Cook Chair Announced

On September 20, the Walton College announced the UA Board of Trustees approval of the Doris M. Cook Chair in Accounting. The following day, a reception was held to honor Dr. Cook and the establishment of the chair. Provost Bob Smith spoke about Dr. Cook’s many accomplishments and presented her with a bouquet of red roses to mark the occasion. The standing-room only crowd then experienced both laughter and tears as Dr. Cook reminisced about her career and expressed her appreciation for the honor.

Doris Cook joined the faculty in 1947 and taught, researched, and advised for the next 53 years, including 3 years teaching part-time after her retirement in May 1997. As a “woman pioneer in accounting” as some have called her, Dr. Cook has many “firsts” to her credit. These include first full-time woman professor hired in the Department of Accounting, first woman CPA in Arkansas, first woman to serve as national president of Beta Alpha Psi, first woman at the University of Arkansas to hold an endowed lectureship or chair, and first woman to hold the rank of University Professor.

To honor Dr. Cook and all her firsts, on the 50-year anniversary of her joining the faculty, a campaign was launched to establish the Doris M. Cook Endowed Lectureship. Recognizing the importance of private support, Dr. Cook made the first contribution of $50,000! $1,000 for every year she taught. The goal was “to support a faculty member who will continue Dr. Cook’s traditions of excellence in educating students and advancing the field of accounting.” Response to the campaign from faculty, alumni and friends enabled the Walton College to upgrade the lectureship to the Doris M. Cook Chair in Accounting, with an initial endowment of $1.5 million.

“Dr. Cook’s students remember her compassion, spirit, enthusiasm and inspiration,” said Department Chair Karen Pincus. “There is no one more deserving of this honor.” The first holder of the Doris M. Cook Chair will be Dr. Carolyn M. Callahan, a prominent researcher and award-winning teacher joining the Walton College in January.

Beta Alpha Psi Is Superior

The University of Arkansas’ Alpha Iota chapter of Beta Alpha Psi was honored once again this summer as a Superior Chapter, the highest chapter ranking attainable. Superior Chapters receive a financial award from the KPMG Foundation and a plaque. When accepting the award, the student officers regaled the crowd by calling the hogs.

Beta Alpha Psi is an honor society that is committed to professionalism and community service. To achieve Superior Chapter status, a strong program of activities is required, including professional speakers, social events, and community service projects. For example, in the spring of 2000 the Alpha Iota chapter worked with the Northwest Chapter of the Arkansas Society of CPAs on a visitation program to local high schools. Northwest Chapter members made presentations at Rogers High School, Pea Ridge High School, Lincoln High School and Prairie Grove High School. BAP students traveled to Springdale High School to present a program to three accounting classes on education opportunities and prospects for careers in accounting.

The Alpha Iota chapter of Beta Alpha Psi was installed in 1951 and will celebrate its 50th anniversary at the Accounting Recognition Banquet on April 26, 2001. As a result of a Superior Chapter award, the Alpha Iota chapter will also be recognized in this year’s national Beta Alpha Psi annual report.

Spring

Save this Date!!

One of the highlights of the year is our annual Accounting Recognition Banquet. The next banquet will be Thursday, April 26, 2001 at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House. We will be recognizing outstanding alumni, students, and student organizations, and expressing our thanks to donors. Plan to be a part of our 28th annual celebration!

If you have not received an invitation in the past and would like to be included this year, give us a call (501-575-8645) or e-mail us (accounting@walton.uark.edu). We hope to see you on April 26th!

New Faculty

During the 2000-2001 academic year, the Department of Accounting welcomes six new faculty who bring a wealth of teaching, research and practice experience to our students.

Dr. Carolyn M. Callahan joins the faculty in January as the Doris M. Cook Professor of Accounting. She received her Ph.D. from Michigan State University and has served on the faculties of the University of Massachusetts and Notre Dame. She is a widely-published author who is also a member of the editorial boards of The Accounting Review and Accounting Horizons. She has won university-wide teaching awards and a national teaching award sponsored by the Lilly Endowment Faculty Fellow Program. Dr. Callahan will be serving as the director of the accounting doctoral program and teaching in the MAcc and doctoral programs this spring.

Dr. William F. Wright joined the faculty in July as the Walter B. Cole Professor of Accounting. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley and has
served on the faculties of UC-Irvine, Cornell, Duke, Michigan, Minnesota and Stanford universities. His current research focuses on helping managers and professionals make better judgments and decisions and on how information technology can be used to enhance results. His prior research has appeared in many top-tier accounting journals. His former students say that Dr. Wright is an excellent instructor who “expected a lot of us...[but] is very approachable.” He is teaching Operational Auditing and Asset Management this year.

Dr. Willie Gist joined the faculty in August as an Associate Professor. He is a CPA and has his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. He previously served on the faculties of the University of Oklahoma and Florida A&M. His teaching areas are auditing and financial accounting. This year, Dr. Gist is teaching Assurance Services and Introduction to Accounting Information. His research focuses on the economics of auditing and includes top-tier journal publications.

