



Newsletter Editor: Melvin A. Lamboy-Ruiz

# DIVERSITY SECTION NEWSLETTER FALL 2016

## Section Breakfast at Annual Meeting in NYC

Our annual Section Breakfast & Business Meeting was held on Wednesday, August 10 at 6:45am during the last day of the 2016 AAA Annual Meeting in New York City. The Section president Evelyn McDowell welcomed everyone and shared 2015-2016 highlights of the Section.

Diversity Section committee chairs provided their respective reports. Mark Dawkins updated us about the AAA's discussion of expanding section journals, and the AAA's relatively new policy of featuring contested elections (as opposed to uncontested elections) was a subject of debate. Craig Sisneros reported about the new AAA section for accounting historians. The Treasurer, Robert Marley, presented the Section's annual financial report. Helen Brown-Liburd, Research Coordinator, discussed issues pertaining to Section research submissions. Mid-Year Coordinators, Stephanie Mason and Derek Barr, provided the highlights from last year's mid-year meeting. Last year, a record number of research submissions were received.

The President recognized donors and member service by presenting awards of appreciation. (See photos of award recipients on the right.) The Section welcomed the slate of officers for the coming year. The newly elected Section President Maria Caban-Garcia gave her acceptance speech and provided an overview of the policies and projects she aims to address over the coming year.

## We had a well-attended Breakfast Meeting!



[Volume 14, Issue 1]



Above: Stephanie Mason and Dereck Barr-Pulliam receiving the 2015-2016 Service Award. Below: Recipients of 2015-2016 Appreciation Awards.



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Diversity Section of the American  
Accounting Association (AAA)



*Maria T. Cabán-García, Section President*

## Letter from the Section President

Greetings!

I am very honored to serve as the 2016-2017 President of the Diversity Section of the American Accounting Association. As the incoming president of the Section, my agenda includes: promoting more sustainable fund-raising activities to support conference travel scholarships for doctoral students; increasing membership communications by publishing regular newsletters; working with the membership committee to develop enrollment and engagement strategies of new and current members; and improving and documenting some of the internal processes that enhance the efficiency our operations. I also oversee our section's two major annual events. The first event is "Diversity Section Midyear Meeting." The second major event is our section's breakfast and a series of dedicated sessions during the AAA annual meeting.

So far, we have formalized our fundraising activities for doctoral travel scholarships by scheduling a *Pay It Forward Fundraising Campaign* that will run from February to April

*"We have also approved a reduction to the Midyear Meeting students' registration fee to \$50 per student. Our Board also approved an increase in travel scholarships to \$750 per student."*

### Council Meeting Update

Dahlia Robinson, our representative to the AAA Council, attended the November 5<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina in San Diego, CA. Here are some highlights from the minutes:

- The 2016 Annual Meeting yielded record attendance (5% increase).
- The Section website redesigns are all live.
- The 2017 Annual Meeting Submission website opened.
- The second "Accounting IS Big Data" Conference was a success and the third is scheduled for next year in Brooklyn, NY.
- AAA members will be able to join the newest Section – the Academy of Accounting Historians – starting in 2017.



*Dahlia M. Robinson, Council Representative, and Mark Dawkins, the AAA Council Chair.*

each year. The campaign will ensure that the section can provide as many travel scholarships as possible. We are also working with the AAA staff to simplify the donation process by providing a link where you can automatically make your contributions and obtain a receipt. Hopefully, we will also continue enjoying the generous institutional support from the AICPA, BDO, and the University of Louisville to complement our travel scholarship funds.

Our membership committee is working diligently to define its role and determine the best way to recruit doctoral students, as well as engage current members. The PhD Project Doctoral Students Association (ADSA) recently agreed to have one of our members give a short presentation to doctoral students during their annual meeting. During the first half of the academic year I worked closely with our officers and the AAA staff to revamp our website. We ensured that outdated content was properly archived. The new website will give us more flexibility to manage the content and information available to our members.

In terms of internal processes, we are working on completing a preliminary operations manual by the end of next summer that will more clearly define the role of our officers and committees. As you will read in detail in this newsletter, last October we had a very successful Midyear Meeting. We would like to thank Stephani and Dereck for their work, the Awards Committee for evaluating our scholarship applications and the best paper award, KPMG and KPMG Foundation for their sponsorship, and our speakers and members for their participation. Looking forward, the Section is discussing a proposal to coordinate with one of the AAA's journals to publish a special issue on diversity topics. Please stay tuned on the progress of this initiative as it will require your full involvement and cooperation.

As the fall semester comes to an end I hope that you are preparing your diversity related manuscripts and panels for submission to the 2017 Annual Meeting in San Diego. Please include the Diversity Section breakfast in your plans for the AAA annual meeting.

I wish you all a very happy holiday season and a very productive spring semester!

*Maria T. Cabán-García*

University of South Florida St. Petersburg



Above: Kimberly Ellison-Taylor, chairman of the AICPA. Left in clockwise order: Jeannette Faber (NASBA), Teresa Polley (FAF), Victor Lorenzo (KPMG), Petra Robinson (Louisiana State University) Mark Dawkins (AAA Council Chair), and Bette Kozlowski (KPMG Faculty Relations).

## 12th Section Midyear Meeting in Florida

The Diversity section midyear meeting last October 28-30 in Coral Gables, FL was a big success! We are very grateful for the support KPMG LLP and the KPMG Foundation always provide to our midyear meeting. Attendance was quite high with more than 50 attendees. We enjoyed 26 paper presentations, four doctoral students "Road Paper Pitches" and the presence of seven distinguished speakers from different professional organizations. Presentation topics included diversity issues, as well as many other accounting research topics.

Our speaker roster included:

- Friday - Jeannette Faber from NASBA, and Teresa S. Polley, President and CEO of Financial Accounting Foundation (FAF)
- Saturday - Bette Kozlowski, KPMG National Director Faculty Relations and University Recruiting, and Victor M. Lorenzo, Lunch sponsored by KPMG
- Sunday - Kimberly Ellison-Taylor, chairman of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), and Petra A. Robinson from Louisiana State University.

The Section wants to thank all participants for making the 2016 meeting such an excellent conference. Special thanks to the conference co-chairs Stephani and Dereck for doing such an excellent job! Visit the meeting online program for more details at <http://aaahq.org/Meetings/2016/Diversity-Section-Meeting/Program>.

## Doctoral Road Paper Pitches Session

The conference brought back this session due to the value our section places on the professional development of doctoral students. We had four doctoral candidates' presentations by Brent A. Garza (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Chevonne Alston (The University of Mississippi), Wilson Rose (Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey), and Michelle Harding (The University of Tennessee).

## Best Paper and Travel Awards

The Best Paper Award was given to Paul E. Madsen, University of Florida for his paper titled "University-Level Recruiting and Black Underrepresentation in the Auditing Profession", co-authored with Andrew Bird (Carnegie Mellon University), Chan Li (University of Pittsburgh), and Thomas Ruchti (Carnegie Mellon University).



This year the Section awarded five Doctoral Travel Scholarships to: Chevonne Herring (University of Mississippi), Michelle K. Harding (University of Tennessee), Ranier R. Robinson (University of Alabama), Stephanie Ross (University of Texas El Paso), and Wilson Rose (Rutgers, State University of New Jersey).

We are very appreciative of the sponsorship provided by the AICPA, BDO, the University of Louisville School of Accountancy, and the Diversity Section members' Pay It Forward Fund which made these awards possible.

FALL 2016 EDITION

For this and past editions of the section newsletters, visit our newsletter page at <http://aaahq.org/DIV/Newsletters>



Melvin A. Lamboy-Ruiz, Newsletter Editor, and Norma R. Montague, 2018 Midyear Meeting Co-Chair.

Disclaimer: Section members' promotions and accomplishments will be compiled and published in the next edition. Stay tuned for our survey email.

Next AAA Annual Meeting in San Diego

We hope you are preparing your diversity related manuscripts and panel ideas for submission to the 2017 AAA Annual Meeting. The deadline to submit is 11:59 pm EST on Wednesday, January 11, 2017. Also, we will be needing reviewers and moderators, so be sure to volunteer for the annual meeting.



Save the date for the 13<sup>th</sup> Section Meeting!

The 2017 Diversity Section Meeting will be held on November 3-5, 2017, at Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans, LA. Enter the date on your calendar and stay tuned for the Section Meeting Call-For-Papers to be released in Summer 2017. Look for the following icons on the Section website to stay informed about important dates:

Midyear Meeting



Call for Papers



2016 – 2017 Diversity Section Officers



Officers

- President
- Past President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Council Representative

Volunteer Name

- Maria T. Caban-Garcia
- Evelyn A. McDowell
- Nicole R. McCoy
- Robert Marley
- Mary C. Cleaveland
- Dahlia M. Robinson

Volunteer Affiliation

- University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- Rider University
- North Carolina Central University
- University of Tampa
- Kennesaw State University
- University of South Florida Tampa

Editors

- Newsletter Editor
- Webmaster Liaison

- Melvin A. Lamboy-Ruiz
- Carlos E. Jimenez Angueira

- Iowa State University
- University of South Florida-Sarasota Manatee

Committee Chairpersons

- 2017 Annual Meeting Liaison
- 2017 Midyear Meeting Co-Chair
- 2017 Midyear Meeting Co-Chair
- 2018 Midyear Meeting Co-Chair
- 2018 Midyear Meeting Co-Chair
- Membership Committee
- Awards Committee

- Royce D. Burnett
- Aisha G. Meeks
- Norma R. Montague
- Aisha G. Meeks
- Norma R. Montague
- Rosemond Desir
- Raymond J. Elson

- Southern Illinois University
- Dalton State University
- Wake Forest University
- Dalton State University
- Wake Forest University
- University of St. Thomas
- Valdosta State University

Regional Coordinators

- Mid-Atlantic
- Midwest
- Northeast
- Ohio
- Southeast
- Southwest
- Western

- Helen L. Brown-Liburd
- Derek D. Barr-Pulliam
- Brigitte W. Muehlmann
- Dara M. Marshall
- Elicia Cowins
- Margaret M. Tanner
- Craig A. Sisneros

- Rutgers University
- University of Wisconsin
- Suffolk University
- Miami University
- Washington & Lee University
- University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
- University of Colorado

Redesigned Website!

The AAA redesigned all section websites in 2016.



Find us on the Web: <http://aaahq.org/div>