Accounting
Tiger Tactics
ACCOUNTING TIGER TACTICS 2011
A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Every year, we publish Tiger Tactics to show the progress of the LSU Department of Accounting to our supporters, students, faculty, alumni, and donors. And every year, we progressively have more to write about. This thought alone is very encouraging to me as chair. As our department grows and our students evolve, we become stronger, allowing for more opportunities to give back to both the community and the accounting profession. Each year, we help students and student business owners with their accounting and tax preparation, and we utilize the Accounting Den to connect our students with local and national accounting firms.

When I think about some of our accomplishments from the past year, I can see the progress we have made. For instance, we have expanded our master’s program to include a tax option, while also instituting a program that enables students to attain their bachelor’s, have an internship in the spring, and then attain their master’s, all in five years.

We accepted four new doctoral students into our department, increasing both the program’s depth and diversity. Of course, the Accounting Den is quickly becoming a resounding success for our students, our alumni, recent graduates, and for company recruiters that are a part of it.

As chair of the Department of Accounting, it is my goal to always advance our students, faculty, research, and programs to the very highest level possible. This perpetually increasing display of the capability of our faculty and students is a direct result of your generous support. With this in mind, I hope you enjoy this year’s edition of Tiger Tactics. Our department anticipates you will be as excited about our success in the 2010–2011 academic year as we are. For more information about the Department of Accounting’s successes and accomplishments, please visit bus.lsu.edu/accounting. If you have any additional thoughts, comments, or ideas about the magazine or about the department in general, I can be reached at accounting@lsu.edu or 225-578-6202.

Best regards,

Samuel L. Tiras
Associate Professor & Department Chair
KPMG LLP Endowed Professor
LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business
Department of Accounting

CONTENTS
500 MEMBERS AND GROWING!

Thanks to the support of students, alumni, and corporate recruiters, the Accounting Den has surpassed its first year goal of 500 members! Our student participation numbers have also exceeded our goals and Den members have been actively engaged in recruitment, networking, scholarship application, and Department of Accounting events.

Now that the Den is fully functioning and students are participating, we are shifting our focus toward alumni involvement. The goal of the Accounting Den is to foster a cohesive environment among professionals, business leaders, alumni, and students in the field of accounting. The Accounting Den offers members the unique opportunity to connect with and learn from a group of individuals and organizations with a stake in the accounting field and a shared fervor for LSU. The Den approaches networking in an innovative manner, offering continuous member interaction through an exclusive online platform.

We look forward excitedly to the future growth and expansion of Accounting Den membership among alumni and corporate members. Connecting students, alumni, and business professionals in this digitally advancing world is one goal that the Accounting Den wants to continue pursuing. We also wish to strengthen our network of alumni and LSU Department of Accounting supporters. By donating to the Den, supporters succeed in advancing the department, which makes our students more attractive. This in turn makes our degrees more valuable and noticeable to employers, who will then look for LSU students and recent graduates. In this way, the strength of the accounting department is cyclically enhanced through the Den.

This online platform allows employers unprecedented access to accounting students and offers students another avenue to pursue open career positions posted exclusively for them. Through the Accounting Den, employers can participate interactively in the internship process like never before by viewing student résumés, posting internship opportunities, and communicating with students through unique profiles. Employers can also post full- or part-time job openings, discuss accounting issues via forums, post to the message board, search in the directory of Den members, exchange media, and much more. The Den provides a wealth of networking potential right at members’ fingertips. It is also a great way for alumni to stay in touch with one another and to stay up-to-date on the latest Department of Accounting news and events.

INFORMATION For more information about the Accounting Den or to join, please call 225-578-6202, email accountingden@lsu.edu, or visit our website: www.bus.lsu.edu/accountingden.
ACCOUNTING DEN PRINCIPAL EMPLOYERS:
· Ernst & Young
· KPMG
· PricewaterhouseCoopers
· Faulk & Winkler
· Marathon Oil
· Grant Thornton
· Postlethwaite & Netterville

BELOW ARE ADDITIONAL MEMBER BENEFITS FOR BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE SUPPORTERS:

Individual:
SHAREHOLDER
(Adaptive Membership for Recent Alumni)
$125*-$249* (Graduated 2006-2010)
$250*-$499* (Graduated 2001-2005)
· Access to the Accounting Den
· Listing in Tiger Tactics: Recognition as an Accounting Den member in Tiger Tactics, the Department of Accounting’s annual publication. Our magazine is mailed to nearly 6,000 alumni and supporters of the department.

MANAGER
$500*-$1,249*
· Access to the Accounting Den
· Listing in Tiger Tactics
· Invitation to Annual Accounting Awards Banquet

EXECUTIVE
$1250* +
· Access to the Accounting Den
· Listing in Tiger Tactics
· Recognition at Annual Awards Banquet: Members will be honored guests of the department and recognized at the LSU Department of Accounting Annual Awards Banquet. The honors banquet gathers the department’s brightest students and most passionate supporters. Members will be recognized for their generous contributions in the banquet program and slideshow.

