Dear Friends of the Accounting Department,

Hello! Warm greetings from the beautiful campus of IU-Bloomington. This newsletter will introduce you to some outstanding new accounting faculty members, boast about some of our faculty’s major accomplishments, and inform you about some new initiatives in our programs. As faculty, alumni, recruiters, supporters, and stakeholders of the Accounting Department at the Kelley School of Business, we have so much for which we should be proud and grateful.

For starters, we had another strong year in hiring, adding two great young faculty members to our team. We hired Ashley Sauciuc, who is finishing her Ph.D. in accounting at the University of Arizona. We also hired Rosh Sinha, and he is finishing his Ph.D. in accounting at the University of Washington. We are delighted they are both joining our faculty as new tenure-track assistant professors.

We are also thrilled that four of our colleagues received promotions this year. We had three colleagues promoted to associate professor with tenure – Bridget Stomberg, Marcy Shepardson, and Joe Schroeder. I do not recall our department ever being able to promote and tenure three faculty members in a single year! But these three faculty members are all outstanding research scholars, excellent teachers, and generous colleagues. In addition, we are delighted that Diane Biagioni was promoted to senior lecturer. Diane does an incredible job teaching the jumbo managerial accounting course (and she does a terrific job helping to coordinate the production of this newsletter every year!).

As a department, we were again very successful in the classroom and in research. Members of our department received a number of Kelley and IU teaching awards. In the past year, our faculty published roughly 20 articles in top-tier accounting research journals, and made numerous presentations of very promising working papers at top conferences and universities. We are pleased that two of our Ph.D. students were successful in the faculty job market. Dan Way will be a new assistant professor at Clemson University and Yoon Hoo Kim will be a new assistant professor at Hong Kong Baptist University.

This will be an historic year; it marks the Bicentennial of Indiana University, as well as the Centennial of the IU’s Business School (named the Kelley School of Business in 1997). Throughout the year, IU and Kelley will be celebrating these great milestones with various events, ceremonies, and banquets. Fittingly, this year’s edition of the newsletter takes more of a historical perspective. Our department will celebrate by holding our third Accounting Alumni and Friends Recognition Banquet on November 7, 2019. We hope you will join us at the banquet to mark the occasion and to honor accounting alumni and friends who are achieving remarkable career success.

As always, I am humbled and honored to serve as the chair of such an incredible group of faculty, delivering programs for outstanding students, and (hopefully) making our alumni, recruiters, and other stakeholders very proud of Indiana University, the Kelley School of Business, and the Accounting Department. Much of our success is attributable to the support we receive from our generous stakeholders. Our success is also attributable to the dedicated efforts of our Department’s office staff. Day in and day out, Gina Rogers, Christy Settle, and Jennifer Weideman work so hard to enable the faculty and students to succeed.

As always, thank you all, for all of your support.

Jim Wahlen
James R. Hodge Chair of Excellence
Indiana University was founded on January 20, 1820, making it one of the oldest public universities in the nation. To celebrate its Bicentennial, IU has developed a multi-year, multi-campus program that will recognize and chronicle IU history, showcase the university’s significant contributions to the world, and set a course for the next century. The Kelley School of Business will celebrate its Centennial during IU’s Bicentennial year. Kelley will honor both occasions with 100 events from September 2019 to June 2020 to mark “100 Years of Momentum.” Originally established as the School of Commerce and Finance in March 1920, the business school has emphasized critical thinking and analysis from the start. From its initial enrollment of 70, the Kelley School now enrolls more than 11,000 students on two campuses in Bloomington and Indianapolis and boasts more than 112,000 living alumni worldwide. The following are reflections from three retired professors, two alumni who are recipients of Lifetime Achievement Awards, and the current Accounting Department Chair, Jim Wahlen.

Les Heitger, IU from 1972 to 2008.
The first 15 years I was at IU, the Accounting Department faculty had no desktop computers. In fact, the first several years I was in the Business School there was a room on the first floor where faculty went with their “punch cards” to feed into a card reader. A few hours later you picked up the output from the printer. An early “technological crisis” that the accounting faculty had to deal with was the introduction of the Texas Instruments T-10, which allowed students to add, subtract, multiply, and divide on a small hand-held unit that cost roughly $300 back then. It was argued that students who could afford such a magical device would have a considerable advantage over those who couldn’t. Therefore, for a short while, T-10s were banned from testing activities. It wasn’t long before every student owned a $10 calculator. Many of our students went on to great success as CEOs, CFOs, Controllers, entrepreneurs, and consultants. One of my most well-known students, Mike Krzyzewski, was in an MBA class in the spring of 1974. That summer, however, Mike told me he was leaving the MBA program because Coach Knight had gotten him the head basketball coaching job at West Point. A few years later, Coach K became the head basketball coach at Duke.

Tom Bowers, IU from 1977 to 2015.
The students were good people, respectful and honest, and a delight to be around. I enjoyed the students gracing Caryl [my wife’s] and my dinner table during holidays, attending IU basketball games with us, and playing kickball in our backyard after graduation. I have fond memories of attending the GAP evening graduation ceremonies in the early 2000s and seeing the students’ mothers thanking Caryl for hosting their sons or daughters. I’m glad she could see some of what made teaching these special students a unique experience at IU and the Kelley School.

Early in my days at Kelley I taught undergraduate students who went on to great success in various aspects of business, including partners in prestigious accounting and law firms, senior corporate officials, managing directors of private equity funds, and entrepreneurs. Later, I taught MBA-in-Accounting students who today excel as partners of national advisory firms. It was a privilege to have taught students of such high quality, and looking in the rearview mirror it gives me satisfaction that I played some small role in assisting them along the way. Equally rewarding were my professional and personal friendships with faculty members who exhibited a deep sense of caring about Kelley and its students. If there is perhaps any lasting legacy, none would be more meaningful to me than the work Dave Greene and I did to launch and solidify the Graduate Accounting Programs—work that today is ably carried on by current GAP Chair Pat Hopkins. I am proud to say I had a small role in helping bring Pat to Kelley. Sometimes it takes being away from something to fully appreciate its value. My wife and I now live on the East Coast near family. Last spring I volunteered to teach at a large, regional university because it lacked sufficient faculty to cover a course. The experience made me appreciate even more the wonderful students and colleagues at Kelley whose values, talents, work ethic, and camaraderie make Kelley very special. My advice to current Kelley students and faculty is to appreciate what you have in such a high-quality and truly unique school.

Ronald Cohen, IU (’58)
The four years that I spent at IU were not only some of the most enjoyable years that I recall, but allowed me to grow educationally, intellectually, and socially at a pace that I could not have previously imagined. My time on campus provided me the basis of a successful career, lifetime friendships, and an introduction to my future wife.

Although the campus has grown exponentially since my graduation, the experiences it offers have not diminished. My grandson will be a freshman on campus this fall and I’m confident that he will find the same personal growth that I found many years ago.

