

Accounting Programs Leadership Group



A Group of the American Accounting Association

Volume 31, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2007

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Spring/Summer Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for material to be included in the Spring/Summer 2008 issue is April 25, 2008. Please send all information to me at the address below for delivery no later than that date to ensure the timeliness of the issue.

Dr. Lydia Rosencrants
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Accounting Programs Leadership Group
A Group of the American Accounting Association
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Sarasota, FL 34233-2399

President's Message



*Gregory A. Carnes,
University of North Alabama*

We are certainly leading in interesting times. Accounting education is in the midst of intense scrutiny from many fronts. Some of this analysis is driven by accreditation agencies that are calling for processes that provide assurance on the learning goals selected by each program. Policymakers and university boards are demanding more accountability for the resources they provide. The profession, driven by concerns about its ability to protect the public trust, is seeking greater influence in the accounting education process. It is encouraging that those of us on the front lines, accounting program leaders and our faculty members, are increasingly willing to move beyond the environment in which we were trained to leverage the power of technology and innovation to create dynamic learning environments for tomorrow's leaders. This attention on accounting education can at times cause educators to be annoyed and feel frustrated that so many other entities feel confident to tell us how to educate our students. However, it is encouraging to recognize that this attention does validate the importance of our work. The education, training, and development of both current and future accounting professionals have significant relevance and importance to our society. This presents a challenge to accounting program leaders that makes our jobs not only interesting, but also meaningful.

We also have unprecedented challenges before us. What are the best ways to provide assurance on our learning processes? How do we respond if our processes indicate we are not adding significant learning value, and where do we go to get advice on better learning avenues? As faculty members continue to retire at a record pace, where do we find qualified individuals to replace them? When will the escalation in faculty salaries slow down, and how do we find the resources needed to hire the best faculty? How do we find the time to fundraise and form quality relationships with the business community while maintaining teaching, research, and other responsibilities? How do we insure that we maintain appropriate

The Best of Times

accreditation for our programs? No doubt, you could add other important challenges to this list.

While there is significant scrutiny of our programs and increasing challenges, I do believe that these are the best of times for accounting academia, because these challenges also provide new opportunities. This conflux of events provides an opportunity for us to transform accounting education in a way that would not be possible if there was not so much interest in the manner in which we educate our students. No doubt, it will take significant work and discernment to seize the best opportunities and to generate the resources needed to fund this transformation, but we are poised to do so.

The Accounting Program Leadership Group (APLG) can and should play a vital role in this transformation. The APLG Board met in October to discuss whether the mission and goals of the APLG needed revision to better focus our organization on the leadership that we should provide. To date, APLG has focused primarily on supporting program leaders to be better equipped for their individual roles. However, should APLG members also collectively be a leader in the accounting profession? Over the last few years the APLG's role has begun to evolve in this direction, but we have not formerly recognized or defined this role. Over the next few months the Board will be sending you revisions of our mission and goals for your review and input. This new initiative will also result in many more opportunities for member to be involved in strategic initiatives of the APLG. I encourage you to be involved in this process.

I also encourage all of you to attend our Annual Seminar in Charleston, South Carolina, February 10–12, 2008. Program co-chairs Jim Young and Martha Doran have assembled a fantastic group of speakers, panelists, and topics. The theme, Strategies for a Complex World, addresses many of the issues mentioned above. Charleston is a wonderful, and affordable, city to visit. Many conference details are included in this newsletter so please review those and then book your trip today!

We are working in interesting and challenging times, filled with much opportunity to influence the lives of individual students while at the same time making a significant contribution to the profession and society at large. These definitely are the best of times.

Accounting Programs Leadership Group
Minutes of Board of Governors' Meeting

August 5, 2007

Fran Ayres, president of the APLG, called the Board of Governors' meeting to order at 10:20 a.m., Sunday, August 5, 2007 at the Hilton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois. The following Board members (incoming and outgoing) attended the meeting: Frances Ayres, Greg Carnes, Mark Chain, Bud Fennema, Ellen Glazerman, Lee Knight, Bette Kozlowski, Gerry Lobo, Howell Lynch, Dan Murphy, Phil Reckers, Lydia Rosencrants, Kevin Stocks, Paula Thomas, Marty Wartick, and Doug Ziegenfuss. Also attending the meeting was Jim Young, program co-chair for the 2008 annual seminar.

Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the February 11, 2007 meeting in San Diego after correcting the spelling of two names, Kozlowski and Bremser.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Doug Ziegenfuss distributed a report showing actual cash flows for FY 2007, with comparative data for FYs 2005 and 2006, as well as budgeted cash flows for FYs 2007 and 2008. Key changes/differences and trends in cash flows discussed:

- FY 2007 cash inflows (outflows) exceeded FY 2006 cash inflows (outflows) by \$1,861 (\$12,421), resulting in a decrease in net cash flows of \$10,560 during FY 2007.
- FY 2007 cash inflows (outflows) were \$1,697 (\$18,309) less than budgeted FY 2007 cash inflows (outflows), resulting in an overall favorable budget variance of \$16,612.
- FY 2008 budgeted cash flows were set equal to FY 2007 budgeted cash flows.

Doug also distributed the AAA's monthly cash flow report and a report showing the net cash flows generated by the annual seminar. Net cash outflows for the 2007 seminar exceeded net cash outflows for the 2006 annual seminar by \$13,905, primarily because of the seminar location: San Diego in 2007 versus San Antonio in 2006.

NASBA Update

Fran Ayres, Greg Carnes, and Phil Reckers

reported on NASBA's latest proposed revisions to Rules 5-1 and 5-2 of the Uniform Accountancy Act. These revisions respond to the academic community's concern about requiring a separate ethics course by allowing exam candidates to use either a separate ethics course or the content of several courses to satisfy the ethics requirement. Several Board members, however, questioned the intent of the following passage found in the revision:

Universities must provide evidence of coverage under integration. Proof of coverage may be provided through evaluation by a national accrediting agency or other alternatives approved by the Board.

The general sentiment of the Board was that this requirement conflicts with the AACSB's focus on program outcomes rather than inputs.

APLG Service Award

Fran Ayres presented a draft document explaining the purpose and selection procedure for the APLG Service Award approved by the Board at its 02/11/07 meeting. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Greg Carnes and seconded by Bette Kozlowski to accept the document, with one additional sentence: *Sitting Board members are not eligible for the award.*

Ph.D. Shortage Update

Greg Carnes, Phil Reckers, and Kevin Stocks presented the results of a survey conducted by an AAA committee established to study the Ph.D. shortage. This committee, which includes representatives from the FSA, the APLG, the profession, and others, will analyze the survey data to understand the cause and magnitude of the shortage before developing solutions.

APLG Survey

Doug Ziegenfuss presented a draft instrument for surveying APLG members and other program leaders. The intent of the survey is to increase the awareness of the APLG and determine how the APLG can better serve accounting program leaders.

Future Annual Seminar Sites

Greg Carnes and Kevin Stocks reported that the sites for the February 8–10, 2009 annual seminar and the February 7–9, 2010 annual seminar have not been established. Several Board members stated a preference for centrally located southern cities because of travel and weather problems. Others, however, noted the attractiveness of such places as San Diego and Scottsdale in February. Regardless of the location, the Board agreed that it was better to hold the seminar at a hotel within walking distance of restaurants and other local attractions. Greg agreed to work with Dee Strahan, AAA meetings coordinator, to determine meeting options in downtown Nashville, Ft. Worth, and Salt Lake City for the 2009 annual seminar.

Other Items

Jim Young, representing the APLG as co-chair of the 2008 joint annual seminar with the FSA, distributed a preliminary program draft and asked for Board members to provide him input on topics of interest.

Incoming president Greg Carnes thanked Fran Ayres for serving as the 2006–07 president of the APLG and presented her a plaque in recognition of her outstanding service. In looking ahead to 2007–08, Greg wants the Board to consider additional ways for the APLG to be involved in handling the pressing issues facing accounting educators today and add value to accounting program leaders. Greg also plans to arrange a fall meeting, perhaps at the Chicago airport, for the Board to consider long-run issues.

