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Spring 2013

## Ole Miss Accountant – Spring 2013

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## ACCOUNTANT

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

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

Lucian Minor and his wife, Mary, are flanked by Chancellor Dan Jones (right) and Dean Mark Wilder.

## Minors increase support by committing gift annuity

By Tina Hahn

In the mid-1930s, when money was tight and few part-time jobs were available, Lucian Minor (BBA 37) struggled financially as a University of Mississippi student.

The creative young student would choose a 5-cent bowl of soup and load it up with vegetables before he reached the cashier; his \$12-a-month meal ticket lasted longer that way. Cafeteria workers finally caught on and moved the soup by the cashier.

Today that frugal graduate is one of the major benefactors of UM's Patterson School of Accountancy and has committed a new gift.

Minor and his wife, Mary, have provided more than \$5 million in gift annuities to the Patterson School, further defining their dedication to the school and university. Minor's support over three decades has included a trust to establish the Lucian S. Minor Endow-

ment for the accountancy school in 1996 and a trust of \$1 million in 2007, as well as generous contributions to other initiatives across the Oxford campus.

"I've enjoyed my relationship with Ole Miss for many, many years," said Minor, now retired from a stellar career in accounting and investments. "Many of the courses I took at Ole Miss contributed to my success in the business world, particularly the accounting field. I'm glad to share some of my success. Hopefully some needy students will benefit from our gifts."

Dean Mark Wilder called the Minors "cornerstones" of the school, with their gifts impacting generations of accountancy students. When the Minors' trust and annuities are eventually brought into their endowment, the school plans to expand the Minor scholarship program to include a named faculty position in their honor.

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Comments or suggestions?  
Call 662-915-7623

## Dear Accountancy Alumni and Friends:

We have completed another busy and exciting semester, and all is well at the Patterson School of Accountancy. We are proud of what the Patterson School continues to be able to accomplish, thanks to high-achieving students, dedicated and supportive alumni, and a teaching-oriented faculty who has maintained the steadfast commitment to excellence in the classroom that has been the hallmark of the Ole Miss accountancy program for decades.

The Patterson School received some historic news in late fall 2012. The most recent annual rankings of the *Public Accounting Report* were released, and all three of the Patterson School's degree programs achieved all-time ranking highs and were ranked among the nation's top 10. This marks the second consecutive year our programs have been among the top 10 nationally (and we have been in the top 20 for five years in a row now). Our undergraduate program is ranked No. 9 nationally, our masters program is also ranked No. 9, with our doctoral program at No. 8. Furthermore, the Ole Miss School of Accountancy is No. 1 in the SEC at the master's and doctoral levels (and No. 2 in the SEC at the undergraduate level) in terms of our national ranking. We are extremely proud of these rankings, which enhance our national visibility significantly and help us tremendously in recruiting outstanding students and faculty.

I am pleased to report that our official enrollment for 2012-13 reached an all-time high for the seventh consecutive year. Our total enrollment of 910 students includes 787 in our undergraduate program and 123 graduate students. Our enrollment has grown more than 33 percent over the past six years. Our spring internship program continues to thrive, and we had 86 students participate in internships during spring 2013 (an all-time high). These students interned in various cities throughout the Southeast and Southwest. Several students interned in New York City, and we had one intern in London. Our program continues to offer students the opportunity to earn both bachelor's and master's degrees within five years, experience a meaningful internship and be thoroughly prepared for the CPA exam.

We consider it a true privilege to serve you and our students. We are proud of the opportunities we are able to provide students, and we remain deeply grateful for the role our alumni and friends have played in enabling our success. You help us recruit top students, you provide career opportunities for our graduates, and you ensure we have the funding in place to meet our needs and to achieve excellence. Accountancy supporters have been the standard setters at Ole Miss for decades, and we ask you to continue this commitment to excellence. We appreciate so much your past support of our efforts in the Patterson School and trust that you will remain committed to these efforts.

Sincerely,



W. Mark Wilder  
Dean and KPMG Professor

## Accountancy senior inducted into Ole Miss Hall of Fame



Jess Waltman

Jess Waltman of Quitman, a senior accountancy major, may not have been seeking selection to the Ole Miss 2013 Hall of Fame over his four-year academic career, but his record of achievement speaks volumes about his worthiness for the honor.

"I knew being named to the Hall of Fame was a possibility, but it was never something I actively worked for," he said. "My jaw dropped when I realized I was being announced, and I immediately felt humbled to be recognized by my university in such a way."

With a 3.63 overall grade-point average, Waltman said time management has been the key to his ability to balance academics with leadership and service.

Dean Mark Wilder noted, "We are extremely proud of Jess. He has excelled academically in a rigorous major while being very involved on campus in leadership and service activities. Jess could not be more deserving of this recognition, and he joins a prestigious group of former Ole Miss accountancy students who have been selected for the Hall of Fame."

A mentoring member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, he is ASB parliamentarian and a former senator and Undergraduate Council student representative. He is a member of Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa and Mortar Board academic and leadership honor societies, and Phi Kappa Phi, the university's highest academic honor across all disciplines.

He is a mentor for First Year Experience, an academic course designed to help freshmen make a positive transition from high school to college. An Ole Miss Ambassador, he was the 2012 co-director of campus tours. He served as a team leader and logistics committee member for UM's Big Event, an annual campuswide day of service for the Lafayette-Oxford-University community. He is a volunteer at Camp Lake Stephens and for the Journey of Mississippi.

Waltman plans to attend law school and pursue a career as an attorney.

"I would eventually like to serve as a judge, and it's a dream of mine to return to Ole Miss as a professor," he said.

Whatever he chooses to do, Waltman said his time at Ole Miss has prepared him well for the future.

