

# Razorback Accounting News

Department of Accounting | University of Arkansas, Fayetteville | Summer 1997

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## A Note From Our Department Chair

That great philosopher, Charles Schultz (*Peanuts*), once said, "Summers fly; winters walk." Boy, was he right! School's out for summer, but your need for planning is at a peak. Welcome to the first summer issue of *Razorback Accounting News*, which will be published each year for students and employers to help launch the coming academic year. Within this issue, you'll find information about upcoming courses, employer recruiting on campus, and other things near and dear to you. We look forward to seeing you back on campus soon!

*Karen Pincus*



## Need Answers? Head for the All Accounting Students Meeting!

There will be an "All Accounting Students" meeting on **Tuesday, September 9 at 5:30 p.m. in BADM 202**. This meeting is for pre-majors (freshmen & sophomores) as well as majors (juniors, seniors and MAcc students). There will be information and handouts for everyone. The meeting will cover some very pertinent information *you* need to know! Topics to be discussed include Accounting organizations, internships, recruiting, the Masters of Accountancy (MAcc) program, certification exams (CPA, CMA, CIA), as well as all your questions and concerns. We will look for you there!!



# It's Time to Get Ready for Interviews

Although a student's undergraduate university career covers four (or more) years, potential employers consider only the first three. That's because most accounting employers come to the campus in the early Fall to interview students who will be graduating in December and the next Spring and Summer (see preliminary interview schedule below). There are important messages here for all students.

## Sophomores & Juniors

For returning juniors and sophomores, you only have one or two years, respectively, to build your resume. Here are some things you should be working on in the coming year to make yourself more marketable:

- *Grades* - Grades are the first thing employers examine and something you can influence by the amount of time and effort you devote to your classes.
- *Evidence of leadership* - You can demonstrate leadership with active involvement in an organization of your choosing.
- *Ability to communicate* - Take every available opportunity to participate in class and other settings.
- *Ability to interact with others* - Learn to deal with people in your summer or part-time jobs and team projects in class.

Sophomore and junior students can use the seniors' [resume form](#) to find out where their holes are while there is still time (although not much) to develop a strong resume. Make a commitment to work on building your resume this coming year!

## Seniors

Returning seniors will be faced with job interviews within about a month of returning for the Fall semester. While interviews go on all year, **don't miss the Fall interviews because many employers fill their quotas then and do not come back in the Spring.** It is important that you come back to campus in the Fall ready to interview. Here are some things you need to do now:

- *Prepare your resume.* The first few weeks of school are very hectic and resume preparation may be given a low priority (even though it is one of the most important things you do in your career). Prepare your resume this summer when you can give it the consideration it deserves.
- *Learn something about the companies you think you may want to interview.* If you access the accounting department's home page, <http://apsara.uark.edu/depts/acctinfo>, you will find hot links to many of the employers who interview on campus.
- *Think about how you will sell yourself during the interview.* Although there will be interviewing workshops that you can attend in the Fall, you will also have to consider your particular situation. Think about how you would respond to questions like the following:
  - Tell me about a time when you helped to resolve a group problem. What caused the problem? What did you do? How was it resolved?
  - Tell me about a time when you were in charge of something and had to let others help you. What were the circumstances? How did you assign the work? What was the outcome? What would you do differently?
  - Tell me about a time when you had to deal with the public. Who was involved? What did

you do? How did they respond? Tell me about the most difficult work or school problem you have ever faced. What steps did you take to solve it?

The key to successful interviewing is *preparation!* The faculty and personnel at of the College's Placement office and the UofA's Career Services office will assist you in any way we can, but you can increase your chances of getting the job you want if you come back in the Fall ready to interview.



## Fall 1997 Recruiting Schedule

**September 29 & 30**

*ARTHUR ANDERSEN*

(<http://www.arthurandersen.com/>)

*PHILLIPS PETROLEUM*

(<http://www.phillips66.com/>)

**October 1**

*ERNST & YOUNG*

(<http://www.ey.com/>)

**October 2 & 3**

*COOPERS & LYBRAND, LLP*

(<http://www.colybrand.com/>)

**October 6 & 7**

*DELOITTE & TOUCHE, LLP*

(<http://www.dttus.com/>)

**October 8**

*TAX & ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE CORP.*

(<http://www.taascforce.com/>)

**October 9**

*KPMG PEAT MARWICK, LLP*

(<http://www.kpmgcampus.com/>)

**October 14**

*PROFIT RECOVERY GROUP*

(<http://www.prgx.com/>)

**October 15 and 16**

*BAIRD, KURTZ & DOBSON*

(<http://www.bkd.com/>)

**October 20**

*BEALL, BARCLAY & COMPANY*

**October 21**

**BEVERLY ENTERPRISES**  
(<http://www.beverlynet.com>)

**Dates to be announced**  
**ALLTEL CORP.**  
(<http://www.alltel.com/>)

**WAL-MART, INTERNAL AUDIT**  
(<http://www.wal-mart.com/>)

**INTERNATIONAL PAPER**  
(<http://www.ipaper.com/>)

**LEGGETT & PLATT**  
(<http://www.leggettandplatt.com>)



## Is a MAcc Degree in Your Future?

Is public accounting in your career plans? Public accounting firms who hire on our campus include Arthur Andersen; Baird, Kurtz & Dobson; Coopers & Lybrand; Deloitte & Touche; Ernst & Young; KPMG Peat Marwick and several local CPA firms. Starting salaries for last year's UofA graduates hired by these firms were from \$27,000 to \$32,000. If your goal is to work as a CPA in public accounting in the state of Arkansas, you will need to meet the 150-hour education requirement as of 1998 to take the CPA Examination. Many surrounding states, including Texas and Tennessee already have the 150-hour requirement.

