

# The Current Account

A publication of the Accounting Department of the University of Central Arkansas

## Alumni Michele and Kevin Kemp Donate to Accounting Department

Michele and Kevin Kemp, Little Rock CPAs, are true friends of the Accounting Department and have demonstrated their support in countless ways. Their most recent support came in the form of a \$25,000 pledge to the University's Centennial Campaign directed to the \$18 million new College of Business building. In recognition of their generosity, a faculty office in the Accounting Department suite will be named in their honor.

The Kemps are both UCA Accounting Department graduates. Kevin earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1993 and was named the Accounting Department's outstanding senior that year. Michele earned her Master of Accountancy in 2007.

Kevin has enjoyed a successful career with BKD, LLP, one of the nation's largest accounting and consulting firms. BKD was recently ranked as one of the "Best Firms To Work For" in Accounting Today. Kevin serves as the regional industry partner for not-for-profit/government industry covering Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Mississippi. He serves on the UCA Accounting Department's Advisory Board and has spent untold hours while a BKD employee and partner mentoring our interns, speaking to classes, and participating in Beta Alpha Psi events.

Michele, a former audit manager with the Little Rock office of BKD, LLP, is self-employed. Michele focuses her time on providing safe, affordable housing to the low-income, elderly and

*(continued on page 2)*



Kevin (BBA-'93) and Michele (MAcc-'07) Kemp

## In Loving Memory of Marilyn Clarkson

We were saddened by the recent passing of Marilyn Clarkson, retired accounting instructor. Marilyn was a woman of grace and dignity. She was a good friend and mentor to many and an inspiration to all who knew her. Marilyn was an avid reader and a sports fan, especially those sports in which her grandsons were involved. She enjoyed house boating and was a devoted wife, mother, and grandma. As an accounting professor she had the respect of her students because of her knowledge, enthusiasm for accounting, and ability to help students learn. Her colleagues and students were in awe of her tenacity as she dealt with health problems before retirement. Marilyn remained a good friend to the accounting faculty after her retirement. Her strong will and love for life will be missed greatly by those who knew her.



Marilyn Clarkson

Marilyn was a United States Air Force wife for 30 years. She received her B.A. and Masters degree from Auburn University of Montgomery. She was a CPA and taught accounting at UCA during the 1970s and from 1998 through 2004 when she retired due to

*(continued on page 2)*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Mark Your Calendars	2
Contributors	2
Building Update	2
Student Awards	3
Beta Alpha Psi News	4
Alumni Updates	5
Chair's Corner	5



## UCA Accounting Department Foundation Contributors

### Accounting Partners:

BKD, LLP  
Bell & Company, PA  
Hudson, Cisne & Company, LLP  
Michael Rasmussen  
Donna S. Stephens, LTD  
Thomas & Thomas, LLP  
Windstream Communications

### Corporate Sponsors:

Beall, Barclay & Company, PLC  
JPMS Cox, PLLC  
Becker CPA Review

### Individual Sponsors:

Dr. Keith Atkinson  
Mr. & Mrs. Dickie Black  
Ms. Cindy Hovis Boyle  
Mr. R. F. Clarkson, Jr.  
Mr. Keith Conine  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Desota  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Edwards  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian A. Hall  
Mr. Bill and Mrs. Jane Hardin  
Dr. Paul Jensen  
Mr. Kevin & Mrs. Michele Kemp  
Mr. & Mrs. William E. MaGee  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny McCaleb  
Ms. Susan M. Miller  
Dr. & Mrs. P. Michael Moore  
Mr. Jerry & Dr. Patricia Mounce  
Dr. Tom Oxner  
Mr. & Mrs. Dirk Pulliam  
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Rowland  
Ms. Donna S. Smith  
Mr. Randall H. Smith  
Mr. Drew Speed  
Dr. Pamela A. Spikes  
Mr. & Mrs. Kirk Stone  
Mr. W. Ryan Underwood  
Mr. Danny R. Vance  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Warren  
Dr. Stephanie F. Watson  
Mr. Scotty White  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Whitehead, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. John Richard  
Williams  
Dr. & Mrs. Jeff R. Young  
Family & friends of  
Fred & Louise Malpica

We thank you for your support. Your contributions fund scholarships, provide faculty development opportunities, and pay for BAΨ conference costs.



# Mark Your Calendars

## Meet the Firm

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

6:30 pm–8:30 pm

UCA Student Center Ballroom

If you are interested in attending Meet the Firm or speaking at a BAΨ meeting, contact Stephanie Watson (swatson@uca.edu; 501.450.5317).

## Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, November 6, 2009

Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center

9:45 am–2:00 pm

If you are interested in serving on the Board, contact Trish Mounce (pmounce@uca.edu; 501.450.5311).

## Tailgating

Last year's tailgating was sensational! Join us this year three hours before each game for food and fun.

All games are on Saturday.

Sept 26	Glenville State	6:00 pm
Oct 3	Missouri S&T (family day)	6:00 pm
Oct 17	Stephen F. Austin	6:00 pm
Oct 24	Nicholls State (homecoming)	6:00 pm
Nov 7	Texas State	6:00 pm
Nov 28	North Dakota	1:00 pm

If you are interested in sponsoring a tailgate meal, contact Trish Mounce (pmounce@uca.edu; 501.450.5311).

## Free CPE

Saturday, November 7, 2009

Burdick Business Administration Building

1:00 pm–4:00 pm

Bob Kelly, Executive Vice President of Arvest Bank, CPA, and UCA Alum, will provide CPE to our alumni and Accounting Partners on accounting issues in the banking industry. Join us after for tailgating and the football game! To reserve your spot, contact Trish Mounce (pmounce@uca.edu; 501.450.5311).

## Clarkson *(continued from page 1)*

health reasons. Marilyn loved to teach, and that was her passion.

Marilyn passed away March 2, 2009. She married Ron Clarkson on June 8, 1958, and is survived by Ron; a son, Randy Clarkson and his wife, Zanya of Cabot; daughter Candice Roberts and her husband Bob, of Sherwood; grandsons, Derik Clarkson, Sean Clarkson, and Charlie Roberts; sister, Mary Kay Dunwoody and her husband, Tom; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

## New Building Update

Construction on the 75,000 square foot new College of Business building is underway! Within the next few weeks, gutters and windows interior framework will be finished.

Our new building will not only be equipped with the essential tools necessary to teach business education in the 21st century, but it will become what has been described by many as UCA's next hallmark building. From the high-tech classrooms to the student common space, this new business building has been designed with the individual student in mind. There are rooms to employ new technologies, practice and evaluate presentations, and sharpen etiquette skills while mixing and mingling with alumni and corporate visitors.

Thank you to all of our alumni, friends, and Corporate Partners who have generously supported this project. Our response from Accounting alumni and Corporate Sponsors has been outstanding. For additional information on naming opportunities, contact Bart Shaw, Director of Development, at (501) 852-2817.

## Kemp *(continued from page 1)*

disabled and consults with not-for-profit organizations across the State. She has also served as an adjunct instructor for the Accounting Department, teaching both tax and financial accounting.

The couple's \$25,000 pledge is in addition to their strong annual support of the BKD Accounting Education Fund, which provides scholarships and faculty support through the Accounting Department. "Kevin and Michele are invaluable assets to the UCA College of Business," College of Business Dean Dr. Pat Cantrell said. "Our students greatly benefit from their scholarship gifts, and this most recent gift is a true indicator of their generosity and passion for education. Not only are they valued partners financially, but we also appreciate their academic contributions to the college as well."

Kevin and Michele are alumni who truly fulfill the values and mission of the UCA College of Business. As generous, service-minded professionals, their values mirror those of the College: learning, integrity, and ethical behavior; relevance in scholarship and service; and continuous improvement through life-long learning. The College's mission is to educate students to meet the dynamic requirements of business, and to make positive contributions to the business community and society. The Kemp's professional success and personal commitment of time and money to UCA and other philanthropic arenas show that they do indeed make a positive contribution to the business community and society. The Accounting Department thanks Michele and Kevin for their generosity.

# Accounting Student Awards, Scholarships, and Recognitions

**Jessica Rucker** received an Outstanding Thesis Award for her Honors College Thesis: "Accountability in Corporate Capitalism: A Study of Employee Ownership." This fall, Jessica is entering the Master of Science in Accountancy (MSA) program at Wake Forest.

**Kristen Qandah** had a successful year on the UCA debate team, most recently winning the Henderson State Reddie To Rumble tournament in the novice division and receiving the award for best speaker in the division. Debate coach Anthony McMullen stated, "Quite frankly, she is a great example of an accounting student in debate." Kristen, at the end of the season, ranked seventh in the novice division for the entire International Public Debate Association.

**Michael Hussman** and **Nick Miller**, were named as Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges for the 2009 school year.

At the College of Business Administration Awards Banquet in April, **Kristin Vest** was named by the accounting faculty as the Outstanding Undergraduate Accounting Student for this year and also selected as the College of Business Administration's Outstanding Student of the Year. **Tori Watkins** was named by the accounting faculty as the Outstanding MAcc Student for the year.