"Specifically, the Patterson School has reinforced the lesson that anything worth having is worth working for. A degree from the Patterson School is difficult to attain, but that only tells me it is worth all of the hard work." ■

# Patterson School again among nation's top 10—achieves all-time best ranking

By Rebecca Lauck Cleary

Once again, UM's undergraduate and graduate programs in accountancy have achieved all-time highs in the annual *Public Accounting Report* national rankings. This year, all three degree programs are among the top 10 in the nation as the undergraduate and master's program are both ranked No. 9 nationally, with the doctoral program at No. 8. Both the master's and doctoral programs lead the SEC in the rankings (with the undergraduate program No. 2 in the SEC in the rankings).

Dean Mark Wilder attributes numerous factors to the rankings success, including outstanding faculty and students and a loyal alumni base.

"We have an outstanding group of faculty who are committed to working together to achieve the common goal of having one of the top accounting programs in the nation. Our faculty are all CPAs, and there is a long-standing commitment in the Ole Miss School of Accountancy to teaching excellence and helping students."

Wilder also noted that the high quality of the students and loyal and generous alumni play key roles in the school's successes.

"Our student body gets stronger every year. Our students work very hard academically but are also well-rounded and extremely active on campus. In addition, we have such a strong alumni base. These folks are proud to be Ole Miss accountancy graduates, and I continue to be amazed at their loyalty and generosity. They are extremely involved, help us place our students all over the country, and generously support our students, faculty and programs."

The *Public Accounting Report* has ranked schools for the past 31 years, and the rankings are based on a survey of accounting professors in the U.S. The Patterson School of Accountancy has been ranked for eight consecutive years in the top 30 and in the top 20 for the past five years.

For more than a decade, the J.D. Williams Library at UM has been home to the former American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Library, which was previously located in New York. It is



Nathan Latil

three times larger than the second largest library. Housing this "National Library of the Accounting Profession" at Ole Miss is a key reason for high national rankings for the School of Accountancy program.

"Having the library here has been a great source of national visibility, which has brought lots of visitors to campus," said Wilder, who is also the KPMG Professor of Accountancy. "Many of these visitors are accounting professors who are voting in the rankings, and I'm certain that after visiting us, they are highly impressed with our program and students."

The School of Accountancy's formal vision statement, to affirm the University of Mississippi as one of the leading institutions in accounting education in the nation, gets its strength from a number of sources, said Dale Flesher, School of Accountancy associate dean.

"We have long placed our graduates in top positions in CPA firms and industry," Flesher said. "In some respects, this success comes from the caring attitude of the faculty. Some have described the School of Accountancy as a closely knit family. Virtually every student has at least one or two professors that they can go to with either accounting problems or personal problems."

At graduation time, if a student is approaching the end of the semester without a job offer, the faculty will help the student get interviews, and UM is one of the few

campuses in America where a CPA teaches every accounting course.

"Because all of the faculty are CPAs, the students want to become successful in the same way, so they work harder to prove that the faith the faculty had in them was warranted," Flesher said. "Fortunately, our alumni are willing to support our students—again making it easier to place our students."

Wilder credits the success of the program to a decades-long commitment to students and teaching.

"We have four professors currently teaching for us who have won the university-wide Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher award," Wilder said. "Only one faculty member campuswide wins this award with 600 or more faculty eligible. The fact that we have nearly a third of our tenure-track faculty who have won the award is a testament to the commitment we have for teaching and students. I am confident that others currently on our faculty will also win this award."

Flesher said that although he can't fully explain why the school keeps moving up in the rankings, he knows that a visit to campus is often helpful.

"Anytime we have visitors in the form of guest speakers, or when we have hosted conferences, the visitors always leave with a high opinion of the School of Accountancy," Flesher said. "It is difficult not to like Oxford and Ole Miss, so the School of Accountancy shares in the richness of life

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Kevin Bain

The Patterson School's KPMG International Case Competition team that placed second in the regional event includes Jane Bashaw (left), Lauren McLean, Devon Chaberski and Karla London.

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## KPMG team places second in region

For the second consecutive year, the University of Mississippi was among only 30 U.S. universities invited to field a team in KPMG's International Case Competition. Forty-eight Ole Miss students, divided into four-member teams, participated in the campus rounds last fall.

The winning team traveled to Dallas in January for the regional event, where it competed against Bentley University, Fordham University, Southern Methodist University, University of Missouri and the regional champion Baylor University.

Dean Mark Wilder noted, "We appreciate so much everything that KPMG does for our students, faculty and program. It is an honor for the Patterson School to participate in the case competition and also to be a 'KPMG Premier School' – a designation reserved for only 40 accounting programs in the U.S."

"The Ole Miss team performed well under pressure, and they were poised and professional at all times. I was glad to have

them represent Ole Miss and the Patterson School of Accountancy in Dallas," said Betsy Sights, KPMG's Ole Miss recruiter.

The competition is designed to give the students exposure to real-world business problems, and the opportunity to network with students and professionals from around the world. Teams were given three hours to read and analyze a new business case, as well as prepare a PowerPoint presentation for the panel of KPMG partners.

Even the youngest member of the Ole Miss team, Jane Bashaw, was integral to the team's success.

"I'm only in sophomore-level classes, but I wanted the experience," Bashaw said. "It was challenging to get thrown in there, but I was able to learn a lot from the older students in my group. It was an invaluable experience to have to think on my feet and come up with a realistic idea to present to the judges in a three-hour time limit."

Rounding out the regional Ole Miss team were Devon Chaberski, Karla London and Lauren McLean. Faculty advisers were

assistant professors Kendall Bowlin and Vicki Dickinson.

"The KPMG case competition was a great opportunity to deal with real workplace situations and get a feel of what a future career in business could be like on a weekly basis," Chaberski said. "Not only did I acquire professional and teamwork skills but I got to know KPMG employees and recruiters, which will benefit me as the recruiting process for an internship gets under way."

Other students who participated in the campus rounds considered the extracurricular option important as they begin to make crucial career decisions.

