MAcc Class of 2018
A Publication of the Coles College of Business Master of Accounting Program
The mission of the School of Accountancy in the Kennesaw State University Coles College of Business is to prepare students to meet the lofty expectations of today’s business community. We strive to fulfill our mission and provide a high quality accounting education to a diverse student group of future accounting professionals and leaders. This directory will provide insight into our MAcc Class of 2018.

The MAcc program is presented in a fast-paced, one-year format designed to develop the next leaders in the field of accounting, auditing, and taxation. The KSU MAcc is an exceptional program geared to meet the needs of both traditional and non-traditional students by offering both daytime and evening classes. These students are completing the program in one of three specializations – Financial Reporting and Auditing, Taxation or Advisory. The program delivers a strong core of graduate accounting seminars to every program participant, enhances technical expertise, develops advanced communication and critical thinking abilities, and promotes leadership skills.

Our graduates possess a skill set that allows them to make an impact from the inception of their career with knowledge, focus, insight, and clarity. This advanced education gives our students the skills and tools that companies and organizations desire in their employees.
The accounting program at Kennesaw State holds a separate accounting accreditation by AACSB – INTERNATIONAL, THE HALLMARK OF EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS EDUCATION.

Kennesaw State University is one of only seven colleges and universities in the world recognized at the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Excellence Level. KSU is the only college and university in the State of Georgia authorized by the IIA to issue Internal Audit Education Partnership certificates.
The mission of the School of Accountancy at Kennesaw State University is

1) to provide a high quality accounting education to a diverse student group, preparing successful accounting professionals and future leaders in local, national, and global organizations.

2) to influence the accounting profession through relevant research and professional engagement.

We will achieve these goals by promoting excellence in teaching and research, delivering innovative undergraduate and graduate programs, and fostering an ethical environment of intellectual curiosity, innovation, and collegiality.
Brandon Bradford
Brandon Bradford is a Master of Accounting student from Grayson, Georgia. Brandon has been working full-time in the accounting industry for the last five years and he is currently a Financial Analyst at DLH Corp in Atlanta, Georgia. Brandon is also an entrepreneur. His first venture was a non-profit basketball camp for children in Buford Georgia that now has a sister camp in Weatherford Texas. Brandon's second venture was designing his own “hover-board” with the original manufacturers that were brought to market in 2015.

Candice Culp
Candice Culp is an Accounting major, specializing in Advisory, in the Master of Accounting program. She is from Rome, Georgia and transferred to Kennesaw State University in 2015 to pursue her B.B.A. in Accounting. She is a student member of The Georgia Society of CPAs, and has participated as a volunteer in the Atlanta chapter IIA events. Outside of the classroom, Candice has worked as a cashier, supervisor, and certified pharmacy technician. She also completed an internship at a pharmaceutical company here in Atlanta, Georgia. In the future, Candice hopes to earn her CPA and mentor undergraduate business students.

Isabelle Ehui
Isabelle Ehui is a graduate student in the Master of Accounting (MAcc) Program at Kennesaw State University’s Coles College of Business. She is an international student from Abidjan, Ivory Coast who moved to the United States of America 6 years ago to further her education in accounting. She has been involved in the International Student Association (ISA), African Student Association (AfriSA), and volunteer KSU (VKSU). Isabelle held executive positions as International Festival Coordinator, Treasurer, Vice President, and President for ISA. She is still very involved in the International Student Program department on campus where she helps mentor and welcome new international students on campus.
Ashley Fail

Ashley Fail is an Advisory student in the MAcc program at KSU. She has lived in Kennesaw, GA for eleven years. Her passion is helping others. Ashley is currently an industry accountant in real estate at Compass Property Management Group where she utilizes her communication and leadership skills. Ashley’s favorite part of this industry is communicating with others and trying to assist them to the best of her abilities.