* With 1 to 1 corporate matching donations applied towards your Den membership contribution. Without matching, contribution levels are twice the amount listed above.
"I got on to the Accounting Den and applied for every job in Houston and Baton Rouge that I was qualified for. I ended up hearing from a company in Baton Rouge first, so I interviewed with them and got the job. The Accounting Den was very helpful. The job descriptions made it really easy to search through the entire list of positions for exactly what I was looking for in an internship. I will definitely be using it again in the future."

-Megan Atkinson (Current Student)

"I never got a chance to thank you so much for posting my firm’s job opportunity on the LSU Accounting Den site last month……and I just realized that our new audit hire found us through that very same ad that you posted for us! Thank you again!"

-Karen Dawson (Recruiter)

Provost, Salter, Harper & Alford, LLC

Corporate:

ASSOCIATE PARTNER
$5,000-$9,999
· Access to the Accounting Den with one account
· Official Accounting Den Principle Employer Status: Denotation as an official Accounting Den Principle Employer of the LSU Department of Accounting in all department materials. Accounting Den Principle Employers will be recognized at the annual Department of Accounting Awards Banquet and on the Department of Accounting’s Display of Distinction.

STRATEGIC PARTNER
$10,000-$19,999
· Access to the Accounting Den with two accounts
· Official Accounting Den Principle Employer
· Advisory Board participation opportunity: This is the body that provides input on accounting department matters. Representatives will be chosen from Strategic and Senior Partners.
· Company Reception: The special company reception is open to all accounting students. The reception will be held exclusively for the corporate Accounting Den members at the Strategic and Senior Partner levels.

SENIOR PARTNER
$20,000-plus
· Access to the Accounting Den with three accounts
· Official Accounting Den Principle Employer
· Advisory Board participation opportunity
· Company Reception
· Focus Fix: Enjoy direct access to accounting students when you are a Senior Partner. The Department of Accounting will engage in inter-departmental coordination to promote and enhance the company’s ability to communicate professional opportunities and potential career advancement paths through classroom presentations, case studies, etc.

*Smaller companies with less than 10 CPAs are asked to contact us for contribution level.
During the last meeting of the Accounting Den Advisory Board, our professional members expressed their increasing interest to interact more with students and to communicate new job and internship opportunities. Members were most excited about the kick-off of the spring internship program. The board also addressed the five-year strategic plan for the department, new enrollment data, and the growth of the undergraduate, the MSA and PhD programs, and how various factors affected the eventual placement of the department’s graduates.

The advisory board is made up of individuals, often from competing companies, who have agreed to come together to advance the Department of Accounting. The board is divided into five component committees: Program Development, Student Resources, Internship Opportunities, Faculty Resources, and Department Visibility. Each dedicated group of members is selected for their enthusiasm toward the individual committee and their ability to advance the department through cooperation.

The board serves as a way to connect reputable accounting and industry professionals with the similar goal of increasing the department’s regional, national, and international visibility. These professionals join the department chair, select faculty, and student representation to selflessly donate their time, abilities, and resources as members of the Advisory Board.

The Accounting Den Advisory Board exists to promote and support the faculty and students of the Department of Accounting and to strengthen the department’s position as a premier institute of research and education. As an extension of the Accounting Den, the advisory board serves as a body of counsel and a means of advancement for both the department and the Den.

**THIS YEAR’S COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE:**

**Bill Balhoff**  
CEO and Managing Director, Postlethwaite & Netterville

**Laura DeLaune**  
Assistant Department Chair and Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Accounting

**Sarah Grodsky**  
Alumna, Department of Accounting

**David Long**  
Partner, Grant Thornton Professional Standards

**Nicole Loupe**  
Manager of Corporate Accounting and Derivatives, Marathon Oil

**Gerald Louviere**  
Tax Partner, Pricewaterhouse-Coopers

**Jackie Moffitt**  
MS Program Advisor, Department of Accounting

**Lee Anne Sciambra**  
Audit Partner, KPMG

**Sam Tiras**  
Chair, Department of Accounting

**Edwin Vandenbure**  
Partner-Assurance Services, Ernst & Young

**David Winkler**  
Partner, Faulk & Winkler
NEW INTERNSHIP OPTION
EXPANDS STUDENTS’ OPPORTUNITIES

As one of our major initiatives, we are excited to establish our new spring internship option for accounting majors. This option will allow students the opportunity to complete their bachelor’s, a 10-week internship in the spring, and their Masters of Accounting, all in five years. The internship is a great opportunity for our students to advance their education, as well as gain real-world experience at top performing companies.

Work experience is becoming increasingly important as the job market becomes more competitive. This internship option gives our students a strong understanding in both education and applicable experience within an accounting firm. Employers have geared their hiring initiatives toward a strong balance between a great education and applicable work experience. The Department of Accounting is proud to offer our students the resources to achieve both.

Along with completion of both the bachelor’s and master’s, this option will fulfill the 150-hour requirement for CPA exam eligibility. The students gain real-world experience and great networking opportunities with accounting professionals through the internship. We pride ourselves on the superior education and incredible opportunities we are able to offer our students, and we look forward to increasing participation in the new internship option.

This program not only gives our students new prospects, it also presents potential employers with the opportunity to provide the students with available internships.

