# Accounting Programs Leadership Group



A Group of the American Accounting Association

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#### INSIDE

Minutes of Board of

Governors' Special
Meeting 4-27-01 2
Minutes of Board of Governors' Meeting
8-12-01
APLG 2002 Seminar Program4
New Chairpersons' Seminar Program 5
Moving From Department Chair to Faculty 6
The Ph.D. Project 7
2001–2002 Officers, Board Members, and Committee Chairs
New Administrators of Accounting Program 12

## Spring/Summer Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for material to be included in the Spring/ Summer 2002 issue of the newsletter is Friday, March 22, 2002. Please send all information to me at the address below for delivery no later than that date to ensure the timeliness of the Spring/Summer issue:

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Accounting Programs Leadership Group A Group of the American Accounting Association Published Biannually American Accounting Association 5717 Bessie Drive Sarasota, FL 34233-2399

# President's Message

Like all those who have preceded me, I am honored to have been selected to serve as the president of APLG. In my opinion and, I think, in the opinion of most people who have become involved in APLG activities, the APLG is one of the gems within the American Accounting Association (AAA).

I can still remember my thoughts when I first became a head of department or, in my case, dean of the Leventhal School of Accounting at USC. The task

seemed overwhelming. I had never prepared to be an administrator. All my academic life I had worried almost exclusively about getting my papers published and improving my teaching. Now I was faced with improving our curricula, staffing courses, raising money, recruiting students, getting other faculty members promoted, and supervising a staff, among other things. In one incident that happened not too long after I assumed my new position, two of our secretaries were in the lobby of our accounting building physically slugging each other. I wasn't prepared for this!

Among the best things I did was to join the APLG. I'll always remember sitting at my first APLG meeting and hanging on every speaker's every word while I was taking a lot of notes. That meeting, and actually every APLG meeting that I've attended since, and I haven't missed any, were really valuable. So were the informal meetings where I was able to discuss common problems with other accounting department heads. There is really no good substitute. Any accounting department chair or program head who is not taking advantage of what the APLG has to offer is really missing something.

I have found that the APLG is also one of the best-run parts of AAA. This is perhaps understandable because it is run by people whose careers have drifted into administration, prob-



Ken Merchant

ably because of some kind of natural selection process. So being president of APLG is relatively easy. People like Jim Heintz, Keith Stanga, Russ Barefield, and Dave Campbell, and others who preceded them as APLG presidents, and others who have served in important officer and committee positions, have everything well organized.

Because we're not facing any immediate crises or hot issues, I want to focus much of our attention this year on our strategic plan.

The APLG has a well-structured strategic plan but, because of the rapid changes facing accounting education, it needs some updating. For example, distance learning, information technology offerings, new competition in our markets both from for-profit institutions and other universities, and declining enrollments were not as prominent in our thinking when the last strategic plan was prepared. We cannot have the luxury of thinking strategically only every five years or so.

In particular, we need to distinguish more clearly our mission and activities from those of other, related organizations. For example:

- The AAA had been taking the lead with regard to program and school benchmarking, an activity that the APLG might have led. But now the AAA has dropped their effort because AACSB International is moving heavily into the benchmarking arena. We need to ensure that accounting department and program administrators' needs are being satisfied in this area.
- The Federation of Schools of Accountancy (FSA) has focused considerable attention on 150-hour programs. What should be the role of APLG in this area? Should we cede this issue to FSA? (Probably not.)

(continued on page 5)

#### **Accounting Programs Leadership Group**

# Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Governors

#### April 27, 2001 — Chicago, Illinois

Attending: Dana Ellis (Arthur Andersen LLP), Finley Graves, Jim Heintz, Steve Limberg, Linda Marquis, Ken Merchant, Craig Polhemus (AAA), Jamie Pratt, Jane Rubin (AACSB), Jack Ruhl, Bea Sanders (AICPA).

Absent: Helen Gernon, Ellen Glazerman, Jack Kramer, Tom Schaefer, Keith Stanga.

The special meeting of the Board of Governors began at 10:10 a.m. on Friday, April 27, 2001 at the American Airlines Admirals' Club at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago with President-elect Ken Merchant facilitating.

