Roland Burns Enters Hall of Fame
Comstock Resources President/CFO joins distinguished group
By Edwin Smith

As a University of Mississippi accounting student, Roland Burns greatly admired professors Gene Peery and Jimmy Davis. Little did he dream that one day he would share membership with them in the Patterson School of Accountancy Alumni Hall of Fame.

“I was very honored to be chosen to join the Hall of Fame that includes both of these men,” said Burns, president and chief financial officer of Comstock Resources Inc. “Given how much the School of Accountancy has meant to our family, this is a very special honor.”

School of Accountancy Dean W. Mark Wilder said “It is such a great pleasure to induct Roland Burns into our Patterson School Hall of Fame. He has enjoyed a tremendous career beginning in public accounting and then in a leadership role with a publicly traded company. Roland has supported and served the school and the university in so many ways over the years. We are proud and honored to have Roland as one of our graduates and to now have him as part of the school’s Hall of Fame.”

A Birmingham native, Burns was living in Jackson and attending another university when he was recruited to attend UM.

“I was recruited by professor Diane Pearson, a friend of my father who was a partner at a Big Eight accounting firm in Jackson,” he said. “She persistently recruited me away from Mississippi State to come to the new school of accountancy.”

While earning his bachelor’s and master’s degrees, Burns said each professor mentored him.

“Gene Peery was one of my favorite professors as he took such a personal interest in the students,” Burns said. “My favorite class and favorite professor was Jimmy Davis. I loved his dry sense of humor. He also was a mentor to me, preparing me for the professional world.”

Burns’ sons also decided to attend UM. Derek Burns graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor of Accountancy and in 2014 with a Master of Accountancy, while Tyler Burns is a sophomore.

“Both have had Dr. Davis’ classes, and he was both of their favorite professors,” Burns said. “Our family is extremely grateful for Jimmy Davis and his dedication to all the accounting majors that he has impacted over the last 50 years.”

Davis remembered Roland Burns as among his favorite students.

“Roland possesses a brilliant mind and an astute business sense,” said the Peery Professor Emeritus of Accountancy. “I anticipated he would go on to be very successful, and he is.”

Comstock Resources Inc. is a NYSE-listed oil and gas company near Dallas.
Dear Accountancy Alumni and Friends:

Things are going extremely well in the Patterson School of Accountancy. We are proud of what the Patterson School continues to be able to accomplish, thanks to high-achieving students, dedicated and supportive alumni, and a faculty that has maintained our commitment to excellence in the classroom that has been the hallmark of the Ole Miss accountancy program for decades.

The Patterson School is extremely proud of our national rankings. The 2014 annual rankings were released in early September, and once again we are included among the top 10 programs in the nation in the Public Accounting Report. Our undergraduate program is ranked No. 6 nationally (and is No. 1 in the highly competitive SEC for the second year in a row). Our programs have now been among the top 10 nationally for four consecutive years (and we have been in the top 20 for seven straight years). These rankings help us tremendously in recruiting outstanding students and faculty.

Our school continues to grow and thrive, and our official enrollment for 2014-15 reached an all-time high for the ninth consecutive year. Our total enrollment of 1,089 students this year includes 962 in our undergraduate program and 127 graduate students. Our Oxford campus accountancy enrollment has grown 53.7 percent over the past five years. Our spring internship program posted banner results once again as we had 123 students participate in internships during spring 2015 (another all-time high). These students interned across the nation in cities literally coast to coast and overseas as well (Los Angeles to New York to London). Over a five-year period, our program continues to offer students the opportunity to earn both bachelor’s and master’s degrees, experience a meaningful internship and be thoroughly prepared for the CPA exam.

This issue of Ole Miss Accountant will update you on school events, the accomplishments of our faculty and students, and the achievements of our alumni. We consider it a true privilege to serve you and our students. We are proud of the opportunities we are able to provide students, and we remain deeply grateful for the role our alumni and friends have played in enabling our success. Accountancy supporters have been the standard setters at Ole Miss for decades, and we ask you to continue this commitment to excellence. We appreciate so much your past support of our efforts in the Patterson School and trust that you will remain committed to these efforts.

Sincerely,

W. Mark Wilder
Dean and KPMG Chair of Accountancy

Professor twice honored

Dale Flesher, holder of the Roland & Sheryl Burns Chair in Accountancy at Ole Miss, was twice honored at the American Accounting Association annual meeting in Atlanta last August. He received an award for the outstanding article of the year published in the Accounting Historians Journal. The article was titled “Donaldson Brown (1885-1965): The Power of an Individual and His Ideas Over Time,” and was co-authored with Gary J. Previts, a faculty member at Case Western Reserve University. The subject of the article, Donaldson Brown, was the chief financial officer at DuPont and General Motors, who between 1914 and 1930 invented the so-called “DuPont Formula” and the concept of flexible budgeting. It was his financial prowess that allowed General Motors to be successful throughout the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Flesher also received the Academy of Accounting Historians’ Hourglass Award for his work in accounting history research. The trophy is an actual working hourglass. Over Flesher’s career, he has published at least eight books in the area of accounting history and more than 100 articles, some of which were co-authored by accountancy professor Tonya Flesher. The Fleshers joined the Ole Miss faculty in 1977.
Louise Burney (BBA ’79) realized a lifelong dream in 2014, when she became a full-time accounting instructor at her alma mater. Teaching and mentoring students at UM’s Patterson School of Accountancy is highly rewarding work, she said. “This is my dream job,” Burney said. “There’s a smile on my face every day, and I look forward to going to work.”