Dave Pearson, IU (’59, ’61, and ’64)
IU had excellent faculty who cared about their students, which continues to this day but is certainly not the case at all schools. IU has always done an excellent job at balancing teaching and mentoring students with the demands of research. When I was at IU, I recall that a number of the professors were in business. For instance, Chairman D. Lyle Dieterle had his own public accounting firm in Bloomington. Stan Pressler, who taught cost accounting at the graduate level, owned his own car dealership, which, by the way, I bought a 1964 Olds Cutlass from him at the end of my tour at IU because I was moving to Chicago and needed a car to get to work.
Dave Pearson, continued

One thing that has really changed through the years is registration. It used to take place at the old fieldhouse and lasted two days at the beginning of the semester. Students went at different times, in order by class, starting with graduate students, then seniors, juniors, and all the way down. Each department in the university had a table and students would approach and ask for whatever class they wanted. They’d get a punch card and turn it into the professor on the first day of classes. The lower-level classes were set for Monday/Wednesday/Friday or Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday. Well, you can guess how many students wanted a Saturday or early-morning class. Some of the students came up with some real doozies as to why those days and times wouldn’t work for them. I remember in the accounting department, back when Frumer was in charge and I was his assistant, he told me that a lot of the students claimed they were Jewish and couldn’t take a Saturday class. Sam, being Jewish himself, would give them a little quiz. If they couldn’t pass, he decided that they weren’t a practicing Jew and he put them in the Saturday class.

Jim Wahlen, IU from 1997 to Present.

In 1997, my family and I decided to explore opportunities at other universities. We were just thrilled when I received an offer to join IU’s accounting faculty. I was fortunate to have other offers to join other excellent schools, but IU clearly stood out to my wife and I as the best place for me to continue my career and for our family to establish a home in the great college town of Bloomington. At that time the accounting department had an extraordinary group of faculty doing excellent teaching and impactful research. Senior scholars were amazing researchers, including Jerry Salamon and Jamie Pratt, while the junior faculty were an energetic, fun, and very collegial group. The junior faculty at the time included Walt Blacconiere, Laureen Maines (now the Executive Associate Dean), Daniel Beneish (now a full professor at Kelley), and Pat Hopkins (now a full professor at Kelley and Chair of the Graduate Accounting Programs). Even as good as the faculty were then, the faculty team at IU is even better now!

This is Now! 2019-2020 Accounting Faculty and Staff


Accounting Alumni – Where are They?

Kelley accounting alumni may be found in 54 nations (including the U.S.) on 6 continents. After North America, the largest number of alumni can be found in 23 nations of Asia followed by 14 European nations, 5 nations in Africa and 2 nations in South America.

It comes as no surprise that the largest concentration of graduates in the U.S. can be found in Indiana. Other top locations include Illinois, California, Ohio, Florida, Texas, and New York.

Save the Date: 
The Accounting Alumni and Friends Recognition Banquet  
November 7, 2019

Please plan to join us at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University on November 7, 2019, for the Accounting Alumni and Friends Recognition Banquet! This year’s banquet will be particularly special as it is the Centennial of the Kelley School and the Bicentennial of Indiana University. The banquet is a wonderful event, and it provides a great opportunity for alumni to connect with fellow alumni, faculty, and students. It is also an opportunity to revisit the incredible new buildings of the Kelley School, as well as the beautiful IU campus and Bloomington. The banquet will recognize alumni and friends of Kelley in six categories: Lifetime Achievement, Professional Excellence, Four Under Forty, Community Service, Academic Excellence, and Friends of Kelley.

To purchase tickets or sponsor a table, please visit: https://kelley.iu.edu/faculty-research/departments/accounting/index.cshtml

We look forward to seeing you at the banquet in November!
IU Kelley School’s Undergraduate Program Ranked #10 Overall by U.S. News and World Report

The Best College Rankings for 2019 by U.S. News and World Report lists the Kelley School of Business Undergraduate program as #10 overall, up from its #11 ranking last year. It continues to be ranked second among its Big Ten peers.

“It’s always wonderful to be recognized by our peers as a Top 10 business program,” says Kelley School Dean Idalene “Idie” Kesner. “Schools in the Midwest are sometimes overlooked, but our innovative programs and talent-management model draw interest from students and hiring companies from across the country and around the world.”

Seven major programs in the Kelley School are ranked in the top 10. The Accounting Program’s ranking improved from 6th to 4th!

For students graduating from Kelley’s undergraduate program during the 2018–2019 academic year, the top hiring industries continue to be public accounting, consulting, investment banking, retail, technology, financial services, and consumer products (see graphic). The top full-time hiring companies were PwC, EY, KPMG, Deloitte, and RSM. Average starting salaries increased by slightly more than 3% overall.

Starting salaries for accounting majors averaged $63,700. In addition, Kelley School of Business accounting majors also received an average signing bonus of $8,500. Employment opportunities are expected to remain steady for accounting graduates in 2020.

NOTE: All data are as of 5/28/2019 and preliminary to the UCSO Annual Report.
Faculty Spotlight:
Bridget Stomberg Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

by Christy Heitger-Ewing

Though Bridget Stomberg once dreamed of becoming a soap opera actress, she ultimately chose a different career path and couldn’t be happier because she ultimately landed a faculty position at IU in 2017 and is now an Associate Professor with tenure teaching the undergraduate course, A329 Taxes and Decision Making, as well as the graduate course, A537 Corporate Taxation. Stomberg’s research focuses on various aspects of corporate taxes in the U.S. She has several working projects with other Kelley faculty and Ph.D. students and lists collaborating with Ph.D. students as one of the best parts of her job.

“I enjoy working with Ph.D. students because it is wonderful to see them gain the skills and confidence they need to succeed in their careers,” says Stomberg. “Watching others learn and grow inspires me. Also their energy and enthusiasm is contagious and helps me to be excited and passionate about my work.”

Junwei Xia, a fifth-year Kelley Ph.D. student, and Stomberg have an early working paper that examines the magnitude of the mandatory repatriation tax passed as part of the recent Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. “We also examine how quickly and accurately companies were able to estimate this large and important number and report it to their shareholders,” says Stomberg, who relishes her job thanks to the incredible work ethic of both students and faculty. “They are all hard-working and dedicated to enhancing and sharing knowledge,” says Stomberg. “I am reminded daily how intellectually curious everyone is, and it inspires me to be a better scholar.” And it goes both ways. She notes that many students come into class perceiving taxes as boring—almost like chores. As a result, they don’t think it’s as exhilarating or fascinating as other business disciplines.

“I love it when students finally understand how foundational taxes are to business decisions and how far-reaching they are [in that] they affect so many transactions day-to-day,” says Stomberg. “[They see] how much the success or failure of a project can rest on a company’s grasp of the tax concerns.” For her teaching excellence, Stomberg was awarded an IU Trustees Teaching Award in 2019.

Stomberg has been married for 14 years to Derrick. They have a 5-year-old daughter named Blake and an 11-year-old black lab named Lito. “My husband and I met at the University of Florida where Lito Sheppard played football,” says Stomberg. “Sheppard also played for the Philadelphia Eagles, which is Derrick’s favorite NFL team, so we named our dog after him.” Stomberg doesn’t have a preferred NFL team. “I just focus on rooting against the Patriots,” she says.

She enjoys traveling to Florida’s beaches every summer where she relaxes with a good piece of fiction. “My goal is to read 20 books this year!” says Stomberg, whose all-time favorite piece of literature is Chronicle of a Death Foretold by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

As for her top IU memory thus far, it’s when she and colleagues Casey Schwab and Brian Williams conceived of a paper while driving to a conference in Illinois in the fall of 2017. When the paper was accepted into the University of North Carolina Tax Symposium—a prestigious and selective conference—the trio celebrated by eating ice cream from The Chocolate Moose and playing dance songs in her office. They did a repeat celebration the following year when they received an invitation to resubmit the paper for publication in The Accounting Review.

