



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
ACCOUNTING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

COSMOS ACCOUNTANCY CHRONICLE

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Donna L. Street, editor

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ACCOUNTING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

President's Letter



Belverd E. Needles, Jr.

Dear Colleagues,

In the last issue of *COSMOS*, I discussed the role of IAAER in promoting research in international accounting. A natural extension of this role is another important function of IAAER: the representation of accounting academics in the international standard setting process. Academics are commonly involved in the national standard setting process in many countries such as the U.S., U.K., various countries in Europe, and Australia. This participation, however, has not been a tradition at the international level, partly because of cost, but mostly because of the lack of a vehicle to provide representation. IAAER performs this function now and takes it very seriously. We believe that the standard setting process benefits from the active participation and input by academics. The IAAER is represented at all meetings of the IASC

Consultative Group and has a non-voting seat of the IFAC Education Committee.

During the last few months, I worked with the IAAER Executive Committee and Executive Council members to draft a response to the IASC discussion paper "Shaping IASC for the Future." In June I joined with Vice-President Michael Diamond to present IAAER's viewpoint at the Consultative Group meeting of the IASC in London. The IAAER Response was comprehensive and addressed all questions raised by the IASC discussion paper, but a major emphasis of our position was to urge that academics be given a greater role in the deliberations of the IASC. The part of the IAAER position that dealt with the need for academic representation, states in part:

Regardless of whether or not the Standards Development Committee (SDC) has final decision authority, the IAAER recommends that a permanent position for a representative from the academic community be established on the SDC. The International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER) is ready to put in place a process that would assure the nomination of quality individuals from academia as potential candidates to fill this position.

This individual would be highly knowledgeable in international financial reporting matters and academic research related thereto. We believe that such an individual would be a key ingredient in achieving the goals set forth by the Strategic Working Party and would mitigate some of the disadvantages of the proposed structure. It is a long established practice on most national standard-setting bodies to have at least one position reserved for an academic. Representatives from the academic community bring an objective, independent view
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**IAAER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
1998-2000**

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Depaul University, USA

Michael Diamond, Vice President-At Large
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Giuseppe Galassi, Vice-President-at Large
University of Parma, Italy

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HEC School of Management, France

Donna L. Street, Editor of COSMOS
James Madison University, USA

**IMPORTANT NOTICE
COSMOS ELECTRONICALLY**

Beginning in July 2000, IAAER members will be requested to access COSMOS electronically. IAAER members will receive e-mails indicating when significant updates have been made to the COSMOS website and when new issues are posted. **Please send your current email address to Bel Needles.** Additional details are provided on page 28.

To continue receiving a hard-copy of COSMOS via the mail, please contact Bel Needles (email at iaaer@needles-powers.com or fax 847-441-9028).

IAAER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Accounting Association of Australia and New Zealand
American Accounting Association
Association of Accountants of CIS Countries
British Accounting Association
Canadian Academic Accounting Association
European Accounting Association
French Accounting Association
Hong Kong Academic Accounting Association Limited
Indian Accounting Association Research Foundation
Irish Accounting & Finance Association
Japan Accounting Association
Mexican Assoc. of Schools of Accounting & Business
Southern African Accounting Association
Spanish Accounting & Business Administration Assoc.

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COSMOS ACCOUNTANCY CHRONICLE

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COSMOS Submission Deadlines

January 2000, Vol. 12, No. 1	November 1, 1999
July 2000, Vol. 12, No. 2	April 15, 2000

All materials should be submitted on an IBM compatible disk (preferably in Word) or as an e-mail attachment. Please do not fax materials.

Visit COSMOS On Line

<http://cob.jmu.edu/streetdl/cosmos/master2.html>

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July 1999

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IAAER 1999/2000 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

San Diego, CA USA
(American Accounting Association)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND ASSOCIATION
MEMBERS DINNER
(by invitation)
Monday, August 16th, 1999
Time to be announced

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, August 17, 1999; 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

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Munich, Germany
(European Accounting Association)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
and
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

(Times to be announced)

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
ACCOUNTING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**
Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
May 5, 1999
Bordeaux, France

The Executive Committee met at 8:00 a.m. on May 5, 1999, at Libertel Claret Hotel in Bordeaux, France. In attendance were Bel Needles, presiding, Maureen Berry, Mike Diamond, Giuseppe Galassi, Sid Gray, Kazuo Hiramatsu, Tatiana

Krylova, Donna Street, Donald Stokes and Hervé Stolowy. Joe Schultz, who because of an illness at the last minute could not attend, sent his regrets.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the Chicago meeting held on 1 October 1998, as published in COSMOS, were approved.

President's Report. Bel Needles reported that the IAAER nominated a candidate for the AAA Doctoral colloquium, but this candidate was not selected. Bel Needles asked about the selection process. IAAER has no real mechanism in place to select PhD students. The vice president for education will be in charge of this matter next year.

Bel Needles presented the financial statements for 1998, which was a complex year from a financial point of view because of the Paris World Congress and the Chicago Conference. The Chicago conference was successful because it was budgeted for 100 people and there were 175 participants. The audit performed by Alain Mikol should be completed by August and presented to the executive committee. Bel Needles presented a budget for 1999, which was approved.

To reduce the mailing cost related to Cosmos, one possibility would be to ask members to access Cosmos on the association Web Site. Donna Street will work on a transition period to have an electronic version of Cosmos and to ask members if they still want to receive a hard copy.

A task force on administration was appointed. The IAAER administrative work requires about 15 to 20 hours a month to complete tasks such as keeping accounting records, corresponding with membership, and mailing Cosmos. Hervé Stolowy agreed to chair this task force in order to find a permanent solution. He will contact the EIASM in Brussels (this institutes already "hosts" several academic associations, such as EAA).

The Executive reviewed a draft of the IAAER response to the IASC discussion paper "Shaping IASC for the Future," which had been prepared from the input of the IAAER Executive Committee and of several academic members of the IAAER executive council. The IAAER Response was comprehensive and addressed all questions raised by the IASC discussion paper, but a major emphasis of the IAAER position is to urge that academics be given a greater role in the deliberations of the IASC, including a designated seat on the proposed Standards Development Committee. The latter point was emphasized in committee discussions. This comment letter will be submitted to the IASC by May 10 after final revisions. Should the proposal be accepted in the final restructuring, IAAER will likely play an important role
(Continued on page 4)

Executive Committee Minutes

Continued from Page 3

in nominating candidates for the position. It was agreed that a task force would be appointed to setup selection criteria for the selection of a high quality academic in the event that the proposal is implemented.

The term of officers is 2.5 years. An election will be held next year in April (EAA meeting in Munich). A committee will be formed and chaired by Sid Gray. Alain Burlaud (past IAAER Vice President and current president of the French Accounting Association) and Mike Diamond (current AAA President and member of IAAER Executive Committee) will be members of this committee. At least one more person will be appointed.

Membership report and actions. Joe Schultz sent a membership committee report. Bel Needles noted that Schultz did a wonderful job chairing the membership committee.

At the last Executive Committee meeting, it was decided that the Membership Committee was to be expanded to include a representative from each country with a membership total of 10 or more members. Also, the Committee authorized up to \$50.00 reimbursement for each member who agreed to write each IAAER member in his/her country asking them to distribute a new membership flier to an interested colleague.

Nearly all countries meeting the criteria now have Membership Committee members. Each of these members was offered the option of mailing the letters themselves or having Joe Schultz mail them. A draft letter to "personalize" the mailing was included for both options. The attached listing names that person and the general action agreed to or inaction. Unless otherwise noted under the column "Brochures Requested," the member is planning to distribute about that number of brochures to IAAER members in his or her country. In nearly all cases, computerized files containing the members' names and contact information was sent via email. The new brochure was mailed to these parties in late March.

The committee accepted a proposal to waive the association membership for a three-year term for a new association member.

A discussion followed of questions raised by Schultz about the best target audiences for new members of IAAER.

The objective of IAAER is to maintain links with association members. A dinner event will be organized in San Diego for association members.

Two groups—Cuba and Ethiopia—have been in touch with IAAER. Bel Needles was invited to be the keynote speaker at a conference in Cuba, but it was too late because of the necessary period to get a visa. IAAER's policy is to develop links with associations in developing countries.

Bel Needles has the project to issue a directory by January 2000.

International Conferences. A report was received from Daan Van der Schyf. The South African committee approved to organize a research conference co-sponsored by IAAER, probably in July 2004. Bel Needles proposes to allocate US\$4000 for this conference. The proposed location is Durban. An attempt will be made to include representatives from sub-Saharan countries.

Relationship with United Nations and ISAR. Maureen Berry presented a report based on the UN conference on trade and development in Geneva. A general discussion followed about the role IAAER should play in relation to this organization. What should be our role vis-à-vis this conference? What should we do as an organization? Should we concentrate on IFAC and IASC? For the time being, IAAER will be an observer but not an active participant. IAAER will try to send a representative to the next meeting in London in July 1999.

Future meeting. The next Executive Committee meeting will be Tuesday, August 17, 1999, in San Diego, during the AAA annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00.

