BUSINESS FORUM

Department of Accounting brings together experts to discuss corporate responses to changing accounting rules, the intersection of tax planning with operations and other timely topics.

BY RICHARD WESTLUND

More than 200 business executives, entrepreneurs and accounting professionals discussed corporate tax policy, the changing financial reporting environment, new FASB standards, big data and more at the University of Miami Business ForUM. The Department of Accounting’s annual conference took place on June 17, 2016, at the University’s Shalala Student Center – where Sundaresh Ramnath, chair and professor of accounting at the School, welcomed more than 200 attendees. The day-long event’s Diamond Sponsor was Royal Caribbean International and its Gold Sponsors were Alvarez & Marsal, Crowe Horwath, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). Silver Sponsors included BDO, Berkowitz Pollack Brant, Coral Gables Trust, Grant Thornton, Kaufman Rossin, MasTec, Ryder System and Vizcaino Zomerfeld LLP.

MANAGING NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

One session examined today’s financial reporting environment, which is changing more dramatically than usual, according to Paul Munter, senior partner in KPMG’s Audit Quality and Professional Practice Group, and a former professor and chair of accounting at the
The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) – which develops generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for financial reporting – is implementing new standards in areas like revenue recognition and accounting for leases.

The discussion centered on how corporations prepare ahead of looming changes in accounting standards that could have a significant impact on their reported numbers. For instance, a new FASB standard scheduled to go into effect in 2018 will recognize revenue when a company transfers control of a good or service – “an expectation-based model that might or might not align with cash payments,” Munter said. “That’s a major difference from the traditional standard of recognizing revenue when it is earned and realized,” he added. “It would make it difficult for capital providers to understand a company’s current financial position, particularly when compared with its past performance.”

New FASB standards may also soon affect property leasing versus buying decisions, noted Daniel Quezada (BBA ’97, MBA ’01), senior business analytics manager for Walmart US Dry Grocery. “While we probably will do more leasing, business considerations rather than accounting treatments will remain the major driver,” he said.

In addition to keeping both accounting and operations up-to-date and in communication about new standards, private and public companies also need to educate their investor bases, said Jose Gordo (BA ’94), chief financial officer of magicJack VocalTec Ltd. “Let them know that you’re not changing the business model, even if the reported results are different,” he explained.

INTEGRATING TAX PLANNING AND OPERATIONS

Another session brought together tax experts in a discussion of corporate tax planning strategies. Panelists included John D’Arpino (BBA ’89, MST ’91), vice president for mergers and acquisitions, tax structuring and planning at Sheridan Healthcare, a privately held entity. He noted that, “our company is active in 48 states, so we have to look at those tax rates, along with employment taxes and income taxes. So, you have to plan ahead and help your accounting team address these challenges.”

Other participants in the tax panel, which was moderated by Leo Chomiak (MST ’86), an international tax partner at Grant Thornton LLP, said that the federal government needs to reduce corporate tax rates to levels comparable with other countries in the developed world. “Our national tax rate of 35% is much higher than countries like the United Kingdom, which is only 20%,” said Marcel Maier (BBA ’90), vice president, tax at The GEO Group, a Boca Raton-based operator of correctional facilities. The GEO Group reorganized as a U.S. real estate investment trust (REIT) in 2013. “Many U.S. companies also have to pay state income taxes,” Maier added.

Turning The GEO Group into a REIT did ensure that its real estate business is no longer subject to tax, Maier said. But that hasn’t stopped the company from looking at other ways to reduce the taxes it pays. “We spend a lot of time looking at sales and use taxes, property taxes and employment taxes,” he explained. “Effective tax planning is all about the details – >>
Dear Students, Parents, Alumni and Friends:

2016 was a challenging year, with Program Manager Maggie Alvarez’s passing. We are very grateful to have had her as part of our family during the past few years, and we miss her deeply. Here at the Department of Accounting, Maggie’s contributions helped enrich relations with students as well as with external constituents, including the business community, recruiters and alumni. Maggie clearly enjoyed her work, and we enjoyed sharing a piece of her life.

As we move forward, we continue to make progress on our path to becoming one of the top accounting departments in the nation. I would like to share a few highlights of our accomplishments over the past year:

• In December, we hired Daniel Medina as program manager.
• One of our graduates, Anthony Joffre, earned the Elijah Watt Sells award for obtaining a cumulative average score above 95.5% across all four sections of the Uniform CPA Examination.
• A team of our students won the Honorable Mention Award in the 2016 Deloitte FanTAXtic Regional Competition.
• Professor Seth Levine pioneered the University of Miami’s Florida 50 Index (UMIAMIFL), a first-of-its-kind, custom S&P Dow Jones stock market index that measures the performance of companies from the S&P Composite 1500 Index that are headquartered in Florida. It’s also the first Dow Jones index owned by a university.
• Professor DJ Nanda received the School of Business Excellence in Teaching Award, selected by Miami Executive MBA for the Americas students. He also received the School of Business Cesarano Teaching Leadership Award.
• Professor Shirley Dennis-Escoffier received the School of Business Excellence in Teaching Award, selected by members of the MS in Taxation program, which marks her second consecutive year of receiving this prestigious award.
• Professors Kay Tatum and Miguel Minutti-Meza received the Best Paper Award from the American Accounting Association’s (AAA) International Accounting Section.
• We welcomed Andrew McMartin to our faculty, furthering the depth and strength of the department both in research and teaching.
• We added five new advisory board members, further strengthening the board’s diversity, reach and impact.

The School of Business mission “to develop innovative ideas and principled leaders that transform global business and society” can only be accomplished with your support, for which I am extremely grateful. Your financial contributions, service efforts and guidance help us execute our vision “to become a premier learning community engaged in discovery and dissemination of transformative business knowledge that enables its members to advance sustainable prosperity worldwide.” Together, we can continue to build upon our successes, while forging one of the country’s finest accounting departments.

We look forward to hearing from you and learning of your successes, new endeavors and suggestions. Please keep in touch and email me at AccountingChair@bus.miami.edu.

Go ‘Canes!

Sundaresh Ramnath
Chair, Department of Accounting
Dear Students, Parents, Alumni and Friends,

As the chair of the School’s Accounting Advisory Board, I speak for those of us in public accounting and private business in expressing our gratitude for the well-rounded, competitive and highly prepared accounting graduates and students the School of Business has produced. They are truly top-notch. Also, on behalf of the board, I want to say a personal thanks to Accounting Department Chair Sundaresh Ramnath, and the entire faculty, for welcoming our input and providing great collaboration between academia and business.

The board’s primary objectives have been and continue to be advising the department’s leadership about cutting-edge curriculum ideas, fundraising for programs and scholarships, communicating with alumni and the community, and, of course, facilitating and providing guidance around events like the Business ForUM. We have also helped recruit and involve more than 20 board members since the board’s inception in 2009. The board has also had the privilege of working with the School in a broader capacity through Interim Dean Anuj Mehrotra, who has been instrumental in including our team in updates, and seeking counsel around the School’s short-term and long-term goals. Many thanks to the dean for allowing us to collaborate with you.

Before I end, I would like to provide a heartfelt plea to all of our readers to PLEASE support the UM School of Business Accounting program. Obviously this can be done through financial contributions, but it can also be done through involvement. The cost? Your time. I have been coming back to the “U” every year since graduating almost 28 years ago. It started with giving $50 to $100 a year and recruiting at the school. It has evolved into recruiting dozens of students, guest lecturing, attending academic and sporting events with faculty and, most of all, developing lifelong friends and family within the School. The “U” has become an extension of my life and I am extremely grateful. So, please – get involved and donate your time and money, too. Thank you!

Warm wishes to all,

Mark A. Margulies
Partner and Florida Tax Practice Leader, Grant Thornton LLP
Chair, Accounting Advisory Board

ACCOUNTING ADVISORY BOARD: CHAIR'S MESSAGE

1970s
Kenneth S. Dubow (BBA ’76), a member of the Accounting Advisory Board, has been with Kaufman Rossin for 37 years, and celebrated his 30th wedding anniversary with his wife, Adrian Dubow.

1980s
George Pita (BBA ’83), a member of the Accounting Advisory Board, earned the South Florida Business Journal’s 2017 CFO Award for Turnaround Achievement for his work as executive vice president and CFO of Mastec.

2000s
Kelly Calisto (BBA ’09, MAcc ’10), an audit manager at Grant Thornton, is engaged to David Kraynick.

Stephanie Farmer (BBA ’09) is on an international audit rotation in Australia as a client manager in Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu’s Assurance & Advisory Quality and Risk practice.

Katie French-Regan (BBA ’09) was promoted to audit manager at Deloitte.

Cristina Hale (BBA ’04, MST ’05) was promoted to tax partner at PwC, and recently married Andrew Beal in Jamaica.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)
The University of Miami’s Florida 50 Index, which measures the performance of all Florida-based companies in the S&P Composite 1500 Index, ended 2016 with a gain of 11.46% for the year. Created by Seth Levine, a lecturer in the Department of Accounting, the custom S&P Dow Jones stock market index is the first to measure the performance of companies in the S&P Composite 1500 that are headquartered in a single state. It is also the first Dow Jones index owned by a university.

The Florida 50 Index’s (UMIAMIFL) gain of 11.46% edged out the broader S&P 1500, which grew 10.65% during 2016, as well as the S&P 500, which rose by 9.54%. Eight firms in the Florida index gained more than 40% during the year: WellCare Health Plans Inc., Rayonier Advanced Materials Inc., Marriott Vacations Worldwide Corp., KLX Inc., Landstar System Inc., B/E Aerospace Inc., Brown & Brown Inc. and CSX Corp.

“The 2016 performance of the University of Miami’s Florida 50 Index shows that not only are Florida-based firms keeping pace with their counterparts across the country, but as a cross-section, they’re actually seeing results coming in even better,” Levine says. “Investors may do well to keep an eye on this index in the future as they weigh their investment decisions.”

Designed as a bellwether for the Florida economy, the Florida 50 Index is composed of about 50 large-, mid- and small-cap companies with their headquarters in Florida, based on their market capitalizations. The exact number of companies can change based on mergers, acquisitions and relocations. Other well-known Florida companies in the index include cruise companies Carnival Corp. and Royal Caribbean Cruises, Florida Power & Light parent company NextEra Energy, software maker Citrix Systems, auto racing giant International Speedway, vehicle retailer AutoNation, homebuilder Lennar Corp., logistics and transportation leader Ryder System and Tupperware Brands Corp.

Levine spent nearly two years creating the index with Dow Jones; it went live in January 2016. He eventually hopes to turn it into an investable product, such as an exchange traded fund.

The index is available under the ticker symbol UMIAMIFL through the S&P website at www.umiamifl.com. Its performance can be monitored in real time on Yahoo Finance.
FACULTY - SHARING OUR EXPERTISE
RECENT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Pietro Bianchi
- University of British Columbia – Vancouver, Canada
- Arizona State University – Tempe, Ariz.
- Bocconi University – Milan
- IE Business School – Madrid
- Universidad Carlos III – Madrid
- European Accounting Association Annual Meeting – Maastricht, Netherlands
- American Accounting Association International Accounting Section Midyear Conference – New Orleans
- 6th Workshop on Audit Quality – Florence, Italy

Khrystyna Bochkay
- University of Connecticut – Storrs, Conn.
- European Accounting Association Annual Meeting – Maastricht, Netherlands
- American Accounting Association Financial Accounting and Reporting Section Midyear Meeting – Newport Beach, Calif.

Roman Chychyla
- Florida Accounting Symposium – Tallahassee, Fla.
- European Accounting Association Annual Meeting – Maastricht, Netherlands
- University of Miami – Coral Gables, Fla.

Diana Falsetta
- American Accounting Association Annual Meeting – Chicago
- Accounting, Behavior, and Organizations Research Conference – Nashville, Tenn.
- American Accounting Association Annual Meeting 2016 – New York

Miguel Minutti-Meza
- Business School Seminar, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology – Hong Kong
- Seminar, Chinese University of Hong Kong, School of Accountancy – Hong Kong

Eric H. Weisbrod
- American Taxation Association Midyear Meeting – Orlando, Fla.
- International Symposium on Audit Research – Sentosa, Singapore
- University of Maryland – College Park, Md.

Peter Wysocki
- American Accounting Association Annual Meeting – New York
- Boston University – Boston
- University of Connecticut – Storrs, Conn.
- European School of Management and Technology – Berlin

FACULTY AWARDS AND HONORS

- **Dhananjay (DJ) Nanda**
  - University of Miami Excellence in Teaching Award – selected by the Miami Executive MBA for the Americas class of 2016; Visiting Fellow, Initiative on Global Markets, Booth School of Business, University of Chicago, 2016;
  - 2016 Cesarano Teaching Leadership Award, University of Miami School of Business
  - Shirley Dennis-Escoffier University of Miami Excellence in Teaching Award – selected by MS in Taxation classes of December 2015 and May 2016

- **Miguel Minutti-Meza and Kay Tatum**
  - Best Paper Award – American Accounting Association International Accounting Section Meeting 2016 (with Elizabeth Gutierrez and Maria Vulcheva)

- **Sundaresh Ramnath**
  - University of Miami Excellence in Teaching Award – selected by the Professional MBA Class of May 2016; University of Miami MS in Accounting Excellence in Teaching Award – May 2016
When Hillelene (Bluming) Lustig (BBA ’55) was a student at the School of Business, there were only two other women studying accounting with her. “It was a different world back then,” she said during a 2013 interview. “In my era, most women either became a nurse or a teacher.” A great uncle of hers made her studies possible, when he offered to pay for her college tuition. At the age of 16, the New Yorker made her way to his home in South Florida to attend the University of Miami. Just 20 years old when she graduated with her accounting degree, Lustig wasn’t even old enough yet to take the CPA exam, which required that applicants be at least 21. Ultimately, she became one of Florida’s first female CPAs.

As a woman, finding a job in accounting was difficult in the 1950s, Lustig said. She eventually got a job with a large local firm, where she was the only woman. And, although she’d worked for an accountant for two years during college, at first the firm gave her no serious work. “In the beginning, I felt like a piece of furniture,” she recalled. “Then the war broke out and a lot of the men got drafted, so they gave me work to do.”

Lustig met her future husband, Edward Lustig (BBA ’56), while working at the firm where she was employed. He’d been a School of Business student (through the G.I. Bill) at the same time as she was, graduating six months after her. She didn’t remember him, but he remembered her. Initially, she was reluctant to go on a date with him. “I wanted to separate my personal life from my business life,” she said. A few years after they married, the two started their own CPA firm. While they both worked with clients, Lustig mostly ran the business, which had eight employees at its peak. They had their own practice for 17 years, eventually merging with another firm.

Through it all, Lustig maintained strong ties with the School of Business. She was president of the Alumni Association of the School of Business, which later folded into the University’s alumni association. Lustig was also a champion of both her profession and women’s role in it. A past president of the American Society of Women Accountants, she also served eight years on the Florida Board of Accountancy and on that board’s Continuing Professional Education Committee. In 2003 the Jewish Museum of South Florida honored her with its “Breaking the Glass Ceiling” award. She was also involved with a number of other charitable organizations, both locally and nationally.

Meanwhile, Lustig ensured that other women could follow in her footsteps. After years of giving to the School, in 1991, she and her husband founded a scholarship for women studying accounting. Initially founded as a joint gift from the two of them, after his death in 1995, it later became a memorial scholarship, called the Edward and Hillelene Lustig Endowed Scholarship in Accounting. Lustig funded the scholarship with both an endowment and annual gifts, and made it the beneficiary of an annuity. Over the years, Lustig’s gift has helped more than 30 students.

Lustig passed away Jan. 7, 2016. Her passing is a great loss to the department and to the accounting community.

2015-2016 ACCOUNTING SCHOLARSHIPS

- Accounting Students Endowed Scholarships
- Arthur Andersen LLP Endowed Scholarship in Honor of William D. Pruitt
- Marvin J. Brittain Endowed Scholarship in Accounting
- Capra Family Memorial Scholarship
- Berkowitz Pollack Brant-Barry J. Dick International Tax Scholarship
- Sylvia Frank Freed Endowed Scholarship in Accounting
- Benedict R. Harrow Endowed Scholarship
- Eloise Kimmelman Scholarship in Accounting
- Edward and Hillelene Lustig Endowed Scholarship in Accounting
- McClain & Company Endowed Scholarship in Memory of Mariana D. Herrera, BBA ’72
- Howard A. Mesh Endowed Scholarship in Accounting
- Martin A. Miller Accounting Scholarship
- The Lawrence C. Phillips Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Taxation
- Alan P. Fiske Scholarship
- Arthur P. Metzger/Deloitte & Touche Endowed Scholarship
- Kaufman, Rossin and Company Distinction in Accounting Scholarship
- EY Scholars-Accelerated Master of Accounting Scholarship
THANK YOU TO OUR 2015-2016 DONORS

We extend our deepest thanks to our donors, whose gifts are essential to all the work we do at the School of Business Department of Accounting. On behalf of all of our students, faculty and staff, thank you for your generous gifts to support the department in recent years.

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<td>BBA '06, MBA '11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashlie M. Nutter</td>
<td>BSBA '11, MST '12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Blair O’Brien</td>
<td>BBA '15</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane H. Oman</td>
<td>BED '66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earl K. Oman</td>
<td>BBA '65</td>
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### WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are extremely grateful for your support of the Department of Accounting over the years. Your generous contributions have been crucial in attracting high-quality students and faculty to the department, and helping us become one of the top accounting departments in the country. We look forward to, and greatly appreciate, your continued support.

Please make a donation to the Department of Accounting, either by calling the School’s Office of Alumni Relations and Development at (305) 284-4052 or via the department’s giving page at [www.miami.edu/SBAaccounting](http://www.miami.edu/SBAaccounting).

This list includes gifts that were made directly to the Department of Accounting between June 1, 2015, and December 31, 2016.
Forty-nine years after graduating from the School of Business with a degree in accounting, Octavio F. Verdeja (BBA ’66) still marvels at the path he traveled when he left Cuba for Miami with $1,000 in his pocket in 1960. Just 22, Verdeja already had two children and a wife to support, so he worked by day – first in a grocery store and then in construction – and attended school at night.

“I was a foreman in a concrete plant and my hands swelled from the heat – it was horrible,” Verdeja says. “The man who hired me said, ‘You are not meant to be here. I’m going to get you a job in the accounting department.’ That’s when I started thinking about going to UM at night.” The decision proved prescient, setting Verdeja on a course that led to an accounting degree, a position at Ernst & Young and, ultimately, partnering with a friend to start a CPA firm that endures to this day: Verdeja & De Armas (based in Coral Gables). His son Octavio A. Verdeja Jr. (BBA ’79) is the managing partner of Verdeja & De Armas.

The younger Octavio’s involvement with the University began before he started his studies at the School and continues today. “UM was literally around the corner from my house growing up,” he says. “I went to the campus as a teen, attended school there and now I take my grandchildren there.” Octavio was also involved in the inception of the University’s Cuban Collection and has been a member of the Citizens Board for 25 years. His son Javier Verdeja (MST ’14), also an alumnus, joined Ernst & Young, the same firm where his father began his accounting career and where his grandfather also worked (it was known then as Ernst & Ernst). “To be able to study the same field, at the same school, and then begin my career at the same firm as my father and grandfather is something I think we are all proud of,” Javier says.

Octavio reflects that, just as his career in accounting differed from his father’s, his son’s path will likely differ from his own. “My father’s circle was made up of entrepreneurs – business owners who needed accounting,” he explains. “I knew that I wanted to do something else in accounting, not auditing just corporations. I found my path in the world of not-for-profits and private schools, which has now become a niche for the firm.” Fortunately, his father was supportive of this shift in business. “I can truthfully say that in 35 years of working together, we have never raised our voices at one another,” the younger Octavio says. “Whenever we had a business issue, we knew it would be resolved in the pool on Saturday.”

### ALUMNI

THE VERDEJA FAMILY: THREE GENERATIONS OF ‘CANES ACCOUNTING TRADITION

BY JENNIFER PELLET

![Image of the Verdeja family](image-url)

**2010s**

**Alexander Admire** (BBA ’13) was promoted to tax supervisor at MBAF.

**Johanna Barriga** (BSBA ’14, MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit manager at Ernst & Young.

**Erik Biggart** (BBA ’12) was promoted to tax senior at Ernst & Young.

**Maria Coronado** (BBA ’11, MPrA ’11) was promoted to audit manager at Ernst & Young.

**James Deiotte** (BBA ’10), a tax senior at Deloitte, married Cristina Andres in October 2016.

**Thierry Djemmo** (BBA ’11) was promoted to audit manager at Ernst & Young.

(Continued from Page 4)

**CLASS NOTES**

- **Jason Mills** (BBA ’02) became a partner at Lanigan Ryan Malcolm & Doyle.
- **Stacy Nagy** (BBA ’06) was promoted to mergers and acquisitions manager at Deloitte.
- **Michelle Steele** (BSBA ’03) was promoted to audit senior manager at Ernst & Young.
- **Kristen Wiggins** (BBA ’07, MPrA ’08) was promoted to audit senior manager at Ernst & Young.

(Continued on Page 12)
NEW ALAN P. FISKE SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTS PHD RESEARCH
BY KAREN-JANINE COHEN

A new scholarship established by an accounting alumnus is enabling an accounting PhD student to expand his research. Alan P. Fiske (BBA ‘60) created the Alan P. Fiske Scholarship, which awards $3,000 per year over five years to doctoral students. The first recipient is Jake Krupa (BBA ’12, MAcc ’12), who is in his third year of the PhD program and was one of the first students enrolled in the School’s Accelerated Master of Accounting program.

Fiske, founder and managing director of accounting firm Fiske & Company, graduated from the School of Business in 1960 with a degree in accounting and a minor in law. About a decade later, he started Fiske & Company, which is now a 20-person firm based in Plantation, Florida, with offices in Brickell, Kendall and Boca Raton. For years, Fiske simply made a donation to the University. “Then I started to get more involved,” he says.

Fiske’s involvement culminated in the establishment of the scholarship. He geared it toward the doctorate level in recognition of how accounting practices are changing as technology allows massively expanded collection and analysis of data, Fiske explains. He gave the School full discretion in choosing the scholarship’s first recipient.

Krupa will use the award to further improve his research, which focuses on two areas. He is working with Miguel Minutti-Meza, an assistant professor of accounting, to examine how well auditors’ going concern opinions hold up after a year. He is also researching how well the U.S. business press covers international firms, and any effect of that coverage on investor decisions. “This award will make it possible for me to travel to two conferences, instead of one,” Krupa says. “It will make getting research data a lot easier; it opens a lot more opportunity to go down those paths.”

The West Palm Beach native worked as an auditor at PricewaterhouseCoopers before returning to the University. “I was looking for an academic challenge,” he explains.

“Jake Krupa is an excellent student, who we expect will be a very successful academic and outstanding scholar,” said Sundaresh Ramnath, accounting department chair. “We are extremely grateful to Mr. Fiske for helping us fund the scholarly activities of our PhD students.”

ALUMNI AT ERNST & YOUNG CREATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM
BY LAUREN COMANDER

By working with the School, Department of Accounting alumni at Ernst & Young founded a scholarship program that helps students in particular areas of interest to the firm.

The cost of getting a master’s degree can be prohibitive, but Hector Tundidor (MPRA ‘05), Ernst & Young Miami managing partner, his partners and the School are helping the School’s best and brightest cover the cost through the EY Scholars Program.

“The idea was to develop a meaningful commitment from our partners that the University can count on to move the needle in areas they believe are of the highest and greatest need for developing talent, and that otherwise may not have been identified,” says Tundidor, who is also a member of the University’s Citizens Board.

Select students in the Accelerated Master of Accounting program are designated as “EY Scholars in Accounting” and each receives $2,500 during the graduate phase of the program. The EY Scholars Program is also funding scholarships for students in the School’s Department of Health Sector Management and Policy. In total, students in the accounting and health sector departments will receive $113,000 during the next few years, from Tundidor and fellow EY partners John L. Babitt (BBA ’92), Camila Cote (BBA ’94), Angela Christie (JD ’95), Alan N. Garcia (BBA ’96) and Jeffrey Sopshin (BBA ’86).

The partners were also able to tap into the firm’s EY Gives matching gift program via the Ernst & Young Foundation. The goals of the EY Scholars Program align with the Ernst & Young mission of “building a better working world,” Tundidor says. “We felt that putting dollars into the hands of students who are seeking to get ahead would be a place where we could make a great impact,” he explains.

The vision is that generations of students will benefit from the program Tundidor and his fellow alumni created. “The EY Scholars Program is really fulfilling a need for these very talented students who, without the funding of this scholarship, would probably avoid getting that master’s degree,” says Victoria Castro, senior director of development at the School.

More than 130 University of Miami alumni work at Ernst & Young, including some two dozen partners. “We look to the University for talent,” Tundidor says. “Our hope is to one day recruit the Scholars to work at Ernst & Young and bring them into our high-performing culture. We want to mentor them and develop the leaders of the future.”
ACCOUNTING MIAMI  |  2016-2017

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

CLASS NOTES

Ekaterina Dubrova (MAcc ’15) was promoted to audit senior at MBAF.

Paul Eschbach (BSBA ’14, MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

Dariel Fagundo (BSBA ’15, MAcc ’15) was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte.

Emma Florea (BBA ’10) was promoted to risk advisory senior manager at MBAF.

Charlotte Fuschetti (BBA ’12) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

Meaghan Gaynor (BBA ’12), an audit senior at PwC, married fellow UM alumnus and Deloitte consultant Patrick Almas (BSME ‘10) in April 2016.

Anthony Gentile (BSBA ’14, MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

Alexa Grand (BBA ’13, MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte.

Allison Higbee (BBA ’12) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

Robert G. Hodson (MAcc ’13) was promoted to tax senior at Berkowitz Pollack Brant.

Jeremiah Irving (BBA ’11, MST ’11) was promoted to audit manager at Ernst & Young.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ACCOUNTING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD CHAIR:
Mark Margulies, BBA ’89, MST ’90
Florida Tax Practice Leader
Grant Thornton LLP

MEMBERS:
Jamie Byington, BBA ’81
Partner
Cherry Bekaert LLP

Camila Cote, BBA ’94
Partner
Ernst & Young LLP

Kenneth Dubow, BBA ’76
Principal
Kaufman Rossin

Madeline Elias, BS ’95, MST ’96
Miami Managing Partner, Tax Services
BDO USA LLP

Jared Fletcher, BBA ’95
Vice President of Strategic Initiatives
Lennar Financial Services

Brett Friedman, MBA ’94
Partner
RSM US LLP

Tony Gutierrez, BBA ’95
MST ’97
Associate Director, Tax
Berkowitz Pollack Brant

Raul Incera, BBA ’90
Principal
Morrison, Brown, Argiz & Farra, LLC

Alejandro Joya, BBA ’91
Managing Director
Alvarez and Marsal Taxand LLC

John R. Lambert
Partner
KPMG LLP

Jose S. Lamela Jr., BBA ’86
Partner
Crowe Horwath LLP

Stephen H. Nesi
Partner
PwC

Michael Novak, BBA ’76
Partner
Marcum LLP

George Pita, BBA ’82
CFO - Operations
MasTec Inc.

Bill Pruitt, BBA ’66

Peter Pruitt
Managing Partner, Florida and Puerto Rico
Deloitte LLP

Henry Pujol, BBA ’89, MBA ’94
Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.

Raymond Zomerfeld, BBA ’81
Partner
Vizcaino & Zomerfeld LLP

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to extend a special thank you to Miguel Farra (BA ’75, JD ’78) and Ernesto Perez for their past service on the Accounting Advisory Board. We appreciate your many contributions and commitment to our students, the department and the School of Business.

NEW ACCOUNTING FACULTY AND LECTURERS

One new faculty member and five new part-time lecturers joined the Department of Accounting for this school year.

This summer, Andrew McMartin joined the department as an assistant professor of accounting, after earning his PhD from Texas A&M University. His dissertation examined how financial reporting regulations affect foreign firm participation in the U.S. capital markets. He also has work that examines how governance regulations affect managerial opportunities to misreport. Prior to entering the PhD program, McMartin worked with Ernst & Young in its Silicon Valley office. He is a certified public accountant (inactive).

Richard Clarke, Blanca Malagon, Clinton Tarkoe and Bruce Yasukochi are sharing their practice expertise with students as new part-time lecturers. Finally, Daniel Medina joined the department as program manager and part-time lecturer (read more about Daniel on page 19).
FACULTY AND LECTURER LISTING
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ACCOUNTING FACULTY

Pietro Bianchi
Assistant Professor
PhD, IE Business School

Khrystyna Bochkay
Assistant Professor
PhD, Rutgers University

Joe Bylinski
Part-Time Lecturer
PhD, The Ohio State University

Leo Chomiak
Part-Time Lecturer
MST, University of Miami

Roman Chychyla
Assistant Professor
PhD, Rutgers University

Richard Clarke
Part-Time Lecturer
PhD, University of South Carolina

Jacklyn Collins
Full-Time Lecturer
MPRA, University of Miami; MBA, St. John's University

Shirley Dennis-Escoffier
Associate Professor
PhD, University of Miami

Diana Falsetta
Associate Professor
PhD, University of South Carolina

Maria Fogarty
Part-Time Lecturer
BS, University of Florida

Mark Friedman
Associate Professor
PhD, New York University

Joseph Genovese
Part-Time Lecturer
BBA, Niagara University

Oscar Holzmann
Associate Professor
PhD, Pennsylvania State University

Adam S Korenfield
Part-Time Lecturer
MST, University of Miami

Andrew Leone
Professor
PhD, University of Pittsburgh

Seth Levine
Full-Time Lecturer
MPRA, MBA, University of Miami

Blanca Malagon
Part-Time Lecturer
MALS, University of Miami

Andrew McMartin
Assistant Professor
PhD, Texas A&M University

Daniel Medina
Accounting Lecturer
MAcc, IT, Florida International University

Miguel Minutti-Meza
Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Toronto

Dhananjay Nanda
Professor
PhD, University of Rochester

Katherine Newman
Part-Time Lecturer
BSBA, University of Florida

Mario Perez
Full-Time Lecturer
MST, Florida International University

Olga Quintana
Associate Professor
DBA, George Washington University

Sundaresh Ramnath
Associate Professor
PhD, Pennsylvania State University

Juan Rodriguez
Full-Time Lecturer
MPRA, University of Miami

Avi Rushinek
Associate Professor
PhD, University of Texas at Austin

Manuel Sicre
Full-Time Lecturer
MBA, St. Thomas University

Clinton Tarkoe
Part-Time Lecturer
LLM, University of Florida

Kay Tatum
Associate Professor
PhD, Texas Tech University

Eric Weisbrowd
Assistant Professor
PhD, Arizona State University

Michael Werner
Full-Time Lecturer
PhD, University of Shanghai for Science and Technology

Michael Willenborg
Visiting Professor
PhD, Pennsylvania State University

Peter Wysocki
Professor
PhD, University of Rochester

Bruce Yasukochi
Part-Time Lecturer
BA, Bowdoin College

(Continued from Page 12)
CLASS NOTES

Max Keil (BSBA '14) was promoted to tax senior at Berkowitz Pollack Brant.

Alyssa Laferrera (BBA '11, MST '11) was promoted to audit manager at Ernst & Young.

Kristen Mattioli (BBA '11, MAcc '11) was promoted to Transaction Advisory Services manager at Ernst & Young.

Edward Michalski (BBA '14) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

(Continued on Page 14)

FACULTY EDITORIAL BOARD ACTIVITY

Diana Falsetta
Associate Editor, Journal of the American Taxation Association

Associate Editor, Behavioral Research in Accounting

Editorial Board, Advances in Accounting Behavioral Research

Miguel Minutti-Meza
Editorial Board, Journal of Accounting Research

Editorial Board, Contemporary Accounting Research

Editorial Board, Auditing: Journal of Practice and Theory

Dhananjay (DJ) Nanda
Editorial Board, Contemporary Accounting Research

Editorial Board, Journal of Management Accounting Research

Sundaresh Ramnath
Editor, Accounting Horizons

Peter Wysocki
Associate Editor, Journal of Accounting and Economics

Editorial Board, Journal of Accounting Research
CLASS NOTES

Brian E. Moschetti (BBA ’12, MAcc ’12) is engaged to fellow UM alumna Julia E. Tomaro (BSHS ’12) and resides in New Jersey.

Al-Lynn Nguyen (BBA ’14, MST ’14) was promoted to tax senior at Ernst & Young.

Shannon Nurse (BSBA ’13, MST ’13), a tax professional at Deloitte, is engaged to Hugo Ferraresi.

Ashlie Nutter (BSBA ’11, MST ’11) was promoted to audit supervisor at MBAF.

Jillian Pace (BSBA ’14 MST ’14) was promoted to tax senior at Grant Thornton.

Wen Qi (MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit senior at MBAF.

Andy Quintana (BBA ’15, MAcc ’15) was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte.

Kelly Riley (BBA ’11) was promoted to audit manager at Ernst & Young.

Jessica A. Savin (MAcc ’13) was promoted to audit senior at Berkowitz Pollack Brant.

Cody Schreier (BBA ’13) was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte, and transferred from the company’s Boston to Chicago office.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)

UM ACCOUNTING COMMUNITY CREATES NEW SCHOLARSHIP

YOUR DONATIONS FUNDED THE LAWRENCE C. PHILLIPS MEMORIAL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP IN TAXATION

BY ROCHELLE BRODER-SINGER

As many of you know, the Department of Accounting has been working to establish the Lawrence C. Phillips Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Taxation Fund, to honor the memory of Larry Phillips, who was a member of the School’s accounting faculty for 26 years and was the husband of Kay Tatum, associate professor of accounting.

Through generous gifts from School of Business alumni, faculty, students and friends, and members of the accounting profession, in 2016 we met the initial $50,000 donation goal and established the Lawrence C. Phillips Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Taxation. The Department of Accounting will be able to award the first scholarship this fall!

This scholarship will help to cover tuition and expenses for students in the Master of Science in Taxation (MST) program who demonstrate a particular passion for tax and accounting.

We are thrilled with the opportunity to honor Phillips in perpetuity through this endowed scholarship, and for the difference it will make in the lives of students. Our sincere thanks to everyone whose gift helped make this possible.

If you wish to make a gift to help grow the Lawrence C. Phillips Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Taxation Fund, please visit miami.edu/LarryPhillips or contact the School of Business Alumni Relations & Development Office at 305-284-4052.

STUDENTS

FICPA SCHOLARSHIPS HELP THREE ACCOUNTING STUDENTS

School of Business accounting students carried on a tradition of earning scholarships from the FICPA Educational Foundation last year. Briana N. Scott (BBA ’16), Matthew T. Motta (BBA ’16, MAcc ’16) and senior Andrea M. Vorlizek each received a scholarship award. The FICPA Educational Foundation is part of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA). It raises money from individual FICPA chapters around the state for the scholarships, with each chapter earmarking its donation to support scholarships for students in its region.
A LASTING LEGACY

EVEN AFTER THE DONORS’ PASSING, THE ELOISE KIMMELMAN SCHOLARSHIP PAYS HONOR TO A RELATIONSHIP BORN AT THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

BY DOREEN HEMLOCK

The estate of a couple who met in a School of Business accounting class – where she was the professor and he the student – has helped dozens of accounting students complete their degrees. The Eloise Kimmelman Scholarship in Accounting, established by the late David Kimmelman (BBA ’49) in memory of his wife, Eloise, has been providing scholarships to accounting majors at the School since 2007. Last year alone, it provided roughly $200,000 to two dozen students, says Jan A. Yelen, trustee of the Kimmelman Foundation and Trust.

Receiving a Kimmelman Scholarship in 2014 helped Mari Pape (BSBA ’14, MAcc ’14) cut down on the amount of student loans she took out to complete her master’s in accounting. “It meant there was a huge load off my shoulders,” says Pape, an internal auditor for Miami-Dade County. She’s passed her CPA exam and now is studying to become a certified fraud examiner.

Steven Pita (BSBA ’15, MAcc ’15) says receiving the scholarship, which is based partly on academic merit, “helped me validate the work I was putting into school.” Pita, who now works for Ernst & Young in assurance services, adds that, “You realize somebody went out of their way to help someone they don’t even know at all.”

Miaoxuan Chen (BSBA ’15, MAcc ’15), the daughter of Chinese entrepreneurs, was eager to learn about global business in an American city. Receiving a Kimmelman Scholarship for her academic performance honored her parents’ support of her education, says Chen, who now works for a solar energy company in California.

For Joshua S. Weiner (BSBA ’15, MAcc ’15), the Kimmelman Scholarship he received in his final semester helped pay some school expenses and offered a financial cushion for his post-graduation move to Boston to work in auditing at Ernst & Young. It also inspired him: “I feel an obligation to pay it forward and give back to UM,” says Weiner, “so other students can have the opportunity I was afforded.”

(Continued from Page 14)

CLASS NOTES

Nikita M. Sipin (BBA ’12, MST ’12) was promoted to tax manager at Berkowitz Pollack Brant.

Justyn R. Speier (BBA ’12, MST ’14) was promoted to tax senior at Berkowitz Pollack Brant.

Garrett van Houtteghem (BBA ’11, MST ’12) was promoted to tax manager at Grant Thornton and married fellow UM alumna Heather Carney (BSC ’11).

William Waldon (BBA ’14, MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

Taylor Wight (BSBA ’13, MAcc ’14) was promoted to audit senior at Deloitte, and transferred to the firm’s New York office.

Yiyun Xie (BSBA ’13, MAcc ’13) was promoted to audit senior at Ernst & Young.

Ziyue Xie (MST ’13) was promoted to tax senior at MBAF.
ACCOUNTING ADVISORY BOARD WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Five new members joined the Accounting Advisory Board this year:

KENNETH S. DUBOW (BBA ’76) is a principal with Kaufman Rossin’s entrepreneurial services practice in Miami. A CPA, Dubow has been with Kaufman Rossin since 1979, and is also a member of the University of Miami Citizens Board.

RAUL INCERA (BBA ’90) is a principal in the tax and accounting department at Morrison, Brown, Argiz & Farra LLC in Miami. A CPA, he specializes in taxation of financial institutions, foreign investments in the U.S. and compliance and consulting for trusts and high-net-worth individuals, as well as cross-border transactions and investments, income tax treaties and foreign tax credits.

JARED FLETCHER (BBA ’95) is vice president of strategic initiatives for Lennar Corp., working within the homebuilder’s mortgage, title, title insurance and property and casualty businesses. He is a CPA who also holds Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF) and Six Sigma Black Belt certifications.

ALEJANDRO JOYA (BBA ’91) is a managing director with Alvarez and Marsal Taxand LLC in Miami, providing tax advisory services to businesses. He focuses on advising them on the valuation of potential acquisition targets or asset divestments. He has a JD from Florida State University College of Law and is a CPA, as well as a member of the Florida Bar Tax Section.

MASTER’S OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATE EARS ELIJAH WATT SELLS AWARD

ANTHONY JOFFRE AVERAGES SCORE OF 96 ACROSS CPA EXAMS

BY KAREN-JANINE COHEN

Anthony Joffre (BBA ’15, MAcc ’16) became a member of an exclusive club when he took his CPA exams – one of a small number of test-takers whose scores averaged 96 across the four exams. This April, he will receive the American Institute of CPAs’ Elijah Watt Sells Award, which is given to CPA candidates who scored above 95.5 on average and passed all four tests on their first attempt. Out of more than 93,000 people who took the exam in 2015, only 75 met the Elijah Watt Sells Award criteria.

“I didn’t believe it at first,” says Joffre, who is an auditor at KPMG. “After it sunk in, I was floored that I was able to achieve this. When I first started studying, the award was something of a pipe dream, and to have actually done it is incredibly validating.”

Joffre says his strategy relied on studying over the summer, taking advantage of the University’s in-person and online Becker review course.

Joffre made an impression on Sundaresh Ramnath, associate professor and chair of accounting. “In addition to being outstanding academically, Anthony is one of the most kind-hearted students I have had the opportunity to teach,” Ramnath says. “His desire to help and actively give back to the community is one of his most admirable traits.”
Most students and graduates carry in their hearts memories of someone who listened, encouraged, advised and nudged them down the path to success. For those who passed through the Department of Accounting during the last several years, that person was likely Maggie Alvarez, who joined the department as a lecturer and program manager in January of 2013, and unexpectedly passed away in October of 2016.

“Maggie was just an amazing person,” says Anthony Joffre (BBA ’15, MAcc ’16), who graduated with a Master’s in Accounting in 2016, earned his undergraduate accounting degree in 2015 and who now works at KPMG (Joffre also has the distinction of being among a small number of students averaging above 95.5% on all four of the CPA exams he took last year. See page 16). “She was not only a great accounting professor, but went out of her way for every single student who stepped into her class.” What’s more, he says, students across the department gravitated to Alvarez’s office, especially when they were having a bad day. “She knew exactly what to say, and you emerged feeling like a million bucks,” he recalls.

Alvarez came to the Department of Accounting from Grant Thornton LLP, where she was a tax partner. Mark Margulies (BBA ’89, MST ’90), partner and Tax Services practice leader at the firm, and chair of the School’s Accounting Advisory Board, recommended her for the position. “She was exactly what we were looking for,” says Diana Falsetta, associate professor of accounting, who was a colleague and friend of Alvarez’s. “Someone who understood the profession, the importance of new entrants to the profession and, as we graduate our students, what the accounting firms need from new hires.”

Alvarez, the department’s first program manager, was deeply involved in department initiatives, including serving as chief liaison between the department and accounting firms. She undertook student preparation for employer interviews, demystified the recruitment process, led fundraising efforts and helped guide master’s programs. “At the School, she was having a blast as a lecturer, program director and mentor to aspiring accounting students,” Margulies says.

Alvarez’s rapport with students meant they trusted her for guidance, and many sought her advice when figuring out which accounting track to pursue (i.e., audit or tax), Falsetta says. And her help didn’t stop when the student left her office – Alvarez would later reach out to academic colleagues or firms on students’ behalf. “She was one of the best resources,” Joffre says. “Her door was always open.”

Alvarez will be keenly missed at the School of Business, by students, faculty and staff. I can promise you she will always be remembered as more than just a colleague, accountant or teacher,” Margulies says. “She will be remembered as a friend with a huge heart. We will miss her very much.”

In memory of Maggie Alvarez, the Department of Accounting has founded a scholarship fund to benefit graduate students. To contribute, please use the secure online form at bus.miami.edu/maggiealvarez, or mail a check, payable to the University of Miami with “Maggie Alvarez Scholarship Fund” on the memo line, to University of Miami Department of Accounting, c/o Office of Alumni Relations and Development, Gables One Tower, Suite 955, 1320 South Dixie Highway, Coral Gables, FL 33146. Gifts of all sizes will be greatly appreciated.

