

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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Volume 36  
Number 2 *October 2013*

Article 2

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October 2013

## Accounting Historians Notebook, 2013, Vol. 36, no. 2 (October) [whole issue]

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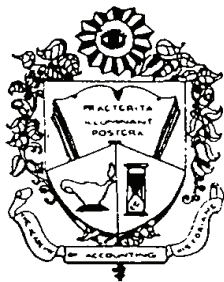
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### Recommended Citation

(2013) "Accounting Historians Notebook, 2013, Vol. 36, no. 2 (October) [whole issue]," *Accounting Historians Notebook*: Vol. 36 : No. 2 , Article 2.

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# The Accounting Historians Notebook

Vol. 36, No. 2

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October 2013

## Academy Holds 40th Anniversary Conference

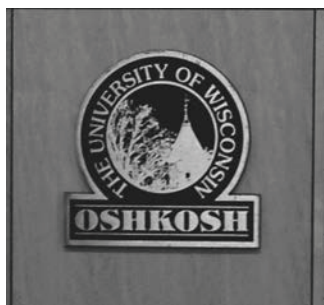
The Academy of Accounting Historians held its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary Conference on October 17-19, 2013 in Sage Hall at the University of Wisconsin Campus in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The conference featured 18 papers and three plenary sessions. The first plenary was a brief introduction to the history of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and its College of Business presented by Joshua Ranger, University archivist. The other two plenaries were focused on the Academy, its history and its future.

Yvette Lazkowski and Gary Previts reported on their work with Ed Coffman in updating the history of the Academy from the last history published in December 1998. They presented a short pictorial visit to the administrations of presidents of the Academy from 1999 through 2013. Watch for this work to appear in an upcoming issue of *the Accounting Historians Journal*.

The second plenary focused on the future of the Academy with presenta-

tions by Richard Vangermeersch concerned with the direction that accounting history research should take and Jennifer Reynolds – Moerle, Academy treasurer, leading a discussion on what the Academy needs to be working on in the future. President elect Massimo Sargiacomo expressed concern about the future of accounting history journals worldwide and Stephanie Moussalli added some observations about the prognosis for the Academy's future.

Dr. Vangermeersch updated his list of 35 research goals published in his "Voices of Experience" interview published in the April 2012 issue of *The Accounting Historians Notebook*.



(Continued on page 4)

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<http://aahhq.org>

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### THE ACCOUNTING HISTORIANS NOTEBOOK

To submit items to the Accounting Historians Notebook, please contact the Academy Administrator, Tiffany Welch, at [acchistory@case.edu](mailto:acchistory@case.edu), (216) 368-2058 or the address below.

ATTN: Tiffany Welch  
Academy of Accounting Historians  
Weatherhead School of Management  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44106-7235

## President's Message

**Joann Noe Cross**

*University of Wisconsin Oshkosh*

I have been rather remiss in keeping you, our members, informed about the activities of the Academy, but I will try to remedy that now. As we approach the end of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, Gary Previts, Yvette Lazdowski and Ed Coffman are ever so close to completing an update to the previous two editions of the Academy history. Watch for it early next year.

We have had several VERY successful years of presentations at the American Accounting Association Annual Conference. We have been very pleased with the number of sessions we have been able to hold, the attendance at those sessions and the volume of submissions which make filling the sessions possible. In addition, the CPE Sessions we have held on Accounting History Bootcamp have provided a huge boost to the Academy. Kudos to all the presenters, to Yvette Lazdowski for her coordination of the Bootcamp and to Barbara Merino for her work in assembling Accounting History sessions at the AAA.

Watch for an article in the Notebook about the successful conference held this past October in Oshkosh Wisconsin. It should be out soon.

Please keep submitting and supporting the activities of YOUR Academy.



As we look forward to the next 40 years of the Academy, we may need to think about who we are and what we need to do to stay relevant. President-Elect Massimo Sargiacomo faces some interesting challenges in his agenda to enhance the reputation and ranking of the Academy's Journal among educational bodies worldwide. In addition, we all must consider how the future financial affairs of the Academy will be handled. Those wonderful days when the Academy could live off its interest income are behind us. The future requires your elected leadership to be frugal and financially careful with the use of your dues to accomplish the Academy's mission.

Have a prosperous year-end and we hope you are looking forward to many more exciting years of Academy activities.

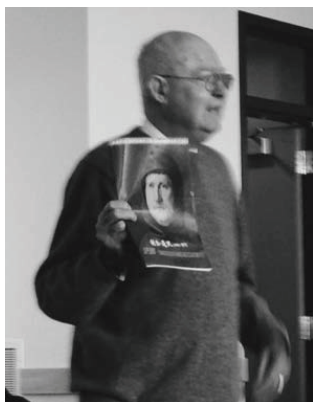
*Joann Noe Cross*

(Continued from page 1)

Added to his list are, at least, the following:

36. Archive your own library
37. Get book reviews and/or book essays back into *The Accounting Historians Notebook* and *The Accounting Historians Journal*.
38. Have accounting history join the multimedia world. We have exciting stories to tell. Let's do them visually.
39. Reintroduce the Academy to all former members to bring them back into our excitement.
40. Create a travelling Pacioli show with a designated Pacioli Scholar to utilize Dr. Vangermeersch's Pacioli Collection.
41. Have a series in *The Accounting Historians Notebook* on "How I joined the Academy of Accounting Historians"
42. Restart the working Paper series
43. Someone needs to do research on Japan at the time of MacArthur
44. We need to run an undergraduate history contest perhaps in conjunction with Beta alpha Psi
45. Include a dissertation review in *The Accounting Historians Notebook*.
46. Create a platform for accounting history to get disseminated.
47. To be continued.

