

TARA L. VAKIL

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ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut August 2019 – Present
Assistant Professor

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas August 2014 – July 2019
Graduate Research Assistant

Deloitte & Touche, LLP, Houston, Texas June 2004 – June 2014
Manager, Audit & Advisory Services
Senior Consultant, Enterprise Risk Services
Consultant, Enterprise Risk Services

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
Mays Business School
Ph.D. Business Administration – Accounting August 2019
Master of Science – Management Information Systems May 2004
Bachelor of Science – Accounting May 2004

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Dissertation

Vakil, Tara L. *Can disaggregation in the financial statements enhance the credibility and informativeness of Non-GAAP disclosures?*

(Status: Revising for Resubmission – *Journal of Accounting & Economics*)

Dissertation Committee: Anwer S. Ahmed (Chair), Lynn L. Rees, Sarah C. Rice, and Dudley L. Poston

- I investigate how disaggregated information in the financial statements interacts with firm disclosure policy. Motivated by recent FASB interest in whether disaggregation will improve the decision-usefulness of financial information, I find that disaggregation can both increase the informativeness and enhance the credibility of voluntarily disclosed non-GAAP earnings.

Working Papers

Kolev, Kalin, Lerman, Alina and Tara L. Vakil. *Other-Than-Temporary Impairments of Investment Securities by Non-Financial Firms*

(Status: Expected Journal Submission – Fall 2022)

- Focusing on available-for-sale and held-to-maturity securities holdings of S&P 1500 industrial firms, we document that the reporting of OTTI is wide-spread during the most recent period of financial downturn and is negatively (positively) associated with indicators of market performance (unrealized loss on investment securities). We provide preliminary evidence on the application by and role of financial instruments accounting in non-financial institutions.

Ahmed, Anwer S., Rice, Sarah C. and Tara L. Vakil. *The Role of Employee Stock Ownership in a Firm's Ability to Produce High Quality Financial Reporting*

(Status: Revising for Journal Submission)

- We examine the role of incentive alignment among the firm's rank-and-file employee base in the production of high quality financial reporting. Our findings suggest that employee ownership incrementally improves financial reporting quality above other broad-based and executive incentive compensation plans.

Works in Progress

McMartin, Andrew S., and Tara L. Vakil. *Should Accounting Standards Compete? Small Sample Evidence from Germany*

(Status: Submitted for Conference Consideration)

- We revisit the theoretical arguments that firms might be better off if they can choose amongst high-quality reporting standards in a setting where firms were allowed to choose between local GAAP, IFRS, and U.S. GAAP reporting standards. Unique to the IFRS literature, we find that mandatory adoption of IFRS by U.S. GAAP firms resulted in negative capital market consequences.

Kim, Youree, Kravet, Todd and Tara L. Vakil. *The Role of Innovation and Technology in the Delivery of Audit Services*

(Status: Data Collection)

Grady, Megan, Vakil, Tara L. and Nina Xu. *The Political Cost of SEC Enforcement Cases*

(Status: Data Collection)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut

Instructor: ACCT 4243 – Assurance Services

- 100 undergraduate students – three sections (Rating: 4.8/5.0) Spring 2022
- 60 undergraduate students – three sections (Rating: 4.7/5.0) Spring 2021
- 97 undergraduate students – three sections (Rating: 4.6/5.0) Spring 2020

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

Instructor: ACCT 229 – Introductory Financial Accounting

- 32 undergraduate students – one section (Rating: 4.9/5.0) Fall 2016

Instructor: Seminar on Effective Teaching Strategies for incoming Mays Ph.D. students

Fall 2017

PRESENTATIONS

“Can disaggregation in the financial statements enhance the credibility and informativeness of Non-GAAP disclosures?”

- University of Connecticut – Storrs, CT
- Florida State University – Tallahassee, FL
- University of Illinois–Chicago – Chicago, IL
- Loyola Marymount University – Los Angeles, CA
- University of Georgia – Athens, GA
- University of Kansas – Lawrence, KS
- George Mason University – Fairfax, VA

“The Role of Employee Stock Ownership in a Firm’s Ability to Produce High Quality Financial Reporting”

- Lone Star Accounting Research Conference, Texas Christian University – Fort Worth, TX

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Ad-Hoc Referee for Scholarly Journals

Accounting Horizons

2017 – Present

Reviewer for Academic Conferences

AAA Annual Meeting

2017, 2018, 2020

AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting

2020, 2021, 2023

University of Connecticut

Accounting Information Systems Curriculum Committee

2019 – Present

Data Analytics Curriculum Committee

2019 – Present

Deloitte Audit Innovation Case Competition Faculty Advisor

2019 – Present

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Phoenix, AZ (Reviewer)	January 2023
PCAOB Conference on Auditing and Capital Markets – Virtual (Invited Attendee)	October 2022
Yale SOM Summer Accounting Conference – New Haven, CT (Invited Attendee)	August 2022
AAA Annual Meeting – San Diego, CA	August 2022
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Virtual	January 2022
PCAOB Conference on Auditing and Capital Markets – Virtual (Invited Attendee)	October 2021
AAA Annual Meeting – Virtual	August 2021
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Virtual (Reviewer)	January 2021
New Faculty Consortium – Leesburg, Virginia (Invited Attendee)	February 2020
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Nashville, TN (Discussant)	January 2020
PCAOB/AAA Annual Meeting – Washington, D.C. (Invited Attendee)	April 2019
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Seattle, WA	January 2019
AAA Annual Meeting – Washington, D.C. (Discussant)	August 2018
PCAOB/AAA Annual Meeting – Washington, D.C. (Invited Attendee)	April 2018
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Austin, TX	January 2018
Lone Star Accounting Research Conference – Fort Worth, TX (Presenter)	January 2018
AAA Annual Meeting – San Diego, CA (Discussant)	August 2017
Deloitte Foundation/FSA Faculty Consortium – Dallas, TX (Invited Attendee)	May 2017
PCAOB/AAA Annual Meeting – Washington, D.C. (Invited Attendee)	April 2017
Lone Star Accounting Research Conference – Arlington, TX	February 2017
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Charlotte, NC	January 2017
AAA Annual Meeting – New York, NY	August 2016
FASB Doctoral Student Program – Norwalk, CT (Invited Attendee)	June 2016
AAA FARS Section Midyear Meeting – Costa Mesa, CA	January 2016
Texas A&M Former Doctoral Students Research Conference – College Station, TX	October 2015

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Professor of the Year – University of Connecticut Beta Alpha Psi	2019 – 2020
Dean’s Award for Outstanding Teaching – Texas A&M Mays Business School	2016 – 2017
Texas A&M University Diversity Fellowship	2014 – 2017
Texas A&M Department of Accounting Fellowship	2014 – 2019
Mays Business School Ph.D. Enhancement Fellowship	2014 – 2019

MEMBERSHIPS & CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)	2006 – Present
American Accounting Association (AAA)	2014 – Present
AAA Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS)	2014 – Present
AAA Auditing Section	2014 – Present