The Accounting Review

A Publication of the American Accounting Association





INTRODUCTION

According to the policies set by the Publications Committee (which were endorsed by the Executive Committee and were published in the *Accounting Education News*, June 1987), *The Accounting Review* "should be viewed as the premier journal for publishing articles reporting the results of accounting research and explaining and illustrating related research methodology. The scope of acceptable articles should embrace any research methodology and any accounting-related subject, as long as the articles meet the standards established for publication in the journal...no special sections should be necessary. The primary, but not exclusive, audience should be—as it is now—academicians, graduate students, and others interested in accounting research."

The primary criterion for publication in *The Accounting Review* is the significance of the contribution an article makes to the literature. Topical areas of interest to the journal include accounting information systems, auditing and assurance services, financial accounting, management accounting, taxation, and all other areas of accounting, broadly defined. The journal is also open to all rigorous research methods.

The efficiency and effectiveness of the editorial review process is critically dependent upon the actions of both the authors submitting papers and the reviewers. Authors accept the responsibility of preparing research papers at a level suitable for evaluation by independent reviewers. Such preparation, therefore, should include subjecting the manuscript to critique by colleagues and others and revising it accordingly prior to submission. The review process is not to be used as a means of obtaining feedback at early stages of developing the research.

Reviewers and editors are responsible for providing constructive and prompt evaluations of submitted research papers based on the significance of their contribution and on the rigor of analysis and presentation.



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Stanford University

Professor Barth is the Joan E. Horngren Professor of Accounting in the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University. Her research focuses on financial reporting and its role in capital markets. Her research has been recognized with the AAA's Notable Contributions to Accounting Literature Award, Competitive Manuscript Award, and, on three occasions each, the AAA/ Deloitte Wildman Medal Award and Best Paper Award of the AAA's Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS). She previously was an editor of *The Accounting Review*, a coeditor of the *Journal of Financial Reporting*, and accounting department editor of *Management Science*, and was a member of editorial boards of other journals. Professor Barth was a member of the International Accounting Standards Board and as its academic advisor. She is active in the AAA, having served as AAA president and in several other roles. Professor Barth received the AAA's Outstanding Educator Award, the International Section's Outstanding International Accounting Educator Award and FARS's Lifetime Achievement Award. She is a member of the Accounting Hall of Fame.

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W. Robert Knechel, Ph.D.

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Professor Knechel, Ph.D. is the Frederick E. Fisher Eminent Scholar in Accounting at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. He is the director of the International Accounting and Auditing Center (IAAC) located within the Fisher School of Accounting. Robert holds appointments at The University of Auckland as a professor of accounting research and UNSW Sydney as a professor of auditing. He was a member of the Standing Advisory Group (SAG) to the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) in the U.S. and is on the board of the Foundation for Audit Research in The Netherlands. He is currently the senior editor of *The Accounting Review*. He has previously served as the senior editor of *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory* from 2011 through 2014. Robert's research has been regularly published in a number of leading journals including: *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Contemporary Accounting Research, Accounting Organizations and Society*, and *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory*. He was honored with the 2015 Outstanding Educator in Auditing Award given by the Auditing Section of the American Accounting Association and received an Honorary Doctorate from BU Business School in Oslo, Norway.

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Editors

Christopher S. Armstrong, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

Professor Armstrong is the EY Professor of Accounting at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. His research primarily focuses on corporate governance, executive compensation, contracting, and incentives. He has also studied issues related to how capital market participants use accounting information and other corporate disclosures, valuation and cost of capital, and various financial reporting issues at early-stage companies. His research has been published in *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Financial Economics*, and *The Review of Financial Studies*, and other journals. Armstrong holds a B.S. from the University of Virginia, M.P.A. from The University of Texas at Austin, and a Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Jeremy Bertomeu, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis

Professor Bertomeu is an associate professor at Washington University. He earned his undergraduate degree from HEC Paris and his Ph.D. in economics from Carnegie Mellon University. Before joining the faculty at Washington University, he was on the faculty at City University of New York and University of California, San Diego, and a visiting scholar at Northwestern University. His current research projects involve the effect of political influence on standard-setting, the function of accounting standards in competitive markets, and the development of structural models to identify strategic reporting incentives, and has been published in leading academic journals, including *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Accounting Research, Management Science, Contemporary Accounting Research, Economic Theory, Economics Letters, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Abacus, Journal of Financial Economics, European Accounting Review, Review of Accounting Studies, Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance, and Foundations and Trends in Accounting. Dr. Bertomeu teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in accounting theory, managerial accounting, financial statement analysis, and intermediate accounting, and emphasizes in his teaching the dialogue between theory and practice.*

Elizabeth Blankespoor, Ph.D.

University of Washington

Professor Blankespoor is an associate professor of accounting at the University of Washington. Her research focuses on corporate disclosure in capital markets, and especially on the role of information processing costs, information technology, and media in the flow of firms' financial information through traditional and non-traditional channels. She has published her work in top peer reviewed journals including the *Journal of Accounting and Economics (JAE)*, the *Journal of Accounting Research (JAR)*, The Accounting Review (TAR), and the Review of Accounting Studies (RAST). Her papers have won several awards, including the AAA FARS Best Paper Award (2017) and the AAA FARS Midyear Best Paper Award (2017). She serves on the editorial boards of JAE, JAR, and RAST. Prior to her position at the University of Washington, Professor Blankespoor was an associate professor at Stanford University, and she worked as an auditor for Ernst & Young. She earned a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, a M.Acc. from The University of Utah, and a B.A. in accounting and information systems from Dordt University.

Brian Cadman, Ph.D.

The University of Utah

Professor Cadman is an associate professor and David Eccles Faculty Fellow at The University of Utah David Eccles School of Business. He earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard University and his Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Oregon. Before joining the faculty at The University of Utah, Professor Cadman was on the faculty at the Kellogg School of Management and also a visiting scholar at The Wharton School. Professor Cadman's research focuses on the use and implications of accounting information on compensation design as well as the role of external monitors and other governance mechanisms. His research on compensation consultants and CEO pay has been cited by the SEC. His current research projects include studies on the role of venture capitalists in firms going public, the market for CEO talent, and compensation disclosures and governance, and the role of the degree of operating leverage on the information in earnings. Dr. Cadman teaches managerial accounting at the master's level, where his expertise on performance measurement and decision making brings great value to the classroom.

Andrew C. Call, Ph.D.

