Accounting Programs Ranked Top 25 in the Nation Second Year in a Row

Alumni Accomplishments

Faculty Research
Table of Contents

4  Welcome
5  UCI Audit Committee Summit 2019
6  Faculty
10  PhD Program
12  MPAc Program
18  Undergraduate Program
20  Student Organizations
22  Alumni

merage.uci.edu
Welcome

Our Masters of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program entered its sixth year this fall, and has really hit its stride. This year’s bulletin looks back at our accomplishments, takes stock of where we are today, and looks forward to the future.

Continued curriculum innovations, including the new data analytics track we introduced last year, a cybersecurity course, and other continuous updates, have created a robust and cutting-edge curriculum at Merage. This has culminated in the MPAc program earning a STEM certification, in Spring 2020.

To succeed in today’s Accounting careers, students also need soft skills. In addition to career development activities throughout the year, we have implemented a curriculum component focusing on concrete Accounting-relevant soft skills: the proseminar, a 4-unit course taught over two quarters by academic faculty.

The true test of this combination – knowledge and soft skills – is the success of our graduates. And in a sign of our alumni’s continued career success after graduation, many of our alumni are now the ones coming back to hire from the Merage School.

Another challenge faced by every accounting program is to optimize the interaction between our students and Accounting firms. This year, we hosted our inaugural Summer Accounting Fair. It was a resounding success. Over a dozen accounting firms and over 100 students attended, with both groups praising the event for introducing the firms and students to one another earlier than many other schools.

Our undergraduate Accounting major and Business Administration major, with Accounting emphasis, continue to draw some of the strongest and most diverse students in the UC system.

Business Administration majors had an average incoming GPA of 4.11 and some of the highest SAT scores on campus. These students are smart, hard-working, and ambitious.

For the second year in a row, UCI topped the New York Times’ list of Colleges doing the most for the American Dream. Merage School undergraduates, including Business Administration majors and Accounting minors, represent a wide variety of backgrounds. Their success encapsulates UCI’s strength as a diverse, inclusive, and supportive campus.

Finally, we have continued to expand our world-class faculty and to build a top-tier PhD program. Three notable highlights this year include:

• Professor Chenqi Zhu joined the faculty in fall 2019, having earned a PhD from New York University. Her research focuses on current topics in Financial Accounting from both firms’ and investors’ perspectives. Some of her topics include information about innovation, corporate social responsibility, and non-financial information like firms’ background descriptions on Wikipedia and employer ratings on Glassdoor.

• After serving as President-elect last year, Professor Terry Shevlin, Paul Merage Chair in Business Growth and Associate Dean of Research and Doctoral Programs, is President of the American Accounting Association, the premier academic accounting association worldwide.

• PhD Candidate Aruhn Venkat will join University of Texas at Austin as an Assistant Professor in June. His research uses “natural experiments” to expand our understanding of how tax policy changes affect firm behavior, innovation, and tax avoidance.

World-class quality is our top focus in all that we do. For the second year in a row, both our undergraduate and MPAc programs were listed in the top 25 Public Accounting Report rankings for schools of a similar size. We look forward to continuing to progress, and to speaking with you about your past, present, and future experiences with the Merage School.

Thank you!

Devon Shanthikumar
Associate Professor of Accounting
and Accounting Area Coordinator

UCI Audit Committee Summit 2019

The Accounting Area, in partnership with firm sponsors*, held its sixth annual UCI Audit Committee Summit on October 4, 2019. The one-of-a-kind summit brings together relevant and knowledgeable government representatives and key business leaders to provide boards and audit committees with important and relevant information regarding current and emerging financial reporting and governance issues as well as new initiatives being considered by agencies such as the SEC, PCAOB and FASB.

This year, we were very pleased to have PCAOB Board Member Kathleen Ham and SEC Deputy Chief Accountant Mark Panucci as our featured 2019 keynote speakers. Ms. Ham and Mr. Panucci and a panel of experts commented on a number of timely and important topics, including the implications of new leadership on initiatives at the SEC and PCAOB and insights on new and proposed SEC and PCAOB regulations addressing cybersecurity, expanded auditor reporting, and CAMs.

The half day program also featured a very informative and well-received expert panel discussion addressing current regulatory and legislative developments in the area of data privacy as well as lessons learned from extant cybersecurity and privacy breaches and effective practices for audit committee and board oversight of data privacy and cyber-risk.

“For a complete list of our sponsors, panelists and more information on the 2019 UCI Audit Committee Summit, visit merage.uci.edu/auditsummit.”

*For a complete list of our sponsors, panelists and more information on the 2019 UCI Audit Committee Summit, visit merage.uci.edu/auditsummit.
Faculty

Devon Shanthikumar Named 2019 Top 40 Under 40 Professor by Poets & Quants

Devin Shanthikumar was selected as a top 40 under 40 MBA professor by Poets&Quants. The 39-year-old professor has more than 1,100 citations on Google Scholar and received nearly 80 nominations for the Poets&Quants award. As an accounting professor, Shanthikumar hopes to change the perception of accounting as a dry subject, and to help business leaders understand the ways they need to incorporate rigorous analysis into decision making.

Accounting Area Faculty

Chenqi Zhu

Chenqi Zhu earned a PhD in Accounting from New York University, a BA in Finance & BS in Mathematics from Renmin University of China, and an M-Phil in Economics from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She has published a research paper in Review of Finance and presented her working papers in top-tier conferences. Her current research interests primarily lie in the intersection of information and intangibles. She has studied knowledge diffusion, information dissemination, and price discovery in the labor market, technology market, and capital market, as well as information frictions in the peer-to-peer lending market. She is also interested in exploring big data and applying natural language processing techniques to study the decision making of market participants such as managers and different groups of investors.

Faculty Spotlight

Accounting Area Welcomes New Accounting Faculty, Chenqi Zhu

Chenqi Zhu earned a PhD in Accounting from New York University, a BA in Finance & BS in Mathematics from Renmin University of China, and an M-Phil in Economics from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She has published a research paper in Review of Finance and presented her working papers in top-tier conferences. Her current research interests primarily lie in the intersection of information and intangibles. She has studied knowledge diffusion, information dissemination, and price discovery in the labor market, technology market, and capital market, as well as information frictions in the peer-to-peer lending market. She is also interested in exploring big data and applying natural language processing techniques to study the decision making of market participants such as managers and different groups of investors.

