

# American Taxation Association

Volume 39, Summer 1996

Anthony P. Curatola, Editor

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is my last letter to you as President of the American Taxation Association. As we approach our annual meeting in Chicago this coming August, there are several highlights of this year that come to mind. First and foremost was your record attendance at our Mid-Year Meeting in New Orleans. That February meeting was the largest we have ever held in the near decade since we began these mid-year meetings. Special thanks are due to Vice-President Shirley Dennis Escoffier and her committee (including Marty Escoffier) for all their efforts at making this meeting such a success! Our second JATA Research Conference was likewise a big success, due to the efforts of JATA Editor Sandy Kramer and her committee.

Next year, our mid-year meeting will be in San Diego, California. This will be our first meeting on the west coast and we hope you will make plans to attend. We don't want to stop breaking these attendance records! The following year, the 1998 mid-year meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. We are currently scheduling meetings sites two years in advance to be able to negotiate the best possible hotel rates and to enable you to better plan for traveling to the meetings. As always, we plan to stay with the third week of February as the meeting time.

At the AAA Council meeting in Salt Lake City in March, the sections and regions spent the morning in a general discussion of news and concerns. An ad hoc committee was formed to relay a summary to the AAA Council. In the afternoon, the Council met. Two votes were taken: one, to staff a new full-time position of Director of Faculty and Program Development at



*Debra M. Hill, ATA President*

the AAA; the second, to raise the AAA dues. These items will come before the membership for final approval at the annual business meeting.

This June, the AICPA will host its Tax Education Symposium, "Preparing the Tax Professional for the 21st Century." Many of those responsible for this meeting are also ATA members, such as Bob Rosen, Caroline Strobel, Anna Fowler, Fred Streuling and Mike Roberts. Our current Computer Resources Committee, co-chaired by Jack Kramer and Jerry Stern, will be presenting a session at this meeting. I hope that all of you who can will attend the meeting on June 7 and 8 in Seattle.

Bob Rosen, who chairs our Relations with the IRS Committee this year, has been working to establish stronger ties between the IRS and the ATA. As a result of his efforts, the ATA will be working closely with the Office of Penalty Administration of the IRS to provide feedback on its efforts. I have appointed a Penalty Administration Subcommittee, headed by Greg Carnes, to respond to the IRS. This Subcommittee functions under the auspices of our Tax Research

Policy Oversight Committee, chaired by Ken Orbach, who was also instrumental in getting this new subcommittee formed. Bob Rosen's committee will continue to work with the IRS on getting an ATA member appointed to the Commissioner's Advisory Group. This selection process will begin in May and we hope to know results by our August meeting.

Our annual meeting will be held at the Chicago Hyatt Regency. John Robinson, who chairs our Annual Program Committee, has scheduled a full slate of activities for us, which begin with the ATA Business Meeting and luncheon on Thursday, August 15. Look for more details on the annual meeting elsewhere in this newsletter. If you have not already made your hotel reservations for this meeting, I would urge you to do so as soon as possible, since our meeting immediately precedes the Democratic Convention and hotel rooms will start to fill up with early arrivals for that meeting.

This year saw the appearance of the ATA's Home Page on the WorldWide Web. Deputy Tom Omer presented details of our Home Page to the officers and trustees at our mid-year meeting. Many of you may also have listened to his presentation during the regular meeting. Tom has done an incredible job with our Home Page. We believe it will serve as both a great service to existing members as well as a draw to prospective members.

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## President's Letter

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Special thanks are also due to ATA Newsletter Editor Tony Curatola, who steps down from his editorship role with this issue of the newsletter. Tony has spent three years keeping three different ATA Presidents "on track" and has gotten our newsletter operations down to a fine science. His efforts are much appreciated and this particular procrastinator will miss all those familiar "reminder" calls! At the mid-year meeting, Brian Greenstein was named Newsletter Editor-Elect. Brian will resume his full Editor's duties with our fall newsletter.

I will look forward to seeing many of you at this August's meeting. I hope you will join us for the ATA Business Meeting so that you can pay witness to the accomplishments of our many fine committees. All of our committee chairpersons and their respective committee members have spent the past year in service for the ATA and I am deeply grateful for their efforts. Our organization's success is directly attributable to the efforts of such individuals. As a reminder, President Ed Outslay is currently forming committees for the 1996-1997 year. If you have not sent in your committee request form, which appeared in the last newsletter, please do so.