Arizona State University

Professor Call is a professor of accounting and the director of the School of Accountancy in the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. He graduated with a Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Washington, earned his M.Acc. and B.S. degrees in accounting at Brigham Young University, and was previously on



the faculty at the University of Georgia. Professor Call's research on Wall Street analysts and employee whistleblowers has been published in leading academic journals, including *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Accounting Research*, and *Review of Accounting Studies*, and has been featured in media outlets such as *The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Bloomberg, CFO Magazine, The Motley Fool*, and CNBC. Professor Call has taught financial reporting topics to both undergraduate and graduate students and has received numerous teaching awards.

Judson Caskey, Ph.D.

University of California, Los Angeles

Professor Caskey conducts theoretical and empirical research on how capital markets use and produce accounting information. He teaches financial statement analysis in UCLA's M.B.A. program, and is the director of UCLA's undergraduate accounting minor. He previously held a faculty appointment at The University of Texas at Austin. Caskey currently serves as an editor for *The Accounting Review*, is on the editorial board for *Contemporary Accounting Research*, and is one of the founding members of the Accounting and Economics Society. He holds Ph.D. and M.B.A. degrees from the University of Michigan, where he received a Deloitte Doctoral Fellowship, and a B.A. in accounting from Michigan State University. Prior to his academic career he worked in auditing and consulting at Ernst & Young and Arthur Anderson, and is a registered-status CPA.

Christopher Chapman, Ph.D.

University of Bristol

Professor Chapman is a professor of Management Accounting in the School of Accounting and Finance at the University of Bristol. His research focusses on how people can make accounting useful to their work. He has looked at the role of costing in national healthcare systems in recent years. His current research is exploring the impact of technology on accounting in areas such as big data analytics and gamification. Chris' research has been published in journals such as Accounting, Organizations and Research, Contemporary Accounting Research, Management Accounting Research and Research in the Sociology of Organizations. Professor Chapman is a past editor-in-chief of Accounting, Organizations and Society, and a consulting editor of British Accounting Review and Contemporary Accounting Research. From 2014–2020 he was president of the European Institute in Advanced Studies in Management. He is a member of the Council of the Healthcare Financial Management Association's Healthcare Costing for Value Institute, and a member of the Research and Development Panel of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

Margaret H. Christ, Ph.D.

University of Georgia

Professor Christ is a professor of accounting and the PwC Faculty Fellow in the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia. Her research focuses broadly on management control systems, including the effects of control systems and incentive compensation on employee behavior, the implementation of control systems in interorganizational collaborations, and internal audit practices. She has earned several research awards from the American Accounting Association, including the Accounting Horizons Best Paper award, and outstanding paper awards from the Management Accounting Section, Information Systems Section, and the ABO Section. Her research is published in peer-reviewed journals such as *The Accounting Review, Contemporary Accounting Research, Accounting, Organizations and Society, Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory, Accounting Horizons*, and *The Journal of Management Accounting Review* and *Accounting Horizons* and has previously served as an editor for the Journal of Management Accounting Research. She serves on the editorial boards of Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory, Behavioral Research in Accounting, the Journal of Information Systems, and the Journal of Management Accounting Research. Dr. Christ's research contributes to research and theory.

Shane S. Dikolli, Ph.D.

University of Virginia

Professor Dikolli is an associate professor in accounting and the Bank of America Research Chair in Business Administration at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. His primary research interests focus on the performance evaluation of CEOs spanning both analytical modeling and empirical analysis. He currently holds editorial board member positions at Accounting, Organizations and Society, Journal of Management Accounting Research, Management Accounting Research, and Accounting and Finance. He has published his research in The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting & Economics, Contemporary Accounting Research, Review of Accounting Studies, Journal of Management Accounting Research, and other journals. Professor Dikolli received a Bachelor of Business and a Post Graduate Diploma in Business, both majoring in accounting, from Curtin University, and a Ph.D. in accountancy from the University of Waterloo.



Michael Donohue, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Professor Donohoe is an associate professor, PwC Faculty Fellow, and R.C. Evans Data Analytics Fellow in the Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research explores the effects of complex financial arrangements on tax compliance and risk management. Professor Donohoe has published articles in outlets such as the *Journal of Accounting and Economics, Contemporary Accounting Research, National Tax Journal*, and *Journal of the American Taxation Association*. His in-residence and online instruction on business entity taxation has been recognized with several prominent awards, including Top 50 Undergraduate Business Professor by Poets&Quants and Outstanding Educator by the Illinois CPA Society. Professor Donohoe is a certified public accountant and certified in financial forensics. He also serves as an editor of *The Accounting Review*, treasurer of the American Taxation Association, and outside appointed board director of Farm Credit Illinois. Professor Donohoe earned a bachelor's degree and Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Florida, and a master's degree in taxation from the University of North Florida.

Joseph J. Gerakos, Ph.D.

Dartmouth College

Professor Gerakos is a professor of business administration at Tuck School of Business where he teaches Managerial Accounting. He received his Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania. His areas of research include markets for financial services and competition in the audit market and the performance of the asset management industry. He serves as an editor for *The Accounting Review*, associate editor (Accounting Section) for *Management Science* and is an editorial board member for *Review of Accounting Studies*.

Cristi A. Gleason, Ph.D.

The University of Iowa

Professor Gleason is the Carlson-KPMG Research Professor of Accounting at The University of Iowa and also the Department Executive Officer. She received her Ph.D. from Cornell University and her B.S. and M.Acc. from Brigham Young University. Prior to joining the faculty at The University of Iowa, she was a faculty member at The University of Arizona. Professor Gleason's research examines corporate financial reporting decisions, including income tax reporting, and the impact of those decisions on firm value. She also researches the role of analysts as information intermediaries. Her paper, "Last chance earnings management: Using tax expense to achieve analysts' forecasts," co-authored with Dan Dhaliwal and Lillian Mills won the American Tax Association 2007 Manuscript Award. She has published articles in journals including *The Accounting Review, Contemporary Accounting Research, Review of Accounting Studies, Journal of the American Taxation Association* and *Accounting Horizons*. She has served on the editorial boards of *The Accounting Review* and *Contemporary Accounting Research*. She also provides expert advice in litigation, including for the Iowa Attorney General.

Anna Gold, Ph.D.

Vrije Universiteit

Professor Gold is professor of auditing at Vrije Universiteit (VU) Amsterdam and Adjunct Professor at Norwegian School of Economics (NHH). She earned her Ph.D. at the University of Amsterdam. Her research focuses on judgment and decision-making in auditing. Professor Gold currently serves as an editor at *The Accounting Review* (2020–2023) and on the editorial boards of *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory* and *Nordic Journal of Business*. She has published numerous research articles in outlets such as *The Accounting Review, Accounting Horizons, Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory, Journal of Business Ethics*, and *International Journal of Auditing*.

