Williams Wins Gold!

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants awarded its highest honor, the Gold Medal for Distinguished Service, to Walton College Dean Doyle Z. Williams at the 2002 annual meeting of the AICPA in Maui, Hawaii. Selection criteria include quality and length of service, motivation, influence on the accounting profession and personal attributes. Established in 1944, this is only the fifth Gold Medal given to someone in the field of education. In an extra special touch, the award was presented by AICPA Board member Mason Andres [BSBA ’62] who took the opportunity to tout his alma mater as well as Dean Williams!

Dean Williams has served as the AICPA vice president, as a member of its board of directors, on its council, on the Future Issues committee, the Professional Ethics Executive committee, the Technical Standards subcommittee of the Professional Ethics Division, its Group of 100, and as chairman and member of numerous other committees. He joined the Walton College in 1993 and under his leadership the college moved to a tie for 28th place among the nation’s top public undergraduate business schools, according to U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges” 2003 rankings.

BKD Award Competition

A new cash award, funded by BKD, will encourage junior accounting students to think analytically and hone their communication skills. The firm has pledged to fund a new BKD award at $1,000 annually in its initial years while also contributing to a $25,000 endowed fund to ensure the award’s future. A case competition will be held during the Spring in the Financial Reporting and Analysis classes taught by Dr. Michael Mosebach to determine the winners of the first BKD Award. The award will be presented at the Accounting Recognition Banquet along with the ongoing Glezen Award, which will go to the winning team for the Enron Education Projects from the Fraud Prevention and Detection class taught by Dr. Karen Pincus.

One of the highlights of the year is our annual Accounting Recognition Banquet. The next banquet will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2003. We will recognize outstanding alumni, students, and student organizations, and express our thanks to donors. Plan now to be a part of our 30th annual celebration! If you have not received an invitation in the past and would like to be included this year, e-mail us (accounting@walton.uark.edu) or give us a call (479-575-4051). We look forward to seeing you April 24th!

New CPA Exam: Pretest on Campus

The Department of Accounting has been chosen as a pretest site for the new computer-based CPA exam. The exam is being converted from a paper-based to a computer-based exam beginning in 2004, with a reorganized structure and some new types of questions, including simulations where candidates will have access to accounting and tax standards for research. In Spring 2003, a full 4-part exam, including new question types such as simulations, will be administered in our computer labs to about 100 students, including seniors taking Operational Auditing and MAcc students enrolled in Contemporary Accounting Issues. The students will have a unique opportunity to experience the new format and question types first-hand. They will receive individual assessments of their performance on the pretest to assist them in further study.

If you are a recent graduate interested in taking part in the pretest, please contact Department Chair Karen Pincus for additional information. You must be able to be on campus both Friday February 28 and Saturday March 1 to participate and will be asked to sign a nondisclosure agreement since the questions will be part of the test bank for the new exam.

Student and Faculty News

Hard work does pay! Walton Fellowships were awarded to accounting majors Katie Cunningham, Price Felton, Vesela Grozeva, Jennifer Madison, Elizabeth Pryor, Ivats Stoichkov, Chalice Suratt, and Laura Trover.

Assistant Professor Thomas Carnes presented a paper in August at the American Accounting Association annual meeting in San Antonio: “The Long-Term Success of Cross Border Mergers and Acquisitions.” We will say farewell to Dr. Carnes this summer when he will join the faculty of Western Carolina University. He says he will miss his colleagues and students at the Walton College but looks forward to living closer to his parents and his wife’s family.

Emeritus Professor Doris M. Cook is now recovering after a heart attack, triple bypass surgery and a stroke this Fall. Dr. Cook served on the faculty for 50 years and continued to teach accounting part-time for several years after her retirement. She has the heartfelt best wishes of all her former faculty colleagues and students.
Emeritus Professor Jackson White is now serving as President of the Arkansas State Board of Public Accountancy.

Two current MAcc students starred at the 2002 Walton College of Business graduation ceremony. Shayla Lowe addressed students on reflections from the Class of 2002. Tiffany Woolley was recognized as the outstanding graduating senior in the Class of 2002.

Also close to graduation day, accounting major Allen Pierce competed in the Governor’s Cup for Entrepreneurial Development semifinals. The college had 8 of 12 teams in the 2002 semifinals.


Helping students learn about the world, Emeritus Professor Gerard Halpern, who retired in 1988 and is now living in West Palm Beach, FL, made a $200,000 gift commitment to create a study abroad endowment in the Walton College. In addition to teaching business law for 20 years, he served in leadership posts for many professional, academic and civic organizations including the Southern Business Law Association and the American Business Law Associations, Inc., and for Lifestyles, Inc.