Joann Noe Cross  
President, Academy of Accounting Historians



Richard Vangermeersch



Massimo Sargiacomo, President-Elect



(l-r) C. Richard Baker, Daijiro Fujimura, Frank Badua

## Additional Photos from 40th Anniversary Conference



Joann Cross, President & Massimo Sargiacomo, President-Elect



Dale Flesher



Sudipta Basu

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## Coffman and Jensen Receive Life Membership

**Edward N. Coffman** (*Virginia Commonwealth University, Professor Emeritus*)

Edward N. Coffman, past President of the Academy and former Editor of the *Accounting Historians Journal* has been a long term supporter of Academy events and activities. His work in accounting history has been published in numerous journals and he has coauthored with the late Professor Thomas Burns, the 1991 monograph profiling the first 50 members of The Accounting Hall of Fame at The Ohio State University. He has also coauthored collections of writings on the subject of history in monographs coedited by his colleague at VCU Ross Tondkar and by Gary Previts of Case Western Reserve.

**Daniel L. Jensen** (*The Ohio State University, Professor Emeritus*)

Daniel L. Jensen, is a past President of the Academy of Accounting Historians, and has served in the past two decades as the academic administrator for The Accounting Hall of Fame at The Ohio State University. He has authored volumes containing the collected writings of several members of the Hall of Fame and has served as convener of several Accounting Hall of Fame Conferences at The Ohio State University.



Ed Coffman



Dan Jensen

## New Publications Committee Created

The Executive Committee of your Academy has created a new committee to monitor and assist editors in addressing the thorny problems they encounter (outside of who to publish). This committee is not intended to interfere in the Editors' decisions, but to address problems beyond their job description. In particular, the charge to the committee is as follows:

### Academy of Accounting Historians Publications Committee Charge to the Committee

The Publications Committee of the Academy of Accounting Historians is established to:

1. Assist in determining the strategic direction for publications managed by the Academy
2. Facilitate the implementation of those strategic plans

This is accomplished by, but not limited to:

1. Negotiating contracts for dissemination of Academy publications
2. Facilitating digitization of Academy publications
3. Actively working to assist the President and other Academy members in lobbying efforts directed at enhancing National and institutional recognition of Academy publications in relationship to member's renewal,

tenure, and other employment processes

4. Evaluating whether the mix of publications supported by the Academy is appropriate with regard to number and dissemination methodologies

As of 2013, publications include: *The Accounting Historians Notebook* and *Accounting Historians Journal*

In the past, the Academy has published a Working Paper series and Paul Garner's work on Cost Accounting

This charge is to be revisited no later than November 2014 for revision, reaffirmation, or both.

Joann Noe Cross  
President, Academy of Accounting  
Historians

## Academy Remembers Three Past Presidents

Richard P. Brief (1933-2013), 1980  
President of the Academy.

Eugene H. Flegm (1929-2011),  
1989 President of the Academy.

Elliott LeRoy Slocum (1940-2013),  
1998 President of the Academy.

## McCollum-Oldroyd Receives 2013 Hourglass Award

David McCollum-Oldroyd spent ten years in the accountancy profession before moving into academic life. He is a chartered accountant and a history graduate of Liverpool University (BA) and Durham University (MPhil). He obtained his PhD at Newcastle University where he taught for many years. He now works as an accounting professor at Durham University. Most of his accounting history research has focused on coal-mining and estate management during the British industrial revolution, and on the slave economies of the British Caribbean and American South. He wishes to express his gratitude to his collaborators Dick Fleischman and Tom Tyson especially for the work on slavery, and to Warwick Funnell for a new line of research he is developing in relation to accounting and poverty in Victorian Britain.

From his nominators:

*"I have seen David in action functioning as chair of department and interacting with faculty members and administrators. I am impressed by David's friendly demeanor, his sharp wit, and ready sense of humor, all of which have enabled him to work well with colleagues from different backgrounds and research orientations. From personal experience, I can attest that Dr. Oldroyd is an excellent colleague who fulfills his commitments, carries his share of the workload, and always meets deadlines. David has a keen mind and is willing to take on extra tasks such as doing the background research needed to comply with reviewers' comments and suggestions. In summary, I believe that David McCollum-Oldroyd is one of the preeminent international scholars currently working in the field of accounting history and is fully deserving to receive the 2013 Hourglass award for his many years of sustained productivity in our discipline." ~Dr. Tom Tyson, St. John Fisher College*

