Greetings to alumni and friends of LSU’s Department of Accounting, and thanks for all of the support that you provide to our students and faculty. No, it hasn’t been a typical year. This year’s College Football National Championship did not simply bring LSU a championship, but I believe it to be the most phenomenal college championship in history. Congratulations to all you accounting Tiger fans!

In this issue of Tiger Tactics, we bring you another update with Department of Accounting news that spotlights students, alumni, and faculty, as well as highlights special events and accomplishments. Be sure to read about the unveiling of the Deloitte Foundation Classroom and our students that competed in Deloitte’s national Audit Innovation Campus Challenge. Another trip to the national competition by our student team is to be congratulated.

We also talk about our Beta Alpha Psi students, National Association of Black Accountants students, students receiving special honors, our Center for Internal Auditing, and even a new, LSU Accounting PhD alumna’s five-day cruise on the USS Princeton.

Please do not overlook the pages that focus on our accounting student athletes. Four students answer questions about their ambitions, involvement, classes, favorite things about LSU, and even offer advice. One even mentions Grit, but I can assure you that all of these students possess self-discipline and some serious Grit.

We hope that this issue of Tiger Tactics provides you with what’s happening in your Alma Mater. Please visit our website (lsu.edu/business/accounting) for more information, and remember that you can reach us at accounting@lsu.edu or 225-578-6202. You can also follow us on Instagram and LinkedIn.

Finally, we greatly appreciate the financial support from many of you. Please remember that we are in the middle of our Fierce for the Future Campaign, and you can make a big difference by giving to LSU Accounting. Whatever you give, we will sincerely thank you, and we are hoping that we can count on others to join you in giving to accounting academics to make LSU even better.

Geaux Tigers!

Best Regards,

Thomas J. Phillips Jr.
Department Chair & Professor
Thomas H. Daigre Endowed Chair
LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business
Department of Accounting

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On the cover: Jordon Williams (‘21), a junior majoring in accounting is also a member of the Golden Girls. See page 6 for profiles on student athletes majoring in accounting.
New Faculty

Kimberly Peters joined the Department of Accounting this fall as an instructor. She is a CPA and a CFF (Certified in Financial Forensics) and earned her master’s in accounting from LSU. She currently serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting (JFIA). Her research interests include forensic accounting and data analysis. Peters has prior experience in various litigation-related matters and public accounting.

Padmakumar (Paddy) Sivadasan joins the E. J. Ourso College of Business from the A. B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University, where he served as an assistant professor of accounting. He earned his PhD in accountancy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research interests include audit markets, corporate governance, and financial reporting. His research has been published in the Journal of Accounting Research, Contemporary Accounting Research, Review of Accounting Studies, and Accounting and Business Research. Before his academic career, he served as a deputy commissioner of income tax in the Indian Revenue Service.

Stephanie Walton comes to LSU from the University of South Florida, where she received her PhD in accounting. She also holds an active CPA license in the state of Florida. Walton’s research interests include the role of technology in taxation, how corporate tax disclosures impact a firm’s tax strategy, and cybersecurity breaches. She has won the American Accounting Association (AAA) AIS section 2019 Midyear Meeting Best Research Paper Award and the AAA Ohio Region 2019 Meeting Andrews Best Paper Award. Her research has been published in the Journal of Information Systems and Tax Notes International.

New PhD Students — Fall 2019

Hilary Hughes

Education:
BS in Accounting from Appalachian State University
MS in Accounting from University of North Carolina Greensboro

Research Interests:
Auditing, Financial Accounting, Nonprofit, and Healthcare Accounting

Interesting Facts:
Licensed in the state of North Carolina
Worked in both public accounting and industry

Nicholas Mitchell

Education:
BBA in Accounting from Howard University
MS in Accountancy from Wake Forest University

Research Interests:
Auditing, Financial Accounting, and Government Accounting

Interesting Facts:
Licensed in Virginia and Washington, D.C.
Former Auditor in KPMG’s Federal Audit practice in D.C.
Born and raised in New Orleans

Congratulations PhD graduates!

Four students graduated with PhDs in accounting during the last academic year. We wish them well as they launch their careers in academia.

