As we begin our new fiscal year, I would like to first express my heartfelt gratitude to BKR’s outgoing worldwide board members, Ray Nisivocca (Mt. Arlington) and Nilesh Shah (London). I’ve enjoyed serving with both of them immensely, and can unequivocally state that BKR would not be the success it is today without their dedication and support. Fortunately, Jason Tonjes (Omaha) and Arcangelo Agogliati (Milan) have stepped up to the plate to continue their work, with Arcangelo’s two-year term coinciding with his election as chair of BKR’s EMEA Region. I am grateful and excited to be working with them. And, as decided by the board last year, BKR’s Worldwide Chair shall continue to serve through the annual meeting in the year in which his/her two-year term is completed, which means that I will continue to serve as your chairman through our Annual Worldwide Meeting in Santiago, November 12-15.

Speaking of which, plans are already well underway to provide you with an extraordinary experience that I know will expand both your professional and personal horizons. Santiago, Chile, was chosen for its amazing beauty and diversity, impressive safety record, renowned food and wine, and its convenient location to embark on any number of pre- and post tours to other countries, cities, and historic venues – from the ancient spiritual ruins of Machu Picchu and Easter Island – to one-of-a-kind flora and fauna found only in the Galapagos Islands. Be sure to visit our website at www.bkr.com for detailed information on Santiago, as well as tour options throughout Chile and South America. Best of all, each firm gets one free partner registration, which includes all business sessions, meals, and social events. Look for detailed

Continued on page 10

The BKR International Leadership Institute held the final session and graduation for its 2015-2016 program at the Doubletree Metropolitan Hotel in New York, New York, from May 11-13.

In attendance were: Diana DeWitt (Baltimore), Randy Gammill (Memphis), Beverly Hensley (Houston), Christina Hester (Memphis), Libby Hornibrook (Minneapolis), David Horton (New York), Becky Hughes (Louisville), Mathew Irwin (Ottawa), Laura Lin (San Jose), James Matzdorff (Boston), John Mooney (Mt. Arlington), Daniel Moore (Memphis), Ken Newhouse (Charleston), Christopher Perrotta (Mt. Arlington), Jennifer Roubal (Minneapolis), Jamie Sylvester (Houston), and Natalya Walls (Omaha).
BKR’s 2016 Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting was a special occasion, as it was held jointly with the Walker Wayland Australasia Network’s annual conference at the Crown Metropol Hotel in Burswood, Perth. The conference was hosted by the BKR member firms of Walker Wayland, Chartered Accountants in Perth and AMD Chartered Accountants in Bunbury.

There were 65 delegates from across Asia and the wider BKR International group, including the Worldwide Chairman Howard Rosen (Phoenix), Americas Region Chairman David Goldner (Baltimore), EMEA Executive Director Tim Morris (London), and Asia-Pacific Regional Chair Sunny Ma (Shanghai). They were joined by a further 85 Walker Wayland Australasia delegates from across Australia and New Zealand.

This year’s conference brought a few changes to the conference agenda, with a tour of the offices of AMD Chartered Accountants in Bunbury by some of the members on Friday, as well as some members joining in on the Friday technical sessions hosted by the focus groups of WWA on the topics of audit and assurance, tax, and self-managed superannuation funds.

Saturday brought the commencement of the official proceedings, with outstanding speeches from The Honorable Dr. Mike Natham giving a detailed history on the Western Australian Economy (without using any slides) and also a detailed economic update from David de Garis of the National Australia Bank. The day concluded with a timely talk from Rob Nixon entitled, “The Firm of Now.”

The gala dinner was stylish, and the food and wine delicious at a waterside restaurant in Kings Park. If noise equals enjoyment, then we must all have had a great time with the delegates mingling and sharing stories.

Sunday’s sight-seeing trip on Perth’s wine cruise to the Swan Valley was a great follow up with the surprise of some singing on the return journey, including a cameo appearance from one of our own!

