



Public Interest Newsletter

July 2014



“Placing the public interest above self-interest is the hallmark of a profession”... Eddie Stamp, 1983...

A Letter from the Chair

Dear Public Interest Section Members,

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chair of the Public Interest Section for the past two years. The sheer number of you who have served through leadership, research, and volunteerism is staggering. I count 29 people alone who have served as leaders to national, regional, and support roles within our section. My heart-felt thank you to all of you who have joined in, not only in high-profile positions, but also through self-less service as moderators, discussants, reviewers, committee members, and the like. What great colleagues we have, all in service to the public interest.

Over my two years, we have continued our strong presence with sponsorship of several research and panel sessions at the American Accounting Association’s Annual Meeting. Thank you to all of those involved, and I invite all section members to attend this and the 19th Annual Symposium for Research on Accounting Ethics Research immediately preceding the AAA Annual Meeting. My special thanks to **W. Eric Lee**, who single-handedly coordinated the upcoming AAA Annual Meeting presentations and panel sessions. He is proof that former committee members continue to overuse their past doctoral students. Eric, job well done!

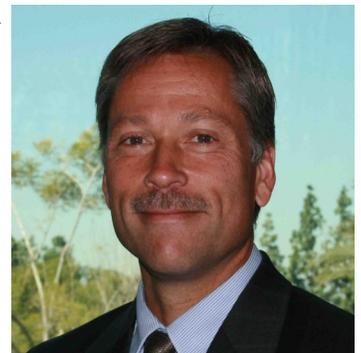
Also, I want to extend my thanks to **Janet Mobus Luft**, the PIS’ co-coordinator representative on the Ethics Symposium. Our joint sponsorship of this Symposium guarantees its continuity into the future. Thank you, Janet. Moreover, I want to extend a special “thank you” to **Mark Mitschow**, one of our PIS members who is co-coordinating this meeting as the representative of the AAA’s Professionalism and Ethics Committee.

All of this information can be found on our website, put together by the brilliant work of our webmasters **Byron Pike** and **Lawrence Chui**. They have done an outstanding job of bringing our web presence to its current prominent position, with updated information available to all PIS members. I encourage you to check it out at <http://aaahq.org/PublicInterest/Index.cfm>. Their responsiveness to any updates within hours of my request has been nothing short of remarkable, and they have earned my highest praise. Thanks you Lawrence and Byron!

Also, kudos to **Mike Kraten** for spear-heading an effort to bring new media venues to the Public Interest Section. Thanks to his efforts, we have now added LinkedIn to our Wordpress, Twitter, and email subscription platforms. This puts the Public Interest Section ahead of our AAA sectional counterparts, and gives us the opportunity to bring timely thought pieces to not only our members, but also a broader range of friends of the public interest. You can read more about this in our newsletter herein. Thank you, Mike!

Another special thanks to **Brian Shapiro** and **Steve Mintz** for not only putting together an outstanding Public Interest Section Mid-Year Meeting, but for bringing it to the West Coast for the first time. Thank you for your outstanding professionalism. You are truly a pleasure to work with.

Finally, I want to thank **Pamela Roush** for her willingness to step in at a crucial time as Interim Editor of the Public Interest Section’s journal, *Accounting and the Public Interest*. Already Pamela has proven to be a driving force to advance the journal, and I look forward to her continued leadership role as we assemble a committee to select a new editor. Thank you, Pamela, for your boundless energy and exemplary leadership in our time of need.



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

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I encourage all of you to attend the upcoming AAA Annual Meeting and Ethics Symposium in Atlanta. I want to especially extend an invitation for you to attend the **Public Interest Section Business Meeting, Monday, August 4th, from 4:00-5:30 PM.** Join me in welcoming incoming Chair **Pat Kelly**, Providence College, and learn of the upcoming events and opportunities sponsored by the Public Interest Section.

Thank you for honoring me to serve as your Chair these past two years. I appreciate you!

Warmly,

John M. Thornton

Professor, Leung Chair of Accounting Ethics

L.P. and Timothy Leung School of Accounting

School of Business and Management



A LinkedIn Group!



Dr. Michael L. Kraten
Providence College

Vice Chair of Research

Once again, we are pleased to announce a noteworthy expansion of the online social media platform of the Public Interest Section of the American Accounting Association. We have now launched a LinkedIn group!

This LinkedIn platform joins our WordPress blog, our Twitter account, and our email subscription service. We invite you to sign up for

any (or all) of these services in order to follow us online:

- > **WordPress:** please visit <http://aaapis.wordpress.com>
- > **Twitter:** please follow @aaapis1
- > **Email:** please use the "Follow Us Via Email" app in the right margin of our WordPress home page (see above)
- > **LinkedIn:** please search for (and join) the group entitled "Public Interest Section

of the American Accounting Association"

We intend to begin distributing intellectual content regarding the public interest immediately after we hold our Section Business Meeting at the AAA Annual Meeting in Atlanta. If you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we hope to see you there!



Join us at the Annual Meeting!



Public Interest Section Business Meeting

Monday, August 4th, from 4:00-5:30 PM.

See you in Atlanta!