Jim Heintz began by thanking Ellen Glazerman and the Ernst & Young Foundation for arranging and paying for lunch and the meeting room at the American Airlines' Admirals' Club. He then clarified the reason for the special meeting, which was to identify the APLG's niche vis a vis other organizations such as the AAA, AACSB, and AICPA. The identified niche must reflect the APLG's strategic plan; thus, there is a need to review the strategic plan. Ken Merchant added that in 1993 and 1998 there had been APLG strategic planning sessions but the resulting documents were now outdated, and in any case those documents did not prioritize strategies and the associated actions.

The first step was to draft a mission statement for APLG. Participants provided examples of the responsibilities assumed by the AAA, AACSB, and AICPA as a way of identifying the APLG's niche and its mission.

The possible mission statement "To attract, develop, and support accounting program leaders" was discussed. After considerable effort, the group agreed on the following mission statement:

# To promote excellence in accounting program leadership.

Next, Ken Merchant asked for a general list of accounting program stakeholders. These include: employers, faculty, students, university administrators, other organizations (such as AAA, etc.), regulators, society, alumni, and donors.

There was a discussion of the concepts of development and support. Bea Sanders suggested that support is getting input from outside stakeholders. She added that it was unwise to isolate accounting program leaders from what is occurring in the environment. Craig Polhemus asked if development referred to developing leaders or develop-

ing the external environment. Steve Limberg noted that there is a difference between advocacy with a particular group, such as AACSB, and merely obtaining information from that group. He felt that APLG interests should be expressed to other organizations such as the AAA, AACSB, and AICPA. Jane Rubin said that if AACSB received a letter from APLG it would carry more weight than a letter received from an individual chairperson.

Participants articulated three goals that follow from the above stated APLG mission statement. These goals are to:

- Attract individuals to the role of accounting program leader.
- 2. Develop accounting program leaders.
- 3. Support accounting program leaders.

Having articulated these goals, participants then provided actions associated with the goals, and identified top priority actions for each goal. Top priority actions are marked with an asterisk in the lists below.

# Attract individuals to the role of accounting program leader.

Actions:

- 1. Identify future leaders.
- Invite and encourage future leaders to attend APLG events such as the annual seminar.
- Hold a special session at the APLG annual seminar for future leaders.
- 4. Identify qualities of leaders.
- 5. Make the chairperson's job better.
- 6. Share tips on recruiting chairs.
- Maintain a list of chairpersons willing to allow a future leader to "shadow" them and learn more about the chair's role.

There was extensive discussion of these actions. Linda Marquis suggested that the special session for future leaders could be included with the New Chairpersons' Program at the annual seminar. Finley Graves thought that a panel discussion at regional meetings would be more effective than having such a session at the annual seminar.

#### Develop accounting program leaders.

Participants listed a number of dimensions of developing accounting program leaders. They categorized development into development of faculty, development of external constituents, and development of accounting programs. Developing faculty includes recruiting top-quality faculty and establishing an environment conducive to quality teaching, research, and service. Fac-

ulty development also means motivating faculty to do their best and maintaining a collegial atmosphere.

Developing external constituents includes fund-raising and working with advisory councils. Relationships with employers are very important and development of these relationships is critical.

Program development occurs at the undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels. Ken Merchant divided program development into program input, program process, and program development. Program input refers to recruitment of students, while program process is the actual education of students. Program placement means placement of students with employers, and program assessment refers to assessment of input, process, and placement.

Participants then compiled a list of actions associated with all aspects of development.

Actions:

- 1. Continue to hold annual seminar.
- Bring together schools of similar interests at the annual seminar to discuss common problems and opportunities.
- Sponsor development activities at regional AAA meetings.
- Continue to produce the Handbook for Accounting Administrators.
- Continue to publish the newsletter and maintain the APLG web site.
- 6. Profile "great chairs" in the newsletter.
- Videotape presentations at annual seminar for distribution to those unable to attend.

#### Support accounting program leaders.

Extensive discussion followed with regard to profiling "great chairs" or even having an annual AAA award recognizing an outstanding program leader. Jane Rubin asked what the purpose of an annual award would be. Ken Merchant felt that the process of selecting an annual award winner or "great chair" could easily become a political one. Craig Polhemus wondered if the AAA Executive Committee would allocate space for another award presentation at the AAA Annual Meeting.

Participants listed two aspects of supporting accounting program leaders. The first is representing the views of accounting program leaders among constituents,

(continued on page 5)

#### Accounting Programs Leadership Group

## Minutes of Board of Governors' Meeting

#### August 12, 2001 — Atlanta, Georgia

Attending: Mark Chain, Dana Ellis, Helen Gernon, Finley Graves, Jim Heintz, Dick Kochanek, Steve Limberg, Linda Marquis, Ken Merchant, Kate Mooney, Phil Reckers, Jack Ruhl, Tom Schaefer, and Keith Stanga.

Absent: Ellen Glazerman, Jack Kramer, Jane Mutchler, and Jamie Pratt.

The Board meeting began at 10:07 AM on Sunday, August 12, 2001 at the Hilton Hotel with President Jim Heintz presiding.

#### 2002 Annual Meeting Location

Dee Strahan reported that the 2002 APLG Annual Meeting would be held February 2–5. The locations being considered are Austin, Texas as the Board's first choice and Sante Fe, New Mexico as our second choice. The Austin properties being considered are the Hyatt, Omni, Steven F. Austin Hotel, and the Driscoll Hotel.

#### Minutes

The minutes of the Board of Governors meeting held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on February 2001 were discussed and approved.

The minutes of the special Board of Governors meeting held in Chicago on April 27, 2001 to discuss the strategic plan were approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

Linda Marquis presented a Treasurer's Report dated June 30, 2001. The cash balance of \$84,877.42 is healthy and this year we broke even.

At the Fall 2000 Board of Governor's meeting, Linda reported that APLG membership numbers were down by 10% from last year. As Linda explored this further she discovered that there are problems at AAA headquarters in Florida with tracking members who do not automatically pay their dues with the AAA Annual Meeting registration fee. The Board agreed that AAA headquarters should monitor APLG dues and membership. The following solution was recommended: Compare the member list from 1999 to the current list of members; then send a dues notice to anyone who does not appear on our current list.

Linda reported that our dues are up so our tracking efforts are paying off.

We are successfully decreasing our cash increase.

#### Administrative Support Committee

The Board of Governors developed the

following charge for the Committee at its November 2000 meeting in Kansas City: (1) to review and update the APLG's Accounting Administrator's Handbook, (2) to develop a new section for the Handbook (or, alternatively, a new document) that might provide advice for program leaders leaving administration and returning to faculty status, and (3) to approach Craig Polhemus and Tracey Sutherland at the AAA about developing a benchmarking instrument for program leaders distinct from the AAA's benchmarking instrument for accounting programs.

Finley Graves reported for the Administrative Support Committee that the revision of the APLG's Administrator's Handbook was for all practical purposes complete. Bob Smith of the University of Southern Mississippi had undertaken the task and would have the revision available in the next few weeks. Finley Graves and Pete Dillaway had approached Tracey Sutherland about the development of a benchmarking instrument for accounting program leaders separate from the AAA accounting programs' benchmarking instrument. Finley Graves had also spoken to Bill Pallett at the IDEA Center at Kansas State University. (The IDEA Center worked with Tracey Sutherland to develop the AAA's benchmarking instrument.) Both had encouraged Finley and Pete to await the publication of the new programs' benchmarking instrument. They believed it would obviate the need of an instrument for program leaders. Finely and Pete had also taken note of the survey of accounting program leaders that was administered just prior to the APLG annual meeting in February. Finley and Pete concluded that a separate instrument was unnecessary, especially if the survey continues to be administered. Finally, Finley stated that he and Ron Heufner had identified three accounting program leaders who had recently stepped down from their administrative duties. They had planned for these three individuals to write essays on how to manage the transition from program leader to faculty. In the meantime, however, one had left the country and one had been pressed into administrative service again. Before approaching others to write the essays, Finley asked that the outlet for the essays be clearly identified. A discussion ensued in which the Board agreed that the essays would appear in the

APLG Newsletter. The possibility that they might also appear in the APLG's Administrator's Handbook was left open, and the Board asked Finley graves to approach the editor of Issues in Accounting Education about the possibility of the contributors writing an article for that journal. The Board also identified several administrators who had recently made the transition who might be interested in writing such an essay.

#### **Faculty Development Committee**

Jim Heintz reported for Mo Sarhan. Ken Merchant decided that the APLG does not need to continue this committee.

