I am pleased to be sending my first Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy (DRSOA) newsletter in my new role as Director of DRSOA. I am honored to take the role from Jeff Schatzberg as he returns to the Eller Dean’s Office as dean for an interim period. I have served in the DRSOA for the last 11 years and feel excited by the opportunity to move into this leadership role. Our School is filled with strong, capable and committed faculty and staff, and I am humbled by the chance to lead this organization.

The past few months have been exciting. We were thrilled to be part of an in-person Eller College commencement ceremony at Arizona Stadium in May 2021. We were the only university in the PAC12 to hold in-person ceremonies, and our students and families appreciated the opportunity to come together and be recognized.

In spring 2021, we launched a new online undergraduate accounting degree program! We are excited to report that we already have 22 students enrolled in that program this fall! We look forward to growing the program through outreach to community colleges across Arizona.

Our faculty and students were thrilled to return to a normal classroom environment this fall (masks required). The energy on campus is fantastic as students meet each other and engage with our faculty. We did hold our two major events, Meet the Firms and Career Immersion Day, virtually as many of the companies that recruit our students remained remote this fall semester. We hope to return to in-person events in spring 2022.

We continue to be grateful for the expertise and service of our DRSOA Advisory Board. This fall we are engaging with them in a full curriculum review tied to the CPA Evolution project. We will hold an in-person Advisory Board meeting in spring 2022 focused on strategic planning in preparation for the AACSB Accreditation review in spring 2023.

Our success would not be possible without the generous gifts of time, talent and treasure so willingly shared by you, our alumni and friends.

 Regards,

Shyam Sunder
Lou Myers Endowed Professor of Accounting

### Dates of Note

#### SPRING 2022
- January 21: Accounting Career Immersion (Virtual Day One)
- January 28: Accounting Career Immersion (Virtual Day Two)
- February 17: Meet the Firms (Student Union)
- May 13: Undergraduate and Master’s Graduation Celebrations (McClelland Hall)

#### FALL 2022 (tentative)
- September 9: Accounting Career Immersion Day
- September 22: Meet the Firms
- December 16: UG Graduation Brunch and Master’s Graduation Lunch

### Inside This Issue

1. School of Accountancy Naming
2. Faculty and Staff News
3. Program Updates
4. Advisory Board
5. School of Accountancy News
6. Student News
7. Alumni News
8. Donor Recognition

### Did You Know?

U.S. News & World Report ranked the School of Accountancy graduate program as #28 overall and #13 among public schools and the undergraduate program ranked at #30 overall and #20 among public schools.

### The Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy News

**Naming and Dedication Ceremony of Dhaliwal-Reidy School Accountancy**

In May 2021, the School of Accountancy held an official naming ceremony for the Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy. Professor Jeff Schatzberg spoke at the event, along with Amarjeet Dhaliwal, wife of the late professor Dan Dhaliwal. A letter from Jim Reidy ’54 BSBA ’55 MBA was read by Schatzberg as well. It was a wonderful event honoring Dhaliwal’s contributions to the Eller College and the School of Accountancy as well as honoring the substantial financial contributions of Jim and Virginia Reidy.

**Arizona Donors Establish Endowed Dhaliwal-HSLopez Chair**

In March 2021, donors and alumni Humberto and Czarina Lopez donated $3.5 million to the University of Arizona to establish two endowed chairs, including $1.5 million for the Dhaliwal-HSLopez Chair in the Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy. Humberto Lopez graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor’s in accounting and co-founded HSL Properties, one of the largest property management companies in Arizona. In 2021, he was recognized with Eller’s Alumni of the Year Award. Together, Humberto and Czarina created the H.S. Lopez Family Foundation to support their philanthropic interests. Both remain connected to the University through their strong leadership skills, relationships and advisory across several departments including the Eller College of Management. Humberto’s friendship with Dan Dhaliwal motivated the creation of the endowed chair, which honors Dhaliwal, a beloved member of the School of Accountancy who passed away in 2016. During his lifetime, Dhaliwal was the head of the Department of Accounting as well as the Frances McClelland Endowed Chair of Accounting and a prolific accounting researcher. He was a mentor for many students and colleagues. Janyanti Sunder, Eller vice dean and professor of accounting, is the current holder of the Dhaliwal-HSLopez Chair in Accounting. She is also a member of the American Accounting Association.
Faculty and Transitions

- Phillip Blanchard, senior lecturer in accounting, was awarded the Most Valuable Professor Award from the MBA Cohort. Blanchard retired after the spring 2021 semester. We thank him for everything he has done for DRSOA and our students!
- This fall, James Brushwood ’15 PhD became an assistant professor at Colorado State University. We are excited to welcome him home!
- Denise Burruel was welcomed as the PhD program coordinator. Burruel is a 2015 University of Arizona alumna, with a bachelor’s in Family Studies and Human Development. She worked as a program coordinator at the Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation before joining DRSOA.
- Gabby Centorami, program coordinator, was awarded the Macon Levy Scholarship Award for consistently performing beyond expectations. Centorami recently accepted a position with Raytheon Technologies in the Global Trade and Leadership Development Program. We are grateful for her contributions and wish her the best of luck!
- Preeti Choudhary, associate professor of accounting, joined the editorial board of the Accounting Review. Choudhary and Jaggi both won the American Accounting Association ‘20 PhD. Choudhary and Jaggi both won the Outstanding Auditing Dissertation Award along with Preeti Choudhary and Jacob Jaggi. Sunder is also serving as the interim vice dean of the Eller College.
- Jiewei (Jeff) Yu, associate professor in accounting, was appointed to a one-year fellowship as a financial economist at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. He will bring academic expertise to the Commission in corporate finance and accounting.

Birth Announcements

Jeff and Heather Altman (lecture)
Easton Jeffrey Altman
• August 27, 2021
Amanda and Jeremy Douthit (Assistant Professor)
Sarah Douthit
• September 22, 2021

Honors and Transitions

- Max Hewitt, associate professor of accounting, was recognized by the 2021 MBA Cohort as the Most Valuable Professor and Funniest Professor and the winner of the Suzanne Cummins Faculty Engagement Award.
- Janee Johnson, senior lecturer and director of the Academic Graduate Program, was promoted to senior lecturer earlier this year. Recognizing her expertise, a local news outlet quoted Johnson regarding the tax filing deadline extension in Arizona.
- This past year, Katie Maxwell, senior lecturer and associate director of DRSOA, was awarded the Don Wells Faculty Mentor Award and Fall 2020 Most Supportive Professor for going above and beyond in supporting students. In addition to these awards, she also received the Arizona CPA Foundation 2021 Excellence in Teaching Award in recognition of her efforts to provide students and instructors with best practices for learning. She was recognized by the Eller College with the Faculty Service award in spring 2021.
- Paul Michas, professor of accounting, became PhD director this year. He was also promoted to full professor.
- Rick Mergenthaler, associate professor of accounting, accepted a position as an associate professor at Penn State University. We wish him the best of luck!
- James Brushwood, associate professor of accounting, was awarded the Most Valuable Professor Award from the MBA Cohort. Brushwood retired after the spring 2021 semester. We thank him for everything he has done for DRSOA and our students!
- This fall, James Brushwood ’15 PhD became an assistant professor at Colorado State University. We are excited to welcome him home!
- Denise Burruel was welcomed as the PhD program coordinator. Burruel is a 2015 University of Arizona alumna, with a bachelor’s in Family Studies and Human Development. She worked as a program coordinator at the Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation before joining DRSOA.
- Gabby Centorami, program coordinator, was awarded the Macon Levy Scholarship Award for consistently performing beyond expectations. Centorami recently accepted a position with Raytheon Technologies in the Global Trade and Leadership Development Program. We are grateful for her contributions and wish her the best of luck!
- Preeti Choudhary, associate professor of accounting, joined the editorial board of the Accounting Review. Choudhary and Jaggi both won the American Accounting Association ‘20 PhD. Choudhary and Jaggi both won the Outstanding Auditing Dissertation Award along with Preeti Choudhary and Jacob Jaggi. Sunder is also serving as the interim vice dean of the Eller College.
- Jiewei (Jeff) Yu, associate professor in accounting, was appointed to a one-year fellowship as a financial economist at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. He will bring academic expertise to the Commission in corporate finance and accounting.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