*"I have worked extensively with Professor Oldroyd over the past decade and found him to be a consummate scholar and as hard-working and supportive coauthor as one could hope for. While at Newcastle, he established an accounting history advisory committee that brought distinguished colleagues from abroad to speak at the university. I was privileged to be asked to speak on several occasions. He has also deployed the Fulbright program to bring scholars to Newcastle to work with his colleagues and get them on the road to publication. Most recently, he has brought the World Congress of Accounting Historians to Newcastle and did a marvelous job running the event. He has worked very hard to promote the accounting history discipline." ~Dr. Richard Fleischman, John Carroll University (Professor Emeritus)*





## **Carduff Selected as 2013 Vangermeersch Manuscript Award**

Kevin C. Carduff (*College of Charleston*) received the 2013 Vangermeersch Manuscript Award for his manuscript, “*Stewardship in Corporate Reporting: The Annual Reports of U.S. Steel (1938 – 1969)*”.

Kevin C. Carduff, a 2010 PhD graduate of Case Western Reserve University, collected and arranged and assisted in developing a full range of U.S. Steel Annual Reports to be scanned in as a PDF data base for his research in the early stages of his data development for this research. It remains a major source of information for scholars seeking access to this important early source of annual reporting information. His dissertation reviews and analyzes the content of the reports for US Steel for a period long century identifying individuals and influences that altered and modified the annual reporting process at the Company from its earliest days of broad disclosure to the late 20th century period of plain vanilla and SEC blended reporting.

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## **Walker Selected as 2013 Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award Recipient**

Stephen P. Walker (*University of Edinburgh*) was awarded the 2013 Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award for a collection of biographical works on women accountants in Britain including: *Ethel Ayres Purdie: Critical practitioner and suffragist*; *Philanthropic women and accounting. Octavia Hill and the exercise of ‘quiet power and sympathy’*; and *Professions and patriarchy revisited. Accountancy in England and Wales, 1887–1914*.

Steve Walker trained as a chartered accountant with Ernst & Young. He has been Head of Department and Professor of Accounting History at the University of Edinburgh and Professor of Accounting and Head of the accounting and Finance Section at Cardiff Business School. He is editor of Accounting History Review and a former editor of The Accounting Historians Journal. He is a recipient of the Hourglass Award of the Academy of Accounting Historians and is a past-President. Steve has also served as the Convener of the Accounting History Committee of ICAS and is a former academic fellow of the ICAEW. He currently serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals and has held visiting positions at Dauphine Université-Paris, Deakin University, Glasgow University, Sydney University and Victoria University of Wellington.

## 2013 Margit F. and Hanns Martin Schoenfeld Scholarship Goes to Heathcote

Krysta Heathcote (*University of Johannesburg*) was selected as the 2013 recipient of the Margit F. and Hanns Martin Schoenfeld Scholarship for her research on the topic, “*Professionalisation of accountancy in the Orange Free State and Natal: A historical analysis in contesting environments, 1907-1960*”.

From her nominator, Dr. Grietjie Verhoef, also her PhD supervisor and Director of the South African Accounting History Centre:

*“Her pioneering work on the formative years of professionalization in two territories, later British Colonies in nineteenth century “South Africa” considers the different contexts of the emerging closure strategies of the different settler communities. She analyses the strategic positioning of individuals in the emerging accounting profession, the forging of networks of business and social relationships and the management of professionalization criteria as professional closure mechanisms...Her work is ground breaking in the South Africa professional community of Chartered Accountants, since it considers the dynamics of accounting professionalization between accountants of different cultural and language origins. The study is even more remarkable, as it will be the first PhD in Accounting History in South Africa.”*

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## 2013 Alfred R. Roberts Memorial Research Award Presented to Lazdowski

Yvette J. Lazdowski (*Plymouth State University*) was awarded the first Alfred R. Roberts Memorial Research Award for her work in coordinating the Accounting History Boot Camp presentations at the annual American Accounting Association meetings. These Continuing Professional Education sessions provide an opportunity for current and future members to share their knowledge and interest in accounting history. In addition to the boot camps, Yvette continues to conduct research in accounting methods of early 20th-century American industry and the development of the Certified Public Accounting examination. She is currently working on the tables of information requested for the Academy's 40th anniversary history project, and is honored to be working with Dr. Edward Coffman and Dr. Gary Previts on this endeavor.



## Team Wins 2013 Innovation in Accounting History Education Award

Donald L. Ariail (*Southern Polytechnic State University*)

