ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT

Keith Ruth

What happens when a young man gets a great education from the University of Georgia and moves to the big city? If his name is Keith Ruth, he succeeds.

Keith is a native of Calhoun, Ga., population 13,000, where his parents and much of his family still live. This small town boy moved to Atlanta after earning his degrees from the University of Georgia (undergraduate degree in accounting in 1984 and his MAcc in 1986). Once in Atlanta, he joined the “Big 8” accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand, which had 22 tax professionals at the time. Keith rose through the ranks from associate to senior associate to manager. In 1992, Keith relocated from the Atlanta office to the Richmond, Va., office where he was admitted as a tax partner in 1993.

In 1997, Keith returned to Atlanta and became the Partner in Charge of Coopers & Lybrand’s Atlanta tax practice. The next year, Coopers & Lybrand merged with Price Waterhouse to form the current single largest accounting firm in the world, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC). Continuing in his Tax Partner in Charge role, focusing on the opportunity in the Atlanta market, and capitalizing on the merger of the two firms to form PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Atlanta tax practice of PwC grew to over 300 tax professionals by 2005 when Keith took on his current role as PwC’s Southeast Region Managing Tax Partner. In addition to leading the regional tax practice with 18 offices and over 1,100 tax professionals, Keith continues to provide tax services to several corporate clients.

Sound like a lot? Well, Keith’s responsibilities continue to grow and expand as this year he took on the additional role of Diversity Leader for PwC’s U.S. tax practice. In this role, Keith is responsible for developing and implementing strategy to insure that PwC’s U.S. tax practice, including its leadership, reflects the diversity of those entering the accounting profession.

While juggling his various roles, Keith has remained an active member of the UGA School of Accounting Advisory Board. He has served in the past as both an instructor at UGA and as a speaker on tax-related topics. He takes an active part in PricewaterhouseCoopers’ recruiting efforts at UGA and works closely with UGA graduates and interns when they come on board at PwC. For several years, he has spearheaded and coordinated efforts at PricewaterhouseCoopers for UGA fundraising. He has also been active on the board of the Girl Scout Council of Northwest Georgia, serving as Treasurer for a number of years.

Yet he takes time to play. Always a bit unconventional, Harley-riding Keith recently participated in an office-wide fundraiser, Race for the Angels, managing to raise over $2,500 for the Salvation Army Angel Tree program while tooling around the unfinished ground floor of the Millennium Building in full biker regalia perched atop a two-foot high, children’s Big Wheel. Who says accountants are dull?

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News About Tull Graduates

Now that the CPA exam is computerized and can be taken throughout the year, it’s harder to keep track of successful candidates. However, we’ve learned that three of the five individuals who received Golden Key awards for having the highest cumulative scores for first time exam takers in the state of Georgia were 2005 Tull MAcc graduates. They are Clay Jones, Tony Pritchett, and Marc Smith. Clay is now with Deloitte in Atlanta, Tony works for Grant Thornton in Atlanta, and Marc moved to New York City to be with PricewaterhouseCoopers. Having 60% of the highest scores on the exam seems like at least our fair share!

Lisa Jane Owens (BBA ’05, MAcc ’06) also reports that she passed all four parts of the CPA exam the first time. Let us know if we can include you on this list!

Marc Anderson (BBA ’02, MAcc ’02) continues to teach accounting at Athens Tech. That’s from September through March and for the rest of the year he’s involved in bicycle racing around the U.S. and North America. He notes that last year he actually raced against Lance Armstrong in a California competition.

Having spent the last couple of years in Zurich, Switzerland, Jeff Battaglia (BBA ’00, MAcc ’01) will transfer to KPMG’s Transaction Services Group in New York City on October 1. Between these positions Jeff took four months off to travel, including a couple of months in Buenos Aires to learn Spanish and a couple of months skiing in Patagonia with friends from Europe. In his new position he will be involved with private equity clients and focusing more on strategic finance rather than purely accounting issues.