Junior accounting major Tiffany McHenry has been recognized by the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha as an Involved Member of the Greek Community.

It’s not often that the accounting department gets mentioned on the sports pages, but junior accounting major Gene Perry, a football player, was quoted in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette as being “very impressed with the instructors in the accounting department. Everything related to football at Arkansas is great, but the reason I’m coming is because of the chance to continue my education.”

Associate Professor John Norwood, faculty advisor for the Walton College chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, helped BGS earn the “Outstanding Chapter Silver Award” for the 5th year in a row.

He also presented papers in July at the Academy of Legal Studies in Business and Federation of Business Disciplines meetings in Las Vegas.

In October, Professor Karen Pincus was elected to a 3-year term as a Member-at-large of the AICPA Council.

Instructor Carole Shook received a university-wide outstanding teaching award from Chi Omega in the Spring. Congratulations to a dedicated teacher!

Our faculty practice what they teach: learning never ends. Assistant Professor Rodney Smith attended the American Accounting Association’s workshop on AIS at Michigan State University in East Lansing on June 16-21, 2002 and has been applying ideas from that workshop in the Accounting Technology class.

Doctoral student Martin Stuebs, Jr. received an Institute of Management Accounting Fellowship and doctoral student Dennis Lopez received a KPMG Fellowship, both national awards.

Some Class of ’02 MAcc students finished up their year with a bang. James Farmer, Christian Jamerson, Tammy Tavernaro, Anita J. Marshall, Mike Whitmore and Erin Taylor made a presentation to the Boys and Girls Club of Benton County on management ideas using the “Balanced Scorecard” process based on a project completed for their Asset Management class, taught by Professor William F. Wright.

Professor Carolyn M. Callahan was elected to serve as Walton College representative on the Graduate Council.

Emeritus Associate Professor of Business Law Ann Henry and her husband Morris celebrated the birth of another grandson, Isaac Andrew Baltz, who came into the world at 7 lb. 10 oz. on April 16, 2002.

Another Business Law retiree, Hugh Kincaid, who became the University’s Director of Planned Giving in 1995 after teaching business law for 32 years, has now retired from the University.

Congratulations to 3 accounting majors who received $3,000 scholarships from the AICPA Minority Initiatives Com-mittee Julienne Gutierrez, Tannikia Holloway, and Quincy Stanley.

Clinical Associate Professor Charles Leflar, Beta Alpha Psi faculty advisor, was able to celebrate with last year’s and this year’s BAP officers their success at being named a Superior Chapter once again. Congratulations to our fantastic student chapter!

Alumni News

Among the accounting alumni who passed the May 2002 CPA exam were Jeremy Adams [BSBA ’99; MAcc ’00]; Jennifer Auffert [BSBA ’96]; Anne Bumpers [BSBA ’00; MAcc ’00]; Anita Marshall [Macc ’02]; Katerina Silkina [BSBA ’01; MAcc ’02]; Leslie Smith [BSBA ’08]; Sarah Tisdale [MAcc ’01]; Vicky Vasser-Murray [BSBA ’99]; and Libo Zhu [MAcc ’01].

Laura Allen [BSBA ’00] currently works for Avery Dennison, a leading manufacturer of adhesive materials. After graduation she went to LSU to earn her Masters in Accounting. She specialized in internal audit. She also took the CIA exam and received the highest student score worldwide. Wow! In addition, she scored in the top 5 of all people taking the exam in November 2001.

Brent Bleyenberg [BSBA ’91] has been employed for 4 years at Double HH Manufacturing, which provides quality products for the agricultural and industrial equipment manufacturing sectors. His job duties include: assisting in operations; analyzing gross profits; scheduling work orders on the floor; keeping the computer network up and running, as well as tracking inventory supply levels and costs.

Colleen Briney [MASA ’83] recently accepted the new position of Director of Accounting and Information Services in the Walton College. She is a CPA with extensive experience at the university. Her experience spans areas of financial accounting, budgeting, project management, design and development of information systems.
Gwen Bryant [BSBA '97], CPA has joined Beall Barclay & Company, PLC’s Rogers office as Senior Accountant.

Bryan J. Curtis [BSBA '96] has been selected as a recipient of the Top 40 under 40 award sponsored by the Memphis Business Journal. The award is made to outstanding individuals in the Memphis area under the age of 40.

Shane Diamant [BSBA '96] is now employed as a research associate with Stephens Inc.

Dr. Jack R. Fay [BSBA '59; MEd '60; PhD '76] just completed his 43rd year of teaching (his 7th year at Pittsburgh State University). For 6 years he headed the PSU VITA program (using students from his tax courses) in which 400 students, staff and faculty were helped with their federal and state tax problems. Jack is taking a well-deserved sabbatical this semester.