Monday was the final day of the conference.
After the completion of the Annual General Meeting, there were some outstanding presentations, with a current tax topic on FATCA and the US Amnesty Program by East Asia Sentinel Limited (Hong Kong), and another timely presentation on Cloud Accounting and Benchmarking presented by the WWA member firm based in Toowoomba. We also had the presentation to this year’s recipient of the BKR Scholarship to a student nominated by AMD.

The conference concluded with farewell speeches from the host firms, Walker Wayland, Chartered Accountants and AMD Chartered Accountants.

Another outstanding conference with plenty of opportunities to network and share knowledge and insights...I know I came home with a pocket full of business cards from new contacts. And, as always, I took home some great memories.

Roll on to 2017 and the exciting prospect of the joint BKR Asia-Pacific and EMEA conference, to be held in Singapore.
It was a pleasure to attend the BKR International Americas Regional Meeting in Toronto, Canada, in May. This was my second regional meeting, and I was again impressed by the comradery within the BKR family. At both conferences, the atmosphere has been open and comfortable, facilitating the exchange of experiences and ideas.

The activities offered opportunities to socialize with fellow BKR members. The lunch at the CN Tower was impressive, and I heard great things about the visit to Niagara Falls. It was fun to let loose at bit at the White Nights themed gala dinner dance. We have some definite dancers in the group!

The sessions were pertinent and informative. I found the “Accounting and Auditing Update” to be very helpful. I also obtained several takeaways from the “Strategies to Truly Engage and Retain Your People” and “Moving Away from the Time and Place Paradigm” put on by Jenn Wilson. Who can forget the report on the “Kingdom of EMEA” given by Nilesh Shah (London)? It was definitely a classic that will be hard to top!

Overall, the opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with BKR members who have such a wealth of knowledge and experience is invaluable.

I look forward to the next meeting so I can continue to strengthen the relationships that I have made within BKR!
The BKR Running Group registered for a MEK 10K race in Burlington, Ontario, on May 21 at 9:00 a.m. Fun was had by all at the neighboring Americas Regional Meeting in Toronto.

Thanks to Micheal and Marianna Burch of Welch LLP (Ottawa) for transportation to and from the site of the race and Toronto, as well as the celebratory breakfast afterward in Oakville, Ontario.

Once again, we were able to forge and strengthen our friendships, and build lasting relationships with events like this. We all had a great time and look forward to the next one.
The BKR EMEA Regional Meeting took place at The Vienna Marriott from June 3-6, 2016. The meeting was a great success. As well as the EMEA members who attended, we had several member firms from the BKR Americas and Asia-Pacific Regions who attended.

SRJ Managing Director and Vice Chair of the Asia-Pacific Region Jason Croston gives his thoughts on the meeting in his Vienna Diaries.

Vienna Diaries

Over the past few days, I have had the privilege of attending the BKR International EMEA Regional Meeting in the great city of Vienna. Covering Europe, Middle East and Africa, the EMEA Region boasts 67 member firms that cover about 50 different countries. The conference was hosted by ARTUS Managing Partner Wolfgang Dibiasi, which is the member firm based in Vienna. I attended the conference in my capacity as vice chair of the Asia-Pacific Region.

After the session was opened by EMEA Executive Director Tim Morris, I was involved in a panel Q & A discussion along with Worldwide Chairman Howard Rosen (Phoenix), Americas Regional Chairman David Goldner (Baltimore), and EMEA Regional Chairman Nilesh Shah (London). There were many interesting discussion points, including the strong growth in the Asia-Pacific Region, especially in India and China. There was also discussion around the future challenges in the accounting profession and the potential impact of current key political issues including the US elections and the UK vote in whether to leave the EU.

The session then moved to a great presentation from Karen Reyburn from The Profitable Firm who presented on Social Media and Marketing. A key take away from the session amongst many was to have human conversations on Social Media. It is social, after all, and the people we connect with want to get to know us as people. You can find out more about Karen and her business here: theprofitablefirm.com.