The Disciplinary Effect of Social Media: Evidence From Workplace Practices in Response to Glassdoor Reviews

Chenqi Zhu and Svenja Dube

We examine the disciplinary effect of Glassdoor reviews on employers’ workplace practices, measured by corporate social responsibility (CSR) scores on employee relations and diversity. Leveraging the staggered timing of when firms are reviewed on Glassdoor for the first time, we use a difference-in-differences design and find that firms improve their workplace practices after being reviewed on Glassdoor. The results are concentrated in firms whose first reviews are negative, which rely more on human capital and have higher labor mobility. The results are robust to propensity matching to account for differences in observable characteristics between firms that are reviewed early and those that are reviewed later (or never). The results are also consistent across alternative measures of employee relations and diversity.

Female Rank-and-File Accounting Employees and Internal Control Quality

Chuchu Liang, Ben Lourie, and P. Eric Young

We use proprietary data on rank-and-file employees from a large sample to document a negative relation between the percentage of female rank-and-file accounting employees and firms’ propensity for internal control weaknesses. This relation is curvilinear. The effect is strong when female accountants are underrepresented, while the effect attenuates when gender diversity exceeds parity. We also find that a firm’s ineffective internal control predicts the future turnover of male rank-and-file accountants. Our study is the first to provide evidence that gender plays an important role at the level of rank-and-file employees in determining internal control quality.

From Left: Ben Lourie, Chuchu Liang, Devin Shanthikumar, Terry Shevlin, Mort Pincus, Joanna Ho, Siew Hong Teoh, Radhika Lunawat, and Patricia Wellmeyer
Are Key Audit Matter Disclosures Informative in Assessing Financial Distress?

Patricia Wellmeyer, Mort Pincus, Mar Camacho-Miriano, Nora Muñoz-Izquierdo

This study examines the informative value of new expanded audit report key audit matters (KAM) disclosures in assessing firm financial distress. Using KAM disclosures from a sample of Premium listed firms in the UK for the period 2013 to 2018, we find a direct association between the number of KAMs disclosed by an auditor and a firm’s financial distress level, indicating that the higher the number of KAMs, the higher the financial distress level of a firm. Additionally, we find evidence that the informative power of KAMs increases when also considering the level (entity versus account) and nature (individual type) of KAMs disclosed by an auditor. Furthermore, we find evidence that entity level KAMs in general and certain account level individual KAMs (such as revenue and management estimates) in specific are more likely to be disclosed than others when firms are in financially distress situations. In all, these results provide evidence of a significant relation between auditor risk assessment disclosures and firm financial distress levels, and in doing so, show that expanded audit report disclosures can help investors assess one of the main risks associated with a firm—the risk of failure.

The Effect of Tax Avoidance Crackdown on Corporate Innovation

Terry Shevlin, Qin Li (PhD graduate UCI and at Hong Kong Polytechnic University) and Mark (Shuai) Ma (Univ of Pittsburgh)

To constrain the use of intangible assets in tax-motivated income shifting and thus crackdown on corporate tax avoidance, many U.S. state governments adopted addback statutes. Addback statutes reduce the benefits that firms can gain from creating intangible assets such as patents. Using a large sample of U.S. public firms, we examine the effect of addback statutes on corporate innovation behavior. First, the adoption of addback statutes leads to a 6.77% decrease in the number of patents and a 5.12% decrease in the number of patent citations. Second, the “disappearing patents” resulting from tax avoidance crackdown have significant economic value. Third, after a state adopts an addback statute, a firm with material subsidiaries in that state transfers/licenses fewer patents to subsidiaries in low-tax states, whereas the number of patents that the firm assigns to the other states does not change. Overall, our findings suggest that addback statutes impede corporate innovation.

Opportunity Knocks But Once: Delayed Disclosure of Financial Items in Earnings Announcements and Neglect of Earnings News

Yitan Li, Alexander Nekrasov, and Siew Hong Teoh

We define a delayed disclosure ratio (DD) as the fraction of 10-Q financial statement items that are withheld at the earlier quarterly earnings announcement. We find that higher DD firms have a greater delay in investor and analyst response to earnings surprises: (i) the fraction of total market reaction to quarterly earnings news realized around the earnings announcement (after the 10-Q filing) is smaller (greater), and (ii) analysts are more likely to defer issuing forecasts from immediately after the earnings announcement to after the 10-Q filing. Consistent with our limited attention model predictions, the response catch-up associated with DD is incomplete, even after the delayed items are fully disclosed at the 10-Q filing date, and persists until the next earnings announcement date. The return reaction to earnings news over the entire quarter does not vary with DD, so differences in earnings informativeness do not explain the DD effect. Our findings suggest that, for limited attention effects to be mitigated, the timing of disclosures must be coincident with the focal periods—at earnings announcement dates—when investors and analysts are paying the most attention.

Trading Volume and Public Information in an Experimental Asset Market With Short and Long-Horizon Traders

Radhika Lunawat, Chandika Kanodia, University of Minnesota, Mark DeSantis, Chapman University

We test Kondor’s (2012) theory in an experimental asset market to study how public announcements of earnings affect trading volume in the presence of short-horizon and long-horizon traders. Long-horizon traders directly consume the realization of an uncertain liquidating dividend paid out by the asset, while short-horizon traders must sell their holdings to other traders in order to consume. We find strong evidence in support of Kondor’s theory. Trading volume falls sharply when information is publicly released to long-horizon traders, but increases when the same information is released to short-horizon traders. We find direct evidence that the beliefs of long-horizon traders about the fundamental value of the asset become more homogenous after the release of public information, thus decreasing disagreement and trading volume. However, we also find that in Kondor’s setting where different groups of traders receive private signals about different components of the firm’s fundamentals, public information polarizes the beliefs of short-horizon traders about the beliefs of the other traders to whom they need to sell, thus increasing disagreement and trading volume.