Woodrow Kavanagh

Woodrow Kavanagh is a MAcc student specializing in Advisory. He completed his undergraduate degree at KSU where he majored in Accounting while minoring in Computer Science. Born and raised in Jamaica, Woodrow immigrated to the United States of America when he was nine years old. He is the President of the Internal Audit Student Organization, the Vice President of Beta Alpha Psi, and serves as a Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. Clune. Additionally, he works part-time as an IT Auditor for NCR where he is engaged in various audits. Woodrow’s goals for the MAcc program are to graduate with a 4.0 GPA and pass all four portions of the CPA exam. Shortly after graduating, he plans to begin studying for the CISA exam. Woodrow plans to work as an IT Auditor/Consultant for a global firm/corporation.

Jeffrey Pearson

Jeff Pearson is in the Advisory specialization in the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University. He is originally from Powder Springs, GA, but has lived in Kennesaw for the past five years. Jeff graduated from KSU with a degree in International Affairs, which he hopes to pair with his accounting knowledge upon completing the MAcc program.
Edgar Reyes
Edgar Reyes is an Accounting major currently enrolled in the Master of Accounting program with a specialization in Advisory. He is a first-generation Mexican-American college student born and raised in the State of Georgia. Edgar recently served as the Director of Finance for the ALPFA chapter at Kennesaw State University. He recently completed an audit internship with Crowe Horwath followed by a risk advisory internship at Ernst & Young, which resulted in a job offer.

Jonathan Tatum
Jonathan Tatum is a graduate student at Kennesaw State University who is pursuing a Masters of Accounting degree with a specialization in Advisory. He received a B.B.A. in Accounting from Kennesaw State University in 2017 while working full-time. Additionally, during the Fall 2016 semester he was able to gain valuable experience working for a CPA firm in an internship. Since January 2017, Jonathan has worked as a quality assurance analyst at a mid-size non-profit organization where he has gained experience in the international, government, and non-profit fields. He is seeking career opportunities which will permit him to grow on a professional level while utilizing his effective organizational, educational, and extensive knowledge and interpersonal skills in the accounting field. Ultimately, Jonathan plans to finish the CPA exam by Summer 2018 and begin working in the public accounting sector.

Rebecca (Becky) Weingold
Rebecca (Becky) Weingold graduated from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. She has decided to continue her education at the graduate level by pursuing a Master of Accounting degree from KSU. She spent two summers interning at a small fastener distribution company where she has gained valuable experience pertaining to general business accounting practices. She hopes to one day obtain a position within an advisory services department and help bring success to her company.
Jordan Wilcher

Jordan Wilcher is a Master of Accounting student specializing in Advisory services. Originally from Conyers, Georgia, Jordan enlisted into the United States Marine Corps at 18. After serving four years in the United States Marine Corps he attended Georgia College & State University where he received his BA in Accounting with a minor in Political Science while working as a Constituent Services Representative for the Office of the 10th Congressional District. During his undergrad, Jordan continued to serve his military family by founding the first National Veteran’s fraternity in the state of Georgia, and establishing the first Student Veterans Resource Center at Georgia College.

John Abdou

John Abdou is a graduate student in the MAcc program Financial Reporting and Auditing specialization at KSU. He is a dual citizen of Egypt and Canada. John majored in accounting at Pharos University in Alexandria, Egypt. He worked at Mirasco, a global company in Egypt, and has now transferred to its headquarters in the USA to act as a liaison between those two branches. John Abdou’s long-term goals include becoming a very highly skilled person in international communications and relations, and adding value to the world through his life and work.

Julie Arnold

Julie Arnold is a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University. She is originally from Cartersville, Georgia. In 2016, she received her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Kennesaw State University, where she graduated Cum Laude, one year early. She is also a member of Beta Gamma Sigma. She spent her years of undergraduate school working at a Chick-fil-A restaurant, and now serves as a Fixed Asset accountant at their corporate office in Atlanta. Some of her long-term goals include completing the CPA exam and advancing her career in corporate accounting at Chick-fil-A.
Suk-Ching Barrett

Suk-Ching Barrett is a graduate accounting student at Kennesaw State University, studying Financial Reporting and Auditing. Upon graduation, she plans to sit for the CPA exams. Suk-Ching is also a Licensed Customs Broker with expertise in federal import and export regulatory requirements, and is currently employed full-time as a Corporate Quality and Claims Manager for an International Freight Forwarding Company. Her current responsibilities include adjudicating claims, creating and implementing processes, ensuring the continuing suitability, adequacy, and effectiveness of the company’s quality program while promoting continual improvements throughout the organization.