#### Newsletter

Jack Ruhl will continue as editor of our newsletter for at least one more year and perhaps longer. If Jack does not continue, he has agreed to identify his successor. The fall newsletter will include information about the annual meeting and the officers for 2001-2002. Future newsletters may include articles on the following topics: how to connect with students coming out of the KPMG Ph.D. Project, increasing faculty diversity, hiring faculty with limited resources, why aspire to being a program leader, and life after stepping down as department head. Jack will continue to decide which calls for papers and conference announcements to publish. Jack continues to do a great job with our newsletter and as the APLG photographer. Thanks for the good work, Jack!

#### **Benchmarking Discussion**

Tracey Sutherland from the AAA and Bill Pallett and Amy Gross from the Idea Center asked if they could be on the program of the APLG annual meeting to promote the AAA Benchmarking Project. The Board decided that this is an acceptable topic for the annual meeting. Phil Reckers will decide when and what kind of program we will have on benchmarking.

At 12:20 PM, Jim Heintz stepped down as President of APLG and Ken Merchant stepped up. Lunch was served which included pieces of delicious southern pecan pie.

Given that our meeting was scheduled to end at 1:00 PM, Ken Merchant sped through the remaining topics on the agenda.

The 2001–2002 budget was approved. The APLG officers are listed in the AAA Directory.

(continued on page 5)

# Accounting Programs Leadership Group 2002 Seminar

Seizing Market Opportunities for Advancement of Accounting Programs Omni Austin Hotel Downtown — Austin, Texas — February 3-5, 2002

Sunday, Febr	A STATE OF THE STATE OF THE SECOND STATE OF TH		C. Fund-Raising: Two Approaches Leveraging an Access® Database: Fund-
8:00 AM-NOON	APLG NEW CHAIRPERSON'S PROGRAM See page 5 of this newsletter.		Raising and Internship Placement Howard Godfrey, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
<b>AFTERNOON</b> 1:00–1:50 PM	WORKSHOPS for all attendees: ERP Systems and Their Place in the Accounting Curriculum	2:30–2:40 рм	Raising Fund-Raising Activities to a Priority Endeavor Ron Kucic, University of Denver BREAK
2:00-2:50 рм	Julie David, Associate Professor, Arizona State University  Database Applications and Data Driven  Decision Making in the Accounting	2:40–3:40 рм	CONCURRENT SESSIONS A. Using Benchmark Data for Strategic Planning Linda Marquis, University of Northern
3:00-3:50 PM	Curriculum Faye Borthick, Professor, Georgia State University Data Mining Technology and		Kentucky Finley Graves, Kansas State University Kent St. Pierre, University of Delaware
3.00-3.30 PM	Applications: What is it and should I care? Ajay Vinze, Professor, Arizona State University		B. Adding a Consulting Course to the Accounting Curriculum Ron Hueffner, University of Buffalo C. Professional Advisory Board Do's and
4:00-4:50 PM	The Evolving CPA Examination Jan Williams, Dean, University of Tennessee Julie David, Associate Professor, Arizona State University	3:40-3:50 рм	Don'ts Gerald Smith, University of Northern Iowa Jane Mutchler, Georgia State University BREAK
Monday, Feb	ruary 4	3:50-4:50 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS A. Graduate Program Options:
7:00-8:00 ам	REGISTRATION		AMBA
7:00-8:00 AM 8:15-8:30 AM	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST WELCOME Ken Merchant, APLG President		Bill Davidson, University of St. Thomas Master's Degrees with Technology Emphasis Philip Reckers, Arizona State University
8:30–9:45 am	AACSB Pilot Project and Initial Experiences Keith Stanga, University of Tennessee (Experimental Project Participant)		B. Using Benchmark Data for Strategic Planning Linda Marquis, University of Northern Kentucky
9:45–10:45 am	Finley Graves, Kansas State University (AACSB Review Team for Villanova) Recruiting Undergraduate Accounting Students		Finley Graves, Kansas State University Kent St. Pierre, University of Delaware C. Fund-Raising: Two Approaches Leveraging an Access Database: Fund-
10:45—11:00 ам	Dick Kochanek, University of Connecticut Ken Sinclair, Lehigh University		Raising and Internship Placement Howard Godfrey, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
11:00 ам-Noon			Raising Fund-Raising Activities to a Priority Endeavor Ron Kucic, University of Denver
	Bart Hartman, St. Joseph's University		DINNER on your own
12:00-1:30 PM	LUNCH CONCURRENT SESSIONS	Tuesday, Feb	
1:30-2:30 рм	A. AACSB Standards for Professional Interaction: Operational Issues	8:00–9:50 ам	Professional Development I: Conflict Management and Negotiating Arthur Andersen
	Bob Keith, University of South Florida Alan Attaway, University of Louisville B. Developing Optimal Internship and Placement Programs	9:50–10:00 AM 10:00–11:45 AM	Self
	Austin Dailey, Texas A&M University Cliff Skousen, Utah State University	11:45 AM-NOON	Arthur Andersen FINAL COMMENTS Ken Merchant, APLG President

# Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Governors

(continued from page 2)

and the second is elevating the status of accounting program leaders.