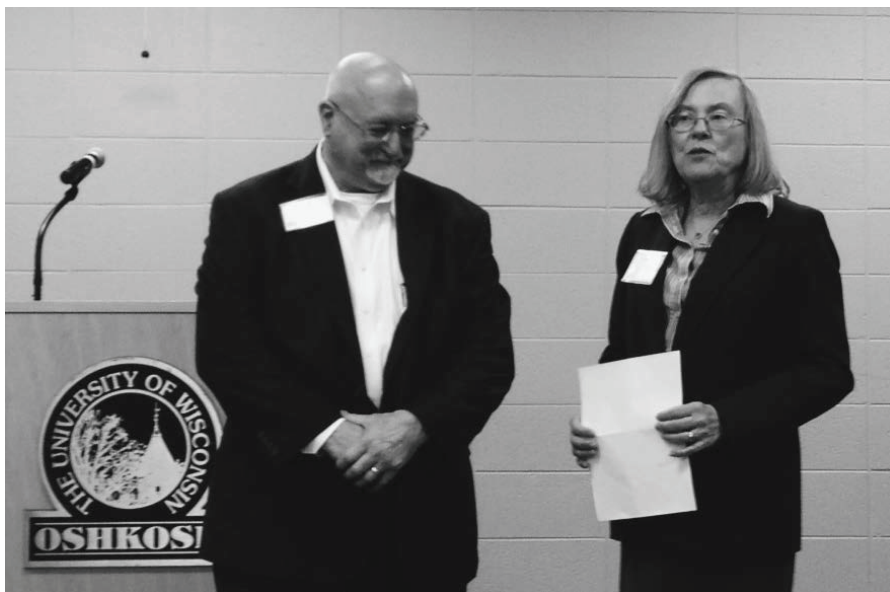
Joseph Durden (*Nova Southeastern University*)

Marilyn Leathart (*Texas A&M University – Central Texas*)

Lynette Chapman-Vasill (*Texas A&M University – San Antonio*)

For their work on the historical case study published in the area of governmental accounting, “*Avondale Estates: A Case Study in Governmental Accounting and Auditing – A Historical Approach*”.

From the case study abstract: *The seventy - seven years of accounting evolution that separates the audits of 1928 and 2005 under different accounting and auditing standards is examined through a cross-disciplined case study that compares the historical 1928 and the contemporary 2005 financial statements and the accompanying audit reports of Avondale Estates, Georgia.*



Don Ariail and President Cross

## Moussalli Wins 2013 Barbara D. Merino Award for Excellence in Accounting History Publication

Stephanie D. Moussalli (*Rhodes College*) was awarded the first Barbara D. Merino Award for Excellence in Accounting History Publication for her book, *The Fiscal Case Against Statehood: Accounting for Statehood in New Mexico and Arizona* (2012, Lexington Books). The book is a study of the accounting and fiscal policies of New Mexico and Arizona, which joined the Union in 1912 despite opposition from some of their residents. It deals with the concerns of the people who lost the battle over statehood in the two territories. Moussalli examines New Mexico and Arizona's territorial and state governments' financial records, as well as those of Nevada for control purposes. She finds that while territorial residents' fears of steep increases in the cost of government were well founded, statehood also significantly improved their governments' accountability for their use of the public purse. She concludes that fiscal officials enabled statehood's growth in government by improving the financial reports and processes.



President Cross presents the plaque to Stephanie Moussalli.

# **III Balkans and Middle East Countries Accounting and Accounting History Conference and III International Conference on Luca Pacioli in Accounting History June 19-22 2013 İstanbul - Turkey**

Two separate conferences were established in the facilities of Istanbul Technical University. The third international conference on Luca Pacioli was previously established in Spain and Italy. The third Balkans and Middle East Countries Conference was previously established in Turkey. A total of 494 participants (359 – Turkey, 135 – from 32 countries) attended the conference. Total of 183 papers (95 – abroad, 88 – Turkey) were discussed at the conference. Actually, more papers were submitted to the conference and more people registered. But, because of the political protests, many individuals canceled their registrations.

On June 19, the death anniversary of Pacioli was remembered with an interesting two act theatre play at the opening of the conference. The act was between Luca Pacioli and Abdullah El Mezanderani, who is the author of a state accounting book in Persian (*Kitab-us Siyakat*). Seeing the cornerstones of accounting cultures excited the participants.

Establishment of two regional conferences as one event for the first time was another feature of the conference. This feature created interaction, comparability and variety. The discussions between these great cultures were revived with the recording cultures of Russia, Japan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Mexico and South America.

Social activities of the conference include a trip to Topkapı Palace. A trip to the new boulding of Ottoman Archives, which consist of 45 million state accounting documents and a night tour with boats over the bosphorus.



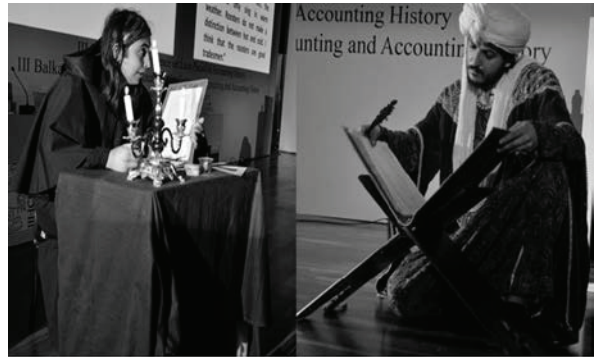
General Meeting of the Conference



Prof. Dr. Oktay Güvemli during his opening speech of the conference.

### Two Act Play

Conversation between the author of Summa (1494), Luca Pacioli with the author of Risale-i Felekiyye (1363), Abdullah el Mazenderani. Staged in commemoration of L.Pacioli's death anniversary (19.06.1517) during the opening ceremony of the III.BMAC and III. Luca Pacioli Conference, June 19-22, 2013, Istanbul.



