



**American
Accounting
Association**

**American Taxation
Association**

Letter from the President



Greetings!

The ATA continues to be successful largely because of its volunteers. Many thanks to all of you who have given to this organization in the past and who have agreed to serve again this year.

FALL 2017

The annual meeting marks the start of a new year and an opportunity to present our research and connect with long-time friends. I want to thank Amy Hageman and her committee for developing a great set of ATA sessions at the 2018 Annual Meeting in San Diego. The annual meeting also gave us the opportunity to celebrate our members' achievements in research, teaching and service. The following ATA members were recognized at the ATA lunch at the Annual Meeting:

- ATA/PWC Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation – Christina Lewellen
- ATA Teaching Innovation Award – Kerry Inger, Mollie Adams and Michele Meckfessel
- JATA Conference Discussant Award – Jaron Wilde
- JATA Best Paper Award 2016 – Brian Bratten and David S. Hulse
- JLTR Outstanding Manuscript Award – Roby Sawyers and David Baumer
- ATA Outstanding Manuscript Award – John Graham, Michelle Hanlon, and Terry Shevlin
- Marty Escoffier Hospitality Award – Raquel Alexander
- ATA Outstanding Service Award – Anthony Curatola
- Ray M. Sommerfeld Outstanding Educator – John Robinson

Congratulations to all recipients!

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Planning is in progress for the 2018 Midyear meeting, Doctoral Consortium, and Teaching and Curriculum Conferences in New Orleans on February 15-17 at the Astor Crowne Plaza. Where Canal Street meets Bourbon Street, the hotel will provide luxury accommodation in the beating heart of the legendary French Quarter. Lynn Jones and her committee are finalizing what promises to be another great program. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Plenary I, “Tax Scholarship in Europe: Multidisciplinary, Interdisciplinary and Critical Perspectives”
 - “Tax Academia in Ireland and the UK,” Dr. Emer Mulligan (National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland)
 - “Alternative Approaches to Tax Research,” Prof. Lynne Oats (University of Exeter, UK)
 - “Taxation Through the Eyes of an Anthropologist,” Dr. Lotta Björklund Larsen (Linköping University, Sweden)
 - “The Impact of Power and Trust on Taxpayer Behavior,” Prof. Erich Kirchler (University of Vienna, Austria)
- Plenary II, “Tax Experts and Tax Reform,” Dr. Joel Slemrod
- Luncheon guest speaker, Patrick Juneau, Vice President, BP
- “Pathways to a Sustainable Future,” Dr. Anne Christensen (AAA President-Elect)
- Panel, “Attracting Students to Tax,” led by Dr. Tracy Noga
- Back by demand
 - PechaKucha
 - Lunch Table Topics
 - Tax Technical Sessions

Please consider providing a submission to the Teaching and Curriculum Conference, JATA Conference, JLTR Conference, other research session, or PechaKucha session. Each provides a valuable opportunity for both presenters and participants. I also encourage you to nominate an ATA member for one of our awards and/or to serve the ATA as an officer.

I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans!



Benjamin C. Ayers
President, ATA 2017-2018
University of Georgia

Mid-Year Meeting Submissions

Deadline: November 1, 2017

The 30th annual American Taxation Association Midyear Meeting will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on February 15 – 17, 2018. We invite submissions to the following sessions:

JATA Conference
JLTR Conference
Research Submissions
PechaKucha Session

More details about each session along with specific submission requirements are available online, [click here](#).

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at the Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel for \$189/ night. Please make your reservation by January 22, 2018 to take advantage of this special room rate.

2018 JATA Conference

Deadline: November 1, 2017

The 24rd *Journal of the American Taxation Association (JATA)* Conference will be held in conjunction with the ATA Midyear Meeting in February, 2018. Original papers addressing interesting and relevant tax issues will be considered for the conference. Papers submitted to the conference will **not** automatically be considered for publication in JATA. You are free to submit the paper to any journal. A paper under review (or being revised for resubmission) at another journal as of the conference submission deadline should not be submitted. Papers submitted to *JATA* will be given some preference in the conference selection process. Authors will be notified of the Conference selection decision by **December 18, 2017**.

All research methods (including, but not limited to, archival, analytical, behavioral, experimental, and field studies) will be considered. Contingent on suitable revisions in accordance with JATA's normal review procedures, papers submitted to *JATA* and accepted for the conference will be published in a regular issue of the journal, along with discussants' comments. Conference papers will be made available to Conference participants in advance of the Midyear Meeting through the ATA web site. Papers submitted to *JATA* but not accepted for the Conference will be treated as regular submissions to *JATA*.

