

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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## Message from the president [2002, vol. 25, no. 1]

William D. Samson

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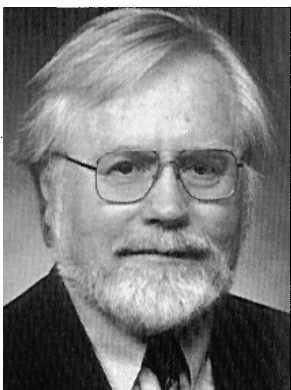
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## Message From the President

The biggest challenge facing the Academy in 2002 is the recruitment of individual members. In particular, I would like all members to ask their colleagues to join the Academy. Encourage Ph.D. students to join. Suggest a membership to practitioners who express an interest in history. Invite them to "try" one of the following activities.



opportunity to be involved with international scholars who share our passion for accounting history.

The Academy is holding a one-day research workshop in San Antonio on August 13, 2002 just prior to the start of the AAA meeting. Besides the presentation of research papers, Lynn Turner, former chief accountant of the SEC will speak about the current crises in financial reporting. Also Steve Walker, editor of *The Accounting Historians Journal*, will give young scholars his insights into doing scholarly research.

During 2002, the Academy will be involved in a number of research and educational activities. Members of the Academy are encouraged to be involved in the 9th World Congress of Accounting Historians which is meeting in Melbourne, Australia at the end of July. This wonderful event offers the

Also at San Antonio, the Academy will host social activities such as an ice

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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Nominations Committee seeks nominations for the following officers of the Academy of Accounting Historians for 2003:

- President Elect
- Vice President – Communications
- Vice President – Conferences and Partnerships
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Two Trustees

Nominations should be sent to Finley Graves, Chair, Nominations Committee, or to any committee member:

- Finley Graves, Kansas State University, fgraves@ksu.edu
- Kathleen Sinning, Western Michigan University, kathleen.sinning@wmich.edu
- Tom Lee, University of Alabama, tlee@cba.ua.edu
- Michael Gaffikin, University of Wollongong, gaffikin@uow.edu.au
- Elliott Slocum, Georgia State University, accels@langate.gsu.edu
- Sarah Holmes (Texas A&M University, sholmes@cgsb.tamu.edu)

# Message From the President

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cream reception. This event, the research workshop and the World Congress are opportunities for us to meet each other, exchange ideas and information and to learn from each other. In this time of uncertainty, economic and post-September 11th turmoil, the opportunities to interact have never seemed so important while the contributions of accounting history may never be greater in the post-Enron upheaval of accounting.

Other exciting activities are taking place which will affect Academy members in the near future. Plans are being made for the Academy to host the 10th World Congress of Accounting Historians in 2004. The event will start in St. Louis, which will be hosting the World's Fair. Here, there will be a commemoration of the 1904 World's Fair in which the accounting profession held an organizational meeting. The St. Louis portion of the conference will feature the Mercantile Library's resources. From St. Louis, the Convention will reconvene in Oxford, Mississippi to feature the newly acquired AICPA library collection which is now

housed at the University of Mississippi.

During 2002, at the University of Mississippi, the Academy's journals are being digitized so that scholars will be able to access them electronically by entering a key word or phrase. When all of the issues of the *Accounting Historians Journal* are in the electronic format, access to accounting history will be greatly enhanced. A wider group of scholars should find accounting history contributes to their research specialties.

2002 brings new challenges. The profession's recent problems, culminating with Enron, certainly need to be placed in a historical perspective. Earnings manipulation, audit failures, bankruptcy, and financial scandal are not new. Hopefully, accounting historians will be able to place the current events into a broader context, based on past episodes which will speak to the 21st century. The Academy of Accounting Historians invites all to become involved with it to make the experiences of the past an important factor in understanding and dealing with future changes.

William D. Samson, President

Library & Information Service at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales announces details of its new accessible Accounting History Gateway. It includes:

- \* links to resources on worldwide accounting history
- \* a monthly updated reading list on the histories of accountancy firms
- \* monthly updated reading list on the histories of accountancy bodies
- \* an illustrated online listing/order form for worldwide accounting history publications that we are sole stockists for
- \* knowledge guide to tracing the history of a firm or an individual accountant.

Our Accounting History Gateway can be accessed at

[http://www.icaew.co.uk/library/index.cfm?AUB=TB2I\\_27023](http://www.icaew.co.uk/library/index.cfm?AUB=TB2I_27023)

If you find this useful, please tell your colleagues and students. Any link you can make to our accounting history gateway would be most appreciated.

Jonathan Bushell, Library & Information Service, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales