As Accounting Department Chair, I was charged with helping to ensure that the accounting program retained its accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). The University of Texas McCombs School of Business is one of the only 5% of business schools worldwide that has achieved AACSB accreditation. Of these 607 schools, only 175 accounting programs are accredited.

To maintain accreditation, a thorough review is conducted every five years. A school must meet 21 strict quality standards set forth by AACSB. These include ensuring faculty meet certain criteria, that resources are managed strategically, and that specific learning goals in degree programs are met. A school must also show continuous improvement.

After a lengthy process, the accreditation of the business school and the accounting program were extended for another five years. The evaluation committee of visiting deans and scholars specifically highlighted our accounting program as one of the best that the McCombs School has to offer.

I am thrilled that during my tenure as Department Chair, the Department of Accounting has maintained its sterling reputation in terms of its AACSB accreditation.

Lillian Mills has taken over as Department Chair. She has also been named the Wilton E. and Catherine A. Thomas Professor of Accounting. A member of the McCombs faculty since 2006, Professor Mills is an accomplished scholar and an excellent teacher. I am confident that she will prove to be a very worthy successor. I am looking forward to seeing the Department of Accounting continue to grow and thrive under her leadership.

Fred Phillips, Ph.D. ‘96, was honored with Canada’s annual 3M National Teaching Fellowship in February. Sponsored by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and 3M Canada, the fellowship honors Canadian university professors who exhibit “the highest ideals of teaching excellence and scholarship,” according to the award’s website. Only 10 professors receive the fellowship each year. Phillips, a former University of Texas accounting professor who now teaches at the University of Saskatchewan, is the eighth professor from the University of Saskatchewan since the award’s inception 26 years ago. He received the University of Saskatchewan’s highest teaching honor, the Master Teacher Award, in 2006.

It is small wonder Phillips earned this recognition. In his own explanation of his teaching on the University of Saskatchewan website, he explains how students arrive with the idea that accounting is “boring, abstract, and cold-hearted” and that “helping students discover that these views are misperceptions is my main teaching challenge, and one of my greatest joys.”

To that end, he has worked hard on his delivery and presentation, conveying his excitement about the accounting occupation. He has drawn on lessons from past teachers, including his martial arts teacher, and constantly keeps the perspective of students in the forefront of his mind.
Alumni News

Houstonian Jodie L. Jiles, MPA ’79, a lifetime member of The University of Texas at Austin Development Board, is one of six recipients of the 2011 Distinguished Alumnus award from the Texas Exes. The award, the highest alumni honor from UT, will be presented to Jiles on October 14. He has received numerous other awards, including Texas Southern University’s Jesse H. Jones School of Business Alumnus of the Decade. He is a Managing Director at RBC Capital Markets and a past chairman of the Greater Houston Partnership.

Former Chairman of the Department of Accounting Advisory Council Delmer Threadgill, MPA ’75, passed away unexpectedly on June 9. Threadgill had been a member of the council since 1997. He was the Vice President and Director of Tax Services for JCPenney, a position he had held since 1993.

Ira Solomon, BBA ’73, MPA ’74, Ph.D. ’79, is the new Dean of the A.B. Freeman School of Business at Tulane University. Prior to assuming the deanship, Solomon was the R.C. Evans Endowed Chair in Business and Chair of the Department of Accountancy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Niloufar Molavi, BBA ’91, MPA ’91, a member of the Department of Accounting Advisory Council, was named Market Managing Partner for PricewaterhouseCoopers’ greater Houston market in July. Molavi has been with PWC for 20 years; she became a partner in 2001, and serves as the firm’s Chief Diversity Partner.

After many years as a Senior Vice President for Charitas Insurance, Department of Accounting Advisory Council member Howard Stecker, BBA ’78, joined Ernst & Young as a partner in the Financial Services Tax Insurance practice in New York.

Kevin Jackson, BBA ’91, Ph.D. ’04, has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While a student at UT, Jackson received the KPMG Minority Doctoral Scholarship.

