Regional Meeting

By: Scott Pepmeyer

Beta Alpha Psi hosted its Midwest Regional Meeting this year on March 28-29 in Indianapolis, IN. Our chapter presented in the strategic planning segment of Best Practices competition. Wil Lunt, Kacey Swainey, and Kelsey Korsmeyer did an amazing job with the presentation and received first place! Winning first place allowed them to compete again at the BAP national meeting and our chapter received $500! Six other BAP members attended the meeting including Jennifer Symmonds, Malia Pryor, Andrew Brach, Dayna Heaton, Brittany Troline, and Scott Pepmeyer. The BAP regional meeting gives attendees great insight into what other chapters are doing well and how to implement these activities into their own chapter. It is a wonderful networking experience getting to meet people from around the Midwest who will be working in the same field. The meeting also offers our members the chance to learn more about the accounting profession and its many career opportunities.

Wil Lunt, Kelsey Korsmeyer and Kacey Swainey, winners of Best Practices, Strategic Planning

Save The Date!
Golf Outing

Friday
May 8th, 2015

Like us on Facebook. Search for Beta Alpha Psi Western Illinois University
By: Scott Pepmeyer
Beta Alpha Psi hosted its annual meeting this August in Atlanta, Georgia. After winning first place in the Regional Meetings Best Practices competition, Wil Lunt, Kacey Swainey, and Kelsey Korsmeyer returned to do their presentation at the national meeting. Jennifer Symmonds was selected to present in this year’s Project Run With It competition sponsored by Moss-Adams LLP. Jennifer teamed up with three students from different parts of the country to give recommendations that will help Jewish Family Career Services. Our chapter participated in this year’s KPMG Gold Challenge competition and was one of only 15 chapters awarded the Gold Chapter designation. In addition, Cheryl Westen took home the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award sponsored by McGladrey and was recognized at the American Accounting Association’s annual meeting for her achievements.

By: Joseph Goetz
Beta Alpha Psi, in partnership with the Illinois CPA Society and the WIU Accounting and Finance Department was pleased to host 52 students from 6 local high schools on April 11, 2014 for the annual Accounting Challenge. Each year, this event helps students learn about accounting as a college major and as a career choice. Participants demonstrated their accounting knowledge by taking an exam, and the top scorers received scholarships to be applied towards an accounting major at WIU. Prior to the exam, BAP members talked to the students about college life at WIU and about majoring in accounting. Team instructors participated in an education round table led by Dr. Woodruff, while the students took the exam. The event ended with students playing “Accounting Jeopardy” for fun prizes. Trophies and scholarships were awarded to the highest exam scores. Thank you to everyone who made this years’ Accounting Challenge a great success!
CAT Boot Camp for Excel Training

For the third consecutive semester, representatives from Caterpillar hosted an “Excel Boot Camp”. Students were given an opportunity during the open house to advance their Excel skills utilizing a real-life data set. Caterpillar representatives taught skills in pivot tables, using formulas, and much more in order to showcase the day to day experiences they have with Excel. BAP member, Malia Pryor said she was “grateful” for the skills that she learned at the CAT Bootcamp for Excel because they really helped her during her summer internship at Caterpillar. Students were able to hear feedback from professionals and student interns on the importance of applying their Excel skills in the workplace. BAP would like to thank everyone from Caterpillar for graciously taking time out of their day to enhance our students’ excel skills.

CAT Representatives in Attendance:
Matt Baier
Martha Zimmerman
Hannah Elting
Erin Hutchins
Tara Brownlow
Jake Alumbaugh

By: Tracy Juske

Initiation

Our BAP chapter’s initiation was held this spring semester on April 30. Following the initiation, there was a photo scavenger hunt throughout Stipes Hall with faculty and BAP members. Following the initiation was a dinner at Aurelio’s.

