When I was in first grade, I had a bank made out of a tin Crisco can with a slot cut in the top. It had pennies and nickels and a few quarters I had earned or been given.

One day, my mother told me that I could go to YMCA camp the following summer. I could use the coins I had saved in my can and she would pay the rest.

“I can’t use that money for camp,” I told her. “I’m saving for college.”

My mother laughed. I probably would have too in her situation with a six-year-old saving for college.

But I was serious.

The truth is, I don’t know where I got the idea that I was going to college. No one in my family had ever been. But as my schooling continued, my commitment to make my life better by working hard and going to college deepened.

My father’s family came to America after the First World War. My grandfather was a mechanic and a pilot who ran little airports and taught people to fly. He served in the Second World War for the United States, towing targets for gunnery practice and patrolling the coast looking for submarines.

My grandmother was a seamstress and worked in a shoe factory.

My Dad started flying as a kid and enlisted in the Air Force for a few years after high school. He was a mechanic and, after he got out of the Air Force, he was a pilot.
Edgar Quiroga
Awarded PCAOB Scholarship

Edgar Quiroga, a graduate student from UTEP's Department of Accounting and Information Systems, has been named a PCAOB Scholar for the 2019-2020 academic year.

The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), which awards the scholarship, announced that 207 students from U.S. colleges and universities were selected to receive a $10,000 scholarship for the academic year.

“Getting good grades is just one part of getting a scholarship. You have to show donors that you are not only invested in your education but the community and the university as well,” Quiroga said. “Being a part of organizations, especially ones that focus on your major, will always be beneficial for you and will help you stand out from the people that just go to school.”

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 requires that monetary penalties imposed by the PCAOB in its disciplinary proceedings be used to fund a merit scholarship program for students in accredited accounting degree programs.

JOHNSON NAMED 2019 FSA STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENT

Soo-Yang Johnson has been named by Accounting and Information Systems Department faculty as the recipient of the 2019 FSA Student Award.

The honor is given out by the Federation of Schools Accountancy and is awarded annually to outstanding Master of Accountancy students – specifically in a student’s fifth year of study.

A native of South Korea, Johnson has called El Paso home since 2011. She graduated from UTEP in 2018 with a BBA in Accounting. She is currently pursuing her Master of Accountancy degree with a planned graduation date of December 2019.

While she began her academic career at UTEP as a Finance major, she “fell in love with accounting so much” that she extended her undergraduate degree by one semester to earn an Accounting degree.

“I’ve always been good with numbers, and it was exhilarating to learn how to analyze an entity’s position and financial health by looking at numbers, similar to how a doctor takes your pulse during a check-up,” Johnson said.

Johnson earned an internship with Gibson Ruddock Patterson LLC, where she now works full-time as a Staff Auditor.

She also volunteers with the local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, where she serves as a tutor in her free time. She is an active member of Beta Gamma Sigma and has previously served as Secretary and Vice President of Beta Alpha Psi.

MAcc Fall 2019 Mixer

October 17 | 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Aloft El Paso Downtown, WXYZ Lounge
303 Texas Ave, El Paso, TX 79902
RSVP: cobaacct@utep.edu

WILSON >> Page 1

My Mom’s family came from Ireland. After my Dad died in a car accident when I was in second grade, she went back to work as a nurse in our local hospital.

When I was a junior in high school they opened the Air Force Academy to women. It was a full ride scholarship – a ticket to a dream.

My grandfather was still alive when I left home for the Academy. I was seventeen years old – the same age he had been when he lied about his age and joined the Royal Air Force. I was his only granddaughter and he was so proud of me. It was the only time I ever saw him cry.

I worked hard and thrived at the Academy. It challenged me and helped me grow from an awkward teenager from a small town into an educated young woman of promise. It opened doors for me that I didn’t even know existed.

The boys and girls in first grade today, saving pennies and nickels for camp or college, will be graduating from high school 12 years hence. Those students will be preparing for careers that do not yet exist, using technology that has not yet been invented.

I believe in the power of education to change lives because it changed mine. When it comes to education, what was good enough for our parents and our grandparents is not good enough for our children or our grandchildren. The pace of change is accelerating.

A commitment to continuous learning for everyone – to access, excellence, and impact – will separate the regions of the world that thrive in the 21st century from those that don’t.

UTEP is committed to building this bright future, and I’m honored to be a part of it.
Yun Ke, Ph.D., comes to UTEP from Brock University where he served as assistant professor at the Goodman School of Business. He has a teaching background in financial and managerial accounting, and a research interest in financial analyst and corporate governance.