| James Brushwood | “Credit Unions and Earnings Management to Mitigate Political Scrutiny over Tax-Exempt Status” | Journal of Accounting and Public Policy |
| Preeti Choudhary | “Tax Non-Audit Services and Client Income Tax Estimation Error” | Contemporary Accounting Research |
| Jeremy Douthit | “Why Corporate Management Waivers of Misstatements Identified by Their Auditors Are A Cost to Investors” | The Journal of the American Taxation Association |
| Dan Dhaliwal (posthumous) | “Immaterial Error Corrections and Financial Reporting Reliability” | The Accounting Review |
| Katharine Drake | “The Incidence, Valuation and Management of Tax-related Reputational Costs: Evidence from a Period of Protest” | The Review of Accounting Studies |
| Paul Michas | “Charitable Contribution Matching and Effort-Elicitation” | Contemporary Accounting Research |
| Jayanthi Sunder | “Foreign Employment, Income Shifting, and Tax Uncertainty” | The Accounting Review |
| Dhaliwal-HS Lopez Chair in Accounting | “Investigating Discretion in Executive Contracting: Extracting Private Information from Valuation Allowance Decisions” | Review of Accounting Studies |
| Jayanthi Sunder | “Do Conglomerates Operate More Efficiently than Single-Segment Firms?” | The Singapore Economic Review |
| Sarah Douthit | Auditor Conservatism, Audit Quality, and Real Consequences for Clients” | Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance |
| | “R&D Reporting Rule and Firm Efficiency” | |
**PROGRAM UPDATES**

The Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy programs improved in the latest U.S. News & World Report business school rankings. The graduate program improved by 13 places overall and three places among public schools. The undergraduate program improved by eight places overall.

The table below provides a summary of the enrollment and graduation trends for the last few years. Our undergraduate accounting enrollment has decreased slightly over the last two years due to the popularity of Finance and MIS majors. Our graduate enrollment has increased over the past few years due to higher enrollment in our online MSA program and increasing enrollment in the Macc program.

**ENROLLMENT TRENDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>FALL 2017</th>
<th>FALL 2018</th>
<th>FALL 2019</th>
<th>FALL 2020</th>
<th>FALL 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit track</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax track</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macc Total</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Campus</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSA Total</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Grad. Certificate</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Masters</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRADUATION TRENDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAcc</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSA</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Masters</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Master’s Programs Updates**

The DRSOA provides four programs for students who are interested in pursuing advanced accounting education following their undergraduate careers. Approximately one-third of enrollees partake in our Macc program, completing either the audit or tax track. The Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program allows more flexibility in course selection for students that prefer to take up to 12 credit hours outside the accounting discipline or for students who did not earn an undergraduate degree in accounting and need to include accounting prerequisites into their degree plan. The MSA program is also available in a fully online format for working professionals and others requiring additional flexibility. Lastly, the online Graduate Accounting Certificate allows students to take 9-18 credit hours of accounting courses, primarily for those requiring additional units for CPA certification. Both online programs have six program start dates per year. Enrollment for the online programs increased from 56 students last fall to 65 this fall, with the possibility of a few more students still to join this semester.

**Undergraduate Program Updates**

In the 2020-21 academic year, the Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy began offering online programs for undergraduates. These programs include an undergraduate accounting degree and an undergraduate accounting certificate for those not majoring in accounting. We are excited to announce that the launch has been successful! There are 22 students enrolled as of this fall. Students will take ten core BSBA classes and seven upper division accounting courses through the online campus.

The undergraduate accounting certificate program is available to main and online campus students in upper division Eller who have a major other than accounting. The program requires 15 units, six lower division and nine upper division units that are taken in the summer. This program provides a key differentiator for Eller students by deepening their accounting knowledge and provides non-accounting students the prerequisites needed for our Master of Accounting program.

**PHD PROGRAM UPDATES**

The Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy programs improved in the latest U.S. News & World Report business school rankings. The graduate program improved by 13 places overall and three places among public schools. The undergraduate program improved by eight places overall.

The table below provides a summary of the enrollment and graduation trends for the last few years. Our undergraduate accounting enrollment has decreased slightly over the last two years due to the popularity of Finance and MIS majors. Our graduate enrollment has increased over the past few years due to higher enrollment in our online MSA program and increasing enrollment in the Macc program.