40th Anniversary Celebration Cake of the Academy: From left to right; Prof. Remzi Örtten, Prof. Oktay Güvemli, Ender Şenol (Kocaeli ICCPA), Yahya Arıkan, (İstanbul ICCPA), Jim McKinney (USA), Massimo Sargiacomo (Italy), Barbara Merino (USA), Stephen Walker (England), Rashidat Oladepo (Nigeria)

# Voices of Experience Series: An Interview with Dale Flesher, Ph.D., CPA

Interviewed by Donald L. Ariail,  
Southern Polytechnic State University  
and Hugh Hughes, Georgia State Uni-  
versity

Dale Flesher is the second contributor to the Voices of Experience Series. As a distinguished member of the Academy, he has since the early years of the organization held many leadership positions. In addition to being a prior president of the Academy, he also served as the editor of both of the Academy's publications. His many accomplishments include being involved in establishing the National Library of the Accounting Profession and the Tax History Research Center both at Ole Miss, being the convener or co-convener of a number of Academy conferences, co-authoring an award-winning video for the 1996 AICPA-sponsored Centennial of the CPA Examination, and authoring numerous scholarly publications. Of note, he has published books on several key accounting organizations: the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Accounting Association, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Institute of Internal Auditors, and the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the AACSB-International. We are proud to capture the reflections of this eminent accounting historian.

*AAH: How can we inspire students to be interested in learning about their accounting roots?*

Flesher: Whatever the topic being taught, accounting history can provide perspective relating to the origins of the subject. Historical accounting research that is shared with students informs the students about the changing environment and behavior that influences accounting activities. History presents a foundation to enable students to understand the evolution and background of accounting concepts and fundamentals. History helps explain the seemingly contradictory rules of accounting and taxation. A page of history can explain the "why" of a particular rule. Also, knowledge of history helps students accept change as a condition of human experience. Finally, accounting history makes the subject more interesting.

Bill Samson, Gary Previts, and I wrote an article on this topic a few years ago. Our approach was to introduce accounting and tax history at various points in every accounting class. When students learn that auditors were sent over to America to audit the Pilgrims, and they learn that the hardships of the Pilgrims during those first winters were exacerbated by their poor accounting system, they have a greater appreciation for the subject they are studying. Similarly, when tax students learn that the top tax rates were 94% less than 70 years

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ago, and 70% in the 1980s, they have a better appreciation for how tax rates affect employee behavior.

***AAH: How did you become interested in accounting history?***

Flesher: I have always been interested in history. When I was a senior in college, I started writing a weekly history column for my hometown newspaper. Thus, when I entered my doctoral program at the University of Cincinnati and found that I had to take a course in accounting history, I was excited. The professor for that class was Dr. Clara Lelievre, who herself was a historic figure in accounting. She had been the first woman to pass the CPA Examination in the state of Alabama. She made the history of accounting come alive. Thus, she had more influence on my career than did any of my other professors. When I took my first job at Appalachian State University, the department chairman was Dr. Larry Trussell, who had been at the Academy's formation meeting in Quebec City a month earlier. He encouraged me to join the Academy of Accounting Historians. Given my interest in the subject, I quickly joined. I soon became involved in accounting history research and thereafter published in the area on a regular basis.

***AAH: From 1978-1989 you were the Editor of the Accounting Historians Notebook. What are some of your recollections from this period?***

Flesher: My wife, Tonya, is also a past president of the Academy. Thus, accounting history is sort of the family business. For instance, I can remember when I was editor of *The Accounting Historians Notebook*, we sat around on Christmas Eve (including my wife, mother, and son) stuffing the *Notebook* into envelopes for mailing. They had to be mailed before year end, because they were dated December. We did that on Christmas Eve several years in a row. Although many people thought of *The Accounting Historians Notebook* as mostly a newsletter, there were not many outlets for accounting research back then, so I received many submissions of manuscripts. As a result, the publication developed into a combination newsletter and journal. So as not to compete with the *Accounting Historians Journal*, I limited acceptances to short articles.

***AAH: What are your recollections of the early World Congress meetings that you attended?***

Flesher: I attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress in Atlanta but was not on the program that year. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress in London in 1980, Tonya and I presented a coauthored

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(Continued from page 15)

paper. One of my most enjoyable World Congresses was the 1984 meeting in Pisa. Attending the sessions at the University of Pisa, where Pacioli once taught, was an inspirational event. The bus trip to Pacioli's birthplace at Borgo San Sepulcro, along with some of my best friends, was the truest form of pilgrimage to a holy place. That is a week that I will never forget. The 1988 Congress was held at the University of Sydney. Being able to spend the week with such noted personages as Raymond J. Chambers, S. Paul Garner, Richard Mattessich, Gary Previts, Richard Vangermeersch, Al Roberts, and Edward Peragallo was almost spiritual. I came away from that meeting with many great photos, including one of Previts serving a hot cup of COCOA to Ray Chambers.