Hervé Stolowy, Secretary-Treasurer

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ACCOUNTING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Minutes of Executive Council Meeting

May 5, 1999

Bordeaux, France

The Executive Council met at 10:00 a.m. on May 5, 1999, at Libertel Claret Hotel in Bordeaux, France. In attendance were Bel Needles, presiding, Maureen Berry, Mike Diamond, Giuseppe Galassi, Sid Gray, Kazuo Hiramatsu, Gert Kerreman, Tatiana Krylova, Donna Street, and Hervé Stolowy. Joe Schultz and Donald Stokes sent their regrets.

Approval of minutes. The minutes from the New Orleans meeting held on 18 August 1998, as published in COSMOS, were approved.

President's Report and Financial Report. See minutes of the Executive Committee.

IEG No. 9 Implementation Task Forces. Mike Diamond chairs a task force to develop an implementation paper to accompany IFAC IEG No. 9. Bel Needles met in Sydney with Warren Allen, Chair of the IFAC Education Committee, to obtain suggestions as to the direction the paper should take. The committee expects to have a draft by August.

Competency Paper. Gert Karreman, former director of education at NIVRA, presented a research paper on Accountancy and Auditing: Development of Competencies. The IAAER Executive Committee will make comments to this document and send them directly to Karreman. A summary of this report will be published in the July 1999 issue of COSMOS.

Update on Research Conference. Kazuo Hiramatsu presented the call for papers for the October 2000 Conference in Kobe Japan.

Journals (Editors). Fred Choi is pleased with the IAAER's association with his journal (Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting). JIFMA is starting a new section on the environment and institutions, which will be international in scope. The Journal of Accounting Education is making good progress in expanding its international board and direction.

COSMOS and The World Wide Web. Hervé Stolowy suggested that the IAAER merge the two web sites of the association. Donna Street asked about the possibility of paying a student to maintain the IAAER web site. The committee approved this proposal.

Vice President-Education Reports. Tatiana Krylova presented a report on the IFAC EC meeting. The meeting was held on March 23-27, 1999, in Sydney. The agenda included:

-liaison and communications with other IFAC Committees, member bodies, other international organisations, i.e. IAAER, ISAR;

-report on IEG 11 and issues related to IT in accounting;

-discussions on the Education and Training requirements for Accounting Technicians (IEG 7) and Discussion paper on Competency-based approach;

-report on global accrediting agencies;

-quality control over Internet Education;

-framework of international aid projects;
-web page issues;

-publications;

-future work and meetings.

In the update of the ExCom observer, it was noted that one of the main IFAC challenges is to facilitate international communications in order to achieve wider IFAC recognition. One of the ways to achieve that was the recent creation of the International Forum on Accountancy Development that embodies major international organizations. Another issue is involvement of developing countries. In particular it is still open if their representation (through regional organizations) in the Forum would be sufficient; also lack of IFAC official materials translated into national languages was discussed.

The Committee has a comprehensive system of member body liaisons and every member of the Committee has up to 12 other member bodies to make regular contact with. The purpose of this network is to increase the visibility of IFAC EC amongst all member bodies. At the meetings each member is asked to report on the contacts with the member body liaison. This network is used also for seeking a formal feedback for any issued IFAC documentation to better understand any implementation problems that may exist with IFAC pronouncements.

Other EC initiatives in promoting the globalization of its network include an IFAC web page to share educational approaches/materials with all member bodies; Education Network bi-annual publication; education seminars held one day before the meetings organised by professional bodies of the hosted country. The issue of lack of Internet facilities in some countries was discussed, as an obstacle to broaden access to the EC IFAC materials if the latter would be issued only in a soft format.

It was noted at the meeting that the Committee regards as of a high importance the continuing relationship with the IAAER. EC Chairman, Warren Allen, informed the EC members about his meeting with Prof. Bel Needles in December 1998 when a worthwhile agenda of items was discussed. An overview of IAAER activities and initiatives was given and well accepted. EC members expressed their high interest in participating in the IAAER Research conference in the year 2000 and in the World Congress in 2002. The EC gave a number of names of professors to the IAAER educational sub-committee to take part in reviewing EC IFAC pronouncements. The EC was informed that a formal review of the IEG 9 would be prepared by the IAAER Task Force chaired by Prof. M. Diamond for the next EC meeting in August.

(Continued on page 6)

IAAER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

(Continued from page 5)

On the ISAR co-operation it was noted that the outcome of its last meeting in February was totally acceptable to IFAC since it does not require an international accounting qualification organization. Although the possible benefit of the model curriculum to accountancy bodies developing an educational programme was recognized, it was pointed out that much development, localization and weighting of effort would be required to work this curriculum into a full syllabus/accounting program. It was mentioned also that the future of this model curriculum was not clear at the moment.

The revised paper of IEG 7 on Accounting Technicians was approved by the EC and will be published as a study rather than a guideline. Progress on the further revision of the Competency - based approach discussion paper was discussed. Prof. G. Holstrum from the USA informed the EC on some initiatives undertaken in the US on developing competency models through the AICPA web site.

Much attention was devoted to IT issues in accounting. The EC has undertaken a study of recent developments in this area and results were reported to see what impact they have on accounting education. The report states that IEG 11 did not need to be revised unless another level is added to give guidance on the increasing tendency in North American universities to combine the IT/Accounting disciplines, giving rise to a pre-accreditation specialization. It was agreed that this report, after EC revisions and comments, will be published. It was also agreed that there was a strong need for a document on what is expected of professional accountants in terms of IT abilities both at the time they enter the profession and throughout their careers. This work will be undertaken by Prof. Boritz, the original author of IEG 11.

The EC has undertaken a project on formalizing its experience of working with aid agencies in implementing accounting education programs in developing/transition nations. It is now at its final stage of developing a template that will be made available to all aid agencies and experts involved in such projects. IAAER input into this project was highly appreciated.

A report on the issue of global accrediting agencies was made. EC was informed that there would be a meeting in July hosted by ACCA/UN to discuss if such an organization is needed. At the moment IFAC has not developed its opinion on this issue.

Some initiatives on accounting internationalization were discussed in the light of the quality of universities involved in such initiatives if the process is not guided. A

recommendation was made that the issue should be discussed at the ExCom to see what role developed countries can play in this process.

A report was made on issues related to the quality control over Internet education. It was agreed that the paper would be placed for further discussion. One of the main issues considered was that at present the major Internet education is focused more on providers rather than users.

Key priorities for the future work of the IFAC Education Committee were outlined:

- development of further documentation on the use of competency-based approaches to accounting education;
- research/pronouncement on post qualification specialization;
- assistance to member bodies on assessment methodologies;
- guidance to member bodies as to the approach to reciprocity of accounting qualifications;
- development of communication strategy for IFAC Education Committee

IAAER was asked to develop its suggestion on priorities for the next IFAC EC meeting. It was also asked to work out some ideas on the project of teaching innovations listed among IFAC EC projects.

Membership and Emerging Economies Task Force

See minutes of the Executive Committee.

Professional Practice. A report from Ann Johns indicated that a meeting of a task force on the Conference for Education Directors met in connection with the last meeting of the IFAC Education Committee in Sydney in February. Planning is well underway for a conference for IAAER Association members immediately following the IFAC World Congress and prior to the IAAER World Congress in November 2002 in Hong Kong.

World Congress in Hong Kong. A report from Simon Ho indicated that planning for the IAAER World Congress in 2002 continues to proceed. The definitive dates are November 14 to 16, 2002 (IFAC meeting: November 10 to 12).

Other Business and Future Meetings. The Nominating committee was appointed: Sid Gray (chair), Alain Burlaud & Mike Diamond. One additional member may be appointed.

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be Wednesday 29 March 2000 in Munich.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.

Hervé Stolowy, Secretary-Treasurer

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

(Continued from page 1)

to the standard-setting process that would

- Assist in the development of high quality standards that provide transparent and comparable information to help participants in capital markets and others to make economic decisions
- Facilitate the development and use of an agreed-upon conceptual framework
- Provide the SDC with interpretations of current research and its relevance to the issues addressed in proposed standards.

The IAAER also believes that representatives from the academic community could play a supportive and independent role in the standard-setting process by serving on the Board and as a member of the Trustees.

It is not possible to know what the final outcome of the deliberations on the restructuring of the IASC will be, but I believe there will be an increased role for academics in this process.

I also want to mention the role of IAAER in the improvement of accounting education through active involvement in educational policy setting at the international level. We have been fortunate to have the valuable representation of Vice-President Tatiana Krylova on the IFAC Education Committee for the past two years. The Education Committee is responsible for addressing educational issues generally, and in particular, for issuing international education guidelines (IEGs). In a meeting I had last December in Sydney with Warren Allen, the chair of the IFAC Education Committee, I was told of the significant contribution that Dr. Krylova has made to this committee. Also, I discussed with Mr. Allen a task force I appointed, chaired by Michael Diamond, to

prepare a position paper on the implementation of Guideline No. 9, which deals with pre-qualification requirements of professional accountants, assessment, and experience.

In all other areas, IAAER continues to develop at a fast pace. Secretary-Treasurer Herve Stolowy is heading a task force to explore the establishment of a permanent secretariat for IAAER. Vice-President Joe Schultz has done an excellent job in organizing the membership committee. Vice-president Ann Jones has made good progress in planning a conference for education directors of our association members. I have met with representatives of our association members in Australia, India, Hong Kong, China, Canada, the U.K., and France in the last year.