**GRADUATION TRENDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>FALL 2017</th>
<th>FALL 2018</th>
<th>FALL 2019</th>
<th>FALL 2020</th>
<th>FALL 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit track</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax track</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macc Total</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Campus</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSA Total</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Grad. Certificate</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Masters</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY ADVISORY BOARD**

We appreciate the continued support of our Advisory Board members. This fall, many members helped us with a comprehensive curricula review of our undergraduate, master’s audit and master’s tax programs. We will hold our third annual advisory board meeting in spring 2022 where we look forward to welcoming everyone back to campus. Please see https://eller.arizona.edu/drsoba board for a list of our current board members.

**PhD Program Updates**

The DRSOA is proud to recognize Mark Yan and Jake Sigler for completing the PhD program in 2021. Yan started at Hong Kong Baptist University as an assistant professor and Sigler accepted a visiting professor position at Xavier University.

- This past year, Accounting PhD student Mark Yan ’21 PhD received the Doctoral Workshop Award from the Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy tenure-track faculty. This award is given to students who contribute effectively to the research workshop throughout the academic year with their quality of questions and research interactions.
- Jake Sigler ’21 PhD completed a fellowship program with the PCAOB. The fellowship program allows candidates to view their academic interests from an external perspective. Sigler collaborated with Associate Professor Preeti Choudhary on his research proposals.
- Earlier this year, Kyle Mao ’23 PhD represented the DRSOA at the Arizona Think Tank for Behavioral Decision-Making Research, which brings together researchers interested in human judgment and decision-making. Frequently discussed disciplines include social psychology, behavioral economics, marketing and management information systems. Mao’s paper, “Task Promotability, Task Allocation Method and Employee Effort” was selected to be presented at the conference and also won the Eller College Small Research Grant Competition.

**The School of Accountancy is proud to welcome new PhD students:**

- Youkun Huang was a tax consultant at PwC and a financial analyst at Hirsense USA Corporation. She enjoys playing golf, hiking, watching movies and exploring restaurants. Huang has a master of science in accounting degree from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Before joining the PhD program, Lu Zhao worked at EY in auditing and completed her Master of Professional Accountancy at the University of Texas at Austin. She enjoys playing with her two cats outside of work.
- Alex Whitecotton spent his career as an accountant in the banking, software and real-estate industries. He also completed the Master of Accountancy program at University of Alabama. In his free time, he enjoys competitive eating, playing bass guitar and spending time with his wife.
Beloved UA Alumni Passes Away

The Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy suffered a loss when beloved alumni and donor, James B. Reidy Jr. ’54 BSBA ’55 MBA, passed away this summer. After graduating from Eller, Jim joined IBM and later became a computer science professor at Pierce College in California. He served on several boards and commissions for Santa Monica and the California Coastal Commission. He also served as a Santa Monica City Deputy Mayor from 1965 to 1973. While in Santa Monica, he received the Santa Monica Distinguished Service award and was selected as one of the Five Outstanding Young Men in California. Along with Dan Dhaliwal, the official naming of the School of Accountancy honored Reidy. He and his wife, Virginia Reidy, have been longtime supporters of the University of Arizona.

Jim and Virginia donated all of their assets to the School of Accountancy and established two endowed chairs at Eller College. “Equally, impressive, Jim and Virginia Reidy represent the very best of Arizona alumni, and their passion and support of the School of Accountancy makes it incredibly fitting they will always be remembered as part of the School of Accountancy as well,” says Jeff Schatzberg, interim dean of the Eller College. A memorial service in honor of Jim will be held in Santa Monica later this year.

Spring 2021 Graduation

In spring 2021, the DRSOA held the virtual event recognizing graduating undergraduate students. In addition, we held an in-person celebration for graduate students. DRSOA Director Jeff Schatzberg spoke commemorating the graduating class’s hard work and resiliency.

PwC CONNECT

PwC Connect is a program designed to expose high-performing, traditionally underrepresented minority college freshmen to the professional services profession. Due to strong interest, PwC approved an additional $8,000 funding for the 2021-2022 program. This is the fifth year PwC has partnered with the DRSOA to offer this program. PwC Connect is a selective program that provides participants with an opportunity to interact and learn from PwC professionals and the University of Arizona Accounting faculty. This fall, students engaged in two workshops: Explorations in Lines of Service and Diversity and Inclusion. We have 30 students participating in the 2021 PwC Connect program. Visit our website to learn more about the program.