The 12 teams received a complex business case on Friday and had the weekend to develop a solution to the problem without use of the Internet. On the following Monday, they presented their findings to KPMG professionals and Patterson School faculty.

KPMG professionals on hand for the event were John Zoeller (partner, Houston), John Buntin (senior manager, Memphis), Keith File (senior manager, Memphis),

Kelly Lomax (senior manager, Memphis), Kristen Burnette (associate, Memphis), Caldwell Starnes (associate, Memphis) and Betsy Sights (Ole Miss campus recruiter).

"The most challenging aspect was the short time window we had to come up with our solution and presentation," said AJ Barrios. "But in real-world scenarios, clients need our advice and they need it quick. Receiving feedback from partners after the presentation was an invaluable opportunity."

Phil Murphy agreed, saying, "This case competition is different from others due to its time constraint. This made it extremely difficult to prepare our group's material, presentation roles and finalizing the PowerPoint to submit before that Monday morning when presentations began. One of the key components to this case competition is teamwork and time management. On the other hand, throughout the rest of my career, I'll be continuously enhancing the skills that I began to develop through this competition."

Public speaking is one of the most important skills used in the competition, and for many of the participants, this is the first experience in doing presentations outside the classroom, Dickinson said. Such was the case with Tyneisha Jones.

"The KPMG case competition was one of my greater accomplishments personally, as I am not confident with public speaking,"

Jones said. "I learned a lot about how to work with others and balance out ideas from people with different personalities and about how to make sure everyone had a part in the solution."

The competition is open to Ole Miss students of all levels who are either enrolled in or have completed the introductory accounting course and are intending to

pursue a career in accounting or advisory.

"The Patterson School of Accountancy thanks KPMG for their continued support of our students," Dickinson said. "Their generous commitment to the school through endeavors like the KPMG International Case Competition helps ensure that our students will be well-equipped and prepared to compete in the global business environment." ■

### *KPMG's International Case Competition*

These 48 Ole Miss students, divided into 12 four-member teams, participated in the campus round of KPMG's International Case Competition:

Opeyemi Ajayi	Ryan Garland	Hunter Nicholson
Destinee Ball	Jeff Hamm	Besian Nushi
Nicole Barnes	Brad Howell	Sarah Olander
AJ Barrios	Rachel Hyde	Camille Olson
Jane Bashaw	Alec Jones	Kaleb Pitts
Stephen Biggs	Tyneisha Jones	Bill Shaw
Rachel Britton	Sterling Jowers	Rachel Shaw
Laura Lynn Brumfield	Traci Kelly	Sara Shelton
Sarah Buback	Brett Kulesza	Susan Shetley
Adam Buckheister	Karla London	Mary Margaret Simmons
Feleshia Cary	James McKee	Cameron Sweetwood
Devon Chaberski	Lauren McLean	Jay Ward
Amanda Cummings	Brianna McSwain	Caroline Williams
Andrew Daniel	Ann Marie Mercier	Amber Wilson
Tavia Dennis	Steven Montross	Lorraine York
Alex Diaz	Phil Murphy	Kimberly Young

#### **Minors' gift, continued from page 1**

"Mary and Lucian Minor have been some of our most faithful supporters," Wilder said. "We are humbled by their generosity. We appreciate so much the vision that the Minors have for our accountancy school and for their great interest and concern for our students. Their support will help further strengthen the Patterson School [to] continue building on our strong teaching and mentoring tradition, a trademark of our program and a vital reason for the successes we enjoy. Generation upon generation of future accountancy students will benefit from their generosity."

Indeed, alumni strengthen the school not only through their financial resources but also through helping younger alumni find success. Larry Hardy (BBA 68), who credits Minor, his longtime friend, for giving him his first job, spoke of Minor's mentoring of graduates.

"Over the past 15 years, Lucian's monetary contributions to the School of Accountancy have provided resources for scholarships for many deserving stu-

dents as well as funds for the dean to use in faculty recruitment and retention. His contributions to the endowment will allow these programs to continue into the future for many years to come.

"Before Lucian's retirement from Ernst & Young in 1978, his most significant impact on the lives of accounting graduates came from his offering them employment," continued Hardy, who is also a major supporter of the Patterson School. "I can't tell you how many Ole Miss graduates Lucian hired over the years, but the number is substantial. Many of us owe our entire careers to Lucian; he taught us valuable lessons in both our personal and professional lives.

"Future generations of accountancy students should follow Lucian's philosophy of client service. If you take care of the clients and put their interests first, positive financial results will follow. We should also follow his example in returning to the school a portion of the monetary rewards we have received from having excellent educational foundations obtained at Ole

Miss," Hardy said.

A native of Macon, Miss., Minor was recruited by General Mills Inc. in Minneapolis upon his Ole Miss graduation. He joined the company's internal audit staff, where he was employed until his service in the U.S. Navy in 1942. He was placed with Douglas Aircraft Co. in Los Angeles as a cost inspector and passed the CPA exam during his enlistment.

Minor, a lieutenant commander in the Navy, was discharged in 1946 and soon resigned from General Mills to open his own accounting firm in Memphis. By 1967, his operation had grown to some 40 employees, large enough to interest the then Big Eight firms. He merged with Ernst & Ernst (now Ernst & Young) and became partner in charge of the Memphis office, a position he held until he retired in 1978.

Minor was inducted into the Ole Miss Alumni Association's Hall of Fame in 2005 and the Patterson School of Accountancy's Hall of Fame in 1997. ■



PricewaterhouseCoopers professionals (from left) Corey Edgar, Alan King and Graham Wise visited the Patterson School last fall for the campus rounds of the PwC xACT competition. They are pictured with the Ole Miss national finalist team members (from fourth left) Pat Galagan, Miller Majors, Katrina Briscoe, Hunter Nicholson and James McKee, along with their faculty adviser Vicki Dickinson.