“Much of the research and publication process can be grueling and negative so I’ve enjoyed working with Casey and Brian, who are happy to celebrate the little achievements along the way;” says Stomberg, who, herself, has enjoyed rejoicing during life’s fun accomplishments. Perhaps it all started in fifth grade when she won an award for best handwriting—“still one of my greatest accomplishments!” she says. During graduate school, she also nabbed first place in a city-wide scavenger hunt with a fellow Ph.D. student. “We came in first out of 160+ teams and won $300, which felt like a million as a broke Ph.D. student!” says Stomberg.
Faculty Spotlight:
Marcy Shepardson Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

by Christy Heitger-Ewing

Marcy Shepardson, who joined the IU faculty in 2011 and has taught auditing in both the undergraduate program and the 3/2 MBA program, was recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

During her career, Shepardson’s research has investigated two important topics in the accounting and auditing literature: costs and benefits of independent audits and characteristics of auditors and audit committees that improve monitoring outcomes.

“The majority of my published research focuses on costs and benefits of mandatory audits of internal controls, including effects on control systems and integrated financial statement audits,” says Shepardson.

Her second summer paper from her Ph.D. program (co-authored with Bill Kinney) was published in the *Journal of Accounting Research*. Two subsequent projects (one with Joe Schroeder and the other also with Schroeder and Lori Bhaskar, both IU accounting faculty colleagues) studying related questions have been published in *The Accounting Review*.

“This topical expertise on internal control audits is my greatest academic accomplishment to date,” says Shepardson. “The beginning of that project with Joe and Lori was the most fun that I’ve had working on a paper [as we worked] through why we thought the question was interesting, revising our beliefs about the associations we expected to see in the data, and finding a result that was interesting and important.”

Shepardson and her husband, Mark, have a 3-year-old named Maya. With extended families living in Illinois, Ohio, and Texas, they feel fortunate to be ideally situated to be able to spend lots of time with grandparents and cousins. They make an annual trip to San Antonio, Texas, and also head to their family vacation home in Sanibel Island, Florida, where Shepardson has been going each year since she was a child.

“Family is so important. I love sharing [the beach home] with my husband and daughter. It’s a wonderful place to relax, sit on the beach, play in the pool, and recharge,” says Shepardson, who also unwinds by tickling the ivories as she’s been playing piano since she was five years old.

A Midwesterner by birth, prior to coming to Bloomington, Shepardson spent eight years in San Diego, California, and five years in Austin, Texas. She feels at home on IU’s campus and thoroughly enjoys interacting with fellow faculty, students, and staff.

“I accepted my offer to join the faculty primarily because of the people,” says Shepardson, who describes the faculty as top-notch. “I just love it here. I’m so thankful for the support of my colleagues.” She also enjoys integrating her practical experience into classroom discussion.

When she worked as an auditor in the professional arena, she impressed on her staff that understanding why they were doing the tasks they were performing was extremely important to the quality of their output. “We spent time understanding those important questions,” says Shepardson. “This translates directly into my classroom experiences today as there are certain days of the semester when I can almost see my students begin to put the pieces of auditing theory together. Those days are always my favorites.”

She also likes it when former students contact her to let her know that something she taught them was useful in helping them stand out from the crowd in their jobs.

“I love hearing that not only is the information important for success as a CPA, but [also] that the things we teach them help them to be extraordinary in the workplace,” says Shepardson.
Faculty Spotlight:
Joe Schroeder Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure

When Professor Joe Schroeder graduated from Bloomington High School South in 1999, little did he know he would return in the fall of 2013 to join the accounting faculty of the Kelley School of Business. At that point he was focused more on pursuing his NCAA swimming dreams at Ball State University and had little grasp of the many opportunities that an accounting degree presents. However, over the past decade, the seeds of an academic career were planted during his undergraduate studies, were nourished during his five-year professional career at the Indianapolis office of Ernst & Young, and were harvested during his Ph.D. studies at Michigan State University. Now six years after joining Indiana University, Schroeder has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure.

Schroeder’s research focuses on examining the implications of regulation on audit quality, financial reporting disclosures, and the auditor/client dynamic. He has been published in the leading accounting journals, including the *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, the *Journal of Accounting Research*, *The Accounting Review*, the *Review of Accounting Studies*, and *Contemporary Accounting Research*. He has also been the recipient of the 2016 American Accounting Association Outstanding Auditing Dissertation Award and the 2018 AAA Auditing Section Best Conference Paper Award for his paper co-authored with IU professors Lori Bhaskar and Patrick Hopkins.

“Every one of my research studies has its roots back to my time at Ernst & Young and the focus is on helping inform not only academics but regulators and practitioners,” says Schroeder, who last March had the opportunity to present his paper examining insider trading around the audit process (co-authored with Salman Arif at Minnesota, John Kepler at Stanford, and Daniel Taylor at Wharton) to the PCAOB, Commissioner Robert Jackson at the SEC, and the University of Chicago all in the same week.

“I’m not going to lie,” says Schroeder. “That was one of the coolest weeks of my life.”

Schroeder teaches the auditing course in the undergraduate program, as well as in the 3/2 MBA program. His passion for auditing, combined with real-world experience and research expertise in the area, have greatly benefited the students of Kelley. He has received the Harry C. Sauvain, IU Trustees, and Innovative Teaching Awards during his six years at Kelley.

“The chance to share my knowledge and inspire students, like my professors did for me, is why I decided to pursue a career in academia,” says Schroeder. “I’ve been teaching for 11 years between MSU and IU, and it’s so rewarding to see my students have such great success in their careers. What makes Kelley a special place is our commitment to our students through our world-class programs. I’m happy to be a part of it.”

While accounting academia is a huge part of Schroeder’s life, his passion is raising his two sons, Max (7) and Ben (4) with his wife, Amanda, in his hometown. “It’s crazy seeing Bloomington through their eyes and seeing them experience some of the same things I did as a young kid,” says Schroeder. “Max and Ben have started taking an interest in swimming and we really enjoy practices with the Indiana Swim Club and lessons at the IU outdoor pool, which coincidently was my first job at IU in 1997.”

In addition to his family, Schroeder finds time to swim on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the various IU pools and enjoys cheering on the nationally ranked IU men’s and women’s swim teams. He is also big into cooking, especially BBQ, and jumps at the opportunity to cook pork shoulder or brisket for any event. Schroeder also enjoys traveling with his family.

“The amazing thing about an academic career is the chance to share your research around the world,” he says. “Prior to moving to Kelley, I had only been out of the USA once to Canada. Since then, I’ve had the opportunity to visit 12 countries and five continents. I have also enjoyed sharing these experiences with my family.”
Faculty Spotlight:
Diane Biagioni Promoted to Senior Lecturer

by Christy Heitger-Ewing

When students meet with Diane Biagioni to discuss their career goals and internships, they often ask her why she chose to teach at Indiana University and the Kelley School of Business. Diane, who is newly promoted to Senior Lecturer, pauses and smiles because it’s not a simple answer, nor was it a straight-line path to this point, but that’s partly what makes her journey so special.

Born in Boston, Diane remains an avid Red Sox fan. She came to Bloomington as a child in 1974 when her father, Professor Louis Biagioni, accepted a position as an accounting professor at IU (he retired in 1997). Diane attended IU and graduated with both an undergraduate and an MBA from the Kelley 5 Year Honors Program (a precursor to the current 3/2 MBA Graduate Accounting Program).

