

# ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT DISCLOSURES

June 2020

## *Dear* Accounting Friends,



You may have noticed the name of our newsletter has changed. It used to be "Division Disclosures." The Lewis College of Business recently changed all four major academic units from divisions to departments. This change will align our structure with that of other colleges across campus, but it won't impact our programs, operations or activities.

Spring 2020 was certainly a memorable semester. Midway through the semester, all our courses were moved completely online. Adjustments to the new delivery format created quite a bit of extra work for many of our faculty members, but they all pushed through, giving the task their best efforts. Students were forced to adjust as well. Many of the students taking accounting courses were disappointed to no longer have live lessons with teachers; the online format reduced the interactions and discussions many students had grown to expect.

As we look ahead to August, we hope to resume face-to-face classes, but the future is still uncertain. We also hope to have some of our traditional fall networking events, but no plans have yet been set.

If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions for our department, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Jean Price  
Department Chair  
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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY  
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## *Student News*

### **Student Awards Fall 2019**

#### **IMA Accounting Honor Society Inductees**

Jonathan Ascencio  
Angelica di Marzio  
Josh Holland  
Mei Liao  
Payal Patel  
Amanda Spry

#### **CMA Exam Scholarships**

Kayla Davis  
Tessy Arinze

#### **Top Scores on ACC 499 Exam and Awards**

Sami Alyasin  
(Wiley CPA Excel Platinum Review Course)  
Megan Crabtree  
(Gleim Premium Review Course for one section of exam)  
Brandi Hinkle (CMA Scholarship)  
Ibrahim Kousa (CMA Scholarship)  
Minjie Wang (CMA Scholarship)

#### **PCAOB Scholar**

Kaitlin Francis

## **Enrollment Information**

During Fall 2019, the M.S.A. program had 20 students enrolled and eight students enrolled for the online M.S.A. program. Our undergraduate accounting program had 203 students enrolled and was the second largest enrolled major after management in Fall 2019.

## Meet Our Graduate Assistants

**Kaitlin Francis** is from Parkersburg, WV. She graduated summa cum laude from Marshall in 2019 and received her B.B.A. in accounting with a minor in legal environment. She will be graduating in May 2020 with her M.S. in Accountancy. Kaitlin served as the Beta Alpha Psi Vice President during the 2018-2019 academic year and was an active member since the end of her sophomore year. Kaitlin is a member of the WV Society of CPAs and Beta Gamma Sigma. During her undergrad, Kaitlin was honored as a Kathy Eddy New Horizon's Fund recipient as well as a PCAOB Scholar. She was on the leadership team and a worship leader for a ministry on campus, Baptist Campus Ministries, during her junior and senior year. She has begun studying for her CPA exams and has passed three parts so far. Kaitlin will be taking her fourth part at the beginning of the summer. She will begin working as a staff auditor for Suttle & Stalnaker, PLLC in Charleston, WV starting in August. Kaitlin is heavily involved in her local church's worship team and enjoys spending time with her family.

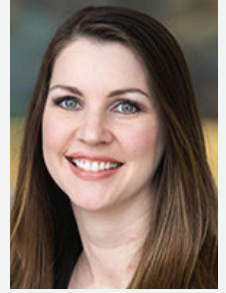


**Tyler Moles** is from Nitro, WV and a student in the M.S. Accountancy program. In May 2019, he graduated summa cum laude from Marshall with a B.B.A. in accounting and finance and a double minor in communications studies and international affairs. During his time at Marshall, Tyler was an active member of Beta Alpha Psi starting his sophomore year and served as Vice President of Finance for the 2018-19 academic year. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the IMA Accounting Honor Society, and a student member of the WV Society of CPAs. He is currently studying for the CPA exam. After graduation, Tyler will start full time as a staff auditor for Suttle & Stalnaker, PLLC in Charleston, WV, where he interned for the past two summers. Outside of school, he is active in his local church and enjoys traveling to new places, having been to 47 states and eight countries.



## New Faculty

**Amanda Meadows** joins us as an Instructor in Accounting in the Department of Accountancy and Legal Environment. She comes from the School of Business and Leadership at the University of Charleston where she was an Assistant Professor of Accounting since 2011. She received her B.S. in Accounting and Business Administration and her M.B.A. from the University of Charleston. While at the University of Charleston, she taught a variety of accounting courses including Principles of Accounting I and II, Cost Accounting, and Federal Taxes. Amanda served on committees and roundtables as a representative for University of Charleston's School of Business and Leadership. She also served as the faculty advisor for case competitions. Amanda is a CPA and is a member of the WVSCPA and the Charleston Chapter of the WVSCPA. She serves on WVSCPA project groups including the Recruiting & Opportunities group. Amanda also has professional experience in public accounting and corporate tax and controllership.