Tonya Fountain [MAcc '01] now works with Simmons in Siloam Springs, Arkansas as an Accounting Manager of Fixed Assets. Tonya had a fantastic summer vacation, traveling to Rome for a month.

Walton College accounting alumni continue to lead the accounting profession in Arkansas. Jimmie Shannon [BSBA '68] has assumed the presidency of the Arkansas Society of CPAs. He is a partner in the Fort Smith firm of BKD, LLP. Sonja Hubbard [BSBA '86] is currently serving as a member of the ASCPA Board of Directors. Bradley Roethlisberger [BSBA '91] is currently the President of the Northwest Chapter of the ASCPA. Dr. Barry Bryan [BSBA '81; MBA '83] spoke on “More Effective and Efficient Use of Analytical Procedures on Audit Engagements” at the 22nd Annual Accounting and Auditing Conference in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

If you want tax advice in Alabama, we know where you should go. After earning a Masters in Tax at the University of Alabama, Ross Irwin [BSBA '01] started working in the tax department at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Birmingham. Ross was married in July to Cassie Dempsey, a tax accountant for Deloitte and Touche.

Brandi Joplin [BSBA '92] was promoted in February 2002 to Vice-President of Internal Audit for AltTel Corporation.

Bob Adams [BSBA, '63] recently announced his retirement from Bank of Montreal, Toronto after 15 years in Corporate Financial Analysis and lead roles in Investor Relations and Pension Fund Investment, capping a career in international industry (oil and banking).

Dr. Ray Landry [Ph.D. '87] has completed his 3-year contract with Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He is currently teaching at the University of Texas-Pan American.

Kelly Haydon Love [BSBA '87] and husband David are enjoying life with daughter Sydney Elizabeth, born November 1, 2001, about 6 weeks after Kelly earned the right to use the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. She is currently the Director of Investor Relations for Inet Technologies, Inc.

Paul Parette [BSBA '89] and his wife Charla welcomed Noah Newbold Parette, born on Friday June 7, 2002 at 7 pounds 4 ounces and 19.75 inches long!

You can go home again. After 9+ years at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Tulsa, Clayton E. Roberts [MSA '92] moved back home to Texarkana with his family and is now employed with Regions Morgan Keegan Trust as Vice President and Personal Trust Manager. He and wife Kimberly recently had twin boys, Michael and Christopher, making 4-year old Matthew a big brother times two.

Melanie Owens [BSBA '81] was promoted to vice-president of Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Melanie’s husband, Dan, who holds a BA ['83] and MBA ['01] from the U of A and a JD from the U of Mississippi, is now director of marketing for Fuji Film.

Robert Hester [BSBA '76] is now serving as Managing Partner for Deloitte and Touche’s Memphis office.

Douglass Cagwin [Macc '96; Ph.D. '99] and Kathy Barker [Ph.D. '99] are now members of the accounting faculty at Landers University.

George S. Pace [BSBA '85] is the World Wide President of D’arcy Interactive, the Interactive Marketing Division of the Bcom3 holding company (now Publicis). He is responsible for 24 offices in 23 countries employing over 520 people. Major clients include: GM, P&G, Coke, Philips Electronics and Heineken.

Guangping Shi [MAcc '99] is employed by Bloom & Hochberg & Co., P.C., CPAs in midtown Manhattan. She is doing individual and corporate taxes, and in November started to prepare for next year’s audits.

Sarah Elizabeth White [BSBA '99] married Sam Loc Wallace (also a UA grad) on May 26, 2002. She is an accountant with O’Dell and Associates in Fayetteville.

Nate Nantz [BSBA '01; MAcc '02] recently completed the Internal Revenue Service’s Criminal Investigative Training Program and began the Special Agent Intensive Training Program. He reports that he has learned a lot of new things, including shooting a 9 mm, executing search warrants, and how to do undercover operations and surveillance.

Christian Jamerson [MAcc '02] is really enjoying his job with MetLife in Tampa, where his duties include preparing statutory financial statements for the state insurance boards. He reports he has learned a lot and enjoyed the challenges, including adjusting to a different set of requirements than GAAP.

Gina Terry [BSBA '85] is now working for the Internal Audit Department of the U of A System Office in Little Rock. She previously worked for Ernst & Young for 12 1/2 years.
Keep in touch!
Visit our home page at  http://waltoncollege.uark.edu/ACCT/default.asp Use the form below to send your news for the next edition.

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Wishing you health, happiness and peace in the New Year.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS