

Spring 2011

THE PARLIAMENT

NEWSLETTER OF THE JONES GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ACCOUNTING GROUP



Owls Coming Home to Roost pg 8

Photography by adjunct professor Robert Flatt

Accounting Thrives at the Jones School pg 1

Catching Up with Tim Griffy pg 4

Checks and Balances with Dr. K. Ramesh pg 9



RICE

JONES GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

business.rice.edu/accounting

THE PARLIAMENT

A “parliament” is the literary collective noun for a group of owls. Similarly, the name of our newsletter reflects the collective spirit and wisdom of Rice Owls personified by the alumni, faculty and friends of the Jones Graduate School of Business accounting group.

JONES GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING GROUP

Area Coordinator

Karen Nelson
nelsonk@rice.edu

Ph.D. Program Director

Thomas Hemmer
thomas.hemmer@rice.edu

TENURED/TENURE-TRACK FACULTY

Steve Crawford
Thomas Hemmer
Karen Nelson
Richard Price
K. Ramesh
Brian Rountree
Wil Uecker
Sally Widener
Steve Zeff

CLINICAL FACULTY

Marc Epstein

PART-TIME FACULTY

Lanny Chasteen
Alison Vasquez
Dick Viebig

ADMINISTRATION

Dean

Bill Glick
bill.glick@rice.edu

Assistant Dean of External Relations

Ben Renberg
ben.renberg@rice.edu

Director of Alumni and Corporate Relations

Shaheen Ladhani
shaheen@rice.edu

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Weezie Mackey
wmackey@rice.edu

business.rice.edu/accounting

Accounting Thrives at the Jones School

DEAN'S MESSAGE

The Jones Graduate School of Business is committed to developing principled business leaders who think critically and have the flexibility to thrive in our global economy. Over the years, our accounting area has grown more prominent and influential, while continuing to interact extensively with students and the business community to create a valuable flow of information, knowledge and opportunity.

Today we look forward to interacting with and informing our accounting alumni with the introduction of this newsletter. Accounting is thriving at the Jones School with next year's launch of a doctoral program, the continued recruitment of distinguished accounting faculty, and the growth in enrollment of the undergraduate business minor in which accounting is an integral part.

At the Jones School we take great pride in our exceptional programs — as you will read about in the pages of this newsletter — and our students, alumni, and faculty, especially the memory of Bob Sterling, the Jones School's founding dean. We are committed to cultivating an environment that fosters personal growth and drives research. I encourage you to read about our growing accounting program, our internationally recognized, diverse accounting faculty, and our alumni who draw on their Rice experience long after graduation.

Sincerely,



Bill Glick

Dean

H. Joe Nelson III Professor of Management
Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business
Rice University



RICE
JONES GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Greetings from the Accounting Area Coordinator

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As Rice University prepares to celebrate its centennial in 2012, much of the talk on campus revolves around reconnecting with those who have become part of the Rice family over the years. The timing is perfect for the accounting area at the Jones School as a number of changes and new initiatives are under way which will allow us to meet the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead while remaining true to our rich heritage of excellence in accounting education and research. I hope this inaugural issue of the accounting newsletter will be the first step in reconnecting with you.

Leveraging the energy and vision provided by our outstanding faculty, the accounting group has developed several important new program initiatives

Much has changed since many of you were last at the Jones School, starting with our faculty. Since I came to Rice in 2003, we have recruited five new faculty members, including two top-notch senior scholars, and promoted two other people to tenured positions. Our group was recently ranked among the best in the nation by the Princeton Review and Financial Times. In this newsletter, we profile our newest addition, K. Ramesh, and bring you up to date on some of the recent activities of our group.

Leveraging the energy and vision provided by our outstanding faculty, the accounting group has developed several important new program initiatives, including the new PhD in Accounting, which will open its doors in the fall of 2011. We have also been working closely with the dean and several of our alumni to explore the possibility of re-launching the Master of Accounting program. As we move down this path, we look forward to your expertise, advice and support.

