



The Richard H. Simpson Professorship in Accounting

Our accounting department's first endowed professorship, which honors professor Richard H. Simpson, represents the collective generosity of hundreds of accounting alumni and their employers. To make a gift to the fund, contact Ed Brozman at brozman@som.umass.edu.

"If anyone deserves an endowed professorship named in his honor it's Dick Simpson," emphasizes **John N. Spinney, Jr. '87**. "He's made a huge positive difference to thousands of students and through their education he's created tremendous intellectual capital for their firms." In November 2007 Spinney and former Isenberg School undergraduate dean and Ph.D. accounting graduate **Dennis Hanno '90 Ph.D.** decided to make the Simpson professorship—the school's first endowed professorship in accounting—a reality by mobilizing the school's accounting alumni and making lead gifts of their own.

Spinney's own substantial gift provided initial financial leverage that helped the school's development director, Ed Brozman, engage hundreds of alumni in the initiative—*The Richard H. Simpson*

Professorship in Accounting. By the end of June, accounting alumni had contributed \$1 million toward the \$1.5 million professorship. "One reason why Dick was such a great professor was his own 'real time' research into new and evolving accounting standards," recalls Spinney, who is COO and CFO of the Boston based investment firm, Bracebridge Capital, LLC. "We'd discuss and learn in real time how to implement new standards while they were being approved by the FASB. Anyone who has taken intermediate or advanced accounting with Dick knows first hand the value that he added to their skill set before leaving UMass. He is truly one of a kind."



John N. Spinney, Jr. '87

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