



President's Message Building Our Community—Part II



In my last column I reviewed three of the strategic initiatives being undertaken as part of the efforts identified over the summer, namely growing the *Membership*, developing electronic platforms (*AAA Commons*) and *Fulfilling Member Needs*.

Two additional initiatives that are being developed are related to managing *Strategic Relationships* and in establishing our role in providing "Thought Leadership" as an *Academic Discipline* related to a professional community.

The *Strategic Relationships* initiative is being directed by Phil Reckers and Mark Higgins, both currently Vice Presidents serving on the Executive Committee. Examples of the organizations involved in these relationships include the AACSB with regard to accreditation standards and similar items; the IAESB (International Accounting Education Standards Board) regarding survey activity about global educational platforms, and NASBA regarding program content requirements for professional certification of CPAs. This initiative will draw heavily on cooperative activities with the FSA and the APLG (Federation of Schools of Accountancy and Accounting Program Leadership Group, respectively) – to include an update on the status of Ph.D. program enrollments and profiles.

In December Sue Haka, President Elect, Tracey Sutherland and I will also meet with our peer organizations and share thoughts on how the AAA has

contributed through its members to advance our discipline and profession.

The *Academic Discipline* initiative is just getting underway under the direction of Joe Carcello and Arnie Wright, both VPs serving on the Executive Committee. Joe and Arnie are heading up Tracking Teams to follow the activities of the Treasury's Advisory Committee on the Auditing Profession—convened in October of this year, and the SEC's Advisory Committee on Improvements to Financial Reporting that convened in August. It is expected that the recommendations of these groups may have important educational and research consequences. Indeed several AAA leaders and members are expected to be participating as witnesses before the Treasury Committee. Among those called to serve as witnesses include Joe Carcello and Ira Solomon, both Past Presidents of the Auditing Section of the AAA. Phil, Mark, Joe and Arnie will be joined in their activities by a number of other members. Mary Stone, for example, will lead an education subcommittee effort to address teaching valuation methods; Phil will be working with the FSA as well on addressing issues relating to IASB IFRS implementation. The tracking teams will draw upon Dana Hermanson and Jean Bedard (Treasury) and Bob Colson and Christine Botosan (SEC).

Information about these two advisory committees can be found on their websites. For the SEC's Advisory Committee consult: <http://www.sec.gov/about/offices/oca/acifr.shtml>. For the Treasury Advisory Committee consult: <http://www.treasury.gov/offices/domestic-finance/acap/index.shtml>.

The Executive Committee along with key strategic initiative leaders met in November and toured the headquarters hotels for the Anaheim Annual Meeting which will occur August 3-6, 2008. The Anaheim Hilton has nearly 1,100

rooms and is directly across the street from the Marriott Anaheim, which offers 900 rooms on Convention Way in an attractive park-like setting. The Hotels are about a 15-minute walk from Disneyland and are surrounded by restaurants and attractions. So in addition to this event being a substantive academic event it affords an opportunity to enjoy the winding up of the summer and to experience a great family and shopping location as well. Orange County-John Wayne Airport is a short cab ride away, and LAX (Los Angeles) is an easy option for international members and others.

The plenary speakers will include popular historian and columnist John Steele Gordon, author of *Empires of Wealth* and *The Great Game*; Aulana Peters, former SEC Commissioner and John Biggs, corporate director and former head of TIAA-CREF. Zoe-Vonna Palmrose will give the Presidential Scholar address. Details on their topics and session times will be forthcoming. Dale and Tonya Flesher, program co-chairs are gearing up for a record number of submissions, and while there will be competition for space and program slots, the facilities are expected to offer the maximum opportunity for sessions to support the exchange of ideas and as well as to support social networking.

Among other events that occurred in the time since our meetings in Chicago was the passing of Sidney Davidson, a former AAA President and former dean at the University of Chicago where he orchestrated the founding of the Institute for Professional Accounting. Sid had a profound impact on our discipline and will be missed by those who respected his many contributions and his unending energies for the advancement of our field. A student of William A. Paton at Michigan, Sid also was inducted into The Ohio State University's Accounting Hall of Fame.



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A Few Words from the Executive Director



While in the midst of the busy Section meeting season and looking forward to Region meetings, here in the headquarters office we are already excited by opportunities emerging for the AAA Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA, August 3–6, 2008. Our meeting space in Anaheim's Hilton and Marriott in the convention center resort area offers a wonderful campus-like environment for our gathering. An easy walk to Anaheim's new GardenWalk with its restaurants, stores, and cinemas, a short drive to Newport Beach, and close to family attractions, our location offers something for everyone.

