

Using Accounting Hall of Fame* videos and profiles to inspire



SPEAKERS: Christine Botosan
Mary Stone

Markus Ahrens - ***Moderator***

**Established at The Ohio State University, 1950*



American
Accounting
Association **Foundation**

Spark Curiosity • Build Confidence • Launch Careers

Game plan

Welcome and session objective

History of the AHOF

Using AHOF materials to:

- Inspire and inform
- Encourage reflection
- Prompt discussion

Accessing AHOF materials

Q&A

75 Years of the Accounting Hall of Fame: Profiles to Inspire

Tonya K. Flesher

The University of Mississippi

Brandi L. Holley

Samford University

Mary S. Stone

The University of Alabama

ABSTRACT: The Accounting Hall of Fame (AHOF) was founded at The Ohio State University in 1950 and now is hosted by the American Accounting Association. The goals of this paper are (1) to raise awareness of the AHOF and commemorate its 75th anniversary; (2) to analyze the demographics of AHOF members; (3) to use a prosopographical approach to highlight and honor the contributions of AHOF members; and (4) to encourage readers to share the inspirational stories of AHOF members with colleagues, practitioners, and especially students.

Keywords: Accounting Hall of Fame; accounting history; accounting profession.

1950s America



Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania were the centers of U.S. industrial growth



Large, complex corporation led to greater demand for cost accounting, auditing, reporting, and control



CPAs were recognized as an essential part of the infrastructure for economic growth



The Accounting Hall of Fame was created to recognize CPAs, academics, and leaders who helped build the knowledge and trust needed to sustain economic growth

Overview of members of Accounting Hall of Fame

A distinguished community of accounting leaders
whose legacy spans more than seven decades

1950-2026

128 members include

- Leaders from all Big 8 accounting firms and their predecessors plus Alexander Grant (now Grant Thornton), George S. Olive & Co. (now Forvis Mazars) and Moss Adams
- Members of the FASB, the Cost Accounting Standards Board, the GASB, the IASB, and the Railroad Accounting Standards Board
- Major contributors to the founding of the *Journal of Accountancy*, *TAR*, *AJPT*, *Accounting Historians Journal*, *JAE*, *AOS*
- Members from accounting broadly defined



1950s Inductees to
the AHOF



Transition to
hosting by the
AAA

No inductions 2016-2017

Architects of transition

- The Ohio State University – Dan Jensen, Brian Mittendorf
- AAA – Gary Previts, Bruce Behn, Tracey Sutherland, Barb Brady

2026 AHOF Inductees

- **Gene Louis Dodaro** - Controller General of the United States: 12/30/2010 to 12/29/2025
- **Daniel Lee Goelzer** – Architect of the PCAOB’s structure and operations
- **Richard Victor Alvarus Mattessich** (1922-2010) – influential accounting theorist of post-war era, author of *Accounting and Analytical Methods*
- **William Ernest McCarthy** – Michigan State University teacher, mentor, researcher – original inventor of REA accounting model

**You are invited to the induction ceremony at the 2026
Global Connect Meeting in Las Vegas.
(Tuesday morning Plenary)**





Why inspiration matters



- “Accounting exists to serve the public interest”
AAA, *A Statement of Basic Accounting Theory*
(1966)
- “Certified Public Accountants: where
accountability is not just a duty but a calling” –
Jessica Turner,
<https://deliberatedirections.com/accounting-quotes>
- “To be a CPA is to be a steward of financial
integrity” Laura Anderson
<https://quotes.lifehack.org/collections/inspiring-accounting-quotes>

Name the source of inspiration

- A prisoner of war for 3 years who taught fellow prisoners accounting and economics, principal drafter of the Wheat Report proposing the formation of the FASB
- *At the age of 26 joined with 8 other young men to found the National Association of Black Accountants, a partner with KPMG*
- During college worked 20 hours a week as a pin boy at a bowling alley, became chair of the FASB
- *Member of the AHOF and the Chickasaw Hall of Fame, frequently cited audit researcher*
- First black woman CPA in Illinois, founder of a large Chicago CPA firm

Choose a profile – explain and discuss

- Learning Objective: Concisely explain a choice
- Small group assignment: Ask students to
- Access <https://aaahq.org/Accounting-Hall-of-Fame>,
- Survey the list of AHOF members,
- Choose one profile to read,
- Write a summary explaining your choice & what you learned from reading it.
- After everyone has had time to complete the individual assignment, discuss as a group. (students usually choose different profiles; Sir David Philip Tweedie is a favorite)

An example to spur discussion

- Show the video of Barry Melancon in class. Ask students to discuss the questions below in small groups and then contribute to class discussion
 - Barry Melancon is described as a visionary who stayed ahead of change in the profession. What does it mean for an accountant to be “forward-looking” and why is it important today?
 - Barry helped restore confidence in the profession after SOX. What role do you think accountants play in maintaining public trust?
 - How important is trust for the profession in the age of AI?
 - Barry emphasized collaboration through alliances with CPA societies. Why do you think working together as a profession is important for long-term success?
 - The video ends with the idea of “what’s next” for the profession. How do you think business and the profession will change over the next five years? What steps will you take to adapt to change?