Laura Alford – Naval Postgraduate School – Monterrey, California
Russell Barber – University of Colorado – Denver
Allen Ryan – University of New Orleans
Pradeep Sapkota – University of North Texas – Denton, Texas

PhDs on the Geaux

PhD students gain knowledge and grow their networks by attending conferences, workshops, and other gatherings.

Candice Boucree attended the 2019 AAA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, where she was a reviewer, presented a paper co-authored with Pradeep Sapkota, and attended the Career Fair. She served as a reviewer for the 2019 Auditing Midyear Conference. She also attended the 2019 PhD Project ADSA conference in San Francisco where she was a discussant and presenter. She attended and presented at the 2019 PhD Project — Baruch College Research Symposium in New York City, earning the designation of PhD Project — Baruch College Doctoral Research Fellow. Boucree is a recipient of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Fellowship for Minority Doctoral Students since 2017. She attended the PhD Project Conference in November as part of the LSU recruiting team.

Nusrat Jahan attended the 2019 AAA Annual Meeting and presented a paper co-authored with Ken Reichelt. She had two papers accepted at the AAA Mid-Atlantic Meeting — one with Charlene Henderson and Ken Reichelt, and another with Ken Reichelt.

Danielle Lazerson attended the 2019 AAA Annual Meeting and the Career Fair, and the 2019 AAA Auditing Midyear Meeting and Doctoral Consortium in Nashville.

Pradeep Sapkota attended the 2019 JATA Conference in Washington, D.C., and presented a case study.
Sanaz Aghazadeh, assistant professor, received the Best Midyear Meeting Paper Award at the American Accounting Association Audit Midyear Meeting in Nashville in January 2019. She was a co-author of the paper titled “Revealing Oz: Audit Firm Partners’ Experiences with National Office Consultations.” Aghazadeh says, “Research support provided by LSU and accounting firms’ willingness to participate in my study made this research possible.” Her paper was also presented at the Accounting, Behavior, and Organizations Midyear Meeting, the International Symposium on Auditing Research, and at Cornell University.

During 2019, Aghazadeh also received the Outstanding Untenured Professor Teaching Award in the E. J. Ourso College of Business and the Vincent C. Brenner Endowed Faculty Research Award from the Department of Accounting. As if she didn’t have an exciting year already, Aghazadeh also gave birth to her son on Mother’s Day! He’s excited to join other Mother’s Day babies in the department, like Laura Wiley.

During summer 2019, Ken Reichelt, professor, was invited as a research scholar to visit Hitotsubashi University in Kunitachi, a city located in the west district of the Tokyo metropolis in Japan. During that time, he met with the department chair, Hironori Fukukawa, the faculty, and PhD students. He presented a research paper about partner and audit firm rotation in a two-hour workshop. Below is a photo taken afterward, and another outside his residence. According to Reichelt, “The workshop was very productive and benefited the faculty and students learning about auditor rotation and audit quality research, as well as improving the research paper.” During his three weeks as a research scholar, he also worked on a project about the Japanese audit market with Fukukawa, and a coauthor, Koreyoshi Seki from Asia University in Musashino, Tokyo. “The faculty and staff were very nice and made my visit very productive and accommodating,” said Reichelt.


Laura Wiley, assistant department chair, received the 2019 LSU Tiger Athletic Foundation Outstanding Instructor Award. The award is a university-wide award recognizing teaching excellence and outstanding service among instructors, who play a critical role in LSU’s educational mission and have a special direct impact on student success. Also, Wiley is co-author of a college textbook titled Auditing: A Practical Approach with Data Analytics that was published in fall 2019 by an international publishing company, John Wiley & Sons.
LSU Team competes at Deloitte’s 2019 national Audit Innovation Campus Challenge (AICC)

On November 16, 2018, a team of LSU accounting students competed at Deloitte’s regional AICC in Houston, Texas. The team competed against other regional universities, including Trinity University, the University of Kansas, the University of Arkansas, Oklahoma State University, and the University of Mississippi. The LSU team, along with Baylor University, was selected to advance to the national competition held in April of 2019 at Deloitte University in Westlake, Texas.

