We are living through tumultuous times. Technology and global competition have profoundly changed how business is conducted. Mega-mergers are every day occurrences, and names with which we are all familiar seem to pass from the American scene with increasing frequency. The speed with which an enterprise can rise to great heights . . . and subsequently fall to great depths is intimidating. The speed with which our accounting enrollments can fall or our programs be rendered obsolete is equally alarming.

In this era of change, every organization must reassess its mission and strategic vision. The FSA is no exception. In tandem with the AAA, APLG and AACSB, the FSA must identify its unique and continuing, yet evolving role. All these organizations provide support in various ways for faculty and schools of accountancy. The need has never been greater. With declining resources, our administrators, our faculty and our associations must be even more focused and synergistic.

The role delegated to the FSA today centers on the ways and means to advance market responsive educational programs. We recognize that each of our schools cannot independently afford to pioneer each needed reform or curriculum revision. Today's budgets mandate that we work together and share best practices. The FSA's role is to help coordinate the national exchange of ideas and national sharing of solutions.

One imminent venue where this sharing will occur is the 2002 FSA Annual Meeting in October. The program of the FSA annual meeting is just starting to be addressed. Soon you will receive a survey asking you to help us identify your needs. What are the curriculum related issues that are of most concern to you? The FSA will also again team with the AACSB to bring to you sessions on accreditation related topics. You will also be asked to help us identify your needs and interests in this area.

The FSA is a lean organization. Your board is cognizant of the need to keep your costs low. Accordingly, the FSA is fundamentally a volunteer run organization. To be successful, the FSA in a very real way needs you. There exists a critical continuing need for new blood in the organization. Old habits and old ways of thinking need to be challenged. Never hesitate to communicate your ideas, concerns or reservations to the board. Your active volunteer participation is similarly solicited. If you want to spearhead some new effort, let us know about it!

Philip M.J. Reckers
Arizona State University
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The 2001 FSA Annual Meeting was held in Arlington, Virginia, on October 25–27, 2001. This was the 25th annual meeting of the Federation of Schools of Accountancy. The Washington, DC, area location was selected over 18 months in advance of the October 2001 annual meeting. The consequences of the terrible events of September 11, 2001, were brought into direct view for those who attended. The officers and members of the board of directors of the FSA express their thanks and appreciation to the many attendees of the FSA’s 25th annual meeting who continued our organization’s tradition of sharing in an annual forum for exchanging experiences, viewpoints, and ideas for offering the highest quality graduate accounting education possible.

The theme of the annual meeting was Challenges to Graduate Accounting Education: Adding Value. From that theme, two main focuses were developed. The first was assessment techniques we can use to determine if our graduate accounting programs are providing value to our students. The second theme was on the issues facing graduate program directors such as recruiting quality students, developing a cohesive graduate curriculum, meeting the 150-hour requirements, and so on.

The plenary and concurrent sessions amplified the theme and its focuses. Plenary sessions were provided by Jean Wyer, from PwC and a member of the AACSB’s Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) on Accreditation Quality; Michael Moore, from Ernst & Young, LLP, and Michael Diamond, from USC, on the challenges and pitfalls of the strategic planning process in academic settings; and Dana Ellis from Arthur Andersen, LLP, on the competencies for professional success needed by our accounting graduates.

A variety of concurrent sessions were presented, including sessions on accreditation issues, results from surveys of directors of accounting programs, exemplars of graduate accounting programs, cases from the AICPA’s Practitioner/Professor Case Series, an update on the computerized CPA exam and other AICPA education initiatives, and developing program assessment practices.

The archived program for the 25th Annual Meeting may be found by accessing the FSA’s Web site at www.thefsa.org. In addition, a number of presenters provided file copies of their Microsoft PowerPoint slides or other presentation materials. These may also be found on the FSA Web site.

The 2002 FSA 26th Annual Meeting will be held on October 17–19, 2002, at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi. The program and registration material for the 2002 annual meeting will be available on our FSA Web site as we get closer to the meeting date. We look forward to seeing you at our 2002 annual meeting!
FSA Student Award Recipients

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Bentley College

Beloslava Litcheva
San Diego State University

Beloslava Litcheva
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Kansas State University

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Louisiana Tech University

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Miami University

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Michigan State University

Gerald Robert Bischoff
New Mexico State University

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Bredan Patrick Brady
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Cory L. Whitaker
Texas A&M University

Katie Elizabeth Duren
Texas Tech University

Chan Chong Hang
The University of Hong Kong

Meredithe Brooke Evans
The University of Alabama

Brenda Weibel
The University of Iowa

David Brantley Blackburn
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Plan today to attend the 2002 FSA 26th Annual Meeting at the beautiful seaside resort of Beau Rivage in Biloxi, Mississippi. The program theme is Surviving and Thriving in a Dynamic Global Marketplace. The program will include sessions related to:

- Curriculum Best Practices
- The New CPA Exam
- New AACSB Standards
- Benchmarking and Strategic Planning
- Recruiting Masters Students
- Integrating Technology
- Integrating Financial Analysis

A survey is currently being distributed to member schools to enlist feedback regarding these and other topics for inclusion on the agenda. The program will address your needs!

The Conference Resort also provides casino gaming and live entertainment, making it an ideal evening environment to network with colleagues from around the country and to explore issues related to the program. Or, bring the family along for a post-meeting weekend stay over.

LEARN AND HAVE FUN DOING IT!
2001 FSA Service Awards

The Federation of Schools of Accountancy annually gives two major awards to recognize exceptional service to the accounting profession. The Joseph A. Silvoso Faculty Merit Award is given to an academic who has made notable contributions in teaching, curriculum development, service and research. The FSA Practitioner Award is given for notable service to accounting education and to accounting groups.

W. Steve Albrecht, Associate Dean of the Marriott School at Brigham Young University, was honored as the 2001 winner of the Silvoso award. An outstanding teacher, Steve has won a number of university and national awards, including the Beta Alpha Psi Outstanding Faculty Award. Steve is nationally known as a leading expert in forensic accounting. He has served as President of the Association of Certified Fraud examiners and has written three books and numerous articles on fraud detection and prevention. Steve has served in leading positions in the American Accounting Association, AICPA, AACSB, and currently serves as President of Beta Alpha Psi. Steve’s most recent involvement, “Accounting Education: Charting the Course through a Perilous Future” with Robert Sack, is a fundamental challenge to accounting educators today to rethink accounting education. Always a friend to the FSA, we are delighted to present Steve with this award.

Arthur R. Wyatt was awarded the FSA Practitioner Award. Art is one of those rare individuals who excelled in both the academic and professional arenas. Art joined the faculty at the University of Illinois where he taught until he left for a position with Arthur Andersen & Co. Art quickly obtained partner status and worked with the firm for years as their top technical person. Art left AA to go with the FASB where he was recognized for his clear and unbiased arguments. After leaving the FASB, Art returned to the University of Illinois and resumed teaching. Today, Art spends his spring and summer teaching in Illinois and his fall and winter enjoying golf in Florida. As a practitioner who we as academics call one of our own, we are pleased to present the FSA Practitioner Award to Arthur R. Wyatt.

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