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Press release : 2005 : 01 : 13 : USF St. Petersburg Professor Honored as Accounting Educator of the Year

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Taxation professor James A. Fellows, PhD, CPA, won the prestigious 2004 Accounting Educator of the Year award by the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Fellows has taught economics and accounting for almost 30 years and has been a professor at USF St. Petersburg since 1992. He started teaching at the University of Tampa in 1976 and in 1982 became the first full-time accounting professor at the USF Fort Myers campus.

"I really enjoy helping people learn, I have always felt that," Fellows said. "I try to give students a fundamental overview of the tax area, teaching them general principles rather than a complex array of rules and regulations. I think it's most important that they leave the classroom with sound tax principles that will stick with them through their careers."

Fellows' research focus is the taxation of individuals and small business entities. He has published more than 100 articles in academic and professional journals. Fellows has won several awards at USF, including two teaching excellence awards as well as twice being honored by The New York State Society of CPAs for writing the outstanding article of the year in its publication The CPA Journal. He is the only two-time recipient of this award.

Fellows said he is flattered because this honor is "recognition for both a lifelong commitment to the university as well as the professional community throughout the years." He has been active with the FICPA local boards for more than 20 years.

Fellows is a faculty member in the College of Business at USF St. Petersburg. The College recently started a new Center for Social Responsibility and Corporate Reporting, a unique program throughout the country that integrates an emphasis on ethical decision making, the social responsibility of business, fraud prevention and detection, and responsible financial reporting. The curriculum offers several new concentrations for the MBA Program, including Forensic Accounting and Federal Taxation.

"Under the direction of Dean Ronald Hill, PhD, the College is putting a strong emphasis on the social responsibility of business managers in today's society. Making students aware of this social responsibility has become a primary mission of the college," Fellows said.

For more information on Fellows and the College of Business at USF St. Petersburg, please visit their Web site at http://www.stpt.usf.edu/cob/index.htm.