

USI College of Business
Accounting Circle Meeting Minutes
Orr Center 2018
May 4, 2010

Members Present: Becki Alcorn, Tonya Borders, Deidra Conner, Kevin Hammett, Michael Haynes, Kerry Jackson, Steven Mudd, Jana Pottorff, Nikki Roser, Darryl Spurlock, Rob Wedding, Connie Wellmeyer, Larry Whiteside, Jeff Wilmes, and Marvin Wright.

Members Absent: Donald Breivogel, Mike Carroll, Daryl Dassel, Steven Farrell, Sally Joest, Michael Klueh, Tim McGuire, Mark Miles, Greg Newman, John Schenk, Terri Swan, Liv Watson, and Michelle Schroeder.

Young Professionals Present: Derek Adams, Bridgitte Danhauer, Kim Kinnaman, Allison Menke, and Lindsay Schmitt.

Young Professionals Absent: Erika Buse, Kevin Farley, Kyle Fields, May Flores, Emily Hickerson, Jamie Kennedy, Jamie Seitz, and Kyle Waninger.

Ex-officio Members Present: Nancy Bizal, Mohammed Khayum, and Les Nunn.

Ex-officio Members Absent: Tom Austerman.

Faculty Present: Debra Hunter, Jeanette Maier-Lytle, Brian McGuire, Stephen Shanklin, and Dan Wade.

Faculty Absent: Craig Ehlen, Philip Hanley, Mehmet Kocakulah, and Brett Long.

Administrative Assistants Present: Kristina Duncan.

Students Present: Brett Bueltel, Kiersten Deig, Ashley Hancock, Kelli Housman, Yesa Matvelieva, Amanda McConnell, and Anna Shade.

WELCOME: Deidra Conner

Conner welcomed all to the meeting and asked for self introductions.

MINUTES: Conner

The fall 2009 minutes were approved with one correction: Corrected from **Screaming Eagles Toastmasters** to **Speaking Eagles Toastmasters**.

ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT: Conner

The Accounting Circle Executive Committee nominated and Members elected by electronic vote **Becki Alcorn** to be Chair-elect.

The Executive Committee nominated and the Members elected by electronic vote the following members to an additional three-year term:

Becki Alcorn	Mike Carroll	Steve Farrell	Mike Haynes
Sally Joest	Steve Mudd	Terri Swan	Rob Wedding

Michael Klueh was nominated from the floor and elected to an additional three-year term.

ACCOUNTING CIRCLE CHAIR REPORT: *Conner*

PRACTICE/EDUCATION INTERACTION COMMITTEE *Mike Haynes* called for the following reports:

Golf Scramble – **Marv Wright** (**Jeanette Maier-Lytle** co-chair) reported the AC 2009 Golf Outing was a success. The amount raised for the Roxy Baas Memorial Scholarship was approximately \$4,694.75. The committee will be meeting in the summer and the date of the outing will be discussed and determined. E-mail notifications will be sent out. **Wright** invited more Members to join.

High School Day Report – **Haynes** spoke to **Mike Carroll** (not present) who said that approximately 75 students attended. He discussed challenges for the next year, i.e., secondary school finances, number of days students allowed to miss, last day of Fall Festival. Next High School Day will be Friday, October 8, 2010. The committee will look at possible changes to be sure more students can attend.

Faculty Internships - **Steve Mudd** said the committee is in the process of looking for a faculty member to intern to fill a position for next spring or fall. He briefly explained that a faculty is placed with a local company in order to obtain practical experience to be brought back into the classroom. It is an added value to the educational experience for the accounting students.

Student Internships and Co-ops – A paper report is in the meeting packet. Additional firms/companies are needed. **Conner** encouraged Members to consider including an intern or co-op program. Janet Johnson with Career Services is the contact.

Accounting Extravaganza - **Haynes** said it turned out well. A total of 58 students participated. Some changes to the overall structure were implemented which students seem to have enjoyed. The game was “Are you smarter than a CPA?” The event also included a panel of speakers (**Tonya Border**, **Kevin Hammett**, and **Darryl Spurlock**). The evaluation survey results were mid-to-high fours. **Kim Kinnaman** added that students didn’t seem to like pizza. **Conner** suggested looking at other menu alternatives. **Debra Hunter** suggested inviting Undecided Majors with high GPA’s as they may consider an accounting degree. Four dates for the next Extravaganza have been held and are included in the packet. The committee will need to determine a specific date soon so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Distinguished Accountant – **Jeff Wilmes** and previous Distinguished Accountant awardees will seek nominations and make their selection in Fall 2010. The award will be presented at the next Extravaganza.

Young Professionals – **Sally Joest** informed via e-mail that there is nothing to report. Some Young Professionals’ terms will expire on 9/1/10. Action to follow-up on terms will be determined in the summer.

ACADEMIC RELATIONS *Hammett* called for the following reports:

Accountants in the Classroom - **Maier-Lytle** thanked **Borders** and **April Settles**, who was recommended by **Rob Wedding**, for coming to the classroom to share their expertise. One individual from private and one from public accounting made visits throughout the semester. Guest students **Amanda McConnell** and **Brett Bueltel** shared their testimonies of the importance of and appreciation for having accountants in the classroom. **Maier-Lytle** indicated the need for volunteers in three of the fall courses and asked for volunteers.