***AAH: You were editor of The Accounting Historians Journal from 1990-1994. What are some of your recollections from that period?***

Flesher: The reviews I received on one particular paper stand out in my memory. When the manuscript was submitted, I was not sure who had the expertise to review the paper. There was only one member of the review board that I thought might be qualified, and he was in Italy; and I used an ad hoc as the second reviewer. Eventually, the Italian sent me a lengthy review along with several

attachments—all of it written in Italian. Although I had corresponded with him in English, he apparently thought I also spoke Italian. The ad hoc reviewer, whom I wasn't even sure was qualified to review the paper, sent me a 64-page review. I could not believe the extent to which the reviewer went to improve this manuscript. You might think a 64-page review of a 16-page paper would be a critical review, but that was not the case. Every few pages he wrote something like: "This is a great manuscript; I wish I had time to do research like this." And "I love the way this author writes; he or she has done excellent research. Since I am at a small school with a heavy teaching load, I never seem to have the time to do this type of research." Actually, it seemed like the reviewer had put more effort into the manuscript than had the author. I didn't know what type of letter to write the author, so I simply said that both reviewers had recommended "revise and resubmit" and if he could incorporate the suggestions of the reviewers, the manuscript would be accepted for publication. I sent the author both reviews—the 64-page one in English, plus 15 pages in Italian. Then I sat back and waited. Eventually, after three weeks, the author called me on the phone and said he was so overwhelmed by the reviews that he didn't know where to start. What should he do? I told him to do the best he could and submit a revised manuscript. After about a month I received a 32-page manu-

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script, which I thought was much improved over the first version, so I accepted it without sending it back to the reviewers. It amazed me how much effort these two reviewers, and many others, gave to improving the manuscripts written by others.

***AAH: You were co-convener (with Richard Vangermeersch) of the 2004 World Congress of Accounting Historians that was held in two locations—St. Louis, MO and Oxford, MS—that were 360 miles apart. What prompted holding a meeting at two such far-flung locations, and what other recollections do you have of that period?***

Flesher: The initial idea was to hold the 2004 meeting in St. Louis to celebrate the centennial of the first international congress on accounting that had been held at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. At the same time, we were having difficulty in making arrangements for the meeting in St. Louis. Thus, someone suggested—probably either Vangermeersch or Previts—that the meeting should be moved to Oxford, Mississippi, and be centered on the holdings of the National Library of the Accounting Profession, which had recently been created. Thus, that became our backup plan. Eventually, that morphed into the idea of holding the meeting in both locations, meeting in St. Louis during the early part

of the week and then moving by luxury motor coach to Oxford. Although the logistics presented minor problems, we thought the international visitors would enjoy a bus trip through the Deep South, and would love browsing the great library.

***AAH: Where would you like to see the Academy at 50 years?***

Flesher: I would like to see it bigger and better than ever. Also, I would like to see it become a section of the American Accounting Association, which would ensure the longevity of the Academy.



Dale Flesher

**MINUTES**  
**Business Meeting**  
**Academy of Accounting Historians**  
**At the 2013 Annual Conference of the American Accounting Association**  
**Hilton Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim, California**  
**Room: 4<sup>th</sup> floor, San Clemente**  
**August 4, 2013 7:00 – 8:00 PM**

The meeting convened at 7:00 PM.

Present: Joann Cross (president, chair), Don Ariail, Marina Auzskaya, Robert Bloom, Chester Brearey, Dale Flesher, Tonya Flesher, Bill Jackson, Mikhail I. Kuter, Yoshi-  
nao Matsumoto, Jim McKinney, Barbara Merino, Janet Moleus, Stephanie Moussalli,  
Lee Parker, Audrey Paterson, Lan Peng, Gary Previts, Jennifer Reynolds-Moehrle,  
Bob Russ, Alan Sangster, Angelica de Vasconcelos Silva, Gary Spraakman, Greg  
Stoner, Gloria Vollmers, Paul Williams, Peter Wolnizer, Claudio Soerger Zaro, Elise  
Soerger Zaro. Guest: Royce Kurtz.

Joann Cross, Academy president, introduced herself, welcomed attendees, and re-  
minded all of the Ice Cream Social following the Business Meeting.

Cross reported that the pre-conference Accounting History Boot Camp was success-  
ful, with 24 registrants and 21 attendees. She solicited suggestions from the member-  
ship on how to improve it for next year.

## **Reports**

### **A. Treasurer's report, contract renewals, and dues (Reynolds-Moehrle)**

Jennifer Reynolds-Moehrle announced that the independent audit of the Academy's  
2012 financial statements was completed and no issues were found. Watkins, Ward  
and Stafford of Starkville, MS, continue to be our auditors and continue to offer a  
good price.

As of December 31, 2012, Academy assets temporarily restricted for specific awards  
and for convention subventions totaled \$282,000, of which \$222,000 is for awards.  
The Schoenfeld Fund is the largest, with a little over \$160,000. The fund for confer-  
ence subventions is just under \$60,000. \$104,000 is unrestricted, and is used to pay  
the awards for the best *AHJ* papers and the recognition awards.