## PwC team among five national finalists

**F**or the first time in the Patterson School of Accountancy's history, last fall, PricewaterhouseCoopers professionals came to Ole Miss to hold campus rounds of PwC's case competition and submit a video of its winning team's performance to be considered for the national EXTREME Games event.

Local rounds were also held at 86 other universities and involved 4,800 students demonstrating their accounting and problem-solving skills. The resulting videos, featuring the local winners, were reviewed at PwC's national headquarters, and the Patterson School team was chosen as one of five national finalists.

Besides Ole Miss, other national finalist teams were from Villanova University, University of Washington, Southern Methodist University and University of Arizona. The University of Washington fielded the winning team, but each national finalist team was awarded a \$10,000 prize.

"Our team did a fantastic job – they were flawless in their delivery, and they held their own during a very challenging

Q&A session with five PwC firm partners," said faculty adviser Vicki Dickinson, assistant professor.

Members of Ole Miss' national finalist team were Katrina Briscoe, Pat Galagan, Miller Majors, James McKee and Hunter Nicholson.

"The hardest part about the competition was anticipating the questions the judges might ask us," Nicholson said. "Each judge was an expert who knew a great deal about our topic. Because of that, we knew that we couldn't leave a stone unturned in our research."

On their trip to New York in January, the Patterson School's team members were accompanied by Dickinson and PwC professionals Alan King, Corey Edgar and Graham Wise. They were joined by such luminaries as Tim Ryan (U.S. Assurance leader and vice chairman), and other PwC professionals, including Ole Miss alumna Ashley Wright, from PwC's national office.

Festivities began on their first evening in the Big Apple.

"PwC hosted the five competing teams for a fabulous dinner in the wine cellar of

Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse, followed by the Broadway show *Newsies*," Dickinson said.

The next morning, the teams were chauffeured to PwC headquarters for a day of seminars and activities, culminating with final presentations.

When asked to sum up the experience, Briscoe said, "It was an opportunity to challenge myself to meet new people, think outside the box and apply what I have been learning in the classroom setting to a 'real-life' situation.

"By working with a wonderful group of guys, I saw firsthand that everyone has individual strengths that come together to create a better solution than any one person could have created. I realized that working together requires time, constructive criticism, encouragement and some compromise. It really is amazing how a group of five completely different people can come together and form a strong bond in such a short time when having to work together to reach a common goal."

The local competition was open to Ole Miss students at all levels who are either

enrolled in or have completed the introductory accounting course and are intending to pursue a career in accounting or advisory.

Forty-nine students worked diligently for two weeks to develop and prepare a solution to a complex business problem, Dickinson said.

“Each of our teams was matched with a mentor from PwC who guided the students in developing unique solutions to a complex business acquisition and integration case,” she said.

The teams had two weeks to prepare their solution, which they presented to PwC professionals on campus last October.

“The Patterson School of Accountancy sincerely appreciates PwC’s generosity and hospitality in bringing this opportunity to our students,” Dickinson said. “All 49 of our Ole Miss students gained skills and experience that will continue to serve them throughout their professional careers.”

On hand from PwC during the campus rounds were Alan King

(partner, Dallas), Mark Rexroat (partner, Dallas), Rich Call (senior manager, Baltimore), Untray Orange (manager, Atlanta), Gerilynn Petty (senior associate, Dallas), Graham Wise (experienced associate, Dallas), Will Ridgway (experienced associate, Dallas), Lauren Williams (experienced associate, Atlanta) and

Corey Edgar (Ole Miss’ campus recruiter).

The PwC representatives were impressed with the Ole Miss students, Dickinson said.

“I think we will be a permanent fixture in the competition if we maintain this level of performance.” ■

### *PricewaterhouseCoopers xACT Competition*

Forty-nine Ole Miss students participated in the campus round of PwC’s case competition.

Opeyemi Ajayi	Chelsea Harris	Steven Montross	Lisa-Marie Schalk
Nicole Barnes	Caroline Hendershot	Phil Murphy	Rachel Shaw
AJ Barrios	Brad Howell	Hunter Nicholson	Patrick Slattery
Forrest Baty	John James	Rachel Nieters	Mason Smith
Kaitlyn Bellamy	Sterling Jowers	Besian Nushi	Cameron Sweetwood
Madison Blankenship	Jack Kaler	Sarah Olander	Derek VanDunse
Katrina Briscoe	Traci Kelly	Camille Olson	Jay Ward
Sarah Buback	Ricky Kintz	Courtney Pinac	Matt Williams
Philip Cole	Morgan Lamb	Kaleb Pitts	Stephen Wittmann
Michelle Davidson	Miller Majors	Alex Ray	Lorraine York
Tavia Dennis	James McKee	Carson Rutledge	
Alex Diaz	Kelsey McLemore	Anish Sharma	
Patrick Galagan	Ann Marie Mercier	Bill Shaw	

## Accountancy student wins Honors College Barksdale Award

**H**unter Nicholson of Brandon, a junior triple major in accountancy, Spanish and public policy leadership in the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, was recently announced as a 2013 co-winner of a Barksdale Award.

The \$5,000 award supports creative, courageous projects developed by students who are willing to take risks with their time and efforts and who propose ambitious, independent programs of study, research or humanitarian work. The Barksdale awards were established in 2005 to encourage students to test themselves in environments that don’t have the built-in safeties of a classroom, teaching lab or library.

Nicholson and Neal McMillan of Madison, are the 13th and 14th students to win the awards, and they will be eyewitnesses to an explosive conjunction of time and place, said Douglass Sullivan-González, dean of the Honors College.