The next session was a highlight for me, with Lorenz Huber presenting an outstanding session called the Leadership Orchestra. Lorenz brought in his own mini orchestra and demonstrated the leadership qualities needed to be a great conductor, then related that back to our roles as leaders in our firms. The key messages were: team alignment, clearness and consistency, and inspiration and dynamics. There was a great interactive component to his presentation where we practiced our conducting skills — some more successfully than others! You can find out more about Lorenz and Leadership Orchestra here: leadershiporchestra.com.

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VIENNA CONCLUDES BKR’S 2016 REGIONAL MEETINGS

by Jason Croston (Brisbane)

Host Wolfgang Dibiasi, on piano, entertains members prior to Sunday night’s gala dinner at Palais Ferstel.
In the afternoon, there were breakout sessions from Martin Bissett, Julia Fawcett, and Karen Reyburn covering topics of Looking after Future Leaders, Leveraging Digital Media, and Social Media, respectively. These smaller groups generated a lot of great discussion amongst the members.

From Saturday evening to Sunday evening, the important social parts of the conference took place. For me, these are always the best part of the conference, not only because we get to see the wonderful city that we are visiting, but mainly because it is a time where relationships are built and solidified. Saturday night was a dinner on top of Vienna at the Sky Restaurant. Sunday was a tour to the spectacular Schonbrunn Palace, lunch at Das Schreiberhaus, and then a walking tour of the city, which took in the old university, St Stephen’s Cathedral, and other historic locations, like Mozart’s house and Blood Alley.

On Sunday night, the formal gala dinner was held at Parlais Ferstel and included some fantastic music from our host, Wolfgang, on the piano, accompanied by a violinist and cellist. Apart from these social events, I also took time to go for a run every morning as I usually do, and got the chance to see a lot of the Danube River and Canal along with running along Hauptalle – for me, a great way to see a new place.

Back to business on Monday, and first thing was the famous EMEA Region Statistical Analysis that has been presented at many conferences by Les Nutter (Manchester) from Cassons. The members in the region all presented comparable information on key financials and other areas of their firms, and Les then presents the results, including discussions on what specific strategies member firms have implemented to achieve their results. I found this very interesting and came away with a few good tips for our firm. It is interesting that the challenges that firms are facing are very similar, whether they are from Austria, The Netherlands, Australia, or the US.

The conference ended with a presentation on the business opportunities in Austria, a Tax Committee update, and then some previews of future events, including the Annual Worldwide Meeting in Santiago, Chile, and the joint EMEA/Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting being held next year in Singapore.

Overall, even though it was a long journey for a short visit, I found the visit to Vienna to be excellent. It was my first time there, and I will come back again as a tourist one day. I came away with thoughts and ideas on how I can improve my own firm, but most of all I got a chance to see the friends I have in the EMEA Region and make new friends. This is the strength of BKR International and reaffirms our firm’s ability to assist our clients anywhere in the world with high-quality, professional advice from people that we really know – not just a name from a member list.
New Niche Chairs
As of our new fiscal year, new chairs have stepped up to lead BKR's practice groups as follows:

Business Development
Chair – Jeff Calderon (Louisville)

Real Estate and Construction
Chair – Katie Eyre (Portland)

Tax (U.S.)
Chair – John Beauston (Charleston)

Affordable Housing
Chair – Karen Kent (Boston)
Real Estate and Construction
Chair – Katie Eyre (Portland)

The Affordable Housing and Real Estate and Construction Practice Groups held a joint telemeeting on April 19. Scott Seamands (San Francisco) presented a session on “New Consolidation and Revenue Recognition Standards: What is the Impact on Audits of Affordable Housing Entities?”

Assurance Services
Chair – Sara Kelley (San Jose)

The Assurance Services Practice Group held a telemeeting on May 3. Guest Speaker Robert Durak, CPA, CGMA, and director of the Center for Plain English Accounting, presented on the Revenue Recognition Standard.

