



**American
Accounting
Association**

Thought Leaders in
Accounting

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The American Accounting Association Foundation to Assume Stewardship of Two-Year Bridge Symposium

Lakewood Ranch, Fla. _ The American Accounting Association Foundation (Foundation) and the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical (NCAT) State University’s Center for Accounting Diversity (CAD) are pleased to announce that the Two-Year Bridge Symposium, born out of the CAD, has transitioned the stewardship and administration to the Foundation. In 2022, Dr. Kecia Williams Smith of NCAT created and launched the Symposium with the generous support from the Center for Audit Quality (CAQ) and the [Deloitte Foundation](#). The objective of this initiative is to provide accounting content, community, and professional resources for two-year college students who identify as racially and ethnically diverse as they contemplate their education pathways and potential careers in the Accounting Profession. Dr. Smith stated, “I am thrilled to have the American Accounting Association Foundation continue this important and impactful program!”

According to George Krull, Chair of the Foundation, “Our mission is *to ensure a vibrant and thriving Accounting Profession*, and the Two-Year Bridge Symposium aligns perfectly with the Foundation’s aspirational Mission. Dr. Smith created a terrific conduit to showcase to two-year students the wonderful opportunities in our broad profession.” Nearly 300 two-year students participated in the 2022 and 2023 Symposia at Deloitte’s offices* across the United States. In addition to the CAQ and the Deloitte Foundation, another professional services organization will be sponsoring the 2024 Symposium, to be held on Friday, November 8, 2024, in 14 US cities.

Volunteer members of the academic organization, Teachers of Accounting at Two Year Colleges (TACTYC), and many other volunteers, have also been integral to the success of the program. Yvonne Hinson, Chief Executive Officer of the American Accounting Association, stated, “The success of this program is underpinned by the support and engagement of dozens of enthusiastic volunteers and champions. As this program transitions to the Foundation, it is inspiring to see so many who are committed to providing students with an opportunity to immerse themselves in the Accounting Profession and for them to explore all the exciting and transformative career options available!”

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2024 Two-Year Bridge Symposium. Additional information will be available on the Foundation's website, www.foundationaaa.org. Consideration will be given to expanding this program in the future. For more information, please contact Steve Matzke, Director - Foundation & Sponsorships.

*Please see www.deloitte.com/us/about for a detailed description of its legal structure.

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The **American Accounting Association** is the largest community of accountants in academia. Founded in 1916, we have a rich and reputable history built on leading-edge research and publications. The diversity of our membership creates a fertile environment for collaboration and innovation. Collectively, we shape the future of accounting through teaching, research and a powerful network, ensuring our position as thought leaders in accounting.

The **American Accounting Association Foundation** was created in 2023. Its mission is to ensure a vibrant and thriving Accounting Profession. While it supports and expands the impact, reach, and efforts of the American Accounting Association, it also crosses boundaries within the Accounting Ecosystem. It is broader in scope and influence than any single professional association or organization supporting the accounting profession. To achieve its mission, the Foundation seeks incremental, new funding to support initiatives affecting Teaching Excellence, Research Relevance and Impact, Supporting Advanced Degrees in Accounting, Raising Awareness of the Accounting Profession, and Advancing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in the Accounting Profession.

The **Center for Accounting Diversity** ("Center") provides a holistic approach to addressing the systemic barriers to entry to the accounting profession through innovative programming in accounting diversity research, student recruitment, and faculty and professional resources. The Center is housed in the Department of Accounting and Finance at the Willie A. Deese College of Business and Economics ("Deese College") at North Carolina A&T State University ("N.C. A&T"). The Center is uniquely situated in the Deese College which has top-ranked undergraduate and graduate business programs at a public HBCU according to *U.S. News and World Report* rankings. Specific to the Center's mission, the Department of Accounting and Finance has historically been the top producer of African-American CPAs and was the first HBCU to gain separate accounting accreditation by the AACSB in 1986.

The **Center for Audit Quality** (CAQ) is the recognized leader—inside and outside of the profession—on all things public company auditing: resource provider, thought leader, and convener. The CAQ champions the public interest in the capital markets by: elevating the quality, credibility, and transparency of public company audits; advancing critical issues affecting public company audits; driving innovation in assurance; and providing a collaborative forum for capital market stakeholders to address evolving needs and challenges.

The **Deloitte Foundation**, founded in 1928, is a not-for-profit organization that supports education in the U.S. through a variety of initiatives that help develop the next generation of diverse business leaders, and their influencers, and promote excellence in teaching, research and

curriculum innovation. The Foundation sponsors an array of national programs relevant to a variety of professional services, benefiting high school students, undergraduates, graduate students and educators.

About TACTYC: The primary objective of **Teachers of Accounting at Two Year Colleges'** is the advancement of accounting education, emphasizing the development of creative and innovative teaching and curriculum. TACTYC was organized to encourage networking on issues of significance to accounting education. It has served as a forum for sharing innovative ideas in curriculum, teaching techniques and methodology.