“Separately, Neal and Hunter will be traveling all around Scotland at a moment when history is taking shape environmentally and constitutionally,” Sullivan-González said. “In these Barksdale winners, we see two citizen-scholars intent on



Hunter Nicholson

Nathan Latt

combining high-level academic research with a boots-on-the-ground approach to understanding complex situations from richly human perspectives. Combine that with both students’ high regard and deep affection

for the Scottish people, and I think anyone can see the possibility of work that will transform the witness even while it records the moment.”

Nicholson will travel to Scotland to find out why financial autonomy is so important to Scotland that it would seek to break away from the United Kingdom. He will interview business, political and academic leaders to understand the financial significance of independence. Perhaps more important to him, though, is to ask his questions of the average Scot.

“Last fall, I went to Edinburgh, Scotland, kind of on a whim, to intern with the

Scottish Parliament,” Nicholson said. “I happened to be placed with Stewart Maxwell of Glasgow, a member of the Scottish Nationalist party, which is in charge of the Parliament right now. Their main goal is to make Scotland an independent country. After spending 10 weeks with him, it was just so apparent how important it was to him and his party, and to a lot of other Scots.”

Nicholson, a Trent Lott Leadership Scholar, Taylor Medalist and a finalist in PricewaterhouseCoopers national case competition, decided to return to Scotland and conduct in-depth research on the independence movement and then write his honors thesis about what he discovers.

“There will be a referendum next fall where all Scots will vote on whether they want to be an independent country or not,” Nicholson said. “Who knows whether or not they will say yes, but it is an exciting time in Scottish history, and to even be able to sit there while it’s happening is a great honor, and I am excited to go back.”

The two winners were announced Feb. 5 at the Honors College spring convocation featuring political columnist George Will. ■





Robert Jordan

Tyler Campbell is a team leader on the football field and a classroom standout having been named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll the past four years.

## Ole Miss football player excels in the classroom

By Elizabeth Burgeen

**T**yler Campbell, a senior completing degrees in accountancy and finance, has excelled in both sports and academics at Ole Miss.

He made the Chancellor's Honor Roll during spring 2010 and Dean's Honor Roll for fall semesters 2009-2012 and spring 2012. He has also been named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll for the past four years.

"I really liked the challenge of the accounting program and the business school here at Ole Miss," Campbell said. "It has been a really rewarding experience in these two schools, and I have received an awesome education. My teachers have given me great experience to look forward to in the future."

Campbell received a football scholarship to Ole Miss in June 2009. Having played football, basketball and baseball in high school,

he knew he would continue his sports career. He was torn between the University of Arkansas and Ole Miss. Then Coach Houston Nutt gave him an amazing opportunity to become a punter on the Ole Miss football team, and his decision was made.

This upcoming fall, Campbell will enroll in graduate school and play football for the Ole Miss Rebels as this is his last year of eligibility on the football team.

Some of the highlights of his sports career include beating LSU on the 1-yard line in 2009, attending the Cotton Bowl in Dallas during the 2009 football season and being named the NCAA punting champion his sophomore year. He was named All-SEC in 2010 and 2011 and was an SEC All-Freshman pick in 2009.

One of the challenges in college is learning how to manage your time wisely.

Being on the football team and pursuing a double major has taught Campbell how to manage his time on and off the field. Juggling around 15 or more hours of schoolwork a week and eight hours of practice, Campbell stays pretty busy.

"Practice and class are set schedules, so you just have to work around them," he said. "Sometimes it involves weekends, and you just have to go with it."

Campbell hopes to continue his football career after the 2013 season is over. His ultimate goal is to be drafted by an NFL team in spring 2014. If he decides his time with football is over after the 2013 season, he has a great education that will take him far.

"This whole experience of football and academics at Ole Miss has been amazing. I am glad I chose Ole Miss, and there isn't anywhere else I'd rather be." ■



Kevin Bain

## Grad student named Speaker's Edge champion

**N**ervousness and sweaty palms were common at this year's Speaker's Edge competition at the University of Mississippi, but at the end of the two days, participating students were more confident in their public-speaking abilities.

Mollie Mellon (BAccy 12), who is enrolled in the accountancy master's program, was named the overall Speaker's Edge champion and third-place winner in the informative category. She won a \$2,000 scholarship and a \$200 gift certificate to City Grocery restaurant.

This year, for the first time, graduate accountancy students were invited to join MBA and other students in the annual competition, which recognizes that communication is a vital part of the business world.

"When I learned that accounting students could participate in the program, I really wanted to take advantage of it," Mellon said. "It was such an honor to be chosen as the overall champion. I consider this a huge achievement because everyone I was competing against was so talented. The caliber of students in this course was

outstanding; it made for a really dynamic and exciting learning environment."

Coordinated by Bethany Cooper, UM director of corporate relations and MBA/MHA services, the annual competition features a six-to-eight minute informative speech; a six-to-eight minute marketplace pitch, in which students share their best business ideas with industry leaders; and an "ethical dilemma," for which they have 30 minutes to prepare a seven-minute speech.

More than 60 business and community leaders participated as judges, providing feedback and encouragement critical to the learning process. Bill Bates, a retired physician and entrepreneur from Nashville, Tenn., was a first-time judge.

"Having been an executive in a corporation, I know the importance of communication skills," Bates said. "So many engineering schools and business schools really do not teach communication skills. To make your way up the corporate ladder, so to speak – or advance anywhere – it's how well you communicate, and you are teaching this at the ground level. It's not just a speaker's edge, it's an advantage edge for Ole Miss." ■

Patterson School graduate student Mollie Mellon makes her presentation in UM's Speaker's Edge competition in January, the first time accountancy students have been invited to participate in the annual event. She was named overall champion and third-place winner in the informative category.

### Nation's top 10, continued from page 3

that our local environment offers."

Wilder agreed, saying, "Over the past three years we have brought faculty to campus from some of the top accounting programs nationally to present their research and spend a couple of days with us. Invariably, they leave highly impressed with our school and Ole Miss."