School of Accountancy Dean Mark Wilder said he and the faculty are delighted to have Burney on board. “She has a strong educational background and many years of relevant professional experience that can be brought into the classroom,” Wilder said. “Even though Louise has only been part of our faculty for a few months, it is obvious that she has a true passion for teaching, mentoring and helping students. Louise is doing an outstanding job thus far for the Patterson School. Her positive attitude and enthusiasm for Ole Miss and the School of Accountancy is contagious.”

Burney, a native of Ackerman and certified public accountant, went into accounting after receiving her bachelor’s degree at Ole Miss. Early in her career, she worked for the firms Arthur Andersen and KPMG before being hired as a controller at Millsaps College. She worked there for 28 years, earned a master’s degree and rose to chief financial officer for the college.

One of her duties at Millsaps was to teach one accounting class per semester. The time in the classroom became one of the highlights of her time there. Naturally, she was thrilled when she was hired at UM as a full-time instructor last fall.

“I loved being in the classroom at Millsaps,” Burney said. “Then, there was an opportunity to come to Ole Miss and teach full time and live in Oxford. Those were two of my ultimate goals.”

She and her husband, John Tyner, who is a salesman for a Madison-based casket company, are in the process of moving their home to Oxford. In their free time, they enjoy camping, snow skiing and spending time at the beach. The couple has an Australian shepherd named Tom.

Burney is friendly and engaging. She can often be seen wandering around Conner Hall, talking to students about tests and academic matters, but also joking and talking about everyday life. That conversational mix is also present in her classes. “With accounting, you have to make a joke or do something to get their attention,” Burney said. “You can’t just be all dry. We’ve started saying as a class, ‘It’s a great day to be an Ole Miss Rebel.’”

Connor Jones, a sophomore marketing major from West Barnstable, Massachusetts, had Burney for Accounting 201 and signed up for her Accounting 202 class without hesitation, he said, adding that she goes out of her way to hold students’ attention. “She is always moving around, asking if anyone has questions,” Jones said. “She tells stories that help us understand the material. My personal favorite is when she cracks harmless little jokes to break up the silence and takes a quick second to shift the tables so that the class stays interested in what she is teaching.”

Being an instructor means being responsible for mentoring and teaching nearly 400 students. Burney said her pupils inspire her, and she enjoys getting to know them and learning about their career and life plans. “It’s the students who bring their successes to you every day, who make you want to do this job,” she said.

In her Principles of Accounting class, many of her students are destined to be CPAs, but others are also on track to enter many different careers. One is going to be a U.S. Air Force pilot, another is an aspiring angler, who is on the bass fishing team at UM. She enjoys teaching such a diverse group. “They’re sophomores mostly,” Burney said. “You see the ones who are accountants to be, and you can help them get there. But, they all have unique talents and unique gifts.”

Mary Austin Morgan, a sophomore accounting major from Chattanooga, Tennessee, said Burney has helped her fall in love with her major. She credits her for working with her pupils until they become confident in their skills. “Ole Miss has truly gained an amazing teacher who loves this university and her students,” Morgan said. “Ms. Burney’s impact will be felt tremendously on an already successful accounting program, keeping Ole Miss’ Patterson School of Accountancy at the forefront of the accounting world.”

James W. “Jimmy” Davis, who has taught accountancy at UM for 50 years, was Burney’s professor when she was an undergraduate. He remembers her as vivacious and intelligent and a student “who had it all.” Davis knew it would be a no-brainer to hire her as an instructor. “She’s had a great career, and we’re so pleased to have her as a member of our faculty,” Davis said. “The students love her. I knew they would. She is proficient, and she is doing a great job of recruiting accounting majors and getting students prepared for next-level accounting courses.”

The Patterson School faculty has helped her immensely during her first few months here at UM, Burney said. “This is a very collegial group,” she said. “People have been so helpful and so generous of their time and generous with their talents. I’ve had a great beginning here.”

Louise Burney
The University of Mississippi honored Sheryl and Roland Burns of Frisco, Texas, with the naming of Burns Hall, a premier campus residence hall, and the new football team meeting room in the Olivia and Archie Manning Athletics Performance Center. Nearly 100 UM students, faculty and staff attended a ceremony last April to pay tribute to the Burnses' legacy of support for the university.