If you would like more information on this exciting new option, would like to support it in some way, or would even like to post available spring internships for your company, please email accounting@lsu.edu.
Earlier this year, the Beta Alpha Psi chapter at LSU attended the Beta Alpha Psi National Conference in Denver, Colorado. The conference provided opportunities for the students to network with members from other chapters around the country. Our students also conducted a presentation on some of the key driving forces that make their chapter successful in the hopes of adding value to other chapters.

While in Denver, our students also participated in Project Homeless Connect ‘11. This is a service event that provides vital and basic services to those who are homeless or at risk. Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) interacted with clients throughout the project to ensure they received sufficient aid and attention.

More than 2,000 people were involved with Project Homeless Connect ‘11, which was sponsored by KPMG LLP. This is an event that provides easily accessible services for people who are homeless or at risk. Project Homeless provided BAP with an unforgettable experience by connecting each volunteer with a homeless individual. It is this type of philanthropic experience that makes BAP so distinctive to our LSU students and students across the nation and the world.

Beta Alpha Psi is the international honorary and service organization for financial information professionals for students with majors in accounting, finance, and information systems & decision sciences. The goal of BAP is to aid its members in their development from students to young professionals. The organization strives to provide opportunities for self-development, service, and participation among all members and a sense of ethical, social, and public responsibility.
STUDENTS REPRESENT LSU
AT ANNUAL AAA MEETING

Two doctoral students from the Department of Accounting, Elio Alfonso and Joseph Zhang, each coauthored and presented papers at the American Accounting Association Annual Meeting this past August, propelling LSU into the national spotlight.

Alfonso’s paper, “Managers’ Segment Financial Reporting Choice: When Do Aggregated Segment-Level Earnings Differ from Firm-Level Earnings?,” was coauthored with KPMG Peat Marwick Developing Scholar and Assistant Professor Dana Hollie and Northern Illinois University Accountancy Professor Shaokun Carol Yu. Alfonso, Hollie, and Yu investigated the determinants of managers’ decisions to report firm-segment reconcilable differences.

“On average, we found that firm-segment reconcilable differences are significant when the differences are not equal to zero,” Alfonso said. “We also found that the reporting FSDs can be significantly influenced by agency costs.”

Zhang co-authored “The Role of Smoothing and Comparability on the Informativeness of Earnings” with Ourso Distinguished Chair of Accounting C. S. Agnes Cheng. The study examined the impact of earnings smoothing and comparability on the informativeness of earnings. The authors proposed that when a firm’s smoothed earnings are more comparable to the earning of its industry peers, it is likely that the reported earnings deviate less from its true economic earnings, which makes them more informative.

According to Zhang, “We measure earnings comparability based on the strength of the covariance between a firm’s earnings with earnings of other firms in the same industry, after controlling for differences in accounting choices.”

The contributions our doctoral students made to the American Accounting Association helped pave the way for future students and faculty to participate with the organization and in the annual meeting.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OUTREACH
COVERS THE GLOBE

While the doctoral students from the Department of Accounting were busy here in the states, they also represented LSU abroad. Three of our PhD candidates presented papers in Canada, China, and Brazil. Last May, Lily Brooks presented “The Nonlinearity Between Auditor Tenure and Audit Quality: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis” at the Canadian Academic Accounting Association’s annual conference, held in Toronto. Just one month later, Brooks’ coauthored paper, “Turning Point of Audit Quality in Auditor Tenure Across Countries-Implications for Auditor Rotation,” was presented at the First Journal of International Accounting Research Conference in Xiamen, China. Agnes Cheng, E. J. Ourso Distinguished Chair of Accounting, and Ken Reichelt, Ernst & Young Alumni Distinguished Professor, proudly coauthored Brooks’ paper.

Cheng also worked with PhD candidate Joseph Zhang, who presented their joint paper, “The Role of Smoothing and Comparability on the Informativeness of Earnings,” at the First Journal of International Accounting Research Conference in China last June. Zhang and Cheng’s study examined the impact of earnings smoothing and comparability on the informativeness of earnings. They proposed that when a firm’s smoothed earnings are more comparable to the earnings of its industry peers, it is likely that the reported earnings deviate less from its true economic earnings and, hence, are more informative.

According to Zhang, “We measure earnings comparability based on the strength of the covariance between a firm’s earnings with earnings of other firms in the same industry, after controlling for differences in accounting choices.”

Another PhD candidate to present at the Research Conference in China was Gina Cavalier-Rosa. Cavalier-Rosa coauthored “The Quality of Accounting Information in the Presence of Creditors: Issues Facing IFRS Convergence and Adoption,” with Department of Accounting Chair Sam Tiras. Along with the presentation in China, Cavalier-Rosa also presented the paper at the University of São Paulo last April and at the National University of Singapore in June. Also at the conference was LSU PhD alumnus, Joe Johnston.

The doctoral students and faculty have proudly represented our University and our department all over the world. The spring and summer were an exciting and busy time for us, and we know this upcoming spring will provide our doctoral students with even more opportunities to represent the LSU Department of Accounting.
MEET THE
NEW PHD STUDENTS

**STACEY DEMYER**

**Education:** Stacey holds a BBA in accounting from Hofstra University in New York. After earning her undergraduate degree, she immediately went into the work force before returning for her PhD.