I hope you are planning to attend the next international accounting research conference in Kobe Japan in 5-6 October 2000. This conference, organized by Vice-President Kazuo Hiramatsu, will be a stellar event. Vice-President Simon Ho continues the fine work of planning the World Congress on 14-16 November 2002 in Hong Kong. We hope very soon to announce an exciting new research conference on developing countries. This is a project that Vice-President Daan van der Schvfv in working on.

Editor Donna Street continues to do outstanding work with *COSMOS*. Please note that we plan to phase in an electronic version of *COSMOS* over the next year. You will need to let us know if you want to continue to receive a hard copy of *COSMOS*.

Finally, it was heartening to see so many members attend the general membership meeting last May in Bordeaux. The meeting room was packed. Our next general membership meeting will be 29 March 2000 in Munich during the European Accounting Association. This will be an important meeting because election of officers will take place. Mark your calendar.

I am always happy to hear from members. You can reach me anytime at bneedles@needles-powers.com. Let me know what's on your mind.



Selected members of the Organizing Committee for the Ninth World Congress of Accounting Educators meet with President Belverd Needles at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. From left to right: Simon S.M. Ho (conference chair), Alice P.L. Chui, In-Mu Haw, Belverd E. Needles, Jr., Samuel Tang, Edward Chiu, and Woody Wu.

FEATURE ARTICLE

COMPETENCIES RESEARCH IN THE NETHERLANDS

Submitted by Gert Karreman
Limperg Institute

In the Netherlands the Limperg Institute has undertaken a research project on 'Accounting and Auditing: the development of competencies'. The Limperg Institute is the Inter-University Institute for Accounting and Auditing Research. Members are the Dutch universities with an accountancy program and Royal NIVRA, the professional body of registeraccountants.

This research study focuses on the competencies required for newly-certified professional accountants. As a result of the study a generic conceptual framework for the classification of competencies necessary for entry-level professional accountants is proposed.

The motivation to start a study into 'competence-based' education originates from the growing international need to design the education of professional accountants so as to focus on defined competencies rather than on required knowledge. This approach reflects the fact that – in a rapidly changing information-based society – practitioners increasingly need to respond intelligently to unknown situations and go beyond established knowledge in creating new solutions.

Research questions addressed can be summarized as follows:

- (a) What are the changes in the accountancy profession as a result of changes in business and society?
- (b) Which (main) competencies are important to qualify as a professional accountant?
- (c) How can these competencies explicitly be stated within a generic conceptual framework?
- (d) Which knowledge, mental abilities, personality factors, experience and motivation need to be present or need to be developed to acquire the desired competencies?

Research methods combined literature review with individual and group interviews. Attendants were leading professional accountants and educators. Questionnaires were used as input for the focus groups consisting of accountants from different employment sectors. Some statistical tests were performed on the answers.

Both the study of international literature and the meetings with Dutch experts confirmed the importance of developing an 'output based' approach to pre-qualification education, assessment of professional competence and experience requirements for newly qualified accountants. An approach

of 'learning to learn' as compared with specialized technical training is necessary to define the relationship between formal (academic) education, professional development and on-the-job training and experience.

As a result of the research project, a generic conceptual framework is proposed for the classification of competencies required of newly registered accountants. A distinction is made between generic competencies, cognitive competencies and behavior competencies. The framework was tested in the focus groups. The results suggest that an 'integrated' approach to competencies as compared with a 'task based' approach is feasible and can support the further development of accountancy education.

The research project was discussed with the Executive Committee of the IAAER at its meeting in Bordeaux. A keen interest in the research project was expressed in view of possibilities to further international cooperation in the development of competencies. Readers of the *COSMOS Accountancy Chronicle* who are interested in the results and who want to share ideas are encouraged to contact the Limperg Institute, e-mail li@econ.vu.nl or fax + 31 20 661 1361.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ACCOUNTING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 5, 1999; 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
La Cité Mondiale; Bordeaux, France

The IAAER General Membership met on May 5, 1999 in Bordeaux, France with thirty members present.

Approval of minutes. The minutes from the New Orleans meeting held on August 18, 1998, as published in *COSMOS*, were approved.

President's Report. Bel Needles reported on Relations with the IASC and other bodies, the Chicago Research Conference, and other items (see Executive Committee Minutes). He reported that the association now has 800 individual members. The Organization is in good financial position. IAAER is getting recognition from all around the world.

The IAAER has very good relationships with IASC and IFAC, with representation of the Consultative Group and Education Committee, respectively.

Research conferences. For Chicago and Durban conferences, see Executive Committee minutes.

Financial Report. The Paris meeting generated 500 members including renewals. Bel Needles provided figures from the statements, which showed that IAAER has built up a

(Continued on page 15)

**IAAER ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL
INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS**

Academy of Accounting Historians
Accounting Association of Australia and New Zealand*
American Accounting Association*
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Arab Society of Certified Accountants
Association of Accountants of CIS Countries*
Association of Chartered Accountants in the US
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Australian Society of CPAs
British Accounting Association*
Canadian Academic Accounting Association*
Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants
Centro de Ciencias da Administracao - ESAG
Certified General Accountants' Association of Canada
European Accounting Association*
French Accounting Association*
Hong Kong Academic Accounting Association
Hong Kong Society of Accountants
Indian Accounting Association
Indian Accounting Association Research Foundation
The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England &
Wales
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland
Irish Accounting and Finance Association*
Japan Accounting Association*
Japanese Association for International Accounting Studies
Mexican Association of Schools of Accounting & Business
The Royal NIVERA
Societa Italiana di Storia della Ragioneria
Southern African Accounting Association*
Spanish Accounting and Business Administration
Association*

*Denotes EXCO Members

NEWS FROM INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

**Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland
14th May, 1999**

At the AGM of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland held today, Friday, 14th May 1999, the following Officers were elected for the coming year:

President:

Timothy H. B. Quin, BA LLB FCA
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The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

The CA Program

The new CA Program of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA) will be introduced in 2001 to replace its current admissions program, the PY. The new program, built from the strengths and weaknesses of the PY, will consist of five modules - a preliminary module, three technical modules and an integrated final module.

The CA Program is the result of research carried out by the Institute's National Education Committee (NEC). It has been developed following extensive consultation with members, candidates and the business community including feedback from the PY Post 2000 Discussion Paper (outlined in the V10, #1 1998 issue of COSMOS).

The challenge for the Committee has been to develop a program in the rapidly changing business environment, so that it provides new members with a solid base for a professional career, maintains entry standards and meets the training needs of members and employers in a diverse range of areas. The other important issue is ensuring the new program and Australian CA designation remain recognised internationally.

A dynamic business environment needs dynamic thinkers, analysts, and strategists. The Institute aims to provide strong grounding for its future members by assisting them to develop these attributes through the CA Program.

ICAA and ASCPA Host IFAC Meeting

The ICAA and the ASCPA were joint hosts to the Education Committee of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) from March 24 to March 26 1999. This meeting was the first held in Australia, and only the fourth meeting in the Southern Hemisphere.

The host bodies facilitated a one day seminar in conjunction with the IFAC meeting. The accounting education seminar on March 23, prepared by the ICAA and the ASCPA, was entitled "Technology in Education" and included sessions on Technology of the Machine and Technology of the Mind/Body. The Chairman of the committee, Warren Allen (from New Zealand), indicated that the seminar was one of the most interesting and thought provoking the Committee had attended.

During their stay in Sydney the IFAC delegates had an opportunity to sample the local sights and cuisine. Highlights included a cruise of Sydney Harbour, viewing Australian animals at the zoo and the official dinner which involved a short stroll through a National Park and a gourmet Australian barbeque.

British Accounting Association Forthcoming Activities

BAA Corporate Governance SiG Conference to be held on Friday 10 December 1999, University of Sheffield, 'Corporate Governance in the Next Millennium'. Guest Speakers - Professor Colin Mayer, Said Business School, University of Oxford and Professor Jonathan Charkham, City University, Business School, London. Full details available from Kathryn Hewitt, Sheffield University Management School, 9 Mappin Street, Sheffield S1 4DT, email k.hewitt@sheffield.ac.uk.

BAA Northern Area Conference to be in Manchester on Thursday 9, September. For further details, please contact Deryl Northcott, Department of Accounting and Finance, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, email deryl.northcott@man.ac.uk.

ICAS

**RESEARCH COMMITTEE OFFERS PROPOSAL
FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS
REPORTING
25th February 1999**

The Research Committee of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS) has produced a discussion document, *Business Reporting: The Inevitable Change?*

which sets out proposals for debate regarding the future development of business reporting. The proposals are targeted primarily at public listed companies and are intended to address the needs of both expert and non-expert users of business information. The proposals also seek to facilitate the assessment by users of the quality of management.

The Research Committee's proposals are based on the research evidence obtained from a large-scale survey of the views of users, preparers and auditors on topics such as:

- the cyclical nature of corporate communication and users' decision making;
- the perception of differential user access to company information;
- concerns regarding information overload; and
- confidence and assurance regarding the reliability and relevance of business information.

Professor John Baillie, Convener of the Research Committee explained the reason for the project:

"The question of what business information users want is not new but the answer, in today's fast changing economic environment, may well be."

Professor Baillie continues:

"The research findings provide new insights and also provide systematic evidence to confirm existing anecdotal views. In particular, high on the list of needs is information which can help the user to assess the quality of management. The need for forward-looking information is also a priority. Such information, however, need not be financial in nature.

"The proposals put forward by the Research Committee are, at times, radical yet realistic. We propose measures to address the perceived inequity arising from one-to-one meetings with companies. There are also proposals on how to provide assurance on the enhanced quality and quantity of information which is sought. In addition, we have attempted to harness the advances of technology in our proposals."

"We realise that implementation of any of our proposals has to be evolutionary over the mid to long term and cannot simply be imposed. The discussion document is, therefore, published in the spirit of stimulating debate on, and research and experimentation in, corporate communications."

For further information, please contact:

Professor John Baillie
Scott Moncrieff
0141 567 4500

Aileen Beattie, Director, Accounting & Auditing, ICAS,
0131 247 4853

Wilma Littlejohn, FMS Public Relations
0131 624 5035

Notes to Editors:

1. An initial investigation to support the discussion document was undertaken to investigate the decision-making processes of users and to identify the main concerns surrounding the current system of reporting. Four themes emerged and the considerable detail obtained is published separately in a companion report, Corporate Communications: Views of Institutional Investors and Lenders edited by Professor Pauline Weetman and Aileen Beattie.

2. Also in support of the Research Committee's proposals, it has published the research report, Investor Relations Meetings: Views of Companies, Institutional Investors and Analysts, which provides insight into the current practice of investor relations meetings. The findings are based on interviews with finance directors or investor relations officers of FSTE 100 companies, with institutional investors and with sell-side analysts. This research has been carried out by Dr Claire Marston, University of Durham.

3. Copies of the three publications are available from the Research Department at ICAS, 27 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1LA. Each priced £15.00.

Irish Accounting and Finance Association Council

The IAFA held its AGM in University College Cork on Monday 10th May 1999.

The 1999/2000 council members are:

Council Members 1999/2000

John Doran (UCC) Chairperson
Tony Brabazon (UCD) Secretary
Terence Sheridan (UL) Treasurer
Jim Dalton (AIT)
Philip Hamill (University of Ulster)
Niall Hayden (DKIT)
John Maher (WIT)
Noel O'Brien (DIT)
Ronan Powell (QUB)
Thomas Stone (IIT)
Pauline Willis (DCU)

Irish Accounting and Finance Association Events

Annual Conference

The Association held a very successful Annual Conference in University College Cork on 10th and 11th May 1999. Forty papers were presented at the conference. The plenary speaker for conference was Professor John Shank of the Tuck School at Dartmouth College. Professor Shank's plenary address was entitled "The changing world of financial management. How are we doing? Some observations from an obsolete observer."

Full details are available on the IAFA's web page at:

<http://www.ucd.ie/~account/iafa/home.html>

Next year's Annual Conference will take place on 11th and 12th May 2000 in Dublin Institute of Technology. Contact person is Noel O'Brien, Dublin Institute of Technology, Aungier Street, Dublin 2.

e-mail: noel.obrien@dit.ie

ACCA/IAFA Seminar

This seminar which is organized jointly by the ACCA and the IAFA is scheduled to take place on 30th October 1999. The main speaker for this seminar is Professor Anthony Hopwood, Said Business School, Oxford University.

CIMA/IAFA Seminar

It is also planned to hold a seminar jointly organized by CIMA and the IAFA.

Japanese Accounting Association

Forthcoming Meeting

1999 National Convention
September 9, 10 and 11, 1999
Kyoto Gakuen University
(Kameoka city, Kyoto prefecture)

You can get information about this university from the following page. http://www.kyotogakuen-u.ac.jp/o_ied/top/eng/index.html

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Akira Wakasugi
Takachiho College of Commerce

The address of the Association secretary is:
Professor Hisakatsu Sakurai
Japan Accounting Association
c/o Graduate School of Business
Kobe University
2-1 Rokkodai, Nada, Kobe 657-8501 Japan
e-mail: sakurai@rose.rokkodai.kobe-u.ac.jp
fax: + 81-78-803-6916

Leaders of the Japan Accounting Association meet with President Needles at the European Accounting Association Conference in Bordeaux, France (May 1999). From left to right: Professor Masaatsu Takada, President JAA; Professor Belverd Needles, President IAAER, and Professor Nobuo Kamata, Director, Chairman of International Committee of JAA.

ACCA

NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED

John Brockwell, financial controller at Marks & Spencer, was elected president of ACCA on May 6. Dr Moyra Kedsle of Hull University was elected deputy president.

Five new members have also joined Council. They are Samuel Wong, partner in Ernst & Young, Hong Kong, Gerald Andrews, finance and resources director at the NEC Group, David Finch, group finance director at Spaldings Ltd, Christopher Forster vice president, Chase Manhattan Bank and Mark Gold, senior partner, Silver Levene.

The newcomers are joined by five existing Council members who were re-elected in the same ballot which took place in April. These are: this year's deputy president Moyra Kedsle, David Defty, past president David Leonard; Aulous Madden and Soon Kwai Choy.

ACCA'S GROWTH UNSTOPPABLE

The number of members has grown to 66,083, up 6,000 on last year's figures, and confirms ACCA as the fastest growing accountancy body worldwide.

The latest figures, which reflect membership at the end of 1998, show substantial growth across the world. Chief executive, Anthea Rose, explains: "We are experiencing particularly rapid growth in Hong Kong, Malawi, Cyprus, Singapore, Trinidad, Jamaica, Mauritius, Zambia and Ireland as well as the UK. In mainland China, our membership has increased by 60% over the last year.

"These are excellent figures. Employers in every sector in every continent are turning to ACCA for finance professionals who combine breadth of vision with quality technical expertise."



Student record

Records have been broken in student recruitment. At the end of 1998, 45,000 new students had registered with ACCA, a growth of 22%.

LSE MAN NAMED ACADEMIC OF THE YEAR

Professor Michael Bromwich of the London School of Economics has been named Distinguished Academic of the Year by ACCA and the British Accounting Association. The annual award recognises academics who have made an outstanding contribution in the field of accounting and finance research.

Presenting the award at the annual BAA conference held in Glasgow in March, Jim Scott, president of ACCA Scotland, said: "ACCA is delighted to make this award to recognise both what Professor Bromwich has achieved and also the importance of his work. The award is important to us in ACCA too because we value the work of accounting academics in all countries and the contribution which they make to the development of our profession."

SOCIAL ACCOUNTING AWARDS LAUNCHED

ACCA and the Institute of Social and Ethical Account Ability have launched the first social reporting award for UK-based enterprises.

The award scheme is designed to encourage best practice in reporting the social accountability issues which all organisations face. The idea that companies have responsibilities to groups other than their shareholders or lenders is not new, but the 1990s mark the point at which the non-traditional has become the norm.

The first presentations will be made in early 2000.

ONLINE COMPANY SEARCHES AVAILABLE TO ACCA WEB USERS

A new range of online services, delivered through the ACCA website, is now available to all registered users. The services have been developed in partnership with the Internet information provider, AccountingWEB.

Registered users can carry out online company search facilities at a special price. They also have access to a wide range of Internet links and a twice weekly electronic newswire which has features on key issues in business and finance, the accounting profession and ACCA.

Director Ross Midgley says: "This is first in a series of online services and electronic business developments which we will

be launching this year."

To register, members need only visit the home page of ACCA's website, which is at <http://www.acca.org.uk>, and click on the button marked "Customise this site".

CHANGES TO EXEMPTION POLICY

ACCA is now granting exemptions on the basis of partial completion of bachelor degree qualifications. This revised policy is effective for the December 1999 examination session. Registered ACCA students may apply for additional credit if they have successfully completed one year of a degree programme, but did not receive exemption for this on registration.

For further information, please contact Judith Bennett, education manager, tel: + 44 (0)141 309 4062 fax: + 44 (0)141 309 4141.

OFFICE IN ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe's minister of higher education and technology, Dr Ignatius Chombo, officially opened ACCA's new office in Harare earlier this year. He welcomed the contribution that ACCA was making to the development of the accountancy profession and the wider business community.

The new office will ensure better services for students and members, who have warmly welcomed the improved facilities on offer.

FIGHTING FRAUD

ACCA has called for much stiffer penalties for senior executives who commit fraud or mislead auditors. In its submission to the Auditing Practices Board of the UK and Ireland, ACCA stresses that this type of fraud could be prevented/detected early if organisations installed more effective internal controls in the first place.

The profession should encourage auditors to foster a more critical approach. Lessons could be learned from the procedures of US auditors, which aim to instil greater discipline and formality at every stage of the audit.

ACCA also stresses that fraud is not only an important issue at the higher end of the scale. Government pressure to free smaller firms from regulation makes these companies an increasingly attractive target for organised crime. Fraud committed by or on smaller entities can have a serious impact on those with whom they do business, and, in total, can cause greater economic damage than individual, high-profile frauds.

For further information, please contact Mary-Lou Wedderburn, senior technical officer, tel: + 44 (0)171 396 59774 fax: + 44 (0)171 396 5730.

LEGAL VICTORY IN MALAYSIA

A high profile action brought against ACCA in the Malaysian courts has come to an end with the plaintiff, Dato Lau Ban Tin, withdrawing his action for damages of £32 million for “mental distress and suffering” with no liberty to file afresh. In the agreed settlement, the plaintiff, inter alia, irrevocably undertook not to initiate or continue any action whatsoever against ACCA, its officers, servants or agents. The plaintiff also agreed to pay ACCA costs of RM 25,000.00. ACCA agreed not to take any action against the plaintiff or his solicitors.

ACCA’s third party proceedings against the Malaysian Institute of Accountants was discontinued with no order as to costs.

Commenting on the case, president Michael Foulds, said: “We were always confident that this case would eventually be resolved in our favour. Nevertheless, members have been understandably concerned by the size of the claim and the attendant publicity; we are delighted with the outcome.”

NEW PUBLICATIONS

HELP IN TRAINING ACCOUNTANTS

In response to employer demand, ACCA has created its most comprehensive and user-friendly guides yet to training chartered certified accountants.

Your Guide to Training Chartered Certified Accountants comes in two colourful editions - one for practice and one for industry, commerce and the public sector- and will be available in early April. It is packed with useful information on every aspect of accountancy training.

As well as providing details on student registration and ACCA examinations, the guide provides advice on how employers can ensure ACCA students and members receive the best possible workplace training. With colour-coded sections for ease of navigation and pull-out sections for samples of training records, proforma appraisal records and other useful forms, the guide is an invaluable and innovative “one-stop shop” for those responsible for ACCA training.

For further information, please contact Helen Beverley, training projects manager, tel: + 44 (0)171 396 5821, fax: + 44 (0)171 396 5880.

SLOW PROGRESS ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Despite both legal and corporate commitments to equal opportunities in employment, discrimination in the workplace is still considered to be a serious social problem. A new research report towards corporate accountability for equal opportunities performance by Carol Adams and George Harte examines corporate reporting practices and proposes further developments in reporting.

The researchers analysed the reporting practices of the top 100 UK firms over a five year period, studied 18 companies over the last six decades and wrote three in-depth case studies. They found little voluntary reporting on equal opportunities, with firms disclosing policy not practice.

Researcher Carol Adams concludes: “Given the poor equal opportunities performance and continued discrimination in British society, non-disclosure is a conscious decision to withhold information which reflects badly on corporate performance”. The report recommends that firms monitor and publish details of their equal opportunities performance.

LAW NEEDS TO CHANGE

A new research report *Disqualification of Directors: No Hiding Place for the Unfit* by Andrew Hicks examines whether existing director disqualification legislation in the UK, and the way it operates, is an effective weapon in protecting the public interest and deterring improper conduct by directors of limited companies.

The researcher has found that most disqualification orders are made against owner-managers of small firms. Mr Hicks says: “Unfortunately, disqualification has the least impact on this type of director as, once disqualified, he or she is likely to set up business again in his or her own name.”

Recommendations

Government policy needs to concentrate on the quality, not merely the quantity, of disqualifications. It should focus on investigating, and if necessary, disqualifying directors of larger companies whose conduct could cause potentially more damage and for whom disqualification would have more impact than on owner-managers.

SHARE OWNERSHIP BROUGHT INTO QUESTION

Employee share ownership should lead to a better informed workforce which takes a close interest in its employer’s performance and is more adept at understanding finance and accounting. A new research report *Employee Share Ownership and Financial Awareness: Some Further Evidence* by Michael Peel and Maurice Pendlebury questions the truth

of these assumptions.

Is employee share ownership worthwhile?

The researchers have found no evidence that share-owning employees are any more financially aware than their non-shareholding colleagues. Professor Pendlebury says: "This brings into question the effectiveness of a policy, now more than 20 years old, which has cost the UK government a significant amount of tax revenue over the years."

Research reports are available from ACCA Sales, PO Box 66, Glasgow G41 1BS, UK tel: + 44 (0)141 309 3999 fax: + 44 (0)141 309 3998.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

(Continued from page 8)

substantial cash balance. Overall, IAAER is in good financial condition due to strong membership support and the success of the World Congress in Paris and the Research Conference in Chicago. Assessing the balance, it should be kept in mind that members pay three or five years in advance. Membership services will use most of these funds over the next three to five years. Expenses also will be incurred in connection with IASC and IFAC representation. It is also prudent to maintain a balance for unexpected expenses. There are some expenses from the Chicago Conference that remain to be paid.

Update on Research Conferences. Kazuo Hiramatsu provided the call for papers, which was passed to members attending the meeting. More information will be available by the San Diego Meeting (August 1999).

Publications. David Alexander, co-editor of the Journal of Accounting Education, distributed a document introducing the new editors. The Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting is the newest official journal

of IAAER. There will be a transfer of the old web site (based at DePaul University) to the new web site (based at James Madison University). The January 99 issue of Cosmos is on the web site. One objective of the association is to cut back the costs linked to Cosmos (see Executive Committee minutes for information about journals and COSMOS). A transition to electronic dissemination will take place and only members requesting a hard copy will receive one.

Vice Presidents' Reports. See Executive Committee and Executive Council minutes for reports from Membership (Schultz) and Education (Krylova), IE Guideline No. 9 Task Force (Diamond), Emerging Economies Task Force (van der Schyf), Professional Practice (Johns) and World Congress Hong Kong 2002 (Ho). The definitive dates for the Hong Kong World Congress are November 14 to 16, 2002 (IFAC meeting: November 10 to 12).

Other Business. The elections for a new executive committee will be organized during the next EAA meeting in Munich (March 2000). Sid Gray, past president, has been appointed chair of the nominating committee. Every body interested in being involved can get in touch with Sid. IAAER is a co-sponsor of the AAA/TAA Globalization Conference organized in Taiwan in July 1999. The next Globalization Conference will be in Cambridge in 2000.

Bel Needles announced that IAAER has a new logo that is intended to be bold and professional to represent the growing stature and recognition of IAAER in international academic and professional accounting education and research.

A future issue for the association is the communication with members from more than 50 countries.

The next general membership meeting of IAAER will be in March 2000, in Munich, Germany.

Hervé Stolowy, Secretary-Treasurer



From left to right (front to back), Herve Stolowy, Giuseppe Galassi, Kazuo Hiramatsu, Sidney Gray, Mike Diamond, Tatiana Krylova, and Donna Street at the IAAER Executive Council Meeting in Bordeaux, France.

IAAER: 2000 in JAPAN

(International Association for Accounting Education and Research) Third Biennial International Accounting Research Conference

Jointly with

Japanese Association for International Accounting Studies (JAIAS)

*October 6-7, 2000 in Kobe, Japan
at International Conference Center Kobe*

hosted by

Kwansei Gakuin University

Home page: <http://www.sba.kwansei.ac.jp/~iaaer/>

The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for the presentation, discussion and dissemination of current international accounting research by scholars from all over the world. The conference will be held jointly with the 17th - annual meeting of the Japanese Association for International Accounting Studies (JAIAS).

Papers should be submitted to:

Professor Kazuo Hiramatsu
School of Business Administration
Kwansei Gakuin University
1-1-155 Uegahara, Nishinomiya,
Hyogo, 662-8501 JAPAN
Fax: (81) 798-51-0903
Email: khira@kwansei.ac.jp

Rules for Paper Submission:

1. Deadline May 1, 2000.
2. Submit both (1) three hard copies and (2) either an e-mail message with the paper as an attachment or a disk copy of the paper. Microsoft Word is preferred.
3. The paper should be in English.
4. The paper should not have been accepted and published in a research journal at the time of the conference.
5. The first page(s) of the paper should include the title, author(s), affiliation(s), address for correspondence (and fax and/or email if available), and the abstract. The name(s) of the author(s) should not appear on subsequent pages.
6. The abstract should not exceed 400 words.
7. The paper is expected to follow the "Editorial Guidelines for Contributors" of the *Journal of Financial Management and Accounting*.
8. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to change the format of the abstract so that all the abstracts may be in the same style.
9. Authors will be notified of acceptance/rejection of papers by June 15, 2000.

Accepted papers will receive, at the author's option, fast-track reviews for possible publication in the *Journal of International Financial Management and Accounting* or the *International Journal of Accounting*.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

ANZIBA 99

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ACADEMY (ANZIBA)

DATE
OCTOBER 1-2, 1999

VENUE
AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
(ACIB)

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

CONFERENCE THEME

“INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DYNAMICS OF THE NEW MILLENIUM”

The aim of the conference is to highlight the dynamic aspects of international business including the problems of change and the search for flexibility.

The keynote address “The End of Global Strategy” will be given by Professor Alan Rugman, Oxford University.

Conference papers will be presented on topics in the following areas of research:

- International cooperative strategies
- Business uncertainty and capital market volatility
- Entrepreneurship, managerial competence and corporate culture
- New organisational forms and organisational change
- Flexibility of operations
- Performance of multinational enterprises
- Foreign direct investment
- Internationalisation processes
- Cross-cultural management
- Market entry and location strategies
- International business curriculum development
- Functional strategies relating to human resource management, marketing management, accounting and financial reporting, financial management, and information systems

Detailed information regarding Conference Program, Accommodation and Registration Form is available through the following website address: www.ecom.unimelb.edu.au/anziba/

For further information, please contact:

Professor Sid Gray, Co-Director, ACIB

Telephone: + 61.2.9385-5802

Facsimile: +61.2.9385-6440

E-mail: s.gray@unsw.edu.au

Call for Papers and Panels

THE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING SECTION OF THE AMERICAN ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATION 2000 MID-YEAR MEETING

Jointly sponsored by the

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN ACCOUNTING (CIERA)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

January 9-10, 2000
Tampa Florida
Tampa Westshore Marriott

This is the sixth mid-year meeting of the International Section of the American Accounting Association and the third to be held jointly with the CIERA. The conference will provide an opportunity for teachers, researchers, and practitioners interested in international accounting to exchange information, to network, and to discuss emerging issues.

Papers or panel discussions on any area of international accounting are welcome. If the author wishes, the submitted paper will be given fast-track consideration for publication in *The International Journal of Accounting*, a publication of CIERA, or *The Journal of International Accounting, Auditing, and Taxation*. For those electing fast-track review, please indicate your journal of choice and state in your submission letter that the paper is not under review by another journal.

Deadlines

Four copies of proposals for panels and submissions of papers should be submitted by **September 15, 1999** to:

Donna L. Street
Arthur Andersen Alumni Professor
James Madison University
School of Accounting, MSC 0203
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
Phone 540-568-3089; Fax 540-568-3017
Email streetdl@jmu.edu

All papers and proposals must be in English. No papers will be accepted by fax or email. Author(s) will be notified of acceptance/rejection by November 1, 1999.

Additional Information:

Updates on the conference will be posted on the AAA and CIERA web sites at:

AAA: <http://www.rutgers.edu/Accounting/raw/aaa/calls/>
AAA International Section: <http://www.cba.uc.edu/cbainfo/ias>
CIERA: <http://www.cba.uiuc.edu/ciera>

The conference registration fee is \$100. Registration forms and hotel information will be posted on the AAA web site by early Fall 1999.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Accounting Education and Research Challenges in the New Millennium

9th IAAER World Congress of Accounting Educators

November 10 to 13 (Thursday to Saturday), 2002

New Phase, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre,
Hong Kong

Organized & Hosted by
The Hong Kong Academic Accounting Association

Contact: Prof. Simon S.M. HO
Chairman, Organizing Committee of 9th
IAAER World Congress
c/o School of Accountancy
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong SAR
Tel: (852) 2609-7742; Fax: (852) 2603-6604
Email: simon@baf.msmai.cuhk.edu.hk

ELEVENTH ASIAN-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING ISSUES November 21-24, 1999 Melbourne, Australia

The Eleventh ASIAN-PACIFIC Conference on International Accounting Issues will be held on November 21-24, 1999 in Melbourne, Australia. The main theme of the conference is **Accounting and the Profession in the New Millennium-Role and Relevance**. The conference will provide an important forum for the interaction of different ideas and information between academicians and practitioners, in order to enhance the understanding of international accounting issues in various Asian-Pacific countries. During the past ten years, our conference has been held in Fresno, California (1989), Vancouver, Canada (1990), Honolulu, Hawaii (1991), Dunedin, New Zealand (1992), Mexico City, Mexico (1993), Taipei, Taiwan (1994), Seoul, Korea (1995), Vancouver, Canada (1996), Bangkok, Thailand (1997), and Maui, Hawaii (1998). Over 300 participants from 33 countries attended our Maui conference.

Detailed information regarding our upcoming conference (Eleventh Asian Pacific Conference) is as follows.

Registration fees of \$475 (Australian Dollars) per delegate includes a reception, 2 breakfasts, 2 luncheons, 1 dinner (Banquet and Entertainment), a copy of the proceedings, and a one-day tour.

Participants in past conferences have earned up to 16 hours of CPE credits.

The Conference will be held at the Hotel Sofitel in Melbourne. Rate for Single/Double Occupancy is \$190 (Australian Dollars)

For More Information please contact:

Professor Ali Peyvandi or Professor Benjamin Tai
Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues
The Sid Craig School of Business
California State University-Fresno
5245 North Backer Avenue
Fresno, California 93740-0007, USA

Tel: (559) 278-2921
Tel: (559) 278-2852
Tel: (559) 278-2217
Fax: (559) 278-7336
E-mail: ali_peyvandi@csufresno.edu
Or benjamin_tai@csufresno.edu

Home Page:
<http://www.craig.csufresno.edu/dprtmnt/conasia.htm>

1999 12TH ANNUAL AUSTRALASIAN FINANCE & BANKING CONFERENCE

Thursday & Friday, 16-17 December
Hilton Hotel, Sydney, Australia

Conference Convenor:
Professor Fariborz Moshirian

The School of Banking & Finance and The Asia Pacific Financial Research Centre at the University of New South Wales would like to invite all academics and practitioners to participate in our 12th Annual Australasian Finance & Banking Conference to be held at the Hilton Hotel in Sydney, Australia, 16 -17 December, 1999.

TOPIC AREAS:

Papers in the following topic areas with an international focus are welcome:

1. Asset Pricing
2. Banking
3. Capital Markets

4. Corporate Finance
5. Derivative Instruments
6. Finance Theory & Evidence
7. Financial Intermediation
8. Funds Management
9. International Finance
10. Real Estate Investment
11. Risk and Insurance
12. Special Insurance Forum
13. The Emerging Markets
14. Any others (please specify)

SUBMISSION OF PAPERS:

The best paper on derivatives will be awarded a special prize by Sydney Futures Exchange. Selected papers will be published in a special issue of the JOURNAL OF MULTINATIONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT after being evaluated by the editorial board members of the Journal.

All contributors should send 4 copies of their paper for reviewing to:

CONTACT:

AFBC Program Review Committee
School of Banking & Finance
University of New South Wales
SYDNEY NSW 2052
AUSTRALIA

DEADLINES:

The deadline for submitting papers is July 30, 1999. Authors will be notified of the review committee's decision by mid September.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

This year's Keynote Speakers are: Professor Hayne Leland, University of California, Berkeley Professor Bruno Solnik, HEC School of Management, France

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information and a registration form please refer to our conference website at:

Web: <http://afbc.banking.unsw.edu.au>
Tel: (02) 9385 5858
Fax: (02) 9385 6730
Email: MAILTO:a.baurka@unsw.edu.au

8TH CONFERENCE ON THE THEORIES AND PRACTICES OF SECURITY AND FINANCIAL MARKETS

Theme: Financial Crisis and Security Markets

Dec. 11-12, 1999

**National Sun Yat-sen University,
Kaoshiung, Taiwan, Republic of China**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

"Asia Financial Crisis and Risk Management"
Dr. Chi-fu Huang, Principal,
Long Term Capital Management, Japan

TOPICS:

- Financial Crisis and Security Markets
- The Structure, Behavior and Performance of the Security and Financial Markets
- Security and Financial Market Regulations
- International Financial Markets
- Derivatives
- Competitive Strategies for Stock Exchanges in the 21st Century
- Other Related Topics

DEADLINES & PAPER DETAILS:

Submission deadline:

September 10, 1999

Notification of Acceptance:

September 25, 1999

The complete paper due:

November 5, 1999

OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARDS: US\$ 1,000

A special monograph of selected papers on financial crisis and security markets may be published, depending on the quality and quantity of papers accepted.

REGISTRATION FEE:

US\$250 before November 15 (including all academic, panel, tutorial session, conference material as well as local 5-stars hotel accommodation for 2 nights).

PAPER SUBMISSION PROCEDURE:

Please send three copies of a completed paper or a detailed paper outline (1000-1500 words) in English to:

CONTACT: Professor Tai Ma
Program Chair, 8th SFM Conference
Department of Finance
National Sun Yat-sen University
Kaosiung, Taiwan, 804, R.O.C.

For more information, please contact:

Miss Yueh-Er Su
Tel: 886-7-5252000 ext. 4508 or 4830
Fax: 886-7-5254898 or 5254899
Email: sfm@finance.nsysu.edu.tw
Web: <http://www.finance.nsysu.edu.tw/english/index.html>

**Academy of Accounting Historians
1999 Research Conference**
Toronto Harbour Castle Hotel
November 18-20, 1999

The 1999 annual conference for the Academy of Accounting Historians will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada from November 18 to 20 at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel. The conference theme is "The Rhetoric of Accounting History: Conversations Across Time and Space". The 1999 conference will, as the theme implies, place emphasis on critical analysis. For the first time, some sessions will be dedicated to the presentation of cases and papers dealing with the use of historical accounting cases for teaching.

Toronto is a safe, clean cosmopolitan city of 4.7 million residents in the southern part of Canada at approximately the same latitude as Boston. Fall weather is pleasant in Toronto, with warm days and cool nights. The average temperature is 11 degrees Celsius or 51 degrees Fahrenheit. For more information on Toronto, see WWW.tourism-toronto.com.

The Westin Harbour Castle is a modern four star hotel located on the waterfront in downtown Toronto. The hotel provides guests with a stunning view of Lake Ontario. The area in which the hotel is located is very safe for walking at all times of the day and night whether in the business and commercial downtown, along the lake, or on the Toronto Islands - just five or ten minutes by ferry boat from the terminal next to the hotel. For those less inclined to walk, the hotel provides a free shuttle to the downtown area. The daily hotel room rate is \$135 Can. (\$88 US using an exchange rate of 0.65) single/double occupancy, \$145 Can. (\$94 US) triple, and \$155 Can. (\$101 US) quad. These rates also apply one day prior to and one day after the conference. A provincial tax of 5% and a federal sales tax of 7% are added to the hotel rate. Participants can make their own reservations by dialing toll free 1-800-WESTIN-1. Be sure to mention the Academy of Accounting Historians conference in order to get our special rate. Alternatively, participants can register

at the hotel by completing the hotel section on the registration form. In either case this must be done by October 18, 1999.

