



University of Missouri-Columbia • College of Business • 408 Cornell Hall • Columbia, MO 65211

# NEWS

*From the MU College of Business*

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**FOR RELEASE**

## **WILLIAMS-KEEPERS LLC MAKES GIFT TO SUPPORT FACULTY AWARDS AND STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

COLUMBIA, Mo. (January 19, 2007) - Williams-Keepers LLC, a certified public accounting and business consulting firm with locations in Columbia and Jefferson City, made a \$10,000 gift to the College of Business to establish the Williams-Keepers School of Accountancy Excellence Fund. The fund will provide three Williams-Keepers Teaching Excellence Awards in Accountancy and up to five Williams-Keepers Scholarships for students. Williams-Keepers intends to make similar gifts on an annual basis.

"We are very excited to be making this gift to the College of Business," says WK's Managing Member Russell Starr, CPA, who earned a bachelor's degree in accountancy from MU in 1973. "Many of our firm's partners and associates have graduated from the MU School of Accountancy, and we are proud to support its faculty and students."

The Williams-Keepers Teaching Excellence Awards will allow the School of Accountancy to recognize faculty members for excellence in teaching. The criteria for the awards will include innovative teaching techniques, a positive professional character, and favorable evaluations of effective teaching. A total of \$5,000 will be awarded; \$2,000 for a tenure-track faculty member, \$2,000 for a non-tenure track faculty member, and \$1,000 for a graduate teaching assistant.

Up to five scholarships of at least \$1,000 will also be awarded annually to accountancy students from the Williams-Keepers fund. Because Williams-Keepers' offices are located in Columbia and Jefferson City, preference for the scholarships will be given to students from the mid-Missouri area.

"I am happy to see Williams-Keepers taking an even greater interest in our accountancy program," says Tom Howard, the Joseph A. Silviso Director of the School of Accountancy. "Their increased support of the School of Accountancy shows their dedication to top-quality education for Missouri's accounting students."

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### **ABOUT WILLIAMS KEEPERS**

Williams-Keepers LLC, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, is locally owned by 15 members and employs approximately 100 members and associates in its Columbia and Jefferson City locations. The firm offers a variety of business-consulting services and is a member of PKF North American Network, an association of independent accounting firms, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPA). For more information, please visit the firm's Web site at [www.williamskeepers.com](http://www.williamskeepers.com).

### **ABOUT THE COLLEGE**

The MU College of Business, founded in 1914, today enrolls more than 3,950 undergraduate students and nearly 365 graduate students. The college has four academic units – Accountancy, Finance, Management, and Marketing – with 63 full-time faculty members. The college offers an undergraduate degree in business administration, an MBA degree, a 150-hour program that confers both undergraduate and master's degrees in accountancy, and PhD degrees in both accountancy and business administration. The College of Business takes great pride in its graduates. Nearly 30,000 alumni are contributing their expertise to the public and private sectors in every state in the U.S. and in a host of foreign countries.

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