



# BENCHMARK

The information source for alumni of Oregon's leading accounting program

Issue 11

Spring 2007

## PSU is Hotbed of Accounting Thought Leadership

In the wake of recent corporate and accounting scandals, the accounting profession has become a hotbed of change, accepting renewed responsibility to act in the public interest and to play a more accountable and transparent role in making vital business decisions. In this time of change, the School of Business is indeed fortunate to have two accounting professors whose research and teaching have been at the forefront of accounting thought for decades.

Professor H. Thomas Johnson has been a visionary in managerial accounting and operations management, from the publication of his revolutionary first book *Relevance Lost*, written with Robert Kaplan, to his most recent book, *Profit Beyond Measure*, winner of the 2001 Shingo award for excellence in manufacturing research. Professor Jesse Dillard, the founder and past editor of *Accounting in the Public Interest*, is a leader in the national and international search to understand accounting and accountability as they exist in the social, political, economic and environmental world.

Dr. Johnson, Professor of Accounting, is recognized worldwide for his extensive research in the design of people-oriented improvement processes for achieving customer satisfaction and profitability in global enterprises. Dr. Johnson has worked with scores of firms and organizations around the world, leading to an international reputation and numerous requests



Professor H. Thomas Johnson with MBA+ students Hester Yorgey and Chris Allen

to present his ideas to academic, business and government organizations, including recent audiences as a featured speaker at the World Bank, Uppsala University in Sweden and at the First Annual Lean Accounting Summit.

Dr. Johnson's work explores the application of natural system principles to the design of business operations, currently focusing on the

intersection of systems thinking, modern physics and sustainable operations management. He is currently a major contributor to the conceptual literature of lean accounting. His impact on managerial accounting and operations management is such that in 2003 the Harvard Business School Press identified him as one of the top 200

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## Standard Deloitte Scholarship Targets African-Americans

The Standard and Deloitte have teamed up to create a generous new scholarship for students of the School of Business Administration's Accounting Program. This unique scholarship is for African American students of financial need who want to study accounting and who enter PSU directly from high school.

The scholarship awards \$5,000 per year to each recipient and may be renewed until the completion of the recipient's degree for up to five years. What's more, one scholarship will be added annually for the next five years until a

total of five scholarships are offered at a time. Scholarship recipients will also have the opportunity to intern with The Standard or Deloitte between their junior and senior years.

PSU is partnering with local organizations that promote higher education to high school students, including Open Meadows, Bridges, InRoads and Upward Bound in order to get the word out about the scholarship.

Cindy McPike, accounting alum, champion of the scholarship and Senior VP and Chief Financial Officer at the Standard, explains her motivation to create this scholarship: "I want

to help someone go to college who otherwise might not have had the opportunity. I'm the first one on either side of my family to graduate from college. We didn't have a lot of money, and I certainly didn't have any connections. Even so, I was still more advantaged than many people, and I know how much greater my struggle would have been if I'd had fewer advantages. Finally, I love the idea of bringing together the resources of Deloitte, The Standard, Open Meadows and Portland State University to create an opportunity to minimize the struggles and increase the chances of success for the students we are trying to help."

## Faculty Notes



**Elizabeth Almer** is in the last year of a three-year appointment to the AICPA Work/Life and Women's Initiatives Executive Committee. As part of her work on this committee, she was the lead author on the committee's most recent report on the status of work/life and women's issues in accounting. Dr. Almer's appointment reflects the value of her research in work/life and gender issues in the accounting profession.

**Darrell Brown** presented a co-authored paper to the International Federation of Scholarly Associations of Management. The paper, "When Wall Street Meets Green Street: Creating Legitimacy in Corporate Sustainability Reporting," discusses the ability of voluntary social and environmental reporting standards to address stakeholders' information needs. Dr. Brown's research extends the reach of accounting beyond financial reporting to address organizational accountability for social and environmental impacts.

**Cherie Francisco** and **Elizabeth Almer** attended PricewaterhouseCoopers' University for Faculty in Princeton, New Jersey last summer. This annual event, hosted by PricewaterhouseCoopers, brings faculty from around the country together for a week of industry leader presentations, practical case studies and experiential learning.

**Kathy Rupley**, our newest tenure-track faculty member, attended the 2007 American Accounting Association New Faculty Consortium. This three-day event introduces new faculty to the expectations of an academic career in the accounting discipline.