Spring 2014 New Members:
Joseph Goetz
Dayna Heaton
Tracy Juske
Claire Costello
Malia Pryor
Yasser Salamah
Brittany Troline
Zhulin Wang

Spring 2014 Newly Elected Officers:
Jennifer Symmonds: President
Hannah Elting: Vice-President of Programs
Tracy Juske: Recording Administrator
Malia Pryor: Treasurer
Scott Pepmeyer: Director of Alumni Relations
Andrew Brach: Leadership Chair
Brittany Troline: Social Chair
Leadership/Social Chairs

By: Scott Pepmeyer

In Spring 2014, our chapter added social and leadership chairs. The leadership chair was Wil Lunt and the social chair was Sara Winter. These chairs, along with their committee, hosted events that helped bring about better cohesiveness between members and candidates. A bowling social was held at Diggers College City Bowling. Before this event, candidates met with current members to do a Q&A session, so they could get to know each other better. At the bowling social, the candidates and members introduced each other to the group using what they had learned during their Q&A sessions. Leadership activities were added to meetings, including talking to the group about their own definition of what is a leader, and who they thought a great leader was in their lives. Another event was a fake “mine field” event which involved partners having to guide their blindfolded teammate through a fake mine field using only their voice.

Golf Outing

By: Quinten Frankel

On May 2, 2014, Beta Alpha Psi hosted its seventh-annual golf outing at Harry Mussato Golf Course. Students were paired with each other, firm representatives, faculty, and alumni to play in a four-person scramble style tournament. This gave BAP members the opportunity to interact with potential employers in a relaxed environment where business deals often do occur. Firms participating this year were: Caterpillar, CliftonLarsonAllen, and McGladrey. The golf outing would not be a successful event without the support of participating firms and our generous sponsors.

2014 Hole Sponsors:
Accenture
Becker
Caterpillar
Clifton LarsonAllen
CPA Excel
Dr. Charles Pryor
Dr. Gregg Woodruff
Dr. Jack Elfrink
First Bankers Trust
Jack and Becky Hall
Katie Hensel

Be sure to save the date of May 8, 2015 for next year’s golf outing!
Accountancy Awards

Congratulations to all of our BAP members who were awarded scholarships and special recognitions at the Accounting Awards Banquet. Thank you to all who have donated so generously in making these scholarships possible.

**Michael P. Kelly Scholar**
Caleb Markey

**Department Scholars**
Alexis Slater– Acct (Fall 2013)
Caleb Markey– Fin (Spring 2014)

**Outstanding Senior**
Andrew Brach

**Outstanding Master of Accounting Students**
Wil Lunt
Kelsey Korsmeyer

**J. David and Nancy Smith Scholarship**
Malia Pryor

**Our Presenters**
Finally, we would like to thank all the presenters this semester for giving their time and knowledge to our accounting and finance students.

**Penelope J. Yunker Scholarship**
Zhulin Wang

**Rhonda Haffner Scholarship**
Dayna Heaton

**Col. Marinda Wood Scholarship**
Claire Costello

**George W. Krull Scholarship**
Dayna Heaton

**Marcus Sipolt Scholarship**
Scott Pepmeyer

**Samual Oliva Scholarship**
Tracy Juske

**Craig Neader Scholarship**
Joseph Goetz
Brittany Troline
Hannah Elting

**IMA Scholarships**
Erich Schueler
Jennifer Symmonds

**BAP – Macomb CPA Excel Scholarship**
Andrew Brach

**James Clary Scholarships**
Andrew Brach

**Malcolm S. & Mary Lou Torgerson Scholarship**
Taylor Elder

**James & Peppi Kenny Scholarship**
Taylor Elder

**Graduating Seniors**
Andrew Brach
Jennifer Symmonds
Taylor Elder

**Graduating Master of Accounting**
Sara Winter
Michelle Stone
Wil Lunt
Quinten Frankel
Kelsey Korsmeyer

**Awarded Graduate Assistantships**
Andrew Brach
Jennifer Symmonds
Nick Andress

**Presentations this semester included:**
Seth Holmstrom, Michael Wenz, and Dan Miller, from John Deere: “Jobs in Private Accounting”
Matt Baier, from Caterpillar: “Effective Communication”
Dr. Russell Morey: Resume Workshop
Paul Valaisa, Alex Lippert, and Brittanie Reneau, from CliftonLarson-Allen: “Getting Your First Job”
Gary Sutton, PGA Pro: “Golf as a Business Skill”

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-eling@wiu.edu

---

Like us on Facebook:
Beta Alpha Psi Western Illinois University

For More Information or if you have any questions or comments please contact:

---

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