A classroom example – David Michael Walker

- Born in Birmingham, Alabama, a CPA, with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting from Jacksonville University (Florida)
- ***Excerpt from AHOF profile:*** For almost two decades, this influential, articulate and seasoned professional has been the leading voice for transparency and accountability in government. With over 37 years of experience in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, his extensive leadership experience spans numerous issues and organizations in all three sectors, including issues in the international and inter-governmental domains. He has been referred to as a modern-day Paul Revere by Paul Volcker, Pete Peterson, and many others.

Sample Assignment

- ***Learning Objectives:*** Learn to (1) combine insights from a Hall of Fame profile with related news stories, (2) identify four different roles Walker played throughout his career, (3) write a short paragraph about each, and (4) develop a interview questions to ask Walker related to each of the roles he played.
- ***Motivation for the assignment:*** Provide insight into how accountants can help to shape public policy
- **Target Course** – Governmental Accounting

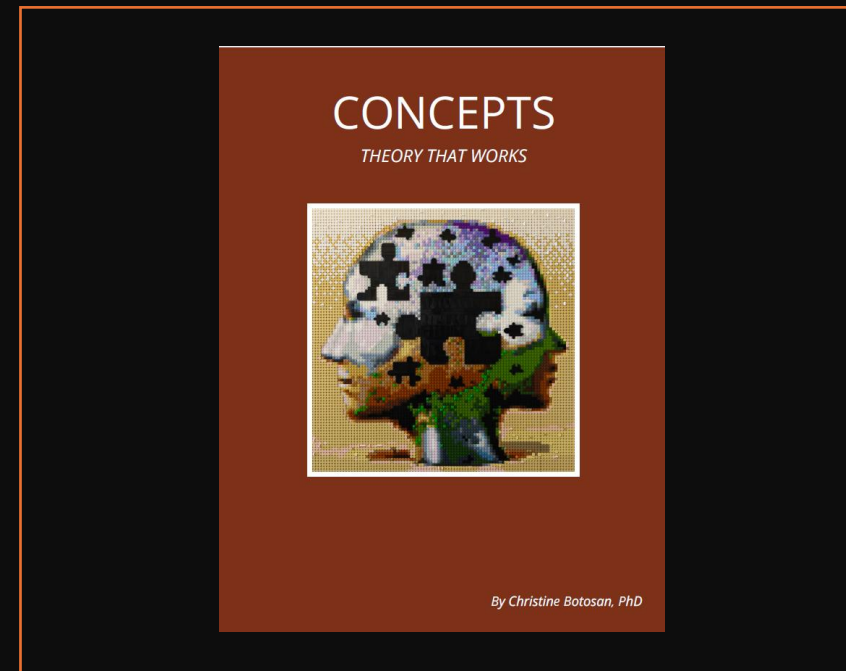
Example response

- ***Governmental Fiscal Responsibility:***
- **Student Summary:** Walker has been a vocal advocate for fiscal responsibility and government accountability. He has consistently warned about the long-term fiscal challenges facing the United States, including unsustainable debt levels and the need for entitlement reform. In 2011, he testified before the Senate Budget Committee, warning about the unsustainable path of federal debt. He proposed a set of fiscal rules, including caps on discretionary spending and reforms to entitlement programs like Medicare and Social Security, to address long-term fiscal challenges.
- **Question:** What would be your response to people who believe that the U.S debt is “uncallable” and therefore there is little to no consequence to taking on such a large deficit?

Use Case

- Coming summer 2026
 - CONCEPTS the book & CONCEPTS the course.
- Objective:
 - Critically examine conceptual frameworks of recent past and present.
 - Introduce the Deduced Framework.
 - Demonstrate its application to:
 - Liability and equity claims.
 - Basket asset acquisitions and goodwill.
 - Intangible items.
 - Structure and articulation of financial statements.

Website: <https://deducedframework.com/>
Email: deducedframework@outlook.com



Course Title: *CONCEPTS*
Course Number:
Course Credits: 3.0 credits

Instructor:
Office Location:
Office Hours:

Email:
Office Phone:

Class Meeting Day(s):
Class Location / Room:

Class Time:
Term / Semester:

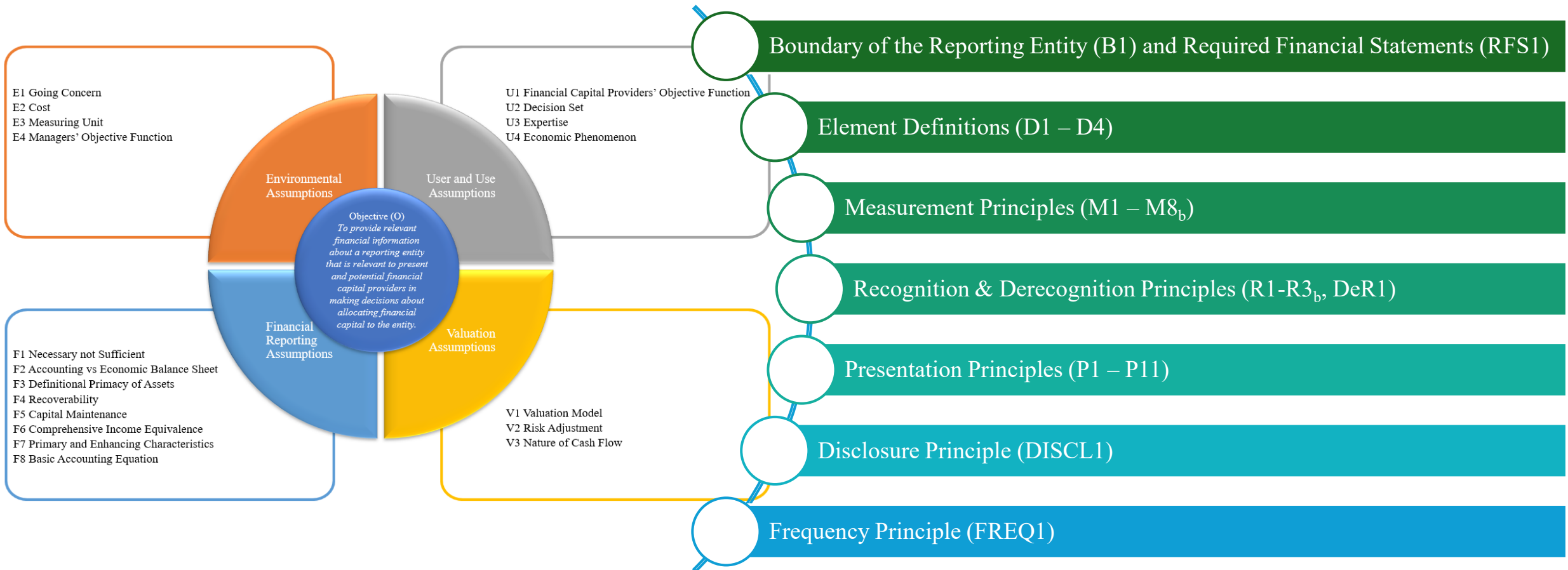
Course Description:

Accounting is the language of business and external financial reporting is the principal vehicle of communication with market participants. Students will delve into the role of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) in developing Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP). Students will learn to evaluate the theoretical frameworks for financial reporting of the past and present as well as the Deduced Framework and how those frameworks shape, or should shape, GAAP. Students will learn to apply financial reporting theory to real-world financial reporting problems and current debates in accounting standard-setting.