**Kristi Yuthas** joined a national team of experts in micro-finance this year and is currently studying the success of banks providing micro loans in developing countries. Her studies seek to assess and enhance economic benefits to creditors and recipients of these \$50 to \$100 loans in several Central American, South American and African countries.

## PSU Alumni Profile: Carole Bentley

**PSU Connection:** Member of the Accounting Advisory Board, Alum '82

**Current Position:** Market Executive, Business Banking, Bank of America

**Responsibilities:** I manage a team of talented individuals who take care of businesses with sales between \$2.5 and \$25 million. They are the quarterbacks for a team of financial experts to design financial solutions necessary to meet the objectives of our clients.

**What's your business philosophy?** Build a quality team of individuals, keep them focused on the client and delivering top notch service and in the process have some fun.

**What do you like most about your job?** Interacting with and adding value to the lives of my associates and our clients.

**What do you find most frustrating?** Road blocks that serve no purpose and make things harder than they need to be.

**What is your advice for new accounting graduates?** Keep an open mind for the path of your future. You have the opportunity to take this degree in so many directions.

**How did you get to where you are now?** I moved from an internal audit position at Benj. Franklin Savings & Loan to a temporary controller position at one of its subsidiaries. Three years later, when that

position was no longer needed and Bank of America had acquired Benj. Franklin, I realized there was a greater opportunity on the "front line." I went after my lending experience and ended up as a Client Manager in the Business Banking group of Bank of America. After nine years in a Client Manager position, I was asked to lead the team.

**What is your favorite Portland State University memory?** My involvement in Beta Alpha Psi. It was a dynamic, motivated group who worked together to put on educational events, networking events with the accounting community and fun social activities.

**Your father, Professor James Bentley, was an Accounting Professor at PSU when you were a**

**student. Were you ever in one of his classes? What was that like for you?** Yes, I took BA384 from my father, since he was the only professor teaching it and I did not want to jump out of the series. My last name was different than his, so only those who knew me were aware of the relationship. It had its awkward moments that I can look back and laugh at now.

**How are you and your family honoring your father's legacy at the School of Business?** We have a memorial accounting scholarship fund in his name. It is for an accounting student in need who has shown promise. It is an endowment set up to be given on an annual basis in perpetuity.

**What can we find you doing when not working?** Golfing, skiing, gardening and traveling with my husband, Michael.



## Mark Your Calendars

### 2006-2007 Business Briefing Breakfast Series

A six-part monthly event that brings together speakers from the local business community to discuss trends and challenges facing business leaders today.

**March 15** A Recipe for Success: Oregon's Edge in Food and Wine Innovation  
**April 19** New Employee On-Boarding: How to Ensure Successful Transitions for Employees and Executives

7:15 to 9:00 a.m. at the Multnomah Athletic Club  
Please RSVP to [development@sba.pdx.edu](mailto:development@sba.pdx.edu) or (503) 725-4763  
For more information, please visit <http://www.sba.pdx.edu>.

## FY06-07 Accounting Support

**S**chool of Business donors, alumni and friends have demonstrated impressive support since the start of this fiscal year on July 1, 2006, but we've still got a long way to go to reach our annual accounting campaign goal of \$100,000 for the 06-07 year. There is still time to join this generous group of donors. You can give online at [www.foundation.pdx.edu/publicgift/](http://www.foundation.pdx.edu/publicgift/).

In recognition of our generous supporters, below is a list of donors who donated \$100 or more to the general accounting fund since July 1, 2006. A special thank you goes to the matching gift companies that support their employees and the accounting program: KPMG, Intel Foundation, Moss Adams, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and Venoco, Inc.

### Gold (\$1,000+)

Judy Dauble  
Jesse Dillard  
Richard Hawkins  
Deborah Janikowski &  
Darrell Brown  
Ann Nelson  
Janet & Stephen Tolopka

### Silver (\$500-\$999)

Theodore Clarke  
Constance Degerstedt  
Marshall Erb  
Gavin Fale  
Walter Hoffman  
Dennis Johnson  
Lynn Kingston  
Robert Robertson  
Teresa Spada

### Bronze (\$100-\$499)

David Barrons  
Thomas & Shirley Cyr  
Jeanne Dillner  
Caren Doyle  
Brad Dudley  
Shirley Dunn  
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Victor Epstein  
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Janet Rathe  
Dwayne Richardson  
Donald Schmidt  
Gordon Sears  
Cindy Stanwood  
Daniel Swan  
Patricia Ward  
Fred Williams  
Louis Wright

## Alumni News



Well's Fargo Business Banking Group has promoted Business Relationship Manager **Brett Baker** ('02) to Vice President.

**Troy Dunn** ('88) has been appointed Chief Financial Officer at Derel L. Brown & Associates.

**Matthew Fahey** (PBAC) is now the Senior Vice President of Finance at Integra Telcom, after receiving his CPA while working for Arthur Andersen. He is also a new member of the SBA Accounting Advisory Board.

**Deborah Janikowski** ('97) was recently promoted to Associate Director of Budget Development and Planning at Portland State University.

**Raphael Larson** ('96) is an attorney for the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Division of Enforcement & Investigation. As Counsel, Raphael is responsible for investigating possible violations by auditors of the securities laws and professional auditing standards in connection with the audits of publicly traded companies. Prior to joining the PCAOB in 2005, Raphael spent five years doing securities and accounting fraud defense work with the law firm, Patton Boggs LLP, in Washington, DC.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP has promoted **Marissa Nelson** ('02) to Manager of Assurance.

**Marjon Walrod** ('05), Tax Associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, is one of four U.S. employees featured on PricewaterhouseCoopers' recruiting Web site.

**Terue Yoshihara** ('01) was recently promoted to Senior Tax Analyst at Sabrix, Inc. She has been at Sabrix since 2003. She worked as an auditor with Deloitte prior to that time.

## Thought Leadership, continued

*(Continued from page 1)*

management thinkers alive today. He was recently awarded the 2007 Shingo Prize for Excellence in Manufacturing Research for his paper "Lean Dilemma: Choose System Principles or Management Accounting Controls - Not Both."

Dr. Dillard, Retzlaff Chair in Accounting, has long been interested in the social and behavioral consequences of accounting and business practices. His studies of ethics and accountability contributed to his successful launch of one of the major accounting journals concerned specifically with accounting's public interest role in society. Dr. Dillard has over 200 publications and presentations and is recognized as one of the leading accounting voices in the area of public interest. He served as a visiting scholar in both Spain and Scotland this year, and has been invited to research and teach as a visiting scholar in New Zealand this summer. Dr. Dillard is

also the Director of PSU's Center for Professional Integrity & Accountability, an organization that urges examination and discussion of organizational management and the accounting profession's responsibility to act in the public interest. Through his scholarly research, Dr. Dillard challenges the accounting community to examine and accept its obligation to act in the public interest.

With professors like Dr. Johnson and Dr. Dillard pushing the envelope of accounting and management thought through their innovative research, Portland State University's Accounting department is a thriving center for groundbreaking research and ideas. These two scholars challenge colleagues and students alike to enhance accounting's contribution to business and society through a continual, thoughtful examination of the value and impact of accounting. Their work adds to the quality and stature of the accounting area, the School of Business, and PSU.

# Faculty Changes

## SBA Bids Farewell to Rodney Rogers, Welcomes Kathy Hertz Rupley

**W**e are pleased to welcome a new tenure track faculty to the School of Business. Kathy Hertz Rupley, CPA (Oregon), received a B.S. from the University of Montana and a Ph.D. from the University of Washington. Dr. Rupley's teaching experience includes financial accounting, audit and teaching effectiveness at the undergraduate and graduate levels at the University of Washington. In 2006, she received the University of Washington Business School Ph.D award for teaching excellence. Her research interests include internal controls, auditor changes and corporate governance. Prior to obtaining her Ph.D, Dr.



Rupley worked in the audit practice of KPMG LLP in Portland, Oregon as an audit manager.

Last fall, we bid farewell to former Associate Dean Rodney Rogers. Dr. Rogers is the new Dean of the Business School at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. While we are very happy for Dr. Rogers and know that he will excel in his new position, we are also sad to lose a colleague with tremendous energy and commitment. Chief among Dr. Rogers' accomplishments were leading the development of the MBA+ and taking the Accounting Advisory Board to new levels.

### Share Your News

We want to hear from you! Have you been promoted? Did you make a new career move? Do you have other developments you want to share with professors, classmates and friends? Let us know and we'll share the news in the next Benchmark newsletter.

Mail to: PSU SBA, PO Box 751, Portland, OR 97207  
 Email to: [development@sba.pdx.edu](mailto:development@sba.pdx.edu)  
 Fax to: (503) 725-5850

### We Need Your Support

Gifts to the accounting program enable us to

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- enhance **faculty** development, recruitment and retention
- cultivate our **reputation** for quality.

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