

## ACCOUNTANT

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

[www.olemiss.edu/depts/accountancy](http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/accountancy)

## Alum creates accountancy chair

University of Mississippi alumnus Roland Burns (BAccy, MAccy 82) is a man dedicated to education. In 1999, with what started as an interest in his own children's school, Burns, along with his wife, Sheryl, helped open what is now Legacy Christian Academy in Frisco, Texas. The school now has 725 students on its 30-acre campus.

More recently Burns made a gift of \$1.5 million to seed the Roland and Sheryl Burns Chair of Accountancy in UM's Patterson School of Accountancy.

"The generosity and commitment of the Burns family will create new educational opportunities for our accounting students," said UM Chancellor Robert Khayat. "We are grateful for and inspired by their support."

The Burns Chair—the third endowed chair in the Patterson School of Accountancy—will help in recruiting and retaining the best possible faculty to ensure quality teaching, research and service.

"The School of Accountancy is an outstanding program," Burns said. "We thought this would be a good way to give something back and attract some world-class talent to the school. Faculty support is a great need and is something I feel strongly about supporting."

Citing his positive experience as a student as his motivation for the gift, Burns said he had many professors who helped him become who he is today. Under the tutelage of accountancy professors Gene Peery, James Davis and Diane Pearson, Burns excelled in his course work.

"When I look back at Ole Miss, the key part that contributed to my success was the quality of the professors," he said. "Their whole lives revolved around the students, and you knew that the moment you got there. They really took an interest in their students' careers and personal development."

"We have been fortunate to have a tradition in the Patterson School of distinguished, dedicated, student-oriented faculty who truly set the program apart from the competition," said Mark Wilder, dean. "This generous gift from the Burns family demonstrates their



Sheryl and Roland Burns

**'When I look back at Ole Miss, the key part that contributed to my success was the quality of the professors.'**

—ROLAND BURNS

commitment to quality accounting education, and we are so grateful for their support. Roland has had an outstanding career and is such a tremendous success story. We are very proud of him."

After earning his degrees from Ole Miss, Burns spent eight years with accounting firm Arthur Andersen, LLP, in Dallas. He then went on to join Comstock Resources, a publicly held oil and natural gas company, where he has served as senior vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer. Since then, he's watched

### Inside:

**2** Message from the Dean

**3** School's programs rank in top 20 in country



**5** Alums find higher purpose for accountancy skills



**6** Former SEC head offers advice at UM



**7** Senior poised to attend Harvard Law School

**9** Horne LLP creates lasting tie to school with endowment

*Ole Miss Accountant is published biannually by the School of Accountancy. Stories are written by Elaine Pugh unless otherwise noted.*

Comments or suggestions?  
Call 662-915-7623

continued on Page 4



## FROM THE DEAN

### Dear Accountancy Alumni:

We have had a great start to this spring semester at the Patterson School of Accountancy. I am pleased to report that our enrollment is at an all-time high with 748 current students. This total includes 641 in our undergraduate program and 107 graduate students.

Let me take this opportunity to extend congratulations to Chancellor Robert Khayat on his announced retirement and express appreciation for his tremendous support of the Patterson School. During Dr. Khayat's tenure as chancellor, the Patterson School has prospered. Our national ranking has improved significantly, our facility was fully renovated, our enrollment has grown, and we have been able to attract and retain a very good group of faculty. Both The University of Mississippi and the Patterson School are much stronger academically because of Chancellor Khayat's outstanding leadership, and we wish him the best for his retirement.

The Patterson School generates visibility for The University of Mississippi on a national basis. We are proud to report that for the fourth consecutive year, the Ole Miss accountancy program is nationally ranked. This year, for the first time, all three of our programs (undergraduate, graduate and doctoral) are among the top 20 in the nation. Our undergraduate program is No. 18, while both our graduate and doctoral programs are 15th nationally.

Our faculty continue to have 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. I would like to emphasize that we remain tremendously committed to teaching and being student-oriented.

We continue to be proud of, and humbled by, the generosity of our alumni. We are so grateful for Mr. Roland Burns, a 1982 graduate of the accountancy program. Roland and his wife, Sheryl, recently provided us with a \$1.5 million gift to establish the Roland and Sheryl Burns Chair of Accountancy. Roland has had an outstanding career and is such a tremendous success story. We are very proud of him and grateful for 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. Now in its sixth year, we have placed students in more than 50 different firms and companies across 15 states and two foreign countries. In spring 2009, we have 67 students participating in internships (and, for the second year, we have a student interning in London).

Mark your calendars for Accountancy Weekend, which is scheduled for April 23-25, 2009. The weekend begins with our Accountancy Awards Banquet on Thursday, April 23, and coincides with Oxford's Double Decker Festival and a home baseball series with Georgia. The following weekend, April 30-May 2, Ole Miss will host the Southeast American Accounting Association annual meeting on the Oxford campus. That same weekend, on Friday, May 1, our student honor society will host our spring Meet the Firms event in conjunction with the fifth annual Beta Alpha Psi Golf Tournament. We invite you to join us for all these events.

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 help us attract bright new students. We would like to significantly increase the number of accountancy alums that provide support to the school, and we hope that you will help us in this endeavor. We appreciate so much your past support of the Patterson School and trust that you will remain committed to these efforts.

Sincerely,

W. Mark Wilder  
Dean and KPMG Professor



Five of the Patterson School's Phi Kappa Phi initiates are (front, from left) Lindsey Denton, Mary Glenn Christopher; (back, from left) Christy Sims, Lauren Williams and Blair Harden.

### Phi Kappa Phi

Last fall 15 students from the Patterson School of Accountancy were inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

- Josh Beckham
- Mary Glenn Christopher
- Lindsey Denton
- Martin Edwards
- Lori Epping
- Blair Harden
- Neil Harris
- Misty Hartnell
- Jason McDavid
- Hunter Murphree
- Brooks Poole
- Christy Sims
- Angela Washington
- Matthias Wellerman
- Lauren Williams

### 'Who's Who'

The following accountancy students were among 140 UM students included in the fall 2008 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

- Allie Aiello
- Katie Cliburn
- Katie Clore
- Mitchell Cox
- Rob Derivaux
- Daniel Holley
- Amanda Holsworth
- Meredith McDaniel
- Jason McDavid
- Patrick McDavid
- Matthew Metcalf
- Emily Mosquera
- Jeffrey Payne
- Lindsey Peresich
- Matt Sights
- Ben Van Landuyt

## UM accountancy programs ranked in top 20 nationally

**A** new national ranking places UM's doctoral and graduate programs in accountancy both at No. 15 and its undergraduate program at No. 18. The list was published in the Oct. 31 issue of the *Public Accounting Report*.

For many years, UM's undergraduate program has been ranked in the top 30 nationally, with the highest previous ranking being No. 22 in 2006. The master's program has previously been ranked as high as No. 23. The new ranking of the Ph.D. program significantly trumps its previous high of No. 28.

**'It is a tremendous accomplishment for the Patterson School to be recognized as one of the top accountancy programs nationally.'**

—DEAN MARK WILDER

"National recognition of the Patterson School of Accountancy affirms the historic quality of the school," Chancellor Robert Khayat said. "Bright, dedicated faculty and students who are generously supported by our accounting graduates enable us to

be among America's finest accounting programs. All of us are grateful to Dean [Mark] Wilder for his leadership."

More than 1,000 schools in the United States offer accounting programs, and about 500, including UM, are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or AACSB International, as being among "the best accountancy and business programs in the world."

"Being in the top 15 to 18 schools is indeed a significant accomplishment," said Dale Flesher, associate dean and Arthur Andersen Alumni Lecturer. "I was particularly pleased with the ranking of the doctoral program. Not only are we ranked 15th, but the schools above us are the premier schools in America. For example, Harvard is ranked 10th."

The University of Chicago ranked first, with Stanford University and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania close behind.

"Of the schools ranked above Ole Miss at the Ph.D. level, seven of them are private institutions; we rank eighth among public universities," Flesher said.

Schools holding the top three places in both graduate and undergraduate programs have remained fairly constant over the years, with the University of Texas, University of Illinois and Brigham Young



Robert Jordan

University jockeying for the top three positions.

The top-ranked SEC school for 2008 is the University of Georgia at No. 7 at the undergraduate level, 10th at the master's level and 11th at the doctoral level. Ole Miss is the next-highest-ranked SEC school among graduate accounting programs. Other SEC schools ranked in the top 25 are the universities of Alabama, Florida and Tennessee.

"It is a tremendous accomplishment for the Patterson School to be recognized as one of the top accountancy programs nationally," Dean Wilder said. "We have great students who go on to have outstanding careers, a committed and student oriented faculty, and loyal generous alumni. All of these factors contribute significantly to this success and to our recognition in the national rankings." ■

## Ole Miss selected to participate in AICPA's Doctoral Scholars program

**U**.S. universities and colleges are facing a shortage of Ph.D. accounting faculty members. According to industry experts, while the number of undergraduates enrolled in accountancy programs is at an all-time high, the number of Ph.D. graduates in accounting has declined significantly during the past decade. Additionally, nearly half of accounting faculty members at higher learning institutions are 55 or older.

To help meet the need for more Ph.D.-level professors of accountancy, the CPA profession has created the Accounting Doctoral Scholars program. Spearheaded

by the largest accounting firms in the country, the program will be administered by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Foundation.

To date, more than 70 firms and several state CPA societies have committed a total of \$15 million to the program. The firms will recruit top employees for the program and encourage them to become accounting professors in the audit and tax disciplines. ADS scholarships provide stipends of \$30,000 per year.

Some 160 CPAs from around the nation applied to the ADS program in its first round. UM is one of 39 universities select-

ed to participate in the program. Thirty of the candidates were selected for funding, including two who have applied to the Patterson School.

"I think the advertising for the ADS program has awakened many people to the opportunities in accounting education," Flesher said. "Accountants who lack the three years of experience in public accounting that the program requires are calling to ask about the doctoral program. I have received many more inquiries this year than in past years." ■



## ACCOUNTANCY

### Beta Alpha Psi reaches for 'Superior' rank

Dear Readers,  
As faculty adviser to Beta Alpha Psi, I'd like to share the success the Alpha Theta chapter has had this year.

We started the 2008-09 school year by hosting Lynn Turner, former chief accountant of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. He spoke in advance of the presidential debate held here Sept. 26 on regulating financial markets. You can read more about Mr. Turner's visit on Page 6 of this newsletter.

Additionally, KPMG sponsored two major events for Beta Alpha Psi during the fall semester. Our "big meeting," which was open to all firms that recruit students from the Patterson School, was held Nov. 5. The guest speaker, Matt Malinsky, a partner in the Houston office of KPMG who recently transferred from the firm's London location,

gave a presentation on International Financial Reporting Standards. In all, the event attracted 64 students, nine faculty members and 36 professionals from 11 firms. Beta Alpha Psi hosted a reception afterward in Barnard Observatory.

Habitat for Humanity community service day was held the following Saturday, and it was also a huge hit. There were 44 Beta Alpha Psi members and four faculty working in two locations: one in Abbeville, where a project was just beginning, and another in Oxford at a house on the verge of completion. We cleared brush and laid out the property lines at the Abbeville location. At the Oxford location, we painted and did a tremendous amount of yard work. The family members that will benefit were at both sites and had a lot of interaction with the students. KPMG provided T-shirts and boxed lunches for the day.

On Feb. 19, we hosted speaker Mike Carraway of Baird Kurtz & Dobson, LLP, who spoke on President Obama's proposed tax plan. Mr. Carraway is a graduate of the Patterson School and a partner in the Jackson office of BKD. We invited firms to



Members of Beta Alpha Psi volunteer with Habitat for Humanity in a community service project cosponsored by KPMG. Pictured with the UM student and faculty volunteers is the family that will receive the Habitat house upon its completion.



campus for this meeting as well, and Beta Alpha Psi hosted a social afterward so the students could interact with these professionals in a relaxed setting.

Coming up, we are planning another Habitat for Humanity day this spring to be sponsored by Horne, LLP, and the Beta Alpha Psi golf tournament is set for May 1 at the newly remodeled Ole Miss Golf Course. As in past years, we will have a luncheon and Meet the Firms activity, followed by a golf scramble.

Overall, the students are running Beta Alpha Psi and doing a terrific job. Including our new spring pledge class, we now have 93 participating students. We have also increased the number of officers to 15. Our president, Amanda Holsworth, has done an amazing job. She is extremely organized and hardworking, and she keeps everyone in the organization on task. We look forward to achieving our goal of becoming a Superior Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi. ■

Sincerely,  
J Shaw  
Beta Alpha Psi faculty adviser

#### Accountancy chair, continued from Page 1

his career flourish in tandem with Comstock's growth from a market capitalization of \$35 million in 1990 to more than \$2.3 billion today. In 2004, Burns played a critical role in establishing and taking public Bois d'Arc Energy, a Gulf of Mexico exploration company that Comstock sold in 2008 for \$1.8 billion.

Burns serves on the Patterson School's advisory board, and, for the last five years, he has enabled Ole Miss students to work as interns at Comstock. He tries to make it back for at least one

football game each season, and both his sons have become big Ole Miss fans. Following in his footsteps, Burns' eldest son, Derek, a high-school senior, is planning to come to Ole Miss next year as an accounting major.

"I think if you have been successful then you have an obligation to give back," said Burns. "It's very rewarding to give, especially to Ole Miss, and it means a lot to me personally. It means a lot to be able to contribute back to those who have invested in you." ■

## Mission: Peru

### Accountancy grads bring stability to mission field

by Sarah Cure

**A**fter Bill Bradford graduated from UM's Patterson School of Accountancy in 1990, he planned to take the path of his father as an accountant in Jackson, but his heart was pulling him in another direction.

In July 1992, Bradford began studying at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, working part time as a youth director and helping his father during tax season. Seven years later, equipped with master's degrees in divinity and theology and inspired by a Peruvian pastor he met while in seminary, Bradford and his family, along with two other American families, formed Peru Mission in Cajamarca, Peru.

He quickly found he could apply his background in accountancy to Peru Mission's economic development ministry, developed in an effort to bring financial stability to impoverished communities there. Over the years, several other Patterson School alumni have joined Bradford to apply their accountancy expertise to the mission.

Jamey Elkin has worked with Bradford since he graduated from the Patterson School in 2007. He has helped Peru Mission by investigating account activity, devising account charts, creating monthly budget requests and analyzing the cash flow of the mission's various ministries, most notably the SALI, the mission's English institute. The institute is managed for-profit to provide funds for other ventures such as medical clinics.

"Jamey's presence in the office has also enabled us to have another accounting check, thus im-



Bill Bradford (left) and Jamey Elkin are working to establish an accounting system for Peru Mission's ministries.

proving our financial control," Bradford said. "These activities are foundational to the implementation of our new accounting system."

In summer 2008, graduate accountancy student Evan Norton worked with Sinergia Microfinance, one of Peru Mission's most successful projects. Modeled after Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus' microcredit concept, Sinergia Microfinance is a microfinancing institution that works with women in the Wichanzaio parish.

"Sinergia works with solidarity groups of five women that own small, family-based businesses and need loans to buy more milk

for their stores, more bundles of firewood to sell in the street and more chickens to sell at the market," Bradford said. "The women are accountable to each other to make their payments, and, if they

don't, the group will be disqualified for further loans. Their personal friendships serve as collateral."

As the women continue to make payments on the small loans they get through Sinergia, they can eventually qualify for higher loan amounts from banks, allowing their businesses to grow.

Norton did an internal audit on the project through mid-2008, prepared financial statements and made an annual report presenting the goals, history, state of the company and some projections for the following year.

Finally, Alex Sherling, who received his bachelor's degree in 2001 and master's degree in 2002, both from Ole Miss, and is now pursuing an international Master of Business Administration degree at UM, also spent some time with Peru Mission. From 2005-06, he served as director of the SALI English Institute.

With Bradford's guidance, Elkin, Norton and Sherling have all realized their accountancy backgrounds can be used for higher purposes. ■

*Sarah Cure is a student intern in UM Media and Public Relations.*



## Financial expert visits UM to speak on market regulation

An internationally known expert in financial markets and financial reporting delivered the address “Regulation of Financial Markets” Sept. 11 at The University of Mississippi. The talk was one of dozens of campus events planned to help prepare students and local audiences for the first presidential debate, held at UM Sept. 26.

Lynn Turner, former chief accountant of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, spoke under the auspices of the H.E. “Gene” Peery/Sherman and Cecilia Muths Lecture Series in the Patterson School of Accountancy. His visit was organized by the accountancy school’s Beta Alpha Psi honor society.

“We were delighted to have Lynn Turner visit the Patterson School of Accountancy and speak on a subject that should be of interest to a large number of people,” said Mark Wilder, accountancy dean. “Essentially, all investors and creditors have a vested interest in improving public trust in corporate America and in the capital markets. Mr. Turner’s lecture was very timely given the current state of the



Former SEC accountant Lynn Turner spoke on the regulation of U.S. financial markets in September as part of the events leading up to the 2008 presidential debate held at UM.

economy and some of the recent problems in financial reporting and in the securities markets.”

Turner, who served at the SEC from 1998-2001, was involved in the creation of the International Accounting Standards Board. During his career, he has also been a partner in a major international auditing firm and the managing director of a research firm, as well as a chief financial officer and an executive in industry. In 2007, Turner was appointed to the U.S. Treasury Committee on the Auditing Profession. He has served as an expert witness for and testified before Congress on several occasions. He was involved in the legislative process leading up to passage of the

Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, a U.S. federal law enacted in response to a number of major corporate and accounting scandals. He has appeared on National Public Radio and major TV networks.

During his visit, Turner was impressed by UM’s accountancy programs. Last fall, in a Treasury Department report investigating the problems of the auditing profession, Turner stated, “Given the complexities and risks of a global business environment, a postgraduate program, similar to that developed at The University of Mississippi, is necessary for future accountants and auditors to provide quality services to investors and others they serve.” ■



### STUDENTS PROVIDE TAX-FILING ASSISTANCE

This spring, graduate students enrolled in Tonya Flesher’s ACCY 603 course, Contemporary Issues in Taxation, participated in Tax-Aide. The AARP Foundation program offers tax assistance to people with low to medium incomes. The service is offered to the public each Tuesday through the April 15 filing deadline at the Stone Recreation Center on Washington Avenue in Oxford. At left, Patricia Snyder has her taxes prepared by AARP tax assistant Jim Hampton (left) and Ole Miss accountancy graduate student Tim Ellis.



# Accountancy major inducted into student Hall of Fame

## Next stop: Harvard Law School

by Sarah Cure

**R**obert Derivaux, a senior accountancy major from Jackson, said it was a great surprise to hear his name announced during a recent ceremony recognizing honorees for The University of Mississippi's 2008-09 student Hall of Fame.

"I was the last student they announced, so it was especially exciting," Derivaux said. "It is a big honor and a bit humbling to be part of such a distinguished group of Ole Miss alumni."

Derivaux is one of 10 seniors inducted Jan. 30 in a special ceremony at the Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts. Selection is based on a student's academic achievements, community service, extracurricular activities and potential for future success.

"Only a highly select group of students receive this special honor, and it is something Rob will cherish for the rest of his life," said Mark Wilder, accountancy dean. "We in the accountancy school are extremely proud of Rob and his accomplishments. He is an extraordinary academic talent as well as an outstanding person."

Upon graduation in May, Derivaux plans to attend Harvard Law School. He hopes to pursue a career involving accountancy, law and international issues, the three main academic interests he has developed at Ole Miss.

A Spanish minor, Derivaux attributes his campus involvement to the opportunities Ole Miss and the accountancy school provide, including foreign-language study, student government, accountancy programs and the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College.

"I encourage accountancy majors to pursue all their interests while undergraduates," Derivaux said. "The Patterson School and Ole Miss have a lot to offer, and you do not want to let those opportunities pass you by."

Derivaux, a student in the Honors College, is a member of the Spanish Club, Student Alumni Council, Beta Gamma Sigma business honorary, Accounting Honor



Robert Derivaux

Harry Briscoe

Society, Phi Kappa Phi interdisciplinary honor society and the Chancellor's Leadership Class. He is president of the Associated Accountancy Student Body and is a former treasurer and senator of the Associated Student Body. He belongs to Sigma Nu fraternity.

With a 4.0 cumulative grade-point average, Derivaux is listed on the Chancellor's Honor Roll and the National Dean's List. He is a Taylor Medalist and a 2005 National Merit Scholar. He received the Modern Language Achievement Award for Spanish, the International Friendship Award for Outreach to International Students and the Order of Omega Sophomore Achievement Award.

During the 2008 Homecoming election, he was voted as one of five male Campus Favorites. Derivaux enjoys playing tennis and ultimate frisbee, and he is a volunteer English tutor.

"Rob sets a great example for all of our accountancy majors," Wilder said. "He is an extremely conscientious student and is proof that there is time to be well-rounded but still excel in academic endeavors."

"We at the Patterson School look forward to seeing his future development, both personally and professionally, and I am certain he will achieve great things." ■

*Sarah Cure is a student intern in UM Media and Public Relations.*

## Former accountancy dean named provost

**M**orris H. Stocks, former dean of the Patterson School of Accountancy and interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at UM since Jan. 1, 2008, has been named UM's provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"We are fortunate that Dr. Stocks accepted our invitation to serve as provost during this time of transition," Chancellor Robert Khayat, who retires June 30, said. "I am confident that all of us will be supportive of his efforts as we continue to move the university forward."

Stocks began serving as interim provost following the December 2007 retirement of Carolyn Ellis Staton, who had held the position since 1999. The provost is the university's chief academic officer.

Stocks also served three years as associate provost and was senior vice chancellor for planning and operations in 2006-07. He holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in accounting. He joined the UM faculty in 1991 and was named outstanding researcher and outstanding teacher in the accountancy school. He won the campuswide Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher Award in 1998.

Throughout his time at UM, he has made an impression on his colleagues, including James W. Davis, holder of the H. Eugene Peery Chair of Accountancy.

"Morris Stocks listens well and has the remarkable ability to gain consensus from others, even when their opinions are disparate," Davis said. "He loves teaching, engages in meaningful research and is a most capable administrator. Ole Miss is fortunate to have him in this position of leadership."

Stocks is looking forward to his next journey at UM. "I consider it a tremendous privilege to serve The University of Mississippi community as provost," he said. "I have been blessed to work with Chancellor Khayat and look forward to supporting our new chancellor." ■



## Edinburgh Experience

*Parliamentary internship enhances student's study of accountancy, economics and policy*

**A**lthough Scotland is as old as the moors, its Parliament has been in existence for only about a decade. Vince Chamblee, a junior from Fulton, is experiencing that juxtaposition firsthand this semester.

Chamblee, an accountancy, public policy and economics major, is in Scotland for an intensive five-week term at The University of Edinburgh and a subsequent 10-week internship with the Scottish Parliament.

"I hope to become engaged in a system of government where the needs of an autonomous Scottish people are now being communicated to a legislative body within

**'This will let me combine everything I have studied [at Ole Miss]. I can apply all my interests in the field of which I one day hope to become a part.'**

— VINCE CHAMBLEE

Scotland's borders—a government that is still so embryonic, yet so controversial, in its development," Chamblee said.

Scottish history, culture and politics will be his topic of study while in the classroom. Once the classroom work is done, Chamblee will have a chance to help research and shape policy in the internship part of the program by shadowing Rob Gibson and Dave Thompson, senior members of Scottish Parliament. Both are members of the Scottish National Party. Gibson is deputy convener of the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee and a member of the Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change Committee. Thompson is a member of the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee and the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee.

Chamblee, who spent last summer in England studying at the London School of Economics, is student director of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, the equivalent of the college's student body president. This spring, he was named one of two recipients of the Honors College's coveted Barksdale Award. While Chamblee's academic experience has been multifaceted, he points to his time at the Patterson School as essential to his future career aspirations.



Vince Chamblee outside Scottish Parliament

"While my studies and experiences in public policy have engendered a sense of responsibility and commitment to society, the education I have received at the Patterson School of Accountancy has equipped me with the knowledge and skills needed to convert theory to practice," he said.

For now though, Chamblee says he's immersing himself in the Edinburgh experience: "the unfailing 30-degree weather, the centuries-old cathedrals, the tartan-clad Scots, the bagpipes, the kilts, Burns nights, haggis, the Highlands, the castles and [the cafes where] J.K. Rowling wrote Harry Potter. I've yet to find a place quite like Edinburgh." ■

## New assistant professors round out accountancy faculty



### KENDALL BOWLIN

Kendall Bowlin, assistant professor, joined UM's Patterson School of Accountancy faculty in 2008 after earning his Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to his doctoral studies, Kendall received a Bachelor of Business Administration from UM's School of Business Administration and a Master of Accountancy from the Patterson School in 1998 and 1999, respectively, and then, as a certified public accountant, spent four years as an auditor in Ernst & Young's Memphis office.

Bowlin's primary teaching and research interests are in the field of audit-

ing. His research focuses on the strategic aspects of interactions between auditors and client managers. He is particularly interested in the ways in which institutional features of the audit environment affect the auditor's ability to anticipate and respond to the manager's possible tendencies toward financial misreporting.

Bowlin and his wife, Lisbeth, have two children, Mary Kennedy and Charlie.



### ANNETTE K. PRIDGEN

Annette K. Pridgen, assistant professor, earned her Ph.D. in accounting from UM's Patterson School of Ac-

countancy in 2008 and joined the faculty the same year. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in accounting from Jackson State University. In April 2008, she received the Graduate Doctoral Achievement Award in Accountancy, and in April 2007 she received the Doctoral Teaching Award from the Patterson School. Prior to her doctoral studies, she was an instructor for three years at JSU. In 2003 she was named Teacher of the Year for the JSU School of Business, and, in 2004, she was named Adviser of the Year for the JSU College of Business.

Pridgen is a certified public accountant and a certified government financial manager. She has more than 15 years of combined experience in auditing with the

## Top 50 accounting firm supports school

**J**ackson-based accounting firm Horne, LLP, has created the Horne, LLP, Accountancy Excellence Endowment at The University of Mississippi with a gift of \$100,000.

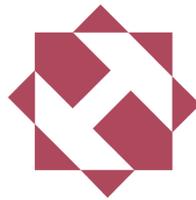
The endowment will support the Patterson School of Accountancy, which has a longstanding partnership with Horne.

"We have more than 40 Ole Miss graduates working at Horne and have more starting in the next few months," said Ron Applewhite, a Horne partner who earned his accountancy degree from UM in 1975. "We all agreed that we have benefited personally and financially from our relationship with Ole Miss and the Patterson School of Accountancy, and we have an obligation to give back."

The endowment will create a general fund for the Patterson School's greatest needs, which include scholarships and faculty support.

"We are grateful for Horne's support as well as the time they give to our students," said Mark Wilder, dean of the school. "Horne is a longtime supporter of the Patterson School and many of our graduates go on to rewarding careers with the firm. Clearly Horne is committed to helping provide our students with the best accounting education possible."

Horne team members and UM alumni Terry Traylor, Joey Havens and Ginny



# HORNE

## CPAs & Business Advisors

Stearns have also made contributions to the endowment.

"The Patterson School provided me with the education that has helped me succeed throughout my career," said Traylor, Horne chief operating officer and partner, who earned his accountancy degree in 1987. "I grew up in Oxford, and this gives me the opportunity to give back to the university that I grew up loving. I hope this gift will assist the Patterson School with the resources they need to attract and retain

**'The Patterson School provided me with the education that has helped me succeed throughout my career.'**

—TERRY TRAYLOR

professors and students and to prepare the students for the workplace."

Havens, a 1980 graduate who is a Horne partner-in-charge and board member, agreed. "Ole Miss has achieved excellence today because of its great family of people. Achieving and growing excellence requires significant investments in facilities, faculty and critical resources."

Giving back is also a top priority for Stearns, a 2005 graduate and Horne senior associate. "The opportunities I was given at Ole Miss were made possible by the generous donations from alumni and friends of the university," she said. "I wanted to do my part to make sure current students are given the same opportunities I was while at Ole Miss."

The 2008 Public Accounting Report ranked Horne one of the top 50 accounting and business advisory firms in the country. The firm has 13 offices in Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana and Arizona. ■

Mississippi State Auditor's Office, the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Academy of Accounting Historians and the American Accounting Association. She has also been actively involved in the Association of Government Accountants and the Ph.D. Project.

Pridgen's primary research and teaching interests are in governmental accounting and auditing. She has taught both traditional and distance-learning courses. She is currently serving as the faculty adviser for the KPMG Future Diversity Leaders Program. She is married to Joseph Prid-

gen, and they have four children and one grandson.



**MITCH WENGER**

Mitch Wenger, assistant professor, teaches the undergraduate accounting systems course. His primary research interests are also in the area of accounting systems, including their impact on organizations and their internal measures of success.

Wenger earned his B.S. in accountancy from the University of Illinois and his MBA from the University of Texas at Arlington. He is currently completing a Ph.D. program at Virginia Commonwealth Univer-

sity. Prior to embarking on his Ph.D. work, Wenger was active in industry for nearly 20 years. He began his career with Arthur Andersen in Dallas and Charlotte; he then worked in the supermarket industry before returning to a start-up consulting firm. He spent nine years in the consulting, product management and sales organizations for Hyperion Solutions, a software firm specializing in enterprise-level performance management solutions targeted at Global 2000 businesses.

Wenger is a certified public accountant in the state of Texas and is an active member of the American Accounting Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Association for Information Systems. ■



# ACCOUNTANCY DONORS

The Patterson School of Accountancy thanks our friends and donors who supported us with their generosity.

**JANUARY 1, 2008 – DECEMBER 31, 2008**

## **PATRON (\$25,000+)**

Sheryl L. and Roland O. Burns Jr.  
Julie S. and Charles W. Caldwell Jr.  
Estate of Carl Warren Nabors  
Financial Accounting Foundation  
KPMG Foundation

## **BENEFACTOR**

**(\$10,000-\$24,999)**

AICPA Foundation  
Ernst & Young Foundation  
Horne CPA Group  
PricewaterhouseCoopers Foundation  
Thomas W. Avent Jr.  
Virginia G. and Charles C. Clark  
Tonya K. and Dale L. Flesher  
Rhonda F. and C. Matthew Lusco  
Lissa F. and Charles R. Walker

## **EXECUTIVE (\$5,000-\$9,999)**

Martha and Louis J. Blanchard  
Leigh Anne and James O. Carpenter  
Deloitte & Touche Foundation  
Susie and Roger P. Friou  
W.T. Jagodinski  
Darby P. and R.D. Miller Jr.  
David G. Miller  
Lucy L. and Guy W. Moore Jr.  
Lea Ann H. and Brian K. Roberson  
Susan K. and Wendell W. Weakley  
Karen M. and Craig T. Williams

## **ADVOCATE (\$2,500-\$4,999)**

Barry W. Atkins  
Leo Boolos Jr.  
Reatha H. Clark  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
Larry J. Hardy  
Harper, Rains, Knight & Company PA  
Joe D. Havens Jr.  
Lionel Henderson Jr. and  
Sophy J. Chung  
Mississippi Tax Institute Inc.  
Caroline Murphree  
Murphy Oil USA, Inc.  
Thompson Dunavant PLC  
Amelia L. and Michael A. Webb  
Leah S. and Robert H. Wilkerson

## **ASSOCIATE (\$1,000-\$2,499)**

Ronald G. Applewhite  
Jackie P. and Richard Bailey  
Becker Professional Review  
Brad Benton  
Tim E. Bentsen  
Kathryn M. and Charles E. Cauthen Jr.  
James T. Channell  
Norma E. and Wallace E. Davenport  
Deloitte Services LP  
Ernst & Young LLP  
Samuel A. Flint  
Mollie M. and Jacob M. Fried Jr.  
Jon Gaston  
James M. Gibbons  
Kimberly A. and Thomas L. Gibson  
Charlene W. and Randy L. Graves

Mary Ann W. and William G. Griesbeck  
James A. Grimes  
Haddox, Reid, Burkes & Calhoun PLLC  
Deborah and William Hannah  
Shelly N. and H.T. Hayden Jr.  
Donna B. and Quinon R. Ivy  
John A. Johnson  
KPMG LLP  
Lefoldt & Co P.A.  
Dan K. Lomax  
A.S. MacArthur  
Carol Anne Marion  
Nancy P. and Nick A. Mavar Jr.  
John W. McCaleb  
Michele N. and Bryan C. McDonald  
Eileen M. McGinley  
Rand M. Meyer  
Ellen D. and David L. Miller  
Mary W. and Lucian S. Minor  
Emma B. and James H. Moore Jr.  
Peggy H. and Norman E. Moore Jr.  
Jane Kerr G. and Robert B. Nance III  
Helen R. and Johnny W. Newman  
Pearce, Beville, Leesburg, Moore  
Pfizer Foundation  
Gayle S. and James E. Poole Jr.  
Porter Keadle Moore, LLP  
Jerri R. and Ralph G. Ross  
Sanderson Farms  
Eric M. Saul  
Katherine and Arvil R. Stanford  
State Farm Companies Foundation  
Cynthia A. and Morris H. Stocks  
Carrie and William G. Tapp  
Robin B. and William M. Taylor  
Jan P. and N. Gordon Thompson Sr.  
Pamela M. and Jon C. Turner  
Ann and Joe C. Weller  
Denise E. and Mark Wilder  
Kay S. Williams  
Vickie M. Cook and Michael W. Wright  
Hansell N. York III

## **STEWARD (\$500-\$999)**

Olen S. Akers  
Elizabeth L. Alderson  
Robert H. Alexander Jr.  
Jesse R. Alford  
BDO Seidman LLP  
Monica T. and Raymond L. Bergin Jr.  
Patricia G. Biggers  
Patricia L. and Charles W. Boland  
Marylyle, David and Steve Boolos  
(in honor of Leo Boolos)  
John Borchert  
Irvin L. Breckenridge III  
Toni T. and Eric J. Brockman  
Thomas L. Callicutt Jr.  
Mary C. and Daniel O. Conwill IV  
Crowe Chizek and Company LLC  
Ephraim E. Davidson  
Walter K. Davis  
Betty T. and F. Javier DeRossette  
Decosimo  
Dixon Hughes PLLC  
Michael L. Edwards

Entergy Corporation  
Molli A. Flynt  
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph F. Franks  
Louis G. Fuller  
Mandy M. and Michael L. Gagliardi  
Mary Howell M. and Jay Gann  
Christopher D. Glenn  
Vickie A. Gober  
Shelley S. and Patrick C. Gough  
Mary H. and Thomas Griffis  
Renee T. Gwin  
Colleen E. and Christopher L. Haley  
Jennifer B. and William B. Hicks  
Kirsten E. and Jennings R. Hill  
Mary E. and Jimmy L. Hill  
Jeffery W. Horner  
Carson M. Hughes  
Selby A. Ireland  
Paul G. Jarrell  
Derek W. Knepple  
James A. Leseemann Jr.  
Carolyn F. and D.N. Magruder Jr.  
Mayo Mallette PLLC  
Susan M. and William T. Mays Jr.  
Terri T. and Burwell B. McClendon  
Renita A. and Mark Q. Partin  
Lee W. Randall  
Patricia W. and R. Vance Randall  
Regions Financial Corp.  
Alicia G. and Jeffrey J. Reynolds  
Reynolds, Bone & Griesbeck CPAs  
William R. Rhodes  
Paula H. and Steven G. Robbins  
Allyson F. and Terry A. Robertson  
Pamela K. Roy  
B.K. Ruth  
Amy M. and Jason T. Shackelford  
Andrew D. Sharp  
Ginny R. Stearns  
Robin K. and Daniel B. Stimpson  
Angela C. and Jeffrey B. Strouse  
Robert C. Thompson III  
Terry F. Traylor  
Richard C. Turner III  
Watkins Uiberall PLLC  
Jon L. Watson  
William L. Watt  
Thomas M. Weissinger  
L. Tyler Williams  
Leigh Ann H. and Jeffrey R. Wills  
Amy R. and Johnathan Zoeller

## **SENIOR PARTNER (\$250-\$499)**

Olena S. and Meredith B. Allen Jr.  
Cynthia L. Amisano  
Beth S. and William S. Amos  
Scott A. Barnhart  
Patricia D. and John B. Barrack  
Benny W. Bender  
Francine H. and Ira Blackmon  
Leslie J. and Joel K. Bobo  
James R. Clinton IV  
Jeffrey A. Coole  
Gerald P. Crystal  
Milton J. Cuevas II  
Anne M. and Robert A. Cunningham

Douglas E. Daniels  
Laura Y. and Raymond Dearman Jr.  
Jon K. Finley  
Meredith G. and Hugh A. Gamble III  
Cathy and Frank Ghinaudo Jr.  
Jerry Goolsby  
John R. Grisham  
Laurie S. and Anthony E. Hale  
G.A. Hamilton  
Glyn W. Hanbery  
James E. Hart  
Ann B. and A.E. Henson Jr.  
Claudia B. and Ewin Henson III  
Evelyn M. and D.K. Hines  
Johnny D. Holliday II  
Jennifer A. Hufford  
International Paper Company  
Jennifer J. and Kevin Jenkins  
Peder R. Johnson  
Brian W. Lambiotte  
Tara C. May  
Elizabeth T. and Ronnie G. Michaels  
Beverly Y. Milam  
Jonathan P. Moorehead  
Orlando A. Morales  
Lee and Rodney Murphy  
Marie H. Newton  
Bonnie M. and William B. Osborn III  
William T. Parr  
Katherine H. and Gary W. Patterson  
Sallie F. Henderson and Chris A. Polk  
Jeremy W. Powell  
David F. Poythress Sr.  
Jessica A. Querin  
Abby L. Reeves  
Hugh M. Riley  
Susan C. and Richard W. Russ  
Barry and Eric W. Schuster  
Michael R. Smith  
Teresa C. Standard  
Chandran Subramaniam  
Sylvia P. and John M. Sullivan  
Angela Summers  
Nancy J. Swanson  
Mitchell D. Thweatt  
Gibson Turley III  
Frances and Lee Turnage  
Aimee C. and K.S. Verheeck Jr.  
Mary A. and Donald A. White  
Sherry J. and R. Tim Wilson  
Sharon H. and Robert A. Wofford

## **PARTNER (\$100-\$249)**

Dorine A. Adams  
Margaret A. Alias  
Hallie L. Anderson  
Melinda W. Anderson  
Lindsay T. and Joshua A. Arnold  
Connie G. and Keith E. Atkinson  
Laurel A. Barfitt  
Sandra and Mitchell J. Bellipanni  
Daisy L. Bobo  
Suzanne and William R. Boone  
Ann V. and Lee H. Borden  
Marianne Bradford  
David I. Bridgers Jr.