Business Valuation
The Business Valuation Practice Group Teleseminar was held on June 13. Guest speaker Frank Merenda from BKR’s strategic alliance partner, EAC Valuations, reviewed presentations from the recent NACVA Conference on divorce valuations and reasonable compensation. The group’s next teleseminar will be held on September 26. Tom Giordano’s (New York) term as practice group chair ended on June 30.

Firm Administrators
Chair - Colin Jackson (Boston)
The Firm Administrators Practice Group held a teleseminar on April 5. Guest Speaker and President of WayPoint Payment Solutions, Brian Kannar, gave a session on learning the best practices with which to lower credit card fees and improve efficiencies to your clients. The group’s next teleseminar will be held on July 19.

Governmental/Not-for-Profit Accounting and Auditing
Chair – Jeff Thomason (Memphis)

BKR’s Governmental/Not-for-Profit Accounting and Auditing Practice Group Meeting was held in Toronto on May 20 in conjunction with the Americas Regional Meeting. Guest speaker Diane Edelstein, from Maher Duessel, Certified Public Accountants, gave a GASB & Not-for-Profit Update. Afterward, roundtable discussions focused on auditor rotation, marketing strategies, overcoming pricing pressures associated with nonprofits, and uniform guidance implementation. The group’s next meeting will be held on June 3, 2017, in Louisville, Kentucky.

High Net Worth Families/Estate Planning
Chair – Michael Seelhoff (Omaha)
The High Net Worth Families/Estate Planning Practice Group held a webinar on April 27. Guest speaker Michael Egan from Moore & Cabot presented a session on “Equity Risk Management Strategies for Individuals with Concentrated Stock Positions.”

Human Resources
Chair – Diana Busche (Omaha)
The Human Resources Practice Group held a telemeeting on March 22. Guest speaker Art Kuessel presented on “Hiring and Compensating a Business Developer.”

Marketing
Chair – Delene Taylor (Louisville)
The Marketing Practice Group held a meeting on May 3 in New Orleans in conjunction with the Association of Accounting Marketing Summit. Guest panelists included Katie Tolin, CPA Growth Guides; Dawn Wagenaar, Ingenuity Marketing Group; Raissa Evans, Running Reload; and Carrie Steffen, The Whetstone Group.

Retirement Plan Auditors
Chair – Deborah de Vries (New York)
On May 10, a group dinner was held in Las Vegas in conjunction with the AICPA Conference on Employee Benefit Plans. The group also scheduled a teleconference for June 15 to further discuss topics from the AICPA Conference, as well as best practices for EBP audit realization, what plan sponsors and trustees are doing in the area of benchmarking fees, best methods for handling fee pressure on EBP engagements, marketing EBP audits to prospects, and is there an expected increase in content of AU 265 Letters in 2016?

Tax (Canadian)
Chair – Don Scott (Ottawa)
The Canadian Tax Practice Group held a telemeeting on May 10. Topics included the new budget provision, Section 55(5)(f), the issuance of life insurance shares vs. ITA 15(1), the

Continued on page 9
**BKR’S INTERNATIONAL TAX COMMITTEE CREATES LINKEDIN GROUP**

BKR’s International Tax Committee, chaired by Angelos Theodorou (Lefkosia), has set up its own LinkedIn Group for all BKR members and staff involved in cross-border transactions. The group features timely tax articles excerpted from the International Tax Review (http://www.internationaltaxreview.com), and all members are asked to submit news from their own jurisdictions as well. Join the new group at https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8476511/profile. In addition, the ITR is offering special BKR pricing to all firms wishing to have a full subscription to their service. Contact Nick Burroughs at nburroughs@euromoneyplc.com for details.

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**NICHE NEWS** (Continued)

Continued from page 8

The group’s next telemeeeting is scheduled for August 3.

**Tax – International, Americas Region**

Chair – Kenneth Laks (Long Island)

David Ji, senior managing director of BKR’s strategic partner, alliantgroup, led a teleseminar on May 5 on IC-DISC, which qualified for one hour of CPE credit. The group will also hold a webinar during its next telemeeeting on August 8 on transfer pricing. The group is currently updating its expertise database, which will be posted on its page on BKR’s website in the coming weeks.

