



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear TLC Members

February 2016



Spring is almost here and once again the **TLC webinars** are offered free to all. The first webinar, *Effective Learning Through Cases: The Deloitte Foundation Trueblood Case Study Series*, is on Friday February 26, from 2:00-3:00 EST.

The March webinar is *Alternatives in Accounting Education Research*. Time to be determined.

The April webinar is still in development and is planned to be about technology and the gap between what we are teaching and what is needed in the profession.

The call for nominations for TLC awards are due soon. More information is included in the newsletter. Please consider nominating yourself or others.

This year we have a new award, ***Outstanding Instructional Contribution Award***, sponsored by Deloitte. The award is offered to encourage and recognize excellence in the development of original instructional materials.

To be eligible for the ***Outstanding Instructional Contribution Award***, original material should be published in a refereed journal during 2015. At least one of the authors of the nominated publication must be a TLC member.

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In addition to the new award, the TLC section is hoping to offer a Teaching Colloquium in the fall of 2016. The Colloquium is still in the planning stage. At this time, the *Learn to Learn* (LTL) Colloquium is planned for San Antonio the last weekend of September. As a first time event, we have decided to limit the number of participants. Look for emails and updates throughout the spring semester.

I am looking forward to the [annual meeting in New York City](#). New York 2016 culminates our yearlong *Celebration of the Century*. I hope that you have something submitted and plan to attend. Remember the Effective Learning Strategies (ELS) submissions deadline is April 4. You can request that your ELS submissions be considered for one of three AICPA awards. To find out more about the awards visit [AICPA's Educator Awards](#). The newsletter also includes information on page 9.

Some of the sections are offering teaching tracks or teaching symposiums at their midyear meeting. We need to celebrate teaching and share our techniques and materials. I encourage you to consider submitting your teaching ideas, scholarship and papers to the region and section meetings.

I look forward to seeing you at the spring region meetings.

Gail Hoover King
ghkingAAA@gmail.com

The Accounting Educator
Articles, Call for Papers, and Announcements

Anyone wishing to submit short articles, cartoons, letters to the editor, call for papers, announcements, or other items of interest for publication in *The Accounting Educator* should email material to carol@carolyacht.com.

**CALL FOR SHORT PAPERS FOR NEXT ISSUE –
ANY ISSUE CONCERNING ACCOUNTING EDUCATION**

The TLC Newsletter accepts submissions on any issue regarding accounting education or curriculum. Your manuscript should be short — two to three pages single spaced. Submit your manuscript in Word format electronically by April 1, 2016.

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Council Meeting Summary, November 14, 2015, New York City

AAA Executive Director Tracey Sutherland gave Council an overview of how the AAA has changed over the past 100 years: changes in the organization name, Region & Section history, journals and their expansion, and how we are now on the cusp of the Centennial. She updated Council on several key developments including the following:

- The emergence of the Centers and the hiring of Susan Crosson as the first Center Director. The Big Data Conference, which was the first event organized by the Center for Advancing Accounting Education, was a great success.
- The Accounting PhD Rookie Recruiting and Research Camp registration is going strong, with the highest number of Job Seekers thus far.
- Headquarters: Plans for the new building have been finalized. Diane Hazard will be retiring in January and the search for a replacement is underway.
- The 2016 Annual Meeting will mark our Centennial. Watch for announcements regarding celebratory events to be held at the Annual Meeting. We will also have the 3rd Global Scholars Workshop at the 2016 AM as this has proven to be a successful endeavor.
- During the 2014-2015 Segment Meetings Cycle, six meetings broke attendance records (Western, Accounting Behavior and Organization, Management Accounting Section, Auditing, American Taxation Association, and Southeast).

Pat Poli discussed that the Region Pilot Program has been able to achieve more cohesiveness in terms of leadership, services, operations, finances, and structure. The meetings have seen improvements in attendance, and survey results continue to be very positive following the meetings. Collaboration between members, volunteers, and AAA professional staff has been key in the successes of the meetings. In October, a meeting of Strategic Region Leaders was held to discuss Engagement, Innovation and Impact (EII), development of Vision & Mission statements and Region branding. The Southeast Region requested Section sponsored awards. This can lead to new opportunities for recognition, as well as increase the quantity and quality of submissions. The Government and Nonprofit, International Accounting Section, Management Accounting Section, and Strategic and Emerging Technologies sections will join Gender Issues and Worklife Balance and Teaching, Learning and Curriculum to test new section-sponsored awards.

