



Texas Society of  
Certified Public Accountants

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **University of Texas at Dallas Professor Receives Outstanding Accounting Educator Award**

*Texas Society of CPAs Recognizes Kathy Zolton for Excellence in Teaching and Active Service to the Accounting Profession*

**DALLAS (Oct. 26, 2015)** — Kathy Zolton, CPA and associate director of the Graduate Accounting Program at The University of Texas at Dallas, was named a 2015 recipient of the Texas Society of CPAs' (TSCPA) Outstanding Accounting Educator Award.

The statewide TSCPA Outstanding Accounting Educator Awards honor Texans who have demonstrated excellence in teaching and who have distinguished themselves through active service to the accounting profession. Criteria for judging includes instructional innovation, student motivation, the pursuit of learning opportunities for students, involvement in student and professional accounting organizations, and research accomplishments and publications.

Since she began teaching full time at UT Dallas in 2013, Zolton's engaging and enthusiastic style of teaching has helped countless students excel in the accounting program. She strives to present abstract concepts in a memorable and visual manner that students will remember not only in the class and on the CPA exam, but in their future accounting careers. Zolton supplements her classroom lectures with a mix of toys, song lyrics and creative visuals to make the class valuable to both auditory and visual learners.

As associate director of the accounting program, Zolton is extensively involved in the program outside the classroom. She has contributed to significant changes in UT Dallas' graduate accounting curriculum, including raising the level of prerequisite coursework required of students entering the program, requiring comprehensive final exams in core courses and implementing an accounting boot camp for incoming students.

Zolton currently serves as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) campus program coordinator. Under her leadership, UT Dallas has supplied more than 70 percent of the volunteer force in the Dallas–Fort Worth area, helping low income families receive more than \$9.9 million in tax refunds in 2015.

Zolton will be recognized at an award ceremony held in conjunction with the annual TSCPA Accounting Education Conference that will take place Oct. 30-31, 2015, in Austin, Texas.

### **About TSCPA**

TSCPA (<http://www.tscpa.org>) is a nonprofit, voluntary, professional organization representing Texas CPAs. The society has 20 local chapters statewide and has nearly 28,000 members, one of the largest in-state memberships of any state CPA society in the United States. TSCPA is committed to serving the public interest with programs that advance the highest standards of ethics and practice within the CPA profession.

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