## Controllership Class Completes Community Project

Dr. Marie Archambault's ACC 617 (Controllership) completed one community-based project with a local Huntington non-profit. The students joined into 3 separate groups with 3 separate functions. The first group was the Control System Group. The Control System Group's main job was to create better controls to be put into place for the non-profit to operate more efficiently. They also were able to create a model Code of Conduct for the organization to use. The second group was the Cost Analysis and Budget Group. This group put together an inventory database consisting of costs and sales prices for the non-profit by conducting an inventory observation. The third group was the Accounting System Group. This group was responsible for creating a database consisting of the different types of costs the non-profit was incurring and determining if the non-profit was profitable or operating at a loss. The Accounting System Group was also tasked with creating simple financial statements based on information that the organization gave the students to work with. All students were tasked with looking at the organization's bylaws and proposing possible changes. All groups conducted research in WV law, the tax code, or in FASB ASC. The organization was able to make significant changes based on the students' findings. All students learned that not all organizations are easy to work with and that patience is a virtue!

## BETA ALPHA PSI NEWS

### Beta Alpha Psi 2019-2020 Officers

- President - Casey Snodgrass
- Vice-President - Ashlee Smith
- Treasurer - Amanda Spry
- Director of Professional Development - Katerina Coon
- Reporter - Brandon Myers
- VITA Coordinator - Jessica White
- Assistant VITA Coordinator - Philip Taylor

### Beta Alpha Psi 2019 Inductees

- Cameron Hunter
- Chandler Kerns
- Dylan Hunter
- Jake Gooderham
- Jonathan Tilley
- Josh Gould
- Olivia Freeland
- Sydnie Starcher
- Tilman Turley



## A Note from Casey Snodgrass, President of Beta Alpha Psi

This year we wanted to focus on expanding our community service efforts. We partnered with the Heart of Phoenix

Horse Rescue in Huntington, WV to hold a community service day at their farm. Our chapter was able to help prepare the barn for winter, fix fences, feed the horses, and assist the organization in various yard work. We also organized a cookout at the end of the day for all the volunteers. This was a very beneficial community service project for our chapter in several ways. Our members were able to work with a nonprofit to give back to the community in a fun and unique way. Additionally, this new project brought new participants and increased networking among our members. We were able to connect with the new participants and current chapter members, and work on our teambuilding skills to help the Heart of Phoenix. We hope to continue this project next year.



Beta Alpha Psi during the Fall 2019 Visit the Firms event in Charleston, WV.

## Visit the Firms

Beta Alpha Psi's *Visit the Firms* took place in Charleston on September 27, 2019 with over 40 student participants. Students had the choice between seven office locations to visit, which included: Arnett Carbis Toothman, Brown Edwards, Dixon Hughes Goodman, Ernst & Young, Gray Griffith & Mays, Suttle & Stalnaker, and the WV State Auditor's Office. The students chose one office to visit in the morning session and one in the afternoon session with lunch being served in between at the Four Points Hotel. This allowed students to tour firm offices, meet many of their professionals, and get to know more about their firm culture. During lunch each firm was given the opportunity to introduce themselves. Casey Snodgrass, Beta Alpha Psi President, said, "the firms go all out for the student visits. For example, this year we had a firm that set up an escape room for the students. We could not do this event without the help of our participating firms who make this such a great event for students to network and learn about different firms within the area." *Visit the Firms 2020* will take place in Huntington.



Beta Alpha Psi 2019-2020 Officers and Fall 2019 Inductees

## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)



Beta Alpha Psi's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance First Day

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) was held again this tax season through the partnership of Marshall University's Beta Alpha Psi and the United Way of River Cities. VITA is a program through the Internal Revenue Service that offers free tax assistance to students and low-income members within the community. The site assists with simple 1040s, basic 1040NRs, and Form 8843, having the capability to assist many international students with their tax needs. VITA allows students to help people within the community while also providing

hands-on, valuable experience for the students. Jessica White, VITA Site Coordinator, said, "VITA is such a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community. The looks on people's faces when we are able to help them makes all the hard work and late nights worth it. It is a game-changer for students, and I would definitely recommend students getting involved in VITA." Marshall's Beta Alpha Psi site completed 80 tax returns and logged over 478 volunteer hours as of March 12, 2020.