Zhaoyang Gu, Ph.D.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Professor Gu is professor of accountancy and Outstanding Fellow of Faculty of Business Administration at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). He was on the faculty of Carnegie Mellon University (1999–2008) and the University of Minnesota (2008–2013) before joining CUHK. He has taught financial and managerial accounting at the undergraduate and MBA/EMBA levels as well as Ph.D. seminars in capital market research in accounting. His main research areas are analyst and management forecasts, earnings management, and valuation use of accounting information in the equity and debt markets. He has published in *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Review of Accounting Studies, Management Science*, among others. Professor Gu finished his B.A. in English from Tsinghua University and M.A. in management from Renmin University of China, before he went to the U.S. to obtain his M.A. in economics and Ph.D. in accounting from Tulane University. He is a CPA (non-practicing) in the U.S.



Richard C. Hatfield, Ph.D.

The University of Alabama

Professor Hatfield is the Fayard Endowed Chair of Accounting in the Culverhouse School of Accountancy at The University of Alabama, the director of the Garner Research Center and a CPA in the state of Texas. He received a B.B.A. and M.S. in accounting from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. from The University of Florida. Professor Hatfield's primary research interests have been in the area of experimental auditing and tax. He has published several articles in academic journals including: *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Contemporary Accounting Research, Accounting, Organizations and Society, Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory, The Journal of the American Taxation Association, Accounting Horizons and Behavioral Research in Accounting.* Dr. Hatfield has been on the editorial boards of *Contemporary Accounting Research* and *Accounting, Organizations and Society* and been the senior editor of *Behavioral Research in Accounting*, an editor for *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory* and is currently an editor at *The Accounting Review*. Professor Hatfield was the president of the Auditing section of the AAA in 2017–2018.

Patrick E. Hopkins, Ph.D.

Indiana University Bloomington

Professor Hopkins is a professor, Chair of the Kelley School of Business Undergraduate Program, and holds the Glaubinger Chair for Undergraduate Leadership. He received his B.S. and M.Acc. from the University of Florida and his Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin. Professor Hopkins has been at IU since 1995, where he teaches in the undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs. His research has appeared in top accounting journals, including *The Accounting Review*, the *Journal of Accounting Research*, *Contemporary Accounting Research*, and *Accounting Organizations and Society*. He is the past winner of the American Accounting Association's Distinguished Contribution to the Accounting Literature Award, the AAA's Deloitte Foundation Wildman Medal Award, AAA's Financial Accounting and Reporting Section Best Research Paper Award, the Indiana University Outstanding Junior Faculty Award, the Kelley School of Business Innovative Teaching Award, and the Kelley School of Business Outstanding Research Award. Professor Hopkins has also won each of the top teaching awards in the Kelley School of Business. Professor Hopkins served on the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council during 2012–2016 and served as Chair of Graduate Accounting Programs at the Kelley School of Business during 2014–2020.

Chan Li, Ph.D.

The University of Kansas

Professor Li is the Stephen A. Batman Professor at The University of Kansas School of Business. She obtained her Ph.D. from The University of Kansas. Prior to joining the faculty at her alma mater, Professor Li was a tenured professor at the University of Pittsburgh. Her primary research interest is in archival auditing, particularly in economic consequences of auditing, effects of regulation on the audit environment, auditor judgment and audit quality. She has published over 20 articles in leading academic journals, including *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Contemporary Accounting Research, Review of Accounting Studies, Accounting, Organizations, and Society, MIS Quarterly, and Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory.* Her work has been cited by the SEC, PCAOB, *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. Professor Li is currently serving as the editor at *The Accounting Review* and *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory*. She is also on the editorial board at *Contemporary Accounting Research*.

Xiumin Martin, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis

Professor Martin is a professor of accounting at the Washington University in St. Louis. She has broad interest in capital markets and regulations in accounting and finance. Her past research investigates the real effects of financial information, the effect of managerial incentives on debt contracting, and economic consequences of information flow within an organization. Her current research focuses on credit markets, investigating the impact of information structure in this market on contracting efficiency. Her research contributes to the understanding of the role of financial information in corporate and consumer decision making. She published papers in *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Finance, Journal of Financial Economics, Management Science, Contemporary Accounting Research*, and *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*. She received her Ph.D. in accountancy from the University of Missouri.

William J. Mayew, Ph.D.

Duke University

Professor Mayew is a professor of accounting at the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. He received his Ph.D. in business administration (accounting) from The University of Texas at Austin in 2006. Professor Mayew's

research has appeared in a wide range of journals including the Journal of Accounting Research, The Accounting Review, Review of Accounting Studies, Contemporary Accounting Research, Journal of Finance, Journal of Financial Economics, Evolution & Human Behavior, and Decision Support Systems. He has previously served on the editorial boards of both The Accounting Review and the Journal of Accounting Research. He received the 2008 Financial Research Association best paper award for his work on the information content of managerial vocal cues during earnings conference calls. He also received the Glen McLaughlin Prize for Research in Accounting Ethics in 2013 for his work on measuring CEO integrity from corporate communication in shareholder letters and again in 2017 for his work on auditor deception detection capabilities from earnings conference calls. He has received numerous teaching awards and in 2014 was named one of the top 40 business school professors in the world under 40 years old by Poets&Quants.

Vic Naiker, Ph.D.

The University of Melbourne

Professor Naiker is a professor of auditing in the Department of Accounting. He is also an editor at *The Accounting Review*. He has also served as an editor at *Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory* from 2013 until 2020. He is a recipient of awards from the American Accounting Association for his editorial work and is on the editorial boards at other journals in Australia and internationally. Professor Naike's research interests include audit committees, corporate governance, auditor industry specialization, auditor remuneration, and accounting information and capital markets. He has published research papers in the areas of auditing, financial accounting, management accounting, management, finance and economics. His papers appear in leading international journals such as *The Accounting Review, Contemporary Accounting Research, Journal of Management, Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory, European Accounting Review, Journal of Management Accounting Research, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance, Journal of Accounting and Public Policy, Accounting Horizons, and Journal of Financial Research. His teaching interests are focused in auditing and financial accounting.*

Edward J. Riedl, Ph.D.