The Burnses have given generously to support both academic and athletics programs, with their most recent $2 million gift elevating their lifetime giving to more than $5 million. Roland Burns, a 1982 graduate who earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in accountancy, said it is humbling to see his family's name on the building.

"It is not anything I ever thought I would see," Burns said. "It is a really attractive building, and there is a lot of history here (on this campus). We are so proud to be associated with Ole Miss and the School of Accountancy; it has been such an outstanding program."

The Public Accounting Report, the independent newsletter of the accounting profession, recently rated UM's undergraduate accountancy program as No. 6 in the country and the master's and doctoral programs at Nos. 17 and 9, respectively. The undergraduate program is No. 1 in the Southeastern Conference.

Burns Hall, which was temporarily known as Ridge South, stands on the site of the former Miller Hall. Burns Hall opened in August 2012 and is one of three new residence halls on that site. The four-story structure houses 272 students and provides a shared courtyard and many of the amenities requested by students, including private bathrooms, microwaves, refrigerators in each room, study rooms, community kitchens, laundry facilities and lounges with TVs on each floor.

Another of the Ridge residence halls was named in spring 2013 for Patterson School alumnus Lucian Minor.

"Today, the residence halls are an extension of the learning experience, and when we talk about the Ole Miss family, it's important that we know our family comes home here every night," said Brandi Hephner LaBanc, UM vice chancellor for student affairs. "We see this as a wonderful extension of our academic environment, and we are grateful to the Burnses for being involved in the living-learning experience here."

With growth in enrollment on the Oxford campus from 9,412 in fall 1982 to 19,178 in fall 2014, much has changed since Burns graduated. The former Kincannon Hall resident noted that the housing looks quite different from when he was a student here.

It was a visit from UM Provost Morris Stocks, who at the time was the new dean of the School of Accountancy, and Debbie Vaughn, senior executive director of development, that reinvigorated Burns' connection to the university. They visited Burns in Texas, where he is
Patterson School legends remembered

Patterson School faculty, alumni and friends were saddened to learn of the deaths of two of its most senior alumni — and two of its most faithful and generous supporters — Eddie DeMiller and Lucian Minor. Both of them graduated from the accounting program at the University of Mississippi before World War II, in 1939 and 1937, respectively.

**Eddie DeMiller** was born May 6, 1916 and died at the age of 98 on Dec. 15, 2014. Graveside services were held Dec. 19 at Lakewood Memorial Park in Jackson. DeMiller was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Mildred (Mickey), and two sisters, Lillian D. Mitchell and Katherine D. Renneisen. He is survived by one sister and her husband, Julia and Forrest Smith of Biloxi, and many nieces and nephews.

DeMiller was a proud Ole Miss supporter and alumnus for 75 years. He and Clive Dunham, former dean of UM’s School of Commerce and Business Administration, were the inaugural inductees into the Ole Miss School of Accountancy Hall of Fame in 1989. DeMiller was a CPA and partner in the firm DeMiller, Denny and Word. He served as president of the Mississippi Society of CPAs in 1959-60 and served as a trustee of the MSCPA Educational Foundation and was on the School of Accountancy’s Professional Advisory Council since its inception. DeMiller received the MSCPA’s first Public Service Award for civic, religious and educational service.

DeMiller was a loyal and generous contributor to the Patterson School of Accountancy. He and his wife, Mickey, established the DeMiller Accountancy Scholarship Endowment. His legacy within the Patterson School lives on as each year several accountancy students are honored to be recipients of the DeMiller Accountancy Scholarship.

**Lucian Minor** was born Jan. 24, 1916 in Brooksville, Mississippi, and died April 7, 2014 at the age of 98. Graveside services were held April 10 at St. John’s Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee. He is survived by his wife, Mary, sister Helen Moore, nephews Jim Moore and Ernest Minor, and nieces Molly Stephan, Marcia Slabaugh, Madelyn Sadler and Helen Brown. He was predeceased by a son, Lute Minor; a brother, Ernest (Bo) Minor; and a sister, Ruth Brown.

Minor was a longtime Memphis CPA and business adviser. He was a proud and loyal UM alumnus for 77 years. He was recruited out of Ole Miss by General Mills Inc. to join the company’s internal audit staff in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he worked until beginning his service in the U.S. Navy in 1942. He was stationed with Douglas Aircraft Co. in Los Angeles as a cost inspector and passed the CPA exam during his enlistment.

Minor was discharged as a lieutenant commander in 1946, at which time he opened his own accounting firm in Memphis. During the next 20 years, his firm, Minor and Moore, grew to be the largest accounting firm in Memphis. In 1969, he merged his firm with the international accounting firm of Ernst & Ernst and became partner in charge of the Memphis office until his retirement in 1978.

