

ACCOUNTANT

NEWS FROM THE PATTERSON SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

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From Oxford to London:

Accountancy interns explore the profession

by Lori Simpson

Sixty-eight students are experiencing the real world of professional accounting this semester in 15 U.S. cities and London, thanks to the Patterson School's highly successful paid-internship program.

"We continue to be extremely pleased with our internship program," said Interim Dean Mark Wilder, who has been helping students "test the water" since becoming the program's director in 2004. "It's a growth experience that gives the students a whole new perspective on the field and places them at a competitive advantage in the job market. Then there's the added bonus of 3 hours of academic credit and great pay, which, all together, offers students a tremendous opportunity."

Senior Jan Eftink reaping benefits of London internship



Jan Eftink

ink is being exposed to the British tax system.

"I have always wanted to travel and work in a foreign country," Eftink said. "I am also really excited about the job because tax is my interest in accounting."

Wilder coordinated the internship with accounting alum Holly Prater (BAccy 01), who works in Deloitte's London office.

"We identified some students who were interested in going to London, and Holly conducted telephone interviews. They found some

students they liked and made a couple of offers," Wilder said. Senior Jeannie Blair also received an offer but opted to intern at Deloitte's Nashville office this semester. She will spend the summer interning in the London office.

Prater, who has worked in Deloitte's London office since 2004, is in charge of graduate recruiting for the U.S. Tax Services Group within the firm. She said they received more than 50 resumes and interviewed about 30 students interested in the program before making offers to Eftink and Blair.



"My abilities have proven to be very comparable to those of my counterparts from top-ranking schools such as Texas A&M and the University of Texas. I am so grateful for this opportunity."

— Gerilynn Petty
PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Not only is this a paid internship for Eftink but Deloitte is also paying for airfare and housing. However, Eftink said she chose the location because of the learning opportunity.

"I decided to work abroad for the experience and the type of work," she said. "Here we deal with international tax, treaties with other countries and a lot of research. We do not do individual tax returns. Most of our clients are large partnerships and corporations. I am working on two private equity accounts and a real estate investment group that owns property in five different countries."

Prater assured Eftink that the internship would offer "a wealth of opportunities."

"Our main clients for the busy season are

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Comments or suggestions?
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FROM THE DEAN

Dear Accountancy Alumni:

We are excited to begin this spring semester at the Patterson School of Accountancy. Prospects are outstanding, and enrollment is at an all-time high with 747 current students. This total includes 643 in our undergraduate program and 104 graduate students.

Our faculty continue to make an impact on our students and the profession, and they are critically important to us. Our mission includes teaching, research and service, and I believe our faculty perform very well in all three of these areas. We remain tremendously committed to teaching and being a student-oriented school. As evidence of this commitment, we currently have 11 tenure-track faculty members, and, remarkably, four of the 11 have won the Elsie M. Hood universitywide outstanding teaching award. This is no small feat given that, while hundreds of faculty members across campus are eligible for it, only one Hood award is given each year.

We continue to be proud of — and humbled by — the generosity of our alumni. We are so grateful for Mr. Lucian Minor, a 1937 graduate of the accountancy program. Lucian and his wife, Mary, recently provided us with a \$1 million gift in the form of a charitable remainder annuity trust, which we plan to use for a faculty endowment. Lucian has been one of our most faithful supporters over the years, and we appreciate so much his exemplary commitment to the Patterson School.

We are also proud of the successes of our students and the ongoing development of our academic programs. The senior-year internship program continues to help define our undergraduate program. Approximately half of our seniors participate in this wonderful learning opportunity. Entering its fifth year, we have now placed students in 50 different firms or companies across 13 states, Washington, D.C., and two foreign countries. In spring 2008, we have 68 students participating in internships, including one student currently interning in London.

The Patterson School generates visibility for The University of Mississippi on a national basis. We have recently learned that, for the third consecutive year, the Ole Miss accountancy program is nationally ranked. This year, all three of our programs (undergraduate, graduate and doctoral) are among the top 30 in the nation. In addition, the National Library of the Accounting Profession (the former AICPA library), which is housed here on campus, was featured in the August 2007 issue of the *Journal of Accountancy*. This publication has a circulation of more than 350,000, so this feature article provided tremendous national recognition for the Patterson School.