Blaney Carter (BBA ’05, MAcc ’05) is now working in the New York City office of Ernst & Young and she passed the CPA exam on her first attempt. Blaney is the daughter of James R. (Pete) Carter CPA/CFP (BBA ’74).

Moore Colson has admitted David Cox (MAcc ’89) as a partner. He joined the firm in 2001 after many years with PricewaterhouseCoopers. David serves clients in the internal auditing outsourcing and Sarbanes-Oxley compliance consulting practice. In addition to his CPA certificate, he is a Certified Internal Auditor and Certified Valuation Analyst.

Terry Thorson Cox moved to Charlotte, N.C., three years ago to lead the Business Innovation and Growth (BIG) Council. BIG serves high-growth technology companies through seminars, speakers, and hands on help with management issues. Terry previously lived in California and was involved in several positions with Dresdner RCM Global Investors, Barclays Global Investors, Frame Technology Corporation, and KPMG. She is a 1980 Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude graduate from the Tull School.

After receiving her undergraduate degree from the Tull School in 1973, Wanda Irvin DeLeo went on to earn an MS from the University of Central Florida and a PhD at Georgia State University. After many years as an accounting educator, Wanda joined the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight about four years ago and presently serves as Chief Accountant. OFHEO is the governmental organization that oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Wendy Frederick (BBA ’85, MAcc ’86) was recently appointed to the position of Director of Accounting for the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). Located in Washington, DC, USAC is an independent, not-for-profit corporation that administers the federal Universal Service Fund. The Fund provides low-income consumers, rural health care providers, and schools and libraries throughout the country with affordable telecommunications services.

Now working at Alvarez and Marsal is Mike Glatzer (BBA ’04, MAcc ’04). Alvarez & Marsal is a global professional services firm, specializing in providing turnaround management, restructuring and corporate advisory services. While he is based in Atlanta, Mike has been working on a client assignment in San Jose, Calif., for the past several months.

The January 5th edition of Atlanta Business Chronicle included a story about Alan Gothardt (BBA ’92, MAcc ’92), President of Polstra & Dardaman LLC. The story described Alan’s book, The Eternity Portfolio, a guide to including charitable giving in a personal financial plan. In addition to counseling his clients to give and his personal contributions, Alan serves on the Planned Giving Advisory Committee for Atlanta Habitat for Humanity, and provides stewardship strategy advice to his church, First Baptist Woodstock.

In March, Southern Company named Ron Hinson (BBA ’78) as Comptroller and Chief Accounting Officer. He was also named Senior Vice President and Comptroller of Southern Company Services. Southern Company is the parent company of Georgia Power and several other electric utilities in the Southeast.

Ami Kherbouche (MAcc ’97) has moved to Nordson Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio, and become Group Controller for the Pacific South Division and Japan (11 countries). Ami reports that in January he became engaged to Christine Chevalier. Ami popped the question while the two of them

continued on next page
were in Paris and the wedding will take place in the Cleveland area in November.

**Andy Lemminger (MAcc ’99)** reports that he is now located in Calgary, Canada, and still operating his Inter.Lations Translation company providing German/English translation services via the Internet.

Alpharetta-based Sivica Investments recently named **Mark E. Lewis (BBA ’80)** as the company’s Chief Financial Officer. His primary responsibility is to arrange capital for new projects for all company divisions including Sivica Communities, Sivica Homes, and Sivica Hospitality. He will also oversee the finance, accounting, and information technology systems for the firm’s corporate operations. This new position allows Mark to return home as he most recently was with Paramount Group in New York.

**Leah Malone (BBA ’04)** had the opportunity to study business negotiations at Bielefeld University in Germany in May. She is currently working at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is enrolled in the MAcc program at Kennesaw State University. She also was elected 2005-06 President of the Kennesaw Graduate Student Association and was chosen as one of 20 (of 18,000) students for a 2005-06 Presidential Fellow. Since moving to Atlanta, Leah has joined On Your Toes Inc. where she has been taking jazz and tap dance lessons.