Actions:

- Have a liaison with related organizations (e.g., AAA, AACSB, AICPA) and other AAA sections.
- Market the role of chairperson at the annual doctoral consortium, new faculty consortium, or in an article in a AAA publication.
- Have a liaison with the AAA benchmarking project.
- Survey the scope of authority of chairpersons, such as fund-raising, faculty hiring, etc.
- Survey the compensation of chairpersons.
- 6. Establish a "great chair" award.
- Compile a resource list for chairs to include names of helpful people and useful articles.

Dana Ellis pointed out that chairpersons are held in very high regard by Big 5 and other accounting professionals. He added that the professionals' point of contact with students is the chairperson.

Linda Marquis presented a budget report indicating that in spite of lower attendance at the annual seminar, APLG should break even financially for the year.

Jim Heintz expressed his gratitude to the following individuals who, although not members of the Board, attended the meeting: Dana Ellis, Craig Polhemus, Jane Rubin, Bea Sanders.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

#### Minutes of Board of Governors' Meeting

(continued from page 3)

#### **Update on 2002 Annual Meeting**

Phil Reckers has a number of topics identified. The Board encouraged him to include a program on personal development as we have in the past. Mark Chain and Dana Ellis will be contacted to see if someone in their firm can do an effective talk on conflict resolution.

#### Update on 2002 New Chair's Forum

Dick Kochanek reported that the Forum is in great shape. He passed out a prospective program and has already identified the program speakers.

#### **APLG Mission and Strategies**

This topic will be the focus of the November APLG Board of Governors' Meeting at the Chicago airport.

#### Sites for Future APLG Annual Meetings

Linda Marquis, as President elect, will suggest sites for the 2003 annual meeting.

The 2001 Board of Governors' meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.

#### President's Message

(continued from page 1)

- 3. The AICPA is greatly concerned about the decline in the supply of new accountants and has put programs in place to try to attract students to the accounting major. We accounting administrators have similar concerns, and some of us have taken some actions. But to date, I think it's safe to say, the efforts have not been well coordinated.
- 4. And while AACSB controls the accreditation process, we accounting administrators should play a role in shaping both the accreditation standards and their implementation. Are we currently playing the right role(s)?

These are just examples. The APLG also needs to stay aware of *and shape* what other organizations, such as AICPA, Beta Alpha Psi, IMA, FEI, and IIA, are doing.

We can't do everything ourselves, so we need to think carefully about where we invest our limited resources, and we need to exert leverage to affect what others are doing and might do on our behalf. We have begun the strategic planning discussions, and they will continue this year.

In closing, I'd like to encourage all accounting administrators to take advantage of what the APLG has to offer. At a minimum, come to our annual seminar in early February. It will be held in Austin, TX. Phil Reckers and his committee have planned an excellent two-day program designed for both department chairs and program heads. We'd particularly like you to bring along someone else from your school, someone who would make a good department or program administrator in the future. Most schools need to build more administrative depth, and this seminar is a good way of building someone's skills in advance of the time when they are needed.

In addition, Dick Kochanek and his committee have put together an excellent half-day seminar designed for new accounting administrators. This takes place just prior to the main program.

We also welcome the involvement of more administrators in our activities. Linda Marquis, our president-elect, will soon be forming committees and task forces for next year. If you are interested in getting more involved with the APLG, please email your interest to Linda at marquis@nku.edu.

See you in Austin.