Please visit us when you are on campus. Mark your calendar for Accountancy Weekend, which is scheduled for April 24-26, 2008. The weekend begins with our Accountancy Awards Banquet on Thursday, April 24, and coincides with Oxford's Double Decker Arts Festival and a home baseball series against the Arkansas Razorbacks. You will be receiving a brochure with the schedule of events very soon. We had a great turnout last year and hope you will plan to be a part of the event this year.

We consider it a true privilege to serve you and our students. Your involvement and support are immeasurably important to us. We depend on you to reward our faculty and to attract bright new students. We have set a goal this year to significantly increase the number of accountancy alums who provide support to the school, and we hope you will help us in this endeavor. 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

W. Mark Wilder
Interim Dean and KPMG Professor

Former dean named interim provost

Carolyn Ellis Staton, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, stepped down at the end of 2007, and Morris Stocks has been named to fill the post on an interim basis.



Morris Stocks

Staton informed Chancellor Robert Khayat of her desire to retire effective June 30, 2008, and asked to transition out of the position beginning in January.

"Accordingly, I have asked Morris Stocks to assume responsibilities as the interim provost beginning Jan. 1 and have asked Dr. Staton to provide a support role for him and for us," Khayat said in a press release dated Dec. 7, 2007. "The entire university community is indebted to Carolyn for her many years of faithful service to the university both as a member of the law school faculty and an administrator."

Stocks, former dean of the School of Accountancy, served three years as associate provost. He has served as senior vice chancellor for planning and operations since August 2006. ■

Save the Date!

May 2, 2008

Beta Alpha Psi Golf Tournament

Mallard Pointe, John Kyle State Park, Sardis

Fee: \$100. Pre-registration required. Contact Chasity Skeen at ceskeen@olemiss.edu.

Firms interested in sponsorships, contact Jeff Payne at jmpayne2@olemiss.edu.

Proceeds support Patterson School of Accountancy students' travel to the annual Beta Alpha Psi meeting in Anaheim, Calif.

Following in Fathers' Footsteps

Legacy plays role in accountancy commencement tradition



New graduates Michael Berg (BAccy 06, MAccy 07) (left), Matt Bailey (BAccy 06, MAccy 07), Cary McCormick (BAccy 06) and John Latina (BAccy 06) celebrate their accomplishments together.

Nearly three decades after their own graduations from Ole Miss, two accountancy alums returned to campus as speakers for the School of Accountancy's graduation ceremonies.

Matthew Lusco (BBA 79), managing partner of KPMG International's Birmingham and Memphis offices, offered 2006 graduates, including his daughter Olivia Lusco, who was receiving her bachelor's degree in accounting, words of wisdom about the profession.



Matthew Lusco "It was really a humbling experience," said Lusco, who also serves on the School of Accountancy's advisory council. "I knew that class, not only through Olivia but also through our recruiting process. I was incredibly impressed with the accomplishments of these graduates; they just seem to get better and better at Ole Miss."

Bill Drummond (BBA 75), managing partner of Ernst & Young's Memphis office and also a member of the accountancy school's advisory council, spoke before the graduating class of 2007, which included his son, William Carlton Drummond Jr., who was receiving his master's degree in accounting.

"It was truly meaningful to address my son's class because he followed my footsteps and selected accounting as his career," said Drummond. "As I wrote my speech, I thought about Will and his friends and the journey they were about to face."



Bill Drummond

Drummond said speaking at graduation gave him a chance to ponder his own career. "There are few moments in life that cause us to reflect on our successes and failures, our accomplishments and disappointments, and all of the various events along the way," said Drummond. "The selection as the commencement speaker led me to contemplate what I had to offer to a new generation of accounting graduates."

It also led him to examine ways the school has changed since he was a student. Perhaps the most radical change to the Ole Miss accounting program since Drummond and Lusco enrolled was the creation of the separate Patterson School of Accountancy in 1979, which, according to Drummond, allowed the program to flourish and led to its recognition as one of the top 25 accounting programs in the country.

"While the School of Accountancy has always been outstanding, it is no longer a

well-kept secret," said Lusco. His hope for recent graduates is that their success at Ole Miss and the reputation of their alma mater translates into fruitful careers in the accounting profession.

"My message dealt with the fact that public accounting is a people business — not a numbers game," said Lusco. "I encouraged them to ensure that they use the lessons in life our families and Ole Miss taught in interacting with the right people to do the right things."

In fact, accounting, Ole Miss and family mix easily for Lusco. In addition to daughter Olivia, his father, Sam C. Lusco Jr. (BBA 50), graduated from Ole Miss and his son, Matthew Lusco, is now a freshman majoring in accounting. Lusco's wife, Rhonda Finnell Lusco, also attended Ole Miss, majoring in marketing.