Wilder also noted that the School of Accountancy has done a very good job for many years of having a consistent and active doctoral program. This consistency has enabled Ole Miss to be third nationally in the number of accountancy Ph.D.s that have been granted over the past 20 years.

"We bring in two to four new students each year and get most of them graduated on a timely basis," he said. "These doctoral students had good experiences while at Ole Miss, and we stay in touch with them. They are now accounting professors around the country."

About 500 of the schools in the United States that offer accounting programs, 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."

For undergraduate programs, the University of Texas-Austin ranked first, with the University of Illinois in second and Brigham Young University in third. For master's programs, those same schools placed in the top three. For doctoral programs, the University of Texas, the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois took the top three places. UM was the top-ranked SEC school in the master's and doctoral rankings (No. 9 and No. 8 respectively), while the University of Florida was the top-ranked SEC school at the undergraduate level at No. 8 (with UM at No. 9). ■

## Save the Date

### Patterson School of Accountancy Alumni Tailgate

*Hosted by the Accountancy Alumni Chapter Board of Directors*

#### DATE

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013

#### TIME

TBA depending on kickoff time, before the Texas A&M game

#### PLACE

On the grounds near Conner Hall

## Fleshers receive national recognition



Tonya Flesher, Arthur Andersen lecturer, visits with her students in a Conner Hall classroom.

### *Tonya Flesher honored with AICPA Service Award*

**T**onya Flesher, professor and Arthur Andersen lecturer, was recognized last fall by the American Institute of CPAs for continuous long-term service and leadership within the profession.

Flesher was among four recipients of the AICPA's Sustained Contribution Award, which applauds members who have contributed immeasurably to the AICPA and the CPA profession. Those honored have served on an institute volunteer group for 20 or more years and at least once as a chair of an AICPA committee, task force or resource panel.

"The AICPA congratulates all of the recipients of the Sustained Contribution Award," said Kathy Eddy, chair of the awards committee and former AICPA chair. "The immeasurable work they've done in their volunteer leadership roles at the AICPA will continue to strengthen the profession for many years to come."

The recognition came at the October national meeting of the AICPA's Governing Council in Amelia Island, Fla. A CPA herself, Flesher said she is honored to be recognized by the premier organization for CPAs.

"My work with the AICPA has enabled me to learn from fellow CPA members and to use these perspectives and knowledge to enhance my teaching and research. I have gained more than I have given," she said.

Flesher served on the AICPA Regula-

tions Committee and the Content Committee, which are responsible for the CPA examination. She is an active member of several professional organizations, including the American Institute of CPAs, American Accounting Association, American Taxation Association, Mississippi Society of CPAs and the Academy of Accounting Historians, the latter

organization of which she served as international president in 1993.

She previously had a regular column titled "Computers in Tax" that appeared quarterly in *The Tax Adviser*. She has served as the Education Department editor of *The Woman CPA*. She has been a reviewer for the *Accounting Historians Journal* and the *Journal of the American Taxation Association*. She is a former member of the AICPA Minority Initiatives Committee.

She was selected as the 1995 Outstanding Educator of the Year by the Mississippi

Society of CPAs. At Ole Miss, she has won both the School of Accountancy's Outstanding Teacher Award and the campuswide Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher Award, as well as the campuswide Burlington Northern Faculty Achievement Award for outstanding research.

Flesher joined the Ole Miss accountancy faculty in 1979. She served as dean of the accountancy school from 1987 to 1993, becoming the first woman to hold an academic deanship in the 150-year history of the university. In addition to her faculty duties, she is director of the Tax History Research Center, housed on campus and jointly sponsored by UM and the Academy of Accounting Historians.

Her bachelor's degree is from Ball State University, her master's from Appalachian State University and her Ph.D. in accounting from Ole Miss. She has authored eight books and nearly 100 articles. Before she became dean, she was editor of the most widely used tax textbook in the country.

### *AAA recognizes Dale Flesher for service*

**D**ale Flesher, professor and Arthur Andersen alumni lecturer, received the Hall of Honor Award from the American Accounting Association's Teach-



Dale Flesher holds the plaque presented to him by the American Accounting Association-TLC as recipient of the 2012 Hall of Honor Award. Offering congratulations are AAA-TLC president Bob Allen of the University of Utah and vice-chair Bette Kozlowski, who represented KPMG, the firm that funded the monetary award.

ing, Learning & Curriculum Section at its 2012 annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The honor recognized Flesher's service over the years to the TLC and to accounting education in general. It included a \$3,000 monetary award, provided by KPMG.

"The most humbling part of the award was that I received a standing ovation from the over 200 people in attendance," Flesher said. "I didn't expect that, and it had not occurred when previous years' award winners were announced."

Flesher also has played a key role in accountancy curriculum development at Ole Miss, and he serves as coordinator of both master's and doctoral programs.

His latest national award comes on the heels of his banner year 2011 for national recognition, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Distinguished Achievement in Accounting Education Award and the American Accounting Association's Outstanding Educator of the Year in the Southeast Region. The AICPA award presenter specifically pointed to Flesher's assistance in moving the AICPA library from New York to Ole Miss in 2003.

Also in 2011, Flesher was named the fourth recipient of UM's coveted Distinguished Research and Creative Achievement Award.

He has authored 50 books and more than 300 articles for more than 100 different professional journals throughout the world. His professional memberships include those in the American Institute of CPAs, Mississippi Society of CPAs, American Taxation Association, Institute of Internal Auditors, Association of Government Accountants, Institute of Management Accountants, American Accounting Association and the Academy of Accounting Historians, for which he served as international president in 1988. He served six years as editor of the *Accounting Historians Journal* and 10 years as editor of the *Accounting Historians Notebook*. His research and teaching awards include UM's campuswide Burlington Northern Faculty Achievement Award for outstanding research. He was the Mississippi Society of CPAs 1998 Educator of the Year.

