

CONNER BLAKE

Accounting Ph.D. Candidate

Isenberg School of Management · University of Massachusetts Amherst

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EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Ph.D., Accounting

Expected 2023

Brigham Young University

MS, Accounting

2018

BS, Accounting (with Minors in Economics and International Development)

2018

RESEARCH

Primary Research Interests

Judgment and decision making in accounting; sustainability accounting and regulation; ESG; peer disclosure effects; managerial operating distortion

Publication

Bentley, J., C. Blake, M. Shackell, and P. Trafford. 2020. Let Me Explain! *Strategic Finance*.

- Winner of the 2020 Lybrand Silver Medal (IMA award for “exceptional contribution to the profession”)

Working Papers

“The Impact of Involvement and Disclosure of Environmental Sustainability Initiatives on Managers’ Short-termism in Their Operating Decisions”

- Dissertation Committee: Dave Piercey (Co-Chair), Elaine Wang (Co-Chair), Chris Agoglia, and Lisa Keller
- Presented at University of Massachusetts Amherst (2022), AAA/Deloitte Foundation/J. Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium (2022)
- Recipient of the Return to Research Grant (\$5,000)

“Narrative Reporting in a Team Environment” with Jeremy Bentley

- Presented at BYU Accounting Research Symposium (2021), Tilburg University (2021)*, MAS Midyear Meeting (2022), Emerging Management Accounting Scholars Symposium (2022)*, AAA Annual Meeting (2022).

*Presented by co-author

- *Under first round review at The Accounting Review*

Works in Process

“Rival Firms’ Non-GAAP Disclosures and Managers’ Acquisition Behavior” with Hun Tong Tan, Elaine Wang, and Tu Xu

- *Data collection phase (we collected pilot data and revised the instrument, and we are now collecting full sample data)*

“Surrogation and Operating Distortion” with Bill Tayler, Jeremy Bentley, Jeff Williams, and Paul Black

- *Manuscript writing phase*

“Now You’re Speaking My Language: How Converting Nonfinancial Impact into Dollars Influences Managers’ Decision-Making” with Joseph Johnson

- *Research design phase*
- Scheduled to present proposal at the Junior Accounting Scholars Organization (JASO) Workshop Series in November

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Primary Teaching Interests

Financial Accounting; Managerial Accounting; Data Analytics; Accounting Information Systems

Courses Taught

Principles of Managerial Accounting, University of Massachusetts Amherst

- Spring 2022 – overall instructor rating: 4.9/5.0
- Fall 2020, Section 1 (*Online*) – overall instructor rating: 4.7/5.0
- Fall 2020, Section 2 (*Online*) – overall instructor rating 4.8/5.0
- Fall 2019 – overall instructor rating 4.7/5.0
- Spring 2019 – overall instructor rating 4.7/5.0

Principles of Accounting, Brigham Young University

- Spring 2017 – overall instructor rating 4.7/5.0

Teaching Assistant

MSA 620 – Introduction to Forensic Accounting with Lynda Schwartz

2018-Present

MSA 621 – Fraud Examination and Investigation with Lynda Schwartz

2018-Present

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2022 Junior Accounting Scholars Organization Workshop Series (*Scheduled Presenter*)

2022 ABO Midyear Meeting (*Reviewer, Discussant*)

2022 AAA Annual Meeting (*Reviewer, Presenter*)

2022 AAA/Deloitte Foundation/J. Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium (*Presenter*)

2022 FARS Midyear Meeting

2022 MAS Midyear Meeting (*Reviewer, Discussant, Presenter*)

2021 ABO Midyear Meeting and Doctoral Consortium (*Reviewer, Discussant*)

2021 BYU Accounting Research Symposium (*Presenter*)

2021 FARS Midyear Meeting and Doctoral Consortium

2021 MAS Midyear Meeting

2020 ABO Midyear Meeting and Doctoral Consortium

2020 Online Teaching and Curriculum – UMass Accounting Discussion Forum Series

2019 ABO Midyear Meeting

2019, 2018, 2017 BYU Accounting Research Symposium

AWARDS, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND CERTIFICATES

Outstanding Doctoral Student Teaching Award – Isenberg School of Management	2022
Outstanding Manuscript Reviewer Award – 2022 AAA Annual Meeting	2022
AAA Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Certificate	2022
CMA Doctoral Scholarship – Institute of Management Accountants	2022
Arthur H. Carter Graduate Student Researcher Award	2022
Arthur H. Carter Graduate Student Research Assistant Award	2022
Outstanding Manuscript Reviewer Award – 2022 MAS Midyear Meeting	2022
Arthur H. Carter Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award	2021
Return to Research Grant – UMass Graduate School	2021
Lybrand Silver Medal – Institute of Management Accountants	2020
Moss Adams Peer-to-Peer Scholarship – Brigham Young University	2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ernst & Young (Washington, D.C.) – Assurance Intern	2017
TouchPoint, Inc. (Philadelphia, PA) – Corporate Accounting Specialist	2016

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Accounting Association	2019-Present
Accounting Behavior and Organizations Section	2019-Present
Management Accounting Section	2019-Present
Financial Accounting and Reporting Section	2020-Present
Junior Accounting Scholars Organization	2020-Present

REFERENCES

Dave Piercey, Ph.D.

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