After last summer's record-breaking Annual Meeting attendance in Chicago, we wondered what our sojourn to sunny California might bring. With seven submission opportunities and a record-breaking 279 more concurrent session papers submitted than last year, and more panel proposals as well, it's clear that the 2008 meeting will offer more opportunities than ever to network with colleagues from around the world, and to share current scholarship, emerging ideas in research and practice, and ideas and materials for supporting effective learning environments. This spring Sections and Regions continue to offer more focused opportunities for networking, and sharing scholarship and effective teaching and curriculum approaches. See the list of upcoming meetings on page 4 for this spring's opportunities to get together. I'll hope to see you at one of them.

Best regards and hopes for a renewing spring semester!
Tracey Sutherland, Executive Director

New Section Mid-Year Meeting

The Public Interest Section of the AAA and the Academy of Accounting Historians invite accounting faculty and doctoral students to be a part of this new jointly sponsored conference at the Hyatt Crystal City at Reagan National Airport. This will be a two-day meeting beginning with breakfast on Friday morning (4/11) and concluding at noon on Saturday (4/12). Sample themes for the meeting may include the following:

- Accounting ethics vis-à-vis professional ethics
- Public interest/policy aspects of regulation: Sarbanes-Oxley, Tax Laws, SEC Rules, Auditing Standards, etc.
- Corporate governance and stakeholder interest
- Perspectives on the accounting profession and accounting practice
- Research methodologies
- Accounting education
- Globalization and accounting in international environments
- Interdisciplinary perspectives on accounting
- Accounting, the environment and sustainability
- Corporate social reporting
- Gender studies
- Commercialization
- Accounting and the state

The business meeting of the Academy of Accounting Historians will occur during the conference. The registration fee, the cost of which will be announced on the AAA website (<http://aaahq.org>), will be waived for doctoral students wishing to attend. Questions about this new meeting can be directed to:

Parveen Gupta (Public Interest Section) email: ppg0@lehigh.edu
Stephen Walker (Academy of Accounting Historians) email: Walkers2@Cardiff.ac.uk

Calls and Meetings

IMA Educational Case Journal The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) is pleased to announce the launching of the *IMA Educational Case Journal (IECJ)*. The mission of the *Journal* is to publish teaching cases and research related to case writing or teaching with cases in management accounting and related fields. International submissions are welcome and encouraged.
Deadline: March 1, 2008

History of the FASB 2008 is the 35th anniversary of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). In commemoration of that event, the Financial Accounting Foundation is soliciting proposals from interested researchers and writers to complete a written history of the FASB.
Deadline: March 1, 2008

12th Annual Financial Reporting and Business Communication Conference Papers are invited for the Twelfth Annual Conference on Financial Reporting and Business Communication, to be held at Cardiff Business School July 3–4, 2008.
Deadline: March 2, 2008

IAAER & ACCA Research Grant Program The International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER) and Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) are pleased to invite research proposals to support the work of the International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB).
Deadline: March 31, 2008

Research in Accounting in Emerging Economies Special Issue on "Corporate Governance in Less Developed and Emerging Economies." We are seeking manuscripts which address corporate governance issues in less developed and emerging economies.
Deadline: March 31, 2008

Global Accounting and Organizational Change (GAOC) Conference The first biennial international conference of the Global Accounting and Organizational Change (GAOC) network will be held July 9–11, 2008 at the Hilton on the Park in Melbourne, Australia, in association with the *Journal of Accounting & Organizational Change*.
Deadline: April 11, 2008

20th Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues The Twentieth Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues will be held on November 9–12, 2008 in Paris, France. The conference will provide an important forum for the interaction of different ideas and information between academicians and practitioners, in order to enhance the understanding of international accounting issues in various Asian-Pacific countries.
Deadline: May 15, 2008

2nd European Risk Conference On September 11–12, 2008, Università Bocconi will host the 2nd European Risk Conference. The conference is organized by the European Risk Research Network (ERRN) and financially supported by the EU's Marie Curie Actions programme.
Deadline: May 15, 2008

International Journal of Accounting and Information Management The journal's primary objective is to stimulate research in accounting, finance, information systems and information management and discuss issues of significance to both the private and public sector.
Deadline: June 1, 2008

Journal of Accounting and Public Policy Special Issue Governmental and Nonprofit organizations play an important role in contemporary societies. In an effort to encourage accounting research related to these organizations, the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy* is pleased to announce that it plans to publish a special theme issue addressing Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting topics.
Deadline: June 1, 2008

AAA Financial Statements

The Audited Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the fiscal years ended August 31, 2007 and 2006 are available in their entirety on the Association's website:
<http://aaahq.org/about/financials/TOC.htm>

New Online Journal

Focusing on ideas relevant to academics and practitioners, *Current Issues in Auditing* made its successful debut in Fall 2007.