The Effects of Social Connections and Supervisors’ Bonus Allocation Discretion on Subordinates’ Compensation

Joanna L. Ho, Cody Lu (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), Sandra Vera-Muñoz (University of Notre Dame), and Anne Wu (National Chengchi University-Taipei)

We use field-based data and a natural experiment from a Chinese manufacturing company that switched from a high-discretion to a low-discretion bonus allocation plan to examine the role of social connection bias between principals and agents in supervisors’ bonus allocations. We find that, other things equal, sales agents who are socially connected to their supervisors receive higher bonus awards, on average, than sales agents who are not socially connected, thus clouding the link between sales agents’ performance and pay. Our findings are robust to controlling for the supervisors’ and sales agents’ gender, age, and tenure with the company. Supplementary analyses show that both low-performing and highly educated sales agents benefit more from their social connections than their high-performing and less-educated counterparts under the high-discretion bonus allocation plan. However, limiting supervisors’ bonus allocation discretion mitigates the social connection bias between supervisors and sales agents. Our results indicate that the high-discretionary bonus allocation plan may negatively impact subordinates’ perceptions of fairness when social connection bias is present, potentially leading to reduced effort, motivation, and morale. This demonstrates that behavioral-based explanations are often as salient as agency-based explanations in predicting bonus compensation, and these findings have important implications for practitioners.

Broker Trading Volume: A Conflict of Interest?

Devin Shanthikumar, Ben Louie, and Tiana Lehmer (PhD alumna)

Using unique new data, we examine whether brokerage trading volume creates a conflict of interest for analysts. We find that earnings forecast optimism is associated with higher brokerage volume, even controlling for forecast and analyst quality, recommendations, and target prices. However, forecast accuracy is also significantly associated with higher volume. When analysts change brokerage firms, they bring trading volume with them, influencing trading volume at the new brokerage house. This indicates that analysts drive the volume effects we observe. Consistent with a reward for generating volume, brokerage houses are less likely to demote analysts who generate more volume. Finally, analysts strategically adjust forecast optimism based on expected volume impact. Analysts become more (less) optimistic if their optimistic forecasts in the prior year were more (less) successful at generating volume. However, consistent with higher costs to increasing accuracy, analysts do not update accuracy based on expected volume impact. Overall, our results are consistent with a brokerage trading volume conflict of interest moving analysts towards more optimistic earnings forecasts, despite the volume reward for accuracy.
PhD Program

A PhD in accounting educates students interested in pursuing an academic career. The program involves an intensive two-years of coursework in microeconomics, econometrics, and statistics, finance, some math, and reading the academic literature. Following the coursework, there is a major field exam testing the student's knowledge and ability to do research. Passing this exam then leads to the dissertation stage, which is a further two to three years of work on a thesis and requires the student to identify an important research question, develop hypotheses, collect data, and run statistical analyses, and write up the results.

Academic accounting at UCI comprises applied financial and information economics with the base discipline being economics. Some schools also educate students to conduct analytical math modeling about information issues while other schools examine judgment and decision making in the audit, financial, and management accounting areas – students in these areas study psychology and sociology. As we are a small faculty of ten tenure track research faculty, our main focus is applied financial economics related to financial accounting and tax issues.

Entrance into the program is highly competitive with approximately 50 to 60 applications a year for our two to three open spots. We look for smart, hard-working individuals who “know what they are getting into.” A PhD is not for everyone, and we encourage applicants to talk with faculty before applying to this or any other PhD program in accounting. An accounting PhD is far removed from an undergraduate or even a master’s in accounting program. It is akin to driving a race car versus driving on your local city streets (not the L.A. freeways or Irvine arterial roads – though these roads appear to be for aspiring race car drivers!). Students are fully funded in the program via teaching assistantships, which provide tuition coverage and a stipend that helps cover living costs.

PhD Academic Awards 2019-2020

Congratulations to Shijia (Tonni) Xi and Il Sun Yoo (both 2nd year students) for successfully completing their first-year summer research paper wherein they identified a research question, developed hypotheses, designed tests, ran the analysis and wrote up the results in a cohesive paper and presented it orally to the satisfaction of the area faculty within the specified time-frame!
MPAc Program

MPAc Recruitment and Admissions

The MPAc program recently celebrated its sixth and largest graduating class this past June. A total of 137 Master of Professional Accountancy graduates, including our inaugural two-year option students, walked the stage at the Bren Events Center. The graduating class represented 83 institutions across the world in an incredibly diverse and dynamic group of students. Students entered the program from a host of unique majors including Chemistry, Philosophy, Political Science, Hospitality Management, Business Data Analytics, Japanese, Global Cooperation, Criminology, Law and Society, and Classics. Faculty and staff are excited to see another fantastic group of graduates as they now embark on their professional careers.

Kimberly Hedges ’19 is a recent MPAc graduate and double graduates as they now embark on their professional careers. She began working at the Orange Business Administration and minor in Political Science prior to UC Irvine alum, graduating with her Bachelor degree in Accounting, Kimberly enrolled in Introduction to Data Analytics, a first course in our Data Analytics specialization because “I believe in an industry that is technologically changing, being able to use analytical skills is important. Programs like MPAc have new tracks which teach skills to help enhance knowledge about data analytics.”

Accounting Programs Ranked Top 25 in the Nation Second Year in a Row

The Paul Merage School of Business accounting programs have been ranked among the top 25 master’s and undergraduate programs in the nation by the Public Accounting Report’s (PAR) 38th Annual Professors Survey. The report, conducted each spring, is based on the “opinions of the nation’s accounting professors.” The Merage School took the 16th spot for master’s programs at schools with 16 or fewer accounting faculty.

This is the second year UCI has placed top 25 in multiple categories in the PAR rankings. Patricia Wellmeyer, MPAc Academic Director, expressed pride at the recent rankings. “Seeing students go from an associate all the way to a manager was the vision we had with the program. We see all these students gaining success in the market which validates that we are teaching them the right skills,” she said.

Slusher explained how diversity—the class currently has students from 7 countries and over 9% of domestic students from underrepresented groups—is a pride point for the program. “When looking to hire, firms have a “diverse and talented pool” of individuals to select from when looking at the Merage School. These multifaceted layers of diversity, leadership, and success are what sets the School’s undergraduate and graduate programs apart from others.

“if they think of talent, diversity, smart, and students with potential, they think of our program first,” Slusher said.

The Merage School Travels Across the Globe in Search of the Best and the Brightest

This fall, the UCI Paul Merage School of Business ventured to Korea and China to connect with future antecedents on a personal level.

It was the first overseas trip for the Specialty Masters Program at the Merage School—advancing the School’s mission for global diversity. Jana Cheng, from the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program, emphasized the importance of international outreach.