Janet Mosebach, who has a master’s degree and is a CPA, joined the faculty in August as a Visiting Instructor after serving as a senior tax manager for KPMG. This year she is teaching Advanced Tax, Government and Nonprofit Accounting, and Introduction to Accounting Information. She will remain on the faculty as an Executive-in-Residence for the following two years.

Dr. Michael Mosebach (yes, he and Janet are married) joined the faculty in August as an Assistant Professor. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma and was previously on the faculty of Old Dominion University. He worked in public accounting and as the CFO of a hotel/casino in Reno, Nevada and as controller of a winery in the Napa Valley. His teaching and research interests focus on financial reporting and he has several publications to his credit. Dr. Mosebach is teaching Financial Reporting and Analysis this year.

Dr. Rodney Smith joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor in August after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of California, Irvine this summer. He enjoyed a 25-year career with the U.S. Coast Guard, where he rose to the rank of Captain and served in a variety of financial management positions. Dr. Smith will teach Managerial Uses of Accounting Information this year and is working on research on accounting information systems, enterprise resource planning systems, and decision making.

If you haven’t already met these faculty members, stop by and do so the next time you’re on campus. We’re proud to have them in the Department of Accounting.

Steven Booth [BSBA ’91] was promoted in October to senior manager at Ernst & Young in Little Rock. In the same month, his son Harrison Tedder Booth celebrated his first birthday. Congratulations, Steven!

Randy William Queen [BSBA ’89] and his wife Robin also have a one year old, Corey William (named after Corey Beck). Randy is owner of Lechtenberger & Queen, Ltd. in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Tracy Sheehy Manly [MAcc ’94; Ph.D. ’99], an Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University, won the 2000 Outstanding International Accounting Dissertation award at the American Accounting Association annual meeting in August.

Sarah Jones [MAcc ’00] and Jeremy Adams [MAcc ’00] were married in July. They are making their home in Little Rock, where Sarah works for ALLTEL and Jeremy works for Deloitte & Touche.

James L. Harris [BSBA ’85; JD ’88] is now the Associate Director of Planned Giving at the University of Arkansas. Before taking this position, he was a partner with the law firm of Hall, Estill, Hardwicke, Gable, Golden and Nelson. Jim specializes in estate and tax planning.

Alexee Allen [BSBA ’98] was promoted in May to Audit Senior in the Little Rock office of Arthur Andersen.

Darren L. Brewer [MAcc ’95] is now Loislaw.com’s Merger & Acquisitions Financial Analyst. Darren was previously employed by Baird, Kurtz & Dobson in the Fort Smith office.

Adam Motherwell [BSBA ’79] is right next door...he’s serving as the Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration for the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences.

Kenneth Brown [Ph.D. ’92] is taking early retirement from his job as Professor in the School of Accountancy at Southwest Missouri State University in December to pursue personal interests. You can view photos and catch up on other news at his website, http://courses.smsu.edu/kwb237f.

J. Neal Thomas [BSBA ’68] recently retired as a partner with Ernst & Young. In his 32-year career, he was with the Tulsa, Little Rock and Dallas offices, and now is living in Dallas.

Erik Wallace [BSBA ’93] is living in New York, where he is a Trusts & Estates attorney with the law firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy on Wall Street. Wonder what he thinks of those two new TV shows, Bull and The Street?

Pu Li [MAcc ’00] lives in Richardson, Texas and works for RIA, an accounting software firm in Dallas.

Brent Winborn [BSBA ’82], who went on to earn a Master of Performing Arts at Oklahoma City University, brought his New York cabaret show home to the Arts Center of the Ozarks in May. The standing ovation was well-deserved!

Bill Beam [BSBA ’62] is serving as President of the Ouachita Chapter of the Arkansas Society of CPAs. He has been President of Bill Beam Professional Association for 26 years. He still says the best advice he ever received was, “Get an education.”

Theresa Fette [MAcc ’00] spent the summer as an FDIC intern in Memphis before moving to Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts to begin work on her doctorate in physical therapy.

Courtney Zhang [MAcc ’99] is also making her home in the Boston area, where she is working in the financial services industry group of Ernst & Young.

Jeff Horne [BSBA ’84; MBA ’85] works in the SEC practice of Arthur Andersen’s Professional Standards Group in their worldwide headquarters in Chicago. Prior to joining AA, he spent 7 years in industry and 4 years at the SEC in Washington.

Ying Shen [MAcc ’00] passed the entire CPA exam on her first try in May and is now working for Deloitte & Touche in their Stamford, Connecticut office.
Razorback Accounting News

Barry J. Bryan [BSBA ‘81; MBA ‘83] recently moved to an Associate Professor position in the E. H. Patterson School of Accountancy at the University of Mississippi. Now he really has a problem with who to root for in the Southeastern Conference...but we notice he still has his Razorback tickets!

Harun Kazmi [BSBA ’96] graduated in May from Thomas Jefferson School of Law and entered the LLM program in international law at the University of San Diego Law School this fall.