Manuscripts must be submitted through the Manuscript Submission and Peer Review System for JATA, located at <http://jata.allentrack.net>. The site contains detailed instructions regarding the preparation of files for submission. To ensure anonymous review, please note that the article title page (with author names) must be in a separate file from the manuscript text. All manuscripts must comply with the JATA Editorial Policies and Style Guidelines. By checking the appropriate boxes on the submission website, please indicate the type of submission: whether the manuscript is being submitted for the Conference or whether the paper is being submitted for both the Conference and for publication in JATA. To be considered, papers must be received no later than **November 1, 2017**.

Note that submission to the JATA Conference is separate from submission to the concurrent research sessions at the ATA Midyear Meeting. If you would like your paper considered for both sessions, please make sure to submit to both.

2018 JLTR Conference

The annual Journal of Legal Tax Research Conference will be held in conjunction with the 2018 American Taxation Association (ATA) Midyear Meeting in New Orleans on February 16 and 17. Original papers addressing interesting and relevant legal tax research Issues along with associated applied tax policy will be considered for the conference. A paper under review (or being revised for resubmission) at another journal as of the conference submission deadline may not be submitted.

We encourage creative and innovative manuscripts that employ legal research methodologies and that logically and clearly:

- Identify, describe, and illuminate important current tax issues including the history, development, and congressional intent of specific provisions
- Propose improvements in U.S., state and local, or foreign tax systems, and unique solutions to tax or fiscal problems
- Critically analyze proposed or recent tax law changes from both a technical and a policy perspective
- Discuss improvements in tax compliance, tax complexity, or tax policy
- Provide critical discussions for strategically structuring transactions, considering tax and non-tax ramifications
- Critically analyze recent or proposed legislative or regulatory changes
- Critically analyze similarities and differences between tax accounting and financial accounting issues

Manuscripts must be no longer than 25-30 double spaced pages long and must be submitted through the Manuscript Submission and Peer Review System for JLTR, located at <http://jltr.allentrack.net>. The site contains detailed instructions regarding the preparation of files for submission. All manuscripts must comply with the JLTR editorial policies and style guidelines. To ensure anonymous review, please submit the article title page (with author names) in a separate file from the manuscript text. If file compatibility or electronic submission presents a problem, you should contact Professor Roby Sawyers by email at robby_sawyers@ncsu.edu.

To be considered, papers must be received no later than November 1, 2017. There is no cost for submitting to the conference only. Papers submitted for the Legal Research Conference are NOT automatically considered for publication in JLTR. If you wish to also submit the paper for publication consideration in JLTR, please indicate by checking the appropriate box on the submission website. The JLTR submission fee of \$50 in U.S. funds should be paid by credit card following the instructions provided on the AAA website: <http://aaahq.org/Research/AAA-Journals/Information-for-Authors/Online-Payment/productcd/ATALSUBM>

KPMG/ATA Doctoral Consortium

Deadline: November 10, 2017

The fourteenth annual [KPMG/ATA Doctoral Consortium](#) will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 before the ATA midyear meeting in New Orleans, LA.

The goal of the consortium is to help prospective new tax faculty make the right choices in the early stages of their careers so that they become successful scholars. While the program is designed to meet the needs of doctoral students with an interest in tax that are in the middle stages of their doctoral program, we will consider applications from doctoral students at all levels. A low student-faculty ratio will provide an opportunity for doctoral students to meet and learn from successful tax faculty in both small group sessions and on an individual basis.

The full program will be posted on the ATA website when it becomes available. Some funding will be available to cover travel costs, including travel support from the ATA Memorial Fund in honor of Chris Bauman and Marty Escoffier. Please also note that any student admitted to the consortium who has previously attended two times or more will be asked to pay an additional fee of \$150. The application deadline is November 10, 2017.

Please let doctoral students at your institution know about the 2018 KPMG/ATA Tax Doctoral Consortium. Questions about the consortium can be directed to James Chyz at jchyz@utk.edu. You will be able to access a link to the Consortium Application Form at the 2018 ATA Midyear Meeting AAA website when it becomes available.

ATA Teaching and Curriculum Conference

Deadline: November 3, 2017

The fourth annual ATA Teaching and Curriculum Conference will be held on February 15, prior to the upcoming ATA Midyear meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. The planning committee is soliciting proposals for a session exploring tax teaching tips and techniques. This session will feature a number of teaching ideas that can each be shared, including related materials, illustrations, instructions, etc., in a relatively short presentation. If you have developed a unique exercise, case, active learning exercise, online tool, or other pedagogical innovation you'd like to share, this session is for you!

YOUR PROPOSAL DOES NOT NEED TO BE A FULL PAPER OR CASE STUDY to participate in the conference. Teaching ideas and strategies are welcome! Proposals related to any and all substantive and pedagogical issues are welcome. Ideas related to the following would be particularly interesting.