**Tax – U.S.**

Chair – John Beaulston (Charleston)

The U.S. Tax Practice Group held its last telemeeeting on April 25. They discussed the challenges of busy season, staffing issues, and agreed to hold their in-person meeting on October 28 in Chicago, with an outside speaker during the morning to discuss management/efficiencies in the tax department, particularly with the increasing compression issues. The group will hold its next telemeeeting on July 11.

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BKR’s tax database, testamentary trusts, and crowd-funding in the real estate industry. The group also held an in-person meeting on May 22 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto in conjunction with the 2016 Americas Regional Meeting. Topics included the in-person meeting in the fall of 2016, new SB D rules, new life insurance rules, changes in the 2016 budget, and current tax practice trends.

**Technology (Internal)**

Chair – Bob Daugherty (Louisville)

The Technology (Internal) Practice Group held a telemeeeting on May 4. Topics included tax season struggles, help desk software, jump drives, mobile device management, e-signatures, malware/phishing, and battery backups.
For the fourth consecutive year, BKR International was invited to speak at an international seminar held at the University of Technology Yogyakarta in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

This year, Partner Grant Allsopp, from Walker Wayland - Sydney, spoke about the latest changes to International Accounting Standards.

Worldwide Chairman Howard Rosen (Phoenix) and Asia-Pacific Regional Executive Director Stephen Roger (Sydney) spoke about BKR International and how it assists its member firms, as well as the importance of building relationships in one’s career.

The seminar was conducted over two days, and was attended by more than 150 students and academic staff.

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Howard Rosen, Stephen Roger, and Grant Allsopp spoke at an international seminar held at the University of Technology Yogyakarta in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

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**BKR INVITED TO SPEAK AT UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY YOGYAKARTA**

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**CHAIRMAN’S LETTER (Continued)**

Continued from page 1

Information and registration forms in the coming weeks.

In other news, I had the pleasure of attending all three of BKR’s 2016 Regional Meetings in May and June: Asia-Pacific, in Perth, Australia, from May 6-9; Americas, in Toronto from May 20-24; and EMEA, in Vienna from June 4-6. All three meetings were extremely successful and enjoyable, and rated very highly by attendees. Even after all of my years in BKR, I continue to be amazed at the level of enthusiasm and excitement that my fellow members and the staff bring to our meetings, but don’t take my word for it – you can read member accounts of their meeting experiences on pages 2-7. Also, be sure to review the presentations, photographs, and minutes from each at www.bkr.com. On behalf of all of our members, I would like to thank our host firms for their generosity and hospitality during the events: Walker Wayland, Chartered Accountants (Perth) and AMD Chartered Accountants (Bunbury); SF Partnership, LLP (Toronto); and ARTUS Group (Vienna).

Again, I would like to welcome all of our new board members and practice group chairs around the world, and I look forward to working with and seeing you all in the coming months.

Regards,

Howard Rosen

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**REINDER!**

**Boston, Massachusetts, USA**

**Kevin P. Martin & Associates, P.C.** (KPM) is pleased to announce that Kevin Martin’s article, "Toronto: A Smart City Pin Drop," has been published on the Smart & Resilient Cities website. Read the piece in full at http://www.smartresilient.com/toronto-smart-city-pin-drop.

Kevin also received his Master of Arts in Ministry (MAM), Theology from St. John’s Seminary. Kevin currently serves as an ordained deacon at St. Mary of the Hills Parish in Milton, Massachusetts.

Employees at KPM participated in a Day of Service on June 24. Members of the staff volunteered at the Stone Zoo, as well as at Father Bill’s & Mainspring in Brockton, Massachusetts.

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

Kanaan & Associates is proud to announce the launch of its new website. Check it out at http://www.bkruae.com.

**Houston, Texas, USA**

Accounting industry veteran Bill Penczak has joined Briggs & Veselka Co. as managing director of Practice Development. Bill will be responsible for the firm’s organic growth, and oversee the marketing and business development functions for the firm, working closely with the firm’s management team and partner group.