**Note:** While company matching gifts are credited to the individual donor for the purposes of their overall university giving, they are credited to the foundation providing the match in this listing. Diligent efforts were made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please notify Carol Anne Marion in the Office of University Development at 662-915-1758 or [camarion@olemiss.edu](mailto:camarion@olemiss.edu) of any errors.

Donna Bruce  
 Dennis Bullard  
 Debora S. and James R. Bunting Jr.  
 Mary Kay P. and Ricky D. Burden  
 Sara L. Burney  
 Tim Burns  
 William D. Burton Jr.  
 Gloria S. and Clinton V. Butler  
 Glenda B. and R.V. Calvasina  
 Julie and James K. Cannon  
 Brett W. Cantrell  
 William B. Cherry  
 Kristina W. and Brian M. Chopin  
 Courtney F. Cooper  
 Timothy M. Cooper  
 Lesley A. and Starling B. Cousley  
 James R. Crockett  
 Kelly B. and Charles B. Cummings  
 Richard S. Dale  
 James W. Davis  
 Lance M. Davis  
 William E. Davis  
 H.M. Deneka  
 Melissa M. and William B. Denton  
 Dorothea S. and Kenneth L. Donahue  
 Robert W. Dowdy  
 Peggy and Wallace L. Duke Jr.  
 Taylor G. Eady Jr.  
 David W. Elks  
 Donna and David Elks  
 El Paso Corporation  
 Kathy H. Eure  
 Matthew N. Farage  
 Derek A. Farrell  
 Walker E. Fesmire  
 Amy E. and Keith N. File  
 Tina F. and Teddy Floyd  
 Brian M. Folk  
 Benjamin L. Frierson  
 Thomas H. Friou  
 Maria F. and Brian W. Fyfe  
 Deborah G. and Larry T. Gentry  
 Christine G. and James M. Gill  
 Warren B. Givens  
 Charles S. Groshon  
 Cynthia G. and C.J. Hallberg III  
 Ben B. Harrell  
 William S. Hicks  
 Cyrus H. Higgs III  
 Anna P. Howell  
 Geneva C. and Abdul C. Jackson  
 Patricia A. and Thomas E. Jolly Jr.  
 Kristine J. Jones  
 Lesley A. Jones  
 Melissa L. and Jonathan B. Jones  
 William H. Jones III  
 Percy H. Kaigler II  
 Boyd T. Kitchen  
 Linda H. and Michael Kuykendall  
 Lou Ann J. and Roy A. Lamar  
 Andrea L. Lewis  
 William J. Lomax  
 Elaine and Leonard M. Lurie  
 Robert L. Lyon Jr.  
 Kristen S. and Nathaniel G. Macadams  
 Ralph H. Marble

Christy R. and Charles F. Marion Jr.  
 Mary B. Mayer  
 John R. McCann  
 Charles D. McCool  
 Robin Y. and Lee McCormick  
 Laura M. McKinley  
 Amy A. and John M. McMahon  
 Dennis L. McNeely  
 Wendy H. and Patrick W. McNulty  
 Cheryl and Paul E. Metrejean  
 Ann and John R. Meyer  
 Carlin W. and Adam E. Milner  
 George W. Noel Jr.  
 Julian R. Noel Jr.  
 Kimberly W. and Mark C. Odum  
 Helen G. and Michael Overstreet  
 Kenneth S. Pace Jr.  
 Katherine G. and William L. Page  
 Anthony T. Papa  
 Mr. and Mrs. L.T. Payne  
 Ross B. Polk  
 James L. Porter  
 Amy S. and S.G. Portera  
 Jessica B. and Jason E. Pressgrove  
 Floyd E. Pruden Jr.  
 Arron R. Buchanan-Ray and  
 Charles E. Ray III  
 Suzanne and Daniel Reid  
 Ruth E. Roberts  
 Catherine S. Runnels  
 Morgan S. and Scott A. Samuels  
 Donna L. Schmidt  
 Jimmy D. Shaffer  
 Judy W. Shannon  
 Joseph N. Shayeb  
 Delores S. and J.R. Shearer  
 Beverly and Christopher J. Shinstock  
 Christine Simpson  
 M.G. Smith  
 Sarah A. and R.H. Smith Jr.  
 Jessica W. and James H. Stanford  
 Allison W. and Joe A. Sutherland  
 Laura R. and Huey L. Townsend  
 Edward W. Turnage III  
 Vivian J. Umfress  
 Jennifer M. and Spencer C. Usrey  
 David J. Wages  
 Donna R. and Gerald D. Wages  
 Susan S. Weatherholt  
 Talbot K. White  
 Rebecca S. Wilkie  
 Amzie T. and A.T. Williams  
 Cynthia C. and David T. Williams  
 Debbie and John R. Williams  
 Julia J. and James O. Williams  
 R. S. and Peter F. Williams III  
 Rebecca and James E. Wright  
 Kevin W. Young  
 Jeffrey S. Zanzig

**FRIENDS (\$1-\$99)**

John C. Adrian  
 Ann R. and Charles W. Ashley  
 Alva L. and Robert A. Bailey  
 Mary C. Barfield  
 John R. Barge Jr.

Ann T. and Jerry D. Barton  
 Taure N. and Eddie B. Beckham  
 Amy A. and Patrick D. Behroozi  
 Catherine R. and William B. Bell  
 William W. Billips  
 Kimberly S. and Allen F. Bradley  
 Cecile M. and Raymond Brocato Sr.  
 Bradley C. Bromich  
 Charles H. Brown Jr.  
 Michael H. Brown  
 Anthony S. Bryan  
 Melanie S. Buckholt  
 Marsha S. Burks  
 Cheri D. Butzberger  
 Upea T. and Carl B. Carter  
 Heather Chance  
 William T. Cheairs IV  
 Leslie and David Christopher  
 Diane M. and Walton T. Coleman  
 Patrick C. Colpitts  
 Robbin A. and William W. Cox Jr.  
 Edward P. Craven Jr.  
 Leslie B. and David L. Cuicchi  
 Sandra C. Darby  
 William B. Darby  
 Andrea C. and Joseph P. Davis  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lee E. Deberry  
 Dee A. and Colt Doom  
 Susan B. and William M. Douglass  
 Sharon C. and George A. Fenger Jr.  
 Mary L. and Fred R. Flinn  
 Sharon K. Ford  
 Kathleen F. and Robert B. Gann,  
 USMC (Ret)  
 Denise M. and Richard D. Garner  
 Mitzie A. and Dale L. Garner  
 Danelle L. and Kendall G. Garraway  
 Anne and Richard T. Gernert Jr.  
 Katrina S. and Charles D. Gibson  
 Belinda B. Hammond  
 Kimberly S. Harper  
 Tania D. and Kevin P. Hatfield  
 Suzanne T. Hill  
 Clara C. and William M. Hope  
 Amy W. Hunt  
 Gregory P. Husnik  
 Dorcas D. and James R. Hutcheson  
 Alex G. Johnson III  
 Kara T. Johnson  
 Charles L. Joiner Jr.  
 Robert E. Jordan  
 Kristen C. Kalinowski  
 Key Foundation  
 Christopher M. Leopold  
 McArthur Lewis  
 Cheryl L. and Robert H. Leydon  
 Harry H. Lott III  
 Lauren K. and Ryan Magee  
 Toni W. and Edward L. Manning  
 Pamela B. and Troy W. Mashburn Jr.  
 Robert L. McClafflin  
 Mary Ann B. McCord  
 Andrea K. McDowell  
 Anne D. McLaughlin  
 Ruth E. and Thomas McQuiston  
 Kerry B. Melear

Jane C. Massey and Pamela Mendez  
 Karen O. Merriwether  
 Dan W. Meyer  
 Erin F. and Ryan T. Miller  
 Kimberly T. Miller  
 Elisabeth H. Mills  
 Robert D. Mims  
 Kevin W. Mitchell  
 Teri H. and Michael Mitchell III  
 Joe G. Montgomery Jr.  
 Buck A. Moore Sr.  
 Julie L. Moran  
 Daniel T. Mueller Jr.  
 Shavona D. Mullin  
 Patrice W. and Joseph D. Oliver III  
 Georgina L. Pace  
 Marjorie M. Parks  
 Donald R. Parrish  
 Jeanne and Stephen E. Parrish  
 Ashley R. Perryman  
 Linda H. and Ernest C. Phillips Jr.  
 Henry N. Reichle Jr.  
 Julianna M. and Ernest D. Ross  
 Robert W. Russ  
 Gregory F. Schruoff  
 Anne D. and Val J. Soldevila  
 Jaleleddin Soroosh Joo  
 Brooke R. and Branan P. Southerland  
 Janice B. and Robert M. Strickland Jr.  
 Lee M. Tabor  
 William B. Tapscott  
 Pamela E. and William F. Taylor  
 Phyllis Thomas  
 Patti G. Thrash  
 Thomas E. Tucei  
 Jeffrey W. Underwood  
 Carolyn R. and Mark J. Wakefield  
 Robin L. Wakefield  
 Robert D. Walker  
 Thomas Z. Webb  
 Hoyt B. Wilder  
 Wesley S. Williams  
 Wesley Williams  
 Arlette C. Wilson  
 Albert E. Yow

**1848 SOCIETY**

*The 1848 Society was established to recognize the university's alumni and friends who have invested in the future by either funding or planning deferred gifts. The following are 1848 Society members designating their gifts to the School of Accountancy:*

James W. Davis; Mildred C. and Edward A. Demiller; Larry J. Hardy; Katherine and Jamie G. Houston; Carson M. Hughes; Gaston C. Jones; Mary W. and Lucian S. Minor; Betty S. and Jesse B. Tutor.

## Grad students take on teams in regional tax challenge

Last fall, four graduate students from the Patterson School of Accountancy applied their knowledge, skills and teamwork in a race against the clock and other teams to solve complex tax scenarios.

The students were competing in the regional Deloitte Tax Competition, held Oct. 18 in Atlanta. The annual competition, in which teams attempt to solve hypothetical tax case studies, is sponsored by the Deloitte Foundation, the nonprofit services arm of Deloitte, LLP.

"This competition takes students' preparation for the business world beyond the classroom and presents challenges they would encounter as tax professionals in client-service settings today," said Shaun Budnik, president of the Deloitte Foundation and partner of Deloitte, LLP.

UM team members were Jeannie Blair of Dallas, Colby Carmichael of Oxford, Warren Pate of Gallatin, Tenn., and Mary Kathryn Thomas of Jackson. They were among more than 230 students from 44 colleges and universities to gather at 11 regional sites across the country to tackle real-world tax issues and compete for scholarship awards. They were accompanied by Professor J



Graduate accountancy students Warren Pate (left), Mary Kathryn Thomas, Jeannie Blair and Colby Carmichael were well prepared for the regional Deloitte Tax Competition.

Shaw, who served as the team's coach.

"I was very proud of their performance and was also gratified to know that they were genuinely interested in participating so that they could learn more about taxes," Shaw said. "They were terrific representatives of the Patterson School, and I thank them for their dedication."

The students met several times in advance to prepare for the competition, and they sacrificed a weekend to travel to Atlanta to compete.

"It was really important to prepare for this because we had no idea what kind of problem they would throw at us, and we needed to be very familiar with all of the tax rules we have learned," Blair said. "I definitely benefited from the experience because I was able to test my own knowledge and compete with other schools across the nation. It was also a good experience to work with our whole team and to be able to utilize everyone's different strengths to benefit our group." ■

### Save the Dates

April 23-25 Accountancy Weekend

April 30- May 2 2009 AAA Southeast Regional Meeting at UM

May 1 Beta Alpha Psi Golf Tournament and Meet the Firms



3110H/3-09

**The University of Mississippi**



Oxford • Jackson • Tupelo • Southaven

Patterson School of Accountancy  
P.O. Box 1848  
University, MS 38677-1848

Non-profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 6  
University, MS