- Cases or problems for incorporating data analytics into tax courses of various levels
- Cases or problems for incorporating international issues into tax courses of various levels
- Cases, problems or vignettes for incorporating ethical issues into tax courses of various levels
- Incorporating a gamification framework* into your tax course
- Tips for enhancing student interest in taxation
- Tips for incorporating writing into tax courses of various levels

*Gamification is a motivational approach of game design and elements to encourage engagement and interest.

Proposals should include a brief (1-2 page) description of the idea.

To submit your proposal, please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the submission system using your AAA member ID and password. If you have forgotten your AAA member ID/password, [click here](#) to retrieve them.

If you do not have a member ID/password, [click here](#) to obtain AAA login credentials. Then, use your AAA login credentials to create a new account in the submission system.

Authors of accepted submissions will be expected to attend the Conference and fulfill their responsibilities for the session for which their submission is accepted.

For further information, contact Tracy Noga at tnoga@bentley.edu.

PechaKucha Session

Deadline: November 1, 2017

The American Taxation Association Midyear Planning Committee invites submissions of topic proposals for the PechaKucha session. In this fast-paced, high-energy session, slides change every 20 seconds, and speakers and topics change every 20 slides. In previous years, presenters have covered a wide variety of tax teaching, research, and policy topics.

Submissions should propose the title and a description of the content of the presentation. We recognize that PechaKucha presentations often take shape in the month preceding the ATA Midyear Meeting, so submissions may be brief and general. To this end, we welcome outlines or bulleted lists.

To submit your Pecha Kucha topic proposal, please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the submission system using your AAA member ID and password. If you have forgotten your AAA member ID/password, [click here](#) to retrieve them.

If you do not have a member ID/password, [click here](#) to obtain AAA login credentials. Then, use your AAA login credentials to create a new account in the submission system.

Presenters of accepted submissions will be expected to attend the 2018 ATA Midyear Meeting and fulfill their responsibilities for the session for which their submission is accepted.

For further information, contact Kirsten Cook (kirsten.cook@ttu.edu).

Nominations/Submission for Awards

ATA/Deloitte Teaching Innovation Award

Deadline: January 16, 2018

The American Taxation Association in cooperation with Deloitte presents an annual Teaching Innovation Award at the annual ATA luncheon. The award recipient receives a plaque and a \$5,000 award. Submissions will be accepted for innovations used in tax courses. The tax course may be an elective or required course and should be offered in an undergraduate or graduate business curriculum. The primary objective of the award is to encourage creativity and experimentation with new and unusual ideas.

Submissions must be received electronically on or before January 16, 2018. Please send submissions to Greg Geisler at geisler@umsl.edu.

ATA/PwC Outstanding Dissertation Award

Deadline: January 30, 2018

The American Taxation Association in cooperation with PricewaterhouseCoopers presents an annual award for the Outstanding Tax Dissertation. The award recipient receives a plaque and a \$5,000 award at the annual ATA luncheon.

To be eligible, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Qualified candidates must submit a “working paper” from their dissertation that does not exceed 40 pages (including ALL tables, graphs, charts, appendices, and bibliography).
- Qualified candidates must complete their dissertation during the 2017 calendar year.
- Qualified candidates must be ATA members.
- The chairperson of the candidate's dissertation committee must write a letter to accompany the submission that certifies that the candidate has met all of the requirements for submission.

Submission procedure:

Candidates must email their submissions to the Chair of the award committee, Thomas Omer, at thomas.omer@unl.edu on or before **January 30, 2018**.

ATA Tax Manuscript Award

Deadline: January 15, 2018

The American Taxation Association (ATA) presents an annual award for a significant contribution to the tax literature. The award is given for research published during the three calendar years prior to the announcement year. All areas of tax research and all topics and methodologies are eligible for consideration. In addition, the published article, chapter, or book must meet the selection criteria.

Selection criteria

1. Tax issues should be of major, rather than incidental, importance to the manuscript. The tax issues can be based on policy or planning factors or can be analytical or descriptive in nature, but tax issues should constitute the major focus of the research.
2. The article, chapter, or book as a whole should make a significant contribution to the discipline topic or methodology (or both). The overall validity and usefulness of the results will be considered.
3. At least one author must be a current ATA member.
4. All manuscripts published during the three calendar years prior to the ATA luncheon are eligible for the award, with these exceptions:
 - The manuscript cannot be research that formed the basis for a dissertation receiving the ATA Dissertation Award.
 - A manuscript that is an extension of the original dissertation research and, as such, is an independent manuscript is eligible for the award.
 - The manuscript cannot have previously won the ATA Tax Manuscript Award.
 - The manuscript cannot be authored or co-authored by a current member of the Manuscript Award Committee. While a manuscript authored or co-authored by a current committee member is eligible for nomination, such member must resign from the committee to have the paper considered for the award.