Past President Anna Fowler and her Nominations Committee have selected a fine slate of officers and trustees for your vote this coming August. The names of these candidates are presented later in this newsletter. This upcoming year also sees the arrival of a new JATA Editor. Terry Shevlin, who has spent this past year "learning the ropes" will begin his tenure as Editor with the Fall issue of JATA and will direct our third JATA Research Conference at our 1997 ATA Mid-Year Meeting in San Diego.

As Past President Silvia Madeo reminded me last August, the best part of any job may be reaching its conclusion. As I approach the end of my year as President, I am in gentle agreement with Silvia. I do look forward to the upcoming activities of the ATA under the leadership of President-Elect Ed Outslay. See you in Chicago!

## MEET YOUR PRESIDENT FOR 1996-97

Edmund Outslay will become President of the American Taxation Association in August 1996. Ed is a Professor of Accounting at Michigan State University, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1981.

Ed received a B.A. from Furman University (Greenville, S.C.) in 1974 and an MBA (1977) and Ph.D. (1981) from the University of Michigan. His professional experience was Ernst & Ernst (now Ernst & Young) in Grand Rapids, MI. He is a CPA in the state of Michigan.

Since 1981, Ed has served the ATA in many capacities. He was editor of *JATA* from 1990-1993 and twice was a member of the journal's editorial board. Ed was Secretary-Treasurer from 1985-87, a member of the Board of Trustees from 1984-85, and has served on and chaired many committees and made presentations at several mid-year meetings. Ed is also active in the American Accounting Association and the AICPA Tax Division. He recently served on the task force that oversaw the publication of the Tax Division's analysis of alternative tax systems.

At MSU Ed taught in all three programs (undergraduate, masters and Ph.D.). He currently teaches the undergraduate tax course and graduate level courses in corporate taxation, international taxation and tax strategy. Ed recently received the Withrow Teacher/Scholar Award from the Eli Broad Graduate School of Manage-



Edmund Outslay

ment and was a recipient of a "Crystal Award" from the City of East Lansing for his work with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

Ed and his wife Jane have two children, Mark and Jeff. Ed is a volunteer baseball coach at E. Lansing High School and will be a marshal on the 18th hole at the 1996 U.S. Open.

As President-Elect, Ed has been making plans for next year's mid-year meeting and working on ATA committee assignments. He is extremely honored to have been elected President and is excited by the growth and vitality of the ATA. He looks forward to working with and getting to know more members in the coming year. His email address is [outslay@pilot.msu.edu](mailto:outslay@pilot.msu.edu) if you would like to contact him.

The AAA Management Accounting Section is seeking nominations for editor of their *Journal of Management Accounting Research*.

The incoming editor is expected to serve, starting January 1, 1997, as Editor-Elect for one year and Editor for three years. Please send all nominations (including self nominations) to:

Professor William L. Ferrara

School of Business

Stetson University

DeLand, Florida 32720

Phone: (904) 822-7421

FAX: (904) 822-7426

Internet: [Ferrara@suvax1.stetson.edu](mailto:Ferrara@suvax1.stetson.edu)

# MINUTES OF THE ATA BOARD OF TRUSTEES MID-YEAR MEETING—NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

February 23, 1996

Board of Trustees Members  
Present: Frances Ayres, Shirley Dennis-Escoffier, Anna Fowler, Jeffrey Gramlich, Philip Harmelink, Debra Hill, Betty Jackson, Suzanne Kopplin, Silvia Madeo, Edmund Outslay and Doug Shackelford. Also present were Mark Higgins, Sandra Kramer, Ken Ohrbach, Tom Omer, Jerry Stern and Dick Weber.

1. President Debra Hill called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The minutes from the August 13, 1995 meeting of the Board at the Annual Meeting in Orlando were approved.
2. Debra Hill reported that in the AAA vote of the general membership, all measures related to sections failed. She also discussed the need to print new membership brochures. She reported on annual meeting information.
3. Treasurer Betty Jackson presented the financial statements for the fiscal year ended August 31, 1995. The financial position was discussed. In conjunction with this discussion, Shirley Dennis-Escoffier reported that preliminary numbers indicate that we will lose some money on the mid-year meeting despite record registrations because of the buy-down of the rooms and food price increases of seven percent at January 1. She also reported that audio-visual costs are up substantially because of more sophisticated technology needs for this meeting. KPMG Peat Marwick has indicated that they might be willing to underwrite the JATA Conference issue.
4. Sandra Kramer, editor of the *Journal of the American Taxation Association*, presented the editor's report. She reviewed the statistical summary that was to be made available to the membership at the meeting. She also reported that Sarasota was having some staff problems and that there was talk of some staffing cuts. The transition to incoming editor Terry Shevlin is going very smoothly. Next the possibility of putting conference papers on the

WebPage was discussed. It was decided to put them on the Page after the conference if the authors give permission. Tom Omer noted that he has seen an article that takes the position that putting an article on the Web is publication, so some editors will not consider the article for their journals. This issue is not a problem for these papers since they have already been accepted.