LSU was represented by Alyssa Azuara of Covington; Evan Chaney of Baton Rouge; Kylie Cronin of Baton Rouge; Trevor Maggio of New Orleans; Madeline McClain of Lake Charles; and Jordon Williams of Houston, Texas. LSU assistant professor of accounting, Sanaz Aghazadeh, served as the team’s faculty advisor. Aghazadeh, along with Deloitte Partner Patrick Brandau and Deloitte Senior Campus Recruiting Specialist Claire Bourgeois, attended the competition.

“Deloitte’s Audit Innovation Campus Challenge was the best learning experience of my time in college thus far,” said Cronin, a sophomore. “I gained confidence, knowledge, teamwork skills, networking skills, and more! Working with my LSU team on this challenge made me excited about the future of audit innovation and how we can contribute to that.”

AICC is a national program hosted by the Deloitte Foundation and Deloitte’s Audit Innovation group. The competition helps students test their thinking and research skills and promotes the development of other professional skills such as networking and communication.

For both the regional and national competition, each team was given the same challenge statement and tasked with determining how cutting-edge audit technologies could be applied to a real-world business issue. The teams then presented their findings to a panel of judges comprised of Deloitte partners. Judges considered a variety of different factors when selecting a winner, such as the presented idea’s innovation, viability, and delivery. Responses to questions posed by the judges also served as a basis for assessment.

This win represented the second year in a row that LSU’s team had been selected to advance in the AICC nationally.

Deloitte Foundation Classroom Unveiled

On September 19, 2019, the E. J. Ourso College of Business unveiled the new Deloitte Foundation Classroom in the Business Education Complex to honor the contributions of Deloitte employees and the Deloitte Foundation.

The naming is a result of a grassroots fundraising initiative involving more than 200 individual donors and a generous employer match of their contributions in support of the construction of the Business Education Complex.

The Deloitte Foundation and Deloitte employees have a profound impact on the E. J. Ourso College of Business.
Beta Alpha Psi

The 2018-2019 school year was a successful one for the Phi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP), an international honor organization for financial information students and professionals. One of the main focuses of BAP is community service. Over the past year, members volunteered for Boo at the Zoo at BREC’s Baton Rouge Zoo, collected over 100 books to donate to a local library, and volunteered at Geaux Big where they helped package food for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank.

In the summer, members who traveled to the 2019 National Beta Alpha Psi 100th annual conference in Chicago, Illinois, had the opportunity to work with KPMG and Packshack to create over 100,000 meals for the Chicago area. This year, four members from the chapter participated in the annual meeting. During the conference, members learned about a variety of topics that will help not only their careers but also the chapter.

Weekly, the members gathered to enjoy free food, network, and learn something new from sponsor presentations. Presentation topics included how to dress in the workplace, virtual interviews, workplace diversity, public vs. industry accounting, and other workplace skills. At the end of the presentations, BAP members were allowed to talk with the firm members in an intimate setting.

Each year, the organization hosts a kickball tournament in the fall, and a “meet the firms night” in the spring. These events bring together BAP members and employees from sponsoring firms for healthy competition and casual networking that help members when applying for jobs and internships by giving them confidence throughout the interview process. Members also learn how to create a lasting network of professionals in the field.

Beta Alpha Psi strives to continue to benefit its members’ professional development and positively impact its community and network. The 2018-2019 school year was a success, and the organization looks forward to seeing what the coming years will hold.

Thank you to the 2018-19 BAP sponsors:

**Gold:**
- Becker Professional Education
- Carr, Riggs & Ingram
- Deloitte
- EY
- Hannis T. Bourgeois
- KPMG
- LaPorte
- Postlethwaite & Netterville

**Purple:**
- Baton Rouge Chapter of the LCPA
- Briggs & Veselka
- Chevron
- ExxonMobil
- Faulk & Winkler
- Heard McElroy & Vestal
- The Personnel Consulting Group
- PwC
- Southwestern Energy
- Surgent CPA Review

From top left: Boo at the Zoo volunteering (left to right: Madeline Tarver, Toni Guerin, Madeline Pierce); Leah Meaux, Taylor Levy, Michelle Martinez participate at the Book Drive; famous Chicago Deep-dish Pizza with officers Jacob Parker, Michelle Martinez, Lauren Bordelon, Chandler Ramsak, and advisor Jackie Moffitt; Jacob Parker, Lauren Bordelon, Michelle Martinez, Chandler Ramsak on a field trip to Grant Park before volunteering with Packshack to make meals for Chicago area; Geaux Big volunteering for Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank; May 2019 graduates receiving stoles at Initiation Banquet; Initiation Banquet held at Lodcook Alumni Center; Fall Kickball Tournament; meet the firms night — Zack Crawford introduces himself to a CBI representative; Bowling Social with pizza.
The National Association of Black Accountants (NABA)