The Deduced Framework

Foundational Assumptions

Deduced Principles





Session 2: Moonitz/Sprouse and APB No. 4 Frameworks

Learning Objectives



**Moonitz/Sprouse
Framework**



**Rejection of the
Moonitz/Sprouse
Framework**



**APB No. 4
Framework**



**Failure of the APB
No. 4 Framework**

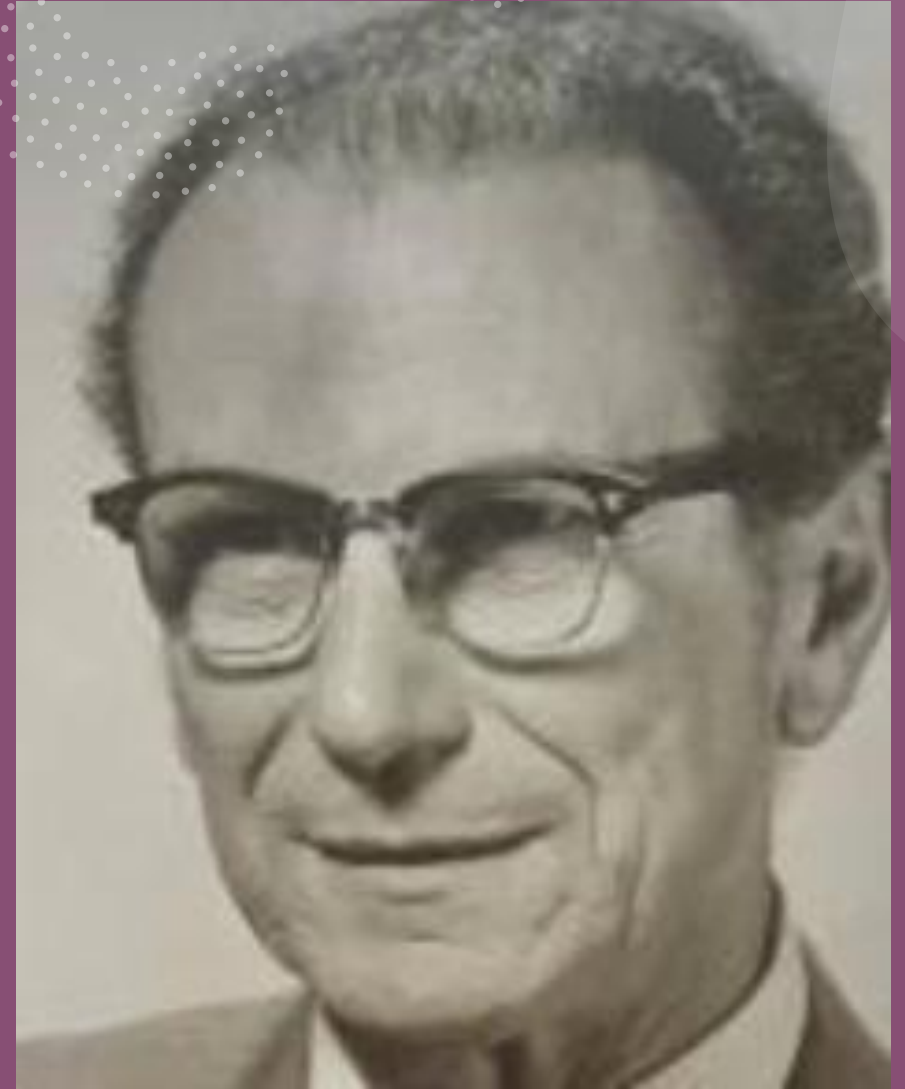



**Different
development
approaches**

Maurice Moonitz

The APB's 1st Director of Accounting Research
(1960 – 1963)

“The director of accounting research should be a person of substantial attainments and high reputation in accounting. He should have a good educational background, preferably including a graduate degree. He should be a certified public accountant. He should have had considerable experience and have demonstrated his ability as a writer and an administrator. His salary should be commensurate with his qualifications –probably at least \$25,000 per year.”





Maurice Moonitz hires his colleague from the University of California, Berkeley , Robert Sprouse, to assist in creating a conceptual framework for the APB

Think/Pair/Share

Choose either Maurice Moonitz or Robert Sprouse. Go to the AHOF website, find your person, click on their name and read their induction.

Pair with someone who chose the same person and select three noteworthy aspects of your person's life.

Share what struck you as noteworthy and why.

Accounting Hall of Fame Inductees

<https://aaahq.org/Accounting-Hall-of-Fame/Members>



Accounting Hall of Fame

<https://aaahq.org/Accounting-Hall-of-Fame>

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Announcing the Induction of Members into The Accounting Hall of Fame

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Established at The Ohio State University in 1950



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The 2026 inductees represent a diverse group of accounting thought leaders from practice and academia. The AHOF Selection Committee invited nominations from numerous domestic and international accounting and professional organizations, academic institutions, Hall of Fame members, and individuals devoted to the furtherance of accounting in its many fields. This year's inductees are Eugene (Gene) Louis Dodaro, Daniel Lee Goelzer, Richard Victor Alvarus Mattessich (1922–2019), and William Ernest McCarthy.

Eugene (Gene) Louis Dodaro served as the eighth Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) from December 30, 2010 to December 29, 2025.

About

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Eugene (Gene) Louis Dodaro served as the eighth Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) from December 30, 2010 to December 29, 2025.

Dodaro testified before Congress more than 200 times on important national issues, including the nation's response to the coronavirus pandemic, the federal government's long-term fiscal outlook, efforts to reduce and eliminate overlap and duplication across the federal government and GAO's "High Risk List" that focuses on specific challenges—from reducing improper payments under Medicare and Medicaid to improving the Pentagon's business practices including its financial management. In addition, Dodaro continued the development of GAO's efforts to meet the needs of Congress in such areas as science, technology and cybersecurity.

As Comptroller General, Dodaro helped oversee the development and issuance of hundreds of reports and testimonies each year to committees and individual Members of Congress. GAO products led to hearings and legislation, billions of dollars in taxpayer savings, and improvements to a wide range of government programs and services.

In a GAO career lasting more than 52 years, Dodaro held a number of key executive posts. For nine years, Dodaro served as the Chief Operating Officer, the number two leadership position at the agency, helping provide direction and vision for GAO's diverse, multidisciplinary workforce in serving Congress and improving government.

In leading GAO, Dodaro worked with Congress and the administration on major management reforms, including the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014; the Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act of 2015; and the 1994 Government Management Reform Act, which expanded the Chief Financial Officers Act. He also has extensive experience working with state and local government officials.

Until 1999, Dodaro headed GAO's Accounting and Information Management Division, the agency's largest unit, which specialized in financial management, computer technology, and budget issues. While there, he directed the first-ever audit of the comprehensive financial statements covering all federal departments and agencies. He also has been instrumental in strengthening the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board. It has been recognized by the AICPA as producing Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for the federal government. In addition to continuing the annual audit of the U.S. government's financial statements, Dodaro worked with the Office of Management and Budget, the Treasury Department, as well as CFOs and Inspectors General, to develop and maintain the annual production and audit of financial statements of individual departments and agencies across government.

Dodaro also oversaw the development of several updates to the Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards that must be used by all auditors auditing the use of federal funds. He also directed the creation of updated Internal Control Standards to be used by all executive branch managers.