Flesher joined the faculty in 1977, following four years at Appalachian State University. He received both bachelor's and master's degrees from Ball State University, and he holds a Ph.D. in accounting from the University of Cincinnati. ■

## Professor Emeritus Charles Taylor receives NASBA Service Award

Charles Taylor, professor emeritus of accountancy, is recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

The award was established in 1999 to recognize individuals who have demonstrated unswerving commitment and dedication to enhancing the mission of the NASBA. Taylor's honor was announced in October at the NASBA's annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.

"Your numerous contributions to the Mississippi Board of Public Accountancy, NASBA and the accounting profession, make you a deserving recipient of this honor, said Cassandra A. Gray, NASBA communications manager, in a congratulatory letter to Taylor.

Taylor contributed 16 years as a member of the Mississippi State Board of Accountancy, being appointed four times by three governors of two different parties. His dedication to NASBA includes serving as a former regional director



Charles Taylor

**His most notable efforts to enhance the mission of NASBA include pursuing and championing the nondisclosure of the Uniform CPA Exam and recommending that NASBA establish a registry of continuing professional education providers**

and former national vice president. He is a past chair of the Examination Review Board, Reciprocity Committee and Communications Task Force. He served as a member of the International Quali-

fications Appraisal Board, as well as the Centennial History Advisory Committee, where he contributed his historical insights to the publication, *100 Years of NASBA – Serving the Public Interest*, authored by Dale Flesher.

His most notable efforts to enhance the mission of NASBA include pursuing and championing the nondisclosure of the Uniform CPA Exam and recommending that NASBA establish a registry of continuing professional education providers, which evolved into what is now recognized as the National Registry of CPE Sponsors.

Taylor retired from Ole Miss in 2001, after serving 38 years as a professor of accountancy. During his tenure, he served as chair of the UM Faculty Senate, department chair, member of the University Planning Council and Graduate Council representative. He is a member of the Accountancy Hall of Fame.

He received both bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Ole Miss, and his Ph.D. is from the University of Texas at Austin. ■

## Patterson School of Accountancy

### Internships Spring 2013

Intern	Firm	Location
Christie Allen	KPMG	Jackson, Miss.
Jarrod Arnold	Comstock Resources	Frisco, Texas
Laura Barrier	PwC	Nashville, Tenn.
Kaitlyn Bellamy	Cherry Bekaert and Holland	Virginia Beach, Va.
Victory Bennett	Community Spirit Bank	Tupelo, Miss.
Angela Bennett	Vance & Co.	Tupelo, Miss.
Barrett Binion	KPMG	Atlanta, Ga.
Doyce Britt	Deloitte	Memphis, Tenn.
Sarah Buback	Crowe Horwath	Nashville, Tenn.
Adam Buckheister	Horne	Ridgeland, Miss.
Byron Burkhalter	KPMG	Atlanta, Ga.
Derek Burns	KPMG	Dallas, Texas
James Burt	Deloitte	Dallas, Texas
Robert Coffin	Dixon Hughes Goodman	Memphis, Tenn.
Clay Collier	Lori Bryant, CPA	Dallas, Texas
Ruth Condit	Eaton, Babb and Smith	Tupelo, Miss.
Margaret Cummins	Dixon Hughes Goodman	Memphis, Tenn.
Chelsea Dickinson	PwC	New York, N.Y.
Brad Dillon	Tyson Foods	Springdale, Ark.
Austin Dragoun	E&Y	Houston, Texas
Gann Duke	E&Y	Houston, Texas
Claire Foster	Deloitte	Houston, Texas
Will Gainer	Deloitte	Houston, Texas
Patrick Galagan	PwC	Atlanta, Ga.
Virginia Gamble	KPMG	Jackson, Miss.
Ryan Garland	Piltz, Williams, LaRosa and Co.	Biloxi, Miss.
Virginia Gilmore	E&Y	Houston, Texas
Courtney Gregory	KPMG	Houston, Texas
Clay Hall	Horne	Memphis, Tenn.
William Hayden	Horne	Memphis, Tenn.
Christophyr Hayes	Horne	Memphis, Tenn.
Brooke Hendrix	E&Y	Houston, Texas
Paige Huhlein	KPMG	Dallas, Texas
Brock Hurston	Dixon Hughes Goodman	Memphis, Tenn.
Kellie Jameson	Deloitte	Houston, Texas
Anna Jolly	Silas Simmons	Natchez, Miss.
Graham Jones	PwC	Dallas, Texas
Alexander Jones	Horne	Memphis, Tenn.
Michael Killingsworth	Navistar Central Core Center	Corinth, Miss.
Elizabeth Kimery	KPMG	Memphis, Tenn.
Kenny Lamb	Deloitte	Nashville, Tenn.
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Brittany Long	CBIZ Thompson Dunavant	Memphis, Tenn.
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Lyle McAllister	Deloitte	Houston, Texas
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<b>Intern</b>	<b>Firm</b>	<b>Location</b>
Andrew McLaughy	National Paint Solutions	Memphis, Tenn.
Allana McKay	Horne	Ridgeland, Miss.
Michael Moore	KPMG	Atlanta, Ga.
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Garner Reesby	Deloitte	Houston, Texas
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## Who's Who

**T**wenty Patterson School of Accountancy students were among 152 Ole Miss students inducted into the 2012-13 class of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. The honorees were nominated and selected by a committee of representatives from each of the academic schools and College of Liberal Arts.

