

FIRST EVER 2-DAY RETREAT— REACHING YOUR FULL POTENTIAL: MST AND BEYOND

Upcoming Conferences

- TEI-SJSU Tax Policy Conference— Friday, February 28, 2014
- IRS-SJSU Small Business Tax Institute— Wednesday, June 18, 2014
- High Tech Tax Institute Academy—Friday, October 17, 2014
- 30th Annual TEI-SJSU High Tech Tax Institute— Mon/Tues Nov 10 and 11, 2014



LUCAS GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS

www.sjsu.edu/lucasschool



<http://goo.gl/AisH7f>



@sjsutax

On September 27 - 28, 2013, the MST Program held its first ever retreat for students. The event started at 2 pm on the SJSU campus with a team-building activity, ethics workshop led by Professor Anne Lawrence, and a presentation by Scott Borgia with Armanino. In the late afternoon, we took the campus shuttle to the SJSU-Utah State football game at Spartan Stadium.

On Saturday we were at Lucas Business Complex in Santa Clara all day for workshops with MST instructor Vince Fong and MST Program Director Annette Nellen on career planning and emotional intelligence. Two practitioners spoke to the group: John Volk with Sensiba San Felippo, and Thomas Sites with KPMG (also an MST alum). MST alum Mike Baird presented a workshop on leadership. We ended the day with dinner at Pedro's that included a workshop throughout dinner on dining and business etiquette by consultant Gina Snyder. We learned proper place setting,



Retreat participants attended the San Jose State Spartans Football game vs. Utah State

handshaking, how to hold a plate, napkin and glass in one hand, how to network, and more.

Initial results of the post-assessment survey include that 100% of attendees would recommend the event to their classmates and 100% all left

with action items to help advance their career. The event was free for students with the costs covered by funds generated from the tax conferences sponsored by the MST Program and TEI, as well as donations from firms.

Continued on Page 2

STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Most Outstanding MST Graduate

Congratulations to Catherine Chalfant and Victoria Lau. They were selected as the Most Outstanding MST graduates. Catherine was selected amongst the Spring 2013 graduates and

Victoria was selected amongst the Summer/Fall 2013 graduates.

New MST Faculty

Please welcome Joel Busch as the newest member of our MST faculty. Prior to joining the faculty at SJSU,

Joel spent over a decade at Granite Construction Incorporated where he was in charge of federal, state and local tax audits, appeals, research and planning. In addition, Joel was responsi-

Continued on Page 2

RETREAT, CONT.

The purpose of the retreat is to help students get the most out of their graduate studies - going beyond the classroom. To be an effective tax practitioner, one needs broad and deep knowledge of the tax law, excellent tax research skills, and good communication and interpersonal skills. To help students achieve all of this, the MST Program has several co-curricular activities ("Tax Engagement Opportunities"). This includes students delivering financial literacy workshops in the community, attending professional meetings, and writing and editing for the MST journal - *The Contemporary Tax Journal* (<http://www.sjsumstjournal.com>).

The next opportunity for MST students to attend the MST Retreat will be spring 2014.



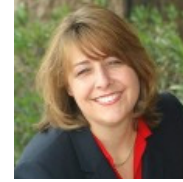
Business Etiquette Dinner



Participants listening to a presentation by MST instructor, Vince Fong

ALUMNI NEWS

Monika Miles, CPA, MST named by CPA Practice Advisor as one of 2013's Most Powerful Women in Accounting



President

Labhart Miles Consulting Group, Inc.

www.labhartmiles.com

Education: BBA- Accounting/Finance—University of Texas at El Paso; Master of Science in Taxation—San Jose State University.

Professional Associations: Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance (Past National President—2011/2012); National Association of Women Business Owners; Vistage; AICPA, Texas Society of CPAs

Hobbies: Boating/water skiing; cooking with husband, travel, reading, Sudoku.

For full interview with Ms. Miles, please visit:

<http://goo.gl/q4IH57>

STUDENTS AND FACULTY, CONT.

ble for the creation, implementation and instruction of in-house tax education for the organization as well as representing the company in numerous tax legislation efforts and tax regulation reforms. Joel then spent the following seven years as a tax consultant, representing businesses and individuals on all facets of taxation – including income, sales/use, employment and property tax matters.

Joel has formerly served as Vice-Chair of the Tax Committee of the California Construction and Industrial Materials Association as well as an alternate board member of the California Taxpayers Association. He has been a guest speaker at various trade association tax seminars and has been an invited author in the area of privately-contracted tax consultants by governmental tax agencies based on his

spearheading of successful legislative reforms in the area in California in partnership with the California Assessors' Association.

Joel is a proud alumnus of San Jose State University – having received both a BS in Accounting and an MS in Taxation from SJSU. In addition, he has a JD from the Monterey College of Law. He is licensed in California as both a CPA and an attorney.

The Spring/Summer issue of the Contemporary Tax Journal was released in September and the website has had over 1,000 hits since its release.

<http://www.sjsumstjournal.com/>



Assistant Professor, Joel Busch



On October 3, 2013, Professor Nellen's BUS 223A class honored the 100th anniversary of the Revenue Act of 1913 which brought about our modern federal income tax.

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