Following graduation, Diane began her career in public accounting in Chicago with EY. She then moved to the corporate arena.

“I appreciated my time in public accounting as it provided me with technical, organizational, and administrative skills, but I preferred the corporate arena,” says Diane. “I enjoyed being part of a consistent team, working on projects together to advance the corporate goals.”

Every few years, she moved between subsidiary units, increasing her understanding of the overall corporation. As a result, she had the opportunity to travel extensively as the companies she worked for had operations on six continents.

“My family thinks it’s humorous that in all my travels, I’ve not been to Hawaii or Italy, but I say, ‘You need somewhere to visit when you retire, right?’” Diane says with a chuckle.

Diane worked in the corporate world for more than 20 years until her father’s health began to fail. Then she reexamined her priorities.

“I teach my students that not all decisions are based on numbers and the bottom line,” says Diane. “Non-financial elements should also be considered and they often outweigh the numbers.”

In the fall of 2013, Diane came full-circle and joined the IU faculty to teach over 800 students each semester the fundamentals of managerial accounting. She finds it very rewarding to be a part of their journey at Kelley.

Diane smiles when she thinks about how teaching has evolved since she was in school.

“There were no electronic presentations—just chalkboards and overheads,” says Diane. “My teaching assistants are shocked when I tell them I didn’t get to use a calculator on the CPA exam!”

Diane enjoys helping first-generation students navigate the college waters by listening to their challenges, providing insight and celebrating their victories.

Diane feels honored to give back to the institution that prepared her for her career. She considers it a privilege to be part of a talented department that is committed to educating and preparing students. She is also thrilled to continue her father’s legacy.

“Dad started the IU legacy when he earned his MBA here. It has been continued not only by me, but by my siblings and a niece. We are looking forward to a fourth generation of Hoosiers.”
New Faculty

Ashley Sauciuc

Ashley Sauciuc joins the Kelley faculty from the University of Arizona, where she has spent the last five years working toward her Ph.D. in Accounting. Her dissertation examines the effect of pay raise frequency within groups on collusion. Sauciuc’s other current research projects relate to both individual and group performance incentives, misreporting, game theory, and experimental economics.

“I can’t wait to begin working on some research projects with my new colleagues here at Indiana,” says Sauciuc.

Prior to starting her Ph.D., Sauciuc received her B.S. in Accounting from Arizona State University and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Notre Dame with her M.S. in Accounting. She then worked for three years as a CPA at Deloitte in the Phoenix audit office. Sauciuc will teach Cost Accounting for undergraduates this fall at the Kelley School of Business. In her free time, Sauciuc enjoys spending time with her husband, Vlad, and their two-year-old son, Eric.

“My family and I are really excited about moving to Bloomington and we look forward to exploring the area,” says Sauciuc.

Rosh Sinha

Roshan (Rosh) Sinha joins the Kelley faculty from the University of Washington, where he recently completed his Ph.D. in Accounting. His dissertation examines whether investors update their beliefs after revision restatements. Broadly, Sinha’s research focuses on the influence of accounting information on individual investors’ judgments and decisions.

After completing his BBA in Accounting and Master of Accountancy at the University of Wisconsin, he started his career with KPMG and worked in their tax group in the Portland office.

“While I enjoyed my time at KPMG, my long-term goal was always to be in academia,” says Sinha.

He comes to Bloomington with his wife, Margo, and their Lagotto Romaganolo, Bonzi. “We’re excited to be part of such a vibrant and lively community and be a part of the Hoosier family. Even our dog sports a crimson red collar,” says Sinha, who enjoys watching sports and movies, snowboarding, reading, and running.

In the spring, Sinha will teach Advanced Financial Accounting. This was the course that really piqued his interest in accounting.

“I remember going into that class unsure about whether I was going to continue or drop it,” recalls Sinha. “I had a wonderful professor and after the first two weeks, I had decided not only to take the class but to also major in accounting!”
New Visiting Faculty

P.J. Hoffman

P.J. Hoffman, a Hoosier from Michigan City, Indiana, grew up outside of Philadelphia. He earned his B.B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, majoring in accountancy with a supplemental major in philosophy. He then joined EY’s (then Ernst & Young) Financial Services Office in New York, auditing hedge funds. He received his Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University and has been an assistant professor at Purdue University since 2013.

Hoffman will be teaching intermediate accounting to undergraduate accounting and finance majors at IU. He is also currently engaged in multiple research projects with IU faculty.

“I’m incredibly excited for the opportunity to research alongside the world-renowned faculty here at Kelley and teach such highly regarded students,” says Hoffman.

He and his wife, Sarah, love the outdoors and enjoy hiking, mountain biking, and camping with their dog, Tiny. In their spare time, they foster orphaned dogs and kittens.

Chase Potter

Chase Potter comes to Indiana with his wife, Chantelle, after earning his Ph.D. from the Olin School of Business at Washington University in St. Louis. They are joined by their four children, Lincoln, Camden, Quinn, and Elsie. They enjoy going on road trips, camping, cooking, and building LEGO's.

Potter grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah. He earned both his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in accounting from the David Eccles School of Business at the University of Utah. He is a passionate college football fan and loves to cheer for the Utes.

Potter’s research investigates how non-traditional users of financial information are affected by financial reporting. Potter’s dissertation examines the economic consequences of expanding the scope of financial reporting to include U.S. foreign policy goals. Another working paper, co-authored with Bridget Stomberg, examines how local political corruption affects how aggressive managers are when determining their firm’s tax strategy. At IU, Potter will teach intermediate financial accounting.

“I’m excited to help students see how financial reporting impacts decision-making at every level of business,” says Potter.
Accounting Ph.D. Placements

Dan Way

Born and raised in West Newbury, Vermont, Dan Way completed the doctoral program in Accounting with a minor in Psychology. Way is a first-generation college student and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting & Information Systems from Virginia Tech (Summa Cum Laude), a Master’s degree in Accounting from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and a Master’s degree in Technology Systems from East Carolina University.

Prior to joining the doctoral program at Indiana in 2014, Way spent 12 years working in the financial services industry in Charlotte, North Carolina, and for several years served as an adjunct instructor of Accounting at Central Piedmont Community College and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He and his partner, Lisa, and their two dogs, Juno and Vixen, returned to the Carolinas over the summer where Way began his new position as Assistant Professor of Accountancy at Clemson University.

“I’m incredibly grateful for the support, encouragement, and guidance I received from both faculty members and fellow Ph.D. students at IU,” says Way, a two-time recipient of the Kelley School of Business doctoral student research productive award. “I’ve formed some lasting working relationships and friendships during my time at IU, and I’m proud to be a member of the Hoosier family.”

Way’s research focuses on managerial accounting issues related to the behavioral effects of accounting controls and performance measurement systems, and the interactive role that social incentives play in motivating individuals.

In 2018, Way received the Kelley School of Business Panschar undergraduate teaching award for associate instructors. He is particularly excited to be teaching cost accounting at Clemson this fall—in between football games, that is.

Yoon Hoo Kim

Yoon Hoo Kim grew up in Seoul, South Korea, and earned his Bachelor’s degree from Yonsei University. After working in the multinational firm as a strategic planning executive and duty-free channel manager for six years, Kim moved to Bloomington to pursue an MBA at Indiana University.