Macc/MSA Happy Hour

This fall, the DRSOA held the first in-person graduate happy hour event in two years! Thirty-one graduate students and four faculty attended the gathering.

Interested high school students can find more information and the 2022 application for an in-person week-long and one-day program at: https://accounting.eller.arizona.edu/bcap/.

Business Careers Awareness Program

Business Careers Awareness Program (BCAP) is a joint partnership between EY and the Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy. Since its inception, almost 550 high school students have participated in BCAP. The summer 2021 program was held virtually due to the pandemic. Many students learned the fundamentals of business and expressed interest in pursuing a business major. The coaches were motivated by the students’ willingness to learn and participate in a virtual environment. The 2021 summer program was facilitated by Katie Maxwell, senior lecturer and associate director of the School of Accountancy; Rob Stussie, lecturer in accounting; Ron Butler ’91 BSBA (EY), Kevin McHolland (EY), Chris Todaro ’06 BSBA (EY), Jessica Pensky ’11 BSBA ’13 MAcc (EY), Paige Denton ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc; Maria Cafferata ’21 BSBA, Sierra LeVoy ’23 BSBA, Justin Quen ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc, Geovara Garcia ’20 BSBA ’21 MAcc; and Alex Murillo ’20 BSBA ’21 MAcc. Interested high school students can find more information and the 2022 application for an in-person week-long and one-day program at: https://accounting.eller.arizona.edu/bcap/.

Professional Development Programming

Our School continues to focus on the professional development of our students ensuring their success in the workplace following graduation. This academic school year, the DRSOA held the following professional events:

- Accounting Major Information Session
- Master’s Information Session
- Accounting Career Immersion Day
- Meet the Firms
We are pleased to highlight our senior award winners for the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 academic year. The DRSOA Outstanding Senior Award is given to those who demonstrate excellence in academic achievement, leadership ability, and service to the community. The Accounting Academic Achievement award is given to the graduating student(s) with the highest GPA. The Outstanding Leadership Award is given to those who displayed exceptional leadership within the School, Eller and the UA Community.

INGRID HEIM ’20 BSBA (Accounting and MIS) was selected as the Outstanding Senior of the School of Accountancy for Fall 2020. During her undergraduate career, she supported several pre-business courses, including Survey of Accounting. She has interned for Eide Bailly and PwC and also worked as a financial controller at Financial Associates. She is currently pursuing a Master of Accounting at the University of Texas, where she is also serving as a graduate teaching assistant.

JORDAN HARN ’20 BSBA was selected for the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award for Fall 2020. She attended the University of Arizona after completing a bachelor’s degree in biomedical sciences at Texas A&M University. Before graduation, Harn served as a Future Finance Leader intern at Honeywell. Currently, she is working as a full-time accountant at Honeywell.

MARGARET KRENKE ’21 BSBA (Accounting and MIS) ’22 MAcc was selected as the recipient of the Outstanding Service and Leadership Award for Spring 2021. During her time as an undergrad, she was very active with the Accounting Students Association and Beta Alpha Psi organizations. She served as the club president and vice president of public relations. During the summer, Krenke interned at Deloitte in Phoenix in its auditing and assurance practices. She is currently the events coordinator for the Accounting Students Association and Beta Alpha Psi at the University of Arizona.

