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To All MAcc Incoming Students:

Welcome to the MAcc Program! You can now begin registering for your fall 2015 courses. In addition to the information in this letter, please refer to the following webpage for detailed registration instructions.

William & Mary School of Business – Registration for Classes in the MAcc program!

CPA Preparation
It is important for you to keep in mind the CPA exam as you choose your courses. If you plan to sit for the CPA exam in Virginia, you must contact the Examination Coordinators at the VBOA for a pre-evaluation. Complete your pre-evaluation by October 4 so that you know which classes to choose in the spring semester (registration opens mid-October). Their contact information is on the W&M School of Business MAcc program - Course Registration webpage.

If you plan to sit for the CPA exam in another state, begin the pre-evaluation process in that state as soon as possible, so you are ready in October to choose the right courses for the spring semester.

Registration
Use the documents on the MAcc Course Registration page to guide you through the registration process. We will register you for your required courses (10 credits) and you will need to register for your electives. You must register for at least 16 credits during the fall semester. To register for more than 16 credits during the fall semester (generally not advisable), you may make a case and seek permission from the Accounting Department Chair at phil.shane@mason.wm.edu.

Required courses for fall 2014 (we will register you for these classes):
- BUAD 5029 Professional Accounting – 3 credits
- BUAD 5079 Fixed Income Securities and Securitizations – 1.5 credits
- BUAD 5089 Derivatives & Risk Management – 1.5 credits
- BUAD 5049 Valuation & Financial Statement Modeling – 3 credits
- BUAD 5069 Communications and Professional Development – 1 credit

Your remaining six credits depend on your preferences for delving into graduate level specialization within the MAcc Program.

This year we have an exciting new option for students interested in pursuing a PhD either immediately upon graduation or after some years of public accounting experience. We can prepare our excellent students for successful application to the most prestigious PhD-granting universities in the country. Graduation from a prestigious doctoral program in accounting
followed by successful placement as an assistant professor at a strong research and teaching university generally carries a starting annual salary in excess of $220,000. If you would like more information before pursuing this option, feel free to contact Phil Shane (Department Chair) at phil.shane@mason.wm.edu or 757-221-1504. International students should keep in mind that enrollment in a PhD Program immediately following graduation from our one-year Master of Accounting Program extends student visas for the time of the PhD studies, and successful placement as an assistant professor following the PhD generally provides U.S. residency status.¹

Electives for fall 2015: (you must select six credits from this list)
BUAD 6119 Accounting Information Technology and Advisory Services - 3 credits
BUAD 6179 Tax Research & Current Topics - 3 credits
BUAD 6199 Advanced Auditing & Audit Research - 3 credits
Students potentially interested in the Accounting Research Emphasis are encouraged to enroll in the following three one-credit hour courses:
- BUAD 6329 Introduction to Academic Research in Accounting – 1 credit (5 weeks)
- BUAD 6339 Data Analysis in Accounting Research – 1 credit (5 weeks)
- BUAD 6349 Design of Accounting Research Studies – 1 credit (5 weeks)

Please register for your fall elective courses as soon as possible since some electives are open to all Graduate Business students and may fill up quickly. If you would like advice before making elective decisions, please feel free to contact me at phil.shane@mason.wm.edu or 757-221-1504.

Teams
You have been assigned to a team and section for the Fall semester (please reference the enclosed MAcc Fall 2015 Team Assignment document) Note: Teams 1 – 10 are in Section 1 and Teams 11 – 20 are in Section 2.

MAcc Emphases
There will be a presentation on the MAcc Emphases during Orientation week. You will inform us if you intend to pursue an Emphasis in Auditing, Tax, Integrated Winter Field Experience, Information Systems, Valuation or Accounting Research at that time.

**Emphasis in Accounting Research** - As described above, this emphasis presents an exciting new option for preparing to study at the doctoral level at the country’s most prestigious PhD-granting universities. Students interested in pursuing this option should enroll in the three one-credit hour classes listed above plus a spring semester one-credit hour class on critiquing accounting research, and they will round out this emphasis with six carefully selected elective credits during the spring semester. Those electives may include Financial Statement Analysis, Database Management, Modeling and Simulation, Advanced Modeling Techniques, Probability (Math Dept #501), Mathematical Statistics (Math Dept #552), or other statistics and microeconomic courses selected in consultation with the Accounting Department Chair and tailored to the student’s needs and interests.

**Emphasis in Auditing** - Students who pursue the Emphasis in Auditing take 9 credits of advanced auditing courses. Three of these credits must include Advanced Auditing and Audit Research, which is offered in the fall semester. Additional credits are acquired in the spring semester and students can choose from: Governmental and Non-Profit Accounting, Financial Statement Analysis, Forensic Accounting or Auditing Information Systems. Students also have the option to take Accounting Information Technology & Advisory Services in the fall semester.

**Emphasis in Taxation** - Students who pursue the Emphasis in Taxation take 9 credits of tax courses beyond the introductory level (Introduction to Taxation or its equivalent). Three of these credits must be taken in the fall semester as Tax Research & Current Topics. Additional credits are acquired in the spring semester and students

¹ As evidence of the value we place on diversity within our MAcc Program, 25% of our entering class comes from a dozen different countries outside the U.S. The other 75% come to us from all over the U.S. and from various ethnic backgrounds.

**Emphasis in Valuation** - Students who pursue the emphasis in Valuation will need to complete 6 credits beyond the required Valuation and Financial Statement Modeling course offered in the fall semester. Additional credits are acquired in the spring semester and students can choose from: Forensic Accounting, Financial Statement Analysis, Data Analysis & Simulation for Accounting, Driving Corporate Performance, Project Management, Probability (Math Dept #501), or Mathematical Statistics (Math Dept #552).

**Emphasis in Information Technology** – Students who pursue the Emphasis in Information Technology take 9 credits of information technology oriented classes. Three of these credits must include Accounting Information Technology & Advisory Services, which is offered in the fall semester. Additional credits are acquired in the spring semester and students can choose from: Auditing Information Systems, Database Management, Supply Chain Management, Modeling and Simulation, Advanced Modeling Techniques, Lean Toolkit, and Six Sigma Toolkit.

**Integrated Winter Field Experience** – Students who have secured a winter internship during the fall recruiting season can pursue this emphasis. They will take three required courses in the spring semester. The first course is integrated with the winter internship and extends over the first half of spring semester. During the second half of spring semester, students round out this emphasis with the following courses: Contemporary Issues in Financial Reporting and Driving Organizational Performance.

For additional registration information, go to the following websites:
- [https://www.wm.edu/offices/registrar/studentsandalumni/registration/howtoregister/index.php](https://www.wm.edu/offices/registrar/studentsandalumni/registration/howtoregister/index.php)

If you receive a registration error please contact Beth McGraw at 757-221-2879 or beth.mcgraw@mason.wm.edu.

I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Phil Shane, KPMG Professor of Accounting
Accounting Department Chair
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