Boston University

Professor Riedl is the John Smith, Jr. Professor of Management and chair of the accounting department at Boston University's Questrom School of Business. He was previously at Harvard Business School (2002–2011). He received a B.B.A./M.B.A. from Pace University, and his Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. His professional experience includes public accounting (Coopers and Lybrand), a Fortune 250 oil company (Hess), and a real estate brokerage house (Insignia/ESG); he attained the designations of CPA, CMA, and CIA. His research focuses on fair value, international accounting, and ESG, with publications in the top accounting (*TAR*, *JAR*, *RAST*, *CAR*) and management (*Management Science*) journals. He has presented his work at 90+ universities around the world, and his research has been recognized with the Competitive Manuscript Award. He was previously an editor at *Contemporary Accounting Research* (2017–2020). He is an award-winning teacher, having taught classes at the undergraduate, MBA, executive, and doctoral levels, with courses consistently among the top-rated at both BU and HBS. His case studies are used at universities around the world and have sold over 100,000 copies. He has chaired or served on fifteen doctoral committees and published widely with former students.

Steven E. Salterio, Ph.D.

Queen's University

Professor Salterio, Ph.D., FCPA, FCA, is the Stephen J. R. Smith Chair in Accounting and Auditing at Queen's Smith School of Business. He served as the senior editor of *Behavioral Research in Accounting* from 2017 through 2020, Editor (in-Chief) (2010–2013) and Editor (2001 to 2007) at *Contemporary Accounting Research*. Steve received the Lifetime Notable Contribution to Behavioral Accounting Research Award (AAA Accounting, Behavior and Organizations Section), the Haim Falk Award for Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Thought (CAAA), the Notable Contribution to Audit Literature Award (AAA Audit Section) and the Smith Excellence in Research Award. Steve has supervised ten Ph.D. dissertations, acted as external doctoral examiner, and received the AAA Audit's Section Outstanding Dissertation Supervisor recognition. His prior research has been published in a number of leading journals including *The Accounting Review; Accounting, Organizations and Society; Contemporary Accounting Research; Journal of Business Ethics; Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory; Journal of Management Accounting Research; Behavioral Research in Accounting; and the Journal of Accounting Research*. He is the co-author of a leading textbook, *Auditing: Risk and Assurance*, now in its fourth edition.

Tatiana Sandino, Ph.D.

Harvard University

Professor Tatiana Sandino is a professor of business administration in the Accounting and Management Unit at Harvard Business School, where she teaches courses on financial reporting, management control, strategy execution,



and performance measurement. Professor Sandino's main line of research examines how organizations use management control systems, particularly in addressing challenges associated with scaling up multiunit organizations (such as retailers, banks, hotels, or restaurant chains). While such systems can initially help an organization implement its strategy and gain oversight, they can also disempower employees and limit the organization's flexibility to adapt to new markets. Professor Sandino examines how to design management control systems that empower employees, promote an engaging organizational environment, and nurture their intrinsic motivation to create value. Professor Sandino has also studied how executive compensation is determined and what role different parties (boards, consultants, and shareholders) play in setting it. Professor Sandino's work has appeared in *The Accounting Review*, the *Journal of Accounting Research*, Management Science, and Contemporary Accounting Research, as well as in The Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, The Huffington Post, CNBC, and Strategic Finance. She has also served as an editor of the Journal of Management Accounting Research.

Daniel J. Taylor, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania

Professor Daniel Taylor's research focuses on firm's financial disclosures, opportunistic/fraudulent reporting, and insider trading. His research appears in leading academic journals in accounting, finance, and management; has been featured in the popular media, including such outlets as *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, and *The Economist*; has been cited in final rulings by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; and has played key roles in FBI and DoJ investigations. Professor Taylor teaches Predictive Analytics with Financial Disclosure to undergraduates. The class explores how advances in Big Data can be used to detect insider trades and accounting fraud. Professor Taylor currently serves as editor of *The Accounting Review*, associate editor at *Management Science*, and serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, *Journal of Accounting Research*, *Review of Accounting Studies*, and *Journal of Financial Reporting*. He regularly attends and presents at professional meetings and was previously awarded a Deloitte Foundation Fellowship. He received a Ph.D. in business from Stanford University, a M.A. in economics from Duke University, and a B.S. in economics from the University of Delaware.

Florin P. Vasvari, Ph.D.

London Business School

Professor Florin Vasvari is chair of accounting faculty and academic director of the Institute of Entrepreneurship and Private Capital at London Business School. He teaches electives on private equity and venture capital as well as distressed investing to MBAs, Executive MBAs and Senior Managers. His debt market research investigates the pricing and the role of accounting information in secondary debt markets. He has also investigated topics on contracting in the syndicated loan market and public debt market, bond analyst and rating agency disclosures, collateralised loan obligations and private equity funds. Professor Vasvari has published papers in *Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Review of Accounting Studies, The Accounting Review* and others. He currently serves as an editor at the *The Accounting Review*, having previously served as an editor at the *European Accounting Review* and in the boards of *Review of Accounting Studies, The Accounting Review* and *Contemporary Accounting Research*. Professor Vasvari holds a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto.

David Veenman, Ph.D.

University of Amsterdam

Professor David Veenman is a professor in financial accounting at the Amsterdam Business School. His research focuses on financial reporting, financial analysts, valuation, insider trading, and econometric issues in accounting research. His work has been published in journals such as *The Accounting Review, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Review of Accounting Studies, Contemporary Accounting Research*, and *Management Science*. He previously served as an associate editor at the *European Accounting Review* (2014–2020), as member of the Standing Scientific Committee of the European Accounting Association, and as member of the AAA FARS Publications Committee. David primarily teaches financial statement analysis and valuation, as well as a Ph.D. course in archival data analysis at the Limperg Institute. He previously held a position at the Erasmus School of Economics and was a visiting scholar at the University of Wisconsin.

Constance D. Weaver, Ph.D.

Texas A&M University

Professor Weaver is the KPMG Professor of Accounting at the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University. Her research investigates the effects of income taxes on financing, investing, and financial reporting decisions. She has published articles in leading journals including *The Accounting Review, Contemporary Accounting Research, The Journal of the American Taxation Association, National Tax Journal*, and Accounting Horizons. She served as the Senior Editor of *The Journal of the American Taxation Association* from 2017–2020 and on the editorial boards of Contemporary Accounting Research, The Journal of the American Taxation Association, and Issues in Accounting



Education. She is a certified public accountant, holds a Ph.D. from Arizona State University, M.P.A. from The University of Texas at Arlington, and B.S.Ch.E. from The University of Texas at Austin. She is the co-author of a leading textbook, *Taxation of Individuals and Business Entities*, now in its 13th edition., and has received numerous awards for teaching and research excellence.