5. Jeff Gramlich reported for the Publications Committee. The committee nominated Brian Greenstein from Seton Hall to be the next newsletter editor. The committee proposed giving a transferable one-year subscription to JATA as an incentive to on-time reviewers. This will be announced in the letters to reviewers and in the newsletter. Jeff then discussed possible items for the Home Page: Tax working papers, syllabi, ATA/Arthur Andersen Teaching Innovations Award documentation, tax teaching tips, ATA budget and financial statements, operations manual and JATA Conference papers.
6. Mark Higgins reported for the Membership Committee. The committee has been discussing issues of marketing: determining whom we are trying to reach (primarily academics or business people also?), and how to better reach the target audience. Some registrations are being done through the Home Page. About 70 inquiries had been received to date. The committee had also discussed reaching out to junior colleges in the area where the mid-year meeting will be held.
7. Tom Omer followed up on Jeff Gramlich's points about the Home Page. He reported increasing use of Home Page and raised issues about how we should go forward. In addition to the items listed in point 6, there was discussion of posting position announcements, adding a directory and conducting surveys. Tom expressed concern about how we

should deal with commercial listings on the Page. The Computer Resources Committee suggests setting up a committee to determine policies for the Page. The committee would be made up of the WebMaster, the Chairs of the Publications and Computer Resources Committees, a Trustee and a member of the JATA editorial board. Tom suggested that the WebMaster and the Chair of the Computer Resources Committee be ex-officio members. This would require a by-laws change. The Computer Resources Committee will be meeting in New Orleans and will develop a proposal to be considered at the August meeting.

Tom presented some samples of images to be considered for the Page. Possible designs will be put on the Web for consideration. Jeff Gramlich and Tom Omer will manage this process.

Silvia Madeo raised the issue of cover styles for ATA monographs. The most recent one is different from previous ones and does not give credit to the ATA on the cover. She proposed changes be made in the handbook to set up rules for review of any publications involving the ATA.

8. Anna Fowler reported that the Nominations Committee was about at the end of its work. The next step after the committee finishes its deliberations will be for the President-Elect to report to the AAA who the nominees are.
9. Doug Shackelford reported for the Concerns of New Faculty Committee. He reported that the committee has received a lot of positive feedback from new faculty about the committee's activities. In particular, they have noted that they feel valued and welcomed into the organization. In a survey of other AAA sections, the committee found that the ATA's initiatives are more extensive than those of other sections. The committee plans to begin

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## RECORD TURNOUT FOR MID-YEAR MEETING IN NEW ORLEANS

A record number of people attended the 1996 ATA Mid-Year Meeting and JATA Conference held in New Orleans on February 23 and 24. There were 263 registered participants (including 24 students) and 35 guests. Sixty of the registrants were first-time attendees and 20 were new faculty members. The meeting was held in the elegant Royal Sonesta Hotel on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter.

The meeting began with a buffet luncheon providing an opportunity for members to mix and mingle with their colleagues. A new feature added this year was the introduction of new faculty members at this opening luncheon. This is one of many features added to the program to make our new tax faculty feel welcome and encourage their participation in the organization. Others included a session coordinated by the ATA Concerns of New Tax Faculty Committee entitled "Effective Career Management" on balancing research, teaching and service. Paper presentations by new tax faculty were also part of the program.

This was the second year for the JATA Conference—a Friday afternoon program focusing on a research theme. This year's theme was "Taxes and Business Strategy." All of the students and 62 percent of others attending the Mid-Year Meeting registered for the JATA Conference. Sandy Kramer, JATA Editor, coordinated the conference during which four papers were presented. These papers will be published in a supplemental issue of JATA.

