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### **AICPA Recognizes Innovative Accounting Educators**

The American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) has recognized eight innovative accounting educators with the 2020 Effective Learning Strategies Awards.

The awards, co-sponsored by Grant Thornton and the Federation of Schools of Accountancy (FSA), are given each year to college and university educators who develop unique and effective teaching tools for introductory, upper division, and graduate courses.

Recipients of the Effective Learning Strategies Awards, as well as honorable mentions are listed at: <https://cpapracticeadvisor.com/2115699>.

### **Stablecoins and Fair Value Measurement**

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- Recognition, Measurement, and Presentation of Digital Assets Specific to Broker-Dealers
- Considerations for Crypto Assets that Require Fair Value Measurement
- Accounting for Stablecoin Holdings

Each area tackles the most pressing questions from practitioners, with questions like:

- How should an entity that qualifies as an investment company under FASB ASC 946, *Financial Services—Investment Companies*, account for investments in digital assets?

### **AICPA Foundation Grants 25 Minority Doctoral Fellowships**

The AICPA Foundation granted fellowships to 25 minority doctoral students as part of its effort to increase diversity among educators in accounting programs.

The funding comes from the Minority Doctoral Fellowship program, which serves to bolster racial and ethnic diversity among accounting educators at colleges and universities. It provides \$12,000 to each student, renewable for up to an additional four years, assuming students continue to meet [eligibility requirements](#).

The 2020-21 Minority Doctoral Fellowship recipients, as well as the doctoral programs they are attending, are listed at: <https://cpapracticeadvisor.com/2115764>.

### **Caturano and Stahlin Awarded Gold Medals of Distinction**

The AICPA has announced that Richard (Rich) Caturano, CPA, CGMA, and Paul Stahlin, CPA, CGMA, are the recipients of the 2020 [AICPA Gold Medal Award of Distinction](#). The Gold Medal is the highest honor granted by the AICPA. Since 1944, it has been bestowed upon CPAs whose influence on the accounting profession has been especially notable.

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in 2010. Stahlin started his career with PWC, then advanced to executive leadership positions including corporate controller at Summit Bancorp, chief financial officer and executive vice president at Fleet Credit Card Services, president and CEO at Somerset Valley Bank, a subsidiary of Fulton Financial Corporation, and president of Skyland Community Bank. He retired in 2014.

### **AICPA Supports Bill That Protects Public Service on State Licensing Boards**

The AICPA and 11 additional organizations have sent a letter to Jamie Raskin (D-MD), Michael Conaway (R-TX) and David Cicilline (D-RI) in support of the *Occupational Licensing Board Antitrust Damages Relief Act of 2020*, which protects state licensing boards, their board members and staff from legal damages occurring from their public service.

The bi-partisan bill still allows for enforcement of anti-trust laws by federal and private entities and sets certain standards for licensing boards if they are to be immune from damages. These standards include:

- Operate under a state law that requires an occupational license for the occupation regulated by the board, specifies the qualifications for the license, and requires that professional and ethical standards be met;
- Have all members of the board appointed by the state's chief executive officer, the legislature, or other designated elected state officer;
- Include members of the public who are not market participants in the regulated profession; and
- Provide mechanisms allowing people aggrieved by the board to contest its actions.

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