In a 2016 report examining the educational backgrounds of C-suite executives in a portfolio of 675 of America’s leading companies from Fortune and S&P 500 Indexes (http://www.cristkolder.com/mediain1755/volatility-report-americas-leadingcompanies.pdf), Crist/Kolder Associates document that Accounting was nearly 50% more popular (152) as the next most popular major (Economics with 102) among CFOs, and was also the fourth most popular among CEOs.

Accounting is clearly important to a successful executive. In a world of Big Data, the accountants’ knowledge of how financial information is generated, translated and utilized provides a framework for understanding how entities operate and succeed.

At Boston College, we provide our accounting majors with the knowledge and skill set to succeed. In the latest CPA exam results (2016), Boston College candidates passed 74% of all sections of the exam compared to 48.7% nationally. For candidates who took the exam within one year of graduation, the pass rate is even more impressive at 81.8% compared to 54.4% nationally.

Not surprisingly, our graduates are highly sought after. In our 2017 survey of seniors prior to graduation, we find that 96% had secured employment or were pursuing graduate school. Over half the class had obtained a position with one of the Big 4 accounting firms. They will join a large network of Boston College graduates. At the end of the 2016 year, 1,509 Boston College alumni work for one of the Big 4 firms with 301 (20%) attaining the top positions of partner, principal or director.

If you have any questions, talk to your accounting professor or contact Professor Edward Taylor by email at taylored@bc.edu.
BC ACCOUNTING GRADS’ MEDIAN STARTING SALARIES: 2015-2017

This graph tabulates the mean starting salaries and bonuses for the classes of 2015-2017 by type of firm and for all accounting graduates.

BC ACCOUNTING GRADS’ INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT DATA: 2013-2017

This graph tabulates the percentage of accounting majors from the classes of 2013-2017 who had junior and sophomore internships and their average monthly internship pay.

2016 Deloitte FanTAXtic Competition National Finalist Team (left to right): Edward Taylor (faculty advisor), Andrew Breckel, Nikita Patel, Ellen Ubl, Marissa Cohen, and Ryan Pierpont.
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 2008-2016 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.

Classes of 2016-2017 Employers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Antares Capital</th>
<th>Bank of America</th>
<th>Merrill Lynch</th>
<th>Booz Allen Hamilton</th>
<th>Cantor Fitzgerald</th>
<th>Citigroup</th>
<th>Deloitte LLP</th>
<th>Deutsche Bank</th>
<th>EY LLP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Percentage of graduates who would recommend majoring in accounting at BC.

Seven Boston College graduates have earned the Elijah Sells Award since 2012:

- Anthony Salomone '12
- Mark Stankevitz '12
- Marcos E. Carreño ‘15
- Courtney Folgeman ‘15
- Jiaqi Gong ‘15
- Mark Piorkowski ‘15
- James Scott Deuschle ‘16

Classes of 2016-2017 Employers:

- Antares Capital
- Bank of America
- Merrill Lynch
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Cantor Fitzgerald
- Citigroup
- Deloitte LLP
- Deutsche Bank
- EY LLP
- FTI Consulting
- General Electric
- Grant Thornton LLP
- KPMG LLP
- Harris Williams & Co.
- Jefferies & Company
- JP Morgan Chase
- Landmark Partners
- Morningstar
- Needham & Company
- Nomura
- Point72 Asset Management
- Prudential Capital Group
- PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
- RSM LLP
- UBS

Citation:

Boston College
Carroll School of Management
Accounting Department
Fulton Hall 520
140 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
617-552-3940
CSOM.Accounting@bc.edu
Boston College, and especially the accounting department, extends best wishes to G. Peter Wilson, who retired this year after 20 years of distinguished service. Pete will be greatly missed by students, faculty and staff, and remains a legend at Boston College. Pete's unending quest to inspire others to think deeply has been evident in his enthusiasm for research on financial reporting, taxation and disclosure. While conducting that research, he also published an article, “Teaching and Learning can be Energizing,” indicating his broad interests in both research and teaching. This passion continued throughout his career as he is the recipient of numerous awards, including the inaugural Innovation in Financial Accounting Education Award presented by the Financial Accounting and Reporting Section of the American Accounting Association in 2016. Pete and his wife Carolyn have moved to St. Petersburg, where they are enjoying the weather and time with their children and grandchildren. We miss you Pete!