Minor served as a mentor to young professionals all his life. Many of the most prominent members of the accounting profession and business community in Memphis were beneficiaries of his mentorship.

He was an extremely generous supporter of Ole Miss and the Patterson School of Accountancy. He was inducted into the Patterson School’s Hall of Fame in 1997 and Ole Miss Alumni Association’s Hall of Fame in 2005. In April 2013, one of the university’s three newest residence halls was dedicated in his honor and is now known as Minor Hall.

Until the recent onset of health issues, one of Minor’s favorite pastimes was enjoying a round of golf with his friends at Memphis Country Club or Gulf Stream Golf Club in Delray Beach, Florida. As a young man, he enjoyed entertaining friends to hunt quail and doves at his family’s Circle M Ranch near Macon, Mississippi, and later at his farm, the “Old Rainey Place” in Blue Mountain, Mississippi.

The legacy of Minor and his wife, Mary, lives on in the Patterson School. They established both the Lucian Minor Endowment and the Lucian Minor Scholarship Endowment. Each year, several students are honored as recipients of the Minor Accountancy Scholarship. Funds are also set aside for other academic initiatives of the School of Accountancy such as the establishment of a Lucian Minor Professorship.

**Remembrance: Tara N. Sudderth**

Tara N. Sudderth (PhD 99) passed away Oct. 18, 2014 at the age of 68. Sudderth was a longtime faculty member and dean at Birmingham Southern College. She was noted as an outstanding teacher and received the inaugural Ole Miss Accountancy Doctoral Teaching Award in 1996. Essentially, the award was created as a way of honoring her and has been given annually since then.
‘Loved Every Minute’

**Texas businessman recalls Ole Miss days, funds scholarships**

By Tina Hahn

When Royal Stewart Campbell considered creating an endowed scholarship fund at the University of Mississippi, what appealed to him was the “forever” aspect of the gift.

The Austin, Texas, retired businessman said there are many worthy charities to support, but a scholarship endowment bearing his and his family members’ names not only becomes a permanent part of his alma mater but also will assist Ole Miss accountancy students for generations to come. He is providing $507,000 to fund scholarships for the Patterson School of Accountancy.

“A scholarship endowment goes on forever – its impact is felt from now on,” Campbell said. “I could give to many different charities, but I wonder if they would remember me tomorrow. I’ve always wanted to do something for people who didn’t have the resources I’ve been blessed to have. I thought it would be nice to help individuals attend the University of Mississippi.”

The Campbell Scholarship Endowment bears the names of Campbell; his late mother, Martha Stewart; his late wife, Joyce Higginbotham Campbell; and his children, R. Stewart Campbell Jr. of Dallas and Elizabeth Higginbotham Campbell of New York. The scholarship is designated for students from the Mississippi Gulf Coast, where his mother grew up.

Stewart Campbell is a lifelong Texan, living in Dallas and Austin, but across the years he visited the Mississippi Gulf Coast with his family to see his maternal grandparents, Royal and Martha Stewart.

“I ended up getting pressure from my mom to enroll at Ole Miss,” Campbell said, “and I can tell you that I loved every minute of my college experience. I used to visit around different parts of the state as I was invited to the homes of my classmates.”

That created another inspiration for Campbell’s gift, the state itself.

“Mississippi sometimes receives negative publicity when a poll comes out that puts it near the bottom in various rankings,” he said. “Education can be the solution to a lot of issues. Through this scholarship gift, I also hope to help the state by expanding educational opportunities.”

UM Chancellor Dan Jones, who visited the 1952 alumnus in his Austin home, said Campbell’s story is unique.

“Mr. Campbell has not returned to the Oxford campus since graduation, but his alma mater and adopted state have stayed uppermost in his mind. He has made a point of keeping up with our progress through various Ole Miss publications and newspaper articles over the years, and he has made a thoughtful decision to support young Mississippian through the Campbell Scholarship Endowment. We
Melinda Bruscato (MAccy 13) received the T.E. Lott Silver Medal for her performance on the 2013 CPA exam.

The Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants Awards, Education & Scholarship Committee awards a Gold, Silver and Bronze medal for the highest scores in passing all parts of the exam in one sitting. The 2013 winners were recognized during the business meeting of the MSCPA 2014 annual meeting on June 28 at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Miramar Beach, Florida.

Bruscato earned a degree in physical medicine from LSU in 1986 and practiced physical therapy until 2006. She spent a year teaching chemistry and physical science before moving to Oxford with her family to purchase a business franchise in 2007.

To further pursue her interest in teaching, Bruscato decided to return to school, entering UM as a chemistry major, but as the family business grew and the family purchased another franchise, someone needed to manage the accounting side of the business. Instead of hiring someone from the outside, Bruscato accepted the challenge herself and changed her major to accounting.

“I loved chemistry,” said Bruscato, “but knew that this was best for my family and our business. I knew nothing about accounting.”

