calls for contributions

Each year, the PhD Student Fund Board shall establish fund balance and fundraising goals in accordance with procedures in the MAS Operations Manual. The MAS Operating Committee shall be responsible for approving these goals.

The MAS President shall be responsible for soliciting contributions from the membership and/or from outside organizations to meet approved goals. Solicitations will incorporate information about available matching funds, if any.

Use of funds

Each year, the PhD Student Fund Board shall budget how much of the fund will be spent, in accordance with procedures in the MAS Operations Manual. The MAS Operating Committee shall be responsible for approving this budget.
Given the approved budget, the PhD Student Fund Board shall review and approve requests for funding from management accounting PhD students, in accordance with procedures in the MAS Operations Manual.

**Reporting**

The PhD Student Fund Board shall be responsible for providing the MAS President with a report of fund and Board activities before the AAA Annual Meeting. The President shall present a summary of this report to members at the MAS Business Meeting and Lunch at the Annual Meeting.