Valet parking is available at the hotel for \$21 Can. per day. There is other parking available in the vicinity for about \$10 Can. per day. Participants arriving at the Toronto (Pearson) International Airport, can travel to the hotel by bus (Airport Express, \$12.50 Can. one way, \$21.00 Can. return) or Limousine Cab (\$36.50 Can. flat rate one way, regardless of the number of occupants, up to four). The Airport Express provides frequent services to the door of the hotel. If returning to the airport by Limousine Cab, be sure to have the hotel call this cab company for you.

For information, please contact Professor Gary Spraakman, Program Committee Chair, 1999 AAH Research Conference, Atkinson College, York University, Toronto, ON, M3J 1P3, Canada, 416-736-5210 (telephone), 416-736-5963 (fax), or GaryS@YorkU.ca (e-mail).

**Academy of International Business
1999 Annual Meeting**

"The Janus Face of Globalization"
November 20-23
Charleston Place, Charleston, South Carolina

Conference Theme

The 1999 Academy of International Business Annual Meeting will focus on the Janus-faced nature of globalization. Ancient Romans regarded the god Janus as the doorkeeper of heaven, who presided over the entrance or the beginning of things. The Romans represented Janus with two faces, looking forward and backward. Janus-faced has come to mean having two contrasting aspects. In the context of globalization, one face promises economic abundance, freedom of political expression, and cultural diversity while the other threatens economic insecurity, political instability and cultural decay. At the conference, we will attempt a reconciliation of the economic, political, and cultural opportunities that globalization has promised with its darker side evidenced in the economic crises raging in Asia and Russia and that is currently threatening Latin America. Only by managing the challenges posed by the darker side of globalization can the world's population enjoy the potential benefits that globalization can offer.

As the world economy lurches towards globalization, it leaves in its wake huge income disparities in developed as well as in developing nations. Capital market volatility has left millions living in poverty or on its edge. Global brands have created intense pressures for cultural homogeneity. Global supply chain management identifies some of these

global brands with unethical labor practices in developing countries. Politically intractable problems also have multiplied, including environmental crises such as global warming, political regimes that retain power by depriving citizens of basic human rights or manipulating ethnic conflict, and a reemergence of old-fashioned political pressures for trade protection. Traditional IMF and World Bank remedies appear increasingly ineffective and no longer able to promote economic development or stabilize the value of a country's currency. As a result of this combination of increased interdependencies and increased insecurity, the demands on global managers have increased exponentially. While companies have increasingly dispersed R&D, manufacturing, and marketing/sales operations to leverage their knowledge assets and scale economies, the pervasive political and economic volatility makes coordinating these activities especially challenging.

The Conference Setting:

The University of South Carolina will host the conference in historic Charleston. Charleston, founded in 1620, has some of the best-preserved early American architecture, some of the country's finest restaurants, and its most renowned ghosts.

For registration information visit the AIB web site at:

www.hawaii.edu/aib/events/1999/prog0525.htm

Conference contact:

Academy of International Business
James R. Wills, Jr. Executive Secretary
UH College of Business Administration
2404 Maile Way
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2223 USA
Fax: 808 956 3261

ASIA-PACIFIC JOURNAL OF ACCOUNTING & ECONOMICS SYMPOSIUM 2000 (APJAE Symposium 2000)

3 - 4 January 2000, Hong Kong

The Accounting and Corporate Law Centre and Department of Accountancy, City University of Hong Kong, will jointly organize a symposium to be held at the City University of Hong Kong, 3 - 4 January 2000. The symposium will launch the Asia Pacific Journal of Accounting & Economics (APJAE) and the theme will be "Corporate Governance Issues in the Asia Pacific Region and Beyond."

CALL FOR PAPERS:

Papers submitted for the symposium should contain original research which rigorously applies economic or legal theories to corporate governance issues and related accounting and auditing problems. Empirical papers are particularly encouraged. Accepted papers will be published in the inaugural issue of the APJAE, subject to the editors' approval. The APJAE will replace the Asia Pacific Journal of Accounting, as of 1 January 2000 to reflect the journal's expanded scope and content.

The symposium will provide accommodation at the University guest house for three days, waiver of registration fees and expense reimbursement of US\$3,000, for one author of each accepted paper. In addition to presentations of papers, the symposium will include a China Accounting Forum with a panel of scholars and government officials from China who will discuss recent accounting developments in China and their legal and economic implications.

AIMS AND SCOPE:

The Asia-Pacific Journal of Accounting & Economics (APJAE) is dedicated to publishing high quality original research that rigorously applies economic and legal theory to accounting issues and problems, with an emphasis on empirical research. In addition to a special focus on issues relevant to the Asia Pacific region, the journal also encourages submissions pertaining to contracts, corporate governance, capital markets and financial institutions, as these relate to accounting and auditing.

EDITORS:

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PAPER SUBMISSION PROCEDURE:

THREE copies of submitted manuscripts following the APJAE's editorial guidelines should be sent by mail to:

CONTACT:

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83 Tat Chee Avenue
Kowloon, HONG KONG

Submission must be received by the Editor no later than **15 August 1999**. Authors will be notified of the decision by 1 November 1999. Papers submitted to the Symposium will also constitute a submission to the journal.

Non-contributors of papers are also encouraged to attend. Further information regarding aims and scope of APJAE, instructions to authors, registration, etc. can be obtained by contacting:

CONTACT:

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<http://fbweb.cityu.edu.hk/ac/acl/>
Department of Accountancy
Accounting and Corporate Law Centre

**British Accounting Association
SIG ACCOUNTING EDUCATION
Annual Conference 2000
Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen
25-26 May 2000**

Call for Papers:

- * Use of computing and other technologies
- * Assessment
- * Curriculum Issues
- * Accreditation
- * Innovation

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Warren Allen, Chair IFAC Education Committee, "IFAC Education Strategy: IT within the Curriculum"

All papers will have the option of FAST-TRACK review for Journal of Accounting Education - The official journal of the International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER).

Professor Richard Wilson, the Editor of Accounting Education: An International Journal, would be pleased to consider papers presented at the conference. Authors should submit their paper to the journal in the normal way. Submission by 30 September would be necessary for possible inclusion in the 2000 volume of the journal.

Papers (3 copies) to be sent to Elizabeth Gammie at the address below. Papers must be received by 10 December 1999. If submitting electronically, please ensure that the document is saved in Word 6. Please state whether you have submitted your paper to Accounting Education: An International Journal or if you wish to take up the FAST-TRACK review option for Journal of Accounting Education.

Further details are available from:

Neil Marriott
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Email: e.gammie@rgu.ac.uk

<http://www.accountingeducation.com/baaacedsig/>

For other BAA activities, see "News from Institutional Members" page 9.

**European International Business Academy
(EIBA)
25th Annual Conference, December 12 - 14, 1999,
Manchester
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND THE GLOBAL
SERVICES ECONOMY**

- * Trends in Global Financial Services
- * MNC responses to Contagion in Global Financial Markets
- * MNCs and the Impact of the Single European Currency
- * Global Risk Management
- * The Internationalisation of Non-Financial Services
- * The Internationalisation Process and Emerging and Transitional Economies
- * Knowledge Creation and Transfer
- * International Business Networks
- * Coalitions and Strategic Management
- * HQ -Subsidiary Relationships
- * Cross-cultural Management and HRM
- * International Business on the Internet
- * International Marketing Strategies
- * Foreign Market Entry and Development
- * The Millenium Bug

Competitive and workshop papers on the above, other international business themes and suggestions for panel sessions, should be submitted before September 17, 1999.

For full details regarding submission of papers, see the conference web site at <http://www.sm.umist.ac.uk/eiba99> or e-mail eiba99@umist.ac.uk

Charles Chi CUI, PhD
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*Please also note the announcements on our
Calendar of Activities for the following EIASM
events in accounting (consult our website at
www.eiasm.be)*

- Symposium on Market-Based Accounting Research with Focus on Valuation, Risk and Financial Statement Analysis, November 11-13, 1999
- 2nd Workshop on Management and Accounting in Historical Perspective, December 13-14, 1999
- Workshop on Accounting and Economics, June 15-16, 2000 (announced on the web as from 26.5.1999)
- Workshop on Public Sector Accounting, September 7-9, 2000 (announced on the web as from 26.5.1999)
- Workshop on Audit Regulation in Europe, December 14-15, 2000 (announced on the web as from 26.5.1999)

**The Hong Kong Society of Accountants
Eleventh International Conference of Accounting
Academics
Current Issues in Accounting: Asia Pacific & Beyond
15-16 June 2000**

Organized By:
Lingnan College & Hong Kong Academic Accounting Association

In Co-operation With:
International Accounting Section American Accounting Association

Contact:
Richard A Maschmeyer, DBA
Conference Organizing Committee Chairman
Department of Accounting and Finance
Lingnan College
Hong Kong

**INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF
AFRICAN BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE
The Resorts Casino Hotel
Atlantic City, New Jersey USA
APRIL 11-14, 2000**

November 15, 1999
Deadline for receipt of papers submitted
January 15, 2000
Notification of acceptance
March 1, 2000
Deadline for early registration

The main theme of the conference is "The Global Challenge of African Business and Economic Development in the New Millennium." The conference will feature formal and informal scholarly presentations. All contributed papers will undergo a blind, multiple referee process for consideration for publication in the conference proceedings. The primary goal of the conference is to provide a unique international forum to facilitate the exchange of leading-edge ideas on African business and economic development.