The ATA Research Resources and Methodologies Committee presented a follow-up session on Saturday entitled "Future Research Directions in the Scholes-Wolfson Paradigm: The Year 2000 and Be-

yond." This panel addressed emerging issues and provided guidance to researchers interested in this approach, as well as addressing problems and pitfalls.

Another session of great interest to researchers, particularly to new faculty, was the editors panel. Terry Shevlin (incoming Editor of JATA) was joined by Helen Gernon (Editor of *Accounting Horizons*) and Tom Porcano (Editor of *Advances in Taxation*). This session offered an opportunity for those in attendance to ask



*A record turnout at the elegant Royal Sonesta Hotel, New Orleans.*

the editors questions. Some of the topics discussed were: the types of tax manuscripts most suitable for their respective journals, the things editors hate to see in a manuscript and the proper procedures to follow if an author has questions to discuss with an editor.

Several sessions were presented in keeping with the meeting theme of

"Moving to the Leading Edge: New Ideas and Technology for Tax Educators." A half-day session was presented by the Directors of Technology Practice for Ernst & Young, KPMG Peat Marwick and Price Waterhouse. This began with a panel discussion of the use of technology for tax compliance work, tax consulting work and tax training. This was followed by a demonstration of firm-developed software used in tax practice.

For the first time, email addresses were added to the list of registrants' names provided to all attendees to encourage more communication between members. To update those who use the Internet for only email, a session was presented on the Internet's many uses. Those attending "Beyond E-mail: Using the Internet for Tax Teaching and Research" received disks containing the presentation outlines, tax-related Web pages and communications software. This workshop included a tour of the ATA Home Page and other useful Web pages, as well as non-web Internet tools. Participants learned how they can use tax course syllabi, assignments and software on the Internet to find ideas for their own tax courses.

Another popular session was "Using Technology in Teaching Tax." Techniques for using spreadsheets and presentation software in class were demonstrated. Tips were provided on how to effectively use CD-ROM tax research materials in preparing students for the paperless tax office. Innovative use of videos was also explored as an effective pedagogy for tax instruction.

The ATA Curriculum Issues Committee pre-



*An opportunity to question the editors. Right to Left: Terry Shevlin, incoming JATA Editor (Standing); Helen Gernon, Accounting Horizons Editor; Tom Porcano, Advances in Taxation Editor.*

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## Record Turnout for Mid-Year Meeting in New Orleans

(Continued from page 4)

sented a panel on "Redesigning the Tax Curriculum: Meeting the Challenges of Certification and the Realities of Tax Practice." Several alternative proposals, from teaching tax as a part of an integrated undergraduate accounting curriculum, to offering a variety of specialized tax courses within the undergraduate accounting curriculum were explored. Panelists from the AICPA and from public accounting discussed the importance of making the undergraduate tax curriculum relevant to tax practice and preparing students to pass the taxation portion of the CPA exam.

Finally, a session on ethics focused on how we can prepare our tax students to recognize and deal with potential ethical issues that they may encounter in their careers. Handouts were provided to help participants incorporate the ethical dimension in their classes.

The featured luncheon speaker was Don Longano (see related article), who looked into his crystal ball and told us where he thought tax legislation was leading. Attendees commented that he was the best luncheon speaker we have ever had at one of our meetings.

Even the weather cooperated. We were blessed with beautiful weather during our evening reception under the stars on the tropical courtyard patio of the hotel. Comments on the meeting evaluations forms indicated that almost all of the attendees were very pleased with the location and many wished to return here in the future.

As in prior years, generous support from KPMG Peat Marwick helped make this meeting possible.

Don't miss next year's meeting in San Diego, February 28-March 1, 1997. Suggestions for the meeting should be sent to: Dick Weber, Michigan State University. The topic of the 1997 JATA Conference will be "Tax Policy Research." Papers should be submitted to the new JATA Editor, Terry Shevlin, no later than October 1, 1996. Your colleagues are looking forward to seeing you in San Diego.



The luncheon speaker at the ATA Mid-Year Meeting in New Orleans was Don Longano. Mr. Longano joined Price Waterhouse's Washington National Tax Services group in January 1995. Prior to joining Price Waterhouse, he served as Chief Tax Counsel to the Ways and Means Committee. During his tenure on the Ways and Means Committee staff (which he joined in 1985), Mr. Longano was responsible for a wide range of substantive tax issues in-

cluding international, corporate, partnership and insurance taxation. He also had extensive involvement with the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and all subsequent revenue measures through the 103<sup>rd</sup> Congress. Mr. Longano received his law degree from Georgetown and a Masters in Taxation from NYU. Comments from attendees on many of the meeting evaluations forms indicated that he was the best luncheon speaker we have ever had at one of our meetings.