Adjournment

Fran Ayres adjourned the APLG Board of Governors meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Addendum—APLG and FSA Joint Luncheon

Immediately following the APLG Board meeting, the FSA and APLG Boards had lunch and reaffirmed their commitment to co-hosting the joint midyear seminar.

NASBA Update

Jerry E. Trapnell

Executive Vice President and Chief Accreditation Officer / AACSB International

In late July, draft language for Rules 5-1 and 5-2 for NASBA's Uniform Accountancy Act regarding educational preparation for CPA candidates was finalized. The revised draft emerged following an April 30, 2007 summit with accounting educators and professionals including representatives from AAA, APLG, FSA, AICPA, AACSB, ACBSP, state boards of accountancy, and the Big 4 CPA firms.

In late August, the NASBA Education Committee approved final draft language for UAA Rules 5-1 and 5-2, which will now go to the NASBA Uniform Accountancy Act Committee in September for input and then to the NASBA Board of Directors in October. If approved by these groups, the document will be presented to State Boards of Accountancy representatives for comment and input before the rules are finalized and officially issued.

The final draft approved by the NASBA Education Committee is generally consistent with the language shared with the accounting education community in late July. The Rule 5-1 section on accreditation has been modified only slightly, but retains the original concepts. The new language does recognize ACBSP as a business accreditation organization granting "level 2" status. In the curricula area, Rule 5-2 no longer differentiates between upper and lower division

courses, and specifies accounting principles or introductory accounting courses are not to be included in the 24 accounting semester-hour minimum requirements.

The accounting subject matter descriptions are revised and drawn from the Content Specifications Outline (CSO) as detailed in the BOE Practice Analysis. The content descriptions no longer imply specific accounting courses. A new area is added in "research and analysis in accounting." The accounting content areas are:

- Financial accounting and reporting for business organizations
- Financial accounting and reporting for government and not-for-profit entities
- Auditing and attestation services
- Managerial or cost accounting
- Taxation
- Fraud examination
- Internal controls and risk assessment
- Financial statement analysis
- Accounting research and analysis
- Tax research and analysis
- Accounting information systems
- Other areas included in the CSO or as may be approved by the NASBA Board

The business component is addressed in the same manner as the accounting requirements specifying 24 semester hours

covering a list of traditional business content areas. Rule 5-2 does specify a new area, "Communications in business or accounting," to be included as a discrete course or integrated into other courses. The content should be equivalent to 2 semester hours. The business content areas are:

- Business law
- Economics
- Management
- Marketing
- Finance
- Business communications
- Statistics
- Quantitative methods
- Technical writing
- Information systems or technology
- Other areas approved by the NASBA board

In the ethics area, coverage may be in a separate course or through integration across curricula with a minimum expectation that coverage will be equivalent to a 3-semester hour course. For schools that integrate ethics coverage, boards may seek validation that ethics is addressed. Also, the final draft allows for 6 semester hours for "internships and independent study" of which 3-semester-hours may apply to the accounting component.

AACSB International Accounting Accreditation

Maintenance Seminar

February 9, 2008 - Charleston, South Carolina

Perfect for deans, accounting administrators, department chairs, faculty members, and key stakeholders of AACSB-accredited accounting programs, the seminar focuses on:

- * *The AACSB maintenance of accounting accreditation process, documentation, and important standards; and*
- * *The importance of continuous quality improvement.*

A Peer Review Team training session will also be offered.

The seminar will be held just prior to the 2008 APLG/ FSA Annual Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.

To join us, visit: <http://www.aacsb.edu/conferences/events/seminars.asp>.

AACSB International accounting accreditation representing earned excellence, the best accounting programs in the world.



ACBSP ADDS ACCOUNTING ACCREDITATION

Steve Parscale - Director of Accreditation / ACBSP

The Association for Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) was founded in 1988 to fulfill a need for specialized accreditation by institutions of higher education with business schools and programs. Specifically, that need was for business education accreditation based on the mission of the institution and of the respective unit, an accreditation that acknowledged and emphasized quality in teaching and learning outcomes. Recently, the ACBSP has decided to add a specialized accounting accreditation.

