By: Scott Pepmeyer

On September 10th, 2014, Beta Alpha Psi hosted its annual Meet the Firms career fair. Meet the Firms allows WIU accounting and finance students the opportunity to meet face to face with potential employers. This year, we combined our Meet the Firms event with Supply Chain Management Day. A greater number of firms attended the event because of this combination. The event was held in the MAC Gym at the Spencer Recreation Center. Total attendance was 64 accounting and finance students. A social was held following the Meet the Firms event.

2014 Firms in Attendance:
Becker Professional Review
Caterpillar, Inc.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
Northwestern Mutual
Primerica
Gray Hunter Stenn LLP
Illinois Office of the Auditor General
Illinois CPA Society
John Deere
McGladrey LLP
Accenture
Dot Foods, Inc.
HNI Corporation
GROWMARK
Central States Pension Funds
CPA Associates PC
Social Security Administration
CPA Excel*
Sikich LLP*

*Could not attend due to weather delays
CAT Boot Camp

By: Andrew Brach

This semester marks the fifth semi-annual Caterpillar Boot Camp. Representatives from Caterpillar provided real-world problems and solutions to enhance students understanding of Excel. Students were shown how to use pivot tables, vlookup, and various shortcuts to more efficiently process data. The majority of students return from their internships saying that they wish that they had more experience with Excel. The Boot Camp provides students with a valuable chance to learn these skills. In addition, Caterpillar provided a final problem without a stated solution. This allowed students to attempt to solve a problem that did not have a definitive answer. Similarly to solving a problem in a workplace setting. BAP would like to thank Caterpillar for hosting this event again and look forward to continuing it into the future.

Giving Back to the Community

By: Scott Pepmeyer

Throughout the semester, Beta Alpha Psi participated in a variety of different charity events. This year BAP registered a team to play in the Big Pink Volleyball tournament, winning the first match and losing a close game in the second round. The Big Pink Volleyball tournament raises money that is donated to Peoria Memorial Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and McDonough District Hospital’s Mammogram and Other Cancer Screenings Program. October 2014, BAP members and accounting faculty joined other runners/walkers in the 3rd Annual Fallen Soldiers 5k charity event. This event is held in the honor of two WIU alumni who were killed in the line of duty. The proceeds from the Fallen Soldiers 5k event go into the WIU Fallen Soldier’s Scholarship Fund, which supports veterans and service members currently enrolled at Western. BAP and the Department of Accounting and Finance sponsored the 21st annual Angel Tree Program. The Angel Tree Program lifts the spirits of foster care children and teenagers in McDonough, Fulton, Warren, Henderson, and Hancock counties by providing holiday gifts and necessities. The name, age, gender, size, and “wish list” of each child is given to BAP from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).
Social Events

By: Scott Pepmeyer

This semester Beta Alpha Psi held two social events. On September 24, BAP members met at Everly Park to enjoy grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Following the cookout BAP members played a few games of bags. BAP held its second social event of the semester on October 18, following the Fallen Soldier 5k walk/run. The second social consisted of tail-gating before the Fighting Leathernecks football team played against Illinois State.

Cooking out at Everly Park

Initiation

By: Peter Trainor

Initiation and our final get together of the semester was on Thursday, December 4th. This semester, we inducted four new members. Hannah Elting and Erin Hutchins received their bachelor’s degrees in accounting and Nick Andress received his master’s degree in accounting. Members and faculty competed in eight different games and dinner was held at Vitale’s Restaurant to celebrate the end of the semester.

BAP Initiation

Spring New Members:
Jessie Albrecht
Candace Williams
Ryan Laverdiere
Olicia Wynter

New Officers:
Erin Hutchins: Reporting Administrator
Peter Trainor: Recording Administrator
Leadership Activities

By: Andrew Brach

On November 5, BAP members tested their team skills through a day of activities. BAP members spent the day at Horn Field Campus participating in multiple leadership and teambuilding activities. The activities included lowering a Hula-Hoop to the ground, balancing a platform on a log, being lead through a maze, and scaling a wall. Of course, each of these activities had extra challenges associated with them. For example, each member was required to climb on the platform without causing the platform to touch the ground until everyone was balanced on top. Everyone worked towards a common goal. The solution to each challenge was provided by different BAP members. Additionally, members were forced to think outside of the box, a difficult task for any accountant!

Our Presenters

This semester, once again, we were able to bring in great firms to present on various aspects of accounting. We thank each of these presenters for their time and insight.

Presentations this semester were:
- Dr. Jim Kenny: “Marketing Yourself: the Realities of Job Hunting and Interviewing in the Social Media Age”
- Caterpillar: “Professionalism in the Workplace”
- Dr. Gregg Woodruff: Accounting Internship Panel
- Kristin Datillo from Becker: “CPA Simulation”
- ILCPAS: “Accounting Jeopardy”
- Dr. Soon Suk Yoon: “International Perspectives on Accounting”

McGladrey: “Tips and Tricks for Resume Writing and Preparing for Interviews”

Thank you again for your time and support.

If you are interested in presenting at a BAP meeting please contact Hannah Elting, BAP Vice President, at: HE-Elting@wiu.edu
The Western Illinois University chapter of Beta Alpha Psi would like to invite you to the *eighth annual* Beta Alpha Psi Golf Outing to be held on **May 8, 2015**. The 18 hole four person scramble will be held at WIU’s Harry Mussatto Golf Course located at 1215 Tower Road, Macomb, IL. The practice green and driving range will open at 10:00 AM with a shotgun start at 11:00 AM.

Prizes will be awarded for the top three team finishes. In addition, there will be contests for the longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt. Other things you should know…

1. Lunch will be provided.
2. Other snacks will be available for purchase at the clubhouse.
3. Course beverages will be available on a cash basis.
4. Complimentary range balls are available on the driving range beginning at 10:00 AM.

Hole sponsorships are available for $100 per hole.

To help us properly plan for this event, please register for the event online at [www.wiu.edu/bap](http://www.wiu.edu/bap) and go to the golf registration link or submit the paper form below by April 24th.

**Return Forms to:**

Beta Alpha Psi
431 Stipes Hall
1 University Circle
Macomb, IL  61455

For additional information please contact:
Peter Trainor at P-Trainor@wiu.edu or Cheryl Westen at CA-Westen@wiu.edu
(309) 298-1152

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**WIU Beta Alpha Psi Golf Outing Registration Form**

Please make checks payable to Beta Alpha Psi and return forms before April 24, 2015.

- I would like to participate in the scramble with an individual registration for $55 (WIU Student $35).
  
  Name ___________________________________________      Avg. Score _______________

- I would like to register the following participants to be placed on the same team and have enclosed $55 per player (WIU Student $35).
  
  Player 2 ___________________________________________ Avg. Score _______________
  Player 3 ___________________________________________ Avg. Score _______________
  Player 4 ___________________________________________ Avg. Score _______________

My business is interested in sponsoring a hole for $100. Please contact me at the following phone number:

- (______)_______________________ and email address ____________________________