**Don Longano**  
**Luncheon Speaker**



**Discussing the Program. Left to right: Debra Hill, President; Shirley Dennis-Escoffier, Vice President; Ed Outslay, President-Elect.**

## ARTHUR ANDERSEN FOURTH ANNUAL TAX CHALLENGE™

## VISIT WITH TAX CURRICULA AT AAA IN CHICAGO 8/96

On October 19, 1996 Arthur Andersen will host the Fifth Annual Tax Challenge™. This event is a nationwide collegiate competition that provides graduate and undergraduate students exposure to real-world tax consulting in a team-oriented approach to problem solving. Each institution is permitted to send a team of four students to compete in one of nine regional sites in separate graduate and undergraduate divisions. During the competition, teams evaluate a hypothetical client's tax profile based on past, current and future tax data. The case involves federal tax issues confronting an individual or family with their own business, including compensation matters, investments, itemized deductions, and related issues that affect the taxpayer's filing status and tax profile. Each team must prepare a written report evaluating the client's situation and making tax planning recommendations. The only reference materials available to the students during the competition are the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury Regulations, which are supplied by CCH for use during the competition.

The top ten teams in each division advance to the National Competition

November 22-24 held at the Arthur Andersen Center for Professional Education in St. Charles, Illinois. Finalist teams compete for the scholarship awards, provided by the Andersen Foundation. The following donations are made to a school's designated scholarship fund:

First Place:	\$20,000
Second Place:	10,000
Third Place:	5,000
Finalists:	1,500

New this year, the next ten nonqualifying teams in each division will receive a \$500 Regional Honorable Mention scholarship.

Arthur Andersen, through its collaboration with West Publishing, has also made prior-year Tax Challenge cases and solutions available to students and faculty as a supplement to *West's Federal Taxation*, the most widely used tax textbook in the country.

For more information on the Fifth Annual Tax Challenge™, please contact Cheryl Chaddock at  
(708) 444-5286,  
FAX (708) 584-5581, or  
Internet address  
cchaddoc@aaped.com.

The ATA Curriculum Issues Committee invites you to meet and discuss tax courses at the 1996 AAA Meeting (8/96 in Chicago). The committee is planning small group discussions by course or topic. Please bring 25-30 copies of syllabi for those courses you wish to discuss.

The idea for these curricula discussions was inspired by: (1) presentations at the 1996 Mid-Year Meeting (2/96 in New Orleans); and (2) by tax faculty who have generously shared syllabi in the past.

For further information, contact Cherie O'Neil, Curriculum Issues Committee Chair, University of South Florida

(IN%"coneil@bsn01.bsn.usf.edu").

### ANNOUNCEMENT

D. Larry Crumbley, the Shelton Taxation Professor at Texas A&M University, has established a professorship in honor of his parents at Louisiana State University.

### Minutes of the ATA Board of Trustees Mid-Year Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

tracking tax doctoral students, making them aware of the ATA and its activities and encourage membership.

10. Ken Orbach reported on the Tax Research Policy Oversight Committee's activities. The subcommittee on Complexity Reduction has written a proposal for Schedule C simplification. Stu Karlinsky is writing up a proposal on the Corporate Alternative Minimum Tax and working on a tax reform proposal. The Flow-Through Subcommittee has written a comment on taxation of distributions of marketable securities. The Family Tax Policy Subcommittee plans to issue a re-

sponse to estate and gift tax proposals to exclude a significant dollar amount of the value of closely-held businesses and to develop a list of personal financial planning software to be used for instruction.

Ken then raised for discussion whether to continue the number of tax policy subcommittees we have. He reported a low level of interest in some committees. Ed Outslay will review and reevaluate the structure of this committee.

11. Fran Ayres reported for the Research Resources and Methodologies Committee. The committee will not sponsor a separate section at the annual meeting this year. Doug Shackelford is putting together a Continuing

Education program for that meeting. Audiotapes of this session will be made available.