“Our programs strive to be globally diverse, and that’s one of the reasons we went on our first ever Specialty Masters international trip. We wanted to expand our outreach and strengthen our relationships with different countries across the globe,” said Cheng.

Paul Merage. Understanding the importance of technology affecting all aspects of the business world, including accounting, Kimberly enrolled in Introduction to Data Analytics, the first course in our Data Analytics specialization because “I believe in an industry that is technologically changing, being able to use analytical skills is important. Programs like MPAc have new tracks which teach skills to help enhance knowledge about data analytics.”

to develop a curricular and co-curricular experience for our students that is unique, highly relevant, and focused not only on getting students ready technically, but also professionally so that once they leave our program they have both the professional and technical capabilities to succeed in the increasingly complex and changing data-driven accounting environment,” she said.

Burt Slusher, director of recruitment and admissions for specialty master’s programs, explained how the recent rankings reflected positively on the fairly new accounting program.

“It makes us feel good to be ranked in a publication that has some prestige in the accounting field,” he said. “The Public Accounting Report has done these rankings for many years. We’re now recruiting for our eighth class, and to see that the reputation of our program is still carrying forward and is now being recognized from outside entities makes us feel very proud.”

When the program was created, it focused on creating a powerful foundation for leadership qualities that students could utilize in multiple ways even after getting their degrees. Slusher stated, “When we built the program, we really wanted to help accounting students to not only get jobs in their field, but to become executives in the profession. It was not just to say: ‘Here are the accounting skill sets, it meets the CPA requirements.’ We do all of that through our program, but our larger purpose is to produce leaders in the digital space with the field of accounting changing all the time.”

Since its inception, the MPAc program has boasted a 90% or higher completion rate for students six months post-graduation. Students are not only getting jobs; they’re excelling in the positions they’re in. Slusher has watched students start as associates and gradually progress to managerial and executive positions in their place of employment.

“Seeing students go from an associate all the way to a manager was the vision we had with the program. We see all these students gaining success in the market which validates that we are teaching them the right skills,” he said.

Slusher explained how diversity—the class currently has students from 7 countries and over 9% of domestic students from underrepresented groups—is a pride point for the program. “When looking to hire, firms have a “diverse and talented pool” of individuals to select from when looking at the Merage School. These multifaceted layers of diversity, leadership, and success are what sets the School’s undergraduate and graduate programs apart from others. “if they think of talent, diversity, smart, and students with potential, they think of our program first,” Slusher said.

This fall, the UCI Paul Merage School of Business ventured to Korea and China to connect with future antecedents on a personal level.

It was the first overseas trip for the Specialty Masters Program at the Merage School—advancing the School’s mission for global diversity. Jana Cheng, from the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program, emphasized the importance of international outreach.

“Our programs strive to be globally diverse, and that’s one of the reasons we went on our first ever Specialty Masters international trip. We wanted to expand our outreach and strengthen our relationships with different countries across the globe,” said Cheng.

to develop a curricular and co-curricular experience for our students that is unique, highly relevant, and focused not only on getting students ready technically, but also professionally so that once they leave our program they have both the professional and technical capabilities to succeed in the increasingly complex and changing data-driven accounting environment,” she said.

Burt Slusher, director of recruitment and admissions for specialty master’s programs, explained how the recent rankings reflected positively on the fairly new accounting program.

“It makes us feel good to be ranked in a publication that has some prestige in the accounting field,” he said. “The Public Accounting Report has done these rankings for many years. We’re now recruiting for our eighth class, and to see that the reputation of our program is still carrying forward and is now being recognized from outside entities makes us feel very proud.”

When the program was created, it focused on creating a powerful foundation for leadership qualities that students could utilize in multiple ways even after getting their degrees. Slusher stated, “When we built the program, we really wanted to help accounting students to not only get jobs in their field, but to become executives in the profession. It was not just to say: ‘Here are the accounting skill sets, it meets the CPA requirements.’ We do all of that through our program, but our larger purpose is to produce leaders in the digital space with the field of accounting changing all the time.”

Since its inception, the MPAc program has boasted a 90% or higher completion rate for students six months post-graduation. Students are not only getting jobs; they’re excelling in the positions they’re in. Slusher has watched students start as associates and gradually progress to managerial and executive positions in their place of employment.

“Seeing students go from an associate all the way to a manager was the vision we had with the program. We see all these students gaining success in the market which validates that we are teaching them the right skills,” he said.

Slusher explained how diversity—the class currently has students from 7 countries and over 9% of domestic students from underrepresented groups—is a pride point for the program. “When looking to hire, firms have a “diverse and talented pool” of individuals to select from when looking at the Merage School. These multifaceted layers of diversity, leadership, and success are what sets the School’s undergraduate and graduate programs apart from others.

“if they think of talent, diversity, smart, and students with potential, they think of our program first,” Slusher said.

This fall, the UCI Paul Merage School of Business volunteered to Korea and China to connect with future antecedents on a personal level.

It was the first overseas trip for the Specialty Masters Program at the Merage School—advancing the School’s mission for global diversity. Jana Cheng, from the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program, emphasized the importance of international outreach.

“Our programs strive to be globally diverse, and that’s one of the reasons we went on our first ever Specialty Masters international trip. We wanted to expand our outreach and strengthen our relationships with different countries across the globe,” said Cheng.

to develop a curricular and co-curricular experience for our students that is unique, highly relevant, and focused not only on getting students ready technically, but also professionally so that once they leave our program they have both the professional and technical capabilities to succeed in the increasingly complex and changing data-driven accounting environment,” she said.

Burt Slusher, director of recruitment and admissions for specialty master’s programs, explained how the recent rankings reflected positively on the fairly new accounting program.

“It makes us feel good to be ranked in a publication that has some prestige in the accounting field,” he said. “The Public Accounting Report has done these rankings for many years. We’re now recruiting for our eighth class, and to see that the reputation of our program is still carrying forward and is now being recognized from outside entities makes us feel very proud.”

When the program was created, it focused on creating a powerful foundation for leadership qualities that students could utilize in multiple ways even after getting their degrees. Slusher stated, “When we built the program, we really wanted to help accounting students to not only get jobs in their field, but to become executives in the profession. It was not just to say: ‘Here are the accounting skill sets, it meets the CPA requirements.’ We do all of that through our program, but our larger purpose is to produce leaders in the digital space with the field of accounting changing all the time.”

