



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO
MISSISSAUGA

MMPA | Master of Management
& Professional Accounting

2010 MMPA CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Fair Value Accounting: Challenges and Implications for the Accounting Profession

Professional Graduate Programs Centre
University of Toronto Mississauga
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

November 19, 2010

Location – Credit Valley Golf and Country Club
2500 Old Carriage Rd, Mississauga

Fair Value Accounting (FVA) is a way to measure assets and liabilities that appear on a company's balance sheet. It is consistent with the measurement approach to financial reporting under which accountants undertake a responsibility to incorporate current values into the financial statements. FVA is an important component in implementing IFRS for which accountants must be prepared by broadening our knowledge base on asset valuation. This has traditionally been the domain of finance professionals.

The recent financial crisis also turned the spotlight on FVA practice. There has been a heated debate among politicians, securities regulators, senior executives of financial institutions, and accounting practitioners on the extent to which FVA has contributed to the financial crisis and exacerbated its severity. The aim of the 2010 MMPA Conference is to bring together a group of renowned academic scholars and industry leaders to discuss the challenges and implications of practicing fair value accounting for the accounting profession.

AGENDA

8:00 Breakfast - Credit Valley Golf Club

8:45 Introductory Remarks: *Len Brooks, Director, MMPA and Yue Li, Conference Chair*

9:00 *Professor Daniel B. Thornton, School of Business, Queen's University,*
"Fair Value Accounting: Smoke and Mirrors?"

Dan Thornton holds the Chartered Accountants of Ontario Professorship at Queen's University. He is currently a voting member of the Accounting Standards Oversight Council and the Canadian Performance Reporting Board, and is an Associate Fellow of CIRANO (The Center for Inter-university Research and Analysis on Organizations) in Montreal. Recently he served as a full-time Professional Accounting Fellow at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, an associate editor of *The Accounting Review* (the journal of the American Accounting Association) and a voting member of the Canadian Accounting Standards Board. He has received both the *Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Thought Award* and the *Outstanding Educator Award* from the Canadian Academic Accounting Association. A Fellow of the Institutes of Chartered Accountants of Ontario and Alberta, Professor Thornton has provided extensive expert accounting testimony to various courts and to the Senate of Canada and he is frequently quoted in the financial press.

10:00 Comments and Q&A

10:15 *Professor Alan White, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto,*
“Fair Value Accounting and Financial Crisis”

Professor Alan White is an internationally recognized authority on financial engineering. He is well known for his work with Rotman Professor John Hull concerning the development of the Hull-White Interest Rate Model and associated numerical procedures. This model is widely used by financial engineers in trading rooms around the world to value nonstandard interest rate derivatives. His research is principally in the area of derivative securities, their pricing and their use by financial institutions for risk management. Recently his research has been focused on the pricing and management of credit risk. Professor White has made numerous contributions to the academic community publishing in both academic and practitioner journals. At the Rotman School he has taught at the graduate level and served as the supervisor of the Finance Ph.D. program. Professor White was appointed as the first holder of the Peter L. Mitchelson / Sit Investment Associates Foundation Chair in Investment Strategy. He is currently the Finance Area Coordinator at Rotman.

11:15 Comments and Q&A

11:30 Coffee Break

11:45 *Andrew Cochran, Vice President, Ernst & Young’s Valuation Practice,*
“Implementing Fair Value Accounting”

Andrew Cochran is a Vice President in Ernst & Young's Valuation practice. He holds an MBA, and VFA, and CBV designations. Andrew has over ten years of business valuation and corporate finance experience providing valuation advisory services across a broad range of industries for public and private companies on matters such as financial reporting, mergers, acquisitions, divestures, financings, tax reorganizations, fairness opinions and litigation matters. Andrew serves on one of the committees for the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators.

12:45 Comments and Q&A

1:00 Lunch

2:00 *Kate Ward, MBA, CA, “Fair Value Accounting and Accounting Standard Setting”*

Kate Ward is a Principal with the Canadian Accounting Standards Board. She is also the project manager at the CICA responsible for financial instruments and revenue recognition. She has also been involved with other projects involving fair value measurement at the CICA. Previously, she worked for many years in the banking industry in a variety of roles most of which involved investment banking products and services. She has extensive practical experience with fair value accounting and she is intimately knowledgeable about the accounting standard setting process in Canada.

3:00 Comments and Q&A

3:15 MMPA Classes Debate: **Did Fair Value Accounting Contribute to the 2008 Financial Crisis?**

3:45 Concluding remarks by Prof. Brooks.