**Brad Morgan (BBA ’92)** is proud to announce that he has joined Woodruff Holding Company in Columbus, Ga., as their new CFO. The Woodruff Companies are dedicated to develop, manage and build real estate with a vision to perform to a set of standards so high they would be considered “extras” at any other company.

**Jay Prince (BBA ’93)** of Prince Automotive of Valdosta chaired the Greater Valdosta United Way campaign that successfully raised $1,250,000. Jay and his wife welcomed their first child in April.

The June issue of **Journal of Accountancy** had a full-page story about **Gretchen Reeves**. After receiving her BBA in 1994, Gretchen immediately moved to Colorado to become a professional mountain biker. She was a full-time racer for several years, using the spare time between races in Europe to study for the CPA exam. The highlight of her racing career was winning the 2004-05 U.S. National Mountain Bike Marathon, a 100K race that she finished in less than five hours. Last year she began transitioning to an accounting career, and she opened her own CPA firm in Boulder, Colo. Much of her business is with other athletes such as skiers, runners, and mountain guides.

**Sean Reynolds (BBA ’96, JD ’99)** and **Courtney Minchew Reynolds (BBA ’96, MAcc ’97)** welcomed twins Carson Rodgers and Reagan Ivey into the family in late 2005. They are the siblings of older brother Ryan Walker, who just turned 2. Sean is currently at Morris, Manning & Martin LLP as a tax attorney. Courtney most recently was at Cartoon Network, but now is a full-time mother — still with an active CPA license.

**Brian Rickett (BBA ’03, MAcc ’03)** has joined Moore Colson as a Senior Tax Associate. Before joining Moore Colson, Brian worked at another accounting firm and at Habitat for Humanity in Cumming where he had accounting responsibilities and was a board member.

2006 Tull School BBA/MAcc graduate **Heather Ripley** has been admitted to Harvard Law School and will begin her legal studies this fall semester. Based on her excellent academic accomplishments at UGA, we know she will do a great job at Harvard.

Having already agreed to join Ernst & Young in Atlanta, **Brad Robbins (BBA ’05, MAcc ’06)** was offered and accepted an opportunity to work for a year in the firm’s National Professional Practice and Risk Management office in New York City. Only four new staff accountants from throughout the firm are selected for this assignment so it is quite a feather in Brad’s cap. After the year in New York working on accounting research matters, he expects to move back to Atlanta and work on the E&Y audit staff.

**P.N. (Pankaj) Saksena (MAcc ’91)** and his family were in Athens in May and dropped by the Tull School to see who was “still here.” He has fond memories of his time here at UGA. His positive experience influenced him to continue his education by entering the PhD in Accounting program at Georgia State. P.N. is currently Director of the MSA program at Indiana University, South Bend, as well as Assistant Dean and Associate Professor in their School of Business.

On March 1st, **Ann Smith (MAcc ’93)**, owner of Ann H. Smith, CPA, was recognized by Governor Sonny Perdue as the winner of the Governor’s Small Business of Excellence Award. In recognizing Ann for this award, Governor Perdue noted the growth in her business over the past several years, her novel management practices, and her innovative client service strategies. He also mentioned the column she regularly contributes to the business page in The Macon Telegraph.

The June issue of **The Journal of Accountancy** included an article “Recruiting Made Easy” that featured a photograph and comments by **David Wood (BBA ’86)** of Porter Keade Moore. David discussed the benefits of working in a small accounting firm with a “more familial environment.” He noted, “I often describe the size and character of our firm as ‘big enough that I don’t have to do all of the work, but small enough that I know everyone in the firm.’”
Mark Dawkins is Accounting Educator of the Year

On May 12, the Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs gave Mark Dawkins its award as Accounting Educator of the Year. Following is the text of the proclamation presented by K. Scott Collins, President of the Educational Foundation, and Denise A. Mummert, President of the Georgia Society.

