

5-2004

An Evening in New York

Katie Shaw
Andrews University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs>



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Shaw, Katie, "An Evening in New York" (2004). *Lake Union Herald*. 708.
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/luh-pubs/708>

This News is brought to you for free and open access by the Lake Union Herald at Digital Commons @ Andrews University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Lake Union Herald by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Andrews University. For more information, please contact repository@andrews.edu.

Teacher in the Spotlight

It takes a lot of patience to be Mary Ann Hofmann. Every year on April 15, the Andrews University associate professor of accounting is bombarded with distraught students who can't make sense of their tax return forms. "My phone rings from morning to night," she says. She takes it with good humor though. "It's fun, and I always plan for it. I know I'm not going to get anything else done!"



Mary Ann Hofmann

When Hofmann was starting college, she did not see accounting in her future. Quite to the contrary, she wanted to become a veterinarian. "I sort of fell into accounting more by accident than by design!" she said. With more and more experience in college, she decided to switch to studying business. "Accounting kind of appealed to me," she said.

Teaching was also something that interested Hofmann, and the fusion of her two interests put her on the road to teaching accounting.

It was in 1991, while teaching at Andrews, that Hofmann decided to take the Certified Management Accountants exam. She felt it was a good thing to do since she was teaching classes in cost and managerial accounting. When the results for the exam came back, she received a gold medal for having received the highest score nationwide. "I think I was as shocked as anyone when I found out that I had gotten the highest score!" said Hofmann.

In her classes, she stresses to her students that they always should strive for excellence: "Mediocrity is never good enough," she says. Also, in a fast-changing area such as accounting, education never ends. Most importantly, she says that, "Careers and money are secondary to your relationship with God. The true measure of success is not measured in dollar signs." With the recent scandals in the accounting world, Hofmann tells her students to decide in their own hearts where their own ethical boundaries lie, and then they have to be true to that.

Grounded in solid accounting principles and a Christian sense of ethics, how can her students go wrong?

Bjorn Karlman, student news writer

Andrews University faculty, staff, and board members enjoyed their annual banquet on Mar. 7. The banquet featured "An Evening in New York," complete with genuine New York emcees—Jack Mentges, director of social recreation, and David Faehner, vice president for university advancement—musical entertainment, and prizes.

Mentges alerted Michael Bloomberg, New York City mayor; George Pataki, New York state governor; and Marty Markowitz, Brooklyn borough president, to the university's plans for the themed evening. All three sent letters of good wishes and congratulations on Andrews' commitment to educational excellence. Governor Pataki wrote, "Not only in the Empire State, but all across our nation, we recognize those outstanding educational institutions that foster the intellectual growth and enrichment of our young people. Religious schools, in particular, strengthen the spiritual and moral fortitude of the community by imparting solid values in the excellent education they offer."

Six staff members received Excellence in Service awards:

Joshua Baltazar (James White Library), Karen Wade (financial records), Tamara Condon (enrollment management), James Lim (information technology services), Pat Spangler (university relations), and Renee Copeland (student services). Seven faculty members were awarded the Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award: Delyse Steyn (communication), Kathy Berglund (physical therapy), Laun Reinholtz (technology), Tom Lowing (architecture), Mary Ann Hofmann (business), Hinsdale Bernard (education), and Jon Paulien (seminary).

Patricia Mutch, vice president for academic administration, presented the Excellence in Teaching awards and said, "[These teachers'] excellent work in their departmental environments makes Andrews a very special place to learn. We are very proud to honor them in this way."

Katie Shaw, news writer



Tamara Condon, Pat Spangler, James Lim, and Renee Copeland were some of the Excellence in Service award recipients. Other recipients not pictured are Joshua Baltazar and Karen Wade.