The Auditing Section's new online journal, *Current Issues in Auditing (CIIA)*, went live in October 2007. As an open-access journal published papers are available free of charge at <http://www.atypon-link.com/AAA/loi/cia>.

CIIA is committed to bridging the gap between academia and practice by publishing papers addressing contemporary audit practice issues. Practitioners are encouraged to submit.

Papers accepted to date include:

- "The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002—Restoring Investor Confidence," The Honorable Michael G. Oxley
- "Top-Ten Wish List for Audit Research," Edward Nusbaum, Grant Thornton
- "XBRL: Opportunities and Challenges in Enhancing Financial Reporting and Assurance Processes," James Gunn, IFAC
- "Descriptive Evidence from Audit Practice on SAS No. 99 Brainstorming Activities," Jodi Bellovary and Karla Johnstone
- "A Top-Down Approach to Identification and Documentation of Critical Application Controls," Jerry Turner
- "SOX Doomsday Predictions in Hindsight: Evidence from Delistings," Lizabeth Austen and Denise Dickins
- "Audit Partner Rotation: Evidence of Changes in Audit Partner Tenure as the Result of Mandatory Regulation in Australia," Kirsty Ryken, Renee Radich, and Neil Fargher

Accepted for the 2008 issue:

- "Academic Research on Communications among External Auditors, the Audit Committee, and the Board: Implications and Recommendations for Practice," Jeff Cohen, Lisa Gaynor, Ganesh Krishnamoorthy, and Arnie Wright

Please see CIIA's manuscript management system at <http://ciia.peerx-press.org> for additional information about the journal, and feel free to contact co-editors Dana Hermanson and Scott Showalter with ideas and/or questions.

Upcoming 2008 AAA Meetings

March 6 – March 8, 2008

2008 Southwest Regional Meeting. Houston, Texas.

March 27 – March 29, 2008

2008 Midwest Regional Meeting. Troy, Michigan.

April 3 – April 5, 2008

2008 Southeast Regional Meeting. Birmingham, Alabama.

April 11 – April 12, 2008

2008 Public Interest Section Meeting. Arlington, Virginia.

April 24 – April 26, 2008

2008 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

April 24 – April 26, 2008

2008 Ohio Regional Meeting. Dayton, Ohio.

May 1 – May 3, 2008

2008 Western Regional Meeting. San Francisco, California.

October 9 – October 11, 2008

2008 ABO Section Meeting. Providence, Rhode Island.

November 6 – November 8, 2008

2008 Northeast Regional Meeting. Newport, Rhode Island.

Mark Your Calendar!

2008 Annual Meeting

August 3rd - 6th — Anaheim, California

Annual Meeting registration will be available online by April 30. See page 10 for more information about the Annual Meeting headquarters hotels.

Staff Spotlight

Meet Peggy Turczyn, the AAA's Assistant Director for Meetings & Programs. Originally from Schaumburg, Illinois, Peggy and her family often vacationed here in the Sarasota area. Having finally had enough of the cold weather, Peggy decided to leave Illinois for warmer climes and moved here permanently in May 2004. Peggy has had a great deal of experience with professional associations having previously worked for the American Academy of Dermatology in Member Relations before moving to Florida. When she's not working, Peggy enjoys cooking, photography, traveling, and boating with her family. Peggy reports she feels fortunate to be working for the AAA because of the supportive environment, great co-workers, and the opportunity to contribute to the growth of the Association by helping to plan successful meetings.

Faculty Development Update

Tracey Sutherland, AAA Executive Director and Gail Hoover, Rockhurst University • <http://AAAhq.org>

Strategies to Get Students to Read the Textbook before Class

By Cheryl McConnell and Gail Hoover

One common faculty complaint is that students are not prepared for class, which generally means students have not read or studied the assigned textbook chapters. The main reason instructors have reading assignments is to have a common understanding or awareness of the materials on which the in-class activities can be based. Instructors typically prepare class activities based on the expectation that students have read the materials and are ready for lecture, discussion, and other class activities. Thus, requiring students to read the material before coming to class allows for a more fulfilling classroom experience in which class time is spent developing or expanding on the reading materials. When students have not done their part, the classroom experience is less than optimal and can lead to frustration for both the instructor and the students.

The students' unpreparedness may not just be the result of students not reading the material. Sometimes the problem is students have read the material, but they do not understand it; or they read and understood the book and examples, but they do poorly on the exams. Whatever the problem the result is the same, a less than optimal use of class time, and thus, learning experience.

