

**USI Romain College of Business
Accounting Circle Meeting Minutes
Carter Hall, University Center
4:00 p.m., October 17, 2019**

Members Present: Derek Adams, Jo Burke, Michael Carroll, Bridgitte Danhauer, Carolyn Dearmond, Steve Mudd, Charlie Pride, Jr., Rob Wedding, Jeff Wilmes

Members Absent: Tonya Borders, Richard Campbell, Mark Freeman, Mitch Happe, Kerry Jackson, Brant Kennedy, Mark Miles, Brad Minor, Roger Orth, Nikki Roser, Jim Thomas, Connie Wellmeyer, Chris Wolking

Young Professionals Present: Amanda Bingemer, Anna Shade Bullock, Bryce Bullock, Tony Hiatt, Kyle Hoeing, Paige McClellan, Lauren Perigo, Jesse Reising, Kiersten Roberts, Ashley Schultz, Jazmine Skelton, Kelsie Spillman, Celeste Tabor

Young Professionals Absent: Matt Mitchell, Emily Nurrenbern, Jason Warford

Ex-officio Members Present: Cathy Carey, Brian McGuire

Faculty Present: Jeanette Maier-Lytle, Jennifer Riester

Communication Associate Present: Darla Perigo

Guests Present: David Bower, Andrea Gentry

Students Present: Austin Gruber, Braden Taylor

WELCOME AND MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT:

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

MINUTES:

The Spring 2019 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- **Kiersten Roberts** introduced five new members of the Young Professionals: **Tony Hiatt, Kyle Hoeing, Paige McClellan, Lauren Perigo, and Jesse Reising**. They are still looking for a chair-elect.

High School Business Day- **Amanda Bingemer** talked about the changes for this year. The event is being held on a Friday instead of a Saturday. The Business Day committee has teamed up with USI Admissions to reach many more potential students. There will be a panel discussion with open questions. The curveball question is being omitted so that participants have more time to experience campus and we have more time to sell USI. If more schools sign up, there needs to be more mentors. Volunteers are needed for the day as well as donations. **Mudd** thanked **Bingemer** and **Bridgitte Danhauer**.

Extravaganza- **Anna Bullock** reviewed the agenda for the evening, and **Mudd** encouraged members to attend.

Fundraising Event- **Kelsie Spillman** said the fundraising event will be moved to spring semester, tentatively to January 23. Since there are other events in the fall, they are going to see if this change increases student participation.

Merit Badge University- **Bridgitte Danhauer** said the event is February 8. Many details are already lined out because of what they learned from last year. She will be reaching out to volunteers.

Distinguished Accountant Report- **Mudd** said **Michelle Schroeder**, last year's recipient, will announce this year's Distinguished Accountant Award at the Extravaganza. He went over some of the criteria for being nominated.

DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAM'S REMARKS

Case Competition Teams- **Jeanette Maier-Lytle** said the IMA case team placed second in the spring. This year's team is already working on the next case study, which focuses on a wine festival. She asked if Circle members would assist by attending team presentations and critiquing them prior to going to the conference. She thanked everyone for their support.

Financial Reports- **David Bower** thanked **Brian McGuire** and **Mudd** for inviting him to the meeting. **Andrea Gentry** gave an overview of Foundation scholarships and oversight. **McGuire** mentioned that due to excellent investing on behalf of the Foundation, the Accounting Circle scholarships have seen a big increase. He asked members to discuss changing the outflow of the scholarship funds. **Bower** also talked about the future impact if members were to make a gift to the Foundation.

McGuire reviewed the financial reports included in the meeting packet. He also talked briefly about the College's strategic plan, and will keep the Circle updated.

Internships Report- **Jennifer Riester** reported there were 25 internships for spring and summer 2019. There were also accounting firms on campus for recruiting and interviews. Students participated in multiple open house events. **McGuire** was in a meeting recently, and a suggestion was that employers verify with interns that the internship is being

reported to Career Services. Internships are one of the success stories that is reported to AACSB, so **McGuire** asked Circle members who hire interns to encourage them to report back. **Derek Adams** asked about a 12 credit hour internship, but **McGuire** said all 12 hours may not count toward the 150 hour CPA exam requirement. There are regulations in place with the Indiana State Board of Accountancy that apply limits.

Accountants in the Classroom- **Maier-Lytle** referred members to a document in the meeting packet that explains the Accountants in the Classroom program. The dates are listed for this semester, and she asked that there be a public accountant and a private accountant volunteer for each time slot. **Mudd** finds it very rewarding and encouraged members to volunteer.

Speaking Eagles Toastmasters- President **Austin Graber** said their faculty sponsor is now **Dr. Thomas Weber**. They sponsored the international speech contest for our district. They had an all-officer training. Three people earned competent communicator designation and one earned competent leader. They are working on recruiting outside the College to increase membership and are looking for guest speakers. **McGuire** thanked BKD for covering student dues. There are about ten members.

Beta Alpha Psi and Accounting & Professional Services Club- **Braden Taylor**, president of Beta Alpha Psi, reported some members went to the national conference in Chicago. They have about 25-30 members. They are looking for guest speakers next semester. BAPs fundraiser is tentatively scheduled for April 23 at the Griffin Center.

DEAN'S REMARKS

Cathy Carey thanked members for attending, and mentioned she has a lot of respect for those in accounting. She began her presentation by talking about her guiding principles as a dean: empowerment, distinctiveness, and accreditation. She talked about her perspective on applying for dean's positions: dual accreditation, economics discipline housed in the College of Business, and region. When she visited USI, she was impressed by everyone she met on campus, the facilities, and the potential of the College. She gave a brief overview of the state of the College and other outreach and recruiting activities, retention efforts, and accomplishments. **McGuire** commented on the importance of programs such as Accountants in the Classroom and the Extravaganza in recruiting accounting students. He said both the IMA and AICPA are concerned about the downward trend of students choosing accounting as a major and therefore going into the profession. Inside the United States, the number of people sitting for professional exams is down. **Carey** and **McGuire** asked the Circle members their thoughts on the College requiring Math 215.

Mudd encouraged members to attend the Extravaganza.

CLOSING REMARKS AND MEETING ADJOURNED