12. Ed Outslay and Dick Weber reported on the Mid-Year Meeting to be held in San Diego February 28-March 1. The hotel is the Hilton-Mission Bay. The room rate is \$140 a night. It is only five minutes away from the airport. Shirley Dennis-Escoffier has put more questions on the evaluation form to try to get better advance indication of how many expect to attend and what nights they will need rooms. We need to make plans now for 1999 so that we can plan far enough in advance to get reasonable rates and choices of meeting sites.
13. Debra Hill adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**International Accounting Research Conference**  
Co-Sponsored by  
**The American Accounting Association and the**  
**KPMG Peat Marwick Foundation**

The American Accounting Association and the KPMG Peat Marwick Foundation are co-sponsoring a second conference on research addressing international accounting issues. The conference will be held at KPMG Peat Marwick's Quality Institute in Montvale, New Jersey, U.S.A. on Friday and Saturday, March 28-29, 1997. The conference agenda will include presentation and discussion of five competitively chosen research papers and a panel discussion of a current topic in international financial reporting.

Papers are invited in all areas of international accounting, including international auditing, tax, financial reporting and managerial accounting. Papers using all research approaches, including analytical, experimental, field study and archival-empirical approaches, will be considered. The rigor and relevance of the research will be the main criteria in selecting papers for the conference. While copies of all working papers accepted for the conference will be mailed to registrants, no formal proceedings will be published. Papers must be written in English, and must not be under consideration for publication or accepted for publication. Manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the paper only, and authors should follow the "Instructions

to Authors" given in *The Accounting Review* for formatting. Please mail (do not fax) three copies of each paper for review. Only completed manuscripts will be accepted for review; please do not submit abstracts. All papers will be blind reviewed by two reviewers. All travel, lodging and meal expenses for one author of each accepted paper will be reimbursed through the sponsorship of the KPMG Peat Marwick Foundation.

To be considered, papers must be received (not postmarked) by October 15, 1996. Papers received after this date will not be considered. Authors will be notified of the decision on their papers by January 15, 1997. Send papers to:

Professor Gary K. Meek  
School of Accounting  
College of Business Administration  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, OK 74078-0555

Attendance is open to experienced international accounting researchers; qualified accounting researchers who have little or no experience with international accounting; non-academics with international accounting research interests; and selected doctoral students. Information about registration and attendance will be available at a later date.



**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Research Conference on Ethics and Economic Behavior in  
Accounting and Taxation**

The University of Oklahoma Center for Research in Accounting in cooperation with the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy* is sponsoring a conference dealing with economic aspects of ethics in accounting and taxation. The conference dates are April 4 and 5, 1997 and papers are to be submitted by August 31, 1996.

Submitted papers will be considered simultaneous submissions to the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*. For more information regarding submission guidelines and suggested topics, see the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, 15 (1), Spring 1996 issue or contact Frances Ayres or Dipankar Ghosh at the University of Oklahoma (405) 325-4221.

**NOMINATIONS FOR  
1996-97 ATA OFFICES**

The Nominations Committee of ATA is pleased to nominate the following individuals as officers, trustees and members of the publications committee for the 1996-97 ATA fiscal year. The nominees for each office is as follows:

**President-Elect**

Sandra Kramer (University of Florida).

**Vice President**

Richard Weber (Michigan State University).

**Vice President-Elect**

Frances Ayres (University of Oklahoma).

**Secretary**

Jeffrey Gremlich (University of Hawaii, Manoa).

**Treasurer**

Robert Gardner (Brigham Young University).

**Trustees**

Mark Higgins (University of Rhode Island).

Dave Stewart (Brigham Young University).

Sanjay Gupta (Arizona State University).

Steve Limberg (University of Texas at Austin).\*

**Publications Board**

John Robinson (University of Texas at Austin).

Robert Trezavant (University of Southern California).

\* To fill the remaining term of the position vacated by Frances Ayres.

The nominations committee thanks the many people who made nominations.

The members of the Nominations Committee were Anna Fowler (chair), Barry Arlinghaus, Silvia Madeo, Daniel Murphy and Caroline Strobel.

## ATA ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO

The ATA Annual Meeting Program Committee would like to invite you to attend the Annual Meeting in Chicago from August 14-17, 1996. We would like to thank all the individuals who submitted manuscripts for this year's meeting. The program includes four paper sessions and two forum sessions. The ATA luncheon will be Thursday, August 15 at 12:00. The following is the schedule of events planned for the 1995 meeting.

### SESSION 1

#### DECISION MAKING AND TAX PROFESSIONALS

Thursday 2:15 P.M.-3:45 P.M.