Michal Willenborg, Ph.D.

University of Connecticut

Professor Willenborg is the Richard F. Kochanek Professor of Accounting in the School of Business at the University of Connecticut, where he teaches financial accounting at the undergraduate and M.B.A. levels and auditing at the Ph.D. level. His research interests are in the area of empirical, economics-based research in auditing and financial accounting. He has published papers in *Contemporary Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Accounting Research, Journal of Financial Economics, Journal of Risk and Insurance*, and *The Accounting Review*. He is currently on the editorial board of *Journal of Accounting Research* and, from 2004 to 2010, was an associate editor *for Contemporary Accounting Research*. Professor Willenborg has a B.S. in accounting from Bucknell University and a Ph.D. in accounting and economics from The Pennsylvania State University. Prior to Penn State, he was a senior audit manager with KPMG.

Teri Lombardi Yohn, Ph.D.

Emory University

Professor Yohn is a professor of accounting at Goizueta Business School at Emory University. She served as a Visiting Professor at Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and a Professor of Accounting at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. She also served on the faculty of Georgetown University and the University of Massachusetts, and as an Academic Fellow at the Securities and Exchange Commission. Teri's research focuses on predicting future profitability, valuation, and examining how accounting information affects the stock market. She also investigates the effects of IFRS adoption and the financial reporting practices of private companies. She has published her research in journals such as *Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Accounting Research, The Accounting Review, Accounting Horizons, Contemporary Accounting Research*, and Review of Accounting Studies. Teri teaches in the areas of financial accounting and financial statement analysis. She currently serves on the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Committee. She has testified before the Senate on IFRS issues and served as a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel for Private Company Financial Reporting. Teri received her Ph.D. in accounting from Indiana University.

Sarah L. C. Zechman, Ph.D.

University of Colorado

Professor Zechman is the division chair and Charles Baughn Faculty Fellow at the University of Colorado Boulder. Before joining the University of Colorado, she was faculty at The University of Chicago (2008–2015) and worked at KPMG (1998–2003). Professor Zechman's research focuses on firm communications, financial reporting choices, and managerial incentives. Her work has been cited by regulators, members of Congress, and various press outlets including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, and *Bloomberg Businessweek*. One of her recent studies resulted in the SEC changing how it disseminates public firm filings. Her studies have won two best paper awards and the best dissertation award from the AAA (FARS). In addition to being an editor at the *Accounting Review*, she is also on the editorial boards of *Journal of Accounting Research* and *Review of Accounting Studies*. Professor Zechman is a CPA (inactive) and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

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Michelle L. Nessa, Michigan State University, Department of Accounting and Information Systems, East Lansing, MI, USA

Andrew H. Newman, University of South Carolina, Department of Accounting, Columbia, SC, USA

Jeffrey Ng, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, School of Accounting and Finance, Hong Kong, China

Maria Ogneva, University of Southern California, Leventhal School of Accounting, Los Angeles, CA, USA

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Steven K. Rock, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Accounting Division, Boulder, CO, USA

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Brian R. Rountree, Rice University, Jones Graduate School of Business, Houston, TX, USA

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Sarah E. Stein, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Department of Accounting and Information Systems, Blacksburg, VA, USA

Bridget M. Stomberg, Indiana University Bloomington, Department of Accounting, Bloomington, IN, USA

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Andrew Sutherland, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Accounting, Cambridge, MA, USA

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Clare Wang, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Accounting, Boulder, CO, USA

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Daniel D. Wangerin, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Accounting and Information Systems, Madison, WI, USA

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Ryan J. Wilson, University of Oregon, Department of Accounting, Eugene, OR, USA
T. J. Wong, University of Southern California, Leventhal School of Accounting, Los Angeles, CA, USA
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SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANCE LEVELS

Table 1 shows the number of papers submitted to *The Accounting Review* for the period from 2016 to 2020.

TABLE 1
Annual Activity Summary—For the Calendar Year

Year	Manuscripts In-Process, Beginning of Year	New Submissions Received	Resubmissions Received	Manuscripts Available for Evaluation	Decision Letters Sent	Manuscripts In-Process, End of Year
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a) + (b) + (c) = (d)	(e)	
2020	225	793	405	1,423	1,258	165
2019	217	754	416	1,387	1,162	225
2018	245	767	379	1,391	1,174	217
2017	248	712	398	1,358	1,113	245
2016	200	721	314	1,235	987	248

- (a) Includes submissions in the editor's hands but excludes revise and resubmit editorial decisions in authors' hands.
- (b) New manuscripts, excluding resubmissions.
- (c) Resubmissions of previous revise and resubmit editor decisions.
- (d) Evaluation means all actions by referees, associate editor, and/or editor are complete and the manuscript has been returned to the authors.
- (e) Manuscripts processed with a decision returned to the author, including manuscripts returned by the editor without involving referees.
- (f) Submissions where a decision has not yet been sent to the author (note that in-process excludes revise and resubmit editorial decisions that are now in the authors' hands).

Table 2 shows acceptance and rejection rates for the period from 2016 to 2020.

TABLE 2 Annual Outcome Summary—By Calendar Vear Cohort

		Annual O	outcome Summa	ry—by Calei	ndar Year Con	ort	
	New			Number			
Year	Submissions Received (a)	Number of Rejections (b)	Percentage of Rejections (c) = b)/(a)	of Papers in Process (d)	Percentage in Process (e) = (d)/(a)	Number of Acceptances (f)	Percentage of Acceptances (g) = (f)/(a)
2020	793	566	71%	225	28%	2	0%
2019	754	613	81%	116	15%	25	3%
2018	767	640	83%	57	7%	70	9%
2017	712	613	86%	10	1%	89	13%
2016	721	627	87%	2	0%	92	13%

- (a) Number of submitted manuscripts from that year's cohort.
- (b) Number of rejected manuscripts from that year's cohort.
- (c) Percent of rejected manuscripts from that year's cohort.
- (d) Number of manuscripts still being evaluated (no report yet, revise, resubmit).
- (e) Percent of manuscripts from that year's cohort still being evaluated.
- (f) Number of accepted manuscripts from that year's cohort.
- (g) Percent of accepted manuscripts from that year's cohort.

