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# The Accounting Times

SUMMER 2012

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## LMU Campaign Exceeds \$411 Million

LMU's capital campaign raised more than \$411 million, exceeding its campaign goal by over \$30 million. The campaign was publicly launched in late 2005 with a \$300 million target. In 2009, the target was raised to \$380 million and the campaign was extended through the LMU centennial, which concluded in May.

The College of Business Administration raised nearly \$26 million in pledges and cash gifts during the campaign's run, which contributed to four key areas of support: academic programs, annual giving, faculty support and student support. Of particular note was the generous support from Mr. R. Chad Dreier for endowing a Chair in Accounting Ethics. Mr. Dreier, a 1969 LMU accounting alum, is former president/CEO/chairman of the board of The Ryland Group and former chair of the LMU Board of Trustees. In addition, the college was able to establish the Paul A. Grosch Professorship in Accounting with gifts

totaling more than \$500,000 from 105 donors, as well as raise over \$3.2 million in scholarships specifically for accounting students. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all who supported this very successful and transformative campaign.

In order for the College of Business Administration to support innovative research and programs, as well as attract and retain outstanding faculty and students, it is critical that we continue to invest in these key areas. To learn more about how you can contribute, visit <http://cba.lmu.edu/give>.

For additional questions on how your gift can make an impact, please contact Roberta Kuhlman, director of development for the College of Business Administration, at (310) 258-5483 or [roberta.kuhlman@lmu.edu](mailto:roberta.kuhlman@lmu.edu). **Thank you for your support!**

# The Accounting Times

NEWS FROM THE LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

SUMMER 2012

## Former U.S. Comptroller General Speaks at LMU



Speaking to a packed auditorium at the College of Business Administration, all eyes and ears were on Walker as he revealed disturbing statistics about the state of the U.S. budget deficit. Using charts and graphs to illustrate America's escalating financial problems, Walker revealed the two things that are needed to turn this country around: better leadership at the top and action from young America.

Prior to assuming his current position, Walker served as the first president and CEO of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation. Previously, he served as the seventh comptroller general of the U.S. and head of the U.S. Government Accountability Office for 10 years (1998-2008). This was one of three presidential appointments, each by different presidents during his 15 years of total federal service. Walker also has over 20 years of private sector experience, including approximately 10 years as a partner and global managing director for Arthur Andersen LLP.

The Center for Accounting Ethics, Governance, and the Public Interest welcomed the Hon. David M. Walker, founder and CEO of the Comeback America Initiative (CAI) and former comptroller general of the U.S., to the LMU campus in October 2011 as part of its Distinguished Speaker Series. The main focus, and title, of his presentation was "Fiscal Sustainability and Tax Reform."

As president, founder and CEO, Walker leads CAI's efforts to promote fiscal responsibility and sustainability by engaging the public and assisting key policymakers on a non-partisan basis to help achieve solutions to America's federal, state and local fiscal imbalances.



*Professor Larry Kalbers, R. Chad Dreier Chair in Accounting Ethics, with the Hon. David M. Walker.*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Welcome to the 5th annual LMU Department of Accounting newsletter! We recently wrapped up another very successful academic year and I'd like to share a few highlights.

Enrollment numbers for 2011-12 remained strong with a 5% increase in accounting majors. We also had great success with respect to our faculty recruiting efforts. I am pleased to announce that three new faculty members will join our department during the 2012-13 academic year: Dr. Julie Suh (Stanford), Dr. Susan Gyeszly (Arizona State) and Dr. Irfan Safdar (Texas A&M University). You can learn more about each of them inside this newsletter.

It's no secret that the accounting faculty at LMU has always been committed to providing the highest quality education for the next generation of accounting professionals. As an integral part of this commitment, the Department of Accounting will launch a Master of Science in Accounting program in the fall of 2013. After nearly two years of planning, discussion and consultation with academic and professional colleagues, the department submitted a proposal to the university's Academic Program Review Committee and received approval to begin offering the graduate accounting program to LMU students as well as accounting graduates from other universities. We will begin accepting applications for the program this fall.

This new program will provide students with the opportunity to enhance their education and advance their careers as they meet the new CPA licensure requirements for California that go into effect January 1, 2014. I must recognize the hard work of the faculty and especially Dr. Larry Kalbers, who led the efforts in preparing the program proposal.

In other news, Professor Alan Falcon was selected as Professor of the Year by accounting students at the Accounting Society's Spring Awards Banquet in April. Congratulations to Professor Falcon!