Barbara Drummy Olsen [BSBA ‘83] is living in London, where her husband is on assignment with Kimberly Clark. Before moving to the U.K., she spent 8 years as a small business manager, first for Senator John Tower and then for the Dixie Chicks.

Among those passing the CPA exam in May were Dennis Kurczek [BSBA ’96], Lee Reddmann [BSBA ’96], Tammye Hall [BSBA ’97], R. Christian Vaught [BSBA ’99] and Kay Ellen Wilkerson [BSBA ‘99].

In memoriam: Richard R. Washburn [BSBA ‘42] passed away March 14, 2000, at his home. He will be missed.

Student, Staff and Faculty News

The Department of Accounting welcomed two new staff members this Fall: Suzanna Hicks and Colleen Jenkins. Suzanna brings a wealth of experience at the University of Florida to her position as our head secretary; Colleen provides much-needed computer and Internet support for the faculty.

Associate Professor Deborah Thomas has been named co-director of the university’s Teaching and Faculty Support Center for a 2-1/2 year term that begins in January 2001. Among other things, she will help plan new faculty orientation programs, orientations for teaching assistants, the summer teaching camp, and the peer consultation program.

Associate Professor Deborah Thomas is really on a roll this year....in addition to her new post with the Teaching and Faculty Support Center, she was honored in August with the American Taxation Association/Arthur Andersen Teaching Innovation Award for her project in the MAcc class on Individual Tax Planning.

December accounting graduates Gretchen Cardarelli and Steven Flemming recently qualified for admission to Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business honorary. The UA’s chapter was honored last year as the second highest rated chapter in the nation.

Associate Professor of Business Law John Norwood has been elected as one of the newest members of the Teaching Academy.

Three Walton College Student Ambassadors for 2000-2001 are accounting majors: Daniel Hazman, a double major in accounting and international economics; Carmen Keaton, and Erin Walker, double major in accounting and international relations.

Faculty and students honored Associate Professor Rien Bouwman with a lunch in December to recognize his 7 years service as director of the accounting doctoral program. Thanks, Rien!

Current MAcc students Subrina Adcock and Kristy Norris were honored with $5,000 Brandon Bursworth scholarships for the 2000-2001 academic year. These scholarships are in honor of the former UA football star who died in an automobile accident shortly before his MBA graduation.

The students of Beta Alpha Psi honored retiring Professor G. William Glezen with a tree planting shortly before the 2000 commencement. Dr. Glezen’s tree is at the south end of Walton College near the University Press sign.

Hannah Bowman will serve as BAP Recording Secretary this spring, replacing December graduate Gretchen Cardarelli. Leigh Evans stepped in this fall to serve as Treasurer. And yes, the books do balance!

Dean Doyle Z. Williams presented, "Proposed Changes in Accounting Accreditation Standards," at the Midwest Deans’ Association in Branson, Mo., and at the Mid-Continent Deans’ Association Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

This summer the department bid adieu to secretaries Sheila Napier, now a student in the UA master’s program in educational technology and Melanie Frazier, promoted to secretary for the Walton College Minority Affairs office. We miss them both, but are happy for their success.

Professor Karen Pincus has been named to the Accounting Accreditation Committee of the AACSB: The International Association for Management Education. Her article, “The Role of Rules in Accounting,” was published in Research on Accounting Ethics, volume 6 (2000).


December 2000 doctoral graduate Kay Narkatabee, Assistant Professor Tommy Carnes and former Assistant Professor Ervin Black (now at BYU) wrote a paper on “The quality of earnings vs. cash flow information in Thailand.” The paper will be given at the Asia-Pacific Journal of Accounting and Economics 2001 Symposium in Hong Kong in January.

Doctoral student Ira Bates has been awarded a KPMG Doctoral Scholarship. Ira was also featured in a recent news story on the Walton College Ph.D. program.

Instructor Mary Beth Caldwell and Assistant Professor Tanya Lee are each leading a group of Freshman Business Connections students this fall. The FBC program introduces new students to the many opportunities in the business world and the Walton College.

Clinical Assistant Professor Charles Leflar’s famous FASB project from the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles class will be featured in a session at the Federation of Schools of Accountancy’s 2000 annual meeting in San Antonio.

Junior accounting majors Ryan Brisiel, Erin Burris, Carrie Cobb, Amanda Dickson, David Lacy, Shayla Lowe, Mary Faith Smith, Sam Terry, Erin Walker and Russ Webb are members of the first class of the new Walton College Honors Program, which is directed by Associate Professor John Norwood.

Assistant Professor Lizabeth Austen’s coauthored article with William Messier, Jr. of Georgia State University on “Inherent Risk and Control Risk Assessments” appeared in the Fall 2000 issue of Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory and was abstracted in the Journal of Accountancy.
Keep in touch! Visit our home page at www.uark.edu/depts/acctinfo Use the form below to send your news for the next edition.

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News to report in next newsletter:

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Happy Holidays
from the
Faculty and Staff
of the
Department of Accounting

Razorback Accounting News
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