

# The Contemporary Tax Journal

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

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**The Contemporary Tax Journal Summer 2021**

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**MST Student Contributors**

**Hana Ka Yin Kwong  
Tam Nguyen  
Dimple Mukhi  
Neha Nanda CPA  
Karla Rees CFP® EA  
MST Students in the Spring 2021 Tax Research Class**

**Special Thanks to**

**Rachana Khandelwal, MST  
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Skadden Arps  
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37th Annual TEI SJSU High Tech Tax Institute

November 8 and 9, 2021

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## Letter from the Editor

In our tenth anniversary of publishing, we are excited to present to you the Summer 2021 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal*, a publication of San Jose State University's MS in Taxation (MST) Program.

The issue begins with a section dedicated to Tax Enlightenment which consists of two articles written by SJSU MST students. Dimple Mukhi discovers what qualifies as a charitable contribution while Tam Nguyen determines what the IRS considers taxable income when it comes to credit card reward points.

Next, we are delighted to provide a book review on the book *Rebellion, Rascals, and Revenue: Tax Follies and Wisdom through the Ages*. We appreciate SJSU MST alum Rachana Khandelwal taking time out of her busy schedule to write us an excellent review on a book every tax practitioner should get their hands on.

Following the book review, we have two fascinating republished articles. The first article is Proliferation of NFT Transactions Raise Numerous U.S. Tax Questions. The second article is Suggestions for Pandemic State Tax Policy Endurance. A big thank you to Skadden Arps and Tax Analysts for allowing us to reprint these articles in the SJSU Tax Journal.

Next, we are grateful to Roger CPA for providing us with practice CPA Exam Questions that we hope everyone finds stimulating.

Our *Tax Maven* for this issue of our journal is Mr. Andy Mattson, Tax Partner at Moss Adams LLP and long-time member of the SJSU Tax Advisory Board. Mr. Mattson has extensive experience in providing tax solutions for starts ups and technology companies in the Silicon Valley area. I was honored to have a Zoom interview with him and learn about his incredible career. I hope you will find his accomplishments and career as interesting as I did.

Finally, *A Focus on Tax Policy* presents the analysis of two Federal tax proposals: H.R. 5377, Restoring Tax Fairness for States and Localities Act, by the Spring 223A class of MST students; and S.844, Personal Health Investment Today (PHIT) Act of 2021, by MST students Neha Nanda CPA and Karla Rees CFP. These tax bills were analyzed using the Guiding Principles of Good Tax Policy outlined in the AICPA Tax Policy Concept Statement No. 1.<sup>1</sup>

I would like to thank all the contributors of this issue and fellow MST students. Also, I would like to thank Professor Annette Nellen for her continuous support, her invaluable contributions to this journal, and for being an inspiration to me. I am also grateful to student co-editor Tam

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<sup>1</sup> American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Tax Division. (January 2017). Tax Policy Concept Statement No. 1—Guiding Principles of Good Tax Policy: A Framework for Evaluation of Tax Proposals; available at <https://www.aicpa.org/ADVOCACY/TAX/downloadabledocuments/tax-policy-concept-statement-no-1-global.pdf>.

Nguyen and to our MST coordinator and journal webmaster Catherine Dougherty. Their insights and hard work made this issue of the journal possible.

I invite you to enjoy reading our journal and hope you will consider contributing to our upcoming issues. I now present to you the Summer 2021 issue of *The Contemporary Tax Journal*.

Regards,  
Hana Ka Yin Kwong  
Student Editor

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