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 Haley E. Chumbler  
 Cooper Tire & Rubber Foundation  
 Mary and Richard Costley  
 Amy D. Darnell  
 Fred M. Day  
 Phillip W. DeBardeleben

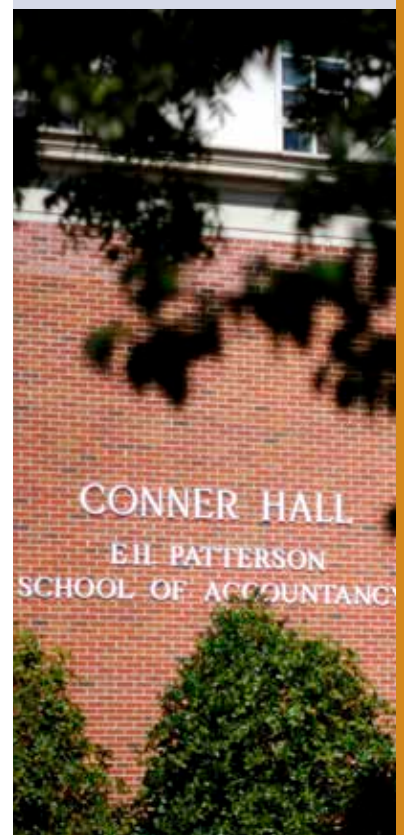
Ladd Dilworth  
 Jessica N. Dollar  
 Diane L. and David C. Earwood  
 David W. Elks  
 Allison and W. Brian Eoff  
 Johnna N. and Andrew V. Garner  
 Timothy D. Hanlon  
 Robert C. Hendrich III  
 Kimberly M. and Jeffrey A. High  
 Sherry G. and Travis Hodgson  
 Kenny R. Holt  
 Dana D. Horner  
 Kimberly G. and David S. Humphreys  
 Alex G. Johnson III  
 Jennifer W. and J. Reece Jones  
 Lisa B. Jones  
 Jennifer L. Jordan  
 Gaurav Kumar  
 Kathryn B. and Richard H. Leigh  
 L. Vance and John A. Lewis  
 Gaye Lindsay  
 Dona R. and Gordon E. Long  
 Harry H. Lott III  
 Laura Ludlum  
 Wanda B. Madison  
 Lauren K. and Ryan C. Magee  
 Thomas L. Martin  
 Mary B. Mayer  
 Tina McKee  
 Angela E. and Michael S. McKeown  
 Anne D. McLaughlin  
 Dan W. Meyer  
 Pamela Y. Miller  
 Joe G. Montgomery Jr.  
 Amanda R. and Robert T. Montgomery  
 Patrice W. and Joseph D. Oliver III  
 Eric O'Neal  
 Gayle and Anthony T. Papa  
 C. Allen Parker  
 Rebekah A. and Jeffrey M. Payne  
 Lynda R. and E. Cavett Ratliff  
 Walker P. Roberts  
 Briana E. Russell  
 Herbert A. Salter  
 Joyous and Charles P. Sbravati  
 Sara N. and Chris W. Shankle  
 Matthew R. Shetley  
 Ernest M. Smith  
 Janel T. Smith  
 Linda L. and Mason S. Smith  
 Hugh M. Stephens Jr.  
 Lisa B. Steward  
 The ACE INA Foundation  
 Amy K. Thornton  
 Donna E. and Jeffrey W. Underwood  
 Nina M. Vaiden  
 M. Angela Walsh  
 Robin K. Weltens  
 Steven B. Weltner  
 Megan S. and Gordon L. Wills III  
 S. Denise Wilson  
 Misty K. and Trey Wright  
 Amy G. and Samuel L. Xanders  
 Kevin W. Young

**Phi Kappa Phi  
 Spring 2013**

Buckner Anderson Corso  
 John Thomas Jordan  
 Morgan Lindsey Lamb  
 Laura Kathryn Lindsay  
 Ellen Bramlett McLaurin  
 Callan Spenser Mossman  
 Caroline Diane Purcell  
 Ryan Smith  
 Katelyn Irene Watts

**Taylor Medals  
 Spring 2013**

Philip Graham Jones  
 Aaron Charles Moeller  
 Jinal Ramesh Patel  
 Anish Sharma  
 John Robert Stefancik  
 Austin Webber Steward  
 Alexander Parrish Tanner







## Hugh E. Tanner to head Little League board

**H**ugh E. Tanner (BBA 80, JD 85), a partner in the Morgan, Lewis & Bockius Litigation Practice in Houston, Texas, was voted chairman-elect of the Little League International board of directors, as was announced in November by Davie Jane Gilmour, newly seated chairwoman of the board.

“Little League has always looked to maintain a diverse group on the international board of directors,” Gilmour said. “Hugh brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the position of chairman. He is highly respected in his field, and since joining the board in 2007, he has provided a profound voice in crafting the future direction of the Little League program.”

When Gilmour’s term expires in 2017, Tanner will be nominated as chairman.

“I have a genuine respect for the role and responsibility of chairman, and I am proud to be associated with an organization that plays such a relevant role in the lives of children,” Tanner said. “Volunteering at the local level as a league president, serving as a co-chairman for the 24th Little League International Congress, and my time on the international board of directors, all have been



Hugh E. Tanner

uniquely rewarding experiences. To be voted by my fellow board members as chairman-elect is [a] distinct privilege and honor.”

Tanner’s law practice concentrates in the area of complex commercial litiga-

tion with an emphasis in the oil and gas industry. For more than two decades, he has served as counsel for a global oil field and information services company with a primary focus on the energy industry.

Tanner graduated from Ole Miss with cum laude honors and induction into the student Hall of Fame. He spent two years as a tax accountant with the international accounting firm Price Waterhouse before entering law school, where he was managing editor of the *Mississippi Law Journal*.

When not devoting his time to clients and family, Tanner is active in community service. He founded the Challenger baseball program at West University Little League, which serves children with physical and mental challenges.

Tanner and his wife, Pamela, reside in Houston. Their two children are currently Ole Miss students. Their daughter Paxton is majoring in theatre arts and just completed her freshman year at UM, while son Alec received the Bachelor of Accountancy degree at commencement ceremonies in May. Alec received the prestigious Taylor Medal in 2013 and is currently pursuing the Master of Taxation degree at UM. ■