



The Association of
Accountants and
Financial Professionals
in Business



Footnotes

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Mission Statement

To create a vibrant organizational community for students that will provide them with the necessary tools to compete effectively in the professional business community through programs that create education and networking opportunities, community and university involvement, and build a framework of highly ethical behavior.

Vision Statement

Perpetuate the IMA-gold standards of excellence for a world-class organization at both a national and local level.

The Athens State University IMA Student Chapter Newsletter January 2014

IMA ENDORSEMENT By Professor Corzine and Professor Hughes



Athens State University is proud to announce that the school's accounting program has earned endorsement by the IMA (Institute of Management Accountants), one of the largest and most respected associations focused exclusively on advancing the management accounting profession.

IMA's Endorsement of Higher Education initiative recognizes programs that meet high educational standards, enabling students to pursue and earn the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) credential. "Endorsement by the IMA is a great achievement that will help our students better prepare for a rewarding career in management accounting," said Professor Stacie Hughes. "This is a testament to the quality of our curriculum that will benefit both the future careers of our students and the organizations where they will work."

To qualify for endorsement by the IMA, the school's program must (1) substantially cover the CMA exam content; (2) have adequate faculty resources to deliver this con-

tent; (3) be accredited by a recognized accreditation organization; and (4) have a faculty member designated as an IMA Campus Advocate.

"The IMA is pleased to welcome Athens State University to the growing list of schools that support the CMA exam program and have achieved a consistent standard of excellence," said Dr. Raef Lawson, CMA, CPA, CFP, CFA, IMA Vice President of Research and Professor-in-Residence. "High-quality, up-to-date educational programs that support the current needs of businesses will help future professional management accountants accomplish their career objectives and meet the competency expectations of employers."

Professor Emily Corzine and Professor Stacie Hughes serve as IMA Campus Advocates for Athens State and are very proud of the program's endorsement and appreciative of the IMA's continued support of accounting educators, students, and professionals.



Holly Goodmon

President's Message By Holly Goodmon

Hello everyone, and welcome back to another semester at Athens!! It is hard to believe we are already in the fourth week of classes and nearing the end of January. As the semester has progressed I find myself feeling overwhelmed at times with all the homework and upcoming projects and exams. As part of one of my New Year's Resolutions I have recently taken up yoga. In yoga, it is very important to take deep breaths while performing the poses. My instructor advocates taking a deep breath in, focusing on the spots where you feel the most tension and visualizing the oxygen and other nutrients easing the problem. When the breath is released you are also releasing some of the built-up tension. I find it helpful, when I am feeling stressed and overwhelmed to close my eyes and take a deep breath. It allows me think more clearly and focus on the problem at hand, instead of worrying about problems that may arise in the future

AAA Christmas Reception By Michelle Brooks and LeAnna Minor

On December 14th, the Alabama Association for Accountants held their Annual Christmas Reception at the Holiday Inn in Huntsville. We had delicious fingers foods (including chocolate fondue) and a wonderful speaker, Terry Comer, State Board of Accountancy. Mr. Comer spoke on the importance of the CPA exam, how if you are going to be an accountant one day, you need to also



become a CPA. Another important point he discussed was how important it is to be faithful in your works. He expressed to always make the right choices and never be afraid of being a whistleblower. There were several other professionals that attended the event and they accepted resumes from students for future reference. It was an important event that can possibly lead to a job for those students that attended. It was an enjoyable experience for us, and we are gratefully honored that we could be a part of that night.

Communications Directors By Professor Hughes and Professor Corzine

As Communication Directors, LeAnna Minor and Abby Whitt were responsible for creating the Accounting Club's Newsletter as well as flyers and other communications promoting awareness of the IMA, the Accounting Club, and activities of both. LeAnna recently received a tax and accounting internship with Blevins Tax & Accounting and Abby received an audit internship with Warren Averett. We are excited for them both and would like to congratulate them and express our sincere appreciation for all of their contributions to the Accounting Club. Sabrina Cox and Melody Flowers were elected to fill the Communication Directors vacancies. We are grateful for their willingness to serve and very much look forward to working with them.



Can Food Drive a Huge Success By Holly Goodmon

For the past few years the Accounting Club has teamed up with Delta Mu Delta in the Iron Bowl Food Drive. While the Iron Bowl did not turn out the way anyone expected it to, neither did the food drive. The results of the competition were Alabama 250, Auburn 243. That brings our total to 493 food items!!! This is a great achievement for not only the Accounting Club and Delta Mu Delta, but our school as whole. We were able to work together to help to make a difference for those in need.