J Shaw, associate professor of accountancy, who taught Bruscato Intermediate Accounting II and the graduate class Income Taxes II, commended her as being the best student in both classes.

“She is extremely hardworking and very bright. She also has a great attitude,” Shaw said. “She seemed to be eager to learn and was glad to be challenged.”

Bruscato started the accountancy program in 2011 and earned her Master of Accountancy in August 2013 with a GPA of 3.91. She was a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies.

Bruscato said she was honored to learn she had received the award and credited the Patterson School of Accountancy for her success.

“Just passing the CPA exam is a huge accomplishment,” Bruscato said. “The fact that we have such a strong program is the only way I did it. It truly validates the strength of our program and the support that the professors provide. The professors drive students pretty hard, and my accomplishment is a testimony to the program.”

Tonya Flesher, UM professor of accountancy and Arthur Andersen Lecturer, served as a mentor to Bruscato and said she was a remarkable student.

“The CPA examination is the final comprehensive test for an accounting student. Passing the CPA exam is the mark of excellence. Going beyond passing and winning a medal for performance on the CPA examination is the ultimate prize.”

Bruscato serves as vice president of Servpro of Oxford/Batesville/Clarksdale and Servpro of Jackson, managing all administrative and accounting responsibilities for the damage restoration service. She co-owns the business with her husband, Jody.
Standard Bearer

Alumna serves one-year term at FASB

By Edwin Smith

Amy Winkler (Maccy 14) is on the fast track to professional success these days.

She recently became a postgraduate technical assistant for the Financial Accounting Standards Board. During her one-year term, she is involved with the accounting standards-setting process and gaining an in-depth understanding of the roles played by preparers, auditors and users of financial information.

“During my time at the FASB, I have gained both professional and personal friendships that will last a lifetime,” Winkler said. “While at the FASB, my writing and communications skills have indisputably improved, and I have developed an ability to read and understand technical accounting issues.”

At the FASB, Winkler works on the leases joint project, investment companies project and the Post-Implementation Review of FASB Statement No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements.

“The leases joint project is in the redeliberation phase,” Winkler said. “I have prepared memorandums on technical issues such as leveraged lease transactions, build-to-suit transactions and lessee transition.”

The investment companies project is in the exposure draft phase. “I have drafted parts of the exposure draft and will be summarizing feedback to be used by the board for decision-making purposes at the completion of the comment letter period,” she said.

The Post-Implementation Review is initiated by the Financial Accounting Foundation’s board of trustees as part of its oversight responsibilities for the FASB. It assists the trustees with their ongoing efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of the standard-setting process for the FASB.

“For that project, I have organized and participated in extensive outreach, reviewed and analyzed published research, and drafted the PIR Report for the FAF trustees,” Winkler said.

Upon completion of her term, Winkler said she plans to work in the advisory service line of a Big Four firm.

A graduate of Western Kentucky University, Winkler grew up in Murray, Kentucky (named “the Friendliest Small Town in America” by Rand McNally and USA Today in 2012). While at WKU, Winkler met UM connections that ultimately led to her decision to further her studies here.

“I had a professor, Dr. (James) Crockett, who came to teach an audit course because our accounting chair, [Dr.] (Steve) Wells, had become ill,” she said. “[Dr.] Wells had received his Ph.D. from Ole Miss and had a great relationship with many at the university. Dr. Crockett was a professor at Ole Miss and agreed to spend time at WKU to fill in for [Dr.] Wells while he was recovering.”

Crockett learned that Winkler was researching and applying to various Master of Accountancy programs. He spent time talking to her about the program at Ole Miss.

“Ultimately, Dean (Mark) Wilder and I came into contact,” Winkler said. “He invited me to Ole Miss, where we were able to meet and discuss opportunities there. I loved the people and the campus! From the day of my visit, my decision was made. I was thrilled to become an Ole Miss Rebel!”

Wilder praised Winkler’s latest feat. “From the first time I met Amy Winkler, I knew that she was destined to accomplish great things,” Wilder said. “Her achievements speak for themselves, and I expect that she will only continue to excel in future pursuits.”

Winkler said she thoroughly enjoyed her year at UM. “[Professors] expressed enthusiasm for their students both in and out of the classroom. The diverse curriculum proved to be stimulating and fun,” she said. “I would particularly thank Dr. Nichols and Dr. Shaw for the time they spent mentoring and investing in me.”

While at Ole Miss, Winkler passed the CPA exam. During her university studies, she worked for Red Rock Government Services in Washington, D.C., General Motors Corvette Assembly Plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and the Nashville and London offices of Ernst & Young.