A team of accounting students from the School of Business won second place and an Honorable Mention Award in the 2016 Deloitte FanTAXtic Regional Competition in November. The Miami team included sophomores Andrea Barreiro and Patrick Corcoran; juniors Benjamin Hoffman and Rachel Mesa; and graduate student Ian Perchik. The case competition featured a reality-based case, student team presentations and the opportunity for networking with tax professionals. All teams received an issues-based case approximately three weeks prior to the competition. They then had to come up with a proposed solution and present to the panel of judges playing the role of the majority shareholders of a client.
For CEOs, communication is a core skill, and each brings his or her own personal style to that task. But regardless of the individual in question, CEOs’ communications tend to change over the course of their tenure. That’s a key finding in a study conducted by Dhananjay Nanda, a professor of accounting at the School, and two assistant professors of accounting at the School, Khrystyna Bochkay and Roman Chychyla.

This is the first research to examine how CEOs’ communication evolves over time, Nanda says. Nanda, Bochkay and Chychyla analyzed the communication styles of 670 recently appointed CEOs, all of whom were hired into companies that were performing poorly, were hired from outside the company, were younger and lacked prior executive experience.

The faculty members tracked the CEOs’ earnings conference calls from 2006 to 2014. Such calls, says Nanda, “provide an ideal venue for examining communication styles, because they contain both the CEOs’ prepared statements and their spontaneous responses to questions.” Using textual analysis techniques, the researchers looked at two key communication qualities on the calls: future orientation and optimism.

The analysis showed that CEOs start out with fairly high levels of future orientation and optimism, but those decrease during the course of their tenure. Indeed, says Nanda, the decline in those types of communication is “steady, quarter after quarter after quarter, averaging 13% year over year.” The researchers also found that the number of positive spoken words used by CEOs declines over time, while the number of negative words increases.

For comparison, the researchers also looked at the communication styles of other C-level executives, such as CFOs and COOs. Here, they found that styles did not change during the CEO’s time on the job. That led them to conclude that the relationship between CEO disclosure style and CEO tenure is really specific to the CEO.

WHY DO CEOS’ COMMUNICATION STYLES CHANGE?

It has nothing to do with the company’s outlook. Rather, it happens because that change meets the needs of both the executive and the audience. “Investors and employees are a lot more interested in hearing about the future and optimism when there is greater uncertainty about the person at the top,” Nanda explains. “This uncertainty decreases as the CEOs prove themselves on the job, so there is less demand for that information from them.” The CEOs themselves, Nanda explains, begin their tenure with a high level of concern about how they are perceived. “They feel that talking about negative information is going to reflect badly on them,” Nanda says. “But once they are established and secure in their position, they’re much more willing to discuss negative information. It isn’t going to adversely impact their careers as much.”

These new, younger, less-experienced CEOs naturally contend with a fair amount of uncertainty among their listeners. The researchers found that these CEOs also tended to be more forthcoming about strategies and the future – and more optimistic – than CEOs in general. Overall, says Nanda, “The way that CEOs disseminate information attracts a great deal of attention from investors, creditors, customers and employees. Our study provides important evidence about the motives behind their disclosures.”
DEPARTMENT HONORS FORMER FACULTY MEMBER AND ALUMNUS

The Department of Accounting honored two of its own in June, during the University of Miami Business Forum. Charles “Charlie” Calhoun (in photo at left, with Accounting Department Chair Sundaresh Ramnath), who was an accounting professor and department chair from 1977-1987, received the “Distinguished Faculty Award” for his accomplishments over the decades.

The School presented its “Distinguished Alumnus Award” to Joseph Echevarria (BBA ‘78), retired CEO of Deloitte LLP (in photo at left with Ramnath). Reflecting on his college experience, Echevarria said, “This great university took a chance on me as a marginal kid more than 40 years ago. I have learned that anything can happen in life, and that everyone can make a difference.”

DANIEL A. MEDINA JOINS DEPARTMENT AS PROGRAM MANAGER
HELPING STUDENTS SECURE JOBS AND INTERNSHIPS, ENGAGING WITH ALUMNI AND WORKING WITH ACCOUNTING FIRMS
BY ROCHELLE BRODER-SINGER

The Department of Accounting welcomed a new program manager this December: Daniel A. Medina. Medina works with students, alumni and the professional accounting community. He mentors students, helps them find internships, helps prepare them for job searches and assists with career planning. He also oversees the Department’s three master’s degree programs: the Master of Science in Accounting, the Accelerated Master of Accounting and the Master of Science in Taxation.

As the Department’s primary liaison with the professional accounting community, Daniel works on events such as the annual Business Forum, mock interview opportunities and job fairs, and helps firms connect with potential interns and employees – whether they are students or alumni. He also engages with alumni and looks for opportunities for the School to work with and assist them, and works with the Accounting Advisory Board.

“When the opportunity arose to work for the University of Miami and its accounting program, I knew right away that it was a position I could not pass up,” Medina says. “I always had a deep desire to expand my role in academia, and also to give back to our accounting community by helping the future generation of accountants develop their skills, knowledge and insight to better serve the profession. This position is ideally suited for that, and it doesn’t hurt that I have always been a huge ‘Canes fan!”

Medina has been a lecturer in the Department of Accounting since 2013, and has been an adjunct faculty member at Florida International University since 2011. He teaches at the graduate and undergraduate levels, on topics including forensic accounting and accounting information systems.

During an accounting career spent entirely in Miami, Medina has worked at firms including KPMG and Morrison, Brown, Argiz & Farra LLP. He spent the bulk of his public accounting career at Grant Thornton, as a director in the firm’s Forensic and Valuations Services department. Before joining the Department of Accounting full-time, Medina was an equity partner at consulting firm Berkeley Research Group. He has provided forensic technological and forensic accounting services to a variety of clients for more than 15 years, particularly conducting and supervising electronic and financial fraud–related investigations.

Medina earned his Bachelor of Accounting and Master of Accounting Information Systems from Florida International University. He is a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering and the Miami Electronic Crimes Task Force.

You can reach Daniel Medina at dmedina@bus.miami.edu.
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