



Kelly Garrett

MAcc Alumna & FASB PTA

"The opportunity to engage and build relationships with the faculty is one of the most significant benefits of pursuing an education at Gonzaga."

One may think that receiving a position to work for the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) is next to impossible. For Gonzaga University Master of Accountancy graduate Kelly Garrett (MAcc '19), this opportunity became a reality when she was one of approximately seven students nationwide chosen by the FASB to receive a prestigious Postgraduate Technical Assistant (PTA) position.

Garrett is the first Gonzaga student to be selected!

A Diverse Background

Although Kelly did not begin the accounting major until her senior year at Gonzaga, she never let obstacles stand in her way. Andrew Brajcich, associate professor of accounting, worked with Garrett to craft a plan for her to graduate on time with a bachelor's degree in accounting.

"In that first meeting with Professor Brajcich, he never skipped a beat when I told him I wanted to pursue accounting," says Garrett. "Beyond just the academics, the accounting faculty have been constant advocates for me and my career by presenting me with opportunities to learn and grow within the accounting profession, offering advice, and taking the time to get to know me as an individual."

She adds that her upcoming position with the FASB is no exception as the faculty put forth her nomination and worked to ensure that she was a well-prepared candidate.

Before FASB

Even before Kelly successfully landed a PTA position, she actively paved a bright future for her career. The summer before she entered the MAcc program, she interned with KPMG's Seattle office, as well as participated in KPMG's Global Internship Program where she was assigned to Brisbane, Australia.

Kelly remarks that the process of recruiting proved virtually seamless with Gonzaga's long-standing relationship with accounting firms nationwide and the support that the faculty provided in the recruiting process. "The firms love recruiting Gonzaga students and are frequently on campus to meet with students and interview."

Looking Forward

While Kelly was grateful for the opportunity to recruit in the traditional model, she has an exciting future ahead of her. Garrett said she feels honored and excited to begin her PTA position.

"To join the FASB as part of this selective program and to represent Gonzaga as the first GU student chosen is truly an honor," she said.

Brajcich is among several GU faculty members to applaud Garrett's achievements, "Kelly will now work at the highest level of the profession."

What does Garrett look forward to most in her new position?

"I'm most excited for the opportunity to participate in the standard-setting process and to collaborate alongside accounting professionals in an environment where intellectual curiosity is important and encouraged," she said.

For more information about the Master of Accountancy program, please contact:

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