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International Certified Professional

Accountants

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Tom Hood, CPA, CITP, CGMA, former executive director and CEO of the [Maryland Association of CPAs \(MACPA\)](#), has joined the [Association of International Certified Professional Accountants](#) as executive vice president, business growth and engagement. He will report to Barry Melancon, CPA, CGMA, the Association's CEO.

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they wanted me to make sure I did!” said Hood. He will use his extensive connections,

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appeal.”

In addition to Hood's appointment, the Association has acquired the [Business Learning Institute](#) (BLI) from MACPA. The acquisition of BLI's many learning programs will enhance the Association's offerings to corporate employers in upskilling and reskilling their employees so they continue to meet ever-changing marketplace demands. Together, the Association and BLI will accelerate the introduction of new, innovative content for accounting and finance professionals globally. Founded in 1999 by MACPA, BLI is a highly respected source for human intelligence skill development and a strategic learning partner and talent management consultancy for businesses and CPA firms worldwide. Hood will continue to provide leadership in supporting BLI's clients, products, and services throughout BLI's integration with the Association.

Several members of the Business Learning Institute will accompany Hood to new positions at the AICPA. Hood believes our accounting profession needs to be able “to thrive in a global volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world. The BLI team is looking forward to coming together as part of the Association to leverage our combined strengths, reach and scale,” Hood continued.

“Tom's vision and mission to help finance and accounting professionals grow in a changing business environment is well aligned with the Association's goals of powering trust, opportunity, and prosperity for members, students, the profession, and those they serve. He brings energy, insight, enthusiasm and a unique ability to facilitate connections,” Melancon said. “Tom will add value to our engagement with businesses and the accounting and finance professions, increasing our understanding of the challenges they face and how to best meet their needs.”

Melancon added, “We are proud of our reputation as a key source for accounting and finance professionals' learning needs. BLI's content complements and enriches our

current learning tools, further deepens our global offerings, and helps expand our

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program that teaches candidates the finance, business, people, and leadership skills needed to succeed in finance teams of the future.

Hood is well known across the accounting profession and in 2020 was named the Second Most Influential Person in Accounting for the eighth year by *Accounting Today* magazine. He has been a longtime thought leader and driver of change among state CPA societies, both as a volunteer chair and, since 1997, as CEO of MACPA. He received the AICPA Special Recognition Award for his contributions to the profession leading the CPA Vision Project in 2003. He is a member of *CPA Practice Advisor's* Thought Leader Symposium and was elected to the Accounting Hall of Fame in 2015. Hood was named among Maryland's 2019 Most Admired CEOs by *The Maryland Daily Record*. In addition to his CPA license, Hood has obtained the CGMA credential and the AICPA Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) certification. He is a graduate of Loyola College (B.A. in Accounting) and has a Master's in Finance (Real Estate) from Johns Hopkins University.

Avonette Blanding, CPA, chair of MACPA's Board of Directors, commented, "Tom is also a great teacher, mentor and leader. I'm thrilled by his decision to join the Association and expand his reach within the profession." (Watch this [MACPA video](#) and read this [MACPA article](#) for more information.)

Hood doesn't plan to leave the MACPA entirely. "I plan to continue with MACPA as a volunteer, chairing the legislative executive committee. I'll keep doing advocacy with more volunteers and paid staff of the association." He'll maintain an office at MACPA.

[Jackie Brown](#) will succeed Hood as MACPA's CEO. Brown has spent 40 years as part of the MACPA team and has served as its chief operating officer for the past 23 years.

The Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (the Association) is the most influential body of professional accountants, combining the

strengths of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and The Chartered Institute of

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CPAs, finance, and accounting professionals in the United States. It provides customized, competency-based curriculums and a portfolio of “success skills” and technical programs designed for the finance and accounting profession. Founded in 1999 by the Maryland Association of CPAs, the BLI is an innovation and learning center that facilitates the development and sharing of competencies and strategic knowledge required for leadership in today's rapidly changing business environment. Visit BLIonline.org.

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