Dr. Frank Daroca was also honored at the banquet for his 26 years of service to LMU and more than eight years as the department chair. Congratulations to Professor Daroca for a remarkable academic career and many thanks for what he has done for the accounting department as a leader and educator.

As always, we are indebted to our alumni and friends for their continuous support of our department. A special thanks goes out to members of our advisory board and chair of the board, Norma Provencio, for their contributions to our program as we carry forward the rich tradition of the LMU Accounting Department.

Thanks for reading and we look forward to another rewarding and productive year ahead!

Mahmoud Nourayi, Ph.D.  
CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

The Accounting Times is published by the Department of Accounting at Loyola Marymount University. For more information, please call 310.338.2946 or visit <http://cba.lmu.edu>

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### DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING (2011-2012)

Mahmoud Nourayi  
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

Lawrence Kalbers  
PROFESSOR AND R. CHAD DREIER CHAIR  
IN ACCOUNTING ETHICS

Amy Alward  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Ross Bengel  
PROFESSOR

Alan Cherry  
PROFESSOR

Nancy Coster  
CLINICAL PROFESSOR

Frank Daroca  
PROFESSOR

George Dasaro  
PROFESSOR

Scott Delanty  
CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Alan Falcon  
PROFESSOR

Laurel Franzen  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Meghna Singhvi  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

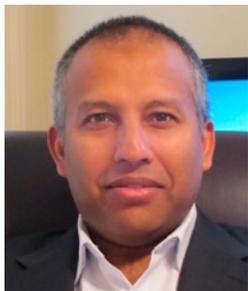
The Accounting Advisory Board meets biannually to provide guidance, advice and feedback to the LMU Accounting Department. The following professionals have provided significant service to the department by serving on the board during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Thomas J. Barry  
James L. Bulman  
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Vincent Leoni  
Virna McCloskey  
Thomas G. McClune  
Jeffrey M. Monohan  
Robert Page  
Norma Provencio  
Noelle Repetti  
Leigh Wilson

## NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

**Susan Gyeszly** will join LMU's accounting faculty as a tenure-track assistant professor. Gyeszly previously taught financial, managerial and tax accounting at Arizona State University. She is a certified public accountant and was a tax manager with Deloitte in New York City. She also worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers' Washington National Tax Services.

Gyeszly earned her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Texas at Austin and her Master of Accountancy from the University of Georgia. She will earn her Ph.D. in business administration (accounting) from Arizona State University.



### **Irfan Safdar**

will also join LMU's accounting faculty as a tenure-track assistant professor. Safdar's research interests include

investigating the role of accounting information in capital markets, financial statement analysis, corporate valuation and the relationship between corporate investment and profitability. His teaching interests include financial accounting, financial statement analysis and valuation.

Safdar previously taught undergraduate and graduate accounting courses at the University of Rochester, where he won the Distinguished Faculty Award during each year from 2004-2008. He also served as an economic consultant in major litigation and has worked as an investment analyst at Solomon Smith Barney.

Safdar recently graduated with a Ph.D. in accounting with a minor in finance from Texas A&M University. He received an M.S. in applied economics and an

MBA in finance from the University of Rochester, an M.S. in finance from Boston College and a B.S. in physics from Haverford College.



**Julie Suh** also joins LMU's accounting faculty as a tenure-track assistant professor. She will teach several introductory accounting classes. Suh's

research interests include voluntary disclosure, risk management, earnings management and corporate governance.

Suh previously taught financial accounting to undergraduate students at the University of California, Berkeley. While at Berkeley, she was honored with the Outstanding New Instructor Award as well as the student-nominated Earl F. Cheit Award for Excellence in Teaching. Prior to Berkeley, Suh spent time in the private sector as an economic consultant for Cornerstone Research in San Francisco and as an investment banking analyst for Goldman Sachs in New York City.

Suh earned her B.A. from Wellesley College and her Ph.D. in business administration (accounting) from Stanford University. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and their two dogs, and enjoys surfing, yoga and flying on the trapeze in her free time.



### **Alan Falcon Named Accounting Professor of the Year**

Alan Falcon was named the 2012 Accounting Professor of the Year at the Accounting Society Spring Awards Banquet.

Falcon has been an accounting professor in the College of Business Administration at LMU since 1979. He previously taught accounting at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona. Falcon's areas of expertise include financial and managerial accounting. He is a certified internal auditor, certified public accountant and a certified management accountant. In addition to teaching, Falcon also worked for Frank W. Harris & Co., CPAs and the Defense Contract Audit Agency.