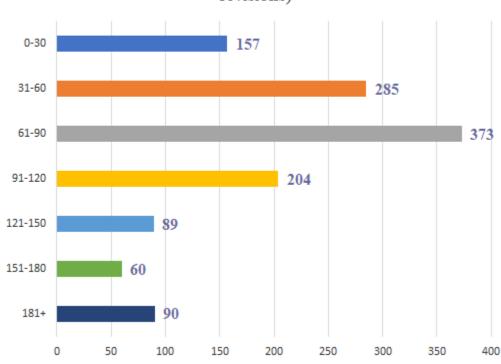


Of the 1,258 submissions (excluding withdrawals or abandoned manuscripts) that were evaluated in 2020, the mean turn time for papers handled in AllenTrack was 100 days. The median turn time in AllenTrack was 89 days. The mean turn time for papers handled in Editorial Manager was 76 days. The median was 70 days.

EXHIBIT 1

Turnaround Times for Decisions Made in the Year Ended December 31, 2020

of Decisions (includes new submissions and revisions)





AAA DIGITAL LIBRARY AND CONTENT AGGREGATOR DOWNLOAD DATA

The American Accounting Association publishes 17 journals in the areas of accounting research, education, practice, and public interest. The usage data for AAA Journals reflects the impact a transition to the new Meridian platform combined with a redesigned methodology for counting usage that affects all publishers. As a result, prior years cannot be compared with 2020 usage data which becomes the new reference point for trends going forward.

TABLE 3
2020 AAA Digital Library and Content Aggregators Downloads

Journals	Downloads
The Accounting Review*	957,628
Accounting Horizons*	195,251
Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory	172,265
Issues in Accounting Education*	130,028
Journal of Management Accounting Research	108,577
Journal of Information Systems	93,790
Journal of Emerging Technologies in Accounting	63,199
Current Issues in Auditing	55,874
Behavioral Research in Accounting	46,214
Accounting Historians Journal	44,199
The Journal of the American Taxation Association	32,765
Journal of International Accounting Research	29,875
Journal of Governmental & Nonprofit Accounting	10,007
Accounting and the Public Interest	8,397
Journal of Financial Reporting	5,307
Journal of Forensic Accounting Research	5,155
The ATA Journal of Legal Tax Research	3,491

^{*} Association wide journal

Other Important Statistics

- 1. *The Accounting Review* is ranked #7 of 154 Accounting (Business, Management, and Accounting: Accounting) journals (CiteScore, Elsevier, 2020).
- 2. Percentage of international authors: 37%.
- 3. View the Most Read and Most Cited papers for *TAR* on the AAA's <u>Digital Library</u>.



CITATION INDICES

The Accounting Review is one of the top international journals in accounting research. This section provides data on rankings drawn from Scopus (Elsevier, 2020), presents citation counts from Elsevier's CiteScore, compares impact factors from the Social Science Citation Index (Clarivate Analytics, 2020), reviews the Top 20 Google Scholar journals in the Accounting and Taxation subcategory of Business and Economics, and includes international journal listings and ratings from the most recent data available.

Scopus Rankings

An important measure of the quality of a journal is to understand how its intellectual contributions are valued by measuring the extent of citations made to papers published in that journal. Elsevier's Scopus database of abstracts and citations of peer-reviewed papers has 50m records in more than 22,000 titles published by 5,000 publishers (http://www.elsevier.com/online-tools/scopus). Scopus provides a foundation for new journal metrics that have become increasingly influential in recent years (http://www.journalmetrics.com). Important metrics based on Scopus include Source-Normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP) and SCImago Journal Rank (SJR). Journal citation metrics based on Scopus are increasingly seen by many senior university administrators as a means of normalizing the differences in publishing patterns between disciplines.

The key aspect of SNIP is to measure citation impact by "normalizing" citation values for the radically different patterns of citation between disciplines. SNIP also counters the various manipulations of citation rankings. The summary of SNIP is:

- "Takes a research field's citation frequency into account
- Considers immediacy—how quickly a paper is likely to have an impact in a given field
- Accounts for how well the field is covered by the underlying database
- Counters any potential for editorial manipulation" (http://www.journalmetrics.com).

The key aspect of SJR is the recognition that not all citations are equal. A citation in a more influential journal should count more than a citation in a less influential journal. The summary of SJR is:

- "Is weighted by the prestige of the journal, thereby 'leveling the playing field' among journals
- Eliminates manipulation: the only way to raise the SJR ranking is publish in more reputable journals
- 'Shares' a journal's prestige equally over the total number of citations in that journal
- Normalizes for differences in citation behavior between subject fields" (http://www.journalmetrics.com).

Table 4 shows the SNIP and SJR rankings for 2017 to 2019 (most recent data) with comparable data for AAA peers, as well as those in the accounting and finance disciplines.



TABLE 4
SNIP and SJR Rankings: 2017–2019

Source Title		SNIP			SJR	
	2019	2018	2017	2019	2018	2017
The Accounting Review	3.729	2.968	2.608	5.446	5.240	3.946
AAA Peers						
Accounting and the Public Interest	0.589	0.182	0.703	0.299	0.254	0.234
Accounting Historians Journal	1.298	0.708	0.169	0.328	0.237	0.145
Accounting Horizons	1.296	1.313	1.584	1.170	1.131	0.720
Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory	1.706	2.017	2.088	1.822	2.417	1.710
Behavioral Research in Accounting	1.058	1.123	0.903	0.818	0.557	0.457
Current Issues in Auditing	0.489	0.189	0.686	0.515	0.247	0.223
Issues in Accounting Education	0.811	0.472	1.471	0.410	0.423	0.715
The Journal of the American Taxation Association	1.416	0.627	0.786	1.468	0.850	1.227
Journal of Emerging Technologies in Accounting	0.879	0.859	0.351	0.490	0.372	0.214
Journal of Information Systems	1.671	1.187	0.780	0.780	0.752	0.502
Journal of International Accounting Research	0.832	0.876	0.675	0.397	0.493	0.385
Journal of Management Accounting Research	1.269	0.973	1.213	1.106	0.648	0.743
The Accounting Review	3.729	2.968	2.608	5.446	5.240	3.946
Accounting and Finance Peers						
Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal	1.879	1.563	1.981	1.459	1.456	2.187
Accounting & Finance	1.360	0.932	1.036	0.430	0.445	0.384
Accounting, Organizations and Society	2.393	1.963	1.816	1.924	2.036	1.771
British Accounting Review	1.934	1.808	1.706	1.103	1.118	0.986
Contemporary Accounting Research	2.274	1.854	2.074	2.207	2.895	2.604
European Accounting Review	1.575	1.759	1.690	0.973	1.505	0.902
Journal of Accounting & Economics	3.477	2.840	3.311	5.821	6.606	6.875
Journal of Accounting and Public Policy	1.948	1.692	1.673	1.125	1.481	0.910
Journal of Accounting Research	4.225	3.488	3.453	6.996	10.151	6.957
Journal of Financial Economics	5.285	4.942	4.531	11.999	13.636	12.489
Management Accounting Research	2.768	2.497	2.881	1.975	2.166	1.426
Review of Accounting Studies	2.464	1.902	1.886	3.473	3.379	2.757

Source: SCOPUS database, http://www.scopus.com/sources, Elsevier, 2020.