The National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) aims to address the professional needs of its members and to build leaders that shape the future of the accounting and finance professions. NABA’s motto, “Lifting as We Climb,” serves as the foundation of the LSU chapter as we encourage our members to reach their full potential. NABA is for all business students, not just for African Americans or just for accounting majors.

Since its founding in 2011, the NABA LSU Student Chapter has won national and regional Student Chapter of the Year Awards three times. It is a community where professionals educate students on how to network and thrive in corporate America. The chapter also gives back to the community through various service events such as Geaux Big, JA Finance Park, and helping kids at the Knock Knock Children’s Museum.

During the 2018-2019 school year, NABA LSU reported an increase in internships and full-time job offers for members, earned scholarship awards, and sent students to the national conference. On June 19-21, 2019, three members attended the national convention in Las Vegas. This year’s theme, “Insight,” created a great atmosphere for professional development, relationship building, and recognition of member achievements. Walter J. Smith, president and chief executive officer of NABA, took the time to interact with students during the conference. Members learned about leadership, career success tips, and ideas for standing out in the workplace.

None of this would be possible without the help of our sponsors. Our sponsors for the 2018-2019 school year: Deloitte, EY, KPMG, PwC, Postlethwaite & Netterville, Becker, and Entergy. Angela Guidry, chapter advisor, provided continued support to the organization.

NABA members participating at LSU big volunteering event, Geaux Big.
Members participate in a service activity at the Knock Knock museum.
Members create vision boards at our annual ice cream social.
Members help kids build gingerbread houses.
Jordon Williams

Pearland, TX
Junior, Golden Girl
Honors College
GPA 4.131
Graduating May 2021

What are your future plans?
After graduation, I plan to attend law school and hope to practice business law in the sports or entertainment field. I may sit for the CPA exam and earn a joint JD/MBA.

Tell me about being a Golden Girl.
My parents are LSU alums, and I have been coming to LSU games all my life. I remember the LSU Band playing Pregame and noticing the Golden Girls. I knew I wanted to do that. I made the dance team in high school and realized my love for dance.

What advice do you have for incoming accounting students?
Stay on top of the coursework or get ahead of it. Most of the material builds on previous courses, and it can get overwhelming. Accounting is something you have to enjoy and put your best effort into it.

What are the characteristics of someone who would excel in accounting?
You must have self-discipline and focus. Successful accounting students must want to do the work and be able to balance the time to learn and practice the material.

What class or fundamental do you pull from the most?
Debits and Credits. It’s very basic, but it never goes away. The natural balance of an account is important.

Do you have any other campus involvement?
I’m a member of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA). We participate in community service and professional events with networking with the Big Four. NABA has taught me how to work with different personalities and I’ve met new people and made new friends.

What is your favorite LSU tradition?
Marching down the hill, as a Golden Girl, and as a fan, and hearing the band play those four notes.

What are you looking forward to this year?
Finishing the accounting curriculum. There are some upcoming classes I am interested in, such as Audit. I’m also excited to try out again for the Golden Girls and dancing at the National Championship!

Lia Joslin

Mandeville, LA
Senior, Swimming — 100 and 200 Fly
GPA: 3.233
Graduating in May 2020

What are your future plans?
I’ve accepted a job with EY in Houston, Texas, to be an auditor. I liked my auditing classes the most and interned in auditing as well. Both of my parents are CPAs, so I’ve always been into numbers. The first year will be rough but I’ll stick with it. I’ve been getting into triathlons to continue being an athlete. I love being in the water.

Tell me about being a student-athlete on the swim team.
Swimming can be physically and emotionally draining. Being an athlete has helped me compartmentalize so I can excel and focus on the task at hand, whether it be swimming or accounting.