Falcon received his B.B.A. from Temple University and his master's degree in accounting from the University of Arizona. He is a member of the American Accounting Association, the American Institute of CPAs, Beta Gamma Sigma and Beta Alpha Psi.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# Michelle Walker

### Mahmoud Nourayi Receives Prestigious Accounting Award

Mahmoud Nourayi, chair of the Department of Accounting, was selected as one of two recipients of the California Society of CPAs (CalCPA) 2012 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award. The award recognizes educators employed as full-time faculty members at an accredited college or university in California who have made significant contributions to accounting education and demonstrated excellence in teaching and/or endeavors in research over a sustained period of time.

“It was a humbling experience to come upon one of the highlights of my career as an educator,” said Nourayi.

Nourayi was nominated by CalCPA members, many of whom are past and present students and peers. A committee selected the winners. The award, along with a cash prize of \$3,000, was presented to Nourayi at CalCPA’s 2012 Annual Meeting Awards Lunch on June 22nd in Napa.



*Mahmoud Nourayi (right) with his award alongside Charles Osaki, co-chair of CalCPA’s Accounting Education Committee.*



2012 LMU accounting graduate Michelle Walker needs a sizable trophy case to display alongside her diploma. Walker graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 GPA and amassed a collection of awards and honors that mark the beginning of a very promising career as an accountant.

At the Academic Awards Convocation last spring, Walker was the recipient of the College of Business Administration Program Scholar Award for her standing as the top accounting student in the class of 2012. She also received the College of Business Administration Scholar Award, which recognizes the student with the highest GPA in the college. In addition, she was honored with the Presidential Citation, which is awarded by the president to graduating seniors for outstanding academic record, leadership and service.

At the Accounting Society Banquet in April, Walker received a scholarship from the California Society of CPAs as well as the Accounting Excellence Award. She was also honored as co-

recipient of the Paul A. Grosch Award (along with Kelsey Carter) in recognition of her academic excellence and service to the Department of Accounting.

During her time at LMU, Walker was active in a number of organizations, including the Accounting Society, Beta Gamma Sigma, Alpha Sigma Nu and Women’s Club Basketball. She also served as director of service and treasurer of LMU’s Gryphon Circle, a service organization for women dedicated to providing service to the university administration, the provost and activities on-and off-campus.

After interning with Deloitte & Touche during the summers of 2010 and 2011, Walker has accepted a full-time position within the firm’s audit practice beginning in October. This summer, she is studying and sitting for the CPA exam with hopes of passing the exam before her start date.

“I owe the LMU Accounting Department and, most importantly, my accounting professors a debt of gratitude for their willingness to share both their expertise and passion for the subject of accounting,” said Walker. “Each professor, with his or her unique teaching style, challenged and encouraged me on a daily basis to master both accounting concepts and professional skills that will propel me toward a fruitful career. And for that, I will be eternally grateful for my time spent on the bluff.”

# Grosch Lecture Focuses on Madoff Scandal



*New York Times journalist Diana B. Henriques addresses the crowd.*

In January, the Department of Accounting welcomed Diana B. Henriques as the featured speaker in the Paul A. Grosch Lecture Series. Henriques is an award-winning financial journalist at The New York Times and bestselling author of “The Wizard of Lies - Bernie Madoff and the Death of Trust.” She specializes in investigative reporting on white-collar crime, market regulation and corporate governance. Her lecture - presented in front of a packed Hilton Auditorium - focused on the topic “What We Should Learn from Bernie Madoff.”

“We are so grateful to Ms. Henriques for sharing her candid insights on the Madoff scandal with the LMU community,” said Ross Bengel, accounting professor and current holder of the Grosch Professorship. “She has built a successful journalism career exposing the consequences of conducting business without ethics.”

As the only journalist permitted inside prison to interview Madoff, Henriques has had the opportunity to get to know the real man behind

the \$65 billion scandal. In her lecture, she discussed the power of trust and described some of the top characteristics of “wizards” like Madoff who have a gift for seduction that make people trust them. She also addressed the two biggest ethical dilemmas at the heart of the Madoff case: 1) How do we monitor and police the people we trust? and 2) There is no Wall Street honor code – we continue to tolerate those who lie, cheat and steal. Which begs the question, why are people so reluctant to report wrongdoing?

A reception and book signing immediately followed the presentation where audience members had the opportunity to interact with Henriques and purchase her book. A Polk Award winner, she has won several awards for her work on the Times’ coverage of the Madoff scandal and was part of teams recognized as Pulitzer finalists for covering the Enron scandal and the financial crisis of 2008.

