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Faculty Development Luncheon
Wednesday, April 16, 2014

**Academic Discipline
Policies, Procedures, and
Emerging Issues**

Presented by:
**UM Faculty Panel led by
Maurice Eftink and Lori Wolff**

Register [Online](#) by April 11th.

TEACH
encourage
instruct
MENTOR
PRAISE
influence
GUIDE
INSPIRE

Patterson School of Accountancy Pre-Professional Development

By L. Tyler Williams, CPA

The Patterson School of Accountancy at the University of Mississippi has recently been acknowledged by the Public Accounting Report as having the No. 4 Undergraduate Program and No. 5 Masters Program in the nation. Part of the accolade stems from the large success the Patterson School has created by preparing its students for life after college through pre-professional development. In the Spring of 2009, with the goal of giving students a structured environment to study and sit for the CPA exam during their last semester of the graduate program, the faculty developed the Ole Miss Becker CPA Review Course. The class uses the preparation courses for the CPA exam through Becker Professional Education, with Patterson School faculty delivering the class. Students in the class receive credit through the three credit hour course ACCY 515, which fulfills an accountancy elective in either the Master of Accountancy or Master of Taxation program.

In addition to receiving credit for the class as part of the Masters curriculum, students enrolled in the Patterson School of Accountancy also have a leg-up on passing the oft time-consuming CPA exam prior to beginning full-time employment. Developing pre-professional programs such as the Ole Miss Becker CPA Review Course is essential to drawing high level interest from public accounting practitioners. In fact, firms appreciate these programs due to their ability to alleviate exam study time forced on new hires during the first few years of full-time employment with a firm. As such, passing the CPA exam (either in part or in whole) prior to full-time employment is an accomplishment that employers in the accounting profession greatly value. To that end, Mark Rexroat, Partner in the Dallas office of Big 4 accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers, says of the Patterson School's program:

"I think completion of the CPA exam for the Patterson School students is an outstanding goal for the school as it will contribute positively to the marketability of the students in the business community. This program also helps to continue to improve the students' ability to compete against students from other accounting schools in the pursuit of careers with public accounting firms. The expectations of the public accounting profession in the investment and regulatory community are increasing dramatically, which necessitates that accounting professionals as well as educators continue to step up their game. This program resonates with that objective."

Regarding the substance of the program, excluding those currently enrolled during the 2014 academic year, almost 300 students have enrolled in the course in the last four years. Of those, the reported results show an 87 percent pass rate on individual sections. As a benchmark, the national average was approximately 49 percent. Further, almost 50 percent of those students passed all four sections of the CPA examination during the course or shortly thereafter.

In keeping with the enrollment rise at the University of Mississippi, the Patterson School continues to grow and thrive. Most recently, the School enjoyed an 11.3%

Graduate Student Seminar
Designed specifically for graduate
instructors and teaching assistants.

Thursday, April 17, 2014

**Academic Discipline
Policies, Procedures, and
Emerging Issues**

with **Dr. Maurice Eftink**

Details and RSVP is online at
<http://cetl.olemiss.edu/gss.html>



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increase in enrollment over last year. Going forward, professional development programs such as the Ole Miss Becker CPA Review Course will only serve to validate the national accolades of the program as well as grow and maintain the success the Patterson School has enjoyed for many years.

Peer Led Student Assistance

By *CETL Staff*

As the semester draws to an end our students begin to go into rush mode. It's at this time that they seek out additional help. Here at CETL we are ready and prepared to offer assistance. Two programs that we have in place are the Peer Leader Program and the DIY Learning Tools Workshop. While these programs are available all semester long we see an increase in interest towards the end of the semester. If your students are looking for extra assistance, please feel free to recommend these programs to them. An overview is provided below and more information can be found on our website.

Peer Leader Program

Our Peer Leaders can help students, one-on-one, with study strategies and how to apply these to their homework. They also provide friendship and guidance, sharing their personal experiences and insights for success.

DIY Learning Tools Workshops

These are small group sessions where specific study skills are discussed and practiced. These sessions are peer led giving students an opportunity to learn from each other in a friendly, relaxed environment.

To ensure that someone is available to meet with students, walk-ins are not recommended. Appointments can be made online through our website. Whether your students prefer a one-on-one meeting or a group setting we are here to assist.

Clickers/Classroom Response Systems

The following information was obtained from the FTDC website.
(<http://www.olemiss.edu/clickers/>)

What is a Clicker?

Clickers are wireless keypads or personal response systems that faculty can use to increase interactivity in their classroom, especially for a large lecture class. This technology provides instant feedback to both instructors and students.



The University-Supported Clicker

Last year, the Instructional Technology Standing Committee re-evaluated clicker usage on campus and after hearing feedback from faculty that had demoed different clicker brands, the committee voted to support the **Turning Technologies ResponseCard NXT Clicker** (ISBN: 9781934931455) as the new campus standard.

What should I do if I want to use clickers in my class?

The first thing faculty will need to do is to contact the [FTDC](#) at 915-7918 to request a free RF receiver kit. Faculty will then need to add the ResponseCard NXT clicker to the Course Materials Management interface as a required material for their classes. Clicker training will be available through the FTDC once each fall and spring semester. Additional clicker training and resources are [also available](#).

What should students do to register their clicker?

Students will need to register their clicker for each course that makes use of the clicker technology. They can do this through Blackboard. Instructions are provided on the [Clickers for Students](#) page.