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## Program News

The Fall 2019 semester ushered in our first all online Master of Science in Accountancy program. Students can now choose to take all face-to-face courses, a mixture of face-to-face and online courses, or all online courses. The all online distance option not only makes obtaining a master's degree more convenient, but the option also allows for a tuition reduction which reduces the overall cost of the degree. Enrollment in the M.S.A. program has increased significantly this past year as a result of the new online option. Increased interest in the 3+2 Program has also helped to increase enrollment. Students are able to take up to nine hours of graduate courses as an undergraduate student in the 3+2 Program. After graduating with their Bachelor's Degree, these students will only need to take 21 additional hours to obtain their M.S.A. degree.

The M.S.A. degree requires only 30 hours of additional coursework. Fewer hours as a graduate student would be required if you take some of the graduate courses as an undergraduate student in the 3+2 Program. Most graduate programs, including the M.B.A., require 36 hours of additional coursework.

- You can pass all four parts of the CPA exam before you graduate with your M.S.A. Many students will coordinate their CPA exams around the classes they take (AUD while they are taking ACC 615 and ACC 632, REG while they are taking ACC 616 and ACC 618, etc.).

- A master's degree in Accountancy will pay off later in life in surprising ways. There will be a time when you are competing for a promotion and you will need that advanced degree to set you apart from your competitors.
- Your M.S.A. will qualify you to teach at the university level. Qualified, experienced, individuals with advanced accounting degrees are in high demand in academia.
- You can work full time and take classes during the evening or online.

### 3+2 Program

The best time to enroll in the 3+2 Program is during your last semester as a Junior. At the start of your Senior year, if enrolled in the 3+2 Program, you can take up to three classes or nine hours of graduate courses from the M.S.A. Program. If you take ACC 616 and ACC 632 as an undergraduate, for example, you can count both classes toward your M.S.A. degree AND count them as accounting electives toward your undergraduate degree. If you take LE 691 as an undergraduate, you can count it toward your M.S.A. degree AND count it as a general elective toward your undergraduate degree. If you complete nine hours of M.S.A. courses as an undergraduate, you'll only need 21 additional hours as a graduate to complete your Master of Science in Accountancy. It's a fantastic program! Contact Susan Lanham for more information at [lanham53@marshall.edu](mailto:lanham53@marshall.edu).

# Recent Graduates

## Master of Science in Accountancy

### August 2019

Kasun (Owitigala) Wijayagurusinghe  
Guanming Xiao

### December 2019

Norah Alasgah  
Tessy Arinze  
Kayla Davis  
Jiaqi Li  
Mengxiao Wei

### May 2020

Kaitlin Francis  
Stephen Gaal  
Yuna Kim  
Tyler Moles  
Fufun Nahar  
Savannah Perry

## Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting

### August 2019

Katelyn Dingess

### December 2019

Sami Alyasin  
Chase Coe  
Brandi Hinkle  
Lisa Houdyschell  
Caitlyn King  
Nicholas Molina  
Payal Patel  
Aijia Shi  
Baylee Spears  
Bryce Stivason  
Minjie Wang  
Landon Wells

### May 2020

David Acord  
Logan Adkins  
Jasmine Albury  
Mitchell Bartoldson  
Trevor Cantrell  
Jamie Carr

Tyson Childers  
Chloe Cochran  
Megan Crabtree  
Austin Fields  
Logan Harless  
Elizabeth Harris  
Amy Harrison  
Matthew Hoffman  
Caleb Richard Holliday  
Amanda King  
Ibrahim Kousa  
Jeremy Laster  
Jeremy McKelvey  
Austin Miller  
Bradyn Mohr  
Alexandra Monday  
Brandon Myers  
Jonah O'Brien  
Karen Rogge  
Casey Snodgrass  
Kara Songer  
Noah Taylor  
Kailee Williamson  
Angelica di Marzio

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## An Update on the WV Council of Accounting Educators Conference

The West Virginia Council of Accounting Educators' 2019 Conference was held on Marshall's campus September 19-21 in the Memorial Student Center. The theme of the conference was data analytics and technology in accounting education. The conference was attended by 28 faculty from ten West Virginia universities and four professionals. Mark Nigrini, professor at West Virginia State University, spoke about using Benford's Law to detect fraud. Wendy Tietz, professor at Kent State University, discussed how to integrate data analytics into introductory accounting courses. Kip Krumweide, Director of Research for the Institute of Management Accountants, provided information about how data analytics and technology are changing the corporate world. Catherine Banks, Director of the EY Foundation and Academic Resource Center, outlined resources available to faculty through EY as well as how technology skills are changing public accounting. Jay Porter, CPA with Porter and Associates, provided a tax update. Two panels of former students provided guidance on how data analytics and technology are being used in their places of business. Participants enjoyed the conference, the Marshall hospitality, the topics of discussion, and the networking that occurred throughout three days.