**Research Interests:** Stacey’s research interests include auditing and the financial services industry. She wants to read as many published articles as she can get her hands on to more clearly develop her research interests.

**Work Experience:** Stacey worked at the New York City office of PricewaterhouseCoopers for three years and became very specialized in Alternative Investments.

**Interesting Facts:** This is the first time Stacey has ever lived outside of New York. She enjoys practicing yoga and experimenting with cooking and baking.

**Future Goals:** Stacey wants to be at a university where she can excel in research and have good relationships with her students.

**PENG GUO**

**Education:** Peng holds a bachelor’s from China and a master’s from North Carolina State University.

**Research Interests:** At this point, Peng has not narrowed down her specific research interests, but she is interested in the broad area of capital market research.

**Work Experience:** Peng worked as a GMAT instructor for Princeton Review.

**Interesting Facts:** Peng has been doing yoga for about three years and loves it. She also likes to cook and try new recipes.

**Future Goals:** Peng hopes to be a productive researcher and a faculty member at a research university.

**LI LI**

**Education:** Li holds a PhD from Dongbei University in Finance and Economics, China.

**Research Interests:** Li’s research interests include financial accounting and taxation.

**Work Experience:** Li worked as an accountant at the Bank of China and as an assistant professor at Macau University of Science and Technology.

**Interesting Facts:** Li greatly enjoys music and sports.

**Future Goals:** Li hopes to continue to build her academic record and looks forward to a promising career as a professor a few years down the road.

**XIA (ELIZA) ZHANG**

**Education:** Eliza holds both a bachelor’s and a master’s from Xi’an Jiaotong University in China.

**Research Interests:** Eliza’s research interests are focused on financial accounting.

**Work Experience:** Eliza previously worked as a lecturer at Macau University of Science and Technology.

**Interesting Facts:** Eliza enjoys music and sports, such as yoga, aerobics, badminton, and hiking.

**Future Goals:** Eliza’s long-term goal is to be a professor in accounting at a research university. She hopes to either stay in North America or maybe go to Hong Kong to teach.
CONTINUED GROWTH
IN THE MSA PROGRAM

The fall 2011 masters of accounting class has proven to be quite an impressive group of students. The LSU Department of Accounting admitted 62 new applicants this year, growing the program from 60 to 90 students in one semester. The class is approximately half male and half female with an impressive undergraduate average grade point average of 3.5. About 20% of the class obtained its undergraduate degrees from universities other than LSU.

The Department of Accounting also added a new specialization in tax, thanks to the addition of visiting Assistant Professor Christine Cheng, to our faculty. Students took two tax classes in the fall and will take two in the spring to complete the specialization. This program will allow students to participate in an internship for the second half of the spring semester, while earning three hours of internship credit.

The first half of the semester is reserved for audit internships. For audit internships, students will return to campus and take audit theory and ethics for accounting professionals during the second half of the semester. The department has worked with accounting firms to properly structure the internships to maximize the students’ learning experience.

At the end of the students’ year in the master’s program, they will be fully equipped with the knowledge and the 150 hour requirement to sit for the CPA examination.
CHAMBERLAIN HYMEL

Chamberlain is a junior in the LSU Department of Accounting and will receive her bachelor’s in accounting in May 2013. She has excelled academically, holding an overall GPA of 3.68, while also being featured on the Chancellor’s Honor Roll and the Dean’s List on multiple occasions. At last year’s Accounting Awards Banquet, Chamberlain received the PricewaterhouseCoopers Outstanding Sophomore Scholarship. She is an active member of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) and holds the position of vice president of Communications. Along with receiving the BAP Outstanding Candidate Award, she also volunteers through BAP to help Habitat for Humanity, Parker House, and St. Vincent DePaul.

Last summer, Chamberlain worked for a local branch of John Hancock, which gave her an insight into the professional world. After receiving her bachelor’s, she plans on going to graduate school and will follow that with attaining her CPA. When she receives her master’s and her CPA, she hopes to work for one of the Big 4 Accounting firms.

MARJORIE OZIO

Marjorie is a junior accounting and pre-law student with a GPA of 3.6. She has recently been named to the Dean’s List, honoring academically superior students, and is the recipient of the St. Mary Industrial Group scholarship as well as an LSU Alumni Association scholarship. Marjorie has been involved in numerous extracurricular activities, including Habitat for Humanity and Junior Achievement.

Marjorie is currently a member of the Phi Alpha Delta pre-law fraternity as well as the Beta Alpha Psi accounting fraternity. She has been working for the Department of Accounting as an accounting support staff member since fall 2009, and has become an irreplaceable member of the office team. Some of her job duties include reconciling ledgers and managing professorship accounts. After obtaining her bachelor’s in accounting, Marjorie plans to continue her education and work on her master’s in accounting. She is also considering law school after receiving her master’s.

JONATHAN KWOFIE

Jonathan is a first semester master’s of accounting student. He earned his undergraduate degree in accounting from the University of New Orleans before moving to Baton Rouge. Jonathan is originally from Ghana and served as a UNO ambassador from 2008 to 2011. Last year, he received the Society of Louisiana CPAs and the KPMG Accounting Awards. Jonathan also made the Dean’s List in all undergraduate semesters and served as a member of UNO’s Beta Alpha Psi chapter.