JESSI SCHULZE ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc was selected as the recipient of the Outstanding Service and Leadership Award for Spring 2021. During her time as an undergrad, she served as the co-president of the Accounting Student Association and Beta Alpha Psi. Her honor thesis “The Impact of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act on Capital Expenditures, Tax Rates and Firm Value” also won the 2021 Eller Honors Award for best research. Krenke participated in the PwC Case Competition, Eller Make a Difference Day and Community Food Bank’s Hunger Walk. In summer 2021, she interned with PwC in Phoenix in their tax practice. She is enrolled in the Macc Program at the University of Arizona and working as the peer advisor for the DRSOA. Upon completion of the program, she will join PwC’s offices in Phoenix.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Nicholas Stavitski ’21 BSBA and Alexandre Milward ’20 BSBA ’21 MAcc were selected by the Financial Executives International Academic Excellence Committee to receive scholarships.
- The Arizona Society of Certified Public Accountants (AZCPA) awarded scholarships to Makenzi Johnson ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc, Paige Denton ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc, Mayra Sepulveda ’21 BSBA, Josh Weiss ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc was selected by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) as the 2021-2022 academic year scholarship winner.
- Alfredo Cuestas ’23 BSBA and Maria Meza ’23 BSBA (Business Management) were selected by the McCorr Scholars Program as the 2021-2022 scholarship winners.
- The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) recognized Kevin Perkins, Thomas Ryan ’23 MSA, Gregory Graf ’21 BSBA, Brenda Reyes ’21 BSBA, Brigitta Bodnar Barbetti ’22 MSA, Daniel Pasilla ’21 MSA, Osama Alghamdi ’22 MSA, Alexis Reyes ’23 BSBA, Ellie Neiman ’20 BSBA ’22 MAcc, and Kelsey MacMillan ’22 BSBA as winners of the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) Scholarship Program.

WHERE DO OUR GRADUATES GO?

The graphs below show a breakdown of where our students have gone to work after graduation. Between Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 graduates, we had a master’s placement rate of 99 percent and an undergraduate placement rate (including continuing education in graduate school) of 92 percent. Compared to last year, the undergraduate placement increased by 3 percentage points while the master’s placement increased by 4 percentage points. These statistics capture students with the legal right to work in the United States.

Both our undergraduate and graduate programs continue to yield very high rates of placement, the following charts represent combined placement statistics for both undergraduate and graduate students from our School of Accountancy.

We recognized five students with the Outstanding Academic Achievement award for maintaining a 4.0 GPA in all university coursework throughout their undergraduate careers: Makenzi Johnson ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc, Justin Kofmehl ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc, Margaret Krenke ’21 BSBA ’22 MAcc, Liliana Navarro ’21 BSBA and Frank Verdecanna ’21 BSBA.

Nicholas Stavitski ’21 BSBA and Ishan Shah ’23 BSBA (Marketing and MIS) were a top finalist team selected in the Emerging Technology Marketing Strategies Competition in the Collegiate DECA International Career Development Conference. The Collegiate DECA allows students to test their knowledge and represent their university through global competitions. Stavitski began his career with Texas Instruments in Dallas.
Jacob Jaggi '20 PhD was awarded the American Accounting Association 2020 Outstanding Auditing Dissertation Award. “When Does the Internal Audit Function Enhance Audit Committee Effectiveness?” was recognized for its timeliness, creative research, research method and analysis and potential impact on auditing. Associate Professor Preeti Choudhary and Professor Jayanthi Sunder were recognized for their work as advisors for the dissertation.

Caroline Collier '19 BSBA, Jacob Utte '18 BSBA '19 Macc and Hannah Barden '19 BSBA '20 Macc were recognized as part of Arizona’s Top 10 CPA Exam Passers for 2020. Collier began work with Arizona Public Service after Spring 2019 graduation. Utte worked at Deloitte since his graduation. Barden began her career with Deloitte after she completed the MAcc program. While pursuing her master of accounting, she worked as the DRSOA events coordinator.

Colleen Ochs '22 BSBA interned with Minneapolis-based construction company Mortenson as a project accountant in its Seattle office. During her summer experience, she crafted weekly labor reports for upper management and organized the monthly billing for the Climate Pledge Arena project. Her favorite part of the experience was touring the various projects, learning about the construction industry and beating her supervisor at minigolf at a team bonding event. In Summer 2022, Ochs will be interning with EY in Dallas in the assurance practice and then is planning to complete her Master of Accounting.

Benjamin Deitch '21 BSBA interned with Deloitte as a U.S. business tax intern in the London office. His favorite part of the internship was learning international tax compliance and communicating with clients. Deitch is currently pursuing a master’s degree in accounting at the New York University Stern School of Business.

HUNGER WALK
Students, professionals, and friends and family supported the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona by participating in the 2021 Hunger Walk. Our team had 57 participants consisting of students and professionals. We appreciate DRSOA faculty and professionals from CLA, LKR and Caterpillar for participating this year! The team raised $2,900 to support hunger relief efforts across Southern Arizona.