Accounting Club Members with Angel Tree Donations

Angel Tree Donations By Angel Watkins

During the months of October and November, we collected "spare change" for the Salvation Army Angel Tree. We raised a total of \$75. We had an anonymous donor to match what we collected. Within the last few days of collecting, we had a few more anonymous donors donate more money. We ended up with a grand total of \$370. With this money, we were able to adopt four angels of the Angel Tree, two boys and two girls. Professor Hughes and I did all of the shopping. We bought them all clothes, shoes, and at least one thing that they wanted. We showed the club what all we bought at the Christmas Party on December 5th. The items were then bagged up and taken to the Athens Wal-Mart, where they were given to the Salvation Army so that they could be given to the kids.

Meet Our New Professor—Professor Gatlin By Professor Hemingway



Prior to joining Athens State Jacob Gatlin was a financial consultant for the Tennessee Valley Authority, tax consultant for Johnson, Feigley, Newton & Brand, LLP. His primary areas of interest include small/medium-size business planning, internal controls, and financial disclosure. Jacob is a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Alabama, and is a member of the Alabama Society of CPAs and American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). He is also serving as a member of the AICPA's IRS Practices and Procedures Committee, which acts as the AICPA's primary liaison with the IRS to improve the current tax administration system for the benefit of members, clients, the public and the government. Jacob has a master's degree and bachelor's degree in accounting, both from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He has been published in the AICPA's "The Tax Adviser."

Nucor Job By Melissa Fulks

During the Christmas break between semesters, I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to work at Nucor Steel in Decatur, Alabama, a job that was made possible through Athens State and my accounting professors. As a temporary employee, I helped the Accounting/Accounts Payable department with clerical work that needed to be done before year-end. I got invoices ready to be evaluated for capital expenditures, etc. I was also in charge of getting files ready for storage, scanning documents and invoices, and any other work that needs to be done during this busy time of the year. My first day consisted of orientation with several different department heads, such as quality and environmental safety, and I met several people in the Accounting Department that I would be working with over my time at Nucor. Everyone has been extremely friendly, helpful, and welcoming, and it was very interesting to see how everything tied together within the department. I worked through early January, and it was a great learning experience! I really appreciate the opportunity to gain valuable experience through this assignment, and I know that it will really benefit me next semester to have had this hands-on opportunity.



Melissa Fulks

Educational Meeting about Government Contracting By Melody Flowers

On January 9, 2014 the Accounting Club had an amazing speaker, Jenni Feld, talk to us about Government Contracting. Jenni Feld is a CPA/ Accounting Manager and HR Coordinator. She has 14 years of experience. She has worked for Trideum for 3 years. She talked about how Government Contracting works with the different types of contracts and how they are figured. The three types she talked about were the T & M (Type and Material), CPFF (Cost plus Fixed Fee), and FP (Fixed Price). The T & M is restricted on hours and a risk to the government. The government favors the CPFF contracts. Companies can actually lose money with this contract because labor cost can change but the contract has a set rate. The FP is basically a T & M contract but the hours are not restricted and the rate is set. She also talked about the importance of certifications and the knowledge of GAAP. Jenni said, "A CPA is good, but a CMA is better for a job". A great way to get experience if someone is interested in working with government contracting is by working for DCAA (Defense Contract Audit Agency) or the AAA (Army Audit Agency). She also informed us of two websites for anyone interested in government contracting and wants more information about it; <http://www.dcaa.mil> and <http://www.gsa.gov>.



Jenni Feld CPA/ Accounting Manager for Trideum

Congratulations to our Fall 2013 Accounting Graduates



Alexander, Brittany
Alvarez, Christine
Bartlett, Seth
Bouler, Elizabeth
Boydston, Deanna
Brooks, Michelle
Burnham, Ramona
Cross, Chris
Denney, Carla
Donovan-Boothman, Aleshia
Douthitt, Misty
Gill, Elizabeth
Haggard, Shelley

Hurst, Tonya
Irvin, Wendy
Kalin, Lara
Law, Dana
Lawrence, Cherie
Maasen, Jason
McClanahan, Audrey
McMullen, Ashley
Morgan, Jodi
Morgan, Sherry
Morgan, Tara
Robertson, James
Smith, Whitney

Stockton, Ashley
White, Tabitha
Williams, Cynthia
Sanderson, Charlene
Pratt, Carolyn
Athey, Maurice
Rauh, Lena
Stehno, Talina

Our sponsoring chapter is the
Muscle Shoals Chapter of the
Institute of Management Accountants.
Muscle Shoals Chapter meetings are
generally held on the third Monday
of each month.

To access the IMA website please visit
www.imanet.org

To access the Athens State IMA student chapter
<https://sites.google.com/site/athensimasc/home>

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Schedule of Events

February 5:	Becker Scholarship Due
February 11:	Nashville Career Fair
February 17:	IMA Scholarships Due
February 26:	Career Fair Huntsville
February 27:	Educational Meeting CB 205 12-1
	Dr. Lawrence CMA Awareness
March 3:	Clark Johnson Due
March 15:	Manuscript Due

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