Dodaro, who holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, is a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and a member of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA). Dodaro received recognition from numerous organizations. In 2025 he received AGA's Lifetime Achievement Award for a Legacy of Service and was inducted into the Government Executive's Government Hall of Fame. Prior awards include the Braden Award from the Department of Accountancy at Case Western Reserve University, the Administrator of the Year Award from the Romney Institute, Brigham Young University Marriott School of Business, the John Glenn Excellence in Public Service Award from The Ohio State University, and the Accounting Exemplar Award from the American Accounting Association's Public Interest, Ethics and Sustainability Section.

Eugene (Gene) Louis Dodaro will be the 125th inductee to The Accounting Hall of Fame.

Daniel Lee Goelzer has had a distinguished career as a lawyer, CPA, and senior regulatory official. He was one of the

Accounting Hall of Fame (AHOF) Committee

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Bob Herz

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Member

Mary Stone

AHOF Committee Member, AAA
Past President

Chuck Noski

AHOF Inductee/Committee
Member

Zoe-Vonna Palmrose

AHOF Inductee/Committee
Member

Arleen Thomas

AHOF Committee Member

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Rick Young

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Daniel Lee Goelzer has had a distinguished career as a lawyer, CPA, and senior regulatory official. He was one of the architects of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's (PCAOB) structure and operations and has served for many years as a counselor and commentator on audit oversight and governance challenges.

Goelzer was raised in Wisconsin and earned a BBA in accounting and a JD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He began his professional career as an auditor at a predecessor to Deloitte & Touche. In 1974, he joined the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) staff and rose through the ranks to become the SEC's General Counsel. In that role, he helped shape the Commission's approach to corporate governance, internal accounting control, and audit committee responsibilities.

Following his SEC service, Goelzer advised financial institutions, public companies, and accounting firms on regulatory and governance matters as a partner at Baker McKenzie. In 2002, the SEC appointed him as a founding member of the PCAOB's Board. He served on the PCAOB for over nine years and played a central role in establishing the Board and its efforts to enhance audit quality in the interest of investors and the public. He was the Board's Acting Chair from 2009 to 2011.

After his PCAOB tenure, Goelzer returned to Baker McKenzie. He retired from the firm in 2018 but has remained active in public company financial disclosure and auditing. For eleven years, he chaired Deloitte & Touche's Audit Quality Advisory Council and, in that capacity, provided advice and guidance on professional excellence in public company auditing and on challenges in the audit environment. Goelzer also served on the inaugural Sustainability Accounting Standards Board, helping to develop reporting standards to improve communication with investors regarding material climate and other sustainability information. He was a board member of the Capitol Area Chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors from 2012 to 2017 and was active in the Chapter's director education programming.

Goelzer has written and spoken extensively on securities regulation, public company disclosure, and auditing issues. Since 2013, he has published a bi-monthly newsletter on audit committee oversight responsibilities. His professional accomplishments have been recognized by the William O. Douglas Award (2012) conferred annually by the Association of Securities and Exchange Commission Alumni for distinguished contributions to the development of the federal securities laws. He also received the University of Wisconsin School of Business's Distinguished Accounting Alumnus Award (2005) and the Presidential Distinguished Rank Award (1989) for sustained extraordinary accomplishments in government service.

Daniel Lee Goelzer will be the 126th inductee to The Accounting Hall of Fame.

Richard Victor Alvarus Mattessich (1922–2019) was one of the most influential accounting theorists of the postwar era and a central figure in what has come to be known as the golden age of a priori accounting research. Born in Trieste, Italy, and raised in Vienna, Mattessich earned the degree of Doctor of Economic Sciences from the Vienna University of Economics and Business in 1945. After early academic appointments in Switzerland and Canada, he joined the University of California, Berkeley, in 1959, where he worked alongside scholars such as Maurice Moonitz and Robert Sprouse. In this intellectually fertile environment, Mattessich produced *Accounting and Analytical Methods* (1964), a landmark contribution that sought to develop a unified, formally grounded framework linking micro- and macro-accounting systems. The book remains a foundational work in accounting theory.

In 1967, Mattessich accepted a professorship at the University of British Columbia, where he later held the Arthur Andersen & Co. Alumni Professorship of Accounting and served until his retirement in 1988, continuing thereafter as Professor Emeritus. Over the course of his career, he held visiting appointments across Europe, Asia, and the Pacific and received honorary doctorates from the Universities of Graz, Montequieu-Bordeaux IV, Málaga, and Madrid. His scholarly output was extraordinary in both scope and longevity: more than 25 books and over 180 journal articles and book chapters, with a substantial portion published after his formal retirement. His work ranged from accounting

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At the core of *Accounting and Analytical Methods* was the claim that accounting systems could be analyzed, compared, and designed on the basis of explicit assumptions about measurement, valuation, and structure. Mattessich treated accounting as a quantitative representation of income and wealth phenomena, applicable across both firm-level and macroeconomic contexts. Central to this framework was an expanded conception of duality, understood not merely as a bookkeeping technique but as a general structural feature of economic processes. The book integrated insights from measurement theory, economics, management science, and systems analysis, and advanced the view that accounting's intellectual progress depended on clarity about its logical foundations as much as on empirical refinement. Even where its formal ambitions exceeded what practice could immediately accommodate, the work established a vocabulary and analytical orientation that reshaped subsequent debates in accounting theory.