The Drummonds are also an Ole Miss family. In addition to son Will, Drummond's wife, Elizabeth Jane Drummond (BAE 76), and daughter, Leanne Elizabeth Drummond (BA 03), attended Ole Miss.

Legacy has not only endeared Ole Miss to Lusco and Drummond but also has motivated them to stay involved with the university and the school.

"Being a part of a special group or organization comes with a sense of stewardship; a duty to ensure that you give back," said Lusco. "Ole Miss and the School of Accountancy are very special, and it's important we all do our part to maintain that, not only for Ole Miss but for our profession as well." ■

Keeping tradition

The School of Accountancy's 2008 commencement speaker will be Gene Henson (BBA 76), president for the north region of Trustmark National Bank in Germantown, Tenn. Henson's daughter Stephanie Henson will be receiving her bachelor's degree in accounting the same day. Daughter Staci Henson Tyler (BAccy 03, MAccy 04) is also a product of the Ole Miss accountancy school. She is currently assistant controller for EastGroup Properties in Jackson. The graduation ceremony will take place May 10 following UM's 155th commencement ceremony.

Spring 2008 accountancy interns

Mark Adcock of Jackson:

Ernst & Young, Memphis

Amanda Armstrong of Courtland:

Dixon-Hughes, Memphis

Jeannie Blair of Dallas: *Deloitte, Nashville*

Matt Bowen of Ridgeland:

Thompson Dunavant, Houston

Casey Brunt of Clarksdale:

Dixon-Hughes, Memphis

Casey Cade of Madison: *Horne, Jackson*

Daniel Calcote of Wesson: *Horne, Jackson*

Clay Campbell of Ridgeland: *Horne, Jackson*

Colby Carmichael of Oxford:

Smith, Turner, Reeves, Oxford

Matthew Chambliss of Oxford:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Logan Chaney of Vicksburg:

Horne, Nashville

Jonathan Chapman of Fairhope, Ala.:

Horne, Mobile

Sallye Clayton of New Albany: *Tyson, Ark.*

Alana Crawley of Lamar: *Kemmons*

Wilson Inc., Memphis

Kayla Crowell of Booneville: *Hester Tax*

Services, Booneville

Laura D'Antoni of Metairie, La.:

Dixon-Hughes, Memphis

Brad Earwood of Columbus:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Jan Eftink of Chaffee, Mo.: *Deloitte,*

London

Tim Ellis of Marks: *Horne, Jackson*

Elizabeth Eva of Huntsville, Ala.:

KPMG, Nashville

Katie Farris of Vicksburg:

KPMG, Birmingham

Jamie Foster of Ecu: *Ronnie Windham,*

Oxford

Paul Foster of Hernando: *Horne, Jackson*

Byron Gustus of Chesterfield, Mo.:

KPMG, St. Louis

Stephanie Henson of Germantown,

Tenn.: KPMG, Birmingham

Brandi Holley of Oxford:

Church Devoe, Oxford

Megan Hughes of Long Beach:

Smith, Turner, Reeves, Jackson

Alex Hutcheson of Saltillo: *AutoZone,*

Memphis

Sherry Jia of Oxford: *EZ-Tax, Oxford*

Gentry Jones of Southaven: *Rhea and*

Ivy, Memphis

Bo Kim of Oxford:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Cole Kimbrough of Jackson:

KPMG, Memphis

Hao Liang of Oxford: *KPMG, Atlanta*

Rebecca Lo of Corinth:

Ernst & Young, Memphis

continued from Page 1



multimillion to billion dollar private equity funds and hedge funds that are investing in everything from real estate in Bulgaria to wind farms in Germany," she said. "Interns not only learn the tax laws in regard to these investments, but they also learn the economic aspects of how these investments work."

Summing up the multiple benefits for student interns, Wilder said, "They get to take a break from school, are well-paid, and they get experience that they could not get from being in school. It's taking the foundation that they've gained here and applying it to the real world."

Then there's the added advantage to an internship abroad. "To live and work in another country is a great learning opportunity that will put these students ahead," Prater said.

"I am really enjoying London," Eftink said. "I have visited a few places near my flat like China Town, Covent Garden and the large shopping area on Oxford and Re-



"So far my internship has been amazing. I am definitely not just observing."

I've worked with everything from tax returns to compilations to audits. They are doing a fantastic job ensuring that I get the most out of my internship."