In terms of Governance activities, AAA Legal Council Hugh Webster provided Council an overview of Council's role and the legal aspects of what liabilities volunteers have in their roles as Council members. The Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics policies were distributed and signed by all Council members present.

Karen Pincus joined via webinar to discuss and give feedback on five items identified by the Governance Committee for potential Bylaws revisions. The five items discussed were: 1) potential name change, 2) Council rather than full membership vote if the President-Elect cannot serve, 3) Allow option of uncontested elections and change the timing of the election process, 4) remove petitions to force a vote for an amendment, and 5) references to a fixed number of members specified with a percentage of members. Council discussed

each item at length to see if there was enough substance to warrant bringing the issues forward for a membership vote, and a motion was made and carried for the Governance Review activities to go forward.

The Council Ballot Committee voted for the two candidates to be placed on the slate for the position of Director – Focusing on Intellectual Property. Martha Eining and Elaine Mauldin were elected as the nominees to be added to the Slate of Officers for the 2016-17 Board of Directors.

The Council Committee on Awards Committee (CCAC) nominees were discussed and voting took place following the November meeting. Elected to the CCAC were Markus Ahrens, Greg Burton, Don Finn, Mary Fischer, Mehmet Kocakulah, and Lakshmanan (Shiva) Shivakumar.

Julie Smith David led an activity where Council was asked for ideas/recommendations for At-Large Panels for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Fourteen potential panel topics were pre-printed on posters, and several additional topics were generated, as well as names for panelists and owners of each. Council voted for their favorites out of all of the suggestions, and AAA Staff are currently in the process of contacting people to lead various At-Large Panels.



Congratulations! TLC Awardees

Best Paper – Midwest region

Natalie Churyk, Vice-President Academic, presents the Best Paper award to Cynthia R. Bolt-Lee, The Citadel. Co-awardee is Robert William Powell, Pepperdine University.



Best Paper – Northeast Region

Carol Hartley, Regional TLC Coordinator, presents the Best Paper award to *Cassandra Walsh Rohland, University of Massachusetts Lowell* and *Patrick T. Kelly, Providence College* for “The U.S. Federal Budget Project.”



Call for Nominations

TLC Section Hall of Honor Award Nominations by April 15, 2016

The purpose of the Teaching, Learning & Curriculum (TLC) Section's Hall of Honor Award is to recognize a TLC member who has provided outstanding service to the section for an extended period of time. To be eligible, one must have been a TLC member for at least 8 years when nominated. The person must have a record of distinguished service as a TLC committee member and served as a Chair of at least one TLC committee as well as an officer or director.

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 TLC members who have served on at least one TLC 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 TLC service such as a resume or vita.

The Awards Committee will secure the nominee's TLC service record. The award carries a plaque and monetary stipend and will be presented during the TLC Section's business meeting in New York City in August 2016.

Nomination procedure

The nomination must be made by a TLC 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 April 15, 2016.

Send your nominations to Tracy Manly, Chair, TLC Awards Committee at tracy-manly@utulsa.edu.

Members of the TLC Awards Committee are:

Tracy Manly, University of Tulsa, Chair
Marcus Ahrens, St. Louis Community College – Meremac
Billie Cunningham, University of Missouri
Susan Curtis, University of Illinois – Champaign
Mark Holtzblatt, Cleveland State University
Bambi Hora, University of Central Oklahoma
Sara Kern, Gonzaga State University
Carol Yacht, Author, McGraw-Hill Education

***Have you read a great research paper
about accounting education?***

Submit now for consideration for the
2016 Outstanding Research in Accounting Education Award!

To encourage and recognize excellence in accounting education research, the Teaching Learning & Curriculum (TLC) Section seeks nominations (including self-nominations) for the 2016 TLC Research in Accounting Education Award. Any research article in the field of accounting education ***published in 2015*** is eligible for the award. Nominations for cases and instructional resources published in refereed journals will also be considered and are encouraged.

The TLC Awards Committee, appointed by the President of the Teaching and Curriculum Section, will evaluate nominated articles. The award carries a plaque, letter of commendation, and monetary stipend and will be presented during the TLC Section's business meeting in New York City in August 2016.

Nomination procedure

The nomination should include the full bibliographic citation for the article and a brief note to indicate why you believe the article should be selected for the 2016 Outstanding Research in Accounting Education Award. Please direct any questions or inquiries to Tracy Manly at tracy-manly@utulsa.edu. Nominations may be made by both members and non-members of the TLC Section. However, at least one of the nominated authors must be a TLC member.