Institutions can apply for initial accounting accreditation in three different circumstances—simultaneous with application for initial business accreditation, at the time of reaffirmation of accreditation review for business accreditation, or during one of the two accreditation review cycles offered annually. Each of these circumstances calls for a different approach to the review activity.

Institutions must have or get their business programs accredited by ACBSP to be eligible for accounting accreditation. The accounting accreditation is an optional addition to business accreditation.

An institution may choose to be reviewed for initial business accreditation and initial accounting accreditation at the same time. The institution will prepare self-study documents for each of the two review processes. A single review team will be appointed with members of the team designated as to whether their primary review responsibility is for business or accounting. The reviewers will conduct the two reviews simultaneously with a single visit to the institution. Two separate visit reports will be prepared by the review team, and two separate decisions will be rendered. The institution may receive accreditation both for business and for accounting, or it may receive accreditation in business but not in accounting. However, an institution may not receive accounting accreditation without receiving business accreditation, since having business accreditation is a necessary condition to accounting accreditation.

An institution that is already accredited in business may choose to be reviewed for initial accounting accreditation at the time of its reaccreditation review. The institution will prepare the normal reaccreditation documents for business and will prepare an initial self-study for accounting. A single team of

reviewers will conduct both reviews, and a single visit will take place. Two separate visit reports will be prepared by the review team, and two separate decisions will be rendered. The institution may receive reaccreditation for business and initial accreditation for accounting, or it may receive reaccreditation in business but not be accreditation in accounting. However, an institution may not receive accounting accreditation without receiving business accreditation, since having business accreditation is a necessary condition to accounting accreditation.

An institution with business accreditation may choose to be reviewed for initial accounting accreditation at a time that does not coincide with its scheduled reaccreditation review. In this case, the initial accounting review will be conducted separately. However, at the time of the next scheduled reaccreditation review for business, both business and accounting reaccreditation reviews will be conducted. From that point on, both accreditation review cycles will coincide.

For further information on the ACBSP and its accreditation programs, please visit <http://www.acbsp.org>.

CHAIR/DIRECTOR POSITIONS

The following positions were listed on the American Accounting Association web page as of November 15, 2007. For more information, consult the American Accounting Association website at: <http://www.aaahq.org>.

Nicholls State University invites nominations and applications for the Arlen B. Cenac Endowed Chair in Accounting in the College of Business Administration at Nicholls State University.

University of Northern Iowa seeks nominations and applications for the combined position of Head, Department of Accounting, and Halverson Professorship, beginning Fall 2008.

University of Wyoming Department of Accounting is pleased to announce the establishment of the Clara Toppan–Wyoming Excellence Chair.

Northern Kentucky University invites applications for the position of Chair of the Department of Accountancy, beginning July 2008.

University of Delaware is seeking applications for Chairperson of the Department of Accounting and Management Information Systems, effective September 1, 2008.

University of Missouri—Kansas City invites applications and nominations for the position of Chair, Department of Accountancy and Helen Kemper/Missouri Professorship in Accounting.

University of Missouri School of Accountancy seeks to fill the position of Director of the School, beginning Fall 2008.

The University of Tennessee at Martin search extended for Chair of Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance, and International Business with appointment at the rank of Associate or Full Professor to begin July 1, 2008.

Arizona State University School of Accounting (SOA) offers an opportunity for an academic accounting professional to lead a gifted faculty as Director in an innovative environment at a school with great potential.

Towson University invites applications for a Chair, Department of Accounting.

University of Arkansas Department of Accounting in the Sam M. Walton College of Business invites applications for the Ralph L. McQueen Endowed Chair in Accounting, beginning August 2008.

Western Kentucky University invites applications for Chair of the Department of Accounting, beginning August 2008.

Louisiana State University Department of Accounting, E.J. Ourso College of Business invites application for Chair.

Samford University School of Business invites applications for Chairperson, Department of Accounting and MIS to begin Fall 2008.

Oklahoma State University William S. Spears School of Business invites qualified candidates for the William S. Spears Chair in Entrepreneurship.