Mattessich's contributions were recognized by numerous professional honors, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants–American Accounting Association Award for Notable Contribution to Accounting Literature, the Canadian Academic Accounting Association's Haim Falk Award for Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Thought, and the Academy of Accounting Historians' Hourglass Award. He served on The Accounting Hall of Fame's Nominating Committee in two separate periods. Although the a priori tradition he helped shape later gave way to empirically oriented paradigms, its legacy endures in the intellectual foundations of the discipline. Through his insistence on analytical clarity, formal reasoning, and methodological self-reflection, Mattessich played a decisive role in establishing accounting as a rigorous academic field, and his legacy continues to inform scholarship across generations.

Richard Victor Alvarus Mattessich will be the 127th inductee to The Accounting Hall of Fame.

William Ernest McCarthy is the original designer of the REA (Resource-Event-Agent) accounting model – a semantic schema for portraying the elementary components of a business transaction (like an atomic swap of goods for money). The conceptual foundations for REA evolved from McCarthy's doctoral dissertation at the University of Massachusetts, and its content was refined and edited through multiple rounds of review into two papers published in *The Accounting Review (TAR)*, under the skillful guidance of Stephen Zeff while he was an Assistant Professor of Accounting at Michigan State University (MSU). The second (July 1982) of the *TAR* papers was *The REA Accounting Model: A Generalized Framework for Accounting Systems in a Shared Data Environment* – the seminal REA exposition and a paper whose subtitle indicated the revolutionary interoperability and ontological directions that McCarthy's research



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Accounting Hall of Fame Members

Year	Member
1950	George Oliver May
1950	Robert Hiester Montgomery
1950	William Andrew Paton
1951	Sir Arthur Lowes Dickinson
1951	Henry Rand Hatfield
1952	Elijah Watt Sells
1952	Victor Hermann Stempf
1953	Arthur Edward Andersen
1953	Thomas Coleman Andrews
1953	Charles Ezra Sprague
1953	Joseph Edmund Sterrett
1954	Carman George Blough
1954	Samuel John Broad
1954	Thomas Henry Sanders
1954	Hiram Thompson Scovill
1955	Percival Flack Brundage
1956	Ananias Charles AC Littleton
1957	Roy Bernard Kester
1957	Hermann Clinton Miller
1958	Harry Anson Finney
1958	Arthur Bevins Foye
1958	Donald Putnam Perry
1959	Marquis George Eaton
1960	Maurice Hubert Stans
1961	Eric Louis Kohler
1962	No Inductees
1963	Andrew Barr, Jr.
1963	Lloyd Morey
1964	Paul Franklin Grady
1964	Perry Empey Mason
1965	James Loring Peirce
1997	John Campbell Burton
1998	Arthur Ramer Wyatt
1999	Jay Michael Cook
1999	Ray John Groves
2000	Joel Stanley Demski
2000	Shaun Fenton O'Malley
2000	Ross Macgregor Skinner
2000	Charles Waldo Haskins
2001	Nicholas Dopuch
2001	James Don Edwards
2002	Stephen Addam Zeff
2003	Edgar O. Edwards
2003	Philip W. Bell
2003	James Judd Leisenring
2004	Dennis Robert Beresford
2004	Gerald Albert Feltham
2004	William Joseph Vatter
2005	William Threipland Baxter
2005	Edmund Lowell Jenkins
2006	Robert Samuel Kaplan
2006	Robert Raymond Sterling
2007	Katherine Ann Schipper
2008	Anthony George Hopwood
2008	Walter Paul Schuetze
2009	Thomas Richard Dyckman
2009	Raymond John Ball
2010	David Michael Walker
2011	Gary John Previts
2011	Reed Karl Storey
2012	Robert Henry Herz
2013	Sir David Philip Tweedie
2014	Abraham Jacob Briloff

