

# ALUMNI EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

## GETTING TO KNOW UW ABBS ALUMNI @ ERNEST AND YOUNG

**Jonathan (Yhoni) Keleta**  
Former ABBS VP of Employer Relations (2006-2007)



**What is your current position at E&Y?**

I work in Advisory services and I currently hold a staff 2 position.

**What has been the greatest lesson you learned since graduating?**

1. To not forget those that have helped you succeed and reach your goals.
2. Networking is vital for a successful career.

**What advice, if any, would you give to help current undergraduates succeed?**

Make sure you seek out every opportunity that allows you to further yourself. Your career does not start once you graduate, rather it starts while you're still in school. Also, internships are key stepping stones for your personal and professional development. And don't forget— network, network, network!

**How do you stay connected with the community?**

I stay involved with National Association of Black Accountants, I've sat on a number of young professional panels put on by Seattle Public Schools, and I've also gone back to my high school to give talks about the Academy of Finance and how it helped propel my career while still in high school.

**What would you say has been your greatest accomplishments since you graduated?**

I'd have to say graduating from the University of Virginia with Masters of Accountancy this past summer, and the purchase of my first home.

**Alex Hatzev**  
Former ABBS President (2005-2006)



**What is your current position at E&Y?**

I work in Advisory services and I currently hold a Senior 1 position.

**What has your career path been like since you graduated?**

After graduation I went to get my Masters of Science in Accounting at the University of Virginia. While at E&Y, I have had the opportunity to work on everything from large public clients to small private clients. The type of work included doing financial statement audits, internal audits, process improvement audits, and contract risk assessments, just to name a few.

**What has been the greatest lesson you learned since graduating?**

That you make your career, not anybody else regardless of where you work. You need to seek out the opportunities that you want and make sure others know that you want to work on those types of engagements. You truly have control over your career path, but you have to own that control and be pro-active.

**How do you stay connected with the community?**

I have been active in NABA since my junior year at UW. I try and be accessible to students from high school and up, for any questions or mentoring they may need. Whenever possible, I attend UW events to connect with my old classmates, professors, advisors, and to be a positive influence on students who are hoping to achieve a similar start to their careers as mine.

# AFRICAN AMERICAN ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON



## THE FOSTER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS BREAKS GROUND ON PACCAR HALL

Where “business” meets “school.” That’s one way to describe PACCAR Hall, one of two new state-of-the-art buildings being developed as part of an expanded campus for the University of Washington Michael G. Foster School of Business. Scheduled for completion in 2010, the building will act as a convergence zone for business leaders, alumni, faculty and students.

Situated in the north central area of the University of Washington’s Seattle campus, the 135,000 square-foot building was designed by Seattle-based LMN Architects to embody the business school’s focus on leadership development, strategic thinking and collaboration.

PACCAR Hall will offer a combination of U-shaped tiered classrooms, meeting spaces, a 250-seat auditorium, student breakout rooms, faculty offices, a soaring atrium with a café and a boardroom. It will also be equipped with a wide range of technology enhancements including Web-linked digital monitors and distance conferencing capabilities.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- PACCAR Hall Groundbreaking
- Save the Date: February 5, 2009
- ABBS Member Spotlight
- ABBS Executive Board
- Alumni Employer Spotlight



Business + School = PACCAR Hall



Hello Alumni,

I would like to formally introduce myself; my name is Yerusalem Yemane, and I am the 2008-2009 VP of Alumni Relations for the Association of Black Business Students (ABBS).

The purpose of the Association of Black Business Students (ABBS) is to recruit, assist, organize and in any other way promote the interest and success of Black students in the Foster School of Business. Additionally, we focus on preparing our members for internships and careers. ABBS seeks to increase the number of Black applicants to the business school and to provide a professional and social network for current business students and members.

One of ABBS focuses this year is to maintain member commitment and interest within this organization. We plan to accomplish our goal by creating a stronger connection with the alumni. This year I will be closely working with Alumni to support our current ABBS members by showing them that their path to a successful future starts now. Your continued support will be valuable as we move forward in shaping the future of ABBS. I will be keeping in touch over the course of the year. Please know your suggestions and comments are always welcome, feel free to email me at: yerusy@u.washington.edu.

Please Save the Date  
Thursday, February 5

FEBRUARY

s	m	t	w	t	f	s
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Celebration of African American Alumni Achievement

7th Annual  
2009 THE YEAR OF THE MENTOR

Northwest African American Museum, Seattle

For more information p: 206.221.0279 e: plaeson@u.washington.edu

Association of Black Business Students Spotlight



This summer Jared Watson (VP of Employer Relations) and Patricia Dixon (President) had the opportunity to go to South Africa and experience the culture abroad firsthand. While there, they helped habitat for humanity by digging out the foundation for a home, bought schools supplies and handed them out in the township of Soweto, went on safaris at Kruger National Park, hiked Table mountain, and met with companies doing business in South Africa. Since then Jared has kept in contact with some of his acquaintances in South Africa.



Jared, what was the most amazing part of your trip to Africa?

Well, it was definitely the people. I met some really cool artists while I was there and we had great conversations about pretty much everything. That's the main reason I kept in contact; to maintain dialogue with some people who lent different perspective to my thoughts, and to see how their lives are progressing overseas.



What exactly is the relationship you are fostering between ABBS and the artists?

I want to make this a long-lasting relationship where the officers in ABBS will be able to purchase and sell authentic artwork as a fundraiser while supporting the township of Soweto in South Africa. Some of these people I've met have become my friends which I intend to eventually visit once more, so hopefully through this process, any members of ABBS will also have some contacts in South Africa when they decide to venture abroad.

What gave you the idea of importing the art?

Two things heavily influenced this decision. First, like I said earlier, these were some amazing people and I'd love to help support them any way possible. Second, I purchased some art for my parents for a relatively cheap price, and I felt that this would be a mutually beneficial experience to provide the artists with more work and the consumers with high-quality, authentic artwork at a better price. Not to mention, this was some really beautiful artwork!

2008 - 2009

ABBS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Patricia Dixon  
President



Raheal Aragawi  
VP of Operations



Jared Watson  
VP of Employer Relations



Tirhase Haddis  
VP of Campus Relations



Elaine Raymond  
VP of Communications



Yerusalem Yemane  
VP of Alumni Relations



Find ABBS on



ABBS has now created an ABBS Alumni facebook group. This way ABBS officers can stay connected with Alumni and work together to form a stronger connection.

Search us: "Association of Black Business Students - Alumni"