According to a 2013 survey by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA), the demand for accounting graduates has never been greater. A record 40,350 accounting graduates were hired in 2012 by public accounting firms alone, with 89% of those firms forecasting the same or even greater hiring the following year. These results are consistent with the findings of the 2012-13 Bureau of Labor Statistics Outlook Handbook that forecast a 16% growth in the employment of accountants and auditors from 2010 to 2020. The 2013 survey of BC seniors confirms this high demand, with only 7% of our graduates still undecided or looking for employment a month before graduation.

A BC accounting degree provides more than just the entryway to employment. It equips its holder with the skill set to excel in a profession. Our 2012 graduates’ performance on the CPA exam, the latest results available, reached an all-time high, with over 83% of first-time exam candidates passing all four parts of the exam compared to less than 62% nationally.

Two of our graduates received the Elijah Watt Sells Award for being among the top exam scorers in the country, and BC students also received the gold and silver medals from the MA Society of CPAs, for having the two highest exam scores among MA CPA candidates.

The number of BC alumni working for the Big 4 also continues to grow, now over 1,250. Impressively, 157 (12%) attain the position of partner, principal or managing director.

Thinking of majoring in Accounting? See your accounting professor or visit the department office in Fulton 520 for more information.
2013 Senior Survey Results

Over 95% of all BC accounting seniors would major in accounting all over again and over 98% would recommend BC accounting to a friend or relative.

Internship Data

57% of all junior internships were with one of the Big 4 Accounting firms, 8% with other public accounting firms, and 23% with financial firms.

58% of all internships converted into full-time offers, with the Big 4 firms converting 83% of their interns to full-time hires.

This graph tabulates the percentage of accounting majors from the class of 2011-2013 who had junior and sophomore internships and their average monthly internship pay.

BC ACCOUNTING GRADS’ MEAN STARTING SALARIES & BONUSES: 2011-2013

This graph tabulates the mean starting salaries and bonuses for the classes of 2011-2013 by type of firm and for all accounting graduates.
There are four parts to the CPA exam. Overall pass rates are calculated by dividing the total number of successful attempts by the total attempts in all four parts of the exam. CPA exam results are taken from the 2006-2012 Uniform CPA Examination School Performance book published by the National State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA).

This table presents the overall pass rates for first-time exam candidates who took the exam within one year of graduation. Because candidates can take the exam even without an accounting degree and can retake the exam multiple times, pass rates of first-time candidates taken within one year of graduation better reflect the results of recent accounting graduates.
2013 DEPARTMENT AWARDS and RECOGNITION

Prof. Ed Taylor
2013 Carroll School of Management Honors Program Outstanding Professor

Prof. Sugata Roychowdhury
2013 American Accounting Association Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Literature Award

Prof. Timothy Gray
2013 Carroll School of Management Distinguished Professor

2013 Program Rankings

Financial Times Global MBA Accountancy Specialization Ranking 1st
Bloomberg BusinessWeek Undergraduate Accounting Program Specialty Ranking 13th
US News & World Reports Graduate Accounting Specialty 19th

BC Alumni in the Big 4 by Position

1,251 BC alumni currently work for one of the Big 4 accounting firms. Over 12% (157) are partners, principals or managing directors and over 32% (404) are managers or senior managers.