1968	John Lansing Carey	2017	No Inductees
1968	William Welling Wertz	2018	George David Anderson
1969	No Inductees	2018	Mary Elizabeth Barth
1970	No Inductees	2018	Olivia Faulkner Kirtley
1971	No Inductees	2018	Kenneth Wilson Stringer
1972	No Inductees	2019	William Louis Campfield
1973	No Inductees	2019	J. Lee Nicholson
1974	Robert Martin Trueblood	2019	Zoe-Vonna Palmrose
1975	Leonard Paul Spacek	2019	Stephen Harland Penman
1976	John William Queenan	2020	Victor Zinn Brink
1977	Howard Irwin Ross	2020	Robert Mednick
1978	Robert Kuhn Mautz	2020	Leslie French Seidman
1979	Maurice Moonitz	2020	Shyam Sunder
1980	Marshall Smith Armstrong	2020	Doyle Zane Williams
1981	Elmer Boyd Staats	2021	Arthur Hazelton Carter
1982	Herbert Elmer Miller	2021	David Francis Larcker
1983	Sidney Davidson	2021	Sybil Collins Mobley
1984	Lord Henry Alexander Benson	2021	Charles Howard Noski
1985	Oscar Strand Gellein	2022	Frank Donaldson Brown
1986	Robert Newton Anthony	2022	Robert Louis Bunting
1987	Philip Leroy Defliese	2022	Robert Ernest Verrecchia
1988	Norton Moore Bedford	2023	Robert Kalb Elliott
1989	Yuji Ijiri	2023	William Mitchell Lybrand
1990	Charles Thomas Horngren	2023	Aulana Louise Peters
1991	Raymond John Chambers	2023	Gordon Peter Wilson
1992	David Solomons	2024	Robert (Bob) Libby
1993	Richard Thomas Baker	2024	Frank Kenneth Ross
1994	Robert Thomas Sprouse	2024	Ross Leslie Watts
1995	William Wager Cooper	2025	David Richard Bean
1996	William Henry Beaver	2025	Barry Carl Melancon
1996	Charles Arthur Bowsher	2025	Terry James Shevlin
1996	Donald James Kirk	2025	Mary Thelma Washington Wylie
1997	Thomas Junior Burns		

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The 2026 inductees represent a diverse group of accounting thought leaders from practice and academia. The AHOF Selection Committee invited nominations from numerous domestic and international accounting and professional organizations, academic institutions, Hall of Fame members, and individuals devoted to the furtherance of accounting, in its many fields. This year's inductees are Eugene (Gene) Louis Dodaro, Daniel Lee Goelzer, Richard Victor Alvarus Mattessich (1922–2019), and William Ernest McCarthy.

Eugene (Gene) Louis Dodaro served as the eighth Comptroller General of the United States and head of the

About

The Accounting Hall of Fame honors accountants who have made, or are making, significant contributions to the advancement of accounting since the beginning of the 20th century. Since its establishment in 1950, 124 leading accountants have been elected to the Hall of Fame.

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Announcing the Induction of Members into The Accounting Hall of Fame

The Accounting Hall of Fame hosted by the American Accounting Association

Established at The Ohio State University in 1950



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Accounting Hall of Fame Videos

- 2025 – Barry C. Melancon
- 2025 – David R. Bean
- 2025 – Mary T. Washington Wylie
- 2025 – Terry Shevlin
- 2024 – Ross Leslie Watts
- 2024 – Frank Kenneth Ross
- 2024 – Robert (Bob) Libby
- 2023 – Aulana Louise Peters
- 2023 – Robert Kalb Elliott
- 2023 – Gordon Peter "Pete" Wilson
- 2023 – William Mitchell Lybrand
- 2022 – Robert Louis Bunting
- 2021 - Induction Ceremony
- 2019 - Stephen Harland Penman
- 2019 - Zoe-Vonna Palmrose
- 2019 - J. Lee Nicholson
- 2018 - Kenneth Wilson Stringer
- 2018 - George David Anderson

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Donate to The Accounting Hall of Fame

The Accounting Hall of Fame (AHOF) is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2025, commemorating a legacy of excellence and innovation in the field of accounting. Established at The Ohio State University in 1950, The Accounting Hall of Fame, now administered by the American Accounting Association, honors the most distinguished accountants who have made significant contributions to the academy and profession. To date, 124 individuals have been inducted into the AHOF. As part of this historic milestone, The Accounting Hall of Fame, in conjunction with the American Accounting Association Foundation, has launched a fundraising campaign to build an endowment to fund the operations and programming of the AHOF for next 25 years. The funds raised will support the AHOF's ongoing mission of recognizing and honoring the outstanding achievements of those who have made, or are making, significant contributions to the advancement of accounting. In addition, this endowment will ensure that the inspiring stories of AHOF inductees are available to a broader audience. Donate using the box below.


Important Message
We are currently unable to accept donations from residents of California. Please reach out to our member services team for assistance.

Accounting Hall of Fame Donation

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Submission Guidelines

- Only upload materials you have created and own.
- If previously published, provide DOI links instead of files.
- Include relevant keywords and subject tags to help users find your resource.

Title: Accounting Hall of Fame - Barry Melancon Interview Video & Classroom Discussion Questions

Journal: noJournal

Description:

Accounting Hall of Fame 2025 Inductee - Barry Melancon Interview and Classroom Discussion Questions

Abstract:

Accounting Hall of Fame 2025 Inductee - Barry Melancon Interview and Classroom Discussion Questions

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and evaluate the key qualities and behaviors of effective leadership in a professional accounting context.
- Analyze the range and impact of contributions an effective leader can make to organizations, the profession, and the broader community.
- Explain and assess an American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) initiative and its potential implications for your professional career.