“During my two years as an MBA student, I had an opportunity to meet wonderful people at Kelley Business School and this experience led me to continue my study in the Ph.D. program,” says Kim, whose research focuses on issues in financial reporting and top management teams, with a specific interest in voluntary disclosures. His dissertation, “The Role of Functional Executives in Voluntary Disclosure: Evidence from Earnings Conference Call Participation,” examines firms’ strategic selection of functional executives in earnings conference calls and investor reactions to such choice.

“It was an incredible experience. I greatly enjoyed my time at Indiana University,” says Kim. “I’m grateful for guidance and support from dissertation committee members Sonja Rego, Matthew Billett, Brian Miller, and Jim Wahlen. I really appreciate the encouragement from IU faculty, especially Jeff McMullin, and fellow doctoral students.”

He also appreciates his parents in Korea, his sister, Yoon Young in New York, and his wife, Seung Yeon in Los Angeles for their endless support throughout the doctoral program.

While Kim has mixed feelings about leaving Bloomington, he is excited to move to Hong Kong and begin his academic career as an Assistant Professor at the Hong Kong Baptist University.

“I’m really excited to join the Hong Kong Baptist University and looking forward to working on interesting research topics with young and energetic colleagues there,” says Kim.
Kelley Students Win National Deloitte FanTAXtic Competition
by Christy Heitger-Ewing

In January 2019, the Kelley School team was awarded top honors at the 18th Annual Deloitte FanTAXtic National Case Study Competition, held at Deloitte University near Dallas, Texas. The competition requires that the team consist primarily of freshmen and sophomores. Kelley students Araya Stahoviak (senior last fall), Caroline Short, Katie Roebuck, Lewis Cherry, and Curtis Elliott (all sophomores last fall) defeated student teams from eight other business schools. In all, 60 teams representing 40 colleges and universities participated in regional qualifier events at Deloitte offices throughout the country in November 2018.

Before the regional competition, Deloitte provided the team with the entire case details and relevant tax law, and they had several weeks to prepare. At regionals, the team presented their case and addressed the judges’ questions. It was a different story at nationals, however, as Deloitte only provided them with the general tax law topics and relevant tax code sections in advance but did not provide the facts until a few hours beforehand.

“As a team we brainstormed possibilities of what the case would entail,” says Stahoviak. “We worked together to research the relevant topics and outline a plan for when we did receive the actual case.”

According to Sandra Owen, senior lecturer of accounting and the Kelley team’s faculty advisor, this year’s case challenged students to determine whether a fictional company should convert from a pass-through S corporation to a separately-taxed C corporation in light of recent tax law changes. What makes this team’s success story even more impressive is that only one of the students had even taken a tax class.

The case involved brand-new tax law. The students were working from new legislation and regulations,” says Owen. “It’s not like they had a textbook where they could go and read up on the topic.”

Cherry, a finance, accounting, and international business major, admits that the pressure was on. “We had two hours to decipher the regulations, apply everything we thought was relevant, and put together a memo and presentation that would stand up to being judged by Deloitte tax partners who do this for a living,” says Cherry.

Though it was stressful, the process turned Cherry on to tax, a field that had never before crossed his mind. “As we read through the case and started pulling together our Excel documents, it was very much puzzle-focused,” says Cherry. “I really liked the process of turning technical information into something that’s easy to understand.”

Roebuck, who is majoring in accounting and finance, calls the Deloitte FanTAXtic Case Competition an awesome experience. “It was an honor to have been able to represent the Kelley School of Business at the national level,” she says. “We are so thankful to Sandra Owen for the support and enthusiasm she brought us along the way.”

Elliott adds, “The Deloitte FanTAXtic case competition was a great opportunity to hone our professional and interpersonal skills, all while learning additional tax concepts and expanding our professional network.”

At the award ceremony, Kelley’s team was seated with Rico Roman, a Paralympic Gold Medalist. Deloitte is a major sponsor of the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Games, and Roman was the keynote speaker at the event. “We were so impressed and in awe of him,” says Stahoviak. “Yet he shared that he felt the same way sitting with National Tax Champions!”

Participating in the case competition for Stahoviak ultimately led to a job offer. She’s now a tax consultant with Deloitte in Indianapolis. Cherry’s participation in the competition landed him a summer internship working in a tax department at a fitness equipment manufacturer.

“My boss told me that she’d never before seen this level of tax experience in someone my age,” says Cherry, who has gone from judging tax without really looking beyond the front cover to potentially seeking a future career path. “I owe a lot of it to FanTAXtic,” he says.
Graduate Accounting Programs (GAP) had another great academic year during 2018-2019. In May, 54 students from the 3/2 Accounting Master of Business Administration (MBA) program and 62 students from the Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program earned their degrees. Although our enrollments have been below capacity for the last few years, these numbers reflect a nice increase in our recruitment efforts. Still, we continue to encounter headwinds in student recruitment. This fall, we have 49 students beginning the second year of the 3/2 MBA program, 34 students start the first year of the 3/2 MBA program, and 48 students are enrolled in the MSA program.

Based on meetings and conversations with our key student-employment partners, we believe both of our degrees provide the education and experiences that allow our students to be valuable contributors to their employers upon graduation. We have two initiatives underway that should help us to achieve stable and full class sizes in future years. First, for the MSA program, we are about to launch a winter-internship opportunity for students entering the program. The internships will happen during the spring semester of students’ senior years, and will either take place during the first ten weeks of the semester (i.e., assurance and corporate) or the last ten weeks (i.e., tax). During the seven weeks of the semester the students are not on internship assignment, they will have the opportunity to be in-residence at Kelley to earn six credit hours in the MSA program while paying undergraduate tuition rates. This will effectively reduce the August-to-May MSA program to 24 credit hours. We already see students attempting to juggle their studies and CPA exam prep during the second semester of the MSA program, so this will provide additional time for students to attempt to complete the CPA by (or shortly after) by the time they graduate.

The second initiative relates to recruitment for the 3/2 MBA program and is the result of an alumni task force meeting held in Chicago in June. An observation made by participants in the meeting is that student recruitment often involves parents, and that communication with these individuals needs to occur earlier than ever. This is because the other majors and workshops have high visibility on campus, and are often showcased during Kelley Direct Admit weekend presentations. As a result, we are going to invite 3/2 MBA alumni to assist in Direct Admit weekend-related events. In addition, we will start offering local-city receptions hosted by alumni to help communicate with prospective students and their parents.

Finally, Graduate Accounting Programs is currently celebrating the 20th anniversary of the 3/2 MBA (or, if you’re old school, the AMBA, MBAA, or MBA/a) and the MSA (some might remember it as the MPA) programs. Spring 2019 was the 20th anniversary of the first graduating classes of both programs. In celebration, on October 18-20, 2019, we will be hosting a reunion weekend. For further details, GAP alums should stay up-to-date on GAP’s social media feeds and save-the-date.

As always, we welcome continuing dialogue with our alumni, students, and friends. If you would like to discuss any element of our programs, please get in touch with the GAP Director, Gretchen Handlos (ghandlos@indiana.edu), and/or the GAP Chairperson, Pat Hopkins (peh@indiana.edu).
Curriculum Innovations: MSA Winter Internships

The Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program prepares students that hold undergraduate accounting degrees (from IU or other universities) to study masters-level accounting courses prior to entering the profession, with the majority deciding to pursue the Certified Public Accountant credential. The program graduated its first class in 1999 and now has over 680 alumni.