Nomination procedure:

Nominations for manuscripts, books, and chapters of books published during the 2015-2017 period will be accepted through January 15, 2018.

Nominations should be sent or emailed to Jenny Brown at jenny.brown@asu.edu.

2017 Ray M. Sommerfeld Outstanding Tax Educator Award

Deadline: February 2, 2018

The American Taxation Association, in cooperation with the Ernst & Young Foundation, presents the Outstanding Tax Educator Award. The Award's purpose is to recognize, honor and reward outstanding contributions by a faculty member teaching taxation at a recognized academic institution. The award is named after Professor Ray M. Sommerfeld, the first recipient of the award, who earned a reputation as a pioneer of tax education and provided a lifetime of service to students, colleagues, and the profession of taxation.

Criteria for Selecting Recipient

The selection criteria are intentionally broad to allow the Awards Committee to consider the relevant contributions by the nominees in determining a worthy recipient. The types of contributions considered as worthy of the award include, but are not limited to:

- Curriculum or program development (including related research and/or superior teaching)
- Participation in student activities
- Service to an academic institution
- Participation in professional activities, and
- Activities furthering taxation as an academic field of study and research.

Eligible individuals should be currently active in their profession. However, in rare instances an individual who has retired from active service as an academician may be considered for the award. In the absence of qualified nominees for the award, the Awards Committee may choose not to present the award during a particular year.

Nomination procedure

There is no standard nomination package. Nominators should state why their candidate should receive the award and submit appropriate documentation supporting their nomination, such as complete resumes and letters of recommendations from students, colleagues, and/or practitioners. Questions about the content of the package should be addressed to the Committee Chair at the address below.

Nominations will be accepted through **February 2, 2018**. Nominations should be emailed to Stacie Laplante at stacie.laplante@wisc.edu.

2017 ATA Outstanding Service Award

Deadline: February 2, 2018

The purpose of the American Taxation Association's Outstanding Service Award is to recognize an ATA member who has provided outstanding service to the ATA for an extended period of time. To be eligible, one must have been an ATA member for at least 10 years when nominated. The person must have a record of distinguished service as an ATA committee member and served as a chair of at least one ATA committee. The nominee typically will have served as an officer or trustee, but such service is not required to be a recipient of this award.

The following information will be helpful to the Awards Committee when evaluating a nominee:

- Evaluations of the nominee's committee service by chairpersons of committees on which the nominee has served. The evaluations may be solicited if necessary.
- Evaluations provided by ATA members who have served on at least one ATA committee chaired by the nominee. The evaluations may be solicited if necessary.
- Other information that the nominator feels will help in evaluating the nominee's ATA service such as a resume or vita.

The Committee will secure the nominee's ATA service record.

Nomination procedure

The nomination must be made by an ATA member. There is no standard nomination form. The written nomination should include a statement of support and any relevant documentation as to why the nominee deserves the award.

Nominations will be accepted through **February 2, 2018**. Nominations should be emailed to Stacie Laplante at stacie.laplante@wisc.edu.

More information about all ATA awards is available on the ATA website at: http://www2.aaahq.org/ata/calls/award_nominations/award_nominations.cfm

Nominations for ATA Leaders

Deadline: February 1, 2018

The ATA Nominations Committee is seeking nominations for the following leadership positions for the 2018-2019 academic year:

1. President-Elect
2. Vice President-Elect
3. Vice President of Finance-Elect
4. Secretary
5. Four Trustees (two-year terms)
6. Two Publications Committee members (two-year terms)

Details of the roles and responsibilities of these positions can be found in the ATA Operations Manual on the [ATA Website](#). Those elected to these positions will influence the activities of the ATA for several years to come; please take the time to nominate a colleague you believe might best lead, and serve, the organization. Self-nominations are welcome.

Nominations should be sent to John Robinson at Jrobinson@mays.tamu.edu.

Any support you might provide for your nominations, although not required, would be helpful. For more information, see <http://aaahq.org/ATA/About/Operations-Manual>.



Sonja Rego, Michelle Hanlon & Terry Shevlin



Ken Klassen & Jaron Wilde



Hughlene Burton & Roby Sawyer



Stephanie Sikes, Christina Lewellen & Julie Peters (PwC)



Ellen Glazerman (EY), John Robinson & Ben Ayers



Scott McQuillan (Deloitte), Mollie Adams, Michele Meckfessel, Kerry Inger & Ron Worsham

Congrats to the winners of this year's 2017 ATA Awards!