Nominations will be accepted through April 15, 2016.

Send your nominations to Tracy Manly, Chair, TLC Awards Committee at tracy-manly@utulsa.edu.

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Mark Holtzblatt, Cleveland State University
Bambi Hora, University of Central Oklahoma
Sara Kern, Gonzaga State University
Carol Yacht, Author, McGraw-Hill/Irwin

Outstanding Instructional Contribution Award

To encourage and recognize excellence in the development of original instructional materials, the Teaching Learning & Curriculum (TLC) Section seeks nominations (including self-nominations) for the 2016 Outstanding Instructional Contribution. Original material in the field of accounting published in 2015 in a refereed journal is eligible for the award. At least one of the authors of a nominated publication must be a TLC member.

The TLC Awards Committee, appointed by the Chair of the Teaching and Curriculum Section, will evaluate nominated publications. The award carries a plaque, letter of commendation, and monetary stipend and will be presented during the TLC Section's business meeting in New York, NY in August 2016.

Nomination Procedure

The nomination should include the full bibliographic citation for the article and a brief note to indicate why you believe the publication should be selected for the 2016 Outstanding Instructional Contribution Award. Please direct any questions or inquiries to Tracy Manly at Tracy-manly@utulsa.edu or 918-631-3992. Nominations may be made by both members and non-members of the TLC Section. However, at least one of the nominated authors must be a TLC member.

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Members of the Awards Committee are:
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Carol Yacht, Author, McGraw-Hill/Irwin

AICPA Educator Awards



Each year the AICPA recognizes accounting educators for innovations in the classroom. As you implement new and engaging learning processes, think about sharing your success with others by submitting your proposal for an Effective Learning Strategy session for the AAA annual meeting in New York. Submissions deadlines for the annual meeting are posted on the AAA website.

Professors can apply for three Effective Learning Strategies Awards:

- [Bea Sanders/AICPA Innovation in Teaching Award](#)

The Bea Sanders/AICPA Innovation in Teaching Award recognizes and disseminates exceptional teaching in the first course sequence in accounting.

- [Mark Chain/FSA Innovation in Graduate Teaching Award](#)

The Mark Chain/FSA Innovation in Graduate Teaching Award is designed to recognize exceptional graduate accounting course practices.

- [George Krull/Grant Thornton Innovation in Junior and Senior Level Teaching Award](#)

The intent of this award is to both recognize and disseminate successful innovative practices in the teaching of junior- and senior-level accounting courses that continue to enhance accounting majors' interest in accounting and pursuing the CPA profession as a career.

Each innovative teaching lesson plan submitted will be considered for one award category. The finalist(s) in all three award categories will be asked to present their work at the American Accounting Association Conference on Teaching and Learning in Accounting (CTLA), receive a plaque and an AICPA funded award totaling \$2,500.

EXTRA, EXTRA, Read All About It!

by

Grace F. Johnson

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“You couldn’t make this up,” you might say aloud as you read some of the amazing news stories about employee theft or fraud. Daily newspaper and TV station websites are particularly valuable resources for news about workplace embezzlement or fraud schemes. The accused employee – or more likely *former* employee – generally is quoted as being very sorry for what was done and sometimes articulates the pressures leading to such behavior.

Articles or news broadcasts are perfect material for minicases in Accounting Information Systems or Fraud and Forensic Accounting. Regardless of the time and creativity you might dedicate to writing cases, it would be hard to fabricate the intricate (and sometimes, ridiculous) scenarios and details unfolding in the sad situations of those who’ve made poor choices.

About six years ago I began using short news articles on employee theft, embezzlement, and managerial fraud in my Accounting Information Systems course. Marietta College teaches AIS from a data flow and internal control perspective, so actual incidences involving weak internal controls serve as ideal learning and teaching tools.

First Day of Class – Reading and Writing Assignment

Two weeks before the start of the new semester, I send students an e-mail that welcomes them to the course, shares the course website, and assigns a reading and writing assignment that is due when they arrive on the first day of class. This assignment includes two news articles – the MCHM chemical spill and the arrest of an employee for workplace fraud or embezzlement.