Strategically, the MSA program is designed for graduates to pursue specialized career paths that lead to early advancement. In recent years, the primary recruiting companies have indicated that our MSA graduates need to have enhanced data analytics and communications capabilities, in addition to a solid understanding of accounting. These employers also indicate that entry-level positions will require new hires to have the ability to work autonomously and exercise independent professional judgment at a much earlier stage of their careers.

In response, Kelley developed a senior-year Winter Internship-MSA track that will lead to two separate sub-tracks in assurance and tax. The timing of Winter Internship-MSA tracks vary, with assurance internships occurring from early January until early March and tax internships from late February until April. The program will also provide complementary coursework during the non-internship portion of the semester.

The Winter Internship-MSA track provides the opportunity to earn MSA-program credit for UG students who have been accepted to the MSA program. It has the potential to reduce the cost of the MSA tuition by 20% while also allowing students the flexibility to study for the CPA exam during the last semester of the MSA program.

Curriculum Innovations: An Online MSA Program

The newly launched Online Master of Science in Accounting program at the Kelley School of Business is designed for smart, hardworking students with integrity and passion who want to substantially enhance their understanding of accounting and broaden their career opportunities. Our accounting Master’s degree curriculum includes courses in financial accounting and managerial accounting, financial statement analysis, finance, tax planning and strategy, auditing, and data analytics-based decision-making. The online MSA accounting program is designed to be flexible and rigorous, allowing you to complete a high-quality accounting program on your own schedule, and at your own pace.

According to Adam Herman, Executive Director of Kelley Direct MBA and MS Programs, three courses comprise the MicroMasters® program credential: Financial Reporting I, Managerial Accounting and Corporate Control, and Taxes and Decision Making; these are taken first and this interfaces with the master’s degree at nine credit hours.

“We’re hoping for 35-40 students in our 2019-2020 intake, which will include starting with the MicroMasters and then beginning credit-bearing IU courses in the spring of 2020,” says Herman. “We anticipate enrolling around 40 students in the first cohort.”

As with other Kelley Direct programs, it is a two-step process to apply. The first portion is the KD Program Application. The second portion is the Indiana University Graduate School Application. For information and to apply to the MSA program, visit https://kelley.iu.edu/programs/edx/ms-accounting/. 
Learning Through Service: MBA Students Help Small Businesses in Thailand & Guatemala

by Christy Heitger-Ewing

The Global Business and Social Enterprise (GLOBASE) program, now in its tenth year, has been instrumental in providing MBA students with a new perspective on their impact in helping small businesses thrive in developing countries. Jim Wahlen was Chair of the MBA Program and helped establish this initiative. The first GLOBASE program helped small businesses in Peru in the spring of 2009. A GLOBASE class typically consists of four second-year MBA students, 25 first-year students, one faculty member, and one staff. Topics covered in class include consulting project development; cultural, political, and economic discussions; and travel & safety issues.

The in-country experience lasts for seven days in early March when the consulting teams work intensively with their clients throughout the week. Prior to traveling to the country, however, teams work on their projects with their clients via Skype. The project ends with a client presentation, followed by cultural visits on Saturday and Sunday.

This year for the first time students traveled to Chiang Mai, Thailand. Professor Joe Fisher, who led the trip, describes Chiang Mai as an interesting cultural destination with a friendly native population. “Many hill tribes are modernizing,” says Fisher. “The country struggles with this modernization while trying to keep native traditions alive.”

A teacher named Kung runs the Cotton Farm, a business that employs local weavers in the nearby hill tribes of Chiang Mai to produce high-quality traditional cotton goods. “Her product line is wide and evolves both with customer demand and the patterns that belong to the families who weave for her,” explains Fisher. “However, the economy in Thailand has declined, hourly minimum wages have tripled, and international demand for her products has flagged.” In response, Kung has begun teaching different types of workshops and bringing in students from two brokers focused on tourism from Hong Kong and China.

“Her revenues have almost recovered, but she was in need of direction,” says Fisher. “She wanted to know how she could continue to preserve and share the traditional weaving styles of Thailand while keeping her company afloat.” Due to market conditions, her wholesale and retail business was struggling. In response, she diversified into workshops. Kelley’s GLOBASE students created a financial model for her business.

“As the students worked with the client, the financial model evolved into a powerful tool,” says Fisher. “Now, Kung has access not only to profit and loss calculations but can record all of her revenues and expenses to see their effect in real time, predict demand for her different products, produce income statements for tax purposes, record customer comments and suggestions, and see a graph of her results.”

Meanwhile, Professor Brian Miller led a group of students to Guatemala, working with businesses such as Manos de Salvaciŏn, Copeoro RL, Asociaciŏn de Caras Alegres, and Tacorazon.

“Working with GLOBASE students is an amazing opportunity for everyone involved,” says Miller. “Many students tell me that real-world aspect of the program provides one of their best educational experiences at Kelley. Plus, our partner firms receive benefits that help them grow in difficult economic environments.”
Classroom experience is crucial, but there’s nothing like immersive, hands-on learning to truly gain a skill. That’s what the Jim Grandorf Field Consulting Projects (A569) and field study projects (A505) provide for Kelley Graduate Accounting Program (GAP) students. What’s great about these courses is that not only do GAP students achieve real-world consulting experience using research-based strategies but they also aid Bloomington organizations who can benefit from modifying their business models. BKD sponsors the program and an annual awards banquet to honor the top three teams. This year students worked with organizations such as Bloomington Developmental Learning Center, Meridians, Cummins, NALC, and the IU Foundation.

“As a small non-profit organization, the Field Consulting program has provided us with resources we could never afford without our partnership with Indiana University and its high-quality students,” says Amanda Schroeder, a representative from the Bloomington Developmental Learning Center. “The students we have worked with have been incredibly professional and hard working. They have provided us with highly valuable deliverables that have helped us solve problems and streamline our processes.”

Adam Mwaniki, who worked with the IU Foundation, notes that the A569 project showed him how challenging, yet rewarding, working with a client can be. “Our team provided a meaningful solution to our client by understanding what the organization needed and what each individual needed to accept to implement our idea,” says Mwaniki.

“It forced me and my teammates to think from the client’s perspective about all of the different nuances that went into the project,” says Christian Witek, who worked with Meridians. “We realized that keeping the client updated on our progress and regularly asking for feedback were both crucial steps in keeping the client satisfied.”

Witek maintains that the most valuable skill he gained from the process was the ability to figure out what to do when he and his teammates weren’t sure how to proceed. “Many students don’t work with ambiguity in the classroom and yet it’s such a large part of the real world that graduates are often unprepared for,” says Witek.

Megan Lord agrees. She states that applying her knowledge from the Kelley School of Business to a real-life business situation taught her how to face uncertainty.

“My team and I were tasked to create an alternative account code hierarchy for Cummins,” says Lord, who admits that initially they didn’t know what this entailed or how to start.

“The Kelley faculty encouraged us to embrace uncertainly and create innovative results,” says Lord. “My team provided a new perspective on this project by maintaining an open mind, which I strongly believe set us apart from the other consulting teams.”

Greg Gould, President and CEO of NALC, LLC, was pleased with the initiative he witnessed in the GAP students. “Clearly the students on our team were smart and talented but, beyond that, I was especially impressed with how attentive, curious, and professional they remained throughout the process,” says Gould.