Chad Mabry, MPA ’02, was promoted to Senior Vice President and Senior Oil and Gas Analyst at Rodman & Renshaw Capital Group, Inc. Mabry, who began his career at PricewaterhouseCoopers, formerly served as an Associate Analyst for Pritchard Capital Partners.

Mark L. Madrid, BBA ’95, was named to the Houston Business Journal’s Top 40 Under 40 list. Madrid is the Senior Director of Business Development at the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which was named the #1 Hispanic chamber by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2009.

On February 3, Samuel Marsh, Jr., BBA ’95, MPA ’95, and his wife, Tammy, welcomed Liliana Grace, their first child, into the world.

Stephanie Bula Nelson, BBA ’08, MPA ’08, and Roth Nelson, BBA, BA ’07, were recently married in Colleyville, Texas. The Nelsons met at UT and got to know each other through their involvement with the Camp Texas program. Members of the Business Honors program while at UT, they now live in Dallas, and are proud members of the Dallas chapter of the Texas Exes.

Andrea O’Connor, BBA ’08, MPA ’08, and Matthew Hillyer were married May 21 at Spring Hill Event Center in San Antonio. O’Connor, who became a CPA in 2009, is a Property Accountant at Merit Energy Company in Dallas.

New job? New family member?

Let your fellow accounting alumni know what’s been going on in your life! E-mail your news and high-resolution photos (photos should be attachments) to accounting.times@mccombs.utexas.edu. We look forward to hearing from you and sharing your news in the next issue of The Accounting Times!

Share your news online on the McCombs alumni class notes page: http://blogs.mccombs.utexas.edu/mccombs-today/classnotes

Go Green with The Accounting Times Online!

Did you know that an electronic version of The Accounting Times is available online?

We encourage you to forgo receiving a paper copy—it’s better for the environment and reduces printing and mailing costs.

If you would like to receive The Accounting Times electronically in lieu of a paper copy in the mail, please e-mail accounting.times@mccombs.utexas.edu with the words OPT IN as the subject line. In the body of the e-mail, please type your full name. You’ll receive an e-mail twice a year to let you know that the new issue is available on the Web.

To update your contact information, please take a moment to go to www.mccombs.utexas.edu/MOR/ or send us an e-mail message to alumni@mccombs.utexas.edu.

You can find back issues by visiting www.mccombs.utexas.edu/departments/accounting/accounting-times

We’re excited about going green and hope you are too.

WWW.MCCOMBS.UTEXAS.EDU/DEPT/ACCOUNTING
Southwest Airlines CEO Tells MPA Grads What it Takes to be a Leader

Excerpted from McCombs Today

IN HIS COMMENCEMENT SPEECH FOR THE Masters of Professional Accounting ceremony May 20, Gary Kelly, BBA ’77, chairman, president and CEO of Southwest Airlines, described five characteristics he believes leaders must exhibit:

1. Leaders must care. “Leadership is about people. Period. Great leadership is about inspiring people, serving people, caring for people, caring about people. You have to tell them you care.”

2. Leaders must communicate. “Any time you work with a group you should expect disagreement. Teamwork isn’t about ‘going along;’ it’s about listening to opposing views, admitting mistakes, and sharing risks and rewards.”

3. Leaders must have character. “You are destined to face very difficult problems not found in textbooks. Be graceful when you do. That’s character.”

4. Leaders must be competent. “Underpromise and overprepare.”

5. Leaders must have courage. “It’s a lot easier to be a follower. It’s a lot easier to let someone else own the problem or make the decision. It’s a lot harder to stand up, speak up, and be accountable.”

Kelly told the graduates about the message conveyed by a panel of Southwest employees who had served in the Iraq war. The soldiers described what great leadership looked like to them. Kelly recounted how none of the soldiers told tales about how smart their leaders were or what was on their leaders’ resumes. Their heroes were the ones who cared about them as human beings as well as soldiers. Their leaders worked them hard, disciplined them when necessary, and sent them into battle.

“To be a great leader, you have to convince people you care about them. In turn, people will help you win great battles,” he said.

Kelly also urged graduates to remember to “do the right thing.” He shared a story about a Southwest Airlines pilot who held a plane for a grieving grandfather. The grandfather was urgently trying to reach his grandson’s bedside. Southwest employees overheard the man frantically explaining to airport employees at the security checkpoint that his grandson was on life support and would be taken off shortly so that his organs could be donated. The flight he was trying to catch was the last one going to Denver that evening and he would surely miss it without their assistance.

Although the airport employees would not allow the grandfather to skip ahead in the line, he was shocked to find the pilot there to meet him and offer his condolences. The pilot told him, “They can’t go anywhere without me and I wasn’t going anywhere without you. We’ll get you there.”

To read the transcript and see a video of this and other McCombs School of Business commencement addresses, please visit the McCombs Today website: http://mccombstoday.org//2011/05/stop-complaining-and-other-lessons-for-success.
The Secret of Our Success:
Support From Our Donors and Friends

We are proud to acknowledge here the generous donors who contributed to the Department of Accounting between September 1, 2009 and August 31, 2010. McCombs accounting students, faculty, and staff offer their sincere thanks to these alumni and friends for their support.

Corporate and Foundation
Accenture Foundation, Inc.
AT&T, Inc. Foundation
Baker Hughes Foundation
Barclays Capital
BDO Seidman LLP
BKD Foundation
BKD LLP
BP America, Inc.
BP Amoco Oil
Cemex Foundation, Inc.
Chevron Corporation
Chevron Energy Technology Company
Cigna
Colgate-Palmolive Company
ConocoPhillips Company
Deloitte Foundation
Deloitte Services LP
Ernst & Young Foundation
Ernst & Young U.S., LLP
ExxonMobil Foundation
Farm Credit Bank of Texas
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Global Impact/Symantec
Grant Thornton Foundation
HP
IAC
International Paper Company
Johnson Controls, Inc.
Kirkland & Ellis Foundation
KPMG Foundation
KPMG
KPMG Foundation
KPMG
Kaiser Permanente
Deloitte Foundation
PACER Foundation
PricewaterhouseCoopers Foundation
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Charles Schwab and Company, Inc.
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Aubrey Smith Family Foundation
Trust/Deloitte & Touche
UHY Advisors TX LLC
Weaver and Tidwell Private Foundation

$10,000 and above
Class of 1968
Mr. and Mrs. William O’Hara
Class of 1980
Mr. Gregory L. Bailes
Class of 1982
Mr. Clifford Braly III, C.P.A.
Mr. Marc D. Levy
Class of 1983
Ms. Kathleen W. Farlow
Class of 1984
Mr. T. Shingledecker
Class of 1985
Ms. Norma L. Petrosewicz
Class of 1996
Ms. Katrin A. Kimpel
Class of 1973
Ms. Linda S. Gurene
Class of 1974
Mr. William K. Wheeler
Class of 1975
Mr. Richard H. Thompson
Class of 1976
Mr. Bryan D. Handley
Class of 1977
Mr. C. Wade Brannan
Mr. Bill Griffin
Mr. Paul M. Kears
Mr. Jeffry D. Ottmann
Class of 1978
James M. and Vicki G. Keiser
Mr. Chris K. Kunz
Mr. David W. Leeds
Mr. J. Howard Stecker, C.P.A.
Eric L. and Shari F. Stein
Class of 1979
Mr. E. R. Giesinger, Jr.
Mrs. Denise A. Green, C.P.A.
Class of 1980
Mr. Robert J. Arogeti
Ms. Jeffri A. Botkin
Class of 1981
Mr. Jerry D. Levey
Mr. Jonathan G. Weaver
Class of 1982
Mr. John Bober
Mr. Thomas J. Edgeller
Mr. Darin A. McNelis
Ms. Sheri P. Toivonen
Ms. Ellen Wood
Class of 1983
Mr. Daniel O. Chesnut
Mr. James W. Vick
Class of 1984
Mr. Michael D. Moore
Class of 1985
Mr. Ricky L. Richter
Mr. Thomas J. Howard
Mr. D. Wesley Poole
Mr. J. Jefferson White IV
Class of 1986
Mr. Jeffrey A. Deatsman
Ms. Amy W. Chronis
Mr. James R. Dillavou
Ms. Kasey Dunn
Mr. Manuel J. Fernandez
Mr. David A. Hayob
Ms. Jennifer J. Jordan
Mr. William R. Kinney, Jr., Ph.D.
Mr. Rick Kraft
Mr. Charles B. Randolph
Mr. Jon A. Ryser
Mr. Jack Suh
Mr. Virgil Wade
Mr. Thomas W. Watson
Mr. Dennis T. Whalen
Class of 1987
Ms. Katrina A. Kimpel
Mr. Mr. D. Ronald Davis
Class of 1988
Mr. Scott R. Bub
Mr. Philip A. Bullock
Mr. Jeffrey M. Rummel
Ms. Melanie M. Wojcik
Class of 1989
Mr. Michael T. Kelley
Ms. May Lin
Mr. Darrell L. McKown
Class of 1990
Mr. Craig B. Allen
Ms. Leslie K. Shaunt
Class of 1991
Mr. Richard D. Trubitt
Mr. Charles G. Chaffin
Mr. Mr. Darrell L. McKown
Ms. Kathleen W. Farlow
Mr. Michael O. Einspahr,
Class of 1980
Mr. Michael R. Einspahr, C.P.A.
Class of 1981
Mr. Karen C. King
Mr. David M. Pincus
Class of 1984
Mr. Kevin J. Ryan
Mr. Ron D. Willis
Mr. Jon Alan Wolkenstein
Class of 1985
Mr. Mary B. Carlson
Class of 1986
Mr. Michael J. Echelberger
Mrs. Judy K. Goldberg
Class of 1988
Mr. John D. Christian
Ms. Jean D. White
Class of 1989
Mrs. Georgene G. Britz
Mr. Ryan P. Knutson
Class of 1993
Mr. Balakrishnan Rajaraman
Ms. Nina X. Wang
Class of 1994
Mr. Tate K. Anderson
Mr. Jeffrey A. Deatsman
Class of 1995
Ms. Tracy L. Benedict
Ms. Nichole A. Jordan

WWW.MCCOMBS.UTEXAS.EDU/DEPT/ACCOUNTING

4
Class of 1996
Ms. L. Melissa Ware-McEwen
Mr. David J. Wittenburg

Class of 1999
Mr. Jeremy C. Abel
Ms. Mindi L. McDaniel

Class of 2000
Mr. Zachary C. Peek
Class of 2002
Mr. Matthew M. Zagotti
Class of 2005
Mr. Eric A. Renner
Class of 2006
Ms. Tiffany Kit-Ling Chu

Friends
Mrs. Arinda H. Christian
Dean Thomas W. Gilligan
Mr. Stephen Lancaster
Ms. Helen Quigley
Dean Thomas W. Gilligan

Class of 1993
Mr. Stephen Lancaster
Ms. Celia D. Cook

Class of 1991
Ms. Sandra J. Vetter

Class of 1988
Mr. David J. Wittenburg
Ms. L. Melisa Ware-McEwen

Class of 1996
Mr. and Mrs. Sean P. Gaven
Class of 1998
Ms. Kelly C. Merryman
Class of 1999
Mr. Mark J. Kohlbeck, Ph.D.
Mr. M. Shahriar Masud
Mr. Adam R. Oglesby
Class of 2002
Mr. Jeffery A. Hicki
Class of 2005
Ms. Christina L. Hester
Mr. Denzil R. Rogers
Class of 2007
Ms. Meghan M. Hillin
Ms. Olamuide Linda Ogunbesean
Class of 2009
Ms. Lauren E. Key

Friends
Mrs. Delta A. Emerson
Ms. Lillian F. Mills, Ph.D.

$249 and below
Class of 1950
Mr. Lawrence G. Pickens, C.P.A.
Class of 1957
Mr. Chaovilat Singcharoen
Class of 1958
Mr. Walter A. Saunders, Jr.
Class of 1962
Mr. Thomas L. Moore
Class of 1965
Mrs. Brooke R. Allison
Class of 1969
Mr. John C. Lere
Class of 1970
Mrs. Carol L. Willingham
Class of 1971
Mr. Benjamin A. Wright
Class of 1972
Mr. John A. Hay, Jr.
Mr. Ronald T. Nelson, C.P.A.
Class of 1973
Mr. Thomas I. Jackson
Class of 1975
Mr. David B. Garing, C.P.A.
Mrs. Tera M. Garvey
Mr. Don W. Steine
Class of 1977
Mr. Stephen M. Soble
Class of 1978
Mrs. Mary C. Erwin
Class of 1979
Mrs. Carol L. Willingham
Class of 1981
Ms. Cheryl A. Banks
Ms. Delia A. Cervantes
Mr. Adam A. Jones
Class of 1982
Mr. Frederick L. Cohen
Mrs. Nencia A. Dexter
Mrs. Sara H. Fox
Mrs. Veronica P. Labay, C.P.A.
Mr. Robert M. Topp
Class of 1983
Ms. Anna C. Borg
Mr. Paul A. Penler
Class of 1985
Ms. Annette E. Espinoza
Class of 1987
Mr. Jim B. Robbins
Class of 1988
Ms. Mary K. Christ, Ph.D.
Mrs. Julie F. King
Class of 1989
Mr. Christopher M. Bartkoski
Ms. Lisa M. Ong
Mrs. Amy Marie Thompson
Class of 1991
Mr. W. Andrew Brunner
Mr. Jeffrey J. Hill
Ms. Annabel L. Hoffman
Mr. Glenn R. Kobes
Class of 1992
Mr. W. Joseph Gosch, C.P.A.
Class of 1993
Mr. Erich R. Bell
Mr. Joseph E. Huber
Mr. Mike K. McLain
Mr. Robert L. Scheck
Class of 1994
Mr. James Andrew Elliott
Mr. Steven J. Javinsky
Mr. John R. Lambert
Class of 1995
Ms. Dina Falsetta
Class of 1996
Mr. William D. Mann, Jr.
Mr. Bradford W. Pack
Ms. Meredith A. Starr
Mr. Jason M. Trahan
Marlene R. Warnasch
Class of 1997
Mr. William S. Berry
Mr. Steven A. Hirschman
Mr. Christopher P. Ma
Mr. William A. Wilson
Class of 1998
Mr. Timothy W. Burns
Mr. Brian L. Fowler
Ms. Heather H. Gaven
Mr. Adam R. Hickey
Mr. Stephen D. Homan
Ms. Brandy L. Meeks
Class of 1999
Mr. Brian R. Carroll
Robert E. Contreras
Ms. Melissa A. Fetherson
Class of 2000
Mr. Jason S. Alley
Mr. David Caracciolo
Ms. Monica D. Foster
Mr. Michael J. Prewitt, C.P.A., CFP
Mr. Bryan R. Smith
Ms. Maria A. Villalon
Ms. Michelle T. Wee
Class of 2001
Mr. Randall V. Carswell
Mr. Jason A. Coen
Ms. Tracie Rachele Johnson
Ms. B. Clinton Rain
Class of 2002
Ms. Paula S. Hallin
Mr. Joseph Byron
H. McCaffree
Mr. Carl T. Schultz IV
Class of 2003
Mrs. Angela T. Belote
Ms. Angela L. Sorrell
Class of 2004
Mrs. Sydney L. Goss
Mr. Justin N. Jetto
Mr. Pedro NOyola III
Mr. Matthew B. Schwartz
Ms. Tara L. Stevenson-Mavigliano
Class of 2005
Mr. Yen-Po Lin
Mr. Jason W. Marquardt
Ms. Anne D. Martin
Mr. Justin Daniel Suisa
Ms. Lynsie T. Thoe
Ms. Erin V. Viner
Class of 2006
Mr. Adam C. Blum
Mr. David R. McCracken
Mr. James Miao Wang
Mr. Yechoon Yoon
Ms. Tae-Hua Yu
Class of 2007
Mr. G. Terence Balagia
Ms. Shauna W. Crittenden
Mr. William Fred Fleming, Jr.
Mr. Brandon Ronald Gihring
Ms. Heidi A. Hicks
Mr. Grant R. Stanis
Class of 2008
Ms. Srisinda Charnsangavej
Ms. Weili Hsu
Ms. Joyce Yung-Chuan King
Mr. Jason Ryan Muff
Mr. Shauyru S. Nanavati
Mr. Samuel H. Rogers
Mr. Zachary C. Schulte
Mr. Fang Shu
Ms. Laura E. Thompson
Mr. Scott M. Warshaw
Class of 2009
Ms. K. Connie Chau
Ms. Britanni G. Elliott
Mr. Aaron W. Forester
Ms. Maria Eugenia Gonzalez
Ms. Leslie A. Green
Ms. Olga S. Kosheleva
Ms. Jennifer L. McCoy
Ms. Roshi A. Patel
Ms. Ashley E. Scarlett
Ms. Alecia M. Simpson
Class of 2010
Mr. Brett Edward Baucom
Mr. Amos Albert Black
Mr. Hunain G. Dada
Ms. Amanda T. Fly
Mr. Randall S. Glenn
Mr. Donald Dwight Holzinger
Ms. Yezu Jin
Ms. Emily K. Kiser
Ms. Naureen Ismail Lalani
Ms. Jessica M. Lopez
Ms. Jenny Li Qian
Mr. Nathaniel Dewitt Rice
Mr. Jeffrey D. Tenney
Class of 2011
Ms. Victoria Ann Bilban
Ms. Roxana Chavez
Ms. Natalie Michelle Jacobs
Ms. Casey Ann Mogk
Mr. Vien Q. Nguyen
Ms. Carrie E. Vann