**New Chairperson's Program
Sunday, February 10, 2008**

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM – 8:15 AM Welcome
Ananth Seetharaman (Saint Louis University)

8:15 AM – 9:00 AM
**Practical Tips for Working
with Advisory Boards and the
Professional Community**

Dan Hollingsworth,
Carson-Newman University
Ross Jennings, University of Texas
Ronald Kucic, University of Denver
David Donnelly, University of Missouri
Kansas City (Moderator)

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM
**Successfully Transitioning into
the Department Chair's Role:
Avoiding the Hidden Landmines**

Charles Davis, Baylor University
Frank Messina, University of Alabama
at Birmingham
Mark Nixon, Bentley College
Marc Rubin, Miami University (Moderator)

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM Break

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM
**Interacting with the Dean
and Other Administrators**

Jim Benjamin, Texas A&M University
Bud Fennema, Florida State University
Finley Graves, University of North Texas
Tommy Phillips, Louisiana Tech University
Mary Stone, University of Alabama
(Moderator)

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM
**Managing Change: Balancing
the Tactical Work with the Strategic
Responsibilities of Your Position**

Jane Mutchler, Georgia State University
Dan Deines, Kansas State University
Morris Stocks, University of Mississippi
Tom Howard, University of Missouri
(Moderator)

**2008 APLG/FSA Program
Strategies for a Complex World
Sunday, February 10, 2008**

11:45 AM to 1:00 PM
Welcome Lunch

Bruce Behn, FSA President
(The University of Tennessee)
Greg Carnes, APLG President
(University of North Alabama)

1:15 PM to 2:30 PM
**The Future of the Academy
Societal Changes, Accreditation,
and Accountability**

Jon Wergin (College of Leadership
and Change; Antioch University)

2:30 PM to 3:30 PM
A Conversation with Barry Salzberg
(CEO, Deloitte & Touche USA LLP)

3:30 PM to 4:00 PM Break

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM
**International Accounting Education
Standards: What's On the Horizon**

Denny Reigle (AICPA)

5:30 PM to 7:30 PM Reception

Monday, February 11, 2008

7:00 AM to 8:30 AM
Continental Breakfast

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM
**Accounting Education
A Dean's Perspective**
Mark Higgins (University of Rhode Island)
Gail Naughton (San Diego State University)
Eileen Peacock (University of
Massachusetts Dartmouth)
Lynne Richardson
(Mississippi State University)
Moderated by: Greg Carnes
(University of North Alabama)

9:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Fundraising Strategies
David Ross, President and CEO,
Ross, Johnston & Kersting, Inc.
(Chapel Hill, North Carolina)

10:30 AM to 11:00 AM Break

11:00 AM to Noon
**The Current State of
Accounting Academics**
David Leslie (TIAA-CREF Institute Fellow;
The College of William & Mary)

Noon to 1:15 PM Lunch
Speaker: Gary Previts, AAA President
(Case Western Reserve University)

1:30 PM to 2:30 PM
**New Frontiers That
Change Everything**
Dr. Lowell Catlett (Dean of College of
Agriculture and Regent's Professor;
New Mexico State University)

2:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Responses to the Ph.D. Shortage
Kevin Stocks (Brigham Young University)
Others to be Announced

3:30 PM to 4:00 PM Break

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM
**New Perspectives on Boomers
and Millennials**
Jean Wyer and Reggie Butler
(PricewaterhouseCoopers)

5:30 PM to 7:00 PM Reception

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

7:00 AM to 8:30 AM
Continental Breakfast

8:30 AM to 9:45 AM
Concurrent Sessions

**Session 1: Current AACSB Accreditation
Update and AACSB's "The Impact of
Research" White Paper**
Jerry Trapnell (Executive Vice-President and
Chief Accreditation Officer)

**Session 2: Current ACBSP
Accreditation Issues**
Doug Viehland (Executive Director)

**Session 3: "Practice What You Teach":
Accounting Program,
Firm and Faculty Benefits from a
Scholar-in-Residence Program**
Frank Messina and Steve Grice (The
University of Alabama at Birmingham)