Warm Regards,

Karen K Nelson

Karen K. Nelson

Professor of Accounting and Accounting Area Coordinator

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business

Rice University

New Programs

PHD IN ACCOUNTING

After several years of planning, the Jones School is launching PhD programs in a number of different areas of scholarly research. The accounting group has been an active participant in this endeavor, and is pleased to announce that we are currently taking applications for the incoming inaugural class to start in Fall 2011. "In keeping with the Rice tradition, we aim for a small, interactive, and academically rigorous program that is on par with the very best programs in the world," said PhD Program Director Thomas Hemmer. "We intend to admit a starting class of three highly qualified and motivated students."

In addition to fulfilling a central part of the research mission of Rice University, launching the PhD program is important for accounting education for several reasons. A 2005 study by the American Accounting Association and the Accounting Program Leadership Group projected that the supply of graduating PhDs would meet only 50 percent of the demand for new accounting professors. The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business estimates the shortage of qualified business PhDs – including accounting and tax faculty – will more than double from a 2007 shortage of 1,100 to 2,400 faculty members by the year 2012. Although the Accounting PhD program at Rice will be relatively small to ensure that our students receive the personal attention and mentoring necessary to produce outstanding young faculty members, we look forward to doing our part to help address this shortfall.

In such a highly competitive market for quality accounting faculty, a PhD program is crucial for the continued development and strengthening of our faculty group. As the Jones School continues to grow, the accounting group will need to attract and retain faculty not only to support existing programs, but also to consider opportunities for possible new degree programs such as re-launching the Master of Accounting program. A vibrant PhD program will increase the school's reputation and attractiveness, allowing us to build a high caliber faculty group.

UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS MINOR

Rice University and the Jones School introduced the undergraduate business minor in the fall of 2007, offering students the opportunity to complement their major fields of study with valuable business skills. In addition to financial accounting, the program includes courses in finance, marketing, strategy, organizational behavior, and communications. Demand is particularly high for financial accounting, with annual enrollment exceeding 200 students.

Courses are taught by the Jones School's renowned faculty, and are open to all Rice undergraduates. The creation of the Rice undergraduate business program broadens the university's appeal, attracting more of the best and brightest students to Rice and strengthening the reputation of the Jones School.

CONCENTRATION IN ACCOUNTING

In the fall of 2007, the Rice MBA program at the Jones School began offering concentrations for students enrolled in the Full-Time MBA program. The goal of a concentration is to provide students with the ability to demonstrate functional, professional or industry expertise in a particular area of interest within a general management program. Concentrations offered are Accounting, Energy, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Global Business, Health Care, Marketing, Management Consulting, Mastering Creativity and Innovation, and Real Estate.

The concentration in Accounting provides a broad understanding of the use and importance of accounting information to decision makers within the firm and to external users of financial statements. Completion of the concentration in accounting will serve to reinforce the fundamental concepts from the core and to provide additional insight into accounting processes and principles and enhance the ability to analyze and interpret accounting reports.

*I am very excited to hear that the Jones School is considering re-launching the **Master of Accounting** program. My professors were outstanding academics and practicing professionals who gave me insight into the importance of the role of the accounting and auditing profession and the tools to face its challenges. The critical thinking skills I learned have been the most valuable to my career.*

John Fogarty, BA Economics '77, MAcco '78

Partner & National Director of Auditing Standards, AERS, Deloitte & Touche LLP

Catching Up

WITH TIM GRIFFY

Rice BA Managerial Studies '79, MAcco '80



Tim Griffy (left) joins the conversation with MBA students and the dean.

When Tim Griffy started college, he was focused on a different path than his eventual career. “Most kids don’t aspire to become accountants when they grow up. I was no different. I wanted to be a lawyer.” Until he took his first accounting course. “I really enjoyed it.”

That joy turned into a 30-year-and-counting career with Ernst & Young. Currently Griffy serves as the Global Client Service Partner for ConocoPhillips in the firm’s Southwest Area Energy practice. He has held a variety of roles, including Vice Chairman of Quality and Risk Management, Global Managing Partner-People, and the Area Managing Partner for the Southwest Area of Ernst & Young. He has also served on the Global and Americas Boards of the Big 4 accounting firm.

“Initially, my Master of Accounting helped me achieve a good path to become an audit partner. The curriculum at Rice was unique. It focused on theory as well as practice and we graduated well prepared for roles that went beyond CPA-type training. I went about 20 years on a traditional track,” Griffy said. “But in the late ‘90s I began a different track into practice management roles.”

Reflecting on his professional experiences he notes the events that brought Arthur Andersen down as particularly profound. “As a member of E&Y’s Executive Board during the demise of Arthur Andersen in 2002, we had to determine how the firm would respond. It was a challenging time and, sadly, one that I think was not positive for our profession. But it was a remarkable experience and a reminder of the importance of accounting to the capital markets.”

COMING FULL CIRCLE

After living and working in Dallas, London and New York over the years, Griffy returned to Houston in the summer of ‘09. “I’m looking forward to reconnecting in a more direct way with Rice, reinvigorating my connection.”

One of the direct ways in which he is connecting is as a new member of the Council of Overseers. “I hope to contribute to the overall efforts of the school and their position nationally and internationally,” Griffy said, but he also has his eye on the accounting area. “It’s evolved since I was there. Based on my perspectives as an alum and a person in the profession, I want to observe the accounting program’s response to the changing needs in the industry.”

INSPIRATION

What inspires the successful partner at Ernst & Young? “People who have a high degree of commitment to something and have a long-term and active level of enthusiasm for that commitment.” After a moment he adds, “You can go the heroic route with Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt or Winston Churchill, arguably some of our greatest leaders in the last 200 years. Each overcame major adversity where others might have given up. Or it can be as simple as a jogger with a prosthetic leg running in Central Park, a young woman I used to see while cycling. That inspires me, too.”

ACCOUNTING CAREER ADVICE

Griffy’s advice to current MBA candidates would be not to pigeonhole the accounting industry. “Think beyond the stereotypical definition of an accountant. Accounting has taken me to more than 40 countries, from board rooms to NGOs. Places I never expected this skill set to take me.”

While still at Rice, he got some great advice from Dr. Stephen Zeff, Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Accounting. “Dr. Zeff told me that accounting is about business done right and relationships.” It’s advice that serves him well to this day.

Steve Crawford continues to examine the role of financial analysts in the capital markets, most recently providing new evidence that the type of information analysts provide depends critically on the presence of other analysts. He brings his institutional knowledge to the classroom in teaching financial statement analysis in the full-time and evening MBA programs.

Lanny Chasteen joined the accounting group in 2009 after retiring from his position as the Wilton T. Anderson Professor of Accounting at Oklahoma State University. He teaches two sections of Financial Accounting in the undergraduate business minor program. He also recently taught his continuing professional education course “Where Are We Headed in Financial Reporting?” in Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

Marc Epstein has been working on issues related to micro-entrepreneurship in developing countries. Marc incorporates some of this work into his MBA course “Commercializing Technologies in Developing Countries” which focuses on writing business plans for health technologies developed by the Rice bioengineering program. The class also travels to Rwanda for on-the-ground experience in launching businesses in developing countries.

Thomas Hemmer has papers forthcoming in the Review of Accounting Studies and Journal of Management Accounting Research. He continues to offer custom Ph.D. seminars in accounting theory at a variety of renowned research institutions, including most recently, Texas A&M, Emory, and the University of Washington. He also presented a customized seminar on disclosure theory for the first class of students in the new marketing PhD program at Rice.

Karen Nelson continues to focus her research on financial disclosure and securities regulation, most recently examining the risk factors firms report in their annual filings. In the past year, she has taught several executive education courses in addition to financial accounting and a new financial statement analysis elective in the EMBA program.

Richard Price was re-elected to serve a second term on the Dean’s Advisory Committee. His paper “The Impact of Governance Reform on Performance and Transparency” examines the effectiveness of corporate governance reforms recently enacted in Mexico, and will be published in an upcoming volume of the Journal of Financial Economics.

Brian Rountree was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. He continues to serve as one of three Jones School members elected to the Rice Faculty Senate and was also recently appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of The Accounting Review. Brian’s recently published work examines the implications of the collapse of Arthur Andersen for the audit market in general, as well as former Andersen clients.

Dick Viebig (MAcco ‘77) continues as a lecturer for the Jones School, teaching a course on business income taxation in the full-time and evening MBA programs. He is the head of a

local CPA practice of eight professionals focusing on tax planning and compliance. In his spare time, he serves as trustee of the Joe Barnhart Foundation which provides educational incentives,

funding for a state of the art public library, and operation of an art museum in Beeville, Texas.