Michelle Branan

Michelle Branan is a Criminal Justice and Political Science double major from Sandersville, Georgia. She has participated in community service projects with Habitat for Humanity and FIRSTMATE Mentoring programs. She is a Financial Reporting and Auditing student in the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University. In addition to attending KSU, she works full time for the university on the bookstore management team. She actively pursues opportunities for developing her business and management skills. Her long-term goal is completing the CMA and establishing a career in budgetary analysis and management.

Edward Byerley

Edward Byerley, who prefers to be called Eddie, moved from Indiana to Georgia because he was tired of shucking corn in his free time. He went to Kennesaw State University for his undergraduate degree in accounting. Eddie was heavily involved in various student organizations including Beta Alpha Psi, the Interfraternity Council, and Kappa Sigma. He is now pursuing his Master in Accounting degree specializing in Financial Reporting and Auditing at his alma mater. He hopes to pursue a career as an auditor in a public accounting firm.
Gabriela Canel
Originally, from Cuernavaca, Mexico, Gabriela grew up in the Roswell, GA area. She is a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University (KSU) with a concentration in Financial Reporting and Auditing. She also earned her BBA in Accounting from KSU earlier this year. She is on track to earn her CPA and graduate in July of 2018. She is currently employed as a Staff Auditor at Hancock Askew & Co. in Norcross, GA, where she works on financial statement and employee benefit plan audit engagements.

Ryan Cash
Ryan Cash is an Accounting major from Roswell, GA. He is completing a Master’s program in Financial Reporting and Auditing. He completed his undergraduate education at the University of Georgia, where he was a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. At UGA, he served on the executive board of his fraternity and was a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Ryan previously worked in the accounting office for the Marietta City School district and has accepted an offer from a public accounting firm.

Allison Cerqueda
Allison Cerqueda is from Marietta, GA and is a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University (KSU) in the Financial Reporting and Auditing specialization. She obtained her BA in Speech Communications from the University of Georgia in 2001. Allison worked for Vector Marketing where she moved from receptionist to District Manager within 2.5 years, gaining extensive experience in outside sales, coaching, public and motivational speaking, management, and business ownership. After that, she worked in the Banking industry learning the importance of security, controls, regulatory compliance, and audit preparation. She is a student member of the Georgia Society of CPAs and 2017 scholarship winner. She is on course to graduate from KSU in July of 2018 and plans to obtain her CPA certification soon after.
Melissa Coffey
Melissa Coffey is an accounting major from Marietta, GA, who received her undergraduate degree from Auburn University. She is currently a graduate student in the Kennesaw State University’s Master of Accounting Program and plans on taking all four parts of the CPA this year. She has completed two internships with PwC and has accepted a full time position with PwC upon completion of the MAcc program. At PwC, she will work as an Auditor in the Assurance group in the Atlanta office. Her long-term goals include working at PwC and being able to travel the world. She is fluent in Portuguese and desires to use this within her career.

Matthew Dripps
Matthew Dripps is an Accounting major from Marietta, Georgia. After graduating from Kennesaw with an undergraduate degree in Accounting in the fall of 2016, he has returned to pursue a Master of Accounting degree with a specialization in Financial Reporting and Auditing. By balancing school, work, and athletics, he has developed a strong work ethic and time management skills. Matthew’s future goals are to become a CPA shortly after graduating and begin his accounting career in the Atlanta area.

