School of Accountancy Faculty Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2016
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Attendees: Shirley Daniel, Roger Debreceny, Devan Mescall, Liming Guan, Boochun Jung, Manu Ka'iama, Thomas Pearson, Jenny Teruya, Mary Woollen, David Yang, Jian Zhou
Marlene Sagapolutele

Absent: John Wendell, Hamid Pourjalali

In the absence of Pourjalali, Debreceny chaired the meeting

The meeting commenced at 1:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of September 12th, 2016 was approved (all in favor)

Recruitment (Roses):

Debreceny suggested that a standard set of questions be drafted to ask each job candidate. He also indicated that the Search Committee would meet at the end of Roses interview to decide if they should be offered the positions. The faculty would also receive an anonymous survey for feedback. The opinion of others (such as Terri Fujii and Larry Rodriguez) will also be sought.

Daniel cautioned that the two candidates that are being considered are inexperienced, but have room to develop and have promise. Given that they have no accounting background, they will have no status with the local hiring committee. However, they would have enough teaching flexibility and experience where they can easily teach. Debreceny stated that he would be opposed to hiring two who are inexperienced and would prefer hiring only one. He also mentioned that there are risks of hiring both the husband and wife team, as well as the other two candidates.

MAcc:

Daniel reported that half of the ACC 460 students were planning to take CPA exam, but most were not aware that they need to meet the 150-hour rule. She also mentioned that even those in MAcc may not have the necessary credit hours and experience to pass the CPA exam. Advisors and faculty need to stress to students that they need to take ACC 415 to pass the CPA exam. Furthermore, students are unaware that 40% of the CPA exam consists of corporate & property tax. SOA should try to attract the top 20% of undergraduates with scholarships to go to MAcc to make it more affordable.

As an example that Advisors do not recommend MAcc, Kaiama stated that her former student was advised to not to go to the MAcc program by Shidler Graduate advisor

because the student can get 75% of his tuition paid for and MAcc is not necessary for getting hired or getting licensed as a CPA. Pearson stated that the Student Services office is pressured to recruit MBA.

Woollen indicated that the SOA used to fundraise for MAcc (books and/or tuition). Teruya stated that some of that money that is now available for MAcc scholarships was from the MBA allocation hat was provided from the Graduate Education. Suggestions such as giving scholarships to 3/2 students (Daniel) and informational sessions for those who are qualified for MAcc (Ka'iama) were mentioned.

Pearson suggested that SOA should inform the Hawaii State Board of Accountancy that upper division credits should be raised to 24 hours. He also stated that SOA needs to be the push back for that, and that improvement in the CPA pass rate was temporary and not sustainable.

Woolen reported that recruiters from firms have told students they did not need a MAcc, but instead should double major. Daniel suggested having talks with firms in town. Pearson suggested that this be the main topic at the SOA Advisory Board meeting, and that Endrigat needs to be talked to as well.

Debreceny narrowed down a list of what should be done to help MAcc recruitment:

- Engagement with recruiters
- Engagement with the SOA Advisory Board Committee
- Direct engagement with students early in career (individually with mentors)
- Have past MAcc students be mentors
- Engage with student services
- Engage with Hawaii State Board of Accountancy
- Engage with Financial Aid
- Engage with other MAcc Programs

*Key focus is that all of these were locally focused

Daniel suggested setting an objective of recruiting 20 UHM undergraduates and 10 undergraduates from other schools to the MAcc each year.

It was stated by Debreceny that the difference at BYU is that their program offers a PhD preparation track. So it was suggested that UHM push the thesis track option.

Pearson suggested having a SOA website vision to engage with students. Create an FAQ page

Instead of focusing on the website as being the tool to interact with interested students, Jung suggested having students contact a director instead of OSAS.

Daniel suggested having guest speakers in ACC 202 to inform and inspire students earlier.

Admission: Vietnam
Tung has been in discussion with Pourjalali. Tung feels it is too much competition and is not supportive of Vietnam MAcc.

BAP and ACC
Pearson suggested that there be a speaker at BAP's AGIF Conference during the lunch break. Daniel suggested having informational tables during lunch. Or even having table talk discussions by having a member of the SOA Advisory Board sit at a table with 3 or 4 questions, and would report back to the SOA faculty with what the students said.

Debreceny suggested doing a round table of executive committees, faculties, and club members. Teruya mentioned that there would need to be new committee members and faculties to attend this discussion since it was recently done earlier in the year.

Ka'iama stated that there was nothing to report for Accounting Club.

ACC 201 Report
Ka'iama reported and asked for advice regarding the push of passing students in ACC 201 from the Vice Chancellor's office. The response to the bottleneck in ACC 201 from SOA was there needs to be labs. Seabolt is offering tutoring sessions to help increase scores. Ka'iama reported that only three of her students attended three sessions before the midterm and their scores. More than half got of her students received Ds and Fs on a curve. She required those students to come into office hours.

Daniel suggested encouraging the students struggling in ACC 201 to take the course at a community college. She also mentioned that students who are not doing their homework correlates with failing grades. Daniel suggested to Kaiama to continue retrieving all the data regarding her students' grades, homework, and tutoring sessions, and to present it to the vice chancellor as proof.

Meeting adjourned at 2:39p.m.