—Ken Merchant President, APLG

# New Chairperson's Seminar Program

Sunday, February 3, 2002

7:15-8:00 AM CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00-8:05 AM **WELCOME** 

8:05-9:30 AM Advice to New Chairs: Strategies for Success and Mistakes to

Avoid

Helen Gernon, University of Oregon Jane Mutchler, Georgia State University Tom Schaefer, University of Notre Dame Ken Winter, University of Wisconsin–LaCrosse

9:30-9:45 AM BREAK

9:45-10:30 AM Guiding Faculty through the Annual Merit Review and

Promotion/Tenure Process: Two Perspectives Dick Kochanek, University of Connecticut Kate Mooney, St. Cloud State University

10:30-11:15 AM Technology/Distance Learning: Visions of the Future

Phil Reckers, Arizona State University

11:15 AM - NOON Effective Fund-Raising and Alumni Relationships

Steve Limberg, The University of Texas at Austin

Jamie Pratt, Indiana University

#### 2002 NEW CHAIRPERSONS' PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Dick Kochanek, University of Connecticut, Chair

Kate Mooney, St. Cloud State University

Jane Mutchler, Georgia State University

# Moving from Department Chair to Faculty

by David P. Donnelly

I was once told that the two best days in the life of a boat owner are the day the boat is bought and the day it is sold. This is a lot like administration. The best days in the life of someone serving as an accounting department chair are often the first and the last. You enter the position with hopes of building consensus among the faculty, improving the quality of your program, and building relations with external constituents. The challenges are invigorating. At the same time you work to maintain your research activities while fulfilling the responsibilities of your new position and continuing to teach a reduced load. Quickly you realize resources are too few and job demands are too great. The demands of the administrative position rapidly consume your day, your week, and even your weekend. This is not to say that there are not rewards for serving as a department chair. You feel the satisfaction of leading your department's efforts for curriculum, scholarship, and resource improvement. Through the experience you gain an insight into the budgetary/resource limitations of the university, you see the varied contributions being made by other faculty in the department, and most important, you gain an appreciation for the freedom and flexibility enjoyed by faculty. I believe this experience makes you a better faculty member when you step down from administration. However, the experience does not come without costs.

Three years ago I stepped down from department head and returned to a full-time faculty position. My administrative term had extended almost ten years. My university and college support for administrative functions is minimal. This requires administrators to devote the vast majority of their time to administrative responsibilities and the bare minimum to faculty responsibilities of teaching and research. This is a model common to the majority of universities. The model results in administrators with minimal teaching loads and little research productivity. In this type of environment, the return to a full-time faculty position can be challenging. Based on my experience I can provide a few suggestions that should make the transition from administration to faculty more successful and enjoyable.

#### Develop a Transition Plan

Becoming part of the faculty requires a dramatic change in how you use your time. Your contribution to departmental goals will again be measured by teaching, research, and service. Depending on the length of your administrative term, this reassignment of responsibilities may be more difficult than expected and your ease of transition depends on how well you plan for these new demands.

A successful transition begins with recognition of your deficiencies and a thoughtful plan on how to address them. As part of your retirement from administration negotiate a two-year period for transition. During this period:

- Keep teaching loads at a minimum, with no more than one new prep in any academic year. Today's curriculum development and new educational pedagogies are requiring additional time for preparation, grading, and student interaction. Don't underestimate the time demands of each new preparation.
- Allow plenty of time for the development of a research program. If your research activities were minimal during your administrative term, accept that it will be two to three years before you begin developing a research record commensurate with your new position. During this period your performance should be evaluated on your progress in developing a research program rather than your publication record. Use this time to get immersed in your research interest, to get current with the literature, and to redevelop contacts in the area.
- Stay off committees. Because of your experience, you will be asked to serve on a variety of university and college committees. Though worthwhile, these committees are often extremely time-consuming and will keep you from devoting sufficient time to your other responsibilities.

#### Give Up Administration

A second, but equally important, require-

ment for a successful transition is the ability to give up administration. This sounds easy but it isn't. You have served as the administrative chair for several years and have initiated programs that you consider both successful and important to achieving the goals of the department. You have an ownership in these programs that is not easy to relinquish. Your transition to faculty will never be complete until you give up your administrative mindset and allow the new chair to completely take over the administrative activities. This does not mean that you are not available for advice, information, and support. However, there is a clear difference between providing solicited advice and unsolicited influence.

There are some things you can do to limit your administrative attention. Do not retain any administrative files. Organize all files associated with ongoing issues and review them with the new chair during her/his first week on the job. Make sure you spend your time in your faculty office and not the departmental office and, if possible, select a faculty office some distance from it. Some faculty will continue to come to you for administrative issues. Make sure to remind them you are no longer the chair and that they need to take that up with the new chair. Most importantly, get immersed in your faculty responsibilities. You won't have time for administrative issues.