Michael Giresi Jr.
Michael earned his Bachelors of Business Administration in Accounting from Kennesaw State University where he graduated Magna Cum Laude in the Fall of 2017. Michael is continuing his education through his enrollment in the Master of Accounting Program at Kennesaw State University. He is the recipient of the Doyle Z. Williams and the J. Larry Stevens Scholarship at KSU, where he is currently serving as a Graduate Research Assistant under the guidance of Dr. Dennis Chambers. His accounting interests are primarily in the fields of Audit and Assurance. During Michael’s tenure at KSU, he has had the opportunity to pursue his interests through his involvement in two internships. The latter of his internships was with EY where he has accepted a job upon completion of his master’s degree in August of 2018. Michael’s goals in his accounting career are to play a role in the upcoming restructuring of the industry, as well as to establish and maintain a reputation for having an indisputable ethical and diligent work ethic.
Alecia Grimes

Alecia Grimes serves as East Lake Foundation’s Senior Accounting Manager. In her role, Alecia is responsible for ensuring that all financial information for East Lake Foundation is accurate and timely. While Alecia is responsible for reporting financial information to the Foundation’s Board of Directors, she is also the financial liaison between the Foundation and their business partners. Prior to joining the East Lake Foundation, Alecia worked for several years at the family office of Tom Cousins. Alecia also has extensive experience in state government, credit services, residential real estate, and network entertainment. Alecia is a native Georgian who holds a Bachelor’s degree from Georgia State University and is a Master of Accounting candidate at Kennesaw State University specializing in Financial Reporting and Auditing. Alecia is professionally affiliated with the AICPA and Georgia Society of CPAs.

Preston Hayes

Preston Hayes is currently a Master of Accounting student. He has lived in North Georgia all his life and in Marietta the better part of the past decade. In addition to receiving a BBA in accounting at KSU, he has worked as a clerk and assistant manager for QuikTrip for the last six years. This experience in customer service, as well as his experience in public speaking, has made communication one of his most effective skills. He is excited to begin his career in public accounting where he can utilize his skills, experience, and his continued desire and willingness to learn.

Juan Holguin

Juan Holguin is a Master of Accounting student originally from Dalton, GA where he earned an bachelor’s degree in accounting at Dalton State College. Juan currently lives in Powder Springs, GA and works as an accountant for Georgia Power in the Property Accounting department. Within this role, he is responsible for providing Capital vs O&M guidance to all functions of the company and calculating the company’s capitalized interest, amongst ad hoc data requests. In addition to his accounting responsibilities, Juan also serves as a committee chair for the Accounting, Finance, and Treasury Employee Action Council.
Mario Lemon

Mario received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Savannah State University (SSU) and is currently working towards a Master of Accounting with a specialization in Financial Reporting and Auditing at Kennesaw State University. Mario has held leadership positions in his academic career including Vice President of Membership of the Savannah State University Student Accounting Association from 2014-2016, and as Interim President from 2016-2017. Additionally, he served as Accounting and Finance Manager for the Ace Space Entrepreneurial Center at SSU and worked as a tutor. Mario particularly enjoys innovative thinking, working with diverse groups of people, and strives to become a CPA who creates value and helps people envision prosperity.

Robyn Lewis

Robyn Lewis is originally from the St. Louis, MO area. She relocated to Georgia and obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting from Strayer University. She is now a candidate in the Master of Accountancy program at Kennesaw State University specializing in Financial Reporting and Auditing. Robyn is also an employee at Kennesaw State, working as an Accountant IV in the Auxiliary Services department. Robyn aspires to obtain her CPA certification in 2018.

Smrita Malla

Smrita Malla is originally from Kathmandu, Nepal. She has been here in the United States for five years. She is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in accounting. After graduating college, she worked as an Audit Associate for almost a year at HLB Gross Collins. She is now back at KSU to pursue a Master of Accounting degree. She is currently working as a Graduate Research Assistant at KSU’s School of Accountancy. Smrita is passionate about accounting and plans to work towards her goal of becoming a CPA.
Frances Moates
Frances graduated from the University of Georgia with her B.B.A in Accounting in May of 2017. She is currently in the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University and is set to graduate in July of 2018. She is currently working at Guardian Pharmacy, LLC in Atlanta as a Staff Accountant on the Revenue Cycle Team. Over this summer, she worked at Frazier & Deeter as an audit intern. Over the summer of 2016, she worked at Voya Financial as a Financial Reporting Intern on the GAAP and SEC Reporting Team. Throughout her college years, she worked at Guitar Center and Music & Arts in sales and lesson management positions. She plans to pursue a career as a CPA at the completion of her MAcc.