Ke earned his first doctoral degree in geophysics from Washington University in St. Louis, and a second doctoral degree in accounting from the University of British Columbia, where he was nominated for the Commerce Undergraduate Society Teaching Excellence Award.

Ke is a member of the American Accounting Association, and the Canadian Academic Accounting Association.

Sarah Robertson is a Certified Public Accountant, with 18 years of experience before joining UTEP.

Robertson earned her Bachelor's degree in Communications from Arizona State University, and graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Master's in Accountancy.

Robertson's interests include income tax planning and compliance, estate and gift taxation, business succession planning, federal and state taxation of closely-held/family business, and ethics for CPA's.

Robertson is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Texas Society of CPA's, and the El Paso Estate Planning Council.

Before joining UTEP as a visiting assistant professor of accounting, Aaron Nelson, Ph.D., previously taught at The University of Georgia.

Nelson earned his Ph.D. in Accounting and Management Information Systems from Ohio State University.

Nelson was named the Deloitte Doctoral Consortium Fellow in 2016, and the Times Person of the year in 2006.

Nelson's research focuses on financial accounting, voluntary disclosure, information in supply-chains, and accounting quality.

Nelson is also a member of the American Accounting Association and the Ph.D. Project.

Yun Ke, Ph.D., comes to UTEP from Brock University where he served as assistant professor at the Goodman School of Business.

He has a teaching background in financial and managerial accounting, and a research interest in financial analyst and corporate governance.

Ke earned his first doctoral degree in geophysics from Washington University in St. Louis, and a second doctoral degree in accounting from the University of British Columbia, where he was nominated for the Commerce Undergraduate Society Teaching Excellence Award.

Ke is a member of the American Accounting Association, and the Canadian Academic Accounting Association.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2019 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI and GOLD NUGGET Recipients
**Currently taught by AIS Clinical Professor of Accounting Paulette Rodriguez, ACCT 4335 provides an overview of the process of data analysis. Data analytics have moved out of the academic world of statisticians and into the practical world of technology. Three major areas that comprise analytics are reporting, visualization and prediction.**

Data analytics are a highly sought after skill in business, engineering, economics, government, services, science, health care and other domains. This course will explore the technology and practice of data analytics. A variety of user friendly technologies bring powerful analytical capabilities to end users.

**THE SYLLABUS:**

**ACCT 4335 Business Intelligence**

An overview of courses offered by the AIS Department

Currently taught by AIS Clinical Professor of Accounting Paulette Rodriguez, ACCT 4335 provides an overview of the process of data analysis. Data analytics have moved out of the academic world of statisticians and into the practical world of technology. A variety of user friendly technologies bring powerful analytical capabilities to end users. Three major areas that comprise analytics are reporting, visualization and prediction. Data analytics are a highly sought after skill in business, engineering, economics, government, services, science, health care and other domains. This course will explore the technology and practice of data analytics.

This course uses the latest in technology to show the practice of data analytics in the real world. Enrolled students will experience practical applications of analytics through guided exercises and case studies.

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**IN BRIEF**

**Gotti, Folsom Speak at Accounting Conference**

David Folsom, Ph.D., and Department Chair Giorgio Gotti, Ph.D., spoke at the American Accounting Association’s Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California in August. Folsom participated in a number of boards as both a moderator and panelist. Gotti also participated in a board to discuss his article “Dark Tetrad Personality and Accounting Information Quality: The Moderating Effect of Corporate Reputation.” The annual meeting is an opportunity for members to network and present their research, and discover the latest academy trends.

**Payne Named to Energy Reports Editorial Board**

Active on a number of journal editorial boards, Dr. James E. Payne, Dean of the College of Business Administration and Paul L. Foster and Alejandra de la Vega Foster Distinguished Chair in International Business at UTEP, recently accepted an editorial board appointment to the relatively new multidisciplinary energy journal, Energy Reports, published by Elsevier.

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**THIS IS THE CONFERENCE YOU’RE LOOKING FOR**

2019 IPT Conference picks intergalactic theme for gathering

In a galaxy far, far away — but in reality: San Antonio — an intergalactic theme set the stage for the Institute for Professionals in Taxation’s (IPT) annual conference. IPT 2019 Scholarship recipients Wayne W. Landry, III (left) Frank Espino (right) were honored at the annual gathering.

With a focus on education, IPT’s conference presents relevant legislation, recent decisions and emerging industry issues to its members programmed against a full roster, including more than 100 speakers and 50 sessions for tax professionals and students.