What advice do you have for incoming accounting students?
Stick with it. As I was going through the accounting curriculum, there were things I didn’t understand and struggled with, but the more I stuck with it and studied, I realized it all made sense, and it clicks.

What are the characteristics of someone who would excel in accounting?
Integrity, time management, and positivity, especially in the busy season are very important.

Do you have any other campus involvement?
I’m a Beta Alpha Psi member. It was great for networking and making friends within the accounting curriculum.

What is your favorite LSU tradition?
I love Tiger Stadium when they play Collin’ Baton Rouge.

What are you looking forward to this year?
I am looking forward to studying for the CPA exam in the spring. I am hoping to pass some of the sections before beginning my job in August 2020.
Alyssa Helak
Williamsville, NY
Junior, Swimmer — Backstroke and 500 Freestyle
GPA: 3.9
Graduating August 2020

What are your future plans?
I’m graduating in three years, so I want to use my last year of eligibility to get a master’s degree through the Master of Accountancy program. I want to be a CPA and stay in the south, possibly Houston, Texas.

What has accounting taught you about yourself?
I was never a big studier. I have learned to pay a lot of attention to detail, and it’s better to be thorough than rushing to get things done. Accounting taught me patience and doing things well the first time, in accounting and life.

How has being a student-athlete helped you in accounting?
Everything I’ve learned in swimming will carry over to my accounting career. There is so much grit and accountability with swimming: Waking up early and getting things done correctly, getting used to the long days, and always giving 100 percent. Working to push myself in the pool to go further than I thought I could go has helped me in the classroom to push myself when I’m not sure about something.

What advice do you have for incoming accounting students?
Don’t be too hard on yourself if you don’t know what you want to do. Something will come up. I don’t have set plans for after graduation, but I know something will come of all my hard work. Trust the process and don’t get overwhelmed.

What are the characteristics of someone who would excel in accounting?
Grit. Accounting may come easy, but it is a lot of work and requires a lot of studying. You need the determination to get through it. I’m a problem-solver and like to see things balance at the end.

What was your favorite class?
I liked the material in Intermediate Accounting I, especially financial accounting. I’m excited to take audit next semester.

What is your favorite LSU tradition?
Gamedays. I like all sports, but I’m a big football person.

What are you looking forward to this year?
I’m looking forward to getting through this tough semester. I’m taking more accounting classes this spring. The department has great professors who were willing to work with me. As a student-athlete, that is important. When I’ve had to miss a class for a meet or needed extra help, they have been very available and willing to help.

Ashlyn Kirby
Hickory, NC
Senior, Gymnastics — Floor and Bars
GPA: 3.534
Graduating May 2020

What are your future plans?
I was planning to work for my family’s business, but now I want to branch out and do something bigger. I’m looking into bigger firms in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Family shaped my future. Both of my parents came from families who had family businesses that were different from each other, but they never forced it on me to come home and work. The family business was always something I knew I could fall back on if I didn’t know where I wanted to land career-wise. Then, accounting came along, and I realized I could go to the Big Four to branch out professionally before settling down.

Why did you choose accounting?
My advisor encouraged me to pursue accounting. I was originally majoring in general business with a minor in history. I did very well in the first two accounting classes and changed my major. Accounting has taught me a lot about myself and being able to do more than I thought I could.

What advice do you have for incoming accounting students?
Don’t be too hard on yourself if you don’t know what you want to do. Something will come up. I don’t have set plans for after graduation, but I know something will come of all my hard work. Trust the process and don’t get overwhelmed.

What are the characteristics of someone who would excel in accounting?
Self-discipline. Juggling gymnastics and accounting has been tough, but I like to see the rewards. If you put in the effort, you will get something out of it...even if it is tough at the moment. Determination is key. Teachers will give you an assignment and it is up to you to put in the effort and get it done.

What was your favorite class?
Accounting Information Systems. It’s the hardest class I’ve taken, and it took me a while to get a handle on it, but I enjoy challenges. It’s nice to see the fruits of my efforts.

What is your favorite LSU tradition?
Callin’ Baton Rouge in Tiger Stadium. The PMAC is my favorite spot.
Accounting Major Recognized in 2019 Leadership LSU

In spring 2019, LSU recognized 28 students as the Class of 2019 for Leadership LSU, an annual spring program which is coordinated by LSU Campus Life on behalf of the LSU Office of the Dean of Students. Andrew Chenevert, an accounting major from Baton Rouge, was one of the 28 students recognized. Chenevert graduated in May 2019 with a BS in accounting and is currently enrolled in law school at LSU.