Matthew Obalo
Matthew Obalo is an Accounting graduate of Kennesaw State University. He is currently working as a Staff Auditor with the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts where he is engaged in audit planning, procedures, and test of controls. Matthew also had international work experience working as an Internal Auditor II with the Edo State Government in Nigeria where he assisted in auditing over 600 plus state government salaries and contract vouchers. He is the Co-founder of the Catch Them Young Organization; an education based counseling service provided to North Cobb High School. At KSU, Matthew was formerly a treasurer for the Project Management Institute Student Club. He is a member of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), National Association of Black Accountants (NABA), and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is currently a Master of Accounting student specializing in Financial Reporting and Auditing at the Coles College of Business.
Michael Quaye-Sowah
Michael is an international student from Ghana who came to the United States in 2011 to pursue an undergraduate degree in Accounting. He joined the International Student Association (ISA) that same year and has been an active member since. He is currently pursuing his Master of Accounting education at KSU and is expected to graduate in July 2018. He hopes to work in governmental accounting because he enjoyed his time working as an accounting technician for the City of Woodstock and believes the MAcc degree will help him be even more successful in his accounting career.

Moshiur Rahman
Moshiur Rahman is a Masters of Accounting Student in Kennesaw State University. He is from Lawrenceville, GA. He graduated from Brookwood High School and finished his undergraduate degree from University of Georgia. He has a full-time offer from BDO, a public accounting firm, where he will be starting as a first-year associate after he completes his Masters in Accounting. After high school graduation, he became a sales associate for T-Mobile. He has worked many different jobs during his time at the University of Georgia. He always strives for improvement and perfection. At KSU, he is currently working full-time as a manager of a convenience store.

Khari Rosier
Khari Rosier is a Master of Accounting student at KSU. He graduated in May 2017 as a student-athlete at Presbyterian College where he obtained a BS in Accounting and was a four year starter for the football team. After graduation, Khari began a part-time staff accounting job with T.O.P. Solutions Group. In this role, Khari became QuickBooks certified and managed multiple company projects while practicing techniques for accounts payable and financial statements. Upon completion of the MAcc Program, he intends to sit for the CPA exam and ultimately attain his CPA license. Khari hopes to gain a full time employment position at the completion of his MAcc.
Stu Scott

Stu Scott is a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University, specializing in Financial Reporting and Auditing. He graduated Cum Laude from KSU with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting in May 2017. As part of his undergraduate experience, he interned with Reflections of Trinity, a nonprofit in Cobb County that aims to serve the needs of senior citizens and those in crisis. At Reflections of Trinity, he helped convert their accounting functions to QuickBooks Online and became certified as a ProAdvisor. He is currently employed with Myers and Stauffer LC as a Staff Accountant performing audit and attestation services. His goal is to obtain his CPA license shortly after completing the MAcc.

Elizabeth Steel

Elizabeth Steele is in the Financial Reporting and Audit specialization of the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University. Previously, she attended Florida State University where she earned a Bachelor degree in Marketing in 2002. In 2006, she furthered her education by obtaining her Master of Business Administration degree from Kennesaw State University. Elizabeth has enjoyed a successful career where she has experienced steady growth over the past fifteen years. She started as a Staff Accountant at an energy marketing company and was promoted over a five-year period to an Intermediate and ultimately a Senior Accountant before the company was acquired. Elizabeth then moved into the technology sector as a Senior Accountant and was promoted to Accounting Manager. She is currently the Accounting Manager at a CPA firm in Atlanta, Georgia. Her career aspirations include passing the CPA exam and working in the accounting industry.
Matthew Thomason
Matthew Thomason is a graduate student studying Accounting. He is from Chatsworth, Georgia and has one older brother. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Kennesaw State University in the Spring of 2015. While attending Kennesaw State University he was a member of the Accounting Club and Sigma Alpha Epsilon where he served as Scholarship Chairman and Special Events Chairman. Upon graduation, Matthew hopes to obtain his CPA certification and continue working in the accounting industry. Matthew volunteers his time working as a financial advisor for the Kennesaw State chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and serves as the Treasurer for the local alumni association of the chapter.