Mark C. Dawkins is a selfless and gifted teacher who is a dedicated advocate of accounting as a profession. He is committed to student achievement and excellence, and freely gives of his time to assist his students. They appreciate his availability, willingness to help, and his genuine concern for their achievement. His extraordinary service contributions have benefited the University of Georgia, the state of Georgia, and the accounting profession in general through his tireless work to promote diversity in higher education and the workplace.

Professor Dawkins received his Bachelor of Science in Management (Accounting) from the Georgia Institute of Technology (1985). He received a Master of Business Administration (Finance) from the University of Florida Graduate School of Business (1987), a Master of Accounting (Auditing) from the University of Florida Fisher School of Accounting (1988), and a PhD in Accounting from the Florida State University College of Business (1994). He received his CMA certification in 1990 and his CPA certification in 1991. His career in academia began in 1991 when he was an adjunct instructor in accounting at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. In 1994, he joined the University of Georgia faculty as an assistant professor of accounting and in 2002 became an associate professor of accounting. He also currently serves as the Director of Diversity Relations for the university’s Terry College of Business.

Over the years, Professor Dawkins has received many academic honors and awards, which include: Terry-Sanford Research Fellow, Terry College of Business; University of Georgia Faculty Research Grant; Deloitte & Touche Doctoral Fellow; KPMG Doctoral Scholarship; IMA Cameron/McLeod Doctoral Scholarship; and AICPA Doctoral Scholarship. He was the co-recipient of the 2005 Student Government Association Outstanding Teacher Award; co-recipient of the 2003 Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award; and recipient of the Alpha Kappa Psi 2003 Accounting Teacher of the Year Award.

Professor Dawkins’ focus has been to develop future accountants both in and out of the classroom. He has worked tirelessly to increase the diversity of well-qualified entrants to the accounting profession from the high school level through PhD programs. He actively supports all students through his teaching and service activities within Terry College, including serving as a mentor in a leadership scholars program which helps students develop their leadership skills. He has worked with the athletic administration in career counseling student-athletes and has served as the faculty advisor for the UGA student chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants and the UGA Graduate Minority Business Association. He has been an integral part of the work of the Georgia Society of CPA’s (GSCPA) Minority Issues Committee. He helped launch the GSCPA’s High School Residency Program and has been instrumental in its continued growth and success.

Since 1995, Professor Dawkins has been published in top accounting and finance journals, has made many presentations to professional and academic groups, and has served on numerous university committees. Through his scholarly research, he has created significant new knowledge about the antecedents and consequences of corporate bankruptcy petition filings.

Professor Dawkins has also taken an active role in his professional organizations. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the American Accounting Association, and the National Association of Accountants.