2012 was expected to be a loss, but the Academy received two \$10,000 contributions,  
so the net was a little ahead. The unrestricted net assets fell, but less than expected  
due to changes in the production runs for the *AHJ*. At this point, it appears the Acad-  
emy will break even in 2013 due to the restructuring of the *AHJ* and *AHN* production  
and the new revenue streams from EBSCO and JSTOR. Institutional memberships

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have declined over the last five or six years, so the Academy compensated by signing contracts with EBSCO and JSTOR. JSTOR accounts for about 35 institutional membership equivalents, and EBSCO for about 75. However, the EBSCO contract is only a 3-year contract.

The Academy has signed new contracts through 2015 with Rebecca Hayes at the University of Alabama for the distribution of the *AHJ*, and with Tiffany Welch at Case Western Reserve University for all other Academy business.

Last year, the Academy set up gradual dues increases for individuals. Dues are \$60 in 2013, \$70 in 2014, and \$75 in 2015. Further increases are not planned. Revenues from 2013 dues are about on track for the year.

Reynolds-Moehrle added that her email address is on the AAH website if members wish to contact her for more details.

A member expressed concern about the dues increases, in that they may discourage new members who would have been impressed by the previously low dues.

Previts asked if the expenses this year so far are about on track as budgeted. Reynolds-Moehrle answered yes, approximately break-even. She added that a contribution had been received in 2012 just to help the Academy with operating expenses.

## **B. Academy research conference, 2013 (Cross)**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Academy of Accounting Historians will take place from October 17-19, 2013, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Acceptances for papers were sent out this week.

Cross distributed handouts giving information about access by air, accommodations, and area attractions.

Plenary events will include information on the Experimental Aircraft Association, headquartered in Oshkosh. Another plenary will be on the last 40 years of the Academy, and another will concern the future of the Academy.

Some may wish to follow the conference with attendance at a Green Bay Packers game, to take place just 50 miles away, in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Registration for the conference is now open on the website. Please contact Cross with any questions about your planning for the conference.

## **C. *Accounting Historians' Notebook* – operational update (McKinney)**

- *Notebook* editor McKinney said that recent issues have been published on time.
- McKinney called for contributions to the *Notebook*.

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#### **D. *Accounting Historians Journal* – operational update. (Vollmers, Russ)**

The most recent issue was published late as the new editorial team transitioned in. The next issue will be on time.

The awards for the best papers in the 2012 volume of the *Accounting Historians Journal* are as follows:

Winner: Jacques Richard. The victory of the Prussian railway “dynamic” accounting over the public finance and patrimonial accounting models (1838-1884): An early illustration of the appearance of the second stage of capitalist financial accounting and a testimony against the agency and the market for excuses theories. Issue 1.

Runner-up: Robert J. Kirsch. The evolution of the relationship between the U.S. financial accounting standards board and the international accounting standard setters: 1973-2008. Issue 1.

Runner-up: Hugo Nurnberg. Objectives of financial reporting, aboriginal cost, and pooling of interests accounting. Issue 2.

Over the last two years, the journal has received 39 submissions. Thirteen manuscripts were rejected, ten are still under revise-and-resubmit, seven have been published, and three accepted for the December, 2013 issue. A handful are in limbo, as the authors have not responded. In one case, the editor is looking for a third reviewer.

Vollmers intends to revive some sections that used to exist in the *Journal*. These include a potpourri or salmagundi section, a section for responses to previously-published papers, and a section for discussion of articles from the popular press.

#### **E. *Accounting Historians Journal* – strategic considerations**

Previts urged the adoption of Jim McKinney’s idea of listing accepted articles during the embargo period (when the journal does not appear online) on the Academy website. The Academy has an agreement with EBSCO and JSTOR and the University of Mississippi (the last on an open-access basis) to post the issues of the *AHJ* full-text online. It has been about seven years since Previts and Dan Jensen began talking to EBSCO about this contract.

Some entities are posting *AHJ* content online without permission. We informed EBSCO.

We’re trying to strategically manage where the *AHJ* appears. The embargo protects the value of membership and therefore Academy revenues, but it is problematic today not to put content online immediately.

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The Academy hopes to have its application to be indexed in SCOPUS (an important abstract and citation database for peer-reviewed literature) accepted. Members are urged to cite *AHJ* articles when appropriate. We do not have the tools that other journals have, but the *AHJ*'s cost is far lower, too.

#### **F. Annual workshop on accounting history, 2013 and 2014 (Moussalli, for Lazdowski)**

The annual workshop on accounting history this year had 21 or 22 participants. It took place on the Sunday before the AAA meeting began; this favorable time slot is normally available if the organizer requests it as soon as the CPE sessions are open for requests.

Members should please suggest subjects or participants for future workshops.

Jim McKinney urged that Barbara Merino's presentation on different types of accounting theories and paradigms be included at future workshops.

Others suggested that we might have an hour for the presentation of in-process historical dissertations, followed by specific feedback from senior researchers.

Lazdowski was commended for her excellent work organizing this workshop again.