The Department would like to thank the conference sponsors, Arnett Carbis Toothman, Brown Edwards & Company, DHG, Fyffe Jones Group, Somerville & Co. and WVSCPA Accounting Education Foundation for their financial support and Jeff and Marie Archambault for their efforts in organizing the conference.

## Student Center for the Public Trust

**The Student Center for the Public Trust is another great student organization that has risen within the last couple of years.** The organization is affiliated with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) Center for the Public Trust. It promotes and facilitates ethical decision-making skills, development, leadership, networking, and community service opportunities. Marshall University has the first and only chapter in the state of West Virginia and has already earned Golden Star Chapter Status during its first year as a chapter in the 2018-2019 academic year. They provide several opportunities for students throughout the year including speaker events with professionals, participating in various community service events, and partnering with other student organizations like Beta Alpha Psi. Their main event for the year is a video competition that students can participate in by recording a video displaying an ethical dilemma. Membership for students is \$10. Thanks to Tessa White for serving as the faculty advisor since inception. Dr. Timothy Bryan will serve as the faculty advisor for next year. He can be reached at [bryanti@marshall.edu](mailto:bryanti@marshall.edu).

## Featured Alumni

### Shayna Chapman, CPA, CITP, CGMA

Shayna Chapman is the founder and chief strategist of Shaynaco LLC in Gallipolis, OH. She graduated from Marshall University in December 1997 with a B.B.A. in Accounting and also attended Temple University Japan's Tokyo campus to further her Japanese language and cultural studies.



In addition to her CPA, she has obtained the Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) and Certified Global Management Accountant (CGMA) credentials. Shayna currently serves on many boards including the Holzer Heritage Hospital Foundation Board, the Marshall University Lewis College of Business Accounting Advisory Board, the Sage Accounting Professionals Advisory Board, as well as other advisory boards for nonprofits and tech companies. Throughout her career, she has served on the Gallipolis Historical Preservation Board, Past President of the Gallipolis Junior Women's Club, and Member of the Downtown Revitalization Project and others.

Shayna has been recognized with numerous awards. She is a two-time recipient of The CPA Practice Advisor's Top 40 under 40 as well as being twice selected as one of their Most Powerful Women in Accounting. The Ohio Society of CPAs has recognized her as the featured CPA of the week, and she received the Sage Circle of Excellence Award for the 2019 Social Influencer. She has been included in Avalara's Accounting top 100 twitter lists and ads, and Forbes' @taxgirl has recognized her over several years as a Top 100 Tax Twitter Accounts to follow.

Shayna has written or blogged for many outlets. Currently, she is writing a series of posts for the Ohio Society of CPAs on Microsoft 365 apps such as Teams and Planner for use in small accounting firms. She spends her time mostly in value-priced Client Accounting Services, Tax, and Accounting

Technology. She runs a highly technology-focused firm grounded in project management and states that she loves helping clients with technology. Shayna was set to speak both at Sage Summit in May and AICPA Engage in June, but unfortunately, both have been cancelled due to the current COVID-19 crisis. Her focus has changed to teaching other firms and clients how to implement technology during this time to help with business continuity. This includes cloud technologies and communication tools for keeping everything running as smoothly as possible. In addition, she is spending an extraordinary amount of time helping clients figure out how to leverage funds and stay in business during a shut down.

When asked how Marshall University helped prepare her for her career, Shayna said, "Marshall not only provided me an education to make the successful leap into the accounting world, the University provided me the tools to be able to have real conversations with professors. As someone who didn't start at Marshall, but at a much larger university in a different state, I appreciated the classroom size and ability to get to know my professors and fellow accounting students. In addition, Marshall provided me ample opportunities to grow in my professional knowledge with internships and their events designed to meet firms allowing me to take advantage of every opportunity I could to learn and make connections which propelled my career." As to what advice she would give Marshall students, Shayna said, "your career is up to you. An accounting major opens up a world of opportunities. No matter what you think, your options aren't forever 'tax' or 'auditing.' Seize every opportunity to learn, grow, and meet people now and in your career. That knowledge and those connections will last forever and are the very things that can help propel you into the career you love – which might be in a public accounting firm, in a private company, into entrepreneurship, or even into a nice side job while focusing on family. It's all up to you. You are who you choose and put effort into being."

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## Congratulations to Marshall Alumni Passing the CPA Exam!