From 2009 to 2011, Jonathan interned with LaPorte, Sehrt, Romig, & Hand in the Tax Department where he assisted with tax preparation and helped identify unbilled work and inactive clients. This past summer, Jonathan interned in the Tax Department at Ernst & Young in New Orleans. While there, he helped in the preparation of tax documents, imported and merged trial balances, and reconciled trial balances with audited financial statements. Jonathan has accepted a full-time position with Ernst & Young, which he will begin after obtaining his master’s.
FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

SAMUEL TIRAS, chair of the Department of Accounting, was honored with the position of member-at-large on the Council of the American Accounting Association (AAA). After being nominated in spring 2011, Tiras was voted onto the council in April. He now serves as a member of the AAA alongside fellow department faculty member Larry Crumbley. This progressively strengthens LSU’s representation on a national level.

Assistant Professor and Julian R. and Sidney Nicolle Carruth Developing Scholar Professor CAROL LIU’s upper level accounting class was featured in an article in The Advocate earlier this year. Her class partnered with the LSU Louisiana Business & Technology Center (LBTC) Student Incubator to offer consulting services on accounting information systems and tax preparation services to student business owners with no accounting background. This partnership gave the students the opportunity to obtain real-world consulting experience and to realize the importance of accounting knowledge in business.

“This project was a huge success,” Liu said, “and the work of our students was well recognized.”

LAURA DELAUNE, assistant department chair, joined the Society of Louisiana CPAs at the Centennial Gala to celebrate the LCPA’s 100th birthday. DeLaune is a member of the advisory board for the Baton Rouge Chapter of the LCPA and served as LSU’s representative at the event.

DANA HOLLIE, assistant professor and KPMG Peat Marwick Developing Scholar, will be published in two journals this year. Hollie recently had articles accepted for publication by the Journal of Accounting and Public Policy and the Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting. Her research continues to elevate the LSU Department of Accounting.

LARRY CRUMBLEY, professor and holder of the KPMG Peat Marwick Endowed Professorship, co-authored an educational crime novel that “combines the principles of marketing and forensic accounting into a lively narrative to educate and entertain.” The book, Dangerous Hoops, is “part crime novel, part textbook” and is set in the world of professional sports, specifically the National Basketball Association (NBA). The book provides instruction in novel form and serves as a stimulating text or supplemental material for business majors and MBA students. This is Crumbley’s thirteenth novel using forensic accounting as a means of solving crime.

JARED SOILEAU, visiting assistant professor, and Professor Larry Crumbley co-authored an article exploring the validity of first, second, and third All-NBA team selections. According to the duo, panel voting may not actually reflect the league’s best players. The article challenges the current criteria used and suggests more extensive ways of examining player performance.
Last summer, Department of Accounting Chair Samuel Tiras gave the keynote speech at the Fifth National Association of Graduate Programs in Accounting (ANPCONT) Congress, hosted at the Golden Tulip Porto Vitória Hotel in Vitória, Brazil. Tiras’ presentation, “Economic Value Added Analysis: applications to professionals and accounting research,” was well received by the international crowd. Department of Accounting Assistant Professor and Julian R. and Sidney Nicolle Carruth Developing Scholar Professor Carol Liu also attended the conference.

“Our attendance was intended to grow our partnership with USP (University of São Paulo) and expand LSU’s global efforts,” Tiras said. “The conference provided the opportunity to discuss expanding the University’s accounting research into Brazil and developing joint projects. These joint projects will benefit not only LSU and the researchers in Brazil, but also the entire accounting community as accounting standards move toward International Financial Reporting Standards.”

Edgard Cornachione, USP Chair of the Department of Accountancy, was the coordinator of the event and has also visited and spoken at the E. J. Ourso College of Business on multiple occasions. In recent years, Cornachione has served as a host for LSU Flores MBA Program students when they have traveled to Brazil as part of their international expansion.

The ANPCONT Congress gathered 200 participants from around the world this year and focused on a central theme of “accounting and performance in the new cycle of development.” The congress is a nonprofit event that focuses on the academic and scientific significance of the ANPCONT and provides interaction between the academic community, researchers, teachers, and students by representing an opportunity to progress the technical and scientific areas of accounting.
On March 25, 2011, LSU’s Department of Accounting hosted the first annual LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business International Business Forum (IBF). Through the combined efforts of Perry Leslie from KPMG and Samuel Tiras, chair of the Department of Accounting, the IBF came to fruition. The department took great honor in putting together this progressive conference. Sponsors for the up-and-coming annual event included KPMG, Edgen Murray, The Shaw Group, Lamar Advertising, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Albemarle.

Jerry Jolly, KPMG managing partner, opened the forum by introducing Brian J. Ferraioli, the opening general session speaker. Ferraioli is the executive vice president and chief financial officer (CFO) for The Shaw Group. Before coming to Shaw in 2007, Ferraioli served as vice president and CFO of Foster Wheeler Power Systems Inc., where he implemented the company’s Sarbanes-Oxley policies and procedures. Ferraioli also serves on the Globalization Committee of the E. J. Ourso College of Business Dean’s Advisory Council.

Adam Knapp, president of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, was the keynote lunch speaker. Knapp spoke about attracting international business to the Baton Rouge metro region to numerous business professionals and students. He previously served as the deputy director of the Louisiana Recovery Authority, as economic development advisor to governors Foster and Blanco, and as an emerging technology consultant at Accenture. Knapp’s diverse background has made him a crucial part of the recovery and development of the Louisiana economy.

Throughout the day, a panel with three to four business professionals discussed pressing international business topics. The panel discussions were based around the topics “Enterprise Risk Management,” “Are You Ready to Go Global?,” “Regulatory Issues,” and “Global Sustainability.” Each panel was moderated by an LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business professor and featured a variety of professionals to offer diverse views on the topics.

Jose Raymundo Novaes Chiappin was the final general speaker of the forum. An associate professor in the Department of Economics at the University of São Paulo (USP), Chiappin spoke about “Doing Business in South America.” Chiappin made the trip from USP as a way to create a relationship between our two universities. In response to him coming to our conference, the Department of Accounting’s very own Samuel Tiras made a trip to São Paulo, Brazil to speak at a conference there.

Finally, Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Jay Dardenne provided the event’s closing remarks. Dardenne was elected in November 2010, after serving four years as secretary of state and 15 years in the state Senate. In 2003, he was named the National Republican Legislator of the Year and remains very active as a community volunteer to this day. Regarded widely as one of the most talented lawmakers to ever serve in the capitol, the lieutenant governor made for a superb close to an eventful and informative day.
ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
HONORS OUTSTANDING STUDENTS AND FACULTY

The Department of Accounting held its annual Accounting Awards Banquet April 28, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge. We look forward to this event every year because we have the opportunity to showcase our students and highlight our faculty’s accomplishments.

“We want to thank all of the sponsors who make this event possible,” said Samuel Tiras, chair of the Department of Accounting. “The department could not make an event like this possible without their support.”

This year we awarded $44,900 in scholarships and awards to students and distinguished faculty, which are listed as follows:

Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters (CPCU) Society-Bayou Chapter Scholarship
Anne Hyde
David and Jeannie Price Scholarship Fund
Lucas Hernandez
Natalie Marek
Lindsay Walton
L.A. Champagne Memorial Scholarship
Megan Rabito
Tracy Li
Victoria Timphony
Redhawk Capital Corporation Scholarship in Business
Varvara Diatyan
Benito Lee
Rehana Mohamed
Lindsay Walton
Russell Lobdell Memorial Scholarship
Raeven Pitcher
Auguste Goronzy Scholarship
Christopher Ulfers
Association of Government Accountants – Baton Rouge Chapter
Tracy Li
Josh Henry
Baton Rouge Chapter of the Society of Louisiana CPAs
Sarah Grodsky
Natalie Marek
Becker Professional Education
Lytina Winbush
Clarence L. Dunn Endowed Scholarship
Austin Nowicki
Crowe Horwath LLP
Britney Bruno
Deloitte
Sherri Mannina
Mark Ehrhart
Ernst & Young
Josh Chandler
Gina Mancuso
ExxonMobil
Robert Hogan
Faulk & Winkler LLC
Amie Babin
Erin Lozes
George Jarvis Williams Scholarship
Adam Nowicki
Grant Thornton
Anna Newton
Heibatollah Sami Scholarship
Shuo Li
H. J. “Monday” Lowe Endowed Scholarship
Devyn Pierce
Hannis T. Bourgeois LLP
Jarred Schick
James M. Owen Memorial Scholarship
Garrett Ryan
Also recognized at the banquet were Amanda Babin, Jonathan Bayhi, Emily Flynn, Courtney Lancaster, and Jarred Schick who comprised the team that placed first on campus in the PricewaterhouseCoopers 2011 Extreme Accounting Competition. The group’s advisor was KPMG Peat Marwick Endowed Professor D. Larry Crumbley, whose team has won the competition for the past two years.

Additionally, the Beta Alpha Psi chapter at LSU achieved Gold Chapter status this year for excellence in a number of areas. As one of only 14 chapters in the country to receive this honor, the chapter recognized its officers at the banquet.

**Beta Alpha Psi Officers**
- Cullen Koppens, *President*
- Benjamin Porche, *Vice President of Professional and Service Activities*
- Devyn Pierce, *Vice President of Membership*
- Jonathan Truelson, *Vice President of Finance*
- Kristen Lee, *Vice President of Public Relations*
- Julie Chenier, *Faculty Advisor*
The Regional Research Conference was hosted again by the Department of Accounting this year in March 2011. Peter Easton from the University of Notre Dame spoke to accounting and finance professors and students from around the southeastern United States. Representatives from Louisiana Tech University, the University of Southern Mississippi, Tulane University, and the University of Alabama attended the conference, just to name a few.

In the past, accounting research looked at earnings ability to provide information to the market, but an alternate theory began to emerge in the late 1990s. How much of the information known by the market is captured by earnings? Following this line of study Easton presented his paper, “Earnings Recognition Timeliness,” to the accounting academics at the Regional Research Conference. Easton discussed the idea that the changes in the association between earnings and returns reflects the matching of revenue and expense in the current period, while the magnitude of the association between earnings and returns at the end of the period captures the expectations about future earnings. During the presentation, Easton fielded questions and debated the certainty of the forward looking element discussed in the paper.

