



# SDSU Student Accounting Society

## Meeting Minutes: [Gatto, Pope, Walwick] [Day in the Life of a CPA]

11/25/19

### **Presenters:**

Andy Deer (Partner), Brent (Tax Partner), Mike

### **Presentation:**

#### Audit Vs Tax

- Can't really specialize with audit, but tax you can specialize in a certain field in tax
- Travel a lot in audit compared to tax
- Tax you are actually helping a client throughout the year giving better consulting than audit
  - Audit you are looking at the client after the financial statements are already done leading to less consulting
- Either audit or tax try to add value to the client
- Any field in accounting, never going to have a cookie cutter day, the field is changing everyday making everyday different
- 

#### Advice

- Don't just do the things you are told, try to actually understand what you are doing
- Don't know what you want to do before you do it, so try both tax and audit to get a better understanding on what you want to do
- Accounting is a great career, there are a lot of opportunities and flexibility to go to, audit, tax, private industry, etc.
- If a client calls

#### A Day in the Life at GPW

##### During the slow period

- Come in between 7:30 to 8:30, usually check on emails first
- Will usually start on or continue a project by mid morning like researching for a client
- Lunch will usually go out to lunch with a client to get to know them and network with them
- Usually in the afternoon will plan a conference call with clients or other meetings of some sort
- End of the day will wrap up with any projects not finished in the mid morning

- Usually leave around 5 or 6 in the evening

#### During busy season

- During busy season, will have less time to go to lunch with clients
- Focus during the busy season is to do as many tax returns as possible
  - Why some days will turn into 11 hour days
- Clients will be more pushy to know how much money to put aside and know how much money to owe or how much they will receive

#### What GPW does for the Employees

- Has lunch catered to them everyday during busy season
- Flexible work schedules
- Compensation to the employees that go above and beyond in their work
- GPW closes the office for a week after April 15th to allow the employees to rest and recharge

#### **Questions:**

What personalities shouldn't go into accounting? Like a quiet person shouldn't go into sales. Any personalities can go into accounting. Might be more what the best fit is for you, some people do better in audit than tax and vice versa.

How do you move up in the positions for accounting?

Be like a resource for the firm, find something you are passionate about and be able to carry forward the knowledge you learn and start being the person that others go to for help.