Melissa Turvy
Melissa Turvy is currently a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University. She recently graduated in May 2017 with her Bachelors of Business Administration in Accounting. She is currently working as a Graduate Research Assistant with Professor Benedikt Quosigk while also interning part-time at a local CPA firm, Brooks, McGinnis & Co. She worked with Brooks, McGinnis & Co throughout her entire senior year. Melissa also spent time interning with the Fortune 500 Company, NCR Corporation, both summer 2016 and summer 2017. She has spent time on both sides of the fence of financial reporting and is beginning her career in public accounting at Smith & Howard upon graduation from the MAcc program in July 2018.

Doyelle Walker
Doyelle Walker is in the Financial Reporting and Auditing specialization in the MAcc program here at KSU. She graduated with her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting from Paine College. During her undergraduate career, she was initiated into the Alpha Kappa Mu and Delta Mu Delta Honor Societies. She is also a member of the audit committee for her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and holds the title as Miss Omega Psi Phi. Doyelle obtained three internships with Automatic Data Processing (ADP, LLC) while at Paine College and currently works there full time. She is originally from Los Angeles, California.
Andrew Cable

Andrew Cable is a Master of Accounting student studying Taxation. He is originally from Dallas, Georgia and now resides in Marietta, Georgia. He is currently dedicated to finishing his studies in college to enhance his accounting skills. During his undergraduate studies, he was an entrepreneur focusing on retailing sports memorabilia and other goods. His future goals include passing the CPA exam and becoming a licensed CPA working in the Atlanta area.

Krista Campbell

Krista Campbell was born in New Jersey and at the age of four moved to Alpharetta, GA. This is where she grew up and attended high school. After high school, Krista went on to earn her Bachelor of Administration degree in Accounting at Georgia College and State University. During her years in undergraduate school, Krista worked as a tax intern, financial analyst intern, assistant payroll analyst, and various other part time jobs. Currently, Krista is in the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University.

Alexis Denk

Alexis Denk is a student in the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University. She recently graduated from KSU with an undergraduate degree in accounting as well as a minor in Spanish. During her time at KSU, Alexis has held several leadership positions, including Flight Crew Leader and Student Director for Owl Expedition, and Vice President of TEDxKennesawStateUniversity. She also served as a student assistant at the Horace Sturgis Library on campus. Most recently, Alexis had an internship with Smith & Howard in the spring of 2017 and gained hands on experience in the accounting field. After graduation, Alexis would like to get her CPA license and work at a mid-sized firm in Atlanta.
**Jude D’Souza**

Jude is currently enrolled in the Tax concentration of the Kennesaw State University Master of Accounting program. Leading up to the start of this program, he undertook internship positions related to both the communications and accounting fields. These experiences opened the door to several internships with Deloitte LLP in both audit and tax. Jude signed a full time offer with Deloitte Tax, and will start in the fall of 2018 after the completion of the graduate program. Jude was born in Miami, Florida.

**Hector Garcia**

Hector Espinosa Garcia is a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University and originally from Guanajuato, Mexico. He graduated from KSU with a BBA in Accounting with honors. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Currently he is a Co-founder and Operations Manager at HEGreen and Otica Santa Terezinha. Hector has been an entrepreneur since the age of five and he is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese. His main goals are to pursue his passion in accounting, become the first college graduate in his family, and inspire his nieces and nephews to continue their education. His long-term goals are to become a CPA and work in public accounting.