Sally Widener recently had her paper “The Role of Performance Measurement and Evaluation in Building Organizational Capabilities and Performance” accepted for publication in Accounting, Organizations and Society. In May, she traveled to Istanbul, Turkey to present some of her research at the European Accounting Association Conference.

Steve Zeff’s most recent book, *Insights from Accounting History: Selected Writings of Stephen Zeff*, was published in the past year. He is currently doing research on a new book on the history of the International Accounting Standards Board from 2001 to 2011, which follows his previous book *History of the International Accounting Standards Committee, 1973-2000*. Both works were commissioned by the IASB’s Chairman, Sir David Tweedie. He continues to serve as Book Review Editor of *The Accounting Review*.

Faculty Updates

Where are they now?

FORMER FULL-TIME ACCOUNTING FACULTY AT RICE AND THEIR CURRENT POSITION (IF KNOWN):

Edward L. Summers – 1965-68 (retired from the University of Texas at Austin)
L. Todd Johnson – 1970-80 (retired from the Financial Accounting Standards Board)
James A. Largay III – 1971-74 (Professor of Accounting, Lehigh University)
Robert W. Clarke – 1975-79 (retired from tax practice)
Wayne D. Stinnett, Jr. – 1975-78 (Division President, Centerpoint Energy Services, Houston)
James C. Dyer IV – 1975-78 (VP of Blueknight Energy Partners LLP, Tulsa)
Arthur L. Thomas – 1977-80 (retired from the University of Kansas)
Edgar O. Edwards – 1978-83 (retired)
James P. Mandel – 1978-83 (consultant in Houston)
Ross G. Jennings – 1980-81 (Professor of Accounting, University of Texas at Austin)
Robert J. Coombes – (visiting) 1981-82, 1996 (retired from the University of Western Sydney)
Kirk P. Kelly – 1981-84
Bala G. Dharan – 1982-2009 (VP of Charles River Associates, Boston)
Peggy D. Dwyer – 1982-84 (Associate Professor of Accounting, University of Central Florida)
Moshe Hagigi – 1982-88 (Professor of Accounting, Boston University)
Richard H. Macve – (visiting) 1982-83 (Professor of Accounting, London School of Economics)
P. David Shields – 1983-88 (Dean, Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics, Mercer University, Atlanta)
Philip D. Bougen – (visiting) 1988-90 (Associate Professor of Accounting, University of New Mexico)
Graeme W. Rankine – 1989-95 (Associate Professor of Accounting, Thunderbird School of Global Management)
Holly H. Johnston – 1990-93 (Assistant Professor of Accounting, University of Massachusetts-Boston)
E. Kay Stice – 1990-95 (Professor of Accounting, Brigham Young University)
Michele J. Daley – 1995-2000 (Director of Student Engagement, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Arizona State University)
Iliia Dichev – 1995-96 (Professor of Accounting, Emory University)
Sundaresh Ramnath – 1996-2001 (Associate Professor of Accounting, University of Miami)

FORMER PART-TIME LECTURERS AND ADJUNCTS

Ronald J. Bannister, C. Robert Bunch, Kathleen Ciliski, Robert J. Cruikshank, Ernie L. Danner, Aubrey M. Farb, A. Randall Friday, William A. Harlan, James Hassett, Terry E. Hatchett, Nancy K. Johnson, Emel Kahya, Saleha B. Khumawala, Timothy S. Lucas, James P. Mandel, Franklin N. McClelland, Jr., Peggy V. McCormick, Jerrold M. Paine, Kay Preston, Ronald S. Ross, William L. Sconiers, Steven J. Singer, Kumar N. Sivakumar, Frank E. Watson, Robert C. Watson, Phil D. Wedemeyer, Alan D. Westheimer, James L. Williams, Scott W. Wise

IN MEMORIAM

Verne F. Simons – 1929-69
William S. Mackey, Jr. – 1946-62
Elton B. Hale – 1963-79
Robert R. Sterling – 1974-80
Philip W. Bell – 1977-87
Marsha M. Wilson – 1980-82

OWLS COMING HOME TO ROOST

Photography by adjunct professor Robert Flatt



A three-month-old, almost fully matured owlet perfecting its flight near the entrance to Rice University.

Last March when Robert Flatt, adjunct professor at the Jones School since 1987, heard from the campus arborist that a nesting pair of great horned owls had taken up residence in an oak tree behind Huff House on the Rice campus, he had to investigate.

“I started my crazy passion to become a photographer in 2000 when I discovered I had Parkinson’s disease. I began taking photography courses at Rice, and now I am consumed by it.”

Through his photography, Flatt chronicled the owls and their two chicks until April 26, 2010. “I lived with them almost every morning for two months as they raised their young. It changed my life for two months, probably for the rest of my life.”

Flatt enjoyed a 31-year career in business at Cameron International, with a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Electrical Engineering from Rice and an MBA from Harvard. He went on disability retirement from Cameron in 2004, but continues to teach Leading Change in Operations at the Jones School.

Cover photo: *The father owl with his head rotated 180 degrees.*

Flatt’s photography is in the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and has been on display at Rice University, Katy Prairie Conservancy, Picnic Restaurant, Cameron International Corporation, and House of Hope Alzheimer’s Center in Wichita Falls.



The owlets at six weeks of age.

Faculty Honors and Awards

The Jones School Accounting Faculty is widely recognized for their research and teaching, including some of the more recent accolades listed below.

JONES SCHOOL TEACHING AND RESEARCH AWARDS

MBA Teaching Excellence Award

- 2009 Steve Crawford
- 2008 Brian Rountree

MBA for Professionals Teaching Excellence Award

- 2008 Richard Price

MBA for Executives Teaching Excellence Award

- 2008 Karen Nelson

Alumni Teaching Excellence Award

- 2008 Sally Widener

Excellence in Research Award

- 2009 Brian Rountree

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

President-Elect of the Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS) of the American Accounting Association (AAA)

- 2010 K. Ramesh

Anthony G. Hopwood Award for Academic Leadership (European Accounting Association)

- 2009 Steve Zeff

Thomas J. Burns Biographical Research Award (Academy of Accounting Historians)

- 2008 Steve Zeff

ACCOUNTING GROUP SUPERLATIVES

No. 9 – “Best In Accounting”

Financial Times, 2010

Top 15 – Accounting and Finance

Princeton Review Student Opinion Honors, 2010

Only university with four active or retired faculty recognized in the Accounting Hall of Fame

- Steve Zeff (2002)
- Edgar Edwards (2003)
- Philip Bell (2003)
- Robert Sterling (2006)



The Accounting faculty stays on top of the latest accounting developments.

Checks and Balances

Faculty Spotlight with Dr. K. Ramesh



A month into a fresh academic year and Dr. K. Ramesh, the newest professor of accounting to join the accounting group at the Jones School, has settled comfortably into McNair Hall. From a north-facing window he sometimes catches a glimpse of his daughter, Frances, a Rice sophomore, coming from orchestra practice.

“Once I called Frannie to tell her I could see her from my office window, and she said, ‘Dad, this is freaky.’” The look on his face says it all. Personally and professionally, life is good.

Ramesh grew up in a family of accountants. “My mother, my father, my brother, my sister, my niece, my brother-in-law, one of my cousins...accounting was what you were supposed to do in my family.” After becoming a Chartered Accountant — the Indian equivalent of a CPA — he practiced for four years in his father’s firm and then applied to graduate school. He earned his Master of Accounting at Washington State University. “It was my first introduction to research. I had to do a master’s thesis on whether today’s accounting earnings or cash flows are better predictors of tomorrow’s cash flows and I really enjoyed it. I ended up going straight for my PhD.”

After the doctorate, he spent several years as a faculty member at Northwestern

University’s Kellogg Graduate School of Management and the University of Rochester’s Simon School of Business before taking a hiatus from academics. “I spent five years working in economic litigation consulting full time, but I was able to continue my research and maintain my credibility in the academic market. I loved the consulting work, but my heart was in academics. The freedom you get to explore what you think is interesting without any constraints — that is what I love.”

