Spring 2001

UA64/2 The Western Worksheet

WKU Accounting

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NIXON PROFESSORS NAMED

Mary Nixon, CPA, knows nothing about airplanes. Why should she? Nixon is not a pilot or even the employee of a major airline, but the Vice President of Corporate People and Financial Services for Tricon Global Restaurants, Inc. Ironically, of the 400 people that report to her, several are pilots who fly Tricon's private jets. Mary Nixon accepts this challenge as she has all the ones before - with grace, enthusiasm, and confidence - because Mary Nixon is a 1977 WKU accounting graduate.

Recently, Mary Nixon pledged $100,000 to Western to establish an accounting professorship. This money, along with matching funds, has created the Mary R. Nixon Professorship. Originally, the professorship was designed to be awarded to one individual, but two WKU accounting icons were so deserving the committee was unable to decide on just one! Mary Nixon's former accounting professors, Dr. Jack O. Hall and Dr. Charles T. Hays, are the Mary R. Nixon Professors for 2001-2003. Mary Nixon couldn't be more excited. Both professors, Nixon said, take a lot of personal interest in making sure students learn. Throughout his 32 years at WKU, Dr. Jack O. Hall, CPA, has taught almost all of the accounting courses offered by the department. He served as the Accounting Department head/co-chair for 14 years and as Interim Dean of the College during 1995-1996. Dr. Hall's interests lie in financial statements and financial reporting. One of his biggest sources of enjoyment stems from his interest in seeing students do well on the CPA examination.

Dr. Charles T. Hays, CPA, has been at Western since 1966. During this time, he has taught classes in accounting and taxation and has developed research interests in the tax aspects of personal financial planning. For Dr. Hays, accounting is an enjoyable area to teach and an interesting discipline.

Dr. Hays is a former member of the board of directors for the Kentucky Society of Certified Public Accountants.

The pride and pleasure on the faces of both Dr. Hall and Dr. Hays is evident when you ask them about Mary Nixon and the professorship she is sponsoring. As her former teachers, Dr. Hall and Dr. Hays were instrumental in the education and preparation Nixon received at Western. Mary Nixon has nothing but compliments and gratitude to offer these two men. When asked about her two former professors, she said, "Dr. Hall was a master of teaching the why's of things, and Dr. Hays, in my mind, was a superb technician and made sure you understood the details."

For over 30 years, Dr. Hall and Dr. Hays have had an impact on thousands of individuals and have made a positive difference in the careers and lives of the students they have taught. Congratulations, Dr. Hall and Dr. Hays, and thank you, for your dedication and your commitment to accounting and the students here at Western. A special thanks to Mary Nixon for her continued faith, support, and commitment to the success and excellence of Western's Accounting Department.
LITTLE WINS BIG AWARD

In Washington, D.C., at Howard University, an accounting teacher named Mr. Bert Smith changed the lives of 2 twins. Mr. Smith was an African-American CPA who was well-dressed, organized, and the owner of his own firm. We know one of those twins as Dr. Harold Little, CPA, CMA, CIA, and he now stands in Mr. Smith's shoes. In April, Dr. Little was awarded the Gordon Ford College of Business Award for Teaching for 2001.

Dr. Little not only is a familiar face in the classrooms of Grise Hall, but he also produces and teaches a class through interaction television for WKU. A teacher for 15 years, he maintains the philosophy that "students want to learn." Dr. Little enjoys interacting with his students and the different perspectives they bring to the classroom. He also appreciates and praises the working relationship the accounting faculty have with one another at Western. Thank you, Dr. Little, and congratulations!

WHITE RECOGNIZED BY STUDENTS

The students of Western Kentucky University spoke their mind recently, and the Student Government Association (SGA) was listening. In honor of Faculty Appreciation Day (sponsored by SGA), Dr. Steven White was recently presented an Excellence in Teaching Award. This award recognizes faculty who have positively influenced the lives of students. Teaching style, university involvement outside of the classroom, and availability were just a few of the criteria used to determine the recipients of this honor. Nominations for this award were submitted by the students of Western.

MPA PROFILE

Orren Wang, a '96 graduate of the Master of Professional Accountancy program, now has experience that spans the ocean. In early 1997, he joined Armstrong International, Inc. as the Asian Accounting Manager. Armstrong is a multinational company involved in the manufacturing and distribution of steam system products.

Mr. Wang is responsible for the financial/management reporting and taxation of Armstrong's manufacturing facility and service operation in China. Each month two sets of reports are constructed—one in accordance with U.S. GAAP and one following the Chinese Accounting Rules. At the end of the fiscal year, two audits are also performed. Wang handles both the year-end financial statement audit by BDO International and the domestic Chinese statutory audit.

GOOD-BYE DR. KINNERSLEY!

From the hospital to the classroom, Dr. Randy Kinnersley has certainly had his share of experiences. One of those experiences ended with the completion of the Spring semester. After six years at WKU, Dr. Kinnersley will be leaving Western to take a position with Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville.

Dr. Kinnersley discovered the joy of teaching while training the department chairpersons on budgeting when he worked for a hospital. At Western, Dr. Kinnersley has shared his expertise with students in the introductory financial accounting and governmental and not-for-profit accounting classes. He cites the friends he has made while here as favorite things about his time on the Hill.

While at Western, Dr. Kinnersley served 3 years on the Kentucky CPA Society's Government and Not-for-Profit Committee, where he "enjoyed running into Western grads." Dr. Kinnersley will be sorely missed. Good luck in Nashville, Dr. Kinnersley, and keep in touch!

BUSINESS PROGRAMS ACCREDITED

The AACSB International recently reaffirmed the accreditation of the Business College's undergraduate programs and accredited the MBA Program. The AACSB is the premier accrediting body for business schools, stressing academic excellence and a commitment to continuous improvement. Only one third of the business schools in the nation have earned AACSB accreditation. The Gordon Ford College of Business has been accredited since 1982.

MPA UPDATE

The accounting faculty has taken the initial steps to re-activate the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPA) program. With Kentucky and Tennessee now both requiring 150 hours to sit for the CPA exam, many students may want to satisfy the requirement by earning a graduate degree in accounting. Two graduate accounting classes (Systems and Financial) are being offered in the Fall semester, and plans are moving forward to begin enrolling students in the program.

Please help us bring back the MPA program. Send letters of support documenting the need for an accounting masters program to Rick Aldridge, Chair of Accounting.
Spring 2000 Alumni Update

1940's

Nell Thomas Wiggum (45), is retired and lives in Jackson, MS.

James M. French (50), is retired and currently resides in Greenville, SC.

Robert R. Lyons (53), is retired and a resident of Hendersonville, TN.

Robert L. Roemer (54), is retired and presently lives in St. Petersburg, FL.

Thomas F. Lanier (55), has retired to Greensboro, NC after 28 years as the president of a major distribution company. Currently, he serves as a Trustee of Campbell University.

1950's

James W. Smith (67), is the chairman and CEO of Wendy's of Bowling Green Inc. in Bowling Green, KY.

Jerry D. Ingerick (69), retired from the U.S. Defense Finance and Accounting Service in September of 2000. Presently, he is the senior engineer for Engineering, Management, and Integration Inc. in Reston, VA.

1960's

Timothy Wallace (79), is the Vice President and CFO for Healthcare Realty Trust Inc. in Nashville.

1970's

Briggs P. Stahl (80), is the President/Shareholder of Stahl Consulting Group, P.A. in Tampa.

Keith Wallace (87), recently made partner with Arthur Andersen LLP in Raleigh, NC.

Leigh Ann Bertram Stack (88), is the Vice President and Controller of Healthcare Realty Trust Inc. in Nashville.

1980's

Susan Yarbrough (90), works for Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corporation in Tennessee and has been promoted to Section Manager-Financial Systems SAP.

Diane Olsofsky Wallace (93), is a Senior Manager with Deloitte & Touche in Louisville.

Kimberly Smith Felt (94), passed the CPA exam in November of 1999. She is the Treasurer for the City of Mount Washington, KY.

Peter Frederick (94), is a claim representative for SAFECO Insurance in Glasgow, KY.

Allison B. Jamison (97), works as an audit consultant for Humana in Louisville.

Kyle Chanman (99), is an account executive for California Speedway in Fontana, CA.

Chad Davis (99) passed the CPA exam in May 2000. He works as a financial analyst and consultant for Electronic Data Systems in Herndon, VA and will complete his MBA from Troy State University in June.

ACCOUNTING STUDENTS STEAL THE SPOTLIGHT

At the Gordon Ford College of Business Fifth Annual Recognition and Awards Program held in April, the spotlight generously shed light on accounting majors. Among the award winners were Kristina Zoglmann and Loretta Cottrell, who were the 2000-2001 Outstanding Junior and Senior Accounting Majors, respectively.

Over the past several months, WKU accounting students have also dominated the award-winning scene outside of the College of Business. Eight of the 31 individuals from Western honored with the distinction of Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities were accounting majors. Loretta Cottrell, Angela Heath, Patricia Kist, Jennifer Owens, Donovan Schultz, Selma Skaggs, Ashley Tomlinson, and Robin Wilson were recognized as recipients of this award at the WKU Student Awards Ceremony.

Super job accounting majors! Keep up the good work!

WKU STUDENTS PLACE FIRST

Two teams from Western, one undergraduate and one graduate, were recently honored for first place finishes at the International Collegiate Business Policy Competition in San Diego. This was the first year undergraduate and graduate teams from the same school dominated the awards ceremony.

For this Internet based competition, students developed and ran a company, made decisions on a weekly basis, and learned the true meaning of teamwork. This simulation involved universities from around the world. At Western, students participated in the business policy competition through a management class.

The accounting department is proud to claim two of the winning team members as their own. Tobi Ferguson, senior accounting major, was a member of the undergraduate team, and Monica Patterson, '00 accounting graduate, was a member of the graduate team. Congratulations business students!
The Department of Accounting and Beta Alpha Psi are continuing to refine and update their accounting alumni list. An accurate mailing list is essential in maintaining contact with alumni and learning of ways to improve our accounting programs.

Please take a few moments and complete the form at the right. We hope to include more updates on our alumni in future editions of the newsletter.

Thank you.

Department of Accounting

Visit our Web Page at:
http://www.wku.edu/
Dept/Academic/COBA/
ACCT/HTM/welcome.htm

Alumni Update Record

Name ____________________________ Graduation Date ________________

Phone # ____________________________ E-mail ________________________

Address ____________________________ City ____________________________ State ____________

ZIP ________________________________

Present Employer ________________________________ Employer Address ________________________________

Present Position ________________________________

*Please indicate if you would like to play a more active role in the Accounting Excellence Association.

NEWS NOTES
(Recent accomplishments & promotions, etc.)

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Contributors to the Accounting Excellence Association

The following list of contributors was compiled as of April 30, 2001, and reflects contributions for the 2000-2001 academic year. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you find that your name has been misspelled, omitted, or incorrectly listed, please let us know so that corrections can be made in future publications and in our office records.

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