Friends
Mr. Curt E. Beck
Ms. Marlene Caldera
Ms. Karen Sue Chen
Ms. Vaneeta Kaye Duffie
Ms. Sandy Duong
Mr. Richard Graham
Ms. Lindsey Halford
Mr. Christen Horne
Mr. Mel Hui
Mr. Aristotle Monroy
Ms. Stephanie Yang Qin
Mr. Kevin Francis Ramos
Mr. Bryan Rollins
Topfer Family Foundation
Ms. Chanida Vanikul
Ms. Susan Vonkuster

THE ACCOUNTING TIMES • SUMMER 2011
ROB WU, BBA ’06, MPA ’06, CO-FOUNDED CauseVox, a crowdfunding platform that helps nonprofits raise money online. Last March during the South by Southwest (SXSW) Interactive festival in Austin, CauseVox launched SXSWCares, which raised more than $120,000 in 10 days for Japanese tsunami victims.

Wu talked with The Accounting Times writer Jonathan Peck about CauseVox and the SXSWCares movement.

JP: How does CauseVox work?

RW: Vox is the Latin word for voice. The idea behind CauseVox is that most small- and medium-sized nonprofits don’t have a voice online; they get lost in a sea of noise and messaging is diluted. Our goal is to help nonprofits reach and cultivate their support base.

CauseVox is an online fundraising platform that helps nonprofits design their own fundraising sites for campaigns and personal/team fundraising. We help nonprofits create fundraising sites that can have any look and feel, including the same one as their own website. These personalized Web pages help nonprofits develop a stronger emotional connection with their supporters, which usually leads to an increase in donations.

JP: The SXSWCares initiative was a huge success. Can you tell us more about it?

RW: The first morning of the SXSW festival I saw the jaw-dropping photos and videos from the tsunami in Japan. Within 30 minutes, I registered a domain name, launched a fundraising site on CauseVox, and used Twitter to build momentum. Meanwhile, bloggers Leigh Duncan and Deb Ng started a grassroots effort to raise awareness and support for the tsunami victims. A few hours later, we connected with each other and together we created SXSWCares. Our original goal was to raise $10,000 in the first five days. We met that goal within 32 hours. The campaign eventually raised over $120,000 in 10 days.

