

**USI College of Business
Accounting Circle Meeting Minutes
USI University Center Carter Hall ABC
November 9, 2011**

Members Present: Becki Alcorn, Michael Carroll, Kevin Hammett, Michael Haynes, Sally Joest, Nick Rueger, John Schenk, Michelle Schroeder, Connie Wellmeyer, Jeff Wilmes, Marvin Wright

Young Professionals Present: Derek Adams, Bridgitte Danhauer, Kyle Fields, Mitch Happe, Kim Kinnaman, Matt Reffett, Lindsay Schmitt, Jamie Seitz, Kyle Waninger

Ex-officio Members Present: Nancy Bizal, Mohammed Khayum, Leslie Nunn

Faculty Present: Tim Bryan, Craig Ehlen, Jeanette Maier-Lytle, Jamie Seitz, Daniel Wade

Administrative Assistants Present: Darla Perigo

Students Present: Brett Bueltel, Matt Cooper, Chris Corbin, Matthew Mitchell

Guests Present: Sharlett Gillard, Janet Johnson

Members Absent: Tonya Borders, Donald Breivogel, Steven Farrell, Kerry Jackson, Michael Klueh, Tim McGuire, Mark Miles, Steven Mudd, Terri Nolan, Jana Pottorff, Nikki Roser, Darryl Spurlock, Liv Watson, Robert Wedding, Larry Whiteside

Young Professionals Absent: Kevin Farley, Emily Hickerson, Jamie Kennedy

Ex-officio Members Absent: Kerry Jackson

Faculty Absent: Phil Hanley, Mehmet Kocakulah, Brett Long

WELCOME: *Mike Haynes*

Mike Haynes welcomed all to the meeting and asked for self-introductions.

MINUTES: *Mike Haynes*

The Spring 2011 minutes were approved as distributed.

ACCOUNTING CIRCLE CHAIR'S REMARKS: *Mike Haynes*

Mike Haynes stood in for **Tonya Borders**, Chair of the Practice/Education Committee and Golf Scramble.

Golf Scramble Report: October 21 – The report is attached to the minutes.

High School Day: October 28 – Chair **Jamie Seitz** reported 55 high school students attended. The attendees represented largely different schools than before; a bigger percentage was from EVSC. **Tracy Zeller** made an effective presentation. **Jeanette Maier-Lytle** related an email from an attendee the same evening that he chose USI over Butler and ISU because of his experience at High School Day.

Faculty Internship: *Nick Rueger*

Chair **Nick Rueger** reported no faculty internship this year.

Student Internship and Co-ops: *Janet Johnson*

Assistant Director of Career Services **Janet Johnson** referred to the report in the meeting packet and requested employers let her know if they have USI interns. If a student is not earning academic credit for the internship, the Career Services office may not know about it. She noted companies are beginning to re-establish internships which they abandoned during the recession.

Extravaganza Report: November 9 – Chair **Bridgette Danhauer** reported that 30 professionals and 55 students (actual number @ 80) were expected. Panel members to elaborate on “Where Accounting Can Take You” were **Dave Freeman** from BKD, **Elizabeth Barnes** from Koch & Sons, and **Matt Reffett** from Vectren.

Young Professionals: **Sally Joest** and **John Schenk** are Co-Chairs. **Joest** reported that the YP’s had a 2.5 hour brainstorming session led by Sue Elsperrmann to help resolve the YP’s desire to stay active after 30 years of age. **Kim Kinnaman** reported the three action items that came out of the session:

1. To bring immediate relief, raise the age limit from 30 to 40 to allow the YP’s to stay longer and perhaps be ready for membership in the Accounting Circle
2. Define active status:
 - a. Attend at least one Accounting Circle meeting in a year’s time.
 - b. Attend one student activity in a year.
 - c. Plan or assist with an Accounting Circle event.
3. Allow YP’s to propose additional Accounting Circle activities such as mock interviews.

The YP term of membership will remain two-years, but renewable.

No discussion – it was moved and seconded to accept the proposal. **CARRIED**

Young Professional **Kyle Fields**, Manager, Field Operations, SS&C Technologies explained that the company has 27 offices and opened the Evansville office in March 2011. It is an outsource provider for software solutions. Regency is a local client.

Academic Relations: Chair **Kevin Hammett** called on **Jeanette Maier-Lytle**.

Accountants in the Classroom- **Maier-Lytle** reported the following were in her spring 202 classes: **Kevin Hammett** and **Tonya Borders**, **Don Breivogel** and **Steve Mudd**. This fall the new professors have not participated but will in the spring. **Maier-Lytle** explained the pairs are made up of one public and one private accountant who come to the class three times during the semester and present information related to the classroom topic. **Maier-Lytle** will have 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. classes. **Jamie Seitz** will have 9:00 a.m. and noon classes in the spring. She encouraged Circle members and YP's to participate and thanked those individuals who have participated.

Speaking Eagles Toastmasters- **Dan Wade** thanked Circle members and YP's who have attended. At least one representative has been at the meeting every week. He said the constant attendance by a YP member makes the speakers prepare well and helps them succeed. Toastmasters has proven to be a successful recruiting tool. He said it is wonderful to see the students grow. Someone is scheduled for the rest of the fall semester. He encouraged volunteers for the spring. **Matt Cooper** thanked the Circle for allowing students this opportunity; **Matt Mitchell** thanked the Circle members for their time to help students progress in their careers and for the financial support. He noted Toastmasters has helped him shed most of his nervousness. **Chris Corbin** noted the huge advances toward being a professional.

ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS LAW DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S REPORT: *Les Nunn*

Les Nunn referred to the financial reports in the packet.

Faculty Activities- **Nunn** reported the department has two vacancies. He stated there is a shortage of Ph.D. candidates in accounting which makes recruiting difficult. He noted the USI Accounting Program is one of 169 accounting departments with AACSB accreditation and thanked **Dan Wade** for getting the program in the AACSB accrediting mold. USI College of Business and Accounting Program will be up for reaccreditation in 2013. One of the criteria is a certain percent of students taught by a Ph.D. He expressed his appreciation for **Mike Haynes** helping to teach last spring. **Nunn** reported the positions have been advertised and the candidates were chosen to interview on campus. Two of them have accepted positions elsewhere; one is scheduled to be on campus November 10. The need for Ph.D.'s in the classroom has curtailed faculty internships.

Information Technology Needs Survey: Professor of CIS **Sharlett Gillard** reported an evaluation of CIS 261, a class which emphasizes Excel and Access for all students. She distributed a survey to learn all the things we are doing and what you as employers need and expect.

Beta Alpha Psi: President **Matt Mitchell** reported this has been a successful semester – BAP had great recruiting – 11 candidates and 18 members. BAP is organizing an

accounting tutoring program to be held in the Business and Engineering Center. He thanked the Circle for attending and for their support.

2011 IMA Finalist Team Report: **Anu Asthana, Brett Bueltel, Matt Mitchell, and Ashley Scott** were the members. **Bueltel** reported the case featured a fake country, a fake currency, and an airline facing competition for the first time. He thanked the firms who gave them question and answer experience and **Doug Joest**, Manager of the Evansville Regional Airport, for listening and critiquing the teams solution presentation. He said it was a great experience and thanked Coach **Maier-Lytle** and faculty members.

2012 INCPAS Case Study Team: **Jeanette Maier-Lytle** reported the team will find out on November 11 if it is one of the six finalists out of a field of thirteen and the oral presentation will be November 18. She thanked **Jamie Seitz**, who was on the first place team in 2004, for her assistance.

2012 IMA Team: Team member **Matt Cooper** said the preparation has just started. This year the case is about a baseball team's facility and its need to add additional activities.

DEAN'S REMARKS: *Mohammed Khayum*

Mohammed Khayum noted the unique relationship between the College of Business and the Accounting Circle and its value to the 2013 AACSB reaccreditation. He said the percent of academically qualified professors is a challenge. He said the Accounting Circle's wide range of activities is unique; most school's advisory groups are largely sounding boards. We are a good model. **Darryl Spurlock's** 10-year document is useful in reporting the Accounting Circle's uniqueness. **Khayum** referred to the Accounting and Professional Services Program Mission Statement and SWOT Template documents in the meeting packet and asked those present to respond (AC for Accounting Circle member, YP for Young Professional, F for faculty, and S for student). He explained the high interest in the opportunities and threats and how they relate to our strengths which will help give a snapshot of areas we can leverage. Feedback will be provided.

He echoed the tremendous value the Accounting Circle provides to the College of Business and particularly to the accounting program. Other advisory groups have borrowed from the Accounting Circle – i.e. Professionals in the Classroom for the IT Alliance and BOA Days at the COB for the Board of Advisors.

Khayum noted the INCPAS case study focused on knowledge management, an important issue. Our accounting majors are exposed to many things; the College of Business may learn from the case. He thanked all for their help for the case study team. **Mike Haynes** remarked that knowledge management is an intriguing topic.

NEXT STEPS: *Mike Haynes*

Mike Haynes announced the spring meeting will be during finals week April 26 (Thursday) – May 2 (Wednesday).

ADJOURNED to Accounting Extravaganza in Carter D.