**Moderator: Katherine A. Krawczyk** (North Carolina State University)

New evidence on participation in individual retirement accounts (IRAs)

Sanjay Gupta	Arizona State University
Peter J. Frischmann	University of Wisconsin at Madison
Gary J. Weber	Gonzaega University

A comparison of tax professionals' individual and group decisions when resolving ambiguous tax questions

Roby B. Sawyers	North Carolina State University
Gregory A. Carnes	Northern Illinois University
Gordon B. Harwood	Georgia State University

Closed versus open fact situations: The effects of rule generality on tax professionals' reporting recommendations

Brian Spilker	Brigham Young University
Ronald G. Worsham	Brigham Young University

### SESSION 2

#### TAXES AND FINANCING DECISIONS

Friday 10:15 A.M.-11:45 A.M.

**Moderator: Kaye J. Newberry** (James Madison University)

An empirical analysis of divestiture methods: Sales vs spinoffs

Philip G. Berger	University of Pennsylvania
Andrew W. Alford	University of Pennsylvania

Capital restructuring and accounting compliance costs: The case of publicly traded partnerships

Thomas Omer	Northeastern University
Marjorie K. Shelley	Northeastern University
J.J. Atwood	University of Missouri-Columbia

State taxes and the financing strategies of federal savings & loans

Christopher H. Stinson	University of Texas at Austin
Susan L. Porter	University of Texas at Austin

### SESSION 3

#### TAX POLICY ISSUES

Friday 2:15 P.M.-3:45 P.M.

**Moderator: Terry L. Crain** (University of Oklahoma)

Determination of income mobility using tax return data

Amy Dunbar	University of Iowa
James Groff	University of Texas at San Antonio

Valuation of companies for the estate and gift tax: Evidence of minority discounts from publicly traded companies

Roger Graham	Oregon State University
Craig Lefanowicz	Michigan State University

Compliance implications of asymmetric tax treatment: Direct subsidies versus tax deductions

Martha Wartick	University of Missouri at St. Louis
Cynthia C. Vines	University of Arizona

### SESSION 4

#### COMPENSATION PLANNING

Saturday 4:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M.

**Moderator: Ananth Seetharaman** (Saint Louis University)

The choice of incentive stock options vs. nonqualified stock options: A marginal tax rate perspective

Jeffrey R. Austin	University of Oklahoma
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The use of after-tax or before-tax income as a measure of performance for compensation plans

Daryl M. Guffey	East Carolina University
Gregory A. Carnes	Northern Illinois University

Tax planning and the exercise of employee stock options

Steven Huddart	Duke University
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### FORUM SESSION 1

Saturday 10:15 A.M.-11:45 A.M.

Foreign tax credit limitations, profitability, and R&D spending: Effects of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 on the competitiveness of U.S.-based multinational firms

Jan J. Barton	University of Alabama
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Tax payment effects: Using historical evidence of tax-based January effect to identify a new seasonal

A. J. Cataldo	North Carolina A&T State University
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Optimality in retirement funding decisions: A reconsideration using probabilistic analysis

Paul Goldwater	University of Central Florida
Tim Fogarty	Case Western Reserve University
Patricia Lopez	Valencia Community College

Public support for equity based cigarette taxes and the "market for excuses"

Seth Hammer	Towson State University
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### FORUM SESSION 2

Saturday 2:15 P.M.-3:45 P.M.

Cancellation of executive stock options: Tax and accounting income considerations

Amin Mawani	University of British Columbia
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To pay or to delay: A cross country analysis of incentives to delay payment of tax and the effect on the value of debt, equity and the government's claim

Suzanne Paquette	Universite Laval
Glenn D. Feltham	Wilfrid Laurier University

The relevance of financial accounting measures of corporate income tax liabilities

Richard Sansing	Yale University
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Mandatorily redeemable preferred stock and liquid yield options notes: A comparison of marginal tax rates and debt level

Dan L. Schisler	East Carolina University
Douglas K. Schneider	East Carolina University



## NON-WEB USES OF THE INTERNET

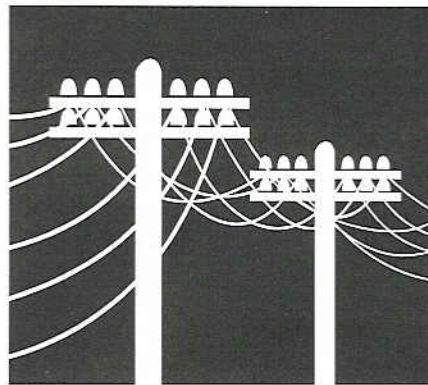
Alan Macnaughton, University of Waterloo

This article covers the highlights of a talk I gave at the ATA mid-year meeting in February on the research and teaching uses of the parts of the Internet that are outside the World Wide Web: Lexis/Nexis, research awareness services, electronic mailing lists and new developments in e-mail. For my full presentation and those of Tom Omer and Will Yancey on tax-related Web sites, see the ATA Home Page:

<http://omer.cba.neu.edu:8001/ata>.