Since its inception, the MPAc program has boasted a 90% or higher completion rate for students six months post-graduation. Students are not only getting jobs; they’re excelling in the positions they’re in. Slusher has watched students start as associates and gradually progress to managerial and executive positions in their place of employment.

“Seeing students go from an associate all the way to a manager was the vision we had with the program. We see all these students gaining success in the market which validates that we are teaching them the right skills,” he said.

Slusher explained how diversity—the class currently has students from 7 countries and over 9% of domestic students from underrepresented groups—is a pride point for the program. “When looking to hire, firms have a “diverse and talented pool” of individuals to select from when looking at the Merage School. These multifaceted layers of diversity, leadership, and success are what sets the School’s undergraduate and graduate programs apart from others.

“if they think of talent, diversity, smart, and students with potential, they think of our program first,” Slusher said.

This fall, the UCI Paul Merage School of Business volunteered to Korea and China to connect with future antecedents on a personal level.

It was the first overseas trip for the Specialty Masters Program at the Merage School—advancing the School’s mission for global diversity. Jana Cheng, from the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAc) program, emphasized the importance of international outreach.

“Our programs strive to be globally diverse, and that’s one of the reasons we went on our first ever Specialty Masters international trip. We wanted to expand our outreach and strengthen our relationships with different countries across the globe,” said Cheng.
MPAc Application Process

Applications for the next MPAc class are being accepted online. The application deadlines are as follows:

- August 15: Early round for students entering their undergraduate senior year or early applicants.
- November 15: Final deadline for international applicants; all application materials, including recommendations must be submitted by this date to ensure sufficient time for visa processing.
- May 1: Final deadline; all application materials, including recommendations, be submitted by this date.

If you would like more detailed information regarding our MPAc class profile, upcoming information sessions, or to access our MPAc application, please visit merage.uclalaw.edu/mpac. We also welcome students for one-on-one consultations. Appointments can be scheduled online.

MPAc Program Services Awards

Highest Grade Point Average: Jeanette Chan He, Andrew Fox, Anyyoung Park
Dean’s Scholar and Beta Gamma Sigma: Majd Bousrell, Xuewei Bu, Jeanette Chan He, Kimberly Do, Andrew Fox, Xinran Guo, Wanjing He, Kaizhen Li, Dejun Meng, Ryan Navarro, Anyyoung Park, Kyle Poppina, Sai Shao, Qi Sun, Peng Wang, Amanda Wu
Beta Gamma Sigma: Derek Chang, Ziuxuan Dong, Bing Li, Xueying Li, Kangni Liu, Ke Ma, Aaron Newland, Anthony Nguyen, Josephine Shen, Suha Thabet, Ling Wang, Margaret Yanni
Most Inspirational: Xiuye Susan Liang, Jacqueline McGraw, Huhua Mi, Amy Kaul
Most Entrepreneurial: Jiaqi Lin, John Barlow, Tyler Parker-Chavez, William Leonard, Esam El-Sayed
First MPAc Student to Make Partner: Jared Nassaney, Jeanette Chan He, Kimberly Hedges, James Kim
Excellence in Teaching: Craig Weaver (elective), Terry Shevlin (core)
Recognition: A special thank you to our class of 2019 ambassadors and student representatives, Jonathan Lee, Rachel Bushrow, Catherine Barton, Kimberly Hedges, James Kim

MPAc Career Services

CLASS OF 2019 EMPLOYMENT RESULTS AS OF 12.17.19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment information:</th>
<th>Employment by geographic location:</th>
<th>Employment by position type:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Student</td>
<td>U.S. Locations:</td>
<td>Public Accounting:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment:</td>
<td>Orange County:</td>
<td>82.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Los Angeles County:</td>
<td>Big 4:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>San Diego County:</td>
<td>17.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93.9%</td>
<td>San Francisco Bay Area:</td>
<td>Mid-size:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other:</td>
<td>26.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Student</td>
<td>62.6%</td>
<td>Regional/Local:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment:</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>38.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Industry:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Student Employment:</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>15.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>Government:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-U.S. Locations:</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proseminar: Focus on Career and Professional Development

The MPAc Accounting Proseminar provides students with information and practical skills for success in the program and for professional accounting and business career planning.

- MPAc 2-unit course taken in Fall and Spring focuses on developing practical skills for career success
- Discussions of current issues in the accounting profession
- As part of the course requirements, each student prepares a written strategic plan for his or her career over the next five years during the program and after graduation
- The course also includes 6 panel discussions with guest speakers from public and private sector, along with case study workshops highlighting current accounting issues.
- For example, one of the case study workshops focused on improving client interview skills which is of the most important skills in public accounting. Students were given a mock interview case as independent auditors and had to formulate questions to ask invited professionals role-playing as CEO/QO of a client company.

Thank you to the following companies for participating in the Fall 2018 Proseminar Panels:

- Tax Consulting and Compliance Panel: EY, Grant Thornton, HCVT, Deloitte
- Audit and Attestation Area Panel: KPMG, Moss Adams, BDO, PwC
- Fraud and Forensics Panel: Deloitte, FBI, Navigant
- Specialty Track Panel: KPMG, PwC, Blythe Global Advisors, Deloitte
- Financial Management and Analysis Panel: El Pollo Loco, Pro-Dex Inc, First American
- Private Accounting and Non-Profit/Corporate Governance Panel: Anger’s List, Sonic, I H S Market, Skyworks Solutions, Power Integrations, Churchill, Big Brother Big Sister

Thank you to the following companies for participating in the Spring 2019 Proseminar Case Studies:

- Case Discussion - Ethics Case: HCVT, PwC, Moss Adams
- Case Discussion - Assembling the Audit Team: KPMG, PCAOB, Square Miller
- Tax Simulation: RSM
- Mock Role Play – The Fraud at High Flying Corporation: Developing Audit Interview Skills: RSM, BDO, GingerLewak, KPMG
- Alumni Transition & CPA Tips: Deloitte, EY, Grant Thornton, RSM
- Accounting Career Horizons: Del Taco, PwC, UCI, Irvine Company

Recruiters from public accounting firms speak on a panel to prepare MPAc students for fall recruitment.
MPAc Interns Available in Winter or Spring

- Students eligible to work winter quarter can intern part-time or full-time to get a “busy season” under their belt
- Alternatively, students may intern part-time during spring quarter (up to 20 hours per week)
- Students eligible to work winter quarter can intern part-time or full-time to get a “busy season” under their belt