For more information about A505 or A569, contact Pat Hopkins (peh@indiana.edu), Terry Campbell (terrcamp@indiana.edu), or Chris Cook (cookchs@indiana.edu).
IU Teams with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis to Hold One-Day Research Conference
by Christy Heitger-Ewing

Earlier this year, Yadav Gopalan, Assistant Professor of Accounting, contacted Jim Fuchs with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis to ask if he’d be interested in hosting a one-day research conference on accounting and financial institutions that would be co-sponsored by the accounting department at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University.

“Jim was excited to bring this idea to reality and was really supportive of this entire effort,” says Gopalan, who worked with Summer Henry to organize logistics for the July 26 conference.

“We wanted to provide a venue for junior faculty who are doing research related to banking or financial institutions to get feedback from fellow junior faculty as well as from bank regulators examiners at the St. Louis Federal Reserve,” explains Gopalan, noting that around 65 people were in attendance. In addition, a handful of senior faculty members from Kelley and other leading research universities provided guidance as well.

Five assistant professors presented their papers, including Aytekin Ertan of the London Business School, Sarah Stuber of Texas A&M University, Jed Neilson of the Pennsylvania State University, Anya Kleymenova of the University of Chicago, and Michael Iselin of the University of Minnesota. Each speaker had 50 minutes to present their research, during which academics provided comments and feedback. Examiners also provided institutional details and their own experiences as they related to each paper. The purpose of the conference was to incorporate richer institutional details into academic research, as well as to inform regulators and examiners on academic evidence that might be relevant to their own work.

“All the speakers presented topics that are relevant for a regulatory audience,” says Gopalan. “Allen North, Senior Examiner Officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, provided a lot of feedback and institutional details on different areas of bank examinations and regulations that were not only informative for the particular papers but also helped everyone else gain a better institutional grounding in what bank regulators actually do.”

IU Organizes Two-Day Conference in Brazil
by Christy Heitger-Ewing

Although Brazil is among the largest economies in the world, there is essentially no research published in accounting journals about the Brazilian financial markets. Therefore, last fall Assistant Professor Rafael Rogo decided to organize the Brazilian Accounting Research Conference, which took place in Búzios, Brazil, on December 14-15, 2018. As chair of the committee, Rogo organized the presenters, papers, and discussants.

“I was hoping that getting some of the best accounting researchers in Brazil would foster their interest in learning more about the economy and hopefully fill this gap in the accounting literature,” says Rogo, who worked with Felipe Ferreira, a researcher from a Brazilian institution, to help coordinate logistics. Approximately 30 accounting scholars gathered from across the world for two days of academic presentations given by assistant professors from the University Toronto, University Texas-Austin, London Business School, FUCAPE-Brazil, Northwestern, and University of British Columbia. In addition, the conference featured discussions by editors of top accounting journals and/or chairs of respected accounting programs. Four Brazilian specialists were invited to participate and one was invited to present a paper.

“The research topics included U.S. regulatory capture, European financial markets, and changes in Brazilian regulation,” says Rogo. “The part that stood out was the discussions by senior faculty. The chance of having an editor of a top accounting journal to discuss a working paper is priceless for an assistant professor.”

When in sunny Brazil, one can’t spend all their time indoors, however. “The weather there was sunny and 80+ degrees, while in the U.S., the temperature was about 20 degrees so we made sure to include some outdoor recreation such as boat tours and beach time,” says Rogo, noting that the inaugural conference was so successful that they plan to hold it every other year.

“The presentations were interesting, discussions constructive and the social events were great fun,” says Rogo.

Attendee Russell Lundholm calls the experience “simply the best, most intellectually stimulating conference that I have attended in a long time.” He notes that the small size ensured that everyone was fully engaged, both during the presentations and the subsequent social events. “I also enjoyed meeting Brazilian faculty, especially those involved with policymaking in the country, and discussing how the country plans to move forward,” says Lundholm.

The next conference is scheduled for December 2020.
# The 2018-2019 Research Seminar Series

The following list shows our schedule of research workshops and seminars during the 2018-2019 school year. As you can see, we had a very active and productive seminar series!

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; and 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; year Ph.D. student presentations</td>
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<td>September 7</td>
<td>Jeff Hales</td>
<td>Georgia Tech</td>
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<td>September 14</td>
<td>Rodrigo Verdi</td>
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<td>September 28</td>
<td>Dan Way</td>
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<td>October 12</td>
<td>Clive Lennox</td>
<td>USC</td>
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<td>November 9</td>
<td>Lisa De Simone</td>
<td>Stanford</td>
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<td>November 14</td>
<td>Rahul Vashishtha</td>
<td>Duke</td>
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<td>January 8</td>
<td>Brian Gale</td>
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<td>January 15</td>
<td>Mike Durney</td>
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<td>Rosh Sinha</td>
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<td>Ashley Sauciuc</td>
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<td>January 25</td>
<td>John Kepler</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>Antonis Kartapanis</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>Dimas Peña-Romero</td>
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<td>February 5</td>
<td>Nikki Skinner</td>
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<td>February 12</td>
<td>Badryah Alhusaini</td>
<td>Penn State</td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>Rafael Copat</td>
<td>Rice</td>
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<td>February 26</td>
<td>Yuan Zou</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>Pat Hopkins</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>Sarah Stein</td>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Eric Chan</td>
<td>University of Texas</td>
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Research Highlights

Publications and Acceptances:

**Lori Bhaskar, Pat Hopkins, and Joe Schroeder**

**Lori Bhaskar**

**Dawn Drnevich and Greg Geisler**

**Jeff McMullin and B. Schonberger**

J. Madsen and **Jeff McMullin**

**Jeff McMullin, Brian Miller, and B. Twedt**

**J. Busenbark, Nathan Marshall (IU Ph.D. alumnus), Brian Miller, and M. Pfarrer**

**Joe Pacelli**

M. Drake, P. Joos, **Joe Pacelli**, and B. Twedt

**A. Edwards, Michelle Hutchens (IU Ph.D. alumna), and Sonja Rego**

**B. Badertscher, S. Katz, Sonja Rego, and Ryan Wilson**

**R. Lundholm, N. Rahman, and Rafael Rogo**

**J. Naughton, Rafael Rogo, J. Sunder, and R. Zhang**

**R. Lundholm and Rafael Rogo**

**K. Hrazdil, J. Novak, Rafael Rogo, C. Wiedman, and R. Zhang**

**Nessa, M., Bridget Stomberg, E. Towery, and Casey Schwab**

**S. Chen, K. Schuchard, and Bridget Stomberg**
Research Highlights Continued

Publications and Acceptances:

D. Lynch, M. Romney, Bridget Stomberg, and D. Wangerin

L. De Simone, Bridget Stomberg, and L. Mills

P. Mason, S. Utke, and Brian Williams

D. Guenther, K. Njoroge, and Brian Williams
“Use of Increased Operating Cash Flows by Firms that Avoid Taxes.” The Accounting Review, forthcoming.

J. Johnson, J. Theis, A. Vitalis, and Donnie Young

S. Emett, R. Guymon, B. Taylor, and Donnie Young
“Controls and the Asymmetric Stickiness of Norms.” Accounting Horizons, forthcoming.

Other Notable Research Activities:

Leslie Hodder and Sonja Rego serve as Editors for The Accounting Review.

Brian Miller serves as an Associate Editor of Management Science. He also serves on the Editorial Boards for Accounting Horizons, The Accounting Review, and Review of Accounting Studies.