Speaking Eagles Toastmasters – **Dan Wade** thanked the Accounting Circle for the years of their visits and financial support as well as their dedication on a weekly basis. Guest students (co-chairs **Kelli Housman** and **Yesa Matvelieva**) shared their deep appreciation for the connection as well as financial and moral support Members have provided. **Wade** encouraged Circle Members to attend.

Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) – **Brian McGuire** announced we have three different student teams (2 BAP and 1 IMA). One of the BAP teams competed for the Midwest region and finished in third place out of nine teams. The second BAP team didn't have to compete but will be presenting nationally in San Jose. Shade briefly shared the team's (**Anna Shade, Kaycie Hibdon, Jamie Perry, and Aaron Field**) experience in the BAP competition. **Mehmet Kocakulah** and **McGuire** served as the faculty advisors for both BAP teams. The third team, IMA student case competitors, will be presenting their final case in the summer.

Shade thanked everyone who attended Meet the Firms night and for their support. Six different firms came out. The next Meet the Firms night will be set up for the end of the spring semester in 2011. Details will be e-mailed to the Members.

Accounting and Professional Services Club (APS) - **Steve Shanklin** explained that the Accounting and Professional Services (APS) Club is reinventing the club to include opportunities for students with a broader base and begin activities apart from BAP.

ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS LAW DEPARTMENT REPORT *Les Nunn*

IMA Final Four Teams - **Maier-Lytle** reported this year's IMA team (**Kiersten Deig, Ashley Hancock, Anna Shade, and Shayne Wheeler**) made it to the Final Four again. They, along with faculty advisors (**Maier-Lytle** and **McGuire**), will travel to Baltimore to compete in the IMA National Conference with their formal presentation on June 6th. **Shade, Hancock, and Deig** briefly shared information about their case topic, an Irish Pub in Ireland, and the improvements they came up with for their presentation. They are hopeful to win and make this the third year in the row. **Maier-Lytle** asked for volunteer firms/corporation to listen to practice case competitions. At this time, Harding, Shymanski & Company has volunteered. She asked for additional volunteer(s) to contact her if interested in donating time.

Financial Report - **Nunn** referred to the report in the meeting packet.

Faculty Activities - **Nunn** announced that **Shanklin** is the Faculty Chair who is coordinating the move to the new Business and Engineering Center (BEC).

Follow-up on Fall Meeting Facilitation (paper report) – **Nunn** briefly went over the report (included in the packet) as a result of fall 2009 meeting facilitated by **Dr. Sue Ellspermann** and assisted by **Elissa Bakke**. **Nunn** invited anyone who is interested in seeing the complete program review to e-mail him at lnunn@usi.edu.

Department Reconfiguration - **Nunn** explained that Dean **Mohammed Khayum** appointed a faculty committee to review the organizational structure of the College of Business. Three recommendations were presented. It was decided to have three departments instead of four. As a result, the new department will include Accounting, Business Communications, Business Law, and Finance.

Shanklin mentioned that faculty's new office assignments will be e-mailed to the members; the phone numbers and e-mails will remain the same.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS TO PLAN NEXT STEPS: *Conner*

Conner announced that for 2010-2011, **Hammett** will continue to chair the Academic Relations Committee and **Borders** will chair the Practice/Education Interaction Committee. A list of both committees is enclosed in the packet. Members were encouraged to fill out the information sheet enclosed in the packet and select a committee for the coming year.

ACCOUNTING CIRCLE CHAIR APPRECIATION: Nunn

Nunn presented **Conner** with an appreciation plaque for serving as Chair of the Accounting Circle for 2009-2010 and praised her for doing an excellent job. **Conner** expressed her appreciation and acknowledged **Nancy Bizal**, faculty, AC Members, and College staff for the support and assistance each has provided.

NEW CHAIR REMARKS: Haynes

Haynes reflected he has been involved with the Accounting Circle for about seven years including Toastmasters and Accountants in the Classroom and is looking forward to serving as the Chair of the Accounting Circle. He encouraged all members to get involved.

DEAN'S REMARKS: Khayum

Khayum expressed his appreciation of the Accounting Circle and its dedication to the College of Business and Accounting program.

Khayum discussed department structure changes. He explained the current departments have an uneven number of faculty in each department which affected functionality. In the Summer of 2009, a Chair resigned from one of the departments which presented the College of Business with several challenges causing us to rethink the current structure. A special committee was put into place. The committee interviewed the faculty with specific questions. From that, a content of analysis with six evaluated criteria was brought to the Dean and a decision was made. Out of three options, the "Hybrid Department/ Coordinators Structure" was chosen to keep innovative ideas alive. The structure was influenced by the book, The Medici Effect: Breakthrough Insights at the Intersection of Ideas, Concepts & Cultures by Frans Johansson. Johansson will be on campus to discuss innovation through diverse interaction in November. **Khayum** suggested Accounting Circle Members read the book; Members will be invited to the event.

Adjournment 5:55 p. m.