Beta Gama Sigma initiates for 2009 include **Amber Atchley, Aaron Beard, Benjamin Cox, Derek Cox, Chad Dickinson, Elizabeth Dunlap, Veronika Kryzhanovska, Keoni Sauer, Breana Solomon, Evan Teer, Takahiro Toda, and Aleesha Walker.**

**Veronika Kryzhanovska, Kristin Vest, Aleesha Walker, Yan Chen** and **Donna Merriman** were awarded Arkansas Society of CPAs scholarships.



ASCPA scholarship recipients pose with Dr. Mike Moore. To his left are Aleesha Walker who also received a Johnelle Hunt scholarship, and Kristin Vest who was also named Outstanding Undergraduate Accounting Major and Outstanding College of Business Student. To his right are Yan Chen and Veronika Kryzhanovska.

**Sumit Gupta** was the recipient of the Central Arkansas IIA scholarship.

Becker CPA Review provides a full scholarship to a UCA graduate. This year's recipient was **Adrien Alford.**

Jane Hardin awarded five scholarships in honor of her mother, Johnelle Hunt to College of Business female students. Four of the scholarships were awarded to accounting majors. The recipients were **Lauren Roberts, Aleesha Walker, Wendi Miller Pangle, and Holly Blaylock.**

The Department and students appreciate the support our Accounting Partners provide. This year, 23 students were recipients of fellowships or scholarships funded by Accounting Partners.

This year's scholarship recipients for the Windstream Communications Excellence in Industry scholarship were **Mitchell Doss** and **Rachel Foster.**

Bell & Co. Fellowships were awarded to **J. T. Schrock, Courtney Wald, Sara Stancil** and **Tori Watkins.**



Bell & Co. Fellowship winners Sara Stancil (left) and Tori Watkins (right) with Richard Bell. Tori was also named Outstanding MAcc Student of the year.

The Hudson, Cisne, and Company scholarship was awarded to **Wenxing Zhang.**

Donna S. Stephens, LTD provided scholarships to **Meghan Reed** and **Michael Watson.**



Karen Garrett of Hudson, Cisne, and Company with scholarship recipient Wenxing Zhang.



Katherine Black of Donna S. Stephens, LTD, with scholarship recipient Michael Watson.

Thomas & Thomas funded scholarships for **Dawn Ewing** and **Laura Hays.**

BKD funded scholarships for **Allison Smith, Mary Goodwin, Zhirong Chen, Michael Westerfield, Zachary Deem, Bethany Pursifull, Ashley Floyd, Jamison Jackson, Zachary Hemmer, Tracy Edwards, Rachel Foster, and Charles (Robbie) Williams.**



BKD, LLP, representatives with scholarship winners. Pictured left to right are Corey Jennings of BKD, Bethany Pursifull, Zachary Deem, Michael Westerfield (back), Jamison Jackson, Allison Smith (back), Rachel Foster, Angela Gentzler of BKD (back), Johnny McCaleb of BKD (back), and Tracy Edwards.



# Beta Alpha Psi Theta Lambda News

It has been a terrific year for the UCA's chapter of Beta Alpha Psi (BAΨ)! Our student members set many lofty goals for themselves and have worked hard to achieve them all including national recognition for chapter status and winning in regional competition.

**Chapter Status:** Two years ago, Theta Lambda set a goal to be recognized as a Superior chapter. Last year, the chapter fell short of its goal but was still recognized as a Distinguished chapter. This year, we made Superior with our average member earning more than 35 participation hours! (Official recognition is pending). Our members participated in more than 500 professional development hours at 17 professional development activities including Meet the Firm, a field trip, meetings with public accounting and industry, and workshops on resume writing, the CPA exam, and interviewing

skills. Members also earned more than 900 service hours including stuffing stockings for the residents of Bethlehem House, helping animals at Animal Welfare, tutoring students in Principles of Accounting, and much more. Our two biggest service projects this year were Financial Literacy and Conway Cradle Care.

**2009 BAΨ Regional Conference:** In March, eight members of our chapter attended the regional conference in Irving, TX. The chapter is grateful to BKD, LLP, and the UCA Student Government Association for their generous support which allowed these students and a faculty advisor to travel to the conference. In addition to attending sessions on professional development and running a BAΨ chapter, these eight students formed three groups, each of which gave a conference presentation, which are described below.

## Service Learning at Conway Cradle Care

Two BAΨ members, **Jessica Rucker** (BBA-'09), and **Sarah Cooke** (BBA-'09), provided accounting services to Conway Cradle Care (CCC), a nonprofit daycare for the children of teenage mothers.