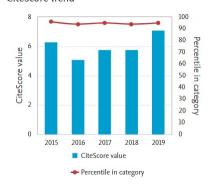
CiteScore

In 2016, CiteScore was added to the Scopus metrics. CiteScore measures the citations on articles published in the previous 3 years. All article types are counted. Scopus metrics now include Source Normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP), SCImago Journal Rank (SJR), and citation and document counts and percentage cited (CiteScore). Another way of looking at this is SNIP is article impact, SJR is the journal impact, and CiteScore is a view of the journal's citation analysis. The following images show the CiteScore trends for *TAR*, and the CiteScore table lists the CiteScore for every AAA journal indexed in Scopus.

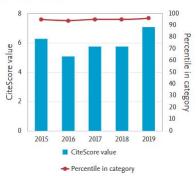
CiteScore rank 2019 ①



Accounting CiteScore trend

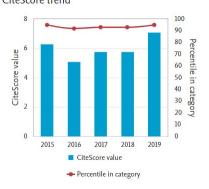


Finance CiteScore trend



Source: CiteScore, Elsevier, 2020

Economics and Econometrics CiteScore trend





	CiteScore, 2020			
Journal	2019 Cita	tions/2019-2016 docs		
Accounting Historians Journal	0.90	48 cites/52 docs		
Accounting Horizons	2.60	320 cites/121125 docs		
	·	·		
Accounting and the Public Interest	1.10	23 cites/21 docs		
Accounting Review, The	7.10	2,101 cites/294 docs		
ATA Journal of Legal Tax Research	0.00	0 cites/15 docs		
Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory	4.00	577 cites/146 docs		
Behavioral Research in Accounting	2.20	133 cites/60 docs		
Current Issues in Auditing	0.80	33 cites/40 docs		
Issues in Accounting Education	1.80	173 cites/96 docs		
	2.50	106 : /42 1		
Journal of the American Taxation Association, The	2.50	106 cites/42 docs		
Language of Francisco Taylorday in Assessment	2.3	167 cites/72 docs		
Journal of Emerging Technologies in Accounting	2.3	167 cites/72 docs		
Journal of Financial Reporting	m/a	m/o		
Journal of Financial Reporting	n/a	n/a		
Journal of Forensic Accounting Research	n/a	n/a		
Journal of Potensic Accounting Research	II/ a	II/ a		
Journal of Governmental & Nonprofit Accounting	n/a	n/a		
Journal of Governmental & Nonproju Accounting	II/ a	11/ 4		
Journal of Information Systems	4.00	342 cites/86 docs		
oom near of Information Systems	7.00	372 cites/ 60 does		
Journal of International Accounting Research	1.80	146 cites/80 docs		
oom han of International Research	1.00	110 01003/00 4003		
Journal of Management Accounting Research	2.70	261 cites98 docs		
Journal of Pranagement Accounting Research	2.70	201 010590 0005		



WEB OF SCIENCE: SOCIAL SCIENCE CITATION INDEX

The *Journal Citation Report (JCR*, Clarivate Analytics, formerly Thomson Reuters) provides data that rank, evaluate, categorize, and compare journals that are indexed in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI). The impact factor (IF), one of the data points of SSCI, is the industry measure of the frequency with which an article in a journal has been cited over a particular period. The annual *JCR* impact factor is a ratio between citations and recent citable items published. Thus, the impact factor of a journal is calculated by dividing the number of current year citations to articles published in that journal during the previous two years (*JCR*, 2020).

Journal	2020 IF	2019 IF	2018 IF
Accounting Horizons	1.576	1.377	1.730
Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory	2.108	2.642	2.409
The Accounting Review	3.993	4.562	2.247
Accounting Peers			
Accounting, Auditing, and Accountability	3.497	2.537	2.911
Accounting, Organizations and Society	3.358	3.147	2.077
Contemporary Accounting Research	2.026	2.261	2.065
Journal of Accounting & Economics	3.723	3.753	3.282
Journal of Accounting Research	3.773	4.891	4.542
Management Accounting Research	3.054	4.044	3.800
Review of Accounting Studies	2.600	2.108	1.588



GOOGLE SCHOLAR

The illustration below shows the top 20 journals in the Accounting and Taxation subcategory of the Business, Economics, and Management category of Google Scholar. The h5-index is Google's version of an impact factor. It is based on the Hirsch index and tracks articles and citations over a 5-year period. If a journal has an h5-index of 10, it means the journal published 10 articles that were cited at least 10 times. The h5-median for a publication is the median number of citations for the articles that make up its h5-index.

	Publication	h5-index	h5-mediar
1.	The Accounting Review	<u>69</u>	98
2.	Journal of Accounting and Economics	<u>58</u>	90
3.	Journal of Accounting Research	<u>51</u>	117
4.	Contemporary Accounting Research	<u>49</u>	84
5.	Review of Accounting Studies	<u>46</u>	67
6.	Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal	44	67
7.	Critical Perspectives on Accounting	<u>40</u>	63
8.	Accounting, Organizations and Society	<u>38</u>	62
9.	The British Accounting Review	<u>37</u>	56
10.	Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory	<u>34</u>	71
11.	Management Accounting Research	33	62
12.	Managerial Auditing Journal	<u>31</u>	41
13.	Accounting and Business Research	30	47
14.	Accounting Horizons	<u>30</u>	45
15.	Accounting & Finance	<u>29</u>	45
16.	European Accounting Review	28	51
17.	Journal of Business Finance & Accounting	28	50
18.	Journal of Accounting and Public Policy	<u>26</u>	58
19.	Meditari Accountancy Research	<u>26</u>	55
20.	Journal of Information Systems	25	34



POSITIONING IN INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

The Accounting Review is in a number of international journal rankings, as tracked by the Harzing Journal Quality List* (http://www. harzing.com, updated July 2019). The following table lists *TAR*'s position in selected rankings, along with those of peers from the accounting and economics disciplines. Detailed explanations of the selected rankings follow.

As the rankings below illustrate, *TAR* is one of the world's top journals in accounting. It receives the highest ranking across several international listings.