Dave Donnelly is a Professor of Accounting at Kansas State University.

## **BECOME AN APLG MEMBER!**

The mission of the Accounting Programs Leadership Group is to stimulate excellence in accounting education through outstanding leadership of accounting programs. APLG members include directors and chairpersons of accounting programs, as well as individuals who anticipate they may assume such positions.

If you are not a member of the Accounting Programs Leadership Group, it is easy to become one.

Annual dues are only \$50. Mail this application form along with your check or credit card information to:

American Accounting Association 5717 Bessie Drive Sarasota, FL 34233-2399

Name:		7
School:		-
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# 2001 American Accounting Association Annual Meeting Snapshots



Steve Limberg, University of Texas, Mark Chain, Deloitte & Touche Foundation, and Ken Merchant, University of Southern California, at Board of Governors' meeting



Phil Reckers, Arizona State University, discusses plans for the 2002 Annual Seminar



Dick Kochanek, University of Connecticut, and Kate Mooney, St. Cloud State University at Board of Governors' meeting



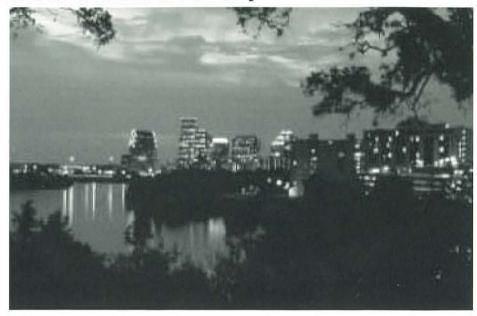


During a concurrent session Ruth Epps, Virginia Commonwealth University, Finley Graves, Kansas State University, and Dick Kochanek, University of Connecticut, discuss ways to increase enrollments in accounting programs

## Invitation to Austin in February

The 2002 APLG Midyear Seminar will be held February 3–5 in Austin, Texas. With a 68-degree average temperature and 300 days of annual sunshine, Austin is a great place to visit in February. It is 236 miles from the Mexican border and located within 200 miles of San Antonio, Houston, and Dallas. It is the fourth most visited city in Texas, with more than 16 million visitors annually. Austin is a clean-air city. Smoking is prohibited in buildings open to the public.

The meeting site in Austin will be the Omni Austin Hotel Downtown, 700 San Jacinto at 8th Street. A limited number of rooms have been reserved at \$139 per night, single or double. For reservations under the APLG room block, call the hotel at (512) 476-3700 and identify yourself as being with the 2002 Accounting Programs Leadership Group. Reservations must be secured by one night's deposit or guaranteed with a



credit card. Cancellations must be received 48 hours prior to scheduled arrival. The deadline for room reservations is January 7, 2002. Super Shuttle Austin provides transportation services to/from the Austin Bergstrom International Airport. For reservations or questions regarding this service please call (512) 258-3826.

#### SPECIAL AIR FARES

Association Travel Concepts (ATC) has been selected as the official travel agency for this meeting. Discounts have been negotiated with Delta Air Lines and United Air Lines to bring you special airfares. Some restrictions may apply. ATC will also search for the lowest available fare on ANY airline serving the meeting location. ATC is available for reservations from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM, EST, Monday through Friday. ATC may be reached at: (800) 278-1140.

You may also call your own travel agency or the airlines directly and refer to the following ID numbers:

Delta: (800) 241-6760; ID #DMN182284A

United: (800) 521-4041; ID #556EG

# CALL FOR PAPERS ADVANCES IN ACCOUNTING

Volume 19

ADVANCES IN ACCOUNTING is a research journal providing academics and practitioners with a forum in which to address current and emerging issues in accounting. Manuscripts may embrace any research methodology and examine any accounting-related subject. All manuscripts are blind reviewed by two members of the editorial board. The results of initial reviews normally will be reported to the authors within 10–12 weeks from the date of manuscript submission.

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Philip M. Reckers, Editor School of Accountancy & Information Management College of Business Arizona State University Tempe, AZ 85287-3606

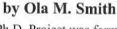
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The editor and associate editors are pleased to discuss with authors any questions regarding the editorial policy or procedures of the journal.

# The Ph.D. Project—Promoting Diversity in the Classroom





The Ph.D. Project was formed in 1994 by a group of academic and corporate representatives who came together to develop a strategy to address the dearth of minority representatives in the business world. Since research had linked increased minority enrollment with the presence of minority faculty, the group's immediate mission was to attract more minorities to careers as business professors, and as a result substantially increase minority student representation in the nation's business schools. Specifically, the Ph.D. Project's mission is to recruit and support African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, and Native-Americans in business doctoral programs. Through the efforts of the Ph.D. Project, the number of minority business school faculty has nearly doubled (from 294 to 543) in fewer than nine years. In addition, there are over 400 Ph.D. Project students presently enrolled in doctoral programs. Remarkably, the Ph.D. Project has become the largest source of American-born business doctoral students.

This outstanding achievement is a product of a broad coalition of support that includes the KPMG Foundation as the primary sponsor, along with universities, major corporations, and other academic organizations as co-sponsors. The Ph.D. Project specifically targets high-achieving minorities that have been successful in business careers. According to Bernard J. (Bernie) Milano, the executive director of the KPMG Foundation, this success is based on a multi-faceted approach:

- Marketing The founders of the Project realized that they faced a major marketing problem. Most minorities are not aware of the
  opportunities to obtain a Ph.D. To address this issue, an intense marketing campaign is undertaken each year. The campaign involves direct mailings, extensive advertisements in key publications, and maintaining a web site. In addition, the Ph.D. Project
  receives coverage in many newspapers, television, and radio programs.
- Preparation Each year in November, a conference is held where promising candidates are given information about Ph.D. programs. They are informed of the process of getting a Ph.D. and the associated benefits and risks. Representatives of leading corporations and Ph.D.-granting institutions also attend to encourage candidates to get the degree, and to provide information on individual doctoral programs.
- Doctoral Student Associations (DSAs) To sustain a high level of commitment and a sense of connection among the minority
  doctoral students, the Ph.D. Project supports five nationwide networking organizations for minorities pursuing doctoral degrees in
  accounting, finance, information systems, management, and marketing. Many students identify the DSA network as a critical factor
  in obtaining their Ph.D.

According to Mr. Milano, the greatest indicator of the success of the Ph.D. Project has been its extremely high retention rate: 95 percent of all Ph.D. Project students complete their programs. However, the success of this effort extends beyond the achievements of the doctoral students. Diversity in academia benefits everyone. Minority professors have made substantial and notable contributions to research and service. In the classroom, these professors serve as role models for all students. Minority students are encouraged and feel more personally connected to an institution when they see a professor with whom they share a common background. Students who are not minorities receive a more enriched educational experience where diversity is valued and they discover that they can learn from anyone. Thus, all students are more prepared for the global diverse environment of today's business world.

When asked about the future of the Ph.D. Project, Mr. Milano said, "We're going to keep going! The Doctoral Student Associations get bigger every year. This is our ninth conference, and it will be the biggest class ever. We have over 1,100 applicants to the November conference, of which we will invite 550 to attend." He went on to add that the budget for the conference has grown from \$400,000 to \$1,700,000. The KPMG Foundation provides \$800,000 toward the conference along with doctoral scholarships for 86 students at \$10,000 per year. This commitment is good news, given that fewer than five percent of business school professors are minorities.

An excellent way for a school to get involved with the Ph.D. Project is to become a sponsor. Ph.D. Project students and others recognize sponsors as being supportive of the Ph.D. Project mission. Sponsors receive directories of all five doctoral student associations. The directories enable a sponsoring school to contact potential job candidates. Furthermore, at a sponsor's request, the Ph.D. Project will forward notices of available positions to its members. Sponsors that are also doctoral-granting institutions may send a representative to the November conference. The fee to become a sponsor is \$1,500.

Personally, the Ph.D. Project has had a dramatic impact on my career. My original career choice was to become a teacher. However, because of my academic achievements, my high school counselor directed me to become an accountant or an engineer. While I thoroughly enjoyed a rewarding career that included receiving an accounting degree, an M.B.A., and becoming a CPA, I never lost my desire for knowledge and teaching. I'm thankful to the Ph.D. Project for enabling me to achieve my early ambition, and simultaneously use skills acquired in my accounting and business careers.

Ola Smith is an Assistant Professor of Accountancy at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

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The following new administrators have been reported to the Editor since the Spring/Summer issue:

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Georgia Southern University University of Kentucky

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> Gregory A. Carnes Department of Accountancy College of Business Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL 60115-2854

Name of New Administrator:			
Title:			
School:			
Address:			
Email Address:		1	

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