We welcome the submission of papers that address the conference theme. Authors may consider any of the areas listed below, but need not limit their options to these topics. However, if authors are uncertain of the appropriate track for their papers, please contact Dr. Alphonso Ogbuehi, Conference Chair. If a category is not specified, we will use our best judgment

Suggested Topics include:
* Globalization and African Business
* Environmentalism and Economic Growth

- * Role of Technology in Economic Development
- * African Regional Trading Blocs
- * Trends in African Business Education
- * Government Policies and Regulations
- * Patterns and Parallels of Economic Development in Africa

Manuscript reviewers, discussants, and session chairpersons will be needed to make this conference a successful event. Please contact either the program chair or co-chairs to indicate your interest in participating in the program.

Dr. Alphonso O. Ogbuehi, Acting Chair
 Department of Food Marketing
 Director, MS in International Marketing Program
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JIBS Symposium

Partnership of Ideas for the New Millennium: The Impact of Developing Economies and Economies in Transition on the Future of International Business

The Journal of International Business Studies invites submissions for a symposium that will focus on "The Impact of Developing Economies and Economies in Transition on the Future of International Business" to be published during 2000. All papers should be sent to David A. Ralston, Guest Editor for the symposium at the address below.

FOCUS OF THE SYMPOSIUM The primary focus of the symposium is the contributions that developing economies and economies in transition make to international business. The symposium is open to papers that emphasize developing countries' contributions to any aspect of management, as well as papers that identify the mutual/reciprocal contributions that occur when organizations from those countries and developed countries interact. We welcome conceptual and theory-developed papers, empirical hypothesis-testing papers, mathematical modeling papers, as well as case studies and other types of articles, that advance understanding of the contributions of developing countries or the reciprocal contributions of developing and developed countries to international business issues.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The deadline for submission is August 31, 1999. Please submit five copies of your paper to the Guest Editor at the addresses below. Please use the JIBS style guidelines that can be found in the back of the March issues and on the web site at <http://www.gsb.georgetown.edu/prog/jibs>.

Dr. David A. Ralston, Guest Editor
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 University of Oklahoma
 700 North Greenwood Avenue
 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74106 USA
 E-mail: dar@dr.com
 Tel: 918-594-8370 Fax: 918-594-8374

Additionally, there are four Regional Consulting Editors who will assist in the review process and who also may be contacted for information and advice concerning this symposium, if it is more convenient to get in touch with them than Professor Ralston.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS
MULTINATIONAL FINANCE JOURNAL**

Special Issue

**Initial Public Offerings (IPOs)
and Securitization in Emerging
and Other Economies**

Deadline: August 16, 1999

Authors investigating timely methodological issues related to the collection and analysis of financial data, statistical and economic modeling of IPOs and Securitization issues are strongly encouraged to submit their articles. All submitted articles will be reviewed by members of the editorial board of the journal. An honorarium of \$500 will be paid to the contact author of each published article.

Please mail four copies of your article by the deadline to Professor Panayiotis Theodossiou, Managing Editor, Multinational Finance Journal, School of Business, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ 08102, USA. Alternatively, e-mail an Adobe Acrobat PDF or postscript copy (file) to < mfs@crab.rutgers.edu > . Please indicate in your cover letter that your manuscript is submitted for the special issue.

The submission fee for members is US\$20 and for non-members is US\$50. The latter fee includes membership in the Society.

3rd Euroconference

**THE VARIATIONS OF MANAGERIAL
ACCOUNTING:
IMPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION**

Berlin,
September 18-22, 1999

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Anthony Hopwood, University of Oxford; Thomas Ahrens, London School of Economics; Chris Chapman, University of Oxford; Herve Corvellec, University of Kristianstad; Fabrizio Panozzo, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Invited speakers:

Prof. John Christensen, Odense University, Prof. Anthony G. Hopwood, University of Oxford, Prof. Jan Mouritsen, Copenhagen Business School, Prof. Mari Sako, University of Oxford, Prof. Mike Power, London School of Economics

OBJECTIVES & STRUCTURE

The objectives of the Euroconference project "Managerial Accounting in Europe: engaging research and practice" are to improve communication between young researchers and established academics and to encourage junior scholars to publicise their research achievements. Euroconference workshops are introduced and chaired by distinguished invited speakers, followed by single and group presentations from participants, thematic workshops and, most of all, informal interaction and work in groups with the objective of fostering collaborative research work.

PAST EVENTS

"The variations of accounting: implications for research and education" is the third and last of a series of workshops organised by the EIASM and partially supported by the "Training and Mobility of Researchers" Euroconferences programme of the European Commission. The previous events saw the participation of young accounting scholars from all European countries. The first, held in Palermo in 1997, provided an understanding of the differences in accounting theories and practices across Europe. The vast range of theoretical, political, linguistic and economic conditions identified then called for a deeper study of the ways in which institutions, cultures, organisations and Economies affect such heterogeneity and variation. The second Euroconference in Cork served as forum for such an exploration conducted around the idea of the "relevance" of accounting and managerial knowledge in different European countries and in different social and economic contexts. First the mapping and then the exploration of diversity led to the identification of a number of research areas which reflected the common interests of participants and hopefully established the basis for future research networks. Thematic groups have been formed around topics such as: New Accounting and shifting professional identities for the Public Sector; Narrative approaches to accounting research; The training and role of controllers within new resource planning systems; Performance Measures; Market for Accounting Knowledge; Accounting and Managerial Control in the Knowledge Based Business. In order to facilitate the integration of new participants in the Berlin event there will be opportunities for feedback from and discussion of these research groups.

THE VARIATIONS OF ACCOUNTING: IMPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

This last Euroconference aims to provide an overview of some of the diverse approaches to the study of managerial accounting and control that are practised in Europe today. After learning about European differences at the previous two events the idea is for a group of senior academics to present some alternatives for conceptualising managerial accounting and to reflect on their implications for research and education. For most participants who are at the career stage where they are beginning to take over wider responsibilities for university courses and departmental research efforts, it is an opportunity to discuss the wider implications of their professional choices with colleagues from across Europe.

The event is structured to facilitate participants' interaction with four senior management control academics, representing important perspectives in the study of management accounting: institutional, agency, comparative, and qualitative. The overlap between them reflects the state of management accounting research. Rather than provide a neat delineation of a tidy field of study, they remind us of the complexity of management accounting practice. Participants will receive reading assignments selected by the invited speakers to prepare the topics and facilitate discussion of the particular contributions to management accounting research that they will put forward. A thematic workshop on critical research led by a team of participants supplements the set of perspectives.

CHANGE IN EDITORS

JOURNAL OF ACCOUNTING EDUCATION The Official Education Journal of the IAAER

After 15 years of service, Kent St. Pierre of the University of Delaware has decided to step down as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Accounting Education*. The *JAE* thanks Kent for his dedication to the *Journal* and for his continuing efforts to advance accounting education research. The *JAE* also thanks Maurice Hirsch, who is retiring from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville and as Case Editor for the *Journal*.

In order to better promote and develop accounting education research worldwide, the *Journal of Accounting Education* has changed its editorial structure to include an Editor for the Americas and two new International Editors. Elsevier Science is pleased to announce that James E. Rebele of Lehigh University will serve as Editor for the Americas and David Alexander and Jon Simon, both of The University of Hull in the UK, will serve as International Editors. Dot Sharman,

also of the University of Hull, is the new Editorial Secretary for the *Journal of Accounting Education*. All submissions from the Americas should be sent to James E. Rebele and submissions from outside the Americas should be sent to David Alexander and Jon Simon. Addresses and contact information are provided below.

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COSMOS WEBSITE

VISIT COSMOS ON LINE AT:

<http://cob.jmu.edu/streetdl/cosmos/master2.html>

COSMOS ELECTRONICALLY:

Beginning with the July 2000 issue, all IAAER members will be requested to access COSMOS electronically. E-mail messages will be sent to the membership when a new COSMOS issue is posted to the IAAER web site or when significant new material has been posted. Please send your email address to Bel Needles at: iaer@needles-powers.com as soon as possible to insure that you receive all updates in a timely manner.

Electronic dissemination of COSMOS will provide more timely access to IAAER updates, conference announcements and calls for papers, and news on institutional members. In addition, cost-savings can be utilized to enhance other services to members.

The transition will be phased in slowly. All IAAER members will receive a hard copy of the January 2000 issue of COSMOS. Beginning with the July 2000 issue, members choosing to access COSMOS electronically will receive a postcard (and an email) as a reminder that the new issue has been posted to the website. **Beginning with the July 2000 issue, COSMOS will be mailed only to those members who have requested this service.**

To continue receiving a hard copy of COSMOS after the transition, you must notify Bel Needles at iaer@needles-powers.com (or fax to 847 441 9028) that you prefer this option. Please send in your request as soon as possible.

Your cooperation in this cost saving endeavor is very much appreciated.