Authors

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Attached Resources

Link Melancon Interview Video

<https://aaahq.org/Accounting-Hall-of-Fame/Members/2025/Barry-Melancon/Interview> 

File Classroom Discussion Questions - Melancon

[Download](#) 

Tags & Categories

Keywords: Accounting Hall of Fame

Teaching Topics: All

Subtopics: Accounting Careers Classroom Activities Written Communication Skills Verbal Communication Skills

Softwares: None

Technologies: None

Course Levels: Advanced Graduate (Including MBA) Intermediate Undergraduate Introductory

Barry Melancon AHOF Video Discussion Questions

Learning objectives:

- **Identify and evaluate** the key qualities and behaviors of effective leadership in a professional accounting context.
- **Analyze** the range and impact of contributions an effective leader can make to organizations, the profession, and the broader community.
- **Explain and assess** an American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) initiative and its potential implications for your professional career.

Watch the Barry Melancon tribute video (9.21 minutes long) and address the following questions.

1. What attributes make Barry such a strong and effective leader?
2. What are some of the key initiatives that Barry spearheaded?
3. Which initiative interests you the most? For student affiliate members of the AICPA (membership is free), utilize resources on the AICPA website to learn more about that initiative.
4. Using a variety of resources, develop a profile of Barry Melancon and develop a set of questions you would ask him if you had the opportunity to interview him.
5. What did you learn about the accounting profession from watching this video?

Mary T. Washington Wylie AHOF Video Discussion Questions

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Analyze the historical and social barriers faced by Mary T. Washington Wylie and evaluate how her achievements reflect issues of racial and gender equity in the accounting profession.
- 2) Assess the role of mentorship, leadership, and professional representation in advancing opportunities for underrepresented groups and fostering inclusion within the accounting field.
- 3) Reflect on and apply lessons from Mary T. Washington Wylie's legacy to modern professional contexts, including ethical leadership, community impact, and strategies for overcoming barriers and supporting future generations.

Video Discussion Questions

1. What barriers did Mary T. Washington Wylie face as both an African American and a woman in the accounting field, and how did she overcome them?
 - o *Follow-up:* What personal qualities do you think helped her succeed?
2. Why is it significant that Mary T. Washington Wylie was the first Black female CPA in the United States?
 - o *Follow-up:* What does this milestone reveal about the state of racial and gender equity in the 1940s?
3. How did Mary T. Washington Wylie's work help pave the way for future generations of Black accountants and professionals?
 - o *Follow-up:* Can you think of similar pioneers in other professions?
4. Mary T. Washington Wylie actively mentored young Black accountants. Why is mentorship important in breaking barriers in professions?
 - o *Follow-up (A):* Have you had a mentor in your life? What difference did they make?
 - o *Follow-up (B):* Mary T. Washington Wylie was described as a mentor. What does a mentor do? Who has mentored you? What did they do? How would you mentor an introductory accounting student?
5. How did Mary T. Washington Wylie's work contribute to the economic empowerment of the Black community in Chicago and beyond?
 - o *Follow-up:* Why is financial literacy and professional representation important in marginalized communities?
6. What can businesses and institutions today learn from Mary T. Washington Wylie's approach to leadership and inclusion?

7. Do you think Mary T. Washington Wylie's achievements received the recognition they deserved during her lifetime? Why or why not?
 - o *Follow-up:* How can society do a better job of honoring trailblazers like her?
8. One of the speakers attributed the following quote to Mary T. Washington Wylie and to her mentee Lester H. McKeever Jr. "we should not let our circumstances define who we can be in the accounting profession." What does this quote mean to you?
9. What are the takeaways from Lester H. McKeever Jr.'s tribute to Mary T. Washington Wylie?
10. Using a variety of resources, develop a profile of Lester H. McKeever, Jr. and the Washington, Pittman & McKeever accounting firm and develop a set of questions you would ask him if you had the opportunity to interview him.
11. If you had the chance to interview Mary T. Washington Wylie, what would you ask her? Why?
12. What is Mary T. Washington Wylie's legacy?
13. What did you learn about the accounting profession from watching this video?

INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE: *The video begins with some very interesting family insights, but can be viewed as optional if you are trying to save classroom time.*

Video Timeline:

Start – Angela Spencer (Granddaughter of Mary with family insights)

09:11 – Dr. Chevonne Alston

11:18 – Kimberly Ellison Taylor

13:19 – Dr. Theresa Hammond

17:35 – Kenneth Mason

20:06 – Dr. Porschia Nkaska

20:41 – Jaylon Garner

23:19 – Lester H. McKeever, Jr.

Announcing!!

- Purpose: Recognize the next creative idea for using AHOF materials in the classroom
- Includes: \$500 and an invitation to the AHOF Celebration Breakfast at the 2026 AAA Global Connect meeting in Las Vegas



AHOF In the Classroom Prize

Coming Soon: Email Recap

What You'll Find:

- weARE Webinar Video
- Newest videos and classroom discussion resources, including Barry Melancon
- *AHOF In the Classroom* Submission Link
- Accounting Hall of Fame Website
- Ways to Support and Donate

Q & A

The image features the text "Q & A" rendered in a 3D style. The letters "Q" and "A" are bright red, while the ampersand "&" is a metallic grey. All characters have a thick, blocky appearance with visible shadows and highlights, giving them a three-dimensional look. They are positioned on a light grey surface against a plain white background.