JP: What are some of CauseVox’s other success stories?

RW: We helped RestoreNYC raise over $130,000 in 40 days, helped Change for Kids raise over $145,000 in 30 days, and helped The Adventure Project raise $24,000 in just one day.

JP: How did CauseVox get its start?

Soon after graduating, I moved to Washington, D.C. to do public services consulting. While working there, I met a couple of like-minded friends. We threw around ideas about how we could create social impact with the skills and passions we had. Eventually, we joined Synergy Ministries, a nonprofit that does pro bono consulting abroad, on a project in Uganda. Our project really helped us understand the needs do-gooders and nonprofits have. That experience inspired us to create CauseVox.

JP: How did your time in the MPA program prepare you for your career?

RW: The hard skills I learned in courses and the soft skills I developed by participating in team projects really helped me when I worked as a consultant. For example, what I learned working on Dr. Platt’s Pecos Project, an intensive activity-based costing exercise, prepared me to lead a couple of projects at Deloitte Consulting. On the entrepreneurship and nonprofit side, co-founding student organizations like the American Red Cross chapter at The University of Texas at Austin and helping to lead the Asian American Campus Ministry gave me the broader skill set I needed to succeed in the nonprofit sector.

JP: Do you have any words of advice for current MPA students?

RW: My advice to students is to take classes that you are passionate about or interested in instead of relying on easy classes. I took a nonprofit strategy course and a conflict mediation course for fun. This is the best time to discover your passions and interests through the plethora of courses available outside of your degree plan.

JP: You live in New York City now. Do you miss Texas?

I love Texas and enjoy each visit. It’s where I grew up and it’s home. Nothing compares to the BBQ in Texas and country dancing at Midnight Rodeo. I always swing by Sugar Land; my mom would kill me if I didn’t. Perhaps one day, I’ll be able to move back.
Faculty News

Lillian Mills is the Chair of the Department of Accounting. She was also awarded the Wilton E. and Catherine A. Thomas Professorship in Accounting.

Brian Lendecky and his wife Stephanie welcomed a son, Carter Richard, on April 28. In addition to this exciting news on the home front, Lendecky’s Federal Taxation of Low Income Filers Tax Practicum class was named the Outstanding Service Learning Course at the 2011 University of Texas Tower Awards ceremony in April. The Tower Awards honor students and faculty who show a strong commitment to improving the Austin community.

Shuping Chen was awarded the Atlantic Richfield Centennial Faculty Fellowship in Accounting.

Ross Jennings received the McCombs School of Business Excellence in Education award.

Michael Clement has been named the graduate advisor for the Department of Accounting’s doctoral program. Clement helped found the KPMG Ph.D. Project in 1994. The project encourages minority students to consider pursuing doctoral degrees in business.

Volker Laux was awarded the CBA Foundation Research Excellence Award for Assistant Professors.

