

# STEVEN A. MITSUDA

32 Campus Drive Office 319 – Missoula, MT 59812  
(406) 243-4144 | steven.mitsuda@mso.umt.edu

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Managerial incentives, compensation, earnings management, financial reporting quality and audit quality

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## EDUCATION

### Stanford University

Ph.D. in Accounting, 2020

### Brigham Young University

MAcc, Professional Accounting, 2015

B.S. in Accountancy, 2015

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## DISSERTATION

The Effect of Chief Accounting Officers on Financial Reporting Quality

- Solo-authored; Dissertation
  - Dissertation committee: Maureen McNichols, Ron Kasznik, Brandon Gipper
  - Abstract: I examine the effect of Chief Accounting Officers (CAOs) on financial reporting quality. I proxy for financial reporting quality using severe and non-severe restatements, abnormal accruals, just meeting or beating analyst forecasts, and internal control weaknesses (ICWs). I find that firms with CAOs have lower rates of severe restatements, just meet-or-beats, and ICWs. These results are consistent with the CAO improving financial reporting quality. I further structure tests that control for the firm's endogenous choice to appoint a CAO, results are generally consistent. I also test financial reporting quality by examining earnings management around seasoned equity offerings. I find that accruals earnings management is mitigated in CAO firms. Next, I check CAO, CEO, and CFO compensation and career concerns to determine if differences in incentives drive these findings. CAO turnover occurs in the years around restatements and ICWs. I also find that CAO tenure is negatively associated with severe restatements, abnormal accruals, just meet-or-beats, and ICWs. Overall, these results suggest that having a designated CAO is associated with various improvements in financial reporting quality and that these improvements are related to the CAO's tenure within the firm.
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## OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS

Social Interaction as a Determinant of Audit Engagement Decisions

- Co-authors: Maureen McNichols, Chloe Xie
- Data collection stage

What are the Incentives driving Fiscal Year-End Choice?

- Solo-authored
- First draft

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **University of Montana**

Assistant Professor of Accounting, 2020-present

### **Stanford University**

Research Assistant (Ph.D.) to Maureen McNichols, 2016-2019

Teaching Assistant (Ph.D.) to Professor Gipper in “Principles of Accounting,” Autumn 2016 and 2017

Teaching Assistant (Ph.D.) to Charles Lee in “Alphanomics,” Winter 2017

### **Brigham Young University**

Research Assistant (MAcc) to Bill Tayler, 2013-2015

Lecturer (MAcc) – “Principles of Accounting”, Fall 2013

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## CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Montana Educator’s Conference. July 2020

AAA 2019 Accounting PhD Rookie Recruiting and Research Camp. December 2019

Stanford Accounting Summer Camp. August 2015-2017; 2019

32nd Annual Accounting Research Conference in memory of Nicholas Dopuch, Hubert C. & Dorothy R. Moog, Professor of Accounting. Washington University in St. Louis. October 2019

Brigham Young University’s Accounting Research Symposium. October 2013; 2014; 2016; 2019

Wharton Spring Accounting Conference. May 2019

10<sup>th</sup> Annual UNC Tax Doctoral Seminar. January 2018