## College of Business Adds Master of Science in Accounting

The College of Business Administration will introduce a Master of Science in Accounting program beginning in the fall of 2013. According to Dr. Mahmoud Nourayi, chair of the Department of Accounting, this addition was motivated by new state legislation and to keep up with the expanding field of accounting. “The profession has grown very quickly over the years and complexity has increased,” he stated in an interview with The Loyolan.

In October 2009, California legislation passed that sets new educational requirements for students who wish to become CPAs in California. This legislation requires 150 credit hours of education (LMU’s B.S. in accounting requires 126 credit hours), and includes minimum credit hours in business and accounting, as well as specific ethics requirements. The legislation, which becomes effective January 1, 2014, was passed for California to comply with the Uniform Accountancy Act, which makes California’s requirement for CPA licensure equivalent to most other states.

Ultimately, the goal of the new program is to provide an opportunity for LMU students to complete their accounting education at LMU, enhance the reputation of the university, as well as attract high quality students from other undergraduate accounting programs in California.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

# Sara Mijares '03

Sara Mijares '03 fell in love with LMU at an early age. Perhaps it was the numerous trips to campus with her family. Or maybe it was because her father is an LMU graduate. Whatever the reason, from as far back as she can remember, Mijares always wanted to attend LMU.

Selecting a university was the easy part; deciding what to study proved more challenging. Mijares started out as a communications major, but soon realized she wanted a degree that would get her a job straight out of college. After experiencing the stresses of putting herself through school by working multiple jobs, financial security was very appealing. She decided to take an introductory accounting course and discovered that she really liked it – everything made sense to her.

“I remember the professor actually pulled me aside one day and said I would make a great accounting major,” said Mijares. “From there, I started looking into internships and thought how a career in accounting could really benefit me in the long term.”

It wasn't long before Mijares switched to an accounting major, got involved in the Accounting Society and started attending events hosted by local accounting firms. She participated in an on-campus interview with PricewaterhouseCoopers and received an offer to intern in their Los Angeles office. A year later, she started full time and has been with the company ever since. Throughout her 10 years at the firm, she's had the opportunity to work out of the New York office for six months and spent two years in the London office.

In her current position as senior manager, Mijares is in charge of owning key client relationships and making sure everything stays coordinated between partners, staff and clients. She is responsible for staying on top of the latest accounting pronouncements and keeping up with



Frank Daroca is recognized for 26 years of service at the Spring Awards Banquet.

## Accounting Professor Frank Daroca Retires

Frank Daroca has retired after 26 years as an accounting professor at LMU's College of Business Administration. He came to LMU in 1986 and taught over a thousand students in auditing, managerial accounting and decision-making information. He also spent over a decade teaching accounting in the MBA core curriculum. He counts the development of the Accounting Decision Systems area of emphasis in the MBA program as one of his biggest achievements.

Daroca served as chair of the Department of Accounting from 1990 to 1998. He has been honored several times over the years, including Faculty of the Year by LMU's MBA Association and Teacher of the Year by LMU's accounting majors. Daroca earned his Ph.D. in accounting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his M.S. and B.S. in accounting from the University of New Orleans.

Before joining academia, he spent 10 years in “Big Four” public accounting and as a Fortune 500 controller in the oil and gas industry. Prior to LMU, Daroca taught accounting courses at Illinois State University and USC. He is a

certified public accountant in Illinois and Louisiana and a member of the American Accounting Association.

Daroca has authored or co-authored dozens of papers in academic and practitioner journals, including the *Journal of Applied Business Research*, *The CPA Journal*, *Government Finance Review* and *Accounting, Organizations and Society*.

Though Daroca is stepping down, he sees a bright future ahead and continued growth for LMU's Department of Accounting.

“While already nationally ranked among the best undergraduate degrees in the country, LMU Accounting is entering an era with the recent approval of the master of science curriculum that will start in fall 2013. I look forward to continued association with our programs at this exciting time.”



industry happenings. Mijares is also very involved in the firm's recruiting, diversity and networking initiatives. Because of her hard work, she was promoted earlier than most colleagues her age.

"Part of my career progression is due to networking and finding the right opportunities," said Mijares. "I'm very active at LMU as a member of the Latino American Alumni Association and the Young Presidential Associates Board. I also focus on campus recruiting, coaching/mentoring students and alums and participating in the annual drive to raise money for the accounting department."

