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Letter from the Editor

“The hardest thing in the world to understand is the income tax.” — Albert Einstein

The US tax law is complex. However, with a solid foundation in the form of the SJSU MST program, I now wonder if Einstein’s quote is accurate. It is with this confidence that we bring to you the sixth issue of The Contemporary Tax Journal, a publication of the SJSU MST program. It gives me immense pleasure to be a part of this prestigious university and this publication. As we embark on our new journey as tax professionals, it is imperative that we stay tuned to new developments in the tax laws.

We begin this issue with a tax enlightenment article about ‘bitcoin’. The author attempts to explore the virtual currency and its impact on the current tax law.

Next, we have two significant articles from distinguished tax experts. The first paper is from Dr. David R. Jenkins, Algorithm LLC. Dr. Jenkins’s article focuses on the present administration of Section 530 of The Revenue Act of 1978 and the outlook of the states with respect to worker classification. The next paper, ‘An Examination of Tax Incentives for Child Support’ is contributed by Dr. Gary M. Fleischman, Dr. Paul D. Hutchison, and Dr. Zafar Dad Khan. We are truly grateful for these contributions.

The annual joint Tax Executives Institute-SJSU High Tech Tax Institute has always been an important part of the MST journal. In this issue, the summaries from the 29th High Tech Tax Institute focus on international tax developments and the Tax Policy Conference highlights the tax reform proposal put forward by Congressman Camp. In the ‘Tax Maven’ section, we have Mr. Dean Andal, Director at PwC, share his experiences in the public sector.

Finally, I would like to thank Professors Annette Nellen, Bobbi Makani and Joel Busch for their continued guidance and invaluable support for the journal. In addition, I would like to give a big shout-out to all my MST colleagues for pitching in and making the journal a grand success. Thank you!

Asmita Bedekar

Student Editor