Research in the areas of reading expository text, schema theory, and novice/expert studies can

provide information that is relevant to addressing the problem. The expository text studies indicate that comprehension is improved when students:

- perform ongoing summarization of important information,
- backtrack to resolve unclear concepts or examples,
- make connections between text ideas, make connections with personal experience or prior knowledge, and
- organize information in a meaningful way.

Schema theory looks at how students use a schema (organized, prior knowledge that can be accessed during study) for learning. The deeper the schema is for an individual, the better they will understand the reading. There are two issues that the instructor must be watchful of in relation to students using schema to build their knowledge of a new subject. First, students often need help "activating" their schema. They do not spontaneously use their existing schema without being reminded of the connections to prior learning. Second, instructors must be aware of any existing schema misunderstandings especially early in the learning process since students' beliefs and understandings are being built on basic levels. Therefore, if there is a misunderstanding early in the learning process all further learning will be based on the incorrect understanding.

Studies that have compared expert versus novice problem solving

have found that problem-solving strategies are discipline specific. Novice learners in accounting search for problem-solving techniques that they have used in mathematics courses. They also spend time on in-text narrative examples more than larger problem examples or summarization tables. The majority of time spent on all types of textbook examples is spent doing mathematical recalculations and there is little time spent on rereading or looking back through the chapter.

These studies suggest that just getting the students to read the textbook may not be enough. The instructor needs to monitor the students' understanding to make sure they are making appropriate connections between subjects or personal experiences. The goal is to get the students to read and understand the textbook so that time in the class is used more effectively. The remainder of the article provides strategies that instructors can use to encourage students to effectively read the textbook and allow the instructor to monitor the students' understanding.

The following are strategies that instructors can employ, and choose whether or not to incorporate them into their grading structure depending on their grading philosophies: using in-class questioning, assigning exercises or problems and have students publicly share responses, and using a quick response system. The in-class questioning and assigning exercises/problems strategies are perfect for

(continued on page 6)

lecture or discussion pedagogies. However, to be most effective, the instructor should choose the student to respond as opposed to allowing students to volunteer answers. The added benefit of the assigning exercises/problems strategy is that the students will concentrate on the material the instructor believes is important.

The recently popular use of quick response systems has added a new method of requiring and recording students' participation in class. The quick response system will indicate on the screen how many students have responded to the question and the percentage of responses that are correct and more importantly incorrect. In addition, these systems track each individual student's score.

Other graded strategies include giving quizzes about the reading assignment (with or without notes). While in-class quizzes used to be time consuming by using up both class time to administer and the instructor's time to grade, the computer-aided quizzes offered by many textbook publishers have made this much more appealing. Students can take the quizzes online before class. The advantage is that the instructor can review the grades before class to determine the topics students do not understand.

Another graded strategy is to use multiple-condition grading. Typically, students spend their study time on the aspects of the course that have the greatest impact on their course grade. Using a multiple-condition grading method, additional emphasis can be placed on the reading assignments and therefore provide motivation for students to spend more time on the readings.

The following is an example of the multiple-condition grading method for a course.

Grade	Requirements for Grade	
	Traditional Graded Elements (exams, problems, projects)	Chapter Reading Questions & Answer Assignments*
A	90-100%	Turning in at least 9 of the 10 chapter Q&A assignments
B	80-90%	Turning in 8 of the 10 chapter Q&A assignments
C	70-80%	Turning in 7 of the 10 chapter Q&A assignments
D	60-70%	Turning in 6 of the 10 chapter Q&A assignments
F	Below 60%	Turning in less than 5 chapter Q&A assignments

* Assignments must be complete to receive credit.

With this approach, the reading assignments can be given as much emphasis on the student's final grade as doing well on exams. The assignments can be quickly graded for completion and effort, taking little additional instructor time.

Any of these strategies allow the instructor the opportunity to monitor the students' understanding of the reading materials. The goal is to choose strategies that result in students learning the material and the optimal use of class time. When choosing a strategy, the instructor must consider the type of learner (novice or expert), the goal of the reading assignments (focusing on specific topics or a general understanding of all the topics), and the amount of class time to devote to verifying students' preparedness (in-class quizzes or computer-aided quizzes). In addition, it is important to consider the motivation for students to complete the assignment (points/percentage of grade or multiple condition grading). All of these strategies have advantages and disadvantages. What is important is that strategy leads to the optimal use of class time and enhances student learning.

Sites To See

Learning Strategies Database

<http://muskingum.edu/~cal/database/content/accounting.html>

The Learning Strategies Database offers content-specific learning strategies that would be helpful to accounting students who need help with accounting problems, reading strategies and information organization, or study groups and test preparation.