Current Department of Accounting Advisory Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company/Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Craig Allen</td>
<td>KPMG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Alven</td>
<td>Exxon Mobil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Anderson-Guthrie</td>
<td>U.S. Government Accountability Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brent Arriaga</td>
<td>Citigroup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Averitt</td>
<td>BDO Seidman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Bailes</td>
<td>Weaver and Tidwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyn Beaty</td>
<td>Halliburton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen Bell</td>
<td>PricewaterhouseCoopers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Bober</td>
<td>GE Energy Financial Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Blue</td>
<td>Ernst &amp; Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Campbell</td>
<td>Freescale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trey Chambers</td>
<td>ReddWerks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Chronis</td>
<td>Deloitte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Conner</td>
<td>ZixCorp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall Dodson</td>
<td>Key Energy Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Farlow</td>
<td>Deloitte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrice Ferguson</td>
<td>Fergunson Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Cardon Gerner</td>
<td>Oceaneering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett Gibbs</td>
<td>Protiviti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bud Giesinger</td>
<td>KPMG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Gold</td>
<td>Deloitte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Greenway</td>
<td>SFG Wealth Advisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Halverson</td>
<td>Caterpillar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Hirsh</td>
<td>Weaver and Tidwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Inlanfeldt</td>
<td>Shell Oil (retired)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randy Imhoff</td>
<td>Activant Solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Kelly</td>
<td>Southwest Airlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Kluppel</td>
<td>ConocoPhillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Larsen</td>
<td>Resources Global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry Levey</td>
<td>KPMG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Love</td>
<td>Kimball Hill Homes (retired)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Mann</td>
<td>Brazos Private Equity Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Maresh</td>
<td>KPMG (retired)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darin McNelis</td>
<td>Ernst &amp; Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niloofar Molavi</td>
<td>PricewaterhouseCoopers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will O’Hara</td>
<td>Morgan Stanley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean Witter (retired)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Parks</td>
<td>Maxwell Locke &amp; Ritter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brett Price</td>
<td>Sirius Solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerry Ridgely, Jr.</td>
<td>Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tammy Romo</td>
<td>Southwest Airlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Stecker</td>
<td>SMART Business Advisory and Consulting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Stein</td>
<td>UHY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Thomas</td>
<td>Reznick Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Turner</td>
<td>Applied Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Wagner</td>
<td>Deloitte (retired)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Wolkenstein</td>
<td>Grant Thornton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basil Woller</td>
<td>Basil Woller &amp; Associates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reed Wood</td>
<td>Grant Thornton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Yant</td>
<td>PricewaterhouseCoopers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Martha Carnes
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Meg Conine
Conine Realty Group
Steve Goepfert
Continental Airlines
James Holtzman
Holtzman, Moellenberg, Panozzo & Perkins

Click and Give! It’s Easier Than Ever

With our online donation system, it’s easy to support the Department of Accounting. To make a donation to the Department of Accounting fund or endowment of your choice, go to http://new.mccombs.utexas.edu/invest-in-mccombs and click on Give Now. Our dedicated faculty, deserving students, and innovative programs will benefit immensely from your generosity.

Please scan with your smart phone
Film Screening and Panel Discussion With UT Experts Sheds Light on Controversial Income Tax Issues

Albert Einstein once wrote, “The hardest thing in the world is to understand income tax.”

Complex and difficult to understand, today’s income tax system has become such a headache that many are calling for it to be drastically simplified or removed altogether.

To shed light on some of the most controversial issues and propose some solutions, the Master in Professional Accounting Council (MPAC) sponsored a spring screening of “An Inconvenient Tax,” a 2010 documentary about the U.S. tax code. The film explores the history of income tax and shows how the tax code has grown and changed in response to military conflicts, economic changes, and an ever-evolving political climate.

The screening was followed by a Q&A session with the film’s producer, Vincent Vittorio, and a panel discussion moderated by incoming Department of Accounting Chair Lillian Mills. The panel of University of Texas professors, law professor Robert Peroni and accounting professors Brian Lendecky and John Robinson, discussed various options for mending the current system, including raising more revenue, modifying the corporate income tax structure, establishing a broader taxable income base, and eliminating the Alternative Minimum Tax and home mortgage interest deduction.

For more about the film, visit www.aninconvenienttax.com

MPAC’s mission is to build a spirit of community among MPA students and to encourage them to give back to the community by participating in service projects. The council also looks out for MPA students’ interests in a number of ways, including representing them on The University of Texas at Austin Senate of College Councils. The senate, the official voice for students in academic affairs at UT, represents the needs, concerns, and opinions of students and communicates them to the UT administration. ✯

More Than $25,000 Donated to the Cornett Scholarship for Excellence in Business

The Christopher A. Cornett Scholarship for Excellence in Business has surpassed the required $25,000 needed to endow the scholarship in perpetuity. The scholarship was established in remembrance of Cornett, who passed away last summer. It will be awarded annually to an outstanding student who exhibits leadership, initiative, and the passion for excellence that Cornett embodied. His family and all of us in the Department of Accounting appreciate your generosity.