



The WICPA Young Professionals Committee is planning for the future of the accounting profession and encouraging its younger members to become passionate about the profession. Since its inception two years ago, the Committee has hosted several educational, peer networking and recognition events including the annual Milwaukee Brewers tailgate, Politics at the Pub, CPE social events and the New CPA Welcome Dinner.

WICPA Young Professionals Committee: committed to leadership

By Jessica B. Gatzke, CPA

The Young Professionals Committee is always seeking new ideas for technical and professional training that benefit both younger members and the firms or businesses where they work. With the support and encouragement from my employer, Scribner, Cohen & Company, S.C. in Milwaukee, I actively participated in the development of the profession in my former role as the Committee's chair.

As chair, I helped manage agendas of the quarterly planning meetings. I also helped to ensure the smooth execution of each event while monitoring the Committee's budget, and actively volunteered at the Committee's events. I was able to balance this commitment with work by leaving the detailed planning of each event to WICPA staff and Young Professionals subcommittee.

My participation on the Committee grew from an interest in networking with my peers and opening the lines of communication between individuals working at different firms. I have become involved with the planning committees for the Young Professionals Conference and the Annual Tax Conference. My interest in the profession continues to grow as I learn about the needs and wants of each member and the desires and requirements of

firms that employ young professionals.

Young professionals should join the Young Professionals Committee or other committees for the following reasons:

- You will be able to help shape the profession by planning and implementing professional development opportunities for WICPA members.
- Involvement will help broaden your comfort zones by encouraging the formation of relationships with other committee members from different areas of the profession.
- Serving on the Young Professionals Committee will help you learn about a myriad of other professional committees.

The profession can only grow when we, as young professionals work together and become vested in the courses of action developed to further the profession.



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