Additional resources related to getting students to read the text

- *Sink or Skim: Textbook Reading Behaviors of Introductory Accounting Students*, by Barbara Phillips and Fred Phillips.

<http://www.commerce.usask.ca/faculty/phillips/textbookuse.pdf>

This is a study of learning behaviors of students as it relates to their use of the textbook. The results of this study provide information about the different strategies students use when reading the text and offer instructors advice on how to initiate good textbook reading habits.

- *Teaching Financial Accounting with Analogies: Improving Initial Comprehension and Enhancing Subsequent Learning* by Authors: Eric Hanson and Professor Fred Phillips, *Issues in Accounting Education*, Vol. 21, Issue 1, February 2006, pp. 1-14. <http://www.atypon-link.com/AAA/toc/iace/21/1> (subscription required).

This article provides additional information on improving the student's ability to read the text.

- *How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School*, by John Bransford, Ann Brown and Rodney Cocking at <http://books.nap.edu/html/howpeople1/ch2.html>

This article provides additional information about novice-expert studies.

Literacy Matters

<http://www.literacymatters.org/content/readandwrite/expos.htm>

This website provides links to more information on reading expository text.

New Publishing Opportunity

Studies in Accounting Research

At the Annual Meeting the Executive Committee approved the reinstatement of the monograph series Studies in Accounting Research (SAR). The AAA issued 33 SARs from 1969 through 2000. SAR is a prestigious series that provides an outlet for seminal and innovative research not bounded by the usual space and topic constraints present in our journals. SAR is of significant benefit to authors in exploring a topic in great depth and as a resource for other researchers.

Interested individuals are encouraged to either submit a proposal or a completed work. The SAR procedures, as stated below, have the following objectives: to provide an outlet for authors to develop an in depth consideration of a research topic or area; to ensure SAR are of high quality; and to identify topics that are timely and of broad interest to our members.

1. The Vice President of Research will periodically send out public announcements to AAA members to solicit proposals or a completed work for a SAR. Proposals should be of appropriate length and specificity to provide a basis to determine the likely outcome and value of the work (e.g., 5–10 pages). A *vita* from each author is also required. Funding is not available from the AAA for the author(s). The AAA will publicize, publish, and distribute sufficient copies based on orders received from members and non-members.
2. Proposals and completed works will be evaluated by the Vice President of Research and the research advisory committee for suitability. A review committee of three or more members will be established for an accepted proposal or completed work. The committee will provide comments and suggestions and upon completion make a recommendation to the Vice President of Research as to whether the work meets SAR criteria. For proposals the committee will also, monitor the work as it is being completed, The selection of members of the review committee will be based upon recommendations of the author(s) and the Vice President of Research with the objective of forming a mutually acceptable group that is highly conversant with the area and possesses established research records. The review committee may include a member of the research advisory committee at the time the work is approved to provide continuity.
3. Appropriate milestones and time limits will be established for the completion of the work.
4. It is envisioned that about one SAR will be published every year.

Contact Professor Arnie Wright, Vice President of Research, if you have questions or wish to submit a proposal or completed work at: a.wright@neu.edu.

Robert Thomas Sprouse 1922-2007

Robert T. Sprouse was born on January 11, 1922 in rural San Diego, California, the fourth of five children. He liked to say that he was the only one of the five ever to set foot inside a college. Following high school, he spent two years at San Diego State College, and was a bored and subpar student. He left college on academic probation and worked in a nursery and flower shop for two years until, in 1942, he was drafted into the Army. Although he had never before handled a gun, he became a crack marksman. After two years on the home front he had risen to the rank of Sergeant. He went to Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. He then spent three years in Germany, mostly as a Trial Judge Advocate in Court Martial cases even though he did not have a legal background.

In 1949, Bob returned to San Diego and re-enrolled in San Diego State College, thinking of a career in law. But the introductory accounting course captivated him, and accounting became his major field. After securing a B.A. in 1951, he went to the University of Minnesota on a teaching assistantship for an M.B.A., which he received the following year. At Minnesota, Professor Carl L. Nelson persuaded him to pursue a doctoral degree and a career in teaching instead of accounting practice. Bob found Nelson's classes to be stimulating and his personal interest and encouragement outside the classroom even more valuable. The Ph.D. was conferred in 1956, with a minor in law.