The FASB is a private, nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is to establish and improve generally accepted accounting principles within the U.S. in the public’s interest. The Securities and Exchange Commission designated the FASB as the organization responsible for setting accounting standards for public companies in the U.S.
UM School of Accountancy Maintains Top 10 Ranking
Programs Ranked in Top 20 for 7 Consecutive Years
By Edwin Smith

The Patterson School of Accountancy’s undergraduate program is ranked No. 6 in the 2014 annual national rankings of accounting programs published by the Public Accounting Report.

The undergraduate accountancy program at the University of Mississippi leads the Southeastern Conference for the second straight year and has been among the top 10 in the nation for four consecutive years. The school’s doctoral program comes in at No. 9, with the master’s program at No. 17.

The Patterson School has become a mainstay on the national scene, with its programs ranked among the top 30 nationally each year since 2005 and in the top 20 for seven consecutive years. The PAR has been providing national rankings of accounting programs each of the past 33 years. The rankings are based on a survey of accounting professors in the U.S.

Other undergraduate SEC programs ranked in the top 25 are Texas A&M (7) and the universities of Alabama (8), Georgia (10), Florida (11), Missouri (15) and Tennessee (22). Undergraduate and master’s program rankings for 2014 were also compiled based on “universities most frequently voted No. 1 by professors at other schools.

Ole Miss is ranked No. 4 at the undergraduate level in this ranking (behind Texas, Brigham Young and Illinois). In the master’s program version of this ranking, Ole Miss was tied for third with Illinois (behind Texas and Brigham Young).

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2014 Undergraduate Rankings

1. Texas
2. Illinois
3. Brigham Young
4. Notre Dame
5. Southern California
6. Ole Miss
7. Texas A&M
8. Alabama
9. Indiana
10. Georgia
11. Florida
12. Ohio State
13. Wisconsin
14. Michigan State
15. Missouri
16. Pennsylvania
17. Miami Ohio
18. Virginia
19. Washington
20. NYU
21. Wake Forest
22. Tennessee
23. CUNY
24. Penn State
25. North Carolina State

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Burns Family, continued from Page 4

president and chief financial officer of Comstock Resources Inc. Stocks asked Burns to create an intern program in his company’s financial reporting department that would provide an opportunity for Ole Miss undergraduate students.

“Morris got us interested by showing us the success the (accountancy) program is having on the national level, and that gave us a deep sense of pride,” said Burns, who transferred from Mississippi State after his freshman year to join the then-new accountancy school in its first year of programs set apart from the School of Business Administration.

“Being a part of something new made all of us know we were part of something special. Giving back through the internship program and in other ways is really rewarding to us, and we are grateful to be included as part of the Ole Miss family.”

“There is much to celebrate today, as we are so grateful to Roland and Sheryl for their continued dedication to the university,” said Chancellor Dan Jones at the ceremony. “They support us financially, and today they are lending us their name, and what a great thing for the university to be associated with their name.”

Stocks praised the Burnses for their holistic approach to support for the university.

“The Burnses have continued to support our school and our university in many ways, including the Burns Chair in Accountancy,” Stocks said. “Outside of the major public accounting firms, [Roland] has also recruited more accounting students to our program and formed an internship program at his company that is critical to our program. The Burnses lend constant moral support to our efforts to transform lives. We are a better place because Roland chose to attend Ole Miss.”

During another ceremony, Ole Miss Athletics honored the Burnses with the naming of the team meeting room. That naming took place in conjunction with the ribbon cutting for the newly renovated Indoor Practice Facility, now called the Olivia and Archie Manning Athletics Performance Center.

“Sheryl and Roland support excellence in academics and support academics and athletics equally, making sure that we move forward together,” Jones added. “They are making a big difference in the lives of students in their local community and here. We are so grateful to them.”

Along with family friends, the Burnses were joined by their sons Derek, who has bachelor's and master's degrees in accountancy from UM, and Tyler, a UM sophomore majoring in accountancy. Their daughter, Stephanie, is a graduate of Southern Methodist University.
# Patterson School of Accountancy

## Internships Spring 2015

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<td>Austin Yarber</td>
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</table>
Associated Accountancy Student Body Officers 2014-15
Michael Forrest Baty (left), Caroline Ashton Hyde, Katie Victoria Wilson, Anna Claire Wammack, Sarah Margaret Olander, Christopher Vincent Jew

Accountancy M-Club Scholarship
Keith McKey (left), John Thomas Jordan

Annie Belle H. Friou Tax Fellowship
Roger Friou (left), Griffin Peery Williston

BKD, LLP Scholarship
First row: Lauren Dendy (left), Katie Victoria Wilson, Jenny Casey Trout
Second row: Matt Glover (left), Elliot Frank Thomas, Lawrence Lee Martin, Trey Turnage, Ryan Joseph Lenz

Arthur Andersen & Co./ W. Kelly Clifford Memorial Award
Derek Austin Burns

Arthur Andersen & Co./ W. Kelly Clifford Fellowship
Ryan Smith

Graduate Assistantship
Kesler Lauren Roberts

Graduate Assistantship
Charlie Phu Tran
Booles Scholarship
Isabel Lowden Finch, Leo Booolos

