



Scheduled Conference

36th Annual TEI-SJSU High Tech Tax Institute
November 9 & 10, 2020

For more information, visit www.sjsu.edu/taxinstitute/

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Individuals eligible to enroll in the MST Program or who already have an MST may take courses via

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UPDATE FROM THE LUCAS COLLEGE AND GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE DEAN



The education sector has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In early March, the entire SJSU institution transitioned in less than a week from in-person teaching to remote learning. Faculty and students had to adjust to new technology and pedagogical tools in record time. All the campus community faced a daunting organizational challenge and gave proof of resilience and flexibility. The health and economic turmoil disrupted academic evaluation services and GMAT/GRE testing facilities across the world. To facilitate the application and admission processes for prospective students, the Lucas Graduate School of Business decided to (1) automatically waive the GMAT/GRE score requirement for all applicants to graduate degrees for the Fall 2020 admission cycle and (2) extended the application deadline to June 1st. Such changes appear to have had a positive impact, and we are expecting to at least match last year's enrollment numbers in the MST program and other business graduate degrees. Given the job losses in the economy and the challenging financial environment, we are lucky that we will be able to educate another large group of students who will become tomorrow's Bay Area business leaders.

The MST program, like all programs offered by the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business, will continue delivering courses using remote learning during the rest of the year. The learning experience will be very different than in previous semesters, but the adoption of new technology and changes in our pedagogical approach will allow us to deliver quality education in this online environment.

This challenging situation also represents an opportunity for our institution to find new ways to educate students and facilitate the development of the professional and soft skills. For instance, starting this fall, the MST will integrate in the curriculum an AI platform designed to evaluate students' oral communication skills and provide resources for improvement. While we are meeting the current challenges of a shelter-in-place environment, the MST program is also considering how remote learning will permanently impact the academic program. We are conducting focus groups and surveying the students to assess the optimal schedule and course delivery modes that will insure a successful and rigorous program for years to come.

Marco Pagani, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Lucas Graduate School of Business

Professor Annette Nellen, Director of the MST Program, made several presentations this spring. This includes live and online presentations for the ABA Tax Section on virtual currency taxation, COVID-19 tax change webinars for CalCPA and others, and AB 5 pitfalls for the CalCPA. In May, Professor Nellen completes 6 years of service to the AICPA Tax Executive Committee including 2 1/2 years as chair. This committee represents the 40,000+ membership of the AICPA on all tax policy and procedural matters. She joins the AICPA Tax Practice and Procedure Committee as a member starting this May.



ALUMNI NEWS

Jacqueline Matoza, CPA, MST

Jacqueline Matoza, CPA, MST has over 14 years of experience in tax and accounting. She received her Master's of Taxation degree from San Jose State University and completed her Bachelor's of