

# Accounting Historians Notebook

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## University of Mississippi to House Reproduction of Kenneth MacNeal's Scrapbook

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### **Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award**

The Academy of Accounting Historians annually honors an individual as the recipient of the Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award. The Award is given for outstanding biographical research in the discipline of accountancy. The award includes a plaque and a financial award. Dr. Thomas J. Burns, for whom the award is named, was a long-time professor at Ohio State University and a past president of the Academy of Accounting Historians. Self nominations are acceptable. Nominations should be accompanied by a paragraph or more detailing why the nominee should be a candidate for the award. The award can be for a single publication or for a lifetime of biographical work.

### **The Best Manuscript Award**

At the beginning of each year, the editor of the AHJ chooses 1st, 2nd and 3rd place recipients of the Best Manuscript Award from the previous year's journals. The 1<sup>st</sup> place recipient(s) receives a plaque and a check for \$300, the 2<sup>nd</sup> place recipient(s) receives a check for \$100 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place recipient(s) receives a check for \$100.

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**Nominations deadline for all awards: June 1, 2016**

**Send nominations to:**

*Academy Executive Committee at [acchistory@case.edu](mailto:acchistory@case.edu)*

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## **University of Mississippi to House Reproduction of Kenneth MacNeal's Scrapbook**

Kenneth MacNeal is widely known for his 1939 book, *Truth in Accounting*, which was strongly critical of generally accepted accounting principles and advocated market value accounting. He kept a massive scrapbook in connection with that work and with a critical article he was commissioned to write for *Fortune* magazine, which was yanked just prior to publication. He believed that Price, Waterhouse and the AIA had pressured *Fortune* not to publish it. The article was critical of auditors in the wake of the famous McKesson & Robbins fraud. Stephen Zeff used the scrapbook as a basis for his article, "*Truth in Accounting: The Ordeal of Kenneth MacNeal*," in the July 1982 issue of *The Accounting Review*. In the 1960s, MacNeal had loaned Zeff the scrapbook, and before returning it to him made a microfilm record of the contents, now on CD. MacNeal's scrapbook is a trove of his correspondence, reviews of his book, his speeches, and drafts of his articles. Recently, Royce Kurtz, AICPA Research & Instruction Librarian and Associate Professor, University of Mississippi, agreed to include the reproduction of the scrapbook in the J.D. Williams Library.