Thank you to the following companies who have hired MPAc students for a winter or spring 2019 internship:

- MPAc 241, Accounting Internship Course, can be taken for 2 units
- Alternatively, students may intern part-time during spring quarter (up to 20 hours per week)
- Students eligible to work winter quarter can intern part-time or full-time to get a “busy season” under their belt

MPAc Professional Development Workshops

- Professional skill development workshops and events are offered throughout the year to help our students acquire and hone skills needed to be successful, not only in today’s competitive marketplace, but also throughout their career. MPAc workshops and events include:
  - CliftonStrengths - Building Your Personal Brand
  - How to Write a Resume/Cover Letter
  - The Art of Small Talk
  - Interview Skills Workshop
  - Building a Network to Guide Your Job Search
  - Surviving and Thriving at Networking
  - How to Prepare for a Job Interview
  - Etiquette Lunch Event
  - Professional Attire Overview
  - Mock Interviews with MPAc Alumni
  - Best Practices for Starting a Career in Accounting
  - Winter Internship Best Practices
  - International Student Search Workshop

MPAc Ambassador Message

During my time as an undergraduate at the University of Kansas, I had several opportunities to speak with working professionals, and through those conversations I discovered that receiving a Masters in Accounting would be a strong career move for myself. Not only would I be completing the requirements for my Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensure, but I would also have exposure to a new array of professionals and peers who would be working in my industry in my geographical area. The Merage School specifically offered a large amount of those networking opportunities, all while being very conveniently located in beautiful Orange County.

During my time at the Merage School, I had the opportunity to tailor my courses to my interest in tax. I discovered my interest in tax during my undergraduate at the University of Kansas, and I was excited to bring all of my new personal and professional growth, as well as my unique elective courses has allowed me to pursue my other interests, like business law. I’m excited to dive into one of the two specialized tracks at UCI. Additionally, the flexibility with elective courses has allowed me to pursue my other interests, like business law. I’m excited to bring all of my new personal and professional growth, as well as my unique experiences back to my firm.

If I had any advice for future MPAc students, it would be to do your best to create individual relationships with the professors and faculty, because they provide a wealth of knowledge and insight. Additionally, don’t be afraid to pursue something outside of your comfort zone, because there is really so much more to the world of public accounting, and tax specifically, than people realize. There are many resources here at The Paul Merage School of Business that can help you reach your goals.

Employers of MPAc Graduates:

- Acorn Accountancy Corporation
- Andersen Tax
- Arlin Graphics
- Armanino
- Bank of America
- BDO
- Best Cheer Stone
- Bytrust and Company
- Caliber Audit & Attestation LLP
- CKP CPAs
- CliftonLarsonAllen
- Crowe
- Debottie
- Encore Partners
- EY
- Fong, Ka & Associates
- Frank, Rimerman & Co.
- Gemdale USA
- Grant Thornton
- Hall & Company
- HCVT
- Hitachi Solutions
- ImmunogenX
- Incipio
- Industrial & Commercial Bank of China
- J. Arthur Greenfield & Co.
- CLPs
- JJK Rosenberger
- KBF
- Kingston Technology
- KLH & Associates
- KLK Tax & Financial Group
- KPWL
- Los Alamos Unified School District
- Macias Gini & O’Connell
- MGD
- Morgan Real Estate & Financial
- Moss Adams
- Nanosol Car Care Products
- Past Coley Accountancy
- Personable, Inc.
- Ping An Life Insurance
- PKF Kuwait
- PwC
- PwC China
- Quinn & Associates
- Redawi, Inc.
- Robert Chang CPA
- Accountancy Corporation
- RSM
- Sequoia CPA
- SingerLeavitt
- Source & Weber
- South Orange County Wastewater Authority
- Squer Milner
- Surwodja Electron Corporation
- Tehrani and Velez LLP
- The Irvine Company
- The Pun Group
- Thong, Yu, Wong & Lee
- United Talent Agency
- Windes
- Wong & Shao CPAs
- YH Advisors

Hiring from UC Irvine

By attracting the brightest talent from around the globe and offering an integrated curriculum that develops students both technically and professionally, our program graduates professionals who are ready to add immediate value to an organization. At least 91% of employment-seeking students from the last three graduating classes obtained full-time positions within six months of graduation. Also note that our graduates are:
- CPA eligible upon graduation
- Available for full-time or part-time internships in Winter or Spring
- Receive intensive one-on-one career coaching and professional development

If your company would like to learn more about UC Irvine’s MPAc program or how to get involved in on-campus recruiting events, please contact Gina Cho, Associate Director of MPAc Career Services at ginasc@uci.edu.
The Paul Merage School of Business graduated its eighth class from the BA in Business Administration program in June 2019. Demand for the major continues to be extraordinary, with nearly 13,000 applications for students entering last fall. Incoming freshmen have a mean GPA of 4.11 and among the highest SAT scores on campus. Business Administration is the second-most requested major at the freshman level and is the first at the transfer level.

Our business majors are broadly trained, with nearly half of their coursework from areas outside of the business school. Students select a minimum of one of six emphases in accounting, finance, operations and decision technologies, information systems, marketing, or organization and management. Over 40 percent of majors specify accounting as one of their areas of emphasis. The program is ranked 38th nationally by US News & World Report and is the youngest in the Top 50.

The Merage School offers a distinctive BS in Business Information Management (a joint degree with the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences) as well as three minor programs in accounting, innovation and entrepreneurship, and management, designed to complement any of the university’s 80+ majors.

Fall 2019 numbers:

55% of incoming freshmen are first-generation college students
24% of incoming freshmen are underrepresented minorities

Selection of Full-Time Placements:
- Andersen Tax, Tax Associate: EY, Assurance
- Crowe, Risk Consulting: EY, Audit Staff
- Crowe, Tax Staff: EY, Tax Associate
- Deloitte, Tax Consultant: Goldman Sachs, Controller Analyst
- PwC, Tax Associate: Grant Thornton, Tax Accountant
- Ultimate Software, Tax Analyst

Selection of Internships:
- Kelley Blue Book, Sales Operations Intern: EY, Assurance Intern
- EY, Tax Associate: Harvey & Company, Mergers & Acquisitions Intern
- Opus Bank, Commercial & Specialty Banking Intern: UCI Center for Investment & Wealth Management, Project Coordinator
- Sares-Regis Group, Tax Services Tax Intern
- Andersen Tax, Private Client Services Tax Intern: EY, Assurance Intern
- PwC, Tax Associate: Grant Thornton, Tax Accountant
- Ultimate Software, Tax Analyst

Undergraduate Program

Student Profiles

How did the Merage School prepare you for post-graduation life?
I was provided the resources to explore the various fields of business. Whether it’s finance, marketing, operations, or accounting, the Merage School was excellent about showcasing the opportunities in each field through the career services, classes, and recruiting events. More importantly, I was connected with a community of individuals – professors, alumni, and fellow peers – who inspire me to explore, chase after my goals, and be the best version of myself.