9:45 AM to 10:15 AM Break

10:15 AM to 11:30 AM
**Accounting Curricula for a
Complex World**
Tom Linsmeier (FASB)
Phil Reckers (Arizona State University)
Mary Stone (The University of Alabama)
Moderated by: Bruce Behn
(The University of Tennessee)

11:30 AM Meeting Ends

Accounting Programs Leadership Group

2007–2008 Officers and Board Members

Officers

President
President-Elect
Vice-President, Academic Standards
Vice-President, Communications
Secretary
Treasurer

Gregory A. Carnes
Kevin Stocks
Phil Reckers
Lydia Rosencrants
Lee Knight
Dan Murphy

University of North Alabama
Brigham Young University
Arizona State University
LaGrange College
Wake Forest University
The University of Tennessee

At-Large Board Members

Academic Board Member
Academic Board Member
Academic Board Member
Academic Board Member
Professional Board Member
Professional Board Member

Martha L. Wartick
Howell Lynch
Bud Fennema
Gerald Lobo
Ellen Glazerman
Bette Kozlowski

University of Northern Iowa
Lamar University
Florida State University
University of Houston
Ernst & Young
KPMG

Regional Coordinators

Mid-Atlantic
Midwest
Northeast
Ohio
Southeast
Southwest
Western

Wayne Bremser
Robert Gruber
Victoria Shoaf
Alan Lord
Ralph Welton
Tom Madison
Michael Davis

Villanova University
University of Wisconsin–Whitewater
Saint John's University
Bowling Green State University
Clemson University
St. Mary's University
University of Alaska Fairbanks

2007–2008 Nominating Committee Members

Marc Rubin
Mary Beth Morhman
Marcus Odom

Miami University
University of Missouri–St. Louis
Southern Illinois University

Valuation

This fall, the FASB formed a resource group (of around 20) financial reporting experts and valuation professionals to identify and discuss a number of implementation issues relating to the new fair value measurement standard. The FASB invited academics to observe this group, participate in its discussions and gain access to some of this rich material that could be transferred into classrooms for our students. In addition, the FASB offered to act as liaison between academics and valuation professionals, auditors and preparers seeking to develop educational materials relating to fair value measurement.

As a result of discussions with Tom Linsmeier (FASB), Gary Previts (AAA), and Phillip Reckers (AAA), FSA agreed to co-sponsor the following joint subcommittee relating to fair value measurement: "The Joint FSA/AAA Subcommittee to Develop Financial Valuation Teaching Materials." Mary Stone (Alabama) has graciously agreed to spearhead the committee which consists of Ross Jennings (Texas-Austin), Bob Swieringa (Cornell, on-leave at Harvard), Mary Lea McAnally (Texas A&M), Inder Khurana (Missouri), Kay Stice (Brigham Young), and Rebecca Shortridge (Northern Illinois).

Charge to The Joint FSA/AAA Subcommittee to Develop Financial Valuation Teaching Materials: Membership fulfillment services are a strategic priority of our associations (FSA/AAA) whether related to members' teaching, research, service or personal/faculty development.

In matters of teaching and curriculum, one way our associations add value is by facilitating the collective development and sharing of course materials prepared by knowledgeable faculty and practitioners. The creation of the Joint FSA/AAA Subcommittee to Develop Financial Valuation Teaching Materials is consistent with past undertakings in the areas of ethics and information systems. Within the American

Accounting Association, the committee will operate as part of the Education Committee, chaired by the Vice President of Education who will be responsible for this activity. The subcommittee may seek the assistance of valuation experts from professional firms and agencies, such as the FASB, SEC and PCAOB.