#### **G. "Voices of Experience" project (Moussalli, for Lazdowski)**

Moussalli read the following statement by Lazdowski: "We are continuing in this series of interviews and comments with esteemed members of the Academy to provide opportunities for guidance, perspective, and reflection. We currently have several candidates in mind who will be featured in future *Notebook* articles. Please stay tuned for upcoming articles. We wish to thank our future "Voices of Experience" in advance for their assistance."

Attendees voiced several suggestions for future interview subjects. For example, we might interview retirees from CPA firms. We should include interviews with people who live abroad.

Bob Russ and others urged that we continue to coordinate these interviews through Lazdowski, so that there are not numerous people contacting possible interviewees.

Moussalli urged that it is essential to get permissions from the interviewees, including copyright permissions for recordings and pictures and interview content. We need to follow human subject research protocols and the permissions typically used by researchers engaged in oral history.

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#### **H. 40-year history of Academy of Accounting Historians (Previts)**

Edward Coffman, Professor Emeritus – Virginia Commonwealth University, is leading on the history project relating to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Academy of Accounting Historians (2013-2013). Coffman is working with the assistance of two other Academy members, Yvette Lazdowski and Gary Previts.

There are two previous Academy histories covering a 10-year period beginning in 1973, and then an added 15-year history which picks up after the first history and extends through 1998. The period 1999-2013 is the focus of the current effort. All told, the three histories will cover the period through the Academy's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The first draft is near completion. It will be presented at the October conference in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

#### **I. Richard Brief, R.I.P. (Previts)**

Dick Brief died suddenly recently. He taught at New York University, was a past president of the Academy (1980-81), and trained at Columbia. He was always willing to help other scholars and will be sorely missed. A study of his scholarship will undoubtedly form the basis of a future dissertation.

Robert Bloom is doing a short obituary on Brief for the AHN and is also preparing a longer article. He pointed out that Brief was unique in that his interests lay in quantitative work, accounting history, and theory, but he rarely taught. His output was huge, including 11 books and articles in the *Journal of Accounting Research*, the *Accounting Review*, the *Business History Review*, the *Financial Analysts Journal*, and the *Accounting Historians Journal*. He was the forerunner of the application of quantitative analysis to financial accounting. As editor of the Garland reprint series for accounting monograph classics, he saw 383 classic works reprinted. He received the Hourglass award in 1983.

#### **Awards for 2012 and 2013**

Hourglass Award 2012

Winner: Alan J. Richardson

Margit F. Schoenfeld & Hanns Martin W. Schoenfeld Scholarship in Accounting History 2012

Winner: Miguel Gonçalves, Portugal.

Winner: Martin Persson, Great Britain.

Vangermeersch Manuscript Award 2012

Winner: Pierre Labardin, 19<sup>th</sup>-century French banking.

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The Best Manuscript Awards 2012 (for the best papers published in the *AHJ* in 2011)

Winners: Jesse Dillard and Linda Ruchala. "Veblen's Placebo: Another Historical Perspective on Administrative Evil"

Runner-up: John Richard Edwards. "Accounting on English Landed Estates during the Agricultural Revolution - a Textbook Perspective"

Runners-up: Jill Hooks and Ross Stewart. "Farmers, Politics, and Accounting: The History of Standard Values"

- No 2012 awards: Innovation in Accounting History Education Award, Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award, Life Membership Award. Dale Flesher asked if we will give two awards in 2013 for those that were not given in 2012. The answer was no, because there were not enough applications. Information about 2013 awards, including the new awards, the Al Roberts Memorial Award and the Barbara D. Merino Award for Excellence in Accounting History Publication.
- The deadline for nominations this year was July 31. The winners will be announced at the October conference in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.
- Call for nominations for 2014 awards.
- A list of all awards, with descriptions, was passed out, and attendees were urged to nominate people for next year. The list is available on the website, too. We do not have enough nominations.
- Jim McKinney noted that the Executive Committee has decided to select the award-winners. If there is dissension, a committee of trustees and members will help.

### Other business

Lan Peng asked if a video of speakers at the Oshkosh conference in October could be made and sent to China. She considered this an important item for her school's library. Joann Cross said she will see if it's possible; she's been working with the technical people at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh to video-record the speakers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Moussalli, Secretary

## Updating The Notebook

With improving technology and increased cost awareness in mind, leaders of the Academy, under the direction of President-Elect Massimo Sargiacomo, plan to more closely associate the Academy's website and *The Notebook*. The website is managed by the Academy Administrator, Tiffany Welch, who is an Assistant Dean at Case Western Reserve University. In recent years the duties of editing *The Notebook* have been accomplished by former Academy President James McKinney, University of Maryland. His service and dedication to that effort are recognized and appreciated.

Note: The website is located at <http://aahhq.org>.



## Upcoming Meetings & Conferences

For current information, visit the Academy website at <http://aahhq.org>.

## Notebook Content

To submit items for inclusion in the Notebook, email the Academy Administrator, Tiffany Welch, at [acchistory@case.edu](mailto:acchistory@case.edu).

## Award Nominations

For detailed information on Academy awards and current deadlines, visit the Awards section of the Academy website at <http://aahhq.org/awards>.