Robert Hogan, a second year PhD student, was grateful for the chance to hear Easton speak.

“Peter Easton is a prominent name in accounting research, so this was a great opportunity for upcoming scholars to get to interact with experienced and well-published scholars,” Hogan said. “It’s also great that LSU is able to host an event that attracts people from all over the region. I appreciated the opportunity to interact and hear the opinions of other academics from beyond LSU.”

The next Regional Research Conference will be held March 16, 2012, and will feature Terry Shevlin from the University of Washington. He will educate the attending group on tax research in the morning and will have an interactive presentation that afternoon.

If you are interested in attending the conference, please email accounting@lsu.edu.

Looking for a Good Read?

Well, look no further! D. Larry Crumbley, KPMG Endowed Professor, has just released the Volume 3: No. 3, July-December 2011 issue of Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting. This online journal is sponsored by the E. J. Ourso College of Business.

Crumbley indicates that the most recent issue has some interesting and informative research articles, such as how to conduct Ponzi scheme investigations, bootstrap regression procedure, and fraud risks in local governments.

You can find his electronic journal at: www.bus.lsu.edu/accounting/faculty/lcrumbley/jfia/articles.htm.
Second Annual Fraud and Investigative Accounting Conference

By all accounts, the second annual Forensic and Investigative Accounting (FIA) Mid-Year Conference, held March 2011 in New Orleans, Louisiana, was a roaring success. LSU’s own Larry Crumbley, president of the FIA, stated that much of the credit goes to Department of Accounting Chair Samuel Tiras and Assistant Professor Dana Hollie, who spearheaded the successful event.

More than 95 national and international attendees had an opportunity to listen to at least 50 research papers, panel discussions, and classroom cases at the Astor Crowne Hotel. The main speaker was San Francisco native Greg Regan of Hemming Morse, who spoke on “Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Practice.”

The third annual FIA Mid-Year Conference will be held in Chicago, Illinois at the Wyndham Blake Hotel on March 30 and 31, 2012. Tiras will again serve on the conference committee.

Annual Fraud and Forensic Accounting Conference

The LSU Department of Accounting hosted the 2011 Fraud & Forensic Accounting Conference on July 11 and 12 at the Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge. The conference featured a mix of nationally known fraud and forensic speakers, experienced practitioners, and regulators. This annual conference gives accounting professionals from all across the country the opportunity to hear the experiences of their peers and colleagues on this increasingly important matter. In an age where it is just as likely to find white collar crime, any information on the topic is vitally significant.

Our speakers this year covered a large variety of topics and industries, from university and journalism research to FBI and IRS experiences. Many of this year’s speakers work in fraud and forensics sectors of private and public companies. Many have opened their own businesses after amassing their own wealth of knowledge on the matter.

The distinguished speakers and their respective companies are listed below:

Jeff Aucoin, Horne LLP
Ronald Durkin, Clifton Gunderson LLP
Greg Fee, Baton Rouge Resident Agency, FBI
Will Fleenor, K2 Enterprises LLC
Michael Hudson, iwatchnews.org
Joe Koletar, FBI (retired)
Elliott Leary, KPMG Forensics
Kelly Pope, DePaul University
Don Rabon, Don Rabon
Highly Motivated Inc.
Mark Shirley, Internal Revenue Service
Ed Simmons, Koerber Company
R. Davis Taylor, PCAOB

Larry Crumbley and Michael Hudson at the Fraud and Forensic Accounting Conference
One hundred students in the LSU Center for Internal Auditing (LSUCIA) program participated in internships across the country last summer. The 46 hiring organizations that welcomed LSU students represented a variety of industries and consulting firms. LSUCIA hosted a Recruiters’ Night for the students and organizations to kick off the internship process.

Each year, LSUCIA hosts the Sponsors’ Internship Program to assist organizations in hiring student interns. During this program, students submitted résumés to 21 different companies. Over two days, the students participated in 303 interviews, resulting in 57 students receiving and accepting internship offers.

Twenty-five additional organizations recruited from the LSUCIA class, and 43 additional students were hired. While on internships, the students gained valuable experience in the internal auditing profession and earned three hours credit toward the Internal Audit specialization. Students worked across the United States, including in New York, Washington D.C., Houston, Atlanta, New Orleans, Los Angeles, St. Louis, and Baton Rouge. Several students even had the opportunity to travel internationally to places such as Athens, Greece.

In 2011, the LSU Center for Internal Auditing (LSUCIA) received a $15,000 research grant from the Institute of Internal Auditors. The grant was awarded to Visiting Assistant Professor Jared Soileau to research the topic of governance risk and control (GRC) and enterprise risk management (ERM). GRC and ERM are two topics that have become frequently addressed in the field of audit over the past several years.

This five-month grant will be used to answer the following questions:
· How are internal audit activities involved in the GRC or ERM process?
· Can we identify any best practices that exist related to GRC and ERM?