The luncheon to honor the participants of Leadership LSU Class of 2019 took place in April 2019, where each student cohort was recognized for their commitment to leadership. Among the Leadership LSU Class of 2019, there were 20 seniors, six juniors and two graduate students who came to the program from five different states. During the luncheon, the Robert Beverly Pancake Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Chenevert for exemplifying what it meant to be a leader.

Now in its 30th year as an LSU tradition, the program provides juniors, seniors, and graduate students with the opportunity to develop and apply their leadership at high levels while in their final semesters at LSU. Participants chosen for Leadership LSU 2019 exhibit the capacity to learn and impact others positively through their leadership experiences. Active participation in Leadership LSU challenges students to sharpen leadership skills and abilities, regardless of their career choices and plans following graduation.

Accounting Major Receives PCAOB Scholarship

In June 2019, accounting major Vivian Carter of Homer, Louisiana, was awarded a $10,000 scholarship from the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). The PCAOB Scholarship Program awards funds to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in an accounting degree program at a regionally accredited U.S. college or university. The program is merit-based and awarded to select students who demonstrate interest and aptitude in accounting and auditing while maintaining and demonstrating high ethical standards.

“Receiving the PCAOB scholarship has been instrumental in my success as a student because it has provided me with the means to remain at LSU to continue my education,” says Carter. “This award means so much to me and has shown me that hard work pays off. I am so thankful to have been selected to receive this scholarship and look forward to obtaining my master’s degree.”

Carter graduated in May 2019 with a BS in accounting and is currently enrolled in the Master of Accountancy program.

Accounting Major Receives the David and Jeannie Price Scholarship

In May 2019, accounting major Lauren Bergeron of Thibodaux, Louisiana, was awarded a $3,000 scholarship from The David and Jeannie Price Scholarship Fund. The Fund was established in 2007 by David Price through the Baton Rouge Area Foundation to provide scholarships to full-time juniors or seniors pursuing an undergraduate degree in business at either Louisiana State University or the University of Missouri in Columbia. Price attended the University of Missouri and had a successful career in Baton Rouge.

“This scholarship has allowed me to focus more on my studies rather than having to work an extra job,” says Bergeron. “With it, I can devote more time to schoolwork and be successful in the classroom. I will be forever grateful to have been selected for the David and Jeannie Price scholarship and will never forget the Price family for their contribution to further my education.”

Bergeron graduated in May 2019 with a BS in accounting and is enrolled in the Master of Accountancy program. She plans to begin her career with a mid-sized accounting firm in Houston.

Accounting Major Selected for Chevron Energy Leaders Scholarship

In July 2019, accounting junior Hayden Livaudais of Covington, Louisiana, was selected as a Chevron Energy Leaders Scholarship recipient. As a recipient, Livaudais was awarded a $5,000 scholarship for the 2019-20 academic year and also participates in the Chevron Leadership Academy during 2019-20.

The Chevron Leadership Academy is a required program for all Chevron Energy Leaders Scholarship awardees. This program is designed to help motivated, elite business and engineering students prepare for careers post-graduation. This program seeks to teach and develop the “soft skills” associated with positive leadership behaviors.

“As an accounting major, the Chevron Leadership Team has enabled me to interact with students of other disciplines, such as engineering, to discuss and solve problems,” says Livaudais. “As such, it has provided me with invaluable experience that I can take into the workplace after graduation.”
USS Princeton (CG-59) Hosted Five Members of the Fleet’s Scientists to Sea Program

San Diego – The Scientists to Sea program aims to give a greater understanding of shipboard system employment and requirements to the engineers and scientists who design them.

Laura C. Alford, an assistant professor at the Naval Postgraduate School and '18 graduate from the accounting PhD program, participated in the event and highlighted the value of the program:

“I believe this experience will be invaluable to me in my career at the Naval Postgraduate School,” Alford said. “The brief glimpse into Navy life while ‘underway’ has given me a greater appreciation for the men and women who volunteer to serve their country in the military. Those sailors may one day be my students, and my having slept in a 3 x 8 berthing will enable me to connect with them on a deeper level and provide a richer learning experience for them.”

During the five-day underway, the five Scientist to Sea members had the opportunity to tour spaces and visit with sailors from every department aboard, as well as witness shipboard operations firsthand.

The tour was designed to provide an overview and understanding of basic shipboard organization and operations, while also giving scientists with various backgrounds the opportunity to hold in-depth discussions with subject matter experts about the equipment and systems that interested them the most.

Pictured L to R:
- Josh Allen, Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Lab
- Laura Alford, Naval Postgraduate School
- Karl Rechert, NAVSURFWARCEN
- Kelli Pickett, NAWCWD
- Evan Zinner, MIT Lincoln Lab
Alumni and Friends Conference
The Center for Internal Auditing (LSUCIA) held its annual “Alums and Friends Conference” at the L’Auberge Conference Center on October 7–8, 2019. The speakers included several LSUCIA graduates, including Paul Douglas with P&N, Kari Walters with LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business, Jeffery Aucoin with Horne, Scott Fargason with LSU E. J. Ourso College of Business, Kyle Harvey with EY. Lastly, Todd Freeman with McDermott was a guest speaker. The two-day conference focused on risk, technology, and best practices. It also allowed guests to connect and share their experiences and knowledge about the internal audit profession.

35 Years
In December, the LSUCIA program celebrated 35 years of operation. LSU was the first university to offer an internal auditing program. The program, established in 1985, is considered a premier international program and the students and staff have received 31 international awards. A student reception is planned for the end of the year. The staff is developing a strategic plan for the next five years. The emphasis of the plan will parallel the emerging issues that face the internal audit profession and the business world. The goal is to have the best-prepared entry-level staff auditors with a vision for the future.

Information Night
LSUCIA hosts two information nights in the fall semester to promote the program beginning in the spring. These sessions allow the LSUCIA staff to educate students on the internal audit profession and how it can jump-start their careers.

Class Officers
Our 2019 class officers are:

- Amelie Zimmer, President – 9:00 a.m. class
- William Hurley, Vice President – 9:00 a.m. class
- Julia Laborde, President – 10:30 a.m. class

The officers assist the LSUCIA graduate assistants in recruiting students for the 2020 class. They also serve as a liaison between the class and LSUCIA staff.

Scholarships/Awards
Each year, LSUCIA awards scholarships to a number of students. These students are those whose academic success and work ethic rise above expectations. In 2019, fourteen students were awarded scholarships. Recipients include:

- Will Hurley, Marathon Oil Internal Audit Scholarship
- Yifan Wu, John Beard Commitment Award
- Yen Luong, Richard A. Roy Leadership Award
- Emily Battaglia, Marathon Oil Internal Audit Scholarship
- Ying Xiao, Joel Kramer Commitment to Excellence Award
- Grace Rawls, Marathon Oil Internal Audit Scholarship
- Josue Diaz Juarez, Cynthia Cooper Professional Integrity Award
- Ligia Tornsisiello, Roger McDaniel Service Award
- Avery Spicker, Corey Alemond Excellence in Internal Auditing Scholarship
- Abbigail Poiencoi, Colleen Reed Opportunity Scholarship

Additionally, Lena Aslam, Angele Cherbonnier, Yen Luong, and Ying Xiao were awarded the IIA Baton Rouge Outstanding Student Award.

IIA Internal Audit Student Exchange
Students and educators from the IIA’s Internal Auditing Education Partnership (IAEP) gathered in Orlando, Florida, September 19-22, 2019, for the annual Internal Audit Student Exchange hosted by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Attendees included over seventy students and educators from universities located in six countries. Nine students, including Jessica Dicharia, Will Hurley, Amy Loflin, Vikram Malarkanna, Grace Rawls, Meghan Sharp, Avery Spiker, Lou Toua Vi, and Meredith Wethern and one faculty member, Lydia Lafleur, from the LSU Center for Internal Auditing, attended the conference.

LSUCIA participants networked with a diverse group of students, educators, and employers. The program allows students to exchange ideas, share experiences, and jump-start their careers.

The IAEP is a program designed to promote the growing interest in the education of internal auditing in higher learning institutions.

