

**USI Romain College of Business
Accounting Circle Meeting Minutes
University Center, Carter Hall
4:00 p.m., November 11, 2017**

Members Present: Carolyn Dearmond, Kevin Hammett, Rod Meyer, Steve Mudd, Bill Schotanus, Connie Wellmeyer, Chris Wolking

Members Absent: Tonya Borders, Donald Breivogel, Richard Campbell, Michael Carroll, Kyle Fields, Jarod Florence, Randy Haaff, Susan Hardwick, Kerry Jackson, Deborah Meinert, Mark Miles, Brad Minor, Ann Muehlbauer, Roger Orth, Nikki Roser, Nick Rueger, Jim Thomas, Rob Wedding, Jeff Wilmes, Doug Wurmnest

Young Professionals Present: Derek Adams, Amanda Bingemer, Anna Shade Bullock, Bridgitte Danhauer, Mitch Happe, Matt Mitchell, Angela Reckelhoff, Matt Reffett, Kiersten Roberts, Ashley Schultz, Kelsie Spillman, Celeste Tabor, Kyle Waninger, Jason Warford

Young Professionals Absent: Taylor Atkins, Erin Maile, Emily Nurrenbern

Ex-officio Members Present: Mohammed Khayum, Brian McGuire

Faculty Present: Julie Brauser, Brett Buettel, Andrew Dill, Jeanette Maier-Lytle, Mark McKnight, Brian Routh, Jamie Seitz, Thomas Weber

Administrative Assistant Present: Darla Perigo

Students Present: Ryan Clark, Caleb Grammer, Caleb Scherzinger

Guests Present: Marvin Wright

WELCOME AND MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT:

Steve Mudd welcomed all to the meeting and asked for self-introductions.

MINUTES:

The Spring 2017 minutes were **APPROVED** as e-distributed.

ACCOUNTING CIRCLE CHAIR'S REPORT:

Mudd called for the following reports for the Accounting Circle and Young Professionals activities:

Young Professionals- **Bridgitte Danhauer** thanked the Young Professionals for their involvement and active membership. She reminded everyone of the new members: **Erin Maile, Matt Mitchell, Celeste Tabor, and Jason Warford**. They will schedule their spring meeting soon.

High School Day Case and Individual Competition- **Amanda Bingemer** and **Chris Wolking** recapped the High School Day event from October. Attendance was slightly lower than last year. **Wolking** thinks it may have been a calendar issue; maybe a little too early in the semester and some students were committed to fall sports. **Jeanette Maier-Lytle** mentioned it was also fall break at some of the schools. **Bingemer** plans to move 2018's event to November. This year's event was shorter than last year, was more organized, and had a case more focused on general business versus accounting. The high school students seemed to enjoy the scavenger hunt that used a smartphone app that **Aaron McCullough** provided. **Bingemer** was very grateful for the amount of gift cards donated by businesses, and all high school participants received at least one. **Wolking** mentioned what a difference having a relationship with a high school instructor makes, and we need to nurture those relationships. He is encouraged that students came for the second year, so he believes it is working to engage and ultimately recruit them to USI and the accounting program. **Connie Wellmeyer** enjoyed mentoring her team. **McGuire** thanked **Bingemer** for her great efforts. The committee is looking at having 2018 High School Day around November 10. **Bridgitte Danhauer** sent a survey to high schools with potential options.

Extravaganza- **Derek Adams** talked about the Extravaganza, scheduled for immediately following the meeting, and invited members to attend. He gave an overview of the agenda for the evening. There are about 55 student RSVPs. **Bingemer** has 18 lunch certificates to give away to students in the raffle.

Fundraising Event- **Kelsey Spillman** reviewed September's fall mixer event. Having the event on campus versus off campus did not increase student participation as much as she had hoped. The sponsorship income from the event was down slightly. USI Foundation said the scholarship has reached the minimum endowment level; however, we are only \$500 away from being able to make a scholarship for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Distinguished Accountant Report- **Kevin Hammett** thanked the committee members. He said there was a great group of nominees, and he is very excited to announce who the outstanding recipient is at tonight's Extravaganza.

Faculty Internships- **Kyle Waninger** said to let **Nick Rueger** know if anyone has any interest. **McGuire** mentioned SS&C Technologies showed interest in having a faculty internship.

DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAM'S REMARKS

Case Competition Teams- **Maier-Lytle** said that USI has had an IMA team in the final four eleven times in the last twelve years. It is an excellent accomplishment because USI is competing against 25 teams from around the world. This year's team is already working on next year's case.

Tim Bryan is faculty advisor for the Alberta Not For Profit team. It is exciting that Romain College is now seeing more opportunities to compete than there are faculty advisors to coach.

Maier-Lytle is excited to announce that USI has been invited to the international case competition at Maastricht University School of Business and Economics. Coaches from Maastricht and other universities have seen the caliber of USI students at other competitions, and are now extending invitations to USI to participate at their competitions. She pointed out how many Young Professionals and faculty members were formerly on a USI case team, and closed by thanking members for their involvement.

Financial Reports- **McGuire** reviewed the financial reports included in the meeting packet. He thanked members for their financial support.

Internships Report- **McGuire** encouraged members to report any student internship opportunities at their companies as some go unreported. He stated tracking our student internships is important as part of our AACSB accreditation.

Accountants in the Classroom- **Brian Routh** thanked members who are signed up to speak in Accounting 201 classes, but there are still spots that need to be filled. **Routh** said students get so much out of the visits.

Speaking Eagles Toastmasters- **Thomas Weber** is co-advisor. President **Caleb Scherzinger** thanked members for their support of Toastmasters and for attending their meetings. Membership has increased from 25 to 32 members, mostly due to non-business majors. USI Foundation is funding the dues for non-business majors. They are on track to be named a Select Distinguished club, which is the second highest designation. It will be the fifth year in a row they have earned Distinguished or Select Distinguished designation. Since USI Speaking Eagles Toastmasters' inception in 2000, 48 students have achieved competent communicator status and 17 achieved competent leader status.

Beta Alpha Psi- **Ryan Clark**, president of Beta Alpha Psi, said membership grew from 17 to about 35. He talked about some of the volunteer events BAP members participated in, including the High School Day event. The BAP annual meeting was in August, and they plan on speaking at the regional meeting in April. The chapter received a rating of superior last year and is on track to achieve superior again this year. It is the highest status a chapter can receive. **Wolking** thanked the BAP members for helping at the High School Day event.

Accounting & Professional Services Club- **Caleb Grammer**, president of Accounting & Professional Services Club, reported that the chapter is certified as an IMA chapter and they received gold chapter status, which is the highest status a chapter can achieve. They have gone from 12 members to 22, largely due to joint recruiting efforts with BAP, such as participating in the student involvement fair, early in the semester. He thanked the Accounting Circle members for attending their meetings. Members of APS club attended

the IMA Student Leadership Conference in Houston, Texas. **McGuire** mentioned that the USI chapter was one of only five chapters nationwide recognized as a gold chapter.

DEAN'S REMARKS

Mohammed Khayum is paying attention to high school demographics due to the dip in our accounting program enrollment. He is not sure why high school students are not gravitating toward business degrees. This will be noted in the upcoming AACSB accreditation report, but USI has addressed this by the outreach to the high schools and the High School Day event. The accreditation visit will be January 21-23, 2018, and members of the Accounting Circle and Young Professionals will be involved in some of the meetings. **Khayum** encouraged members to discuss the quality of the business and accounting programs. Members who are USI alumni hold high positions, so that may be a placement metric, as well as sustaining relationships over time.

Khayum also noted the accounting program is evolving and in a rebuilding stage. There are new faculty with new requirements, and he expects to have to explain turnover rates. Faculty internships are an important way to show how faculty keep current in their fields.

McGuire made members aware that for about 25 years, USI has hosted Merit Badge University attended by more than 400 Boy Scouts each February. There are two merit badges related to business, American Business and Personal Management. He asked if anyone is interested in being a Merit Badge counselor, because this might be a good way to introduce these young people to business.

Kevin Hammett added that the high quality of USI interns is making an impact on companies and businesses, and it is a testament to the quality of the University of Southern Indiana.

CLOSING REMARKS AND MEETING ADJOURNED TO THE EXTRAVAGANZA