Examples:

The dramatic and unfortunate case of the MCHM chemical spill from storage tanks at Freedom Industries, a West Virginia-based company, provides opportunities for discussion of several components of the COSO Internal Control Framework (control environment, risk assessment, monitoring) and internal controls in non-manufacturing operations. Articles from *The New York Times* and *The Charleston Gazette* are used.

I ask students to read the case of a Montgomery County, Maryland police employee who took money from the police evidence room. *The Washington Post* article makes students reflect on suitable internal controls over “inventory” items in the police evidence room and information system access rights.

Students are asked:

1. To identify the reasons they feel the fraud or mismanagement was able to be perpetrated.
2. What practices or procedures ought to have been in place to deter or detect the situation?

Every newspaper article selected offers a chance to probe the basic tenants of internal control – what were the process weaknesses, and how can the weaknesses be limited by strengthening one or more internal controls? By the end of the semester students are well-versed on these two points.

Throughout the Semester Articles Focus on Chapter Materials

The AIS textbook I use follows traditional topics. After the introductory chapter, we review internal control basics (including COSO), move to documentation and flowcharting, and then spend a majority of the semester examining business processes. For example, consider the chapter covering fixed assets. One of the activities studied is appropriate controls over asset disposal. An article about an IT department technician who has centralized control over the disposal gives students a lot to think about. In this situation, the technician removed old company laptops and desktop computers from the premises and sold them, keeping the cash from the sales.

Students see the weaknesses in the disposal process, ranging from a lack of segregated duties, inadequate recordkeeping, inappropriate access to IT hardware, limited or no authorizations, and the potential of exposing confidential company data about original equipment purchases.

The chapter that focuses on purchasing, payables, and cash disbursements is useful for examples of employee fraud and embezzlement, and there are numerous articles covering those topics. In an incident taking place not far from our college campus, *The Marietta Times* reported on the use of a construction company's corporate credit cards by a company employee. The employee's unlimited access to the small business's resources presented the opportunity to use the credit card to purchase items from major department stores, pay personal phone and satellite service bills, and pay for vacations. In addition to talking about internal controls, this article is valuable because it raises concerns typical in small, family-owned businesses.

Minicases and Examinations

Newspaper articles are used for examination questions and graded minicase analysis. Some of the articles present examples of multifaceted fraud. Sometimes an article's content can be used for questions about the "fraud diamond" (published by Wolfe and Hermanson in 2004¹).

¹Wolfe, David and Dana Hermanson (2004). "The Fraud Diamond: Considering the Four Elements of Fraud." *The CPA Journal*, Vol. 74, No. 12, 38-42.

The minicases and examination questions ask students to evaluate multiple-entity internal controls, and the need for one entity to understand the internal control strengths of organizations with which it does business. I ask students to prepare their responses to examination questions or graded minicases in the form of a memo. Depending on the number of students in the class, I also use oral presentations or role-playing exercises.

I believe students learn a lot from using news articles about employee or managerial theft and fraud.

- First, they are confronted with real, rather than fictitious situations and circumstances.
- Second, students can gain insight about internal control nuances in a variety of business, non-profit, and governmental settings.
- Third, most articles give faculty and students broad discretion on how to adapt the material to textbook topics.
- Finally, assignments constructed around the news articles can focus on different communication skills such as formal oral presentations, informal classroom Q&A, discussion briefs, and written memos or examination questions.

The next time you read a news article about a factory employee who stole \$500,000 worth of parts inventory to sell on eBay², consider integrating the basic facts of the case into your AIS discussion on inventory management or production control. In addition to keeping your teaching fresh and interesting, relying on such material will open students' eyes to the sometimes brazen initiative and risks taken to exploit internal control weaknesses.

²Stratford, Suzanne (2015). "Former Ford Assembly Plant Employee Accused of Stealing \$500,000 in Parts." Fox 8 TV, Cleveland. Available at <http://fox8.com/2015/12/09/former-ford-assembly-plant-employee-accused-of-stealing-500000-in-parts/>

Call for Papers

Journal of Accounting Education

Special Issue: Big Data

The *Journal of Accounting Education* invites submissions for a special issue devoted to Big Data. Submissions for this special issue should be original work that deals in some manner with topics relevant to Big Data (for example, classroom software capable of handling big data, student need to understand/use big data, course design, educational cases, and teaching resources). The editors for this special issue solicit high-quality manuscripts of various types and research paradigms (for example, field or experimental investigations, archival, analytical, or survey research). All relevant submissions will be considered.