Jessica and Sarah set up CCC's accounting system using a packaged software and went weekly to make journal entries for accounts payable, accounts receivable, and payroll. Jessica also worked with CCC on grant writing and fund raising along with other members of BAΨ. Glenda Schmidt, retired CFO of Winrock International and CCC Board member, contacted our chap-



Sarah Cooke and Jessica Rucker, BAΨ members, and Glenda Schmidt, Conway Cradle Care Board member, start the bookkeeping system for CCC.

ter about participating, and we were excited to get involved. In addition to the services provided this semester, Jessica and Sarah trained two younger BAΨ members to take their place in the Fall semester, so this will be an ongoing service project as well as a terrific learning experience for the students involved.



First place winners Rachel Foster, Jessica Rucker, and Cynthia Chui.

**Jessica Rucker, Rachel Foster** (BBA-'08; current MAcc student), and **Cynthia Chui** (BBA-'09) gave a presentation at the BAΨ Regional Conference about the service provided to CCC in the Deloitte Best Practices Competition in the Service Learning Category. Their presentation was entitled Nurturing Professional Development through Service Learning, and they won 1st place and \$500 for our chapter. They will go on to compete in August at the National Conference in Brooklyn, NY.

## Promoting Financial Literacy

Continuing our efforts from last year, two BAΨ members, **Ann Reilly** (BBA-'09) and **Zachary King** (BBA-'09; current MAcc student), developed and offered small-group workshops to teach students how to balance their checkbooks and prepare a personal budget.



Second place winners Kristin Vest, Ann Reilly, and Zachary King

Several workshops were offered during the Spring semester. **Ann, Zachary, and Kristin Vest** (BBA-'09; current MAcc student) also competed in the Deloitte Best Practices Competition in the Developing Life Skills category by presenting the work they did with financial literacy. Their presentation won 2nd place, which was accompanied by a \$250 award for our chapter.

## Chapter Leadership

**Tori Watkins** (BBA-'08; current MAcc student) and **Michael Watson** (BBA-'08; current MAcc student) gave a presentation entitled Mission Superior, which described the changes we've made to reach Superior status. Their presentation was part of the non-competitive chapter operations speeches and was very well received by the other chapters who attended. Our chapter's success is led by the efforts of our officers. The 2008-2009 officers and the incoming officers for the 2009-2010 academic year are shown below.

2008-2009	Position	2009-2010
Tori Watkins	President	Kristin Vest
Jessica Rucker	VP of Membership	Amanda Servedio
Rachel Foster	VP of Meetings	Wendi (Miller) Pangle
Kristin Vest	VP of Service	Benjamin Cox
Michael Watson	Treasurer	Zachary King
Wendi Miller	Event Coordinator	Michael Hussman
Amanda Servedio & Cynthia Chui	Publicity Coordinator	Wayne Jarrell



# Chair's Corner

By PATRICIA MOUNCE

As I write this note, the trees are filled with birds chirping, the azaleas and tulips are in full bloom, and the area between Burdick and the library is filled with students making their way from one class to the next. Springtime is beautiful on our campus, and college students are so young and refreshing. This is a great place to be!

This is a good time to reflect on the accomplishments of our students, alumni and faculty. Alumni and friends have been very generous to our students and Department this year. During visits to alumni in Oklahoma and Northwest and Central Arkansas during this school year, I was amazed at the accomplishments our graduates have enjoyed in their professional and personal lives. I enjoyed conversations with alumni who are corporate executives, business owners, government employees, and partners and staff of CPA firms. Their accounting education has

served them well in their chosen careers. We are so very proud of each one. My hope is that each graduate feels a part of this program and will make an effort to stay involved with the Department.

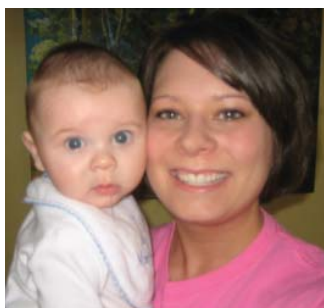
Students continue to impress us with their eagerness to learn and their desire to serve others. Our BAΨ members have undertaken service projects this year that have had a positive impact on the community and individuals. They have already begun to use their accounting knowledge to help others.

Capable and caring faculty members are the lifeblood of our programs. Our faculty members strive to stay current in their discipline, are involved in student activities, and maintain a passion for teaching.

The success of our program depends on three essential components: alumni who contribute time, effort and finances to our programs; students who want to continue the legacy of success; and faculty who are committed and want to serve the needs of students, employers, and alumni. We deeply appreciate the support of alumni and friends. Our network is a model for the rest of the University. Please visit us when you are in Conway, and let us know if we can be of help to you in any way.