Therefore, in recognition of an outstanding career in accounting education, the Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants is honored to present its 2006 Accounting Educator of the Year Award to Mark C. Dawkins, CPA.
The handwriting, as they say, was on the wall. Harvey and McDuff found that their kids got years) of courtship. Both previously married, married, after an extended period (four
New Orleans would work out just fine. And enthusiastic about the people and the place,
an offer. Dave, the kids, and she traveled to
Director of Admissions at UGA and received
Rice, was strong, and the school small and
About all that New Orleans had in common
an interview with Tulane’s business school.
the following ten weeks. During the distance
phase, some of the students may be in
Atlanta, but others may be on the east or
west coasts, in Europe or Asia. While attend-
ing a professional conference in August,
Harvey learned how to make videos of
PowerPoint slides and insert his “talking
head” lecturing on the slides. He bought a
video camera the same day and began record-
ing. He upgraded his home computer gear
and learned to produce finished, recorded
lectures in less than a day. Dave has also
taught MBA financial accounting at the
Gwinnett campus, managerial accounting to
students in the UGA Honors Program, a
large section of managerial accounting, the
second intermediate accounting course, and
a survey of accounting to 11-month MBA
students. In addition, he has been an MBA
coach and was appointed Director of the
Terry IBM MBA program in August 2005, a
role in which he continues.
In recent years, Dave’s research agenda
has given way to an interest in case writing,
though his admiration for high-quality aca-
demic research remains undiminished.
During his career, he has won a handful of
major teaching awards. He maintains his cre-
dentials as a CPA, Certified Management
Accountant, and member of the American
Institute of Certified Public Accountants and
the American Accounting Association.
Dave’s son Chris is a builder and arborist
in New Orleans. Father and son continue to
do small real estate projects and survived
Hurricane Katrina nearly unscathed. After the
storm, Chris returned to New Orleans daily,
putting in an inflatable boat and searching the
flooded city. During that period, he brought
75 stranded people to safety. Dave’s daughter
Anne is married to Harvey Leo, a physician in
Ann Arbor, Michigan, and has two of the four
smartest, best looking, most talented children
anywhere: Miriam (3) and Andrew (1). Anne
has taught school in New Orleans, Minneapolis. Wis., and Denver. Son-in-law
Harvey co-authored a recently published,
lead article in The New England Journal of
Medicine. The other two remarkable children
are Nancy’s grandsons Joseph (4) and Joshua
(2). Their mom, Jennifer, is married to Mark
Goodwin, head of a real estate appraisal prac-
tice in Hattiesburg, Miss. Jennifer, a graduate
in hotel and restaurant management and later
in nursing, worked as assistant to the CEO of
a computer hardware and software marketing
firm and as a benefits manager at a major
medical clinic in Hattiesburg. Both Anne and
Jennifer currently are stay-at-home moms.
Reflecting on the last three years, Dave is
especially enthusiastic about the high quality
of the students and colleagues, the level of
support he sees for teaching and research and
the opportunities he has been given within
the Tull School and the Terry College. How
does Dave feel about life at UGA? He can’t
imagine being anywhere else.

Keith Ruth
continued from page 1

Speaking of kids, Keith’s son and daugh-
ter have grown up in Atlanta and are both
nearing high school graduation. Keith’s not
sure yet whether there will be another
accountant in the family but he’s hopeful
he’ll have a future Bulldog in the family.
After that, who knows in what direction
Keith’s career will take him? But no matter
where he goes and whatever he might leave
behind, he will continue to be true to his
roots, both those in his home town of
Calhoun, Georgia, and his academic roots at
the University of Georgia.

Fall 2006 Tull School Update • 5
HONORS

A number of teaching, research, and service awards were made to Tull faculty in the last few months. **Linda Bamber, Denny Beresford** and **Dan Smith** were among those named Outstanding Teachers during the University of Georgia’s annual Honors Day program in the spring. Selected as Percy B. Yeargan Outstanding Teachers were **Mark Dawkins** and **Dan Smith**. Mark also was recognized as Accounting Teacher of the year by Alpha Kappa Psi. Among the five finalists for the Evening MBA Teacher of the Year award were **Progyan Basu** and **Dave Harvey**. Also, **Denny Beresford** was one of the five finalists for the Full-Time MBA Teacher of the Year award.

OTHER

At its April meeting, the University System of Georgia Board of Regents approved the promotion of **Ben Ayers** to full Professor. Ben recently spoke to the Northeast Georgia Young CPA’s on “Tips for Early Career Success in Public Accounting.” In February, he chaired the 2nd Annual KPMG/ATA Tax Doctoral Consortium.

The paper, “Using 10-K Reports Brings Management Accounting to Life,” by **Mike** and **Linda Bamber** was accepted for publication in *Issues in Accounting Education*. Mike and Linda received the Canadian Academic Accounting Association’s Howard Teall Award for Innovation in Accounting Education for the same paper and they are also presenting it at the Canadian Academic Accounting Association Annual Conference in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada via video.

Linda also spoke as part of the Bilby Speaker Series at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff on “Getting Your Research Published.” Further, she served as discussant of a paper on, “Mandatory Audit Partner Rotation, Audit Quality, and Market Perception: Evidence from Taiwan,” at the Contemporary Accounting Research Conference, at Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Mike presented his paper on “The Effect of Real-Time Review by Interview on Auditors’ Procedures and Effectiveness” at the American Accounting Association (AAA) annual meeting in Washington, DC. He also attended the Deloitte 2006 Southeast Region Faculty Symposium in Charlotte, N.C., in May.

In February, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* featured **Denny Beresford** in an “Up Close” interview with “one of metro Atlanta’s intriguing business personalities.” The item was titled “Accountant not afraid to tackle scary projects,” and covered Denny’s work as a member of the board of directors of WorldCom/MCI as well as other aspects of his career.

Denny’s article, “Walking the Talk: How FASB Can Achieve Simplification,” was published in the February 7 issue of *Compliance Week*.

He spoke at Audit Committee Issues Conferences sponsored by KPMG and the National Association of Corporate Directors in both Naples, Fla., and Scottsdale, Ariz. In March he was the Distinguished Speaker at the Clayton State University 2006 Business Conference and delivered the Luther Coggin lecture at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Fla.

Denny also was the kickoff speaker at the University of Southern California Corporate Governance Summit in Los Angeles (topic: “Governance Lessons Learned from the Worst Corporate Fraud in History”) and spoke on “Lessons Learned from Major Corporate Crises” at the Corporate Counsel College sponsored by the International Association of Defense Counsel in Chicago. In addition, he participated in a panel discussion on “Working with Your Audit Committee” at a Tax Executives Institute seminar in Naples, Fla., participated in an audit committee panel at Directors College co-sponsored by the Terry College and the National Association of Corporate Directors in Atlanta, and was a plenary speaker (“Accounting Practices and Corporate Scandal”) at the annual conference of the Institute of Management Accountants in Las Vegas.

In May, Denny was elected to the board of directors of Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), one of the country’s largest corporations, and appointed chairman of its audit committee.

**Tina Carpenter** presented a co-authored paper (with Jane Reimers, Rollins College, and Phil Fretwell, Protiviti) at the AAA annual meeting. The paper, “Improving Internal Auditors’ Fraud Judgments: The Benefits of Group Interaction and Qualitative Risk Assessments,” is based on a project that received a grant from the Institute of Internal Auditors Foundation and is a collaborative effort with academics and practitioners.

**Mark Dawkins** and **Linda Bamber** were co-authors, along with former PhD student Neil Bhattacharya, of a paper that has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*. The title of the paper is, “Systematic Share Price Fluctuations After Bankruptcy Filings and the Investors Who Drive Them.”

**Jackie Hammersley** participated in a panel discussion at the PAC10+ Accounting Doctoral Consortium held at the University of Utah. The panel topic was, “Managing Your Dissertation.” Jackie also presented her co-authored paper on “Market Reactions to Internal Control Weakness Disclosures Under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002,” to the University of Kansas Symposium on Auditing Problems in Lawrence, Kansas.
What’s News With You?

What are you doing and what’s “news” with you? Please take a few moments to fill in this form and return to us so we can keep your classmates informed of your activities. If you wish, please attach a separate sheet with more information. Or you can email: phoyt@terry.uga.edu.

(Note to married female graduates, please be sure to include your maiden name!)

Name:

Mailing Address:

City:

State: Zip:

Email:

Degree(s):

Graduation year(s):

Currently Employed at:

My News:
Rotary Scholar with a Dream
(The following story was adapted with permission from one that appeared in the Spring 2006 issue of Honors, the newsletter of the University of Georgia Honors Program.)

At first impression, 2006-07 Rotary Scholar and Honors student Ilya Gokhman seems an easy-going student, with a quick wit and charismatic smile. But upon further examination you will find that beneath that laid-back exterior is a student who is not only thinking intently about his own future, but is also contemplating the futures of others perhaps less fortunate than himself. He holds a big dream for which his past and current projects and studies have prepared him.

Ilya finished his Master’s of Accountancy and a second undergraduate degree in economics through the Terry College of Business this spring; he completed his first undergraduate degree in accounting the previous summer. During his time in Honors, he has been awarded the Crane Leadership Scholarship (2004-05) for his leadership on campus and academic success. Ilya served as an Honors Peer Advisor in 2003 and 2004 and was a member of the Honors Program Student Council from 2002-05, the last year acting as president.

Ilya was awarded a Courts International Scholarship in 2005 and traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia. It was during this trip that he realized that he wanted to serve and help people instead of merely working to become wealthy. In his second year at UGA, Ilya spearheaded a tutoring program at Clarke Central High School that used Honors students as tutors at an existing after-school program. He later helped move that program to the government housing neighborhood Bethel Midtown Village in downtown Athens where it existed for two years. The present program, for which Ilya serves as an advisor, has moved once more to the Thomas Lay Community Center, where UGA students tutor and mentor children five days a week.

And now, all his leadership efforts have paid further dividends for Ilya’s future and potentially for those children he hopes to positively influence in his life. Ilya will spend March through December of 2007 in Capetown, South Africa. He will work toward a second Master’s degree or a certificate program in education or business, but will also spend time working with children, a long-range continuation of the program he began over four years ago in Athens. And as for his dreams? Ilya hopes to eventually open a school for underprivileged children, providing hope and opportunity for those who have very little of either. And, knowing Ilya, he will no doubt make his dreams come true. ■

FASB Selects Tull’s Brian Staniszewski

The Financial Accounting Standards Board has chosen Tull student Brian Staniszewski to be a Postgraduate Technical Assistant beginning in January 2007. Brian will work for the FASB in Norwalk, Conn., for a one-year period after he completes his MAcc degree in December 2006. Brian is the third UGA student selected for this program in recent years, following 2004 graduate Rachel Varian (now with Deloitte in Atlanta) and 2002 graduate Shelby Kazazean (now with KPMG in Chicago).

Brian competed with candidates from many leading universities throughout the country. Nominees had to have an outstanding academic record, strong oral and written communication skills, and have completed course work that provides a thorough knowledge of accounting theory and practice.

Postgraduate Technical Assistants are assigned to major FASB agenda projects or to short-term practice and implementation issues, depending on the need for staff assistance. They are involved in all phases of their assigned projects, including analyzing written submissions received on documents issued for public comment, reviewing and analyzing published research, preparing memorandums on technical issues for Board members’ information, drafting due process documents, and evaluating accounting proposals of other organizations.

Additionally, they attend and occasionally participate in public Board, task force, and other meetings pertinent to their projects.

Brian earned a BBA in Finance from UGA in December 1999. After working as a financial analyst for several years, he returned to our Masters of Accountancy program in 2004. Brian was on the University’s Presidential Scholar List for two and a half years and was elected to Beta Gamma Sigma during his undergraduate years. While in the MAcc program he joined Beta Alpha Psi and recently served as Treasurer.

Brian worked as an audit intern for Ernst & Young during the summer of 2006 and expects to return to public accounting after his exciting year at the FASB. ■
2006 Student Accounting Awards

UGA began recognizing First Honor Graduates in 1978 instead of designating a graduating senior as valedictorian. Seventy-four such students were recognized at the 2005 fall and 2006 spring commencements, and four of those students were accounting majors, all of whom had perfect 4.0 grade point averages. They were Anna R. Griffith, Lyndie S. Miller, Jessica R. Smith, and Brendan J. Thomas. Anna Griffith has accepted a position with BDO Seidman when she finishes her MAcc in December 2006. Lyndie Miller will turn her part-time work into full-time employment with Porter, Keadle, Moore when she earns her MAcc in December 2006. Jessica Smith graduates this Spring with her MAcc and will start with Deloitte. Brendan Thomas will continue his MAcc studies next year and plans to go to law school.