The new development in Lexis/Nexis is the rapid expansion into academic journals. Although Lexis/Nexis continues to cover mostly legal materials and newspapers and magazines, more and more journals are coming on board. For tax in particular, you will find: *National Tax Journal*; *Public Finance Quarterly*; *Tax Executive*; *Tax Law Review*; *American Journal of Tax Policy*; *Tax Notes*; etc. In business and economics, you will find: *NBER Reporter*; *Journal of Business*; *Journal of Finance*; *Journal of Financial Research*; *Journal of Financial Economics*; *Southern Economic Journal*; *Economic Inquiry*; etc. Although it is much easier to read these journals by getting them from the library, the benefit of Lexis/Nexis is that you can run a full-text search and thereby find articles that you didn't know existed. For example, you could search for articles mentioning the phrase "tax arbitrage," the author "Porcano," or the book "*Taxes and Business Strategy*."

Research awareness services are becoming popular. In particular, the *Journal of Accounting Abstracts* will email to you the titles and abstracts of new research papers which are either in discussion paper form or accepted by leading accounting journals. The full paper can then be requested from the author. There will ultimately be a charge, but for the moment this service is free. Similar services, which generally involve a small charge, exist for financial economics, nontraditional legal research and many fields of economics (includ-



ing public economics). Contact the Social Science Research Network through their Web site: <http://www.SSRN.Con/>. A different type of research awareness service is Uncover Reveal, whose Web site is <http://wally.isc.rit.edu/pubs/start/wml/car1.html>. For \$20 annually, this service will email to you the contents page of 25 journals of your choice as they are received by the University of Colorado library system. Uncover Reveal will also fax you articles which you need fast, although if you can wait you can save money by using your own university's interlibrary loan service.

Another way to connect far-flung tax professors is electronic mailing lists. One which had its origins in the ATA Research Resources and Methodologies Committee is arax-1, which you can subscribe to by sending the email message "subscribe atax-1 your name, your institution" (fill in the blanks, and leave out the quotation marks) to [listproc@scu.edu.au](mailto:listproc@scu.edu.au). This is a good list for posting queries about nonlegal research and sharing information about new publications. Another list which has more of a legal and teaching flavour is a taxprof-1, which was set up originally for tax professors in law schools. To subscribe, send the email message "subscribe taxprof-1 your name, your institution" (again, fill in the blanks and leave out the quotation marks) to [listproc@taft.law.uc.edu](mailto:listproc@taft.law.uc.edu).

By far the most important use of the Internet, however, is email. Most

people use email just to send short notes to colleagues within their own university and outside. However, if both you and your intended recipient have the right email software, you can email back and forth spreadsheets or documents created using word processors. This is great for working with coauthors in different cities or even just for transferring documents between your home computer and the computer at work. The most popular email software is Eudora Light, which is available from many university computer support departments or can be downloaded for free from the Web site <http://www.qualcomm.com>. A 150-page manual can be downloaded. Even with the manual, configuring this software to work on your computer may require some assistance since you generally have to obtain a Unix account at your university (although you don't have to know any Unix to use the software).

If you are really into email, you probably should go farther and buy the commercial version, Eudora Pro (call 1-800-2-EUDORA). Besides spell-checking, it provides MAPI support. This allows you to email from within Word or WordPerfect by just clicking on "Send" and supplying the e-mail address of the recipient. Also, if you are in Eudora and have received mail with a document attached, a simple mouse click will bring up the word processing program with the document displayed. Yet another nice feature is the ability to "filter" email into separate mailboxes. Thus, if you subscribe to a mailing list which sends you several items a day, you can have those messages moved aside to look at when you have time.

Other excellent email programs are Pegasus Mail and E-mail Connection (for details, see the ATA home page as described above). The choice of program is not important; the main thing is that you get one of these programs and begin to use the potential of email to the fullest.