CBIZ MHM Scholarship
Hugh Devin Lawrence Mills (left), Lauren Louise Lasseter, Moira House, Kyerra
Charnese Moody, Clayton Templeton, Walker Simonds Vaughn

Collins Scholarship in Accountancy
Kyerra Charnese Moody (left), Anna Collins, Destinee Ball, Thomas Dan Ward

Doloach & Ray Scholarship
Hannah Rebecca Cornelison (left), Amanda Brea Emfinger

Graduate Assistantship
Marcel Thiemann

Graduate Assistantship
Christoph Thiemann

Graduate Assistantship
Tanner Wade Phillips

Graduate Assistantship
Chelsea Janelle Harris
Dixon Hughes Goodman Fellowship
Anthony Clark (left), Jennifer Cove Green, Jay Oliphant

Deloitte Scholarship
Thomas Dan Ward, Katelyn Oleiva Milleville

DeMiller Scholarship
Joseph Benjamin Wolf (left), Matthew David Williams

Dixon Hughes Goodman Fellowship
Anthony Clark (left), Jennifer Cove Green, Jay Oliphant

C Spire Scholarship
Joseph Alvin Rebentisch

Graduate Assistantship
Amanda Brea Emfinger

Graduate Assistantship
Kyerra Charnese Moody

Graduate Assistantship
Kyerra Charnese Moody

Deloach & Ray Scholarship
Marilyn Robles Beristain
Doctoral Students
First row: Sydnee Manley (left), Chevonne Herring, Sara Gochnauer
Second row: L. Tyler Williams (left), Ryan Seay, Chris Miller, Andy Almand, Derek Barr, Brian Goodson

Frank Hughes Scholarship
Terrian Tavaris Garvis

E.R. Hines Scholarship
Caroline Diane Purcell, Kirk Hines

Hall of Fame, Deloitte & Touche Fellowship
Anish Sharma

Institute of Management Accountants Outstanding Graduate Award
Amy Elizabeth Winkler

James & Paula Martin Scholarship in Accountancy
Sarah Timmons Leatherman

Doctoral Teaching Award
W. Mark Wilder (left), L. Tyler Williams

Flesher & Flesher Fellowship
Dale Flesher, Katrina Marie Briscoe, Tonya Flesher
Haddox Reid Eubank Betts Scholarship
Mike Gladney (left), Sarah Frances Olander, Joshua Vaden Moore, James Wood

Hall of Fame
James W. Davis (left), Roland O. Burns, W. Mark Wilder

Haddox Reid Eubank Betts Scholarship
Mike Gladney (left), Sarah Frances Olander, Joshua Vaden Moore, James Wood

Hall of Fame
James W. Davis (left), Roland O. Burns, W. Mark Wilder

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Mike Gladney (left), Sarah Frances Olander, Joshua Vaden Moore, James Wood

Hall of Fame
James W. Davis (left), Roland O. Burns, W. Mark Wilder

Kerry J. West Scholarship
Madison Ashley Catalano

KPMG Peat Marwick Fellowship
John Thomas Jordan

KPMG Peat Marwick Fellowship
Clayton Duncan Wammack

Lefoldt & Co./Waller Fellowship
Hugh Devin Lawrence Mills
Horne LLP Fellowship
Aaron Samuels (left), Morgan Lindsey Lamb, Stephen Wittman, Patrick Gough

Levens & Schmidt Scholarship
Anthony Marcus McClinton

Mississippi Society of CPAs
Outstanding Senior Award, Ernst & Young Fellowship
Louis Philip Cole

Mississippi Tax Institute Fellowship
Aaron Charles Moeller

Lucian Minor Scholarship in Accountancy
Addison Bradley Oliver (left), Morgan Lindsey Lamb, Michael Lucas Maurer

McCarty Family Scholarship
Robert Merrill Wilson (left), Kaitlin Louise Aspinwall, Kevin Vance Zeek, Tanner West

Mississippi Society of CPAs Achievement Award
Sydney Lauren Bramlett (left), Kyerra Charnese Moody
National Association of Black Accountancy Officers – Spring 2014
Jasmine Monique Brown (left), Nicole Barnes, Gabrielle Matthews, Kyerra Charnese Moody, Chelsea Janelle Harris, Precious Kershawn Hunt

Nettie Young Scholarship in Accountancy
First row: Mary Margaret Simmons (left), Betty Young, Willis Young, Madison Adair White, Sarah Elizabeth Ayers, Arnold Young
Second row: Richard Young (left), Randy Young

Outstanding Researcher and Teacher
W. Mark Wilder (left), Tonya K. Flesher, J Riley Shaw