Melissa Blake-Smith (2008)  
Matthew Edmunds (2015, 2016 – M.S.A.)  
Sarah Frercks  
Ian Gillmeister (2013, 2014 – M.S.A.)  
Travis Grimm (2017)

Phung Hong-Brown (2018, 2019 – M.S.A.)  
Cassandra Klages (2018)  
Joshua Michalski (2019)  
Tayla Workman (2018)

## Faculty Research Accomplishments

### Research Published

- **Baker, C. W.** (2019). Marijuana's continuing illegality and investors' securities fraud problem: The doctrines of Unclean Hands and In Pari Delicto. *Journal of Business, Entrepreneurship, and the Law*, 12(1/4), 93-118.
- **Baker, C. W.** (2019). Abuse prevention or consumer protection: Trends in consumer bankruptcy filings and state-level wage garnishment exemptions post-BAPCPA. *Business & Bankruptcy Law Journal*, 6, 1.
- **Baker, C. W.** (in press). Tax law and 100 years of New York Giants season tickets: A multifaceted analysis of one fan's fortune. *Sports Lawyers Journal*, 27.
- **Baker, C. W.** (in press). Attorney-client sexual relationships in the #metoo era: Understanding current state approaches and working towards a better rule. *Southwestern Law Review*, 49, forthcoming.
- **Lankton, N. K., Price, J., & Karim, M. A.** (in press). Cybersecurity breaches and information technology governance roles in audit committee charters. *Journal of Information Systems*, forthcoming.
- McKinney, R. E., & **Baker, C. W.** (2020). Indigent defense in West Virginia: An historical look at public defender services. *West Virginia Law Review* (West Virginia University), forthcoming.
- Mosrie, N., & **Lankton, N.** (2019). Opinion: FASB proposal jeopardizes health care entity financing. *Journal of Accountancy*, October 16.

### Research Presented

- **Drs. Nancy Lankton** and **Charles Stivason** presented Performance evaluation at a regional accounting firm: Problems and an alternative. *The 2020 Southeast Case Research Association Conference*, February 27-29, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.
- **Dr. Casey Baker** presented *Indigent Defense in West Virginia: A Historical Look at Public Defender Services*, at the 2020 West Virginia Law Review Symposium on February 28.
- **Lankton, N. K.,** McKnight, D. H., & Tripp, J. (2020). Trust in the sharing economy: using integrative trust theory to examine Uber, Airbnb, and TaskRabbit, Appalachian Research Business Symposium, Eastern Kentucky University, March 26-27.

### Conferences

- **Dr. Nancy Lankton** attended the AACSB Annual Conference in September 15-17 in San Jose, TX with Dean Avi and Alberto Coustasse from Management, and
- The West Virginia Chamber Annual Meeting and Business Summit at the Greenbrier August 25-30, and
- The West Virginia Society of CPAs Annual Meeting at the Greenbrier June 19-22.



Marshall University announces Beta Alpha Psi as Student Organization of the Year

## Faculty Awards

- Congratulations to **Dr. Nancy Lankton** for winning the award for the 2019: Outstanding Service, Accounting & Auditing Committee, West Virginia Society of CPAs in May 2019.
- Congratulations to **Dr. Timothy Bryan** for placing second in the fall 2019 Lewis College of Business Research Day for his presentation of *Unfaithful Representation, A Study of the Allowance for Doubtful Accounts*.

## giving OPPORTUNITIES

**All donations are greatly appreciated and will help us continue to provide a high quality, successful learning experience to our students.**

**Please make checks payable to:**

Marshall University Foundation-  
Accounting Accreditation  
Fund # 204008

**Mail Checks to:** Department of  
Accountancy and Legal Environment  
One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755

**Accreditation Maintenance Fund:** To maintain AACSB accreditation, the Department of Accountancy and Legal Environment needs your financial support.

**Gift Amount:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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ID # \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Another Giving Opportunity: The Faculty Fellow Program:** This Program involves firm sponsorship of a Named Fellowship for a Department faculty member. The participating firm will fund a two-year, nonrenewable faculty stipend of \$5,000 per year. The faculty recipient will be chosen by a coordinated effort between the firm and the Department Chair.

*The sponsoring firm will benefit from the Faculty Fellow Program in several ways.*

- The Named Fellowship will be associated with the faculty member (e.g., <<CPA Firm Name>> Fellow) on all websites, business cards, emails, and other correspondence.
- The faculty member will represent the sponsoring organization in external activities.
- The Fellowship will be promoted to the external community and other AACSB business schools.
- The faculty member will invite the sponsoring organization to speak in classes and participate in joint research projects.

**To participate, contact Dr. Nancy Lankton: [lankton@marshall.edu](mailto:lankton@marshall.edu)**

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