The Journal of Conflict Management (JOCM) will be published quarterly and will include peer-reviewed articles on a variety of topics, including conflict coaching, workplace bullying, organizational conflict management, group facilitation, and other contemporary conflict management subjects.

**Prestigious volunteers**

The JOCM will be published by volunter editors, professionals and scholars who are all nationally-recognized in the field. They include: Dr. Terry Daniel, Daniel Sullivan University; Dr. Price Foster, University of Louisville; Dr. Nancy Giacomini, University of Delaware; Dr. Tricia Jones, Temple University; Dr. Neil H. Katz, and Judith McKay, from Nova Southeastern University; Drs. Neil H. Katz, and Teresa Daniel, Sullivan University; Dr. Craig Runde, International Association of Facilitation; Dr. Tim Swenson, Eastern University; Dr. Cynthia Pace, Eckerd College; Dr. Bill Warters, Mason University; and Dr. Anthony Piña, the Dean of Online Studies and a faculty member in Sullivan’s School of Business.

**New partnership formed**

Sullivan University has partnered with Becker Professional Education, a leader in CPA exam review, to provide students with a value-added preview program. Third party research has shown that CPA candidates who studied with Becker passed at twice the rates of those that did not. Now, at Sullivan, MBA students concentratin- ing in Accounting will receive Becker’s review material as part of their general studies. The four sections of Becker’s review, which correspond to four sections on the CPA exam, will be paired with each of four classes that make up the accounting concentration. This allows a streamlined approach to studying, combining the multi-part professional examination. Similarly, the credit hours earned in class may count toward the academic hours required of CPAs. (Specific rules vary by state.)

**Sullivan’s new online journal benefits Conflict Managers**

Almost ten years ago, Sullivan University began offering a Master of Science degree in Conflict Management. In 2010, the offerings were expanded with a Ph.D. program in Management with a concentration in Conflict Management. This year, Sullivan continues its commitment to help organizational leaders, conflict management practitioners, and scholars learn about, conduct research on, and manage contributions to this emerging field.

**New journal fills a void**

Unlike many disciplines, whose scholars and practitioners have a large number of publishing venues, there are relatively few peer-reviewed journals for those who research, study and practice Conflict Management.

“We are excited to announce a scholarly, multi-disciplinary journal that will fill a void in conflict management literature.”

Dr. LaVena Wilkin, Professor and Dean, Conflict Management Programs, Journal of Conflict Management

**Is there a doctor in the house?**

The doctorate degree is the high- est degree attainable in most academ- ic disciplines. Earning one requires the student to master the knowledge in his field of interest as well as contrib- ute to it through original research. Earning a doctorate degree is rigorous and time consuming but personally and professionally satisfying.

Since the last Herald was pub- lished, four more Sullivan faculty mem- bers attained their doctoral degrees. Congratulations to Dr. Anna Stamp, Dr. Chris Hughes, Dr. Terry Kibliski and Dr. Tim Swenson.

Below, Drs. Hughes, Swenson and Kibliski detail their thoughts on their prestigious doctoral degrees.

**Doctoral degree is a time commitment**

“[Earning my doctorate] is a lifelong dream come true. For the last two and half years, it has been a constant pursuit. However, you are not at all prepared for the amount of time, money, and energy that is consumed. I have been able to enjoy the study process due to the financial support of Sullivan University. I truly gratefully for their support.”

**Great opportunity for doctoral students**

Sullivan University has partnered with Becker Professional Education, a leader in CPA exam review, to provide students with a value-added preview program. Third party research has shown that CPA candidates who studied with Becker passed at twice the rates of those that did not. Now, at Sullivan, MBA students concentratin- ing in Accounting will receive Becker’s review material as part of their general studies. The four sections of Becker’s review, which correspond to four sections on the CPA exam, will be paired with each of four classes that make up the accounting concentration. This allows a streamlined approach to studying, combining the multi-part professional examination. Similarly, the credit hours earned in class may count toward the academic hours required of CPAs. (Specific rules vary by state.)

**Sullivan Ph.D. students and faculty present research to prestigious accrediting agency**

Dr. Anthony Pita, the Dean of Online Studies and a faculty member in Sullivan’s Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program, led a team of Sullivan researchers to compare the Ph.D. and Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A.) degrees in business and management to see if curriculum and research requirements differed for each, and whether the D.B.A. was a degree possessed by many business and manage- ment faculty. Data was gathered from more than 100 doctoral programs, more than 300 master’s degrees and more than 6,300 faculty degree listings nationwide. Analyses of the data showed no significant difference between the curriculum and preparation and that more than 360 graduate management faculty possessed the D.B.A. The team recently presented their research study (titled “Doctorally Qualified: Comparing D.B.A. and Business Ph.D. Programs, and Faculty Degrees”) at the annual conference of the International Association of Collegiate Business Education (IACBE) in Kansas City. The IACBE is the accrediting agency for Sullivan University’s undergraduate and graduate business and management programs.

**Presentation well received**

Many attendees stopped members of the team after the session to ask questions about Sullivan’s Ph.D. program and seek advice about their own institutions’ programs. Along with Dr. Pita, the research team consisted of Tammy Kaelin, Director of Special Projects and an adjunct faculty member of management, as well as doctoral students Patrick Hafford, Helen Maclean, and Ken Moran. “It was the first time I’ve been involved in such an extensive research project and learned so much from the experience,” said Kaelin.

This, Dr. Pita added, was one of the primary goals of the research project. “It is my hope that our work will help promote a culture where our faculty and students work together on a regular basis to conduct, present and publish research.”

**Great opportunity for doctoral students