Key involvements/activities while at UCI:
During my sophomore year, I had the opportunity to take on a leadership position in Accounting Association as the Internal Vice President. I also served as the Chief Talent Officer in Lambda Phi Nu.

Internships while at UCI:
I interned with EY in the Assurance practice and worked with different team members and client engagements. At the time, I did not really have much experience or knowledge about audit or accounting. Thankfully, all the people I worked with at EY walked me through how to perform the audit functions.

How did the Merage School prepare you for post-graduation life?
The Merage School provided me with multiple networking opportunities. By pushing myself out of my comfort zone, I was able to gain confidence in the interview process for my internship which ultimately led to my full-time position. In addition, the variety of business classes helped me discover my interests in both real estate and accounting. I credit my experiences in the team projects and presentations for teaching me the necessary skills to lead campus organizations as well as take initiative in my full-time position.

Key involvements/activities while at UCI:
I was Treasurer and subsequently President of the Latin American Student Organization. In addition, I was the Director of Finance and Risk Management for the Shining Stars Dance Organization at UCI.

Internships while at UCI:
I started my journey at Sares-Regis Group as an intern in the corporate accounting division in January 2019. By May 2019, I was promoted to Corporate Accountant. Now I am actively involved in recruiting interns for the same internship I started in as well as the day-to-day accounting procedures.

Philip Au
Holly Suarez
Student Organizations

Beta Alpha Psi

Our chapter of Beta Alpha Psi strives to recognize outstanding academic achievements in the fields of accounting, finance, and information systems and to provide opportunities for self-development and association among members and practicing professionals. Established in 2016, the Nu Pi Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi is a part of an international honor organization with more than 300 chapters nationwide. Our chapter is currently four years strong with a bright outlook for the next academic year as our membership and alumni base continue to grow.

Our ongoing goal for this school year is to provide more opportunities for students. With the prestige associated with Beta Alpha Psi on their resumes, students may have many doors opened for them in the accounting profession. Our goal for the upcoming year is to ensure our members are professionally developed by hosting workshops and having our officer board provide one-to-one assistance. We are also connecting our current active members and candidates with alumni to provide mentorship and networking opportunities.

Benefits of Membership:
- First two events attended are free; attendance at additional events requires membership
- Accounting Association member apparel
- Official name tag with AA insignia
- Informational booklet
- Office tour invitations
- Member-only events
- Mock interviews

Office Board 2018-2019:
- Tiffany Gao, Business Economics 2020, President
- Kyle Kim, BA 2021, External Vice President
- Uyen Sy, BA 2021, Internal Vice President
- Vivian Chung, BA 2020, Director of Professional Development
- Debra Wang, BA 2021, Secretary
- Melanie Chen, BA 2022, Committee Officer
- Crystal Cheng, BA 2021, Committee Officer
- Anthony Ha, Business Economics 2021, Committee Officer
- Wing Lau, Business Economics 2021, Committee Officer
- Jacqueline Thai, BA 2021, Committee Officer

Benefits will be shared between both BAP and AA

Accounting Association

The Accounting Association provides opportunities for students to learn more about the accounting profession by facilitating the recruitment process. We invite Big Four, mid-tier, local and industry firms to attend, present and network at club-sponsored events. By providing speaker presentations, firm tours, socials and other interactive events, the Accounting Association adds to the development of our members’ interests and knowledge.

Benefits of Membership:
- First two events attended are free; attendance at additional events requires membership
- Accounting Association member apparel
- Official name tag with AA insignia
- Informational booklet
- Office tour invitations
- Member-only events (Office Hours)
- Mock interviews

Office Board 2019-2020:
- Tri Do, Business Economics 2020, President
- Khalia Rehemtulla, BA 2020, Vice President
- David Song, BA 2021, Secretary
- Nicholas Tam, BA 2020, Treasurer
- Lucinda Zhu, BA 2021, Director of Marketing
- Jenny Nguyen, BA 2021, Vice President of Community Service
- Justin Wang, BA 2021, Director of Educational Outreach
- Tony Zhou, BA 2021, Director of Alumni Relations

Our Events

Speaking Engagements
Throughout the school year, Beta Alpha Psi and the Accounting Association invite representatives from a variety of firms to speak with students about their experiences in different practices, including advisory, audit and tax. Students network and expand their knowledge about the accounting profession, CPA requirements, interview tips, attire advice and more.

Leadership Development Programs
The Accounting Association Leadership Development Program focuses on peer mentorship for students interested in pursuing a career in accounting. In the past year, the program organized a team of 33 mentors providing guidance and advice to 37 mentees. The mentees work closely with experienced mentors to develop leadership skills and prepare for summer leadership program recruiting.

Management 30A/30B Tutoring Sessions
Beginning 2019, Beta Alpha Psi and Accounting Association co-host weekly tutoring sessions every Friday in order to provide undergraduate students with the necessary resources to excel in accounting courses. For each weekly tutoring session, Beta Alpha Psi petitioning candidates as well as anyone else who is interested in volunteering, is able to come out as a tutor in order to help students who need it.

Meet the Firms
Co-hosted with the Master of Professional Accountancy (MPAcs) program, Meet the Firms is the biggest event of the Fall quarter. Each year, numerous firms come out to network and provide information about full-time internship opportunities to students interested in the accounting field. In 2019, 36 firms and approximately 300 students attended the event.

Recruitment for Summer Experiences (RISE)
Co-hosted by Beta Alpha Psi and Accounting Association, RISE is a small-scale Meet the Firms event held during winter quarter that is designed specifically for students who are interested in summer leadership programs (SLPs). It also gives students, who are interested in applying for internship or full-time positions, another opportunity to network with sponsoring companies.

