Sunday, August 10, 2024
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

WS#5: ABCs of Digital ESG: Trends and Tips for Teaching the New Reporting and Assurance Mandates

Sustainability, ESG, Corporate Responsibility: whatever term you prefer, 2023 and 2024 continue the developments from 2022, that pivotal year for new mandatory reporting â€¦ with required assurance. The SEC faced push back on its Final rules, the FASB moved forward with ESG on its technical agenda, the International Sustainability Standards Board grew under the IFRS Foundation, and with EFRAG and GRI collaborate on digital futures , and EU (and other national) rules require assured ESG reporting on a level never seen before. This session will help the academic understand the current status of reporting rules for non-financial/ESG disclosure, including mandates and implementations. It includes new topics, taxonomies, disclosure requirements (often digital first), and assurance that may â€¦ or may NOT â€¦ be provided by the traditional financial auditor. Your instructors have led the emergence of digital first, non-financial reporting, having advised groups like GRI, SASB, CDP and others as they have prepared for this change.

Intended Auidence:
Mandatory ESG reporting will be of interest to all Annual Meeting registrants with an interest in financial reporting, assurance, and information technology. This major change to accounting and audit makes this session unique in providing new insights to this rapidly changing area.

Format:
The class will be comprised of a mix of lecture and live demonstrations of the digital tools necessary for complying with the expected digital-first reporting requirement, along with manual exercises. Ideas for sharing these ideas as class projects will be offered. (Students may optionally follow along on their own devices.)

Learning Objectives:
•   Identify emerging US and international mandates for ESG reporting, with assurance requirements

•   Work with and understand frameworks and their expression, such as the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Taxonomy

•   Use methods shared to incorporate these changes in class projects and research

Program Level: Beginner
Prerequisites