Virtual Eller Women’s Networking Tea
In December 2020, the Eller College of Management held a virtual Eller Ordinary Woman Doing Extraordinary Things Networking Tea. The event recognized hard-working undergraduate students in the college and highlighted alumni who have outstanding career achievements. Students who earned the Rising Star and Top Collegiate Women Awards were invited to join this event. Alumni with outstanding achievements were recognized as Professional Honorees. Eller Accounting alum Sungano Siyavora '14 BSBA ‘15 Macc was one of six honorees inspiring undergraduate students and other honorees.

Alumni Accounting Videos
In an attempt to reverse the declining enrollment trend in the undergraduate accounting major, we reached out to a number of our alumni to gather videos about why they chose an accounting major and how they have used the degree in their careers. These videos will be shown within our introductory accounting courses and various accounting career promotional events. We are so grateful for the videos that were submitted by more than 20 alumni, capturing a wide range of career paths. From these videos, pre-business students will learn about the various career paths available to accounting majors. Students also have the opportunity to recognize accounting concepts in real life and connect with alumni.
We wish to thank the following individuals and employers for their contributions to benefit 2020-21 as posted by the University of Arizona Foundation. If we have excluded you, or have not correctly acknowledged your contribution, call the School of Accountancy at 520-626-5879 so we can correct any errors in acknowledging your generosity.

BUSINESS CONTRIBUTIONS FY 20-21

**BUSINESS LEVELS**
- Benefactor $40,000 or more
- Executive $20,000–$39,999
- Partner $10,000–$19,999
- Director $5,000–$9,999
- Leader $2,500–$4,999
- Friend Up to $2,499

**INDIVIDUAL LEVELS**
- Benefactor $10,000 or more
- Platinum $5,000–$9,999
- Gold $2,500–$4,999
- Silver $1,000–$2,499
- Bronze $500–$999
- Copper $100–$499
- Brass Up to $99

**FIRM/EMPLOYEE**

- **Baker Tilly US, LLP**
  - **Giving Status**: Leader
  - **Name**: Kevin Burnett
  - **Giving Status**: Benefactor

- **Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold**
  - **Giving Status**: Leader
  - **Name**: Douglas Rogers

- **Accounting Student Association**
  - **Giving Status**: Leader
  - **Name**: James and Somer Chyz

- **Texas Instruments**
  - **Giving Status**: Leader
  - **Name**: Shannon Chen

- **Marsh & McLennan Companies**
  - **Giving Status**: Leader
  - **Name**: Jason and Lena Smith

- **Beauv Companies**
  - **Giving Status**: Friend
  - **Name**: Brian Christensen

- **Ludwig Klewer & Rudner**
  - **Giving Status**: Friend
  - **Name**: Shyam and Vad Saucic

**INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS FY 20-21**

**NAME**

- Kevin Burnett
- Douglas Rogers
- James and Somer Chyz
- Shannon Chen
- Jason and Lena Smith

**GIVING STATUS**

- Benefactor
- Gold
- Silver
- Copper
- Brass

**NAME**

- Douglas Rogers
- Shyam and Vad Saucic

**GIVING STATUS**

- Gold
- Silver
The School of Accountancy Needs Your Support

*We are most appreciative of your donations and continued support.*

**CREDIT CARD DONATIONS:** We accept credit card payments via our secure website at: [https://accounting.eller.arizona.edu/invest/](https://accounting.eller.arizona.edu/invest/). Please choose the program you would like to support. We are most appreciative of your donations and continued support. Even $10 a month will make a significant difference in our ability to provide high quality programs.

---

WHERE ARE YOU AND WHAT'S NEW?

Please share with us news of your work, family and adventures. We may include your news in the future Alumni notes. You can bring us up to date by emailing accounting@eller.arizona.edu.

Stay up to date with all of the School of Accountancy news and events. “Like” the University of Arizona School of Accountancy on Facebook!

---

Please visit our website at [https://accounting.eller.arizona.edu](https://accounting.eller.arizona.edu).

---

*LEFT:* In November, Kevin McHolland, EY Partner and DRSOA Advisory Board member, received Marvin D. “Swede” Johnson Award for Volunteer Service to Students.

*ABOVE:* Humberto Lopez, Eller’s Alumni of the Year, pictured with Stevie Eller.