- Georgia Society of CPA’s Excellence Award
- Bennett Thrasher Award
- Deloitte Outstanding Student Award
- Dixon Hughes Scholarship
- Elliott Davis Accounting Award
- Ernst & Young Tax Research Award
- Frazier & Deeter Accounting Award
- Georgia Society of CPA’s Excellence Award
- Bennett Thrasher Award
- Deloitte Outstanding Student Award
- Dixon Hughes Scholarship
- Elliott Davis Accounting Award
- Ernst & Young Tax Research Award
- Frazier & Deeter Accounting Award
- Georgia Society of CPA’s Excellence Award

Again this year the School of Accounting was very well represented among the Terry College 2007 Class of Leadership Scholars. Among the 30 rising Juniors selected for the program were the following accounting majors: Brooke Burlingame, Ellina Feldman, David Hanson, Andrew Head, David Kirby and Ilan Tobin.

The Spring 2006 Accounting Awards Ceremony was held on April 27 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in connection with Beta Alpha Psi’s last meeting for the school year. Beta Alpha Psi initiated thirty-three new members that evening as well. Following an excellent presentation by guest speaker Doug Benn, Executive Vice President of Finance and CFO of RARE Hospitality International Inc., Beta Alpha Psi advisor Dan Smith announced the following scholarship winners:

- Smith & Howard Scholarship
- KPMG Outstanding Student Awards
- Ernst & Young
- Beta Alpha Psi Advisor’s Award
- Meg Mamalakis

The following additional awards were announced separately:

- 2005-06 UGA Graduate School Assistantship
- MBA: Lauren E. Sanders, Cassandra D. Cheevers, Andrea N. Legree, Yoshi Makino, Eric T. Sconyers.
- PhD: Jeremy B. Griffin
- Blue Key Honor Society John Joseph Antonio, IV
- Financial Executives International Scholar Award Paige D. Cical
- Georgia Society of CPA’s Accounting Educator of the Year Mark C. Dawkins
- Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities Laura K. Byars & Shavonne L. McGuirt
- Wachovia Scholarship Tressa C. Lauinger
- FASB Postgraduate Fellowship Julius Johnson Memorial Scholarship Brian Staniszewski
International Accounting Standards. International travel and study has become an important component of preparing future leaders in business.

A third change for the fall is the addition of two new faculty members – Ken Klassen and Santhosh Ramalingegowda. Ken, a Stanford PhD, joins the Tull School from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada. Ken is an accomplished tax scholar and will be teaching introductory tax in our undergraduate program and graduate tax courses in our MAcc program. Santhosh recently earned his PhD at the Pennsylvania State University and will be teaching managerial accounting in our undergraduate program.

Both Ken and Santhosh have reputations for being outstanding teachers and impressive research agendas. They are great additions to our faculty.

One item that is not changing is the national reputation that the Tull School has for producing outstanding alumni in each of its programs. I am pleased to announce that Isabel Wang (PhD ’05) has won this year’s American Accounting Association (AAA) Competitive Manuscript Award and the AAA Financial Accounting Reporting Section’s Outstanding Dissertation Award. The AAA Competitive Manuscript Award is the most prestigious research award presented by the AAA for single-authored research. Wang’s dissertation committee was chaired by Linda Bamber. Professor Bamber, who holds the J.M. Tull Chair of Accounting, also chaired the PhD committee of 2000 Competitive Manuscript Award winner Nilabhra Bhattacharya (MBA ’94, PhD ’98).

Wang, who is now on the faculty at Michigan State University, continues the impressive list of Tull School winners of the Competitive Manuscript Award. In addition to former PhD students Wang and Bhattacharya, four current or former Tull School of Accounting faculty members have won the manuscript award (Jackie Hammersley, 2004; Ben Ayers, 1997; Dan Smith, 1975; Russ Barefield, 1969). In addition, one of our former BBA and MAcc graduates, Mark Barefield, won the manuscript award in 2001. This success provides highly visible external confirmation of the outstanding quality of our students and faculty. Congratulations Isabel! ■
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