Before coming to Rice, Ramesh was well settled at Michigan State, where he had earned his PhD. They even loaned him out to the federal government for a stint at the SEC from 2007-2008 as an Academic Fellow in the Office of the Chief Accountant. “It was fascinating work. I was able to provide an academic perspective to staff of the SEC’s Advisory Committee on Improvements to Financial Reporting. From a practical standpoint, I had the opportunity to analyze first-hand the accounting issues some of the SEC registrants were dealing with. Public companies frequently go to the Office of the Chief Accountant at the SEC to consult on accounting issues, especially when they are planning to change accounting methods. While sometimes accounting is viewed as a set of rules to follow, the issues that come up to the SEC usually require significant judgment built on accounting expertise. As part of the group that consults with the registrants, I was able to participate in some challenging accounting practice issues. While I am able to bring my SEC experience to teaching, the SEC visit opened up some avenues for research also. I developed some of my research studies on the corporate accounting information environment when I was at the SEC.”

Rice was on his radar by then. He’d known Karen Nelson for several years through American Accounting

Association activities, including writing joint reports as part of a committee commenting on FASB proposals, as well as doing research together. He also knew of and greatly respected Stephen Zeff’s work even from the days when he was in India. It wasn’t until Ramesh presented a paper at Rice last year and met accounting faculty that his view deepened. “I was very impressed with the vibrant research group here. Then I heard the group had hired Thomas Hemmer, and I have a high regard for him. These details and the fact that I was running the PhD program at Michigan State, and Rice was launching its PhD program in accounting made me say, perhaps I should look at this opportunity carefully.”

With Ramesh’s younger daughter attending 8th grade at a local middle school, his older daughter on campus, and his wife — a former social scientist who worked in agricultural economics — adapting to a new home, the transition to Houston has been relatively smooth. “My wife and I both like bigger cities. Houston is even more cosmopolitan than we thought, and we’re enjoying that. And of course Rice is gorgeous.”

As for the teaching? “It’s a key part of my job. Research is what makes or breaks an academic career, but surprisingly, if you go to the places where research is valued highly, those institutions also value high-quality teaching. The fact that students, especially at the graduate level, see the value of what they can take from the class and apply to the real-world setting is gratifying. Academic thought can provide a nice dashboard that I hope my students can use even several years down the road when making important corporate decisions. I still have former students talk to me about how what they learned impacted their business practices and their real life.”

Events Calendar

RESEARCH WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

9/10/10	Teri Yohn	Indiana University
10/29/10	Terry Shevlin	University of Washington
12/10/10	Mark Bradshaw	Boston College
1/14/11	Eric Yeung	University of Georgia
2/11/11	Christine Botoson	University of Utah
3/4/11	Robert Bushman	University of North Carolina
3/11/11	Steve Stubben	University of North Carolina
3/18/11	Michelle Hanlon	MIT
4/8/11	Feng Li	University of Michigan



Request for Alumni News

Your fellow alumni want to hear about what's new in your professional and family life. E-mail us at parliament@rice.edu to give us an update, and also send us your high-resolution photos. We'll share your news in the next issue of *The Parliament*.

Many thanks to those of you who have supported the Rice accounting group in the past. It truly makes a difference as we continue to expand our programs. We are excited about the future of accounting at the Jones School and appreciate your continued support.

Robert Sterling Remembered



Robert Sterling, the founding dean of the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business, died June 29, 2010. He was 79. A veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict, Sterling took advantage of the GI Bill and became the first in his family to attend college. He earned a BS and MBA at the University of Denver and continued on to the University of Florida for his PhD in Economics.

He joined the faculty at Rice in 1974 as the first Jesse H. Jones Professor of Management and chairman of the accounting department. In 1976, following an extensive international search, Sterling was selected as the founding dean for the newly endowed Jones School. "Dean Sterling conceptualized and defined distinctive, rigorous goals for the school," dean of the Jones School Bill Glick said.

Prior to serving as dean, he held research and teaching positions at the State University of New York at Binghamton, Yale University and the University of Kansas. Following his service at the Jones School, he stayed at Rice until 1981 and then left to take appointments at the University of Alberta and the University of Utah. In recognition of his distinguished career, he was inducted into the Accounting Hall of Fame in 2006.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley; son, Robert Raymond Jr.; daughter, Kimberly Ann; and two grandchildren, Robert Sterling III and Michael Travis.