TABLE 5
The Accounting Review

Journal	ABDC 2019	ABS 2018	EJL 2019	HCERES 2019	VHB 2015
The Accounting Review†	A*	4*	P*	A	A +
Accounting Peers					
Accounting & Finance	A	2	S	В	C
Accounting and the Public Interest†	В				C
Accounting Historians Journal†	В	2		В	C
Accounting Horizons†	A	3	S	A	В
Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal	A*	3	S	A	В
Accounting, Organizations and Society	A*	4*	P*	A	A
Auditing: A Journal of Practice & Theory†	A*	3	P	A	В
Behavioral Research in Accounting†	A	3	S	В	В
British Accounting Review	Α	3	S	В	В
Contemporary Accounting Research	A*	4	P*	A	A
Current Issues in Auditing†	В	2			
European Accounting Review	A*	3	P	A	A
International Journal of Accounting	A	3		В	В
International Journal of Auditing	A	2		В	В
Issues in Accounting Education†	A	2		C	C
Journal of Accounting & Economics	A*	4*	P*	A	A+
Journal of Accounting and Public Policy	A	3	S	A	В
Journal of Accounting Research	A*	4*	P*	A	A+
Journal of Business Finance & Accounting	A*	3	P	A	В
Journal of Emerging Technologies in Accounting†	В	1			
Journal of Financial Reporting†	A				
Journal of Forensic Accounting Research†	В				
Journal of Governmental & Nonprofit Accounting†	В	1			
Journal of Information Systems†	Α	1			C
Journal of International Accounting Research†	Α	2	S	В	В
Journal of Management Accounting Research	A*	2	S	В	В
Management Accounting Research	A*	3	P	A	A
Review of Accounting Studies	A*	4	P*	A	A
The Accounting Review†	A*	4*	P*	A	A+
The ATA Journal of Legal Tax Research†	C	1			
The Journal of the American Taxation Association†	A	3			

[†] Denotes the journal is published by the American Accounting Association.



ABDC—Australian Business Deans Council Journal Rankings List

The influence of this ranking goes well beyond Australia.

Rank	Interpretation
A*	Best or leading journal in its field—publishes outstanding, original, and rigorous research that will shape the field. Acceptance rates are typically low and the editorial board is dominated by leading scholars in the field or subfield, including from top institutions in the world. Where relevant to the field or subfield, the journal has the highest impact factors or other indices of high reputation.
A	Highly regarded journal in the field or subfield—publishes excellent research in terms of originality, significance, and rigor; has competitive submission and acceptance rates; excellent refereeing process; and, where relevant to the field or subfield, has higher than average impact factors. Not all highly regarded journals have high impact factors, especially those in niche areas.
В	Well-regarded journal in the field or subfield—publishes research of a good standard in terms of originality, significance, and rigor, and papers are fully refereed according to good standards and practices but acceptance rates are higher than for Tiers A* and A. Depending on the field or subfield, will have a modest impact factor and will be ISI-listed.
С	A recognized journal—publishes research that is of a modest standard and/or is yet to establish its reputation because of its newness. This tier is more inclusive than the other categories. Only includes refereed journals.

ABS—Chartered Association of Business Schools

The list provides guidance to scholars working across the diverse fields that constitute Business and Management. The Academic Journal Guide is intended to give both emerging and established scholars greater clarity as to which journals to aim for, and where the best work in their field tends to be clustered.

Rank	Interpretation
4*	Journals of Distinction. Within the business and management field, including economics, there are a small number of grade 4 journals that are recognised world-wide as exemplars of excellence. As the world leading journals in the field, they would be ranked among the highest in terms of impact factor. The initial paper selection and review process would be rigorous and demanding. Accepted papers would typically not only bring to bear large scale data and/or rigour in theory, but also be extremely finely crafted and provide major advances to their field.
4	All journals rated 4, whether included in the Journal of Distinction category or not publish the most original and best-executed research. As top journals in their field, these journals typically have high submission and low acceptance rates. Papers are heavily refereed. These top journals generally have among the highest citation impact factors within their field.
3	3 rated journals publish original and well executed research papers and are highly regarded. These journals typically have good submission rates and are very selective in what they publish. Papers are heavily refereed. These highly regarded journals generally have good to excellent journal metrics relative to others in their field, although at present not all journals in this category carry a citation impact factor.
2	Journals in this category publish original research of an acceptable standard. For these well regarded journals in their field, papers are fully refereed according to accepted standards and conventions. Citation impact factors are somewhat more modest in certain cases. Many excellent practitioneroriented articles are published in 2-rated journals.
1	These journals, in general, publish research of a recognised, but more modest standard in their field. A 1 rating is a useful indicator in that it indicates the journal meets normal scholarly standards, including a general expectation of peer review. Papers are in many instances refereed relatively lightly according to accepted conventions. Few journals in this category carry a citation impact factor.



EJL—Erasmus Research Institute of Management Journals Listing (The Netherlands)

Rank	Interpretation
P+	Top journals among P
P	Best journals in the field
P A	Top international journals (aspirant)
S	Scientific refereed journals of a recognized academic reputation that do not reach the quality levels of the Primary Set (P)
M*	Top managerial journal

HCERES—High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education

A joint plenary commission, established in 2014, brought together representatives of Economics and Management and was responsible for establishing and updating a list of common journals for these two disciplines. The list is made up of merged classified lists of journals from the Scientific College of the French Management Association (FNEGE), and section 37 of the National Committee for Scientific Research (CNRS). The classification is done in 3 categories:

Rank	Interpretation
A	Journals classified 1*, 1e, 1g, 1eg, 1 and 2 by the CNRS or FNEGE
В	Journals classified 3 by the CNRS or FNEGE
C	Journals classified 4 by the CNRS or FNEGE

VHB 2015—Associations of Professors of Business in German Speaking Countries

A ranking developed on behalf of the Association of University Professors of Business in German speaking countries (Verband der Hochschullehrer für Betriebswirtschaft-VHB). This version (VHB-JOURQUAL 3) is the 4th edition of this list.

Rank	Interpretation
A+	World Leading
A	Leading
В	Important and Respected
C	Recognized
D	Peer-Reviewed

^{*} The 60th edition of the Harzing Journal Quality List removed several older rankings (UQ 2007, Aston 2008, Cranfield 2012) that had not been updated since then by their providers and were probably replaced by the ABDC and ABS rankings. The 61st edition removed two French single university rankings (HEC 2011) and ESSEC (2016) as French universities now seem to use one of the three country-wide rankings. The 65th edition was published in July 2019.