Outstanding Graduate Student
Andrew Dale Almand

Will Townsend Memorial Scholarship
Tyler Edward Rodewald

Will Townsend Memorial Scholarship
Christopher Adam Michaelis

Pearce, Bevill, Leesburg & Moore Scholarship
Robert Parker Slay (left), David Williams
Peery Scholarship
Joseph Clinton Lascara (left), Martha Peery Williston, Anna Claire Wammack, John Thomas Jordan

PricewaterhouseCoopers Fellowship
Caroline Diane Purcell (left), Reatha Clark

Roger & Susie Friou Scholarship
Anish Sharma (left), Laura Kathryn Lindsay, Roger Friou, Brent Weltner, Rachel Victoria Nieters, Reagan Elizabeth Huey

Taylor Medals
First row: Ann Marie Mercier (left), Xinyi Long, Caroline Diane Purcell, Chelsea Janelle Harris
Second row: Anna Claire Wammack (left), Katrina Marie Briscoe, Ellen Bramlett McLaurin, Anish Sharma

William D. Windham Jr. Scholarship
Leeanna Hunt Smith

William Michael McDonald Sr. Fellowship
Ellen Bramlett McLaurin

Wendell Weakley Scholarship
Buckner Anderson Corso (left), Wendell Weakley
2015 Who’s Who Accountancy Students

Who’s Who Among Students is one of the most long-standing honors program in the nation. These students were selected by faculty and administrators based on their academic achievement, community service and leadership.

**2015 Who’s Who Accountancy Students**

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<th>Name</th>
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Accountancy Alumni Chapter Academic Achievement Award and Accountancy Excellence Scholarship

First row: Susannah Knight Green (left), Xinyi Long, Jane Elizabeth Bashaw, Madelyn Meryl Mohr
Second row: Juntao Wu (left), Eliott Channing Lansdell, James Wesley Howell, Jefferson Willingham Willis

James W. Davis Scholarship in Accountancy

First row: Madison Haley Blankenship (left), Emily Paige Rucker, Emily Nicole Richmond
Third row: Worth Whitten (left), James W. Davis, Michael Forrest Baty, Henry Marlin Womack

Graduate Assistantship Recipients

First row: Ellen Bramlett McLaurin (left), Mallory Shay White, Katrina Marie Briscoe, Amanda Brea Emfinger, Kari Lorraine York, Qing Yun Xie
Second row: Amy Elizabeth Winkler (left), Rebecca Ruleman, Chelsea Janelle Harris, Kyerra Charnese Moody, Caroline Diane Purcell, Kesler Lauren Roberts
Third Row: Morgan Lindsey Lamb (left), Jennifer Cove Green, Louis Philip Cole, Marcel Thiemann, Christoph Thiemann, Hugh Devin Lawrence Mills
Fourth Row: Griffin Poery Williston (left), Ryan Smith, Anish Sharma, Aaron Charles Moeller, Worth Whitten
Fifth Row: Charlie Phu Tran (left), Mason Sands Smith II, Derek Austin Burns, Michael Jonathon Moore
Sixth Row: Jackson Crabtree, (left) John Thomas Jordan, Daniel Blake Maltby
Students test skills in three competitions

By Christina Steube

In fall 2014, Patterson School of Accountancy students at the University of Mississippi were among a select few invited to participate in three national case competitions.

The competitions included the Deloitte Tax Challenge, KPMG International Case Competition and PricewaterhouseCoopers Challenge.

“The purpose of the case competitions is to enhance students’ problem-solving, teamwork and communication skills,” said J Shaw, UM associate professor of accountancy and faculty adviser. “The competition is designed to give the students exposure to real-world business problems and to give them a chance to network with students and professionals from the public accounting profession.”

Vicki Dickinson, UM assistant professor of accountancy and faculty adviser, said that only a limited number of universities are invited to participate and compete in these competitions, and to be part of the event shows that Ole Miss is gaining a reputation of excellence among sponsoring firms.

In the PwC Challenge, students were asked to design and implement an international expansion plan for a large retail client. The Ole Miss team of Kate Adcock, Meagan Busalaki, Jake Clark, Reagan Huey and Chandler McKinley won a cash prize of $1,000 for their efforts.

The Patterson School fielded two teams for the Deloitte event. The students competed at Deloitte’s office in Atlanta in November, and Team A brought home an honorable mention. The case involved solving complex tax issues for the medical device industry.

Fifty-six students competed in the KPMG event in November, with campus-round winners Emily Bush, Jack Ely, Austin Phillips and Tanner West advancing to the regional round in Atlanta. They were edged out by the University of Michigan, which won the national round and went on to represent the United States in Dubai in April. Students were tasked with developing a plan for the country of Qatar to host the World Cup soccer tournament.

The Patterson School of Accountancy thanks Deloitte, KPMG and PwC for their continued support of our students. Through endeavors such as the case competitions, these competitions ensure that our students will be well-equipped and prepared to compete in the global business environment.
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