Bill previously was in senior level practice development positions with Big 4 and national accounting firms. As an industry market development thought leader, he has been nominated twice as Marketer of the Year from the Association for Accounting Marketing (AAM), was co-editor of the AAM magazine, Growth Strategies, and founder of a national accounting CMO peer group.

**London, United Kingdom**

Blick Rothenberg LLP has released an updated version of its Establishing a Business in the UK guide. This comprehensive guide provides information on tax, accounting, and commercial issues that overseas businesses need to consider when looking to set up operations in the UK. Download the document at [http://www.blickrothenberg.com/get-media/3b6f3c5c-5e4d-4a1e-931c-032a1f11940a/Establishing-a-Business-in-the-UK-2016-17.pdf.aspx](http://www.blickrothenberg.com/get-media/3b6f3c5c-5e4d-4a1e-931c-032a1f11940a/Establishing-a-Business-in-the-UK-2016-17.pdf.aspx).

**Los Angeles, California, USA**


**Mt. Arlington, New Jersey, USA**

On May 20, Nisivocia LLP employees dressed in jeans donated to its not-for-profit client, Roots & Wings. Roots & Wings is a not-for-profit organization providing nurturing support, safe housing, educational support, and practical life skills to young adults who have aged out of the child welfare system.

On May 9, Harlene Stevens, CPA and manager at Nisivocia LLP, gave a talk to the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). The topic was frequently asked tax and accounting questions from both small businesses and individuals. NASW works to enhance the professional growth and development of its members, to create and maintain professional standards, and to advance sound social policies.

Harlene also had the opportunity to share her input about how medical practices should make a "Short Call List" a high priority. She was quoted in The Coding Institute’s June 2016 Practice Management Alert.

The firm held its biannual Connecting Women2Women Networking Event on May 26 at the Madison Hotel. This event is designed to bring women together to foster communications, establish relationships, and create opportunities. Nearly 70 professional women attended this event.

Nisivocia LLP participated in the ASAH Symposium. ASAH is the Association for New Jersey Department of Education Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities. Nisivocia LLP serves this group within its not-for-profit segment.

Deirdre Hartmann, Healthcare Group leader, participated in the Brach Eichler 8th Annual New Jersey Ambulatory Surgery Center Conference.

Deirdre Hartmann and Harlene Stevens attended and exhibited at the New Jersey Dental Association’s Garden State Dental Expo. Both also exhibited at the New Jersey Medical Society Show.

**New York, New York, USA**

Anchin, Block & Anchin LLP are proud to announce the launch of their new website. Check it out at [http://www.anchin.com](http://www.anchin.com).

**Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**


Continued on page 12
Christophe Leroy joins Exponens Conseil & Expertise as chief information officer. His 24 years of experience in the field of IT management, including 14 years in an accounting and auditing firm (six years as IT systems manager at Mazars Normandie and eight years as deputy within Mazars French IT Systems Direction in Paris), provided him with solid experience in the chartered accounting and auditing sector. Christophe’s mission as the new chief information officer is to help with the digital transformation of the group and the development of its production facilities in order to optimize collaborative communication between employees and customers.

On May 26, in the heart of Paris, Exponens organised a special Accountancy Working Day for their employees. The participative format used impressed the 51 volunteers present, whose feedback was very good, with a 74% rating, and 24% saying that it was good. Productivity, promotion, offers, customer experience, and key works of accountancy were organised into six separate workshops. The day enabled employees to identify different concrete leads, which will be the subject of formalized feedback.

SFC Group is proud to announce the launch of #maCompta, a collaborative portal available for smartphones, computers, and tablets, which allows entrepreneurs to manage their businesses simply and easily from a single web application. Watch the video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddMfMr80Ns.

In partnership with Lyon’s newspaper, schools, and institutional bodies, SFC Group organized its annual evening dedicated to jobs in accounting on June 16. The program included a presentation of the company by the management team and the intervention of a recognized school, followed by a speed meeting with the future candidates.