There are two ways to meet the State Board of Accountancy's education requirement in Arkansas. The simplest route is to complete the MAcc program at the U of A, which will fully qualify you to sit for the exam. For students who have already accumulated close to 150 credit hours (for example, students working on a second degree), it may be easier to follow the second route, which requires evidence of 150 college credit hours including specified business and accounting courses as well as an upper level writing course.

During your junior or senior year, you will need to make a decision about whether you will graduate with a bachelor's degree and enter the job market in industry or government or stay for another year to complete the MAcc program. If you choose to enter our MAcc program, you will need to apply to *both* the U of A Graduate School and our MAcc program. This may be done the second semester of your junior year or during your senior year. Before your undergraduate degree is awarded, you may be admitted conditionally to the MAcc program based on successful completion of your undergraduate requirements. You will also need to take the GMAT exam. More information on the GMAT, as well as other items, will be available at the All Accounting Students' Meeting on September 9th (see article: Need Answers? Head for the All Accounting Students Meeting.)

The four required core courses in the MAcc program are *Accounting Issues for Restructurings, Fraud Prevention & Detection, Asset Management* and *Contemporary Accounting Issues*. Two accounting electives must be chosen from the following: *Assurance Services, Advanced Taxation, Advanced*

*Accounting Information Systems*, and *Individual Tax Planning*. Four other electives (only one may be an accounting course) will complete the 30-hour MAcc program.



## **NOW is the Time to Write Your Resume!**

If you are graduating in December 1997, May 1998 or August 1998, job interviews will begin at the end of September. Bound resume books-- including *your* resume if you submit one--will be distributed to all employers in mid-September. The resume book is an important information source for employers, which means being in the book helps you get a job.

NOW is the time to start preparing your resume for the book. Our Beta Alpha Psi chapter puts the book together and shepherds it through the printing process, which is a great service to the Department, but remember that the book is for *all* 1997-1998 accounting graduates.

How do you prepare a resume for the resume book? The Department uses a standard format, so you need to use our form. You can download a copy of the form from the Student T: drive in the College of Business Administration if you are near campus this summer, or you can download a copy from the Department's Internet home page (<http://apsara.uark.edu/depts/acctinfo/>). Both these sources also include a downloadable sample filled-out resume form. If you don't have access to either of these sources during the summer, you may still begin preparing your resume now.

This is an Excel form that lets you fill in the spaces. After you complete the form, print a high quality copy (the resume book uses photocopies of submitted resumes so print quality matters) and turn it in at the College's Placement Office in room BA 343, which is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The deadline to turn in your form for this year's resume book is Thursday September 11 at NOON (note: this is a hard deadline as the book will go to the printer immediately). There is a fee of \$10 (payable when you turn in the form) to help cover printing costs. However, if you turn in the form by the day after Labor Day (Tuesday September 2), we'll waive the fee and you'll get all this great publicity for free!



## **Spring 1998 Course Offerings**

Do you like to plan ahead? Here's a preview of the courses/times planned (some change is still possible) to be offered through the Accounting Department in the Spring.

- **Sophomore-level courses:**

- ACCT 2013 - *Introduction to Accounting Information I*: 10 sections will be offered at various times each day-- from 8:30 through 11:30 a.m. on MWF, a MW night class, and from 9:30 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. on TTh.
- ACCT 2023 - *Introduction to Accounting Information II*: 12 sections will be offered at various times each day--from 8:30 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. on MWF, 8:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. on TTh and two MW afternoon classes at 2:30 & 4:30 p.m.

- BLAW 2013 - 8 sections will be offered: MWF classes at 8:30, 9:30 & 12:30, TTh classes at 8:00, 11:00, 2:00 and 6:00 p.m. and a class Tuesdays only from 2:00-4:50 p.m.

● **Junior-level courses:**

- ACCT 3533 - *Accounting Technology* at 8:00 & 9:30 a.m. on TTh
- ACCT 3613 - *Managerial Uses of Accounting Information* at 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. on MW
- ACCT 3721 - *Financial Accounting Computer Lab* at 8:30 & 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays and 9:30, 10:30 & 11:30 a.m. on Fridays
- ACCT 3723 - *Financial Reporting & Analysis* at 10:30 & 11:30 a.m. on MWF and 9:30 a.m. on TTh
- ACCT 3843 - *Fundamentals of Taxation* at 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. on TTh
- BLAW 3043 - *Law of Business Organizations* at 11:00 a.m. on TTh

● **Senior-level courses:**

- ACCT 4053 - *Advanced Financial Accounting* at 10:30 a.m. on MWF
- ACCT 4523 - *Advanced Taxation* at 11:00 a.m. on TTh
- ACCT 4563 - *Governmental/Not for Profit* at 9:30 a.m. on TTh
- ACCT 4673 - *Product, Project & Service Costing* at 2:00 & 3:30 p.m. on TTh
- ACCT 4753 - *Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* at 8:00 & 9:30 a.m. on TTh
- ACCT 4963 - *Operational Auditing* at 8:30 & 9:30 a.m. on MWF. Please note that all junior level business core courses and all junior level accounting courses are prerequisites for *Operational Auditing*. Be sure to complete these prerequisites.



## We're on the Internet

The Department of Accounting home page may be found on the World Wide Web at: <http://apsara.uark.edu/depts/acctinfo>

Our home page currently includes a copy of our mission statement, a brief history of the department, back issues of the *Razorback Accounting News*, a listing of current faculty and doctoral student working papers, information about our degree programs, links to employers who interview on campus, and faculty and doctoral student profiles (with photos).

This summer we are updating all sections and adding new sections with information about alumni and links to accounting career information for students.

Surf's up. Come check us out.