NEW ADMINISTRATORS OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAMS

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

College/University	Department Chairperson/School Director
University of South Florida	Stephanie Bryant
Loyola University New Orleans	Lee Yao
University of Northern Colorado	Allen McConnell
Lehigh University	Parveen Gupta
University of Southern Mississippi	Steve Jackson
University of Wisconsin–La Crosse	Barbara Eide
Woodbury University	John Karayan

Please report changes in administrators (Chairperson or Director) and send any news items, essays, or other contributions that you believe might be of interest to APLG members to:

Lydia Rosencrants • Chair, Department of Accountancy
LaGrange College • 601 Broad Street • LaGrange, GA 30240
lrosencrants@lagrange.edu

Name of New Administrator: _____

Title: _____ School: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

AACSB International Accreditation: Cooperation and Collaboration with the Accounting Community

Jerry E. Trapnell

Executive Vice President and Chief Accreditation Officer / AACSB International

In the spirit of collaboration and consultation, AACSB International is implementing a process to solicit feedback from the accounting education community on issues related to potential changes in accounting accreditation standards and related accreditation processes. Two key AACSB committees carry out this function, the Accreditation Coordinating Committee (ACC) and the Accreditation Quality Committee (AQC). They normally meet in September and January of each fiscal year with the September meeting initiating potential changes, with final approval occurring at the January meeting. In order to be responsive to the accounting education community, AACSB is initiating the process outlined below for 2007-08 and beyond to facilitate feedback into the work of ACC and AQC.

- Following the September meetings of ACC and AQC, all items that have a potential impact on AACSB accounting accreditation, standards, and/or processes will be forwarded to the Executive Director of AAA, the President of FSA, the President of APLG, Chair of the AICPA Pre-certification Education Executive Committee, and the AICPA Director of Academic Relations and Career Development Team for comment and feedback. The feedback will have a December 1 deadline in order to prepare agenda materials for the ACC and AQC January meetings. These individuals will be responsible for sharing the information with their appropriate constituencies for feedback to AACSB.

- If invited, AACSB representatives will provide an update of the approved changes at the APLG/FSA annual meeting or other events. Also, administrators of AACSB accredited accounting

programs will be part of the electronic notice that is sent to all key AACSB constituencies on the changes.

It is our goal at AACSB to ensure that opportunities for feedback and comment are available and used. Additional channels for feedback are also being considered. We welcome constructive feedback at any time and it can be provided to the Accounting Accreditation Committee at: AAC@aacsb.edu, or to any accreditation staff members as follows:

Jerry Trapnell: Jerryt@aacsb.edu
Lucienne Mochel: Lucienne@aacsb.edu
Violetta Urba: Violetta@aacsb.edu

Another important opportunity available to the accounting community is to nominate individuals for AACSB committees and board of directors. Calls for nominations are issued in late August to the AACSB constituency. The AACSB Nominating Committee normally completes its work in late October or early November. The nomination slate must be approved by the AACSB Board at its January meeting and a vote is conducted in late January/February. Questions about who is eligible to serve in various roles can be directed to Jerry Trapnell at: jerryt@aacsb.edu.

We look forward to an enhanced dialogue on common issues and opportunities focused on supporting high-quality accounting education.

Invitation to Charleston in February

The 2008 APLG Midyear Seminar will be a joint meeting with the Federation of Schools of Accountancy. The FSA-APLG Joint Annual Meeting will be February 10-12, 2008 at the Doubletree Guest Suites, providing an ideal environment to network with colleagues from around the country and to explore issues related to the program theme: Strategies for a Complex World.

As always, the national meeting can promise a stimulating agenda enriching your understanding of emerging issues, sharing successes of other schools and providing take-aways for curriculum infusion. Don't miss this opportunity to brainstorm with fellow leaders of the profession who confront common challenges and opportunities.

You can make your travel arrangements for the Doubletree Guest Suites by phone at (843) 577-2644. The rate is only \$105 per night plus tax! The Doubletree Guest Suites hotel is located in the Charleston Historic District, next to Charleston's City Market. The hotel is steps from restaurants, King Street boutiques, antebellum mansions, "Rainbow Row," Waterfront Park, Charleston's High Battery, historic



homes and gardens, theatres, carriage rides and more. Charleston International Airport is only 20 minutes away. Visit <http://www.thefsa.org> or <http://aaahq.org/aplg/seminars/2008/announce.htm> for more information and updates on meeting registration.

You may want to come early to attend the AACSB Accounting Accreditation Maintenance Seminar on February 9, 2008. For more information, visit <http://www.aacsb.edu/conferences/events/seminars.asp>.

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: _____

School: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____
(MasterCard or VISA only)

Billing Address: _____

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