Spring Banquet
The Spring Banquet is the last event of the school year to thank our sponsors for their constant support and to celebrate our students’ hard work and achievements. Festivities include themed networking activities, raffles, and more. In 2019, 16 firms and more than 100 students attended.

2019-2020 Events
- UCI Anteater Involvement Fair
- Winter Kick-Off
- BBDO Speaking Engagement
- BBDO Office Hours
- KPMG Speaking Engagement
- KPMG Office Hours
- HCVT Speaking Engagement
- HCVT Office Hours
- Squar Miner Speaking Engagement
- Squar Miner Office Hours
- Deloitte Speaking Engagement
- Deloitte Office Hours
- EY Speaking Engagement
- EY Office Hours
- Grant Thornton Speaking Engagement
- RSM Speaking Engagement
- RSM Office Hours
- Moss Adams Speaking Engagement
- Moss Adams Office Hours
- Wiley CPA Office Hours
- MPAc Speaking Engagement
- Recruiter Panel
- Meet the Firms
- BAPAAA Mock Interviews
- Accounting Fest
- RISE

Our Sponsors:

Gold
Deloitte
EY
KPMG
Grant Thornton
BDI
HCVT
Moss Adams
RSM
Squar Miner
UCI MPAc Program

Silver
Andersen Tax
KBF CPAs LLP
Wiley CPAexcel

Bronze
Enterprise Plant-A-Car
MGO

Accounting Association: aaucirvine@gmail.com (firms); aafaq01@gmail.com (students); aaucirvine.com

Community Service:
- Resume Workshop
- Community Service events
- Social events
- Multi-Chapter events
- Beta Alpha Psi Initiations
- Spring Banquet

To schedule a speaking engagement or if you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact:
Beta Alpha Psi: ucibap@gmail.com; ucibap.org
Alumni

Keep In Touch

As a graduate of the Merage School, your network is key to your continued success. We encourage you to stay in touch and invest in your alma mater – each of you make our community special. Events, conferences and networking opportunities will connect you with other outstanding professionals who share your interests and have a desire to invest in you. We look forward to seeing you and your fellow alumni soon.

The Dean’s Leadership Circle

Looking to take on an alumni leadership role upon graduation?

The Dean’s Leadership Circle (DLC) is the Paul Merage School’s premier alumni leadership group. Composed of a select body of the best and brightest alumni, students, staff and community-members, the DLC plays an instrumental role in propelling the Merage School of Business forward. The DLC fosters closer ties between The Paul Merage School of Business at UC Irvine, its alumni and the community. Members serve as ambassadors for the School, contributing to advancement, development, mentorship and alumni engagement opportunities. From a professional development standpoint, the DLC boasts one of country’s most outstanding professional networks, representing prominent executives in myriad industries.

If interested in the nomination and selection process, please contact Matt O’Connor, Director of Development at m.oconnor@uci.edu.

UCI’s Accounting Programs
Need Your Support

Thank you for your continued support of the Merage School accounting programs. The UCI Accounting Programs Fund provides our students and faculty with top-notch programs and resources. Please consider giving to our programs to help us further enrich students’ learning experiences, embrace new opportunities and promote groundbreaking research.

Your generous contribution directly supports our students as they prepare to enter the accounting profession by equipping us with the resources to offer a comprehensive and innovative curriculum.

Contributions to the UCI Accounting Programs Fund may be made online at www.egiving.uci.edu or via check payable to “UCI Accounting Programs Fund” and sent to: UCI Paul Merage School of Business, External Relations Office 4293 Pereira Drive, Suite 5600, Irvine, CA 92697

Daniel Kubov, MPAC ’17 – will be getting married to a fellow Alumna at the UCI University Club in June 2020.

Bilying (Sabrina) Kong, MPAC ’15 – promoted from Staff Data Scientist to Advisory Software Engineer at IBM.

Daniel Cruz, MPAC ’19 – is expecting a baby girl with his wife in July 2020.

Kristin Nguyen, MPAC ’18 – obtained CPA license and got engaged to her high school sweetheart.

Ben Phelan, MPAC ’15 – promoted to Finance Senior Manager with international venture capital firm B Capital Group. The firm invests in transformative technology startups during their early expansion stage and has a unique partnership with the Boston Consulting Group.

Ben Purcell, MPAC ’18 – passed the Uniform CPA Exam and is currently a fellow Anteater at the UCI University Club.

Paul Araiza, MPAC ’18 – transitioned from tax consulting with Deloitte to a position with BKM Capital Partners as Manager of Corporate Accounting. He has also been elected as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for Veterans Legal Institute, a non-profit public interest law firm dedicated exclusively to the legal needs of current and former military members.


Darren Tsai, MPAC ’15 – made a career transition to real estate with Keller Williams Realty and received his real estate license in 2019 prior to the transition, Darren was a senior associate at PwC and senior accountant at NavioR.

Ian Castellana, MPAC ’14 – transitioned from Ria Financial to MBK Real Estate and is currently the company’s Accounting Manager.

Travis Purcell, MPAC ’18 – promoted to a General Ledger Accountant at Seiler LLP in the Family Office department and loving every minute of it.

Thavit Phorn, MPAC ’19 – accepted a position with HCVT’s tax department in Pasadena. Thavit is also getting married in Cambodia in May 2020.

Bernie D’Amato, MPAC ‘18 – obtained CPA credential recently.

Trevor Boswell, MPAC ’17 – obtained CPA credential recently; he also transferred to Deloitte’s San Francisco office from Orange County and was promoted to Senior Associate.

Thavit Phorn, MPAC ’19

UCI Accounting Bulletin

Spring 2020, 6th Edition
Program Contact Information

**PhD**
949.824.8318
phd@merage.uci.edu
merage.uci.edu/PhD

**MPAc**
949.824.9240
mpac@merage.uci.edu
merage.uci.edu/mpac

**Undergraduate**
949.824.9426
ugprograms@merage.uci.edu
merage.uci.edu/undergrad

**Beta Alpha Psi**
ucibap@gmail.com
ucibap.com

**Accounting Association**
Students: aafaq01@gmail.com
Firms: aaucirvine@gmail.com
aaucirvine.com

**Alumni Relations**
949.824.7167
meragealum@merage.uci.edu
merage.uci.edu/alumni