Mijares hopes to make partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers within the next five years and to be a leader within the firm's healthcare/higher education practice. She is very aware of how fortunate she is to have such a great career, and how her success would not be possible without the generous support of others and the dedication of her accounting professors.

"I'm a firm believer in LMU's mission of being men and women for others. I was able to go to LMU because others helped me. Now it's my turn to give back."

## 2012 Spring Awards Banquet

On April 12, the LMU Accounting Society held its 29th Annual Spring Awards Banquet at the Marina del Rey Marriott Hotel. More than 150 guests attended, including students, family, faculty, alumni and industry professionals. This year, 66 scholarships totaling more than \$200,000 were given to 41 students by 27 donors (in parenthesis):

**Martin Aguilar** (Arthur Andersen Accounting Scholarship and Stephen & Judy Page Endowed Scholarship Fund); **Edgaras Asajavicius** (California Society of CPAs and NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship); **Emily Berry** (American Society of Women Accountants and California Society of CPAs); **Alison Clarizio** (Moss Adams Foundation & Moss Adams Partners Scholarship); **Cameron Coates** (Ernst & Young); **Alex DeAngelis** (Stephen & Judy Page Endowed Scholarship Fund); **Anna Diaz** (Ernst & Young and LMU Accounting Department Scholarship for Sophomores); **Hunter Doty** (Holthouse Carlin & Van Trigt); **Lauren Faber** (Deloitte & Touche and J.C. and Kristi Frey Family Endowed Scholarship); **Juliette Geogjeff** (PricewaterhouseCoopers); **Linda Gustafson** (Provencio Family Accounting Scholarship, Stephen & Judy Page Endowed Scholarship Fund and PricewaterhouseCoopers); **Rachel Horrigan** (Deloitte & Touche); **Greg Innes** (KPMG); **Jillian Jaccard** (California Society of CPAs, R. Chad Dreier Endowed Accounting Scholarship and PricewaterhouseCoopers); **Dominic Jaranilla** (Windes & McClaughry); **Shelby Jones** (KPMG and Poladian Accounting Scholarship); **Fiona Kim** (Deloitte & Touche); **Sean Labranche** (Ernst & Young and Christopher Martin Memorial Scholarship); **Amaya Lathrop** (American Society of Women Accountants); **Christopher Lyles** (California Society of CPAs); **Eric Melendez-Lluch** (PricewaterhouseCoopers); **Julie Monohan** (LMU Accounting Department Scholarship for Sophomores); **Nareh Nazaryan** (Moss Adams Foundation & Moss Adams Partners Scholarship); **Erik Nelson** (J.H. Cohn); **Arielle Nomura** (KPMG); **Colin O'Brien** (Windes & McClaughry); **Matthew Peitriangleo** (Roger Philipp's CPA Review Course); **Alexandra Peters** (Kevin Niles Memorial Scholarship); **Jasmine Quezada** (American Society of Women Accountants, California Society of CPAs, Provencio Family Accounting Scholarship, Stephen & Judy Page Endowed Scholarship Fund and PricewaterhouseCoopers);

**Courtney Ramsey** (Accounting Alumni Association and Stephen & Judy Page Endowed Scholarship Fund); **Neil Roeckel** (California Society of CPAs, Ernst & Young and Arthur Young); **Jeremy Sites** (John A. Garstka Annual Scholarship and Richardson Kontogouris Emerson); **Marissa Soto** (Deloitte & Touche); **Shannon Stran** (Becker CPA Review Course); **Laurel Turner** (Deloitte & Touche); **Jacob Ufholtz** (Green Hasson Janks); **Nicole Uy** (Holthouse Carlin & Van Trigt and LMU Accounting Department Scholarship for Sophomores); **Lauren Wachi** (Ernst & Young); **Michelle Walker** (California Society of CPAs); **Dianna Weigand** (LMU Accounting Department Scholarship for Sophomores); **Nathan Woerner** (California Society of CPAs)

### ACCOUNTING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

**Edgaras Asajavicius**  
**Kelsey Carter**  
**Elizabeth Garcia**  
**Danielle Munroe**  
**Dessy Tanair**  
**Michelle Walker**

### LEADERSHIP & SERVICE AWARDS

**Erica Esguerra**  
**Nathan Woerner**

### PAUL A. GROSCH AWARD

**Kelsey Carter**  
**Michelle Walker**

### INCOMING MEMBERS OF THE 2012-2013 ACCOUNTING SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Arielle Nomura**, President  
**Devin Falcon**, VP of Career Planning & Employer Relations  
**Laarni Cordero**, VP of Member Activities & Recognition  
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