Philadelphia Region, Pennsylvania, USA

St. Clair CPA Solutions employees turned out in force to participate in the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Walk Against Hate, held at Philadelphia’s Navy Yard on May 15, 2016. Alan Gubernick, CPA and partner of St. Clair CPA Solutions, serves as vice chair and co-development director of the Philadelphia Region of ADL, an organization that works tirelessly against hate, bigotry, and prejudice, and promotes civil rights for all. The annual Walk Against Hate includes the Diversity Expo and family education activities, and raises funds to support the important work the ADL does year-round to protect the rights of all racial, religious, and ethnic groups. You can join St. Clair CPA Solutions in supporting this worthy cause and learn more at http://www.walkagainsthate.org.

St. Clair CPA Solutions is also proud to recognize Robert “Bob” Bacon, an accountant at the firm, and his fiancé, Crystal Burnick, who completed the 37th Annual Blue Cross Broad Street Run in under one hour to help raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Running through the rain on May 1, Bob and Crystal were among the first 200 finishers out of 40,000 total entrants in the 10-mile race. Crystal was the first female finisher, placing 97th with a time of 57:07. Bob followed her by only 2:38, coming in with a time of 59:45 to place 190th in the largest road race in the United States.

Stephanie Sommers, CPA, who serves as controller at St. Clair CPA Solutions, recently represented PICPA, the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants, in awarding $500 to Haverford High School sophomore Joey Piergiovanni, an accounting student of Mrs. Jaclyn McCarty. After entering PICPA’s 2016 Greater Philadelphia Region High School Essay Contest, Joey won third place for his essay on analyzing the true cost of a college degree.
Continued from page 12

and its return on investment over a lifetime of earnings. Participating students competed for top prizes of $1,000, $750, and $500, and two $200 honorable mentions.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Richard Fischer and Joseph Zovko, Audit & Assurance partners at Louis Plung & Company, were honored in May at the PICPA annual chapter meeting. Richard, a PICPA member since 1992, won the Pittsburgh Chapter Volunteer Service Award, and Joseph was appointed Secretary of the Pittsburgh Chapter Board of Directors. Joseph most recently served as treasurer from 2015-2016 and has been a PICPA member since 1995.

Each year, Richard presents an average of six continuing education seminars to PICPA chapters statewide. He is active in four committees, including Peer Review, Accounting & Auditing Procedures, Construction (Chair), and the Technical Committee of the Employee Benefits Plan Committee (Chair).

Joseph took on a more active leadership role in 2014 when he joined the Executive Committee of the Pittsburgh chapter. He was appointed treasurer effective May 1, 2015. The appointment as secretary was effective May 1, 2016.

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Dominican Republic has published two articles written by Partner Raymi Mejia in its magazine for the special anniversary edition. The articles refer to Section 30 (Foreign Currency Translation) and Section 33 (Related Party Disclosure) for IFRS for SMEs.

Partners Raymi Mejia, Sayka Mejia, and Firelli Mejia have been asked by one of the most prestigious universities in the Dominican Republic, Instituto Tecnologico de Santo Domingo (INTEC), which is also their Alma Mater, to participate in the revision of the curriculum for the accounting degree.

Nalil Rodriguez Mejia, auditor, has been appointed as the Dominican Republic delegate for the Young International Network of the International Fiscal Association (YIN-IFA). Nalil also participated in the YIN-IFA meeting celebrated in Lima, Peru, in May. Nalil took advantage of her trip and visited the BKR firm in Peru (Santivañez Guarniz y Asociados Sociedad Civil), where she met with Partner Juan Santivañez

Sydney, Australia

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**2017**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 5-8</td>
<td>JOINT ASIA-PACIFIC/EMEA REGIONAL MEETING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3-6</td>
<td>AMERICAS REGIONAL MEETING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 21-24</td>
<td>ANNUAL WORLDWIDE MEETING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All telemeeitngs are held at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time except where noted.