— Brittney Whidden
Dixon-Hughes, Memphis

gents streets. I have also been to the pubs and bars, watched rugby and ice skated. I am planning a lot of other things I would like to do."

As a note of encouragement for students uncertain about interning, Eftink said, "I think an internship is really important if you want to work in one of the large firms because it gives you the needed experience and training to be hired full time. I believe this internship will greatly further my career in accounting."

Eftink expects to complete her bachelor's degree in accountancy this summer and to then attend graduate school at Ole Miss for a master's in taxation. ■

Lori Simpson is a student intern in the Office of Media and Public Relations.



"My internship is going great. Being familiar with how an audit is performed will help prepare me for my first job."

— Mark Adcock
Ernst & Young, Memphis

'A medium for change'

Sophomore chosen for prestigious internship

Dennis Pickens Jr. hasn't always embraced politics, but after taking an honors political science class at The University of Mississippi, he became a fan. His newfound enthusiasm has garnered him an internship at the Institute for Responsible Citizenship.

Pickens, a McCarty Accountancy Scholar and sophomore accountancy major in the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, will spend this summer in Washington, D.C., where he will hold an internship and take rigorous courses at Georgetown University. Each year 24 of the most promising black male college sophomores in the country are selected to participate in the public-service focused program.

This is the first time an Ole Miss student has been chosen for the program.

Pickens, a Newton High School graduate and son of Dennis Pickens Sr. and Ethel Pickens, said he had a pessimistic outlook on politics until Kenneth Townsend's class sparked his interest.

"I wasn't into politics until I took his class, and it made me view Washington in a new light," Pickens said. "He showed me that politics can be a medium for change."

The news that he had been chosen for the internship came at a bittersweet time for Pickens, as he found out the day after his grandfather died. "I was thrilled to receive the news. William Keyes, the president of the organization, called me and told me I was one of the seven chosen by early decision," Pickens said.

Townsend, a Barksdale Fellow and instructor in public policy leadership at the Honors College, said Pickens has been an absolute delight to teach and is an extremely hard worker.

"Not only has Dennis maintained a 4.0 [grade-point average] while taking difficult honors courses but, for the last two summers, he has also participated in prestigious programs with Merrill Lynch and the London School of Economics," Townsend said. "Being chosen for the Institute for Responsible Citizenship represents another well-earned milestone for Dennis. I believe it is important for our campus community to understand how big of a deal this program is."



Dennis Pickens

While at Georgetown, Pickens will take courses in government and economics designed to provide skills necessary to critically analyze the world's problems while adhering to a deep respect for civil liberties. When not in class or at work, the students are called upon to attend functions to help them network within their fields.

The Institute for Responsible Citizenship creates a pathway for the top black males in the country both in and out of the classroom, Pickens said. He is most excited about being able to meet two legends: Georgia congressman and civil rights activist John Lewis and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. "I also hope to meet Barack Obama, but we'll have to see what his schedule is like," he said. "The opportunity to meet people like that is invaluable."

He said he hopes to strengthen his personal characteristics and to get to know people who can help him achieve his future goals. "I think the program will make me well-rounded socially, academically and as a leader. I'll be meeting leaders from the civil rights movement, from politics and from corporate America, and I think they will increase my breadth of knowledge of America as a whole," Pickens said. ■

Emma Magee of Mobile, Ala.:

Horne, Nashville

Mallorie Magee of Tylertown:

KPMG, Atlanta

Owen Mayfield of Ridgeland:

Matthews, Cutrer, and Lindsay, Jackson

Meredith McDaniel of Brighton, Tenn.:

Deloitte, Memphis

Courtney McGill of Brandon:

Horne, Jackson

Emily Mosquera of Houston:

Comstock Resources, Dallas

Candice Murphy of Dale City, Va., and

Ocean Springs:

Borg Warner, Water Valley

Evan Norton of Memphis:

Deloitte, Nashville

Hyecheong Pang of Seoul, Korea:

Deloitte, Dallas

Warren Pate of Gallatin, Tenn.:

Deloitte, Nashville

Upnik Patel of Cleveland:

Smith, Turner, Reeves, Jackson

Gerilynn Petty of Starkville:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Will Ridgway of Jackson:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Matt Roberts of Natchez:

Roberts CPA, Shreveport, La.

Joshua Rorie of Glen:

Ernst & Young, Memphis

Jennifer Rouse of Natchez:

Horne, Jackson

Jaye Simpson of Macon, Ga.:

Porter Keadle Moore, Atlanta

Parker Smith of Jackson:

KPMG, Nashville

Witt Spencer of New Albany:

Horne, Memphis

David Steele of Tupelo:

Reynolds, Bone, and Griesbeck, Memphis

Leslie Still of Blue Mountain:

Horne, Memphis

Elizabeth Sudduth of Brandon:

Horne, Nashville

Neil Tabor of Olive Branch:

KPMG, Memphis

Ross Taylor of Jackson:

Horne, Jackson

Mary Kathryn Thomas of Jackson:

KPMG, Birmingham

Scott Thompson of Houston:

Deloitte, Houston

Katherine Warren of Oxford:

Young and Garrett, Oxford

Brittney Whidden of Oxford:

Dixon-Hughes, Memphis

Stribling Whites of Greenwood:

Deloitte, Memphis

Garner Williams of Greenwood:

KPMG, Memphis

Laura Williams of Gulfport:

Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan, Levens, Favre, PLLC, Biloxi

Conner Wise of Columbus:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Dallas

Joseph Wright of Midland, Mich.:

Dixon-Hughes, Memphis

Margaret Yoste of Oxford:

FTI Consulting, Houston

Students in Training

Future accountants competitive in athletics and scholastics

by Lori Simpson

Balancing academics with sports isn't easy, but it's worth it, according to two accountancy majors attending college thanks, in part, to athletics scholarships.

Justin Gunn and Matthias Wellermann are among dozens of Ole Miss students who are successfully meeting academic requirements while practicing and competing in their individual sports.

Gunn, a 20-year-old junior from Oklahoma City, is a third-year member of the Ole Miss track team, while Wellermann, a 22-year-old junior originally from Germany, is on the tennis team.

The students agree that their respective sports take up a lot of time that could be devoted to studying, but they are able to manage their time and succeed in both.

"I try hard to be on top of the schedule so I do not fall behind," said Wellermann, who is taking two accounting classes this semester. "I miss about every second Friday at school. We travel a lot, so I try to do a lot of reading on the bus or the plane."

Gunn said he usually takes 12 to 15 hours a semester including 3 to 6 hours of accounting classes. He said he works hard to keep up with work for his classes.

"I just have to buckle down and either get it done early or while I am on the trip so I can turn it in when I get back," said Gunn, who competes in several different events and has won two national championships in the long jump.

Both students spend much of the spring season practicing for upcoming meets. Wellermann practices every afternoon for three hours.

"Usually, I go to



Matthias Wellermann

class in the morning, practice from 2 until 5:30 [p.m.] and then start studying around 7 [p.m.],” he said. “If practice was hard, it is tough to motivate myself to do homework because I am so tired.”

Gunn said that during the spring semester, it is not uncommon for him to miss class every Friday and occasionally on Thursdays. He practices six days a week, so he has to manage his time wisely to keep up with his accountancy classes.

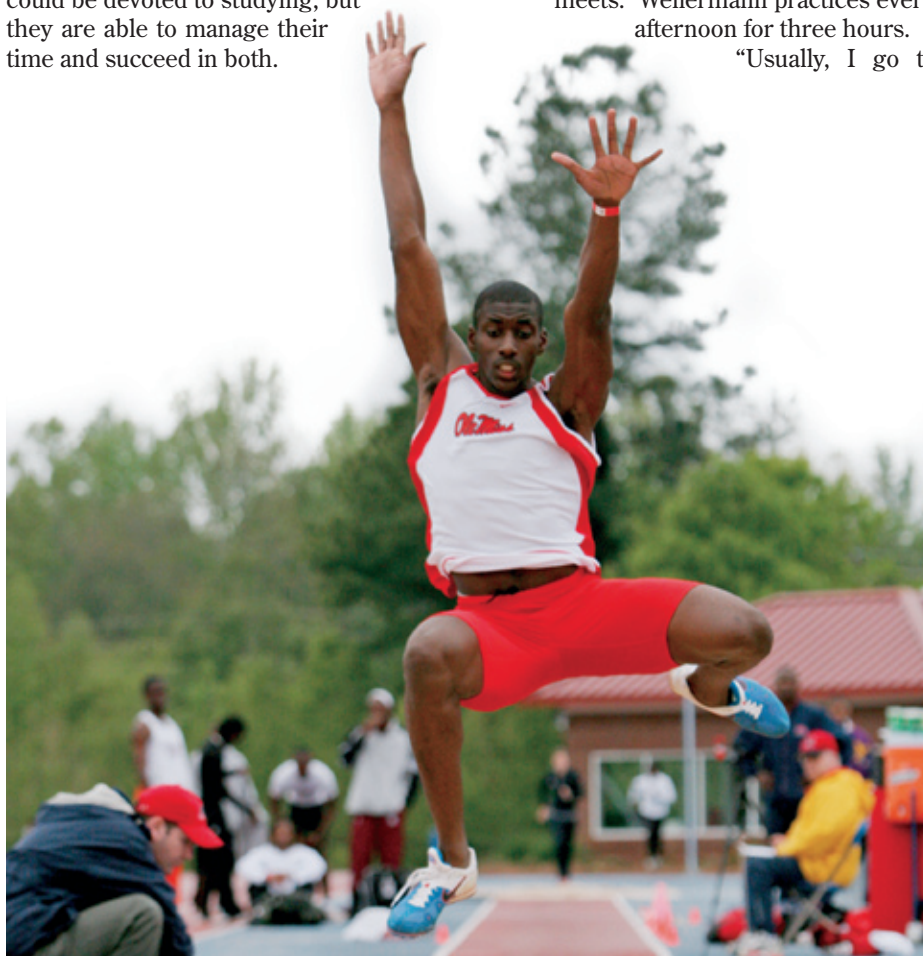
“Accounting is a very hard subject,” he said. “But I believe that life is hard, and, in order for me to get the best out of it, I need not shy away from challenges.”

Both athletes say they hope to continue playing their respective sports after they finish college.

“I will definitely continue to play tennis, though not as much as I have played here,” Wellermann said. “I have been injured a lot, so I think it is a little too risky for me to try to play professional tennis.”

Gunn plans to continue running for as long as he is physically able. “With track, I could get an accounting job and still run professionally,” he said. ■

Lori Simpson is a student intern in the Office of Media and Public Relations.



Justin Gunn

Miss Ole Miss finds value in family tradition

The Ole Miss experience is truly a family affair for the Samuel Hardy Farris family of Oxford and Vicksburg.

"Attending Ole Miss has been a tradition in my family," said Katie Farris, who expects to receive her bachelor's degree in accountancy in May. "Since my grandparents live in Oxford, I feel as if I have grown up visiting the university. I fell in love with Ole Miss at an early age and always knew this was where I wanted to attend college."

Farris, who is interning this semester with KPMG in Birmingham, was chosen to represent the student body as Miss Ole Miss last fall in campuswide elections.

She is the daughter of Kimberly Pruette Farris (BAccy 82) and Samuel Hardy Farris III (BE 82) of Vicksburg. Her grandparents, Martha Faye Nicholas Farris (BS 55) and Hardy Farris Jr. (52) of Oxford, both attended the university, and her brother, Samuel Hardy Farris IV, is an Ole Miss freshman accountancy major.

Farris said that as a senior at St. Aloysius High School in Vicksburg she was influenced by her mother to major in accounting, and she has not regretted her decision.

"Every faculty member I've been in contact with and every professor I've ever had has been dedicated to the students by forming relationships with the students and bending over backwards to assist them in any way possible," she said. "The School of Accountancy pushes you and challenges you to do your best while being a constant support throughout college."

Farris also said the one-on-one attention that students get from the school's fac-

ulty is especially impressive.

"I have been fortunate enough to be instructed by Jimmy Davis, J Shaw and Mark Wilder, all of whom accepted nothing less than excellence and invested their time and energy in helping me succeed.

"I got to know Dr. Jimmy Davis especially well during his summer section of advanced accounting. He is the type of



Katie Farris

professor you want to do your best for. His stories and sense of humor are legendary, and I am honored to have been one of his students. I also have a close relationship with the accountancy school's adviser, Erin Miller, who goes above and beyond her job description to care about the students."

Farris' many achievements include

membership in Alpha Lambda Delta, Beta Alpha Psi, Lambda Sigma, Mortar Board, Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa, Gamma Beta Phi and Who's Who Among the Class of 2008. She was awarded the Academic Excellence Scholarship, Jones Foundation Scholarship, James W. Davis Scholarship in Accountancy and Mississippi Eminent Scholar's Grant.

Her extracurricular activities include serving on the Student Alumni Council, ASB Judicial Council, ASB Finance Committee and Senior Class Executive Committee. She has been an orientation leader, ASB senator, ASB Cabinet executive assistant, president of Chi Omega and School of Accountancy Vice President for Publicity. She also is a member of Campus Crusade.

She has volunteered for Make-A-Wish Foundation, Food Pantry and North Mississippi Regional Center, and helped raise funds for Gardner Simmons Home.

Reflecting on her four years at UM, Farris said, "Ole Miss has brought me many wonderful memories, most importantly the friendships I've gained. Being named Miss Ole Miss was definitely a highlight, not to mention a bigger honor than I ever thought I'd receive. This entire school year has been a highlight because I got to be here for my brother Hardy's freshman year. It has been so much fun to go to college with him and watch him experience and love Ole Miss the way I have."

Farris plans to stay at Ole Miss for her master's degree in accountancy and then to pursue a career in public accounting.

"My internship has been a huge learning experience, and I'm excited to see where my career in public accounting takes me," she said. ■



Phi Kappa Phi honor society initiates new members

Accountancy majors initiated into Phi Kappa Phi in fall 2007 are Matthew James Crittenden of Bay St. Louis (left), Scott Andrew Stewart of Biloxi, Amanda Michelle Holsworth of Coppell, Texas, and Preethi Subramanian of Coimbatore, India. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. Membership is by invitation and is reserved for the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors at 300 select colleges and universities in North America and the Philippines.

Professor pens accounting association history

When Dale L. Flesher addressed the centennial meeting of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy last October in Maui, he warned the 600-member audience that his topic, the centennial history of the NASBA, might seem redundant since they had each already been given his new book, *100 Years of NASBA: Serving the Public Interest*.

Flesher, associate dean and holder of the Arthur Andersen Alumni Lectureship, spent more than two years researching the history of NASBA, the organization that oversees the administration of the CPA examination, ensuring the book would be ready in time for the organization's centennial meeting.

Flesher has written 43 books, including texts on the history of other accounting-related organizations such as the American Accounting Association, the Institute of Internal Auditors, AACSB-International and the Accounting Programs Leadership Group. He has also authored more than 400 journal articles in more than 100 different journals. He is a noted biographer of ac-

'The biographical experience helped with respect to the early history of the organization. Until 1972, NASBA was purely a volunteer-run organization with no employees.'

—DALE L. FLESHER

counting personalities, having won the inaugural 2005 Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award, and he is a past president of the Academy of Accounting Historians.

"The biographical experience helped with respect to the early history of the or-



Dale L. Flesher

ganization. Until 1972, NASBA was purely a volunteer-run organization with no employees," Flesher said. "Thus, it was the personalities of the early leaders that led the group to meet its goals." According to Flesher, many of the 20th-century's accounting "greats" once served as officers of NASBA.

"One of the things I learned during my research was what an important role my former colleague Charles W. Taylor played in the organization's history," Flesher said.

Taylor, a retired UM accounting professor and longtime member of the Mississippi State Board of Accountancy, was an active member and officer of NASBA.

"Taylor is cited on at least five different pages in the book," said Flesher. "He was instrumental in getting the CPA exam to become a nondisclosed exam, which ultimately led to the exam's becoming computer-based. Taylor also came up with the idea for a CPE registry to certify that providers of continuing professional education are qualified to do so."

According to Flesher, it was Taylor who recommended he serve as the author

on the centennial book, and he served on an editorial review committee that reviewed the manuscript prior to publication.

Flesher also conducted interviews with many of the living past presidents of NASBA, many of whom provided stories that ended up in the book.

According to Flesher, one particularly helpful individual was Nathan Garrett, a former member of the North Carolina State Board of Accountancy. Following the Maui meeting, Garrett told Flesher, "The NASBA 100-year history was truly an outstanding work, and I cannot thank you enough for writing it. It is a keepsake that I will proudly leave to family and friends."

Flesher is in his 31st year at Ole Miss. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University and a doctorate from the University of Cincinnati. He and his wife and faculty colleague, Tonya Flesher, will co-chair the 2008 American Accounting Association annual meeting to be held in August in Anaheim, Calif. Flesher is president-elect of the association's Teaching and Curriculum Section. ■

Accounting for the future

Two dedicated alumni have continued their support of accountancy students at UM. Edward “Eddie” A. Demiller Jr. and Arnold Lee Young both recently made significant gifts to support the E.A. Demiller Scholarship in Accountancy and the Nettie Young Scholarship Fund, respectively.

Demiller (BBA 39) created the scholarship in 1994 and recently made a generous gift toward the endowment. The scholarship will be awarded for the first time in the 2008-09 academic year to a deserving student pursuing an education in accountancy.

“I wanted to create this scholarship for accounting students because I’m an accountant, and it’s the only business I’ve ever been in,” Demiller said. “And also for my love of Ole Miss.”

Demiller, a Biloxi native, is a retired CPA and helped found the accounting firm Demiller, Denny, and Word in Jackson, where he lived and worked for more than 50 years. He currently serves on the School of Accountancy’s Alumni Advisory Council and was the inaugural inductee

into the School of Accountancy’s Hall of Fame.

Young (BBA 54), who lives in Crystal Springs, created the Nettie Young Scholarship Fund in 1993 to honor his mother. He is a member of the School of Accountancy’s Alumni Hall of Fame.

Amanda Holsworth, a senior accountancy student from Dallas, is the Nettie Young Scholarship recipient for the 2007-08 academic year.



“I’m from out of state, so it’s been really nice to help out my parents some with tuition,” Holsworth said. “I thoroughly appreciate this scholarship from Mr. Young, and I was overwhelmed with joy to receive it. It’s been such an honor, and I was so surprised and grateful when I found out I got it.”

Holsworth plans to intern in the Dallas office of Deloitte and Touche LLP this summer. ■



Mark Wilder (left), Tonya Flesher, Arnold Young and Morris Stocks

Class Notes

- Michael A. Webb (BAccy 87) of Iuka was elected to serve on the MBA Executive Committee for 2007-08.

Weddings

- Grace Elizabeth Fullilove (BAccy 05, MAccy 06) and Alex Derek Moore, June 23, 2007.
- Julia Jean Givens (BA 06) and James Oliver Williams (BAccy 06, MAccy 07), June 16, 2007.
- Mandy Kay Mendoza (BAccy 94) and Michael L. Gagliardi, June 16, 2007.
- Ann Harlan Phyfer (MAccy 05), and Russell Latino III (JD 06), June 30, 2007.
- Tina Jean Robertson (BAccy 92) and Chad E. Saul (BA 91), June 23, 2007.
- Carlin Marie Williams (BAccy 06, MAccy 07) and Adam Edward Milner (BAccy 06, MAccy 07), June 23, 2007.

Births

- Katherine Marie, daughter of Kelly Bergeron Cummings (BAccy 03) and Charles Bradley Cummings (BAccy 02), Jan. 21, 2007.
- John Thomas, son of Michelle Hughey Davis (BAccy 00) and Timothy Davis, May 22, 2007.
- Hannah Mallini, daughter of Kristen Mallini Hazen (BAccy 97) and Brian Hazen, March 21, 2007.
- Kinsley Grace, daughter of Allison Lassiter Horton (BAccy 98) and John Horton, May 25, 2007.
- Lillian Harriet, daughter of Lori King Jones (BAccy 95) and Mark Robert Jones, Feb. 1, 2007.
- Caitlin Ashley, daughter of Amy Beaulieu Rohner and Brian Davis Rohner (BAccy 92, MAccy 94), Dec. 29, 2006.
- Nicholas Mavar, son of Elizabeth Mavar Spratlin and Arthur D. Spratlin Jr. (BAccy 88, JD 91), March 1, 2007.

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UM gets recognition for keeping the books

School of Accountancy alumnus Mark Nicolas (Baccy 89, MAccy 90), a partner with Rhea & Ivy CPA firm in Memphis, presents Interim Dean Mark Wilder (right) with a framed clipping of an article from the August 2007 issue of the *Journal of Accountancy*. The article features the National Library of the Accounting Profession, which is housed at Ole Miss. The 126,000-volume library, which the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants donated to the university in 2001, forms the core of the National Library of the Accounting Profession, the world's largest accounting library. The Patterson School also received a framed clipping of the article from accountancy alumnus Matthew Lusco (BBA 79) and KPMG.



Advisory Council visits Patterson School of Accountancy

Advisory Council members visiting the Patterson School of Accountancy last fall included (front row from left) Howard Davidson (BBA 49), Matt Lusco (BBA 79), Larry J. Hardy (BBA 69), Donna Wade (BBA 74), Jon Turner (BBA 78), Anthony Clark (BACcy 83), N. Gordon Thompson (BBA 75), Judy Waller Shannon (BACcy 82); (back row from left) Charles Walker (BBA 79), Keith McKey (BBA 73), Jerry Levens (BBA 78), Ron Applewhite (BBA 75), Charles C. Clark (BBA 72), Charles Cannada (BBA 80) and Wendell Weakley (BBA 76).



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