## All About Alumni

**Stephanie Carter** (BBA-'06; MAcc-'08), her husband Brad, and Shadow, their Siamese cat,



Colby and Stephanie Carter

welcomed their first baby, Colby, five weeks before his due date. He was born September 19th weighing 6 lbs 3 oz. and was 18 inches long. His nickname is now "Chunky Monkey" as he is up to 20 lbs and 28 inches long.

**Travis Matkin** (BBA-'06; MAcc-'07) returned to Arkansas from Dallas. He recently joined the firm of Bonds & Company in Sherwood.

Congratulations to UCA graduates passing the Uniform CPA Examination recently. Included in the successful candidate list on the Arkansas State Board's for the July-August 2008 window were **Amer Alchami** (BBA-'05), **David Cleveland** (BBA-'05; MAcc-'06), **Hillary Davis** (BBA-'07), **James Garrett** (BBA-'97), **Nathaniel Hastings** (BBA-'05), **Anita Mize** (BBA-'83), **Whitney Nolan** (BBA-'08), and **Kelly Dement** (BBA-'06; MAcc-'07). Those passing during the October-November

2008 were **Jennifer Duncan** (BBA-'07), **Rochelle Gann** (BBA-'08), **Mark Glover** (MAcc-'06), **Ambler Hester** (BBA-'07; MAcc-'08), **Laura Miller** (BBA-'08), **Debra Palmer** (BBA-'07; MAcc-'08), and **Shelby Scarborough** (BBA-'06; MAcc-'07). Successful candidates in the January-February 2009 were **Maria Craig** (BBA-'05), and **Jason LaRue** (MAcc-'06).

Several alumni recently met at US Pizza for an evening of fun and food. Standing in the photo below from left to right are **Kyle Raible** (BBA-'07), **Amy Henderson** (BBA-'06; MAcc-'07), **Diana Venable** (BBA-'06), **Nicole Hobbs** (BBA-'07; MAcc-'08), **Debbie Palmer** (BBA-'07; MAcc-'08), and **Greg Walker** (BBA-'07; MAcc-'08). Sitting from left to right are **Ryan Roberts** (BBA-'07), **Kyle Garner** (BBA-'07), **Chris Hollensworth** (MAcc-'08), and **Jamie Warren** (BBA-'07; MAcc-'08).



### Accounting Department Faculty

**Patricia Mounce**  
Chair, PhD, CPA  
pmounce@uca.edu

**Keith Atkinson**  
PhD, CPA  
keitha@uca.edu

**Paul Jensen**  
DBA, CPA\*  
paulj@uca.edu

**Mike Moore**  
PhD, CPA  
mikem@uca.edu

**Tom Oxner**  
PhD, CPA\*  
toxner@uca.edu

**Donna Smith**  
MBA, CMA  
donnas@uca.edu

**Pamela Spikes**  
PhD, CPA  
pams@uca.edu

**Danny Vance**  
CPA  
dvance@uca.edu

**Stephanie F. Watson**  
PhD  
swatson@uca.edu

**Roy Whitehead**  
JD, LLM  
royw@uca.edu

**Laura Young**  
MAcc, CPA  
lyoung@uca.edu

### Part-time Instructors

**Tom Courtway**  
JD, LLM

**Chrissy Denton**  
JD

**Karen Hathaway**  
JD, CPA

**Anthony McMullen**  
JD

### Department Secretary

**Lauren Stout**  
laurens@uca.edu

\* Denotes license is not active



### The Current Account

University of Central Arkansas  
Department of Accounting  
201 Donaghey BBA 309  
Conway AR 72035

501.450.3108  
www.uca.edu/accounting  
currentaccount@uca.edu

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Little Rock, AR  
Permit No. 1357

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Alumni  Corporate Donor  
 Friend of the UCA Accounting Dept.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### News and Alumni Updates

Press releases, alumni biographies, digital photos, etc. can be emailed to [currentaccount@uca.edu](mailto:currentaccount@uca.edu).

### Donations to the Accounting Department

I would like to support the UCA Accounting Department with a tax-deductible contribution.

- I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (make checks payable to UCA Foundation and designate Accounting Dept. Fund).
- I am pledging \$ \_\_\_\_\_; please contact me about this gift.

I would like this gift to be used to (mark all that apply or you may leave blank)

- Support faculty development and travel.  Fund Department events and facilities.
- Provide scholarships for accounting majors.  Support student travel and programs.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_