Jeff McMullin was selected as the Outstanding Discussant at the 2019 AAA Financial Accounting and Reporting Section’s midyear meetings.

Leslie Hodder and Pat Hopkins delivered talks at: the South Africa Accounting Association International Biennial Conference in Johannesburg; the IAAER and ACCA Emerging Research Development Workshop in Pretoria, South Africa; and the IAAER World Congress of Accounting Educators in Sydney, Australia.

Teaching Highlights

Bridget Stomberg and Jim Wahlen received Indiana University Trustees Teaching Awards.

Jamie Pratt and Jim Wahlen received MBA Program Teaching Excellence Awards.

Chris Cook and Anita Morgan were awarded the Elvin S. Eyster Teaching Scholar Award.

Jim Wahlen received the MBA Teaching Excellence Award in the Executive MBA Program with Sungkyunkwan University and the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University.

Katie Metz, Casey Schwab, and Bridget Stomberg were awarded a Summer Instructional Development Fellowship through the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning to significantly redesign the A329 course, Taxes and Decision Making.

Anita Morgan was awarded a CITL Summer Instructional Development Fellowship grant to create a hybrid model for the A310 course, Management Decisions and Financial Reporting.

Leslie Hodder and Patrick Hopkins jointly delivered the Ph.D. Seminar in Archival and Experimental Methods at the University of Graz, in Austria.
Research Presentations:

During the past year, our faculty made many research presentations at prestigious conferences all over the world, including the following:

AAA Annual Meetings
AAA Financial Accounting and Reporting Midyear Meetings
AAA Accounting Behavior and Organizations Research Conference
AAA Auditing Section Midyear Meetings
AAA Midwest Regional Meetings
Anhui University of Finance and Economics, Bengbu, China
Asian Bureau of Finance and Economic Research Conference, Singapore
AnpCont Conference, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Michigan Law School
Conference on the Convergence of Financial and Managerial Accounting Research, Banff, Canada
Conference on Financial Economics and Accounting, New Orleans, LA
Journal of the American Taxation Association Conference
Journal of Business Finance and Accounting Conference, Berlin, Germany
9th EIASM Conference on Current Research in Taxation
2019 International Symposium on Audit Research (ISAR) in Boston
University of Houston Accounting Research Symposium
University of Minnesota Empirical Conference
Penn State Accounting Research Conference (2x)

During the past year, our faculty also conducted research workshops at the following universities:

Concordia University, Montreal, Canada         Michigan State University
Monash University, Australia (2x)        Northwestern University
Purdue University        Renmin University, Beijing, China
Santa Clara University        Simon Frasier University, Canada
Virginia Tech University        University of Arizona (2x)
University of Cincinnati        University of Colorado
University of Florida (2x)        University of Graz, Austria
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign        University of Oregon
University of Mississippi        University of North Carolina-Charlotte
University of Pittsburgh        University of Texas at Dallas
University of Virginia
Wharton School of Business, the University of Pennsylvania
Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, Germany
Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria
The Kelley Applause Tradition
by Jim Wahlen

For a number of years now, a special part of the Kelley School culture and history, particularly within the
graduate programs, is “The Applause Tradition.” This is a beautiful tradition in which, at the conclusion of
every class session, everyone present takes a few moments to applaud. It is not the students applauding
the professor, nor is the professor applauding the students, but rather, everyone is applauding to
acknowledge the effort, the learning, and the growth that had just taken place.

But how did this tradition become part of Kelley history and culture? It began with Professor Walt
Blacconiere, a professor in our department from 1994 to 2007. Walt was a beloved teacher of the Core
MBA Financial Accounting course. He was able to inspire students that already had extensive accounting backgrounds (CPAs
pursuing an MBA), but was also able to help students with no accounting backgrounds (engineers, school teachers, musicians,
social workers, and others).

Walt had a great ability to make accounting understandable to everyone, and had an engaging personality inside and outside the
classroom, making it enjoyable to learn accounting. He had long black hair (like a rock star, down to his shoulders), a great sense
of humor, and was always quick to enjoy a laugh. By the second class session each semester he would know all 225 students’
names. In each class session, he would “cold call” students to answer questions. And while that can be a bit intimidating, he had a
variety of games for cold-calling. For example, in some sessions, if you dressed up like an accountant (or like a rock star), you were
exempt from being cold-called. Sometimes he would select the person to be called next with the “shark attack” – dropping a little
plastic shark on the roster of students’ names! He taught great courses with a lot of depth and
rigor, but also made them fun.

Sadly, in the fall of 2006, Walt was diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer. That week, he
called all the first-year MBA students to a full-class review session on Friday, just prior to an exam
the next week. After the review session, he said he had an announcement that included good
news, bad news, and good news. As he framed it, the first good news was that he was going to
“take a vacation”, and that Professor Daniel Beneish would take over the course. The bad news
was that he had cancer and was going to get treatments. The final bit of good news: Walt told the
students to expect him to be back in the classroom by the end of the semester. And he then gave
them one of his frequent and famous quotes, “Remember, Walt loves ya.” And then he asked all
the students to take up the applause tradition. The tradition began that moment.

The next Monday, a student named Peter Kuo came to me with the idea of putting together a
get-well card that said, “Remember, Kelley Loves Walt”, with the entire MBA program (faculty,
students, and staff) in a photo. Some of the students put that quote on a large banner and we
had a big photo shoot with hundreds of people. We gave a copy of the photo to Walt. He kept it
with him as he went through treatments.

The day before he died (at home) the Kelley School Deans at that time (Dan Smith, Tricia McDougall, and Frank Acito) and I all
visited Walt one last time. The Deans gave him a lifetime teaching achievement award, with his name engraved on President
Herman Wells’ old briefcase. That honor has only been awarded 6 times in the history of IU. He passed away on March 7, 2007. He never was able to come back into the classroom.

At that time, I was the Chair of the MBA Program, so I went to the Deans to propose a memorial to the Applause Tradition, and
attribute it to Walt. I sketched a statue and wrote words for a plaque, to show them my proposal. They loved the idea and gave me
the green light.

In my sketch I had applauding hands coming out of textbooks, with “Teaching” and “Learning” on the books’ bindings. During this
time I met with Todd Frahm, a new faculty member in the School of Fine Arts, and he specialized in sculpting hands and feet. I
explained the applause tradition and Walt, and he agreed to do the sculpture.

After a few months, he sent me photos of the finished sculpture, the plinth and the plaque, and they were beautiful. But he had
changed the words to “Knowledge Speaks” and “Wisdom Listens”. I emailed him to say how much I loved the sculpture, and I just
mentioned that I wished he would have given me a heads-up about changing the words.

No response. Hmmm...

Several hundred people attended the formal dedication ceremony, including Walt’s family, students and
faculty, the Deans, and Todd Frahm and his family. After the ceremony Todd asked to speak with me
privately about changing the words on the sculpture. He said he liked what I had written but he wanted
something with even deeper meaning to reflect who Walt really was. After a lot of research he hit upon
that quote: “Knowledge Speaks. Wisdom Listens.”

Then Todd asked if I noticed the little “JH” initials engraved on the books at the end of the quote? What?
No! I had never noticed them. What was that about? Todd said that the quote is from Jimi Hendrix.
Perfect! Perfect for Walt, the rock-star accounting professor, who created a lasting beautiful tradition at
Kelley!