**Katrin Gomisch**

Katrin Gomisch is a Master of Accounting (MAcc) student at Kennesaw State University (KSU) specializing in Taxation. Katrin is a non-traditional student from Erfurt Germany. She is on track to complete Bachelor and Master degrees in just three years while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. At KSU she has been admitted to the Accelerated Bachelor’s Master’s Degree program allowing her to finish her Bachelor in Accounting, while simultaneously working toward her MAcc. During the one-year MAcc cohort program, Katrin plans to take all four CPA exams and upon graduation will work full-time in public accounting. Katrin is a member of the Georgia Society of CPAs and Beta Alpha Psi. Prior to returning to school, Katrin spent eight years working in call center management where she controlled budget and revenue channels worth over $3 Million and managed 50+ clients and 600+ concurrent campaigns.
Fahad Haider
Fahad Haider is currently a Master of Accounting student at Kennesaw State University specializing in Taxation. He is originally from Bangladesh and now lives in Lilburn, Georgia. He obtained his Bachelors of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Georgia in December 2016. Prior to graduating, he interned for Bennett Thrasher and was a volunteer Income Tax Assistant. After completing his BBA, Fahad was a tax intern for Tidwell Group in Suwanee, Georgia. Following his completion of the MAcc program, Fahad intends to return to Tidwell Group as a tax associate.

Darrick Jackson
Darrick Jackson is from Lawrenceville, Georgia. He is currently a graduate student studying accounting and is specializing in Taxation at Kennesaw State University. He attended Peachtree Ridge High School in Suwanee, Georgia. After high school, he graduated from Georgia Southern University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Minor in Finance. He also earned his Bachelors in Accounting at Kennesaw State University. During his time in school, he enjoyed many employment opportunities, including interning for Windham Brannon P.C. He now works there full time. His goals consist of finishing the master’s program and gaining his CPA.

Jennifer Lai
Jennifer Lai is an Accounting student from Suwanee, Georgia. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Accounting from Georgia State University. She is currently enrolled in the Master of Accounting program at Kennesaw State University. She has worked in many accounting positions within many organizations. Her last employment was as Controller at a private equity firm where she gained valuable experience. She enjoys the work she does and has learned so many things working as a Controller. Her goal is to obtain her CPA license at the completion of the MAcc.
David Lisska
David Lisska is a MAcc student from Grayson, Georgia. Using his knowledge from his undergraduate degree in accounting, David plans to specialize in Taxation. In regards to work, David was a swim coach during his freshman and sophomore years of college. During his senior year, David received the opportunity to participate in two internships. He had the pleasure of working at Smith & Howard and Williams, Benator & Libby for two spring busy seasons. David was part of Beta Alpha Psi, the international honors organization for accounting and financial students. David’s long-term goals are to obtain a CPA certification and pursue a partner position at a firm in Atlanta.

Aliyyah Majeed
Aliyyah Majeed is a Master of Accounting student specializing in Taxation at Kennesaw State University. She was born and raised in New Jersey and relocated to Georgia in 2006. During her time at KSU, Aliyyah has been involved in multiple organizations on campus. She’s been a member of the KSU Dance Team, Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity, Kennesaw Odyssey Mentorship club, and the Kennesaw Activities Board. Currently, she holds a part-time bookkeeping position for a small partners equity firm while she completes her master’s degree. She plans to become a CPA at the completion of the Macc program. She will be entering the public accounting industry by joining Aprio LLP Business Advisory Services team as a Staff Accountant.