Submissions should be made electronically through EVISE (http://www.evise.com/evise/faces/pages/navigation/NavController.jspx?JRNL_ACR=ACEDU) starting **immediately**. When submitting, select the issue type as 'Special issue' and then the article type as 'Special Issue on Big Data'. The deadline for submissions is **30 June 2016**. Acceptances will be on a rolling basis with an anticipated Special issue publication in **March 2017**. Revisions received after that publication deadline will be scheduled for the next issue. Early submissions are welcome, and potential contributors are encouraged to contact the guest editors to discuss ideas and topics.

Authors should submit the following items within the EVISE system: (1) statement that the submitted work is original, that it has not been published elsewhere, and that the paper is not currently under review by any other journal; (2) cover page, containing title of the manuscript and complete contact information for each author; and (3) manuscript copy itself, without any author identification. The first page of the manuscript should contain the title of the paper, an Abstract, and a listing of keywords. For further information, please contact either of the following guest editors:

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Journal of Accounting Education: General Information

The *Journal of Accounting Education* (JAEd) is a refereed journal published quarterly by Elsevier (<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-accounting-education>). The JAEd is

dedicated to promoting and publishing research on accounting education issues and to improving the quality of accounting education worldwide. The Journal provides a vehicle for making results of empirical studies available to educators and for exchanging ideas and instructional resources that help improve accounting education. The JAEd publishes manuscripts on all topics that are relevant to accounting education, including uses of technology, learning styles, assessment, curriculum, and faculty-related issues.

The Journal includes four sections: a Main Articles Section, a Teaching and Educational Notes Section, a Case Section, and a Best Practices Section. Manuscripts published in the Main Articles Section generally present results of empirical studies, although non-empirical papers are sometimes published in this section. Short papers on topics of interest to JAEd readers are published in the Teaching and Educational Notes Section. The Teaching and Educational Notes Section also includes instructional resources that are not properly categorized as cases, which are published in a separate Case Section. Instructional resources published in the JAEd should meet relevant educational objectives and be available for general use. The Best Practices Section is meant to highlight innovative and effective institutional and individual accounting educator practices in areas such as student recruitment, student advising, student engagement, and alumni relations.

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Call for Papers

Advances in Accounting Education: Teaching and Curriculum Innovations

Submissions are invited for forthcoming volumes. AIAE publishes a wide variety of articles dealing with accounting education at the college and university level. AIAE encourages readable, relevant, and reliable articles in all areas of accounting education including auditing, financial and managerial accounting, forensic accounting, governmental accounting, taxation, etc. Papers can be:

- Position papers on particular issues.
- Comprehensive literature reviews grounded in theory.
- Conceptual models.
- Historical discussions with implications for current and future pedagogical efforts.
- Methodology discussions.
- Pedagogical tools, including evidence of their effectiveness.
- Research studies with implications for improving accounting education.

AIAE provides a forum for sharing generalizable teaching approaches from curricula development to content delivery techniques. Pedagogical research that contributes to more effective teaching in colleges and universities is highlighted. All articles must explain how teaching methods or curricula/programs can be improved. Non-empirical papers should be academically rigorous, and specifically discuss the institutional context of a course or program, as well as any relevant tradeoffs or policy issues. Empirical reports should exhibit sound research design and execution, and must develop a thorough motivation and literature review, possibly including references from outside the accounting field.

Submission Process

Send two files by email: one with a manuscript copy but without a cover page, and the other solely a cover page with author information. Cover pages should list all authors' names and addresses (with telephone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses). The authors' names and addresses should not appear on the abstract. To assure anonymous review, authors should not identify themselves directly or indirectly. Also, attach a copy of any research instruments. Two reviewers assess each manuscript submitted and reviews are completed in a timely manner, usually 60-90 days.

Send manuscripts to aiae@neu.edu

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Why every American Accounting Association Member Should be a Member of the Teaching, Learning, & Curriculum Section. Ask your colleagues to join today!

Teaching, learning, and curriculum issues are important to everyone in the AAA! We all have a vested interest in enhancing the quality of education of accounting students. This section provides a forum that cuts across disciplines, specialty areas, and geographic boundaries. The Teaching, Learning, & Curriculum Section provides opportunities for members to share their experiences, bringing together large and small schools, educators and practitioners, and members worldwide.

Go online to <http://aaahq.org> to join today or use the form below to apply for TLC membership (you must also be a member of the AAA). Mail your application to AAA (5717 Bessie Drive, Sarasota, FL 34233-2399).

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