Jumping Into Business
This fall, the officers and graduate assistants of LSUCIA put together an information table on campus to kick-off the year. Many students stopped by to learn more about the program and to meet some of the LSUCIA students.

Certification — 2019 Update
Congratulations to Christina Vassiliou, who became the second LSUCIA student to complete three certifications, CERMDA, CISA, and CRISC, before graduation. The first was Yalan Wang, CIA, CISA, and CRMA, who most recently was an instructor in the program.

Vassiliou came to LSU from Athens, Greece to complete her MBA and enroll in the LSUCIA program. She is a second-generation LSUCIA student. Her mother, Joyce Belsom-Vassiliou, completed the LSUCIA program while in the accounting program. Through the years, several dozen students have followed one of their parents that went through the program.

Angele Cherbonnier, a graduate student in the LSUCIA program, completed all three parts of the CIA exam in the spring semester while completing her MBA.
Yen Bao Luong was the first student in the 2019 class to pass all three parts of the CIA exam.

Vikram Malarkannan, a computer science major in the LSUCIA program, passed the CISA and CISSP exams.

**Internship Recruiting Team**

The internship coordinators for the 2019-2020 year are Jessica DiCharia and Josue Diaz. DiCharia, LSUCIA class of 2018, is a first-year MBA student with a specialization in entrepreneurship. Josue Diaz is a second-year MBA student with a specialization in internal auditing and data analytics.

The graduate assistants established a goal of 70 internships from more than 30 companies for spring 2020. Many highly recognized and prestigious local, national, and international companies recruit from the LSUCIA program every spring. If you are interested in hiring an intern for next spring or summer, contact LSUCIA via email or mail.

Contact Josue Diaz at 225-578-6221 or via e-mail at lsucia@lsu.edu to schedule interviews.

- Schedule interview dates
- Reserve interview rooms in LSU Olinde Career Center
- Collect resumes from LSUCIA students
- Class presentations

**Internships**

This past summer, LSUCIA placed 60 interns in over 20 different companies throughout the country. Our students worked in 15 states and 19 cities, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Washington, D.C., and Dallas.

Sixty LSUCIA students had internships across 18 different cities:

1. Atlanta, GA
2. Bentonville, AR
3. Nashville, TN
4. Chicago, IL
5. New York City, NY
6. Baton Rouge, LA
7. New Orleans, LA
1. Chattanooga, TN
2. Newport News, VA
3. Dallas, TX
4. Oklahoma City, OK
1. Denver, CO
1. Ruston, LA
1. Irving, TX
2. Stamford, CT
2. Washington, DC

**Internship Placement**

The LSUCIA program has placed 2,628 students in internship positions during the last 35 years. Francisco Teles, an international student from Brazil pursuing a master’s in petroleum engineering, interned with McDermott and had the opportunity to audit in Brazil.

**Audit World**

Hernan Murdock, vice president of the Audit Division at MIS Training Institute, recognized LSUCIA students at the 2019 Audit World Conference that was held in Orlando, Florida on September 10–12.

Six LSUCIA students, including Jordi Guatemala, Yen Bao, Julien Romano, Josue Diaz, Robert Taboada, Yoshita Holamoge, joined LSUCIA Director Glenn Sumners at the conference.

**Guest Presenter**

To celebrate 35 years, John Beard will be presenting to the LSUCIA students this fall. Beard has been an avid supporter of the program since its inception. Beard graduated from LSU with an accounting degree. He hired LSUCIA students for interns and full-time positions over a 25 year period. Beard is recognized for his fraud auditing experience.
The Department of Accounting held its annual Accounting Awards Banquet on April 23, 2019, at the Business Education Complex. With some 160 guests in attendance this year, the annual event once again provided the department an opportunity to highlight student and faculty accomplishments.

“We thank all of the sponsors who make this event possible,” said Laura Wiley, assistant chair of the Department of Accounting. “It is a night for students, parents, faculty, and department supporters to celebrate excellence in academics.”

This year, the department awarded $49,000 in scholarships to the following accounting students and distinguished faculty:

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**2020 Fraud & Forensic Accounting Conference | July 30 – 31, 2020**
Visit lsu.edu/business/fraud for more information.

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Visit lsu.edu/business/taxseminar for more information.