Tracy McGaha
Tracy McGaha is a graduate student in the Master of Accounting program at KSU. He is from Acworth, GA and attended UGA for his undergraduate studies where he obtained his Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance. After graduating from UGA with honors, Tracy started working as an intern for a public accounting firm in Marietta, GA where he discovered his passion for the accounting profession. Tracy decided to further his career in accounting by returning to school while working full-time. He hopes to pass the CPA Exam shortly after graduating in the summer of 2018.
Taylor Moss
Taylor Moss is a Master of Accounting Taxation student from Kennesaw, Georgia. Taylor graduated with his Bachelors of Business Administration in Accounting from Kennesaw State University in the summer of 2017. Taylor’s honors consist of receiving the Master of Accounting Taxation Scholarship and the J. Larry Stevens Scholarship. He has also been named to both the President’s and Dean’s list during multiple semesters. Taylor currently works as an accountant at Nichols, Cauley & Associates in Kennesaw, GA where he started over a year ago as a Paraprofessional. His long-term goals consist of completing the CPA exam as well as using his knowledge and experiences to advance his position at Nichols, Cauley & Associates.

Nicholle Nixon
Nicholle Nixon is an Accounting student from Canton, Georgia. Prior to KSU, Nicholle attended the University of Alabama. During her time at the University of Alabama, she was an active member of Beta Alpha Psi and several other honor societies. One of her greatest accomplishments during college was graduating Summa Cum Laude. After graduating from the MAcc program, Nicholle plans to begin her career at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in Atlanta, Georgia. Nicholle’s short-term goal is to pass the CPA exam before beginning her career in public accounting. In the long-term, she would like to pursue the path of becoming a partner at PwC.

Matthew Sawyer
Matthew Sawyer is a Master of Accounting student specializing in Tax. He is from Marietta, Georgia. He graduated from Kennesaw State University with a BBA in accounting in 2016. During school, he worked as a produce clerk at Kroger. Matthew has placed a strong emphasis on his education, maintaining the HOPE scholarship throughout his college career. He has returned to Kennesaw State to further his accounting education and qualify to sit for the CPA exam. His goal is to become a CPA at the completion of the MAcc.
Steven Stowe
Steven Stowe is a Master of Accounting student from Athens Georgia. He graduated from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting in 2016. Steven has been working as an intern at Williams, Benator, and Libby since January. He has worked with clients ranging from individuals to trusts to large corporations. He enjoys the critical thinking challenges that tax accounting affords him. He hopes to obtain his CPA after graduation as well as a full-time position in public accounting in tax.

Matthew Williams
Matthew Williams is a Master of Accounting student from Chattanooga, TN. He received his undergraduate degree in Accounting from Kennesaw State University. He plans to obtain his CPA license and pursue a career in public accounting. He will begin his career as a tax team member at HLB Gross Collins in Atlanta, GA. His long-term goal is to become a partner at a CPA firm. He has a real passion for accounting and is always working to improve his professional skills and knowledge so that he can reach his goal for a successful career in accounting.
HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

• Financial Support – comprehensive to components of the program

• Scholarships – our largest need is for scholarships to the best and bright accounting students

• Career Fair Registration

• On campus interviews

• Mentorship of students

• Internships

• Participation as guest speakers
As the Assistant Director of Strategic Partnerships my passion is student success and helping students make lasting connections that will grow their personal careers. I want to personally invite you to get involved with the School of Accountancy (SOA) at KSU. Being involved with the SOA helps the next accounting leaders learn from professionals in the field, and expand their real world experience, as well as provides comprehensive support for the students. You can get involved in many ways; one is providing financial support. By donating to the School of Accountancy, you ensure we will have the resources to keep improving the students’ educational experience. By donating a scholarship, you are helping students with the financial burden of their education. Recruitment is another great way to get involved with the SOA. We are always attempting to help each individual student get connected with the correct employment “fit.” Ways to engage in our recruitment process are to register for our Accounting and Financial Career Fair, offer the unique opportunity of internships, and participate in on-campus interviews. Alternatively, if you would like to get closer to the student population, we have opportunities for guest speakers and mentorships. Without people like yourself, the School of Accountancy could not offer the best educational experience for our students. After reading more about the MAcc Class of 2018, I hope you will choose to get involved with the SOA at KSU! For more information, please contact me directly at npearce3@kennesaw.edu.

Sincerely,

Nicole Pearce M.Ed.
Assistant Director of Strategic Partnerships