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Front Matter (letter from the editor, masthead, etc.)

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Special Thanks to

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AICPA

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Letter from the Editor

In our ninth year of publishing, we are honored to present the Summer 2020 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal*, a publication of San Jose State University's MS in Taxation (MST) Program.

This issue begins with an article about B certified benefit corporation. Emma Lloyd Best, an Attorney and Assistant Professor in the School of Business at Wake Forest University, and Marcy R Binkley, a CPA and Instructor of Accounting in the College of Business at Lipscomb University, discuss the legal and tax implications from the election of existing options of structuration for socially conscious organizations.

Next, we are pleased to present an article on robot taxes by Mr. Robert Kovacev, who is also featured as this issue's Tax Maven (see below).

Following these two articles, is an essay about a Peruvian tax lawyer's experience in a U.S. corporate tax class. Mr. Fernando J. Loayza Jordan studying at Yale Law School, explains and compares how tax law is taught in the U.S. versus Peru.

Next, we have a section dedicated to *Tax Enlightenment* which consists of articles written by SJSU MST students. Madhuri Lanka analyzes three tax treatments of business expenses. Then, Liubov Shilkova explores the consequences for taxpayers if they do not sign a tax return. Ajmeri Zahan determines the principal place of business and tax home for business deduction purpose. Lastly, I examine the *Dunlap v. Commissioner* case on the tax treatment of certain post-retirement payments.

Tax laws are changing constantly. To better understand these changes, we have MST students analyze newly proposed and enacted tax policies in each issue. In the Summer 2020 issue, MST students analyzed H.R. 4286, Virtual Apprenticeship Tax Credit of 2019, *proposing* a tax credit for virtual training programs. MST student Madhuri Lanka also explores the pros and cons of H.R. 5457, Carbon Reduction and Tax Credit Act, a proposal for an excise tax on the carbon content in various types of fuels.

It was our honor to have student assistant editor, Liubov Shilkova, conduct an interview with Mr. Robert J. Kovacev, a tax controversy partner with Norton Rose Fulbright's Washington, DC and San Francisco offices, and member of the SJSU Tax Advisory Board. His experience with tax incentives, transfer pricing controversies, as well as the economic substance and other judicial doctrines, is helpful for young people entering the tax field.

Our special section, *Fun Tax Facts*, was introduced in Winter 2019 by Rachana Khandelwal, MST. We would like to thank her for her generous contributions to our Summer 2020 journal.

The *CPA Exam Review* section includes a few multiple-choice questions provided by the AICPA. We thank the AICPA and hope you find this section helpful in preparing for the CPA exam. For

those of you who have already passed the exam, you may also find these current sample questions interesting.

Finally, I sincerely appreciate all the contributors to this issue. I would especially like to send my gratitude to Professor Annette Nellen for editing suggestions and invaluable input. I am also grateful for my student assistant editor, Liubov Shilkova; alum and dedicated supporter, Rachana Khandelwal, and our MST coordinator, Catherine Dougherty, for their contributions to this journal. Without their help, this journal would not be possible.

Please enjoy the Summer 2020 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal*.

Xiaoyue (Tina) Tan
Student Editor