Welcome new SJSU President and LCOb Dean!

Dr. Mary A. Papazian was formally inaugurated as the university’s 30th president on May 4th. Festivities were held on Tower Lawn with the Investiture Ceremony that featured a number of dignitaries and special visitors to our campus.

Papazian joined San Jose State University as its 30th president on July 1, 2016. Papazian—a Southern California native—is firmly committed to student success; open, transparent and inclusive leadership; fostering a culture of curiosity and discovery; and building enduring campus and community partnerships.

Before coming to SJSU, Papazian was president of Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. Previously, Papazian was the provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at Lehman College of The City University of New York. She also served as the dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Montclair State University in New Jersey, and as associate dean of the College of Arts and Science at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, where she began her academic career as an assistant, associate and tenured professor of English.

Papazian holds bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in English from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. Dan Moshavi joined SJSU in February, 2017 as dean of the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business. Dan previously served as professor of management and dean of the business schools at both Dominican University of California and Montana State University. He began his academic career at San Jose State as an assistant professor in the late 1990s.

Dan has extensive higher education administrative experience in strategic positioning, fundraising, community and alumni engagement, interdisciplinary program development, university operations, and faculty and staff development, and has led and managed initiatives focused on diverse and first generation student populations. Dan’s teaching, research and consulting focuses on leadership, high performance teams, change management, and attitudes and emotions in the workplace. He has consulted for a variety of organizations, including health care institutions, universities and municipalities. He has been a faculty member in an executive master’s program at the University of Lugano in Switzerland and has served as a research fellow with the Nemours Center for Medical Leadership.

A skilled facilitator and instructor, Dan has won more than a dozen teaching awards during his career including the university-wide teaching award at Montana State. Prior to his academic career, he worked in industry in marketing and public relations. Dan received his Ph.D. in management from the University of Oregon as well an MBA and a B.A. (international affairs) from George Washington University in Washington DC.
STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to Rachita Kothari who was selected as the Outstanding MST graduate for Spring 2017. Rachita will be recognized at the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business convocation ceremony on Thursday, May 25 at the SJSU Event Center. Rachita has joined the Transfer Pricing Team at Franklin Templeton Investments.

“I would like to thank the faculty, staff, and friends for their support during the MST program. I thoroughly enjoyed the blend of practical and theoretical aspects of taxation in the coursework. The courses put into perspective the importance of various tax laws and offered both depth and breadth across the field. I developed better interpersonal and communication skills by interacting with the faculty, tax professionals and peers. The faculty and guest lecturers were always approachable for questions. I have made some great friends for life and shared memorable moments preparing for class presentations, assignments and discussions.”

Congratulations to Ophelia Ding who was awarded a scholarship from the Silicon Valley Tax Directors Group. The scholarship was awarded by the group on April 28 at an event held at GoPro in San Mateo.

[Photo: Don Rath, Vice President, TaxSynopsys, Inc. and MST student Ophelia Ding.]

FACULTY NEWS

- MST Faculty Member Will Skinner, partner with Fenwick & West, presented a webinar for Thomson Reuters and TEI on April 5, 2017 on The New Section 901(m) Regulations – Overview, Traps, and Practical Considerations.

- MST Director Annette Nellen presented “The Sharing Economy: Tax Points and Policy” to the Multistate Tax Commission at their March 10 meeting in San Diego. Professor Nellen continues as chair of the AICPA Tax Executive Committee and co-chair of the California Bar Tax Section’s Women in Taxation Committee. This summer she rolls off of the bar committee and becomes co-chair of CalCPA’s Accounting Education Committee. On the day President Trump released his tax reform principles (April 26), she was interviewed on three local TV news shows and by two newspapers.

- SJSU tax faculty Caroline Chen and Annette Nellen, had an article, “Penalties: Dealing With Recent Legislative Changes,” published in Practical Tax Strategies in March 2017.

MST PROGRAM UPDATE

The MST Program continues to enjoy wide interest among working professionals and recent accounting grads seeking 150 units to become a CPA. The program has approximately 120 students. One change that MST Program Director Annette Nellen is working on with assistance from MST student Padmini Yalamarthi and resources provided by CPA firms, is the addition of a technology course focused on higher level Excel skills, data analytics, data security, and how new technologies, such as the Blockchain and artificial intelligence, are likely to change tax practice.

MST students and alums: Have news to share with others? Please send details to catherine.dougherty@sjsu.edu.