Once the research project is complete, the results will be published in internal audit-related publications and will be useful in performing additional academic research related to the potential organizational benefits of enhanced GRC and ERM processes.
The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) hosts an annual invitation-only gathering of academics, employers, and students from around the world. Last year, the event was held at the Crowne Plaza Universal in Orlando, Fla. Students and educators from the IIA’s Internal Auditing Education Partnership (IAEP) program were invited to the weekend session to discuss opportunities in internal auditing.

The three-day weekend focused on professional skill development for students, including interviewing, résumé writing, personal-image branding, and internship tips, as well as an educator forum to discuss best practices in instruction. Students also had the opportunity to participate in a student team competition in which they collaborated with students from other universities to analyze an internal audit-related case study and then present the solution to educators and practitioners. This was also an excellent opportunity for potential employers and practitioners to interact and build relationships with some of the future’s most talented job candidates.

The LSU Center for Internal Auditing (LSUCIA) program had 15 students and three faculty members in attendance for the 2010 conference. Attendees included more than 60 students from many countries, 25 educators, and 25 representatives from the industry. LSUCIA students networked with a diverse group of students, educators, and employers, including Deloitte, KPMG, JC Penney, Raytheon, Southwest Airlines, and Wells Fargo.

“It was an excellent opportunity to network with employers and meet students from other CIA programs from all over the world,” said Casey Kamalova, a graduate student who attended the 2010 conference.

LSUCIA students were invited to attend the 2011 IAEP Leadership and Networking Retreat, which was held in Orlando, Fla. Seven students and three faculty members from the LSU Center for Internal Auditing program attended the 2011 Conference.
INTERNAL AUDIT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Rachel Bond and Julius Gloeckner Receive 2011 Esther R. Sawyer Scholarship Award

The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Research Foundation named LSU Center for Internal Auditing spring graduates Rachel Bond and Julius Gloeckner first and second place recipients of the 2011 Esther R. Sawyer Scholarship Award, respectively. The announcement was made formally during the IIA’s 70th Annual International Conference, held July 10-13, 2011. The award is presented to individuals entering or enrolled in a graduate program in internal auditing or business at an IIA-endorsed internal audit program. Recipients must also write a manuscript on a specified topic related to modern internal auditing.

As the first place award recipient for her manuscript on rotational programs and a student in the Internal Auditing Education Partnership Program at LSU, Bond attended the conference and received $5,000 and a plaque of recognition to be displayed at the IIA headquarters in Altamonte Springs, Fla. LSU was also presented with a $3,000 grant to be used for either its IIA-endorsed program or the purchase of materials related to internal auditing.

Bond, a native of Baton Rouge, completed the LSUCIA program in 2009, and earned her bachelor’s in accounting with a concentration in internal audit in the spring of 2010. She went on to get her master’s in accounting in 2011, and completed the Certified Internal Auditor exam to be certified after obtaining the necessary work experience. As a student in the LSUCIA program, Bond received the Cynthia Cooper Professional Integrity Scholarship, served as a member on the IIA Academic Relations Committee, and was a student liaison representative on the IIA local Baton Rouge chapter board. She accepted a full-time position with Deloitte & Touche LLP Enterprise Risk Services in New York this year.

Gloeckner, also a student in the IAEP program, received the second place award of $1,000 for his manuscript, “The Double-Edged Sword of Rotational Programs within Internal Auditing,” in which he explains that rotational programs may cause difficulty for auditors to continue a career in the profession of internal auditing. Gloeckner, a native of Germany, came to LSU as a freshman athlete in 2005, received his bachelor’s in finance in 2009, and graduated with honors from the LSU Flores MBA Program in May 2011.
As an intern, Gloeckner worked in internal auditing at Cleco Co. in Pineville, La., and in the enterprise risk services division at Deloitte & Touche in New York. While at LSU, he worked as a teaching assistant for the LSUCIA and was a member of both the Institute of Internal Auditors and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. Along with his academic accomplishments, Gloeckner represented the University in three NCAA Swimming & Diving Division I championships and was named the 2009 SEC Swimming and Diving Male Scholar Athlete of the Year.

Eliana Arvelo 18th recipient of IIA’s Student Highest Achievement Award

Eliana Arvelo, an alumna of the LSU Center for Internal Auditing and the LSU Flores MBA Program, has proven that LSUCIA is deserving of its international reputation for success. Arvelo has become the 18th recipient of the Institute of Internal Auditors’ Student Highest Achievement Award from LSU.

“Eliana graduated from the program in 2009, and her success is not at all surprising,” said LSUCIA Director Glenn Sumners. “She has been with TE Connectivity in Pennsylvania as an internal auditor since shortly after graduating, and this is a testament to her effort.”

The Student Highest Achievement Award is given to the top-scoring student, globally, during 2010. To be eligible for the award, a student must be enrolled full-time, making their first exam attempt, and successfully complete all four exam parts in one year. The award is named in honor of William S. Smith, Certified Internal Auditor, who was a driving force behind the development of the CIA program.
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The LSU Department of Accounting would like to extend its sincerest gratitude to the donors who have contributed to the department’s accounting development fund over the past year. Amidst our turbulent economy, these individuals have demonstrated outstanding loyalty to the advancement of the department’s objectives through their donations. With this support, the Department of Accounting is able to continue to enhance the program and ensure the success of its students. We look forward to your continued support in future years to come.

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