From 1955 to 1962, he was at the University of California, Berkeley, where he found a mentor in Maurice Moonitz. In 1962, he co-authored an important monograph with Moonitz, who was then serving as the Director of Accounting Research for the Accounting Principles Board. The board sought advice on the accounting principles that should govern its pronouncements. Sprouse and Moonitz wrote *A Tentative Set of Broad Accounting Principles for Business Enterprises*, in which they argued for the use of replacement costs and net realizable values for the valuation of inventories and fixed assets. Especially at a time when the Securities and Exchange Commission was an undeviating advocate of historical cost accounting, the APB decided to shelve their recommendations "as too radically different from present generally accepted accounting principles for acceptance at this time." But "Sprouse and Moonitz" became required reading in accounting courses across the country as a courageous proposal to depart from historical cost accounting.

Following Berkeley, Bob spent three years at the Harvard Business School to work with Robert N. Anthony on a project dealing with accounting for long-lived assets. Then in 1965 he went to Stanford University and eventually directed its executive program for two years.

In 1972-1973, Bob served as President of the American Accounting Association. In 1973, he left Stanford to begin 12½ years' service as a full-time member of the newly established Financial Accounting Standards Board, becoming the Vice Chairman for last 11 years of that period. During his long service on the board, he had an enormous impact on the development of the board's conceptual framework. His 1966 article, "Accounting for What-You-May-Call-Its" in the *Journal of Accountancy*, laid the groundwork for the board's asset-liability approach in its framework.

Following his retirement from the FASB at the end of 1985, he taught accounting for three years at San Diego State University, provided litigation support in numerous court proceedings, and bred and raced thoroughbred horses.

Bob wrote two textbooks and more than 40 articles, including a series of eight pieces on the standard-setting process he contributed to *Accounting Horizons* between 1987 and 1989.

In 1994, Bob was inducted as the 54th member of the Accounting Hall of Fame at The Ohio State University.

Bob Sprouse was a man of principle and integrity who was an eloquent advocate of his ideas and views both in writing and on the podium. He was a leader in the early development of a conceptual framework.

Bob died on December 23, 2007 of natural causes, leaving his wife Fran (his court reporter during his Army days, whom he married in October 1947), a daughter and a son.

Stephen A. Zeff

SEC Academic Fellowships

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) invites qualified accounting professors to apply for one of five available fellowship opportunities at its headquarters next to Union Station in the heart of Washington, D.C. for the 2008–2009 academic year. An academic fellowship at the SEC provides an unparalleled opportunity for a professor to be directly involved in the work of the SEC and to gain insight into the SEC's oversight and regulatory processes. An SEC fellowship is a remarkable way to spend a sabbatical year or a leave of absence and provides experiences that will greatly enhance subsequent teaching and publication activities.

Fellowship Descriptions

Academic fellowships are available in three areas within the SEC:

Office of the Chief Accountant

Three fellowships are in the Office of the Chief Accountant (OCA), which functions as the primary advisor to the Securities and Exchange Commission on accounting and auditing matters. The OCA is interested in candidates with credentials in one or more of the three areas of auditing, financial accounting, and international accounting. These academic fellows serve as research resources for OCA, assist in registrant matters, and participate in OCA projects. These fellowships, which have been in existence for over 20 years, are for research-oriented professors with an interest in working closely with OCA leadership and staff on auditor and registrant issues. Requirements include a Ph.D., a strong research background in auditing, financial accounting, or international accounting, and a CPA or equivalent technical expertise.

Division of Corporation Finance

One fellowship is in the Division of Corporation Finance, which oversees corporate disclosure of information to the investing public. Its staff is responsible for the review of corporate filings by publicly held companies, such as registration statements and annual reports/10-Ks. The fellowship, which originated about seven years ago, typically involves researching financial reporting issues in connection with Division policy or program initiatives, reviewing filings by public companies to identify significant accounting and disclosure problems, and developing

and presenting training on emerging or controversial accounting issues for accountants and attorneys at the Commission. Requirements include a Master's or Ph.D., a research background in auditing, financial accounting, or international accounting, and a CPA or equivalent technical expertise. Expertise in quantitative analysis, finance, and international accounting, as well as the ability to discuss issues in plain English, are plus factors.

Office of Economic Analysis

One fellowship is in the Office of Economic Analysis (OEA), which advises the Commission and its staff on the economic issues associated with the SEC's regulatory and policy activities. Accountants who serve as Academic Fellows in OEA are responsible for designing and conducting studies of the economic impact of existing and proposed rules promulgated by the Commission and self-regulatory agencies. They provide analytical support and advice to the Chief Economist and senior Commission staff on regulatory policy, enforcement policy, and financial economics. In addition, they design economic studies in anticipation of, and in response to, developments in the securities markets, prevailing financial practices among issuer firms, and Commission policies. A Ph.D. is required.

Compensation, Benefits and Timing

Compensation for SEC Academic Fellows is typically 12/9s of the professor's academic year salary, up to a maximum of pay grade SK 16/31 (for 2007–2008 that amount was about \$174,900) plus related benefits. For faculty members at U.S. universities, the academic fellow positions are available under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA), which allows the professor to continue as an employee of the University, being paid by the University and receiving its benefits package; the SEC, in turn, reimburses the University for the Professor's Salary and benefits. The IPA contract is mutually agreed upon by the SEC, the Professor, and the Professor's university. Under an IPA contract, relocation expenses to and from the Washington, D.C. area are generally reimbursed in accordance with Federal Travel Regulations and standard SEC policies that apply to IPA assignments.

Appointments as academic fellows generally involve a 12-month period beginning August 1 each year. [Note: The salary cap does not mean that an academic fellow's maximum 12-month salary is \$174,900. Rather, \$174,900 is the maximum salary that the SEC will reimburse to the university (all normal university benefits will also be reimbursed). The employing university is permitted to compensate the professor more than this amount.]

Application Information and Procedures

To apply formally, you must electronically submit a *vita* and a cover letter that summarizes your qualifications and indicates the fellowship(s) in which you are primarily interested. Applications for fellowships in all areas must be made electronically to K. Ramesh at rameshk@sec.gov. Optionally, provide a copy of one or two relevant working papers or recently published articles. Application reviews for the 2008–2009 academic fellowships will begin January 7, 2008, and will continue until the positions are filled. Interviews will be conducted at the SEC headquarters in Washington, D.C. The SEC's goal is to announce final selections by March 2008. Candidates' travel expenses cannot be reimbursed by the SEC. To find out more about the experiences of previous academic fellows, see articles by Thomas J. Linsmeier in *Accounting Horizons* (September 1996); Bjorn N. Jorgensen, Cheryl L. Linthicum, Andrew J. McLelland, Mark H. Taylor, and Teri Lombardi Yohn in *Accounting Horizons* (September 2007); Steve Kolenda and Patricia Fairfield in the *Financial Reporting Journal* (Summer 2000). Please consider applying for these outstanding professional development opportunities. First, indicate your initial interest by sending an email to one or more current academic fellows in Office of the Chief Accountant Bill Kinney kinneyw@sec.gov (audit); K. Ramesh rameshk@sec.gov (accounting); Stephen Brown browns@sec.gov (international accounting), the Division of Corporation Finance (Cheryl Linthicum linthicumc@sec.gov), or Office of Economic Analysis (Josh White whitejo@sec.gov). Feel free to contact the current academic fellows to discuss the nature of the position.

Berlin/CITGO Grant Focuses on Governance Challenges

The purpose of the Berlin/CITGO Grant program will be to foster academics' understanding of the contemporary external reporting and governance challenges faced by preparers. Such understanding might be fostered by academics conducting field research, field studies, working in the field, or other such activities. The AAA may award individual grants up to \$10,000. The total amount awarded from the Berlin/CITGO grant in any one year should not exceed \$25,000, ensuring that the grant will sustain such inquiry over at least a four-year period. Proposals are being sought for funding of field work that will contribute to research papers and/or teaching cases that address issues managers face in reporting the past and anticipated future performance of their companies to boards/audit committees and to the public.

Proposals must be submitted by March 10, 2008. Detailed instructions are available on the AAA website. Click on the Awards button and then click on Steve Berlin/CITGO Grant.

American Accounting Association 2008 Annual Meeting Hotel Information

The American Accounting Association's 2008 Annual Meeting will be held in the **Hilton Anaheim** and **Marriott Anaheim** in Anaheim, California, August 3–6, 2008.

Hilton Anaheim

777 West Convention Way, Anaheim, CA 92802 USA
Toll-Free: (800) 445-8667, Telephone: (714) 750-4321
Fax: (714) 740-4460

The special room rate for meeting attendees is U.S. \$169.00 (single or double occupancy). To receive the special conference rate be sure to:

- Make your reservations by June 23, 2008
- Identify yourself as attending the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting.

Some Annual Meeting sessions and events will be held at the Marriott Anaheim.

Marriott Anaheim

700 West Convention Way, Anaheim, CA 92802 USA
Toll-Free: (800) 228-9290, Telephone: (714) 750-8000
Fax: (714) 750-9100

The special room rate for meeting attendees is U.S. \$165.00 (single or double occupancy). To receive the special conference rate be sure to:

- Make your reservations by June 23, 2008
- Identify yourself as attending the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting.

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A Journal of Accounting, Finance and Business Studies

Published on behalf of the Accounting Foundation,
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US\$10,000 Annual Manuscript Award

To coincide with its ISI listing the owner of *Abacus*, the Accounting Foundation, will fund a US\$10,000 Annual Manuscript Award for the best article published in the Journal in each calendar year, from 2007 until 2011. The Award aims to reinforce the Journal's continuing decision-useful focus explicit in its objectives, which have stemmed from the vision of the founder of *Abacus*, Ray Chambers. The first recipient of the Award will be announced early in 2008.

For author guidelines, visit
www.blackwellpublishing.com/abacus



2008–09 Nominees and Affirmation

More information available at <http://aaahq.org/aaa/AAA2008/nominees2008.cfm>

Nancy Bagranoff is Professor of Accounting and Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration at Old Dominion University. She previously served the AAA as Vice President–Education and as President of the Information Systems section. She has been an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Information Systems* and has been a member of various AAA committees. Nancy currently chairs the Innovation in Accounting Education Award Committee and is a national board member of Beta Alpha Psi.



Nancy Bagranoff
President-Elect
Nominee



Jean C. Bedard is the Timothy B. Harbert Professor of Accounting in the Department of Accountancy at Bentley College. She previously served as President of the Auditing section and was also the section's Secretary and Editor of *The Auditor's Report*. Jean has also chaired the Deloitte Wildman Award Committee and served on the Nominations and the Publications Committees. She was Co-Chair of the ABO Research Conference in 1998, and will do so again in 2008. She has recently been named an Associate Editor of *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory*.



Jean C. Bedard
Vice President–
Publications-Elect
Nominee



Bruce Behn is the Ergen Professor of Business and CBER Faculty Fellow at The University of Tennessee. He has served as Chair of the AAA Membership Committee, President of the International Accounting Section, Co-Editor of the *Journal of International Accounting Research*, and Associate Editor of *Issues in Accounting Education*. He received the AAA Innovation in Accounting Education award in 1999. He is currently the President of the Federation of Schools of Accountancy.



Bruce Behn
Vice President
Sections and
Regions
Nominee



Gregory Waymire is the Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Accounting at the Goizueta Business School at Emory University. He is a former President of the AAA Financial Accounting and Reporting Section, chaired the Program Planning Committee for the 2007 Annual Meeting, previously served on the AAA Publications Committee, and was a member of the Steering Committee for the FASB Business Reporting Project.



Gregory Waymire
Vice President–
Research
Nominee



Belverd E. Needles, Jr. is the Ernst & Young Distinguished Professor of Accounting at DePaul University. He is Past-President of the International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER) and currently serves on its Board of Advisors. He has served as the elected U.S. representative to the European Accounting Association, Chair of the International Accounting Section, Director of Continuing Education for the AAA, and President of the Federation of Schools of Accountancy.



Belverd E. Needles,
Vice President–
Education-Elect
Nominee



Hubert Glover is President and co-founder of REDE, Inc. Hubert has more than 28 years of experience in management and leadership including recent positions as Chair of the Accounting Department for the School of Business at Howard University. Mr. Glover currently serves on the AAA Nominations Committee for the Educator of the Year Award and is a member of the Board of Directors for the AICPA.



Hubert Glover
Council Member-
at-Large
Nominee
(2 positions to fill)



Karim Jamal is a Professor and Chartered Accountants' Distinguished Chair in Accounting at the University of Alberta. Karim is a member of the AAA's Financial Accounting Standards Committee, which provides scholarly opinion and discussion to the Securities and Exchange Commission and The Financial Accounting Standards Board in the U.S. He also provides scholarly advice to the Accounting Standards Board of Canada.



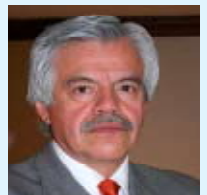
Karim Jamal
Council Member-
at-Large
Nominee
(2 positions to fill)



Salvador Ruiz-de-Chávez spent 22 years teaching at the School of Accounting and Business of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, where he was Dean. He is currently Vice-President-At-Large of the International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER) and has served as editor for various publications.



Salvador
Ruiz-de-Chávez
International
Council Member-
at-Large
Nominee



Affirmation

Nominees for Office are hereby submitted to the membership for vote. Associate Members (students) may not vote in elections conducted by the Association.

Each member should indicate his or her affirmation with an "X" or check mark in the box pertaining to each office on this form. This form can be returned by mail or fax. It is also available online at <http://aaahq.org/aaa/AAA2008/nominees2008.cfm>. Affirmations will be accepted through April 14, 2008.

If mailed: Nominees for Office
American Accounting Association
5717 Bessie Drive
Sarasota, FL 34233-2399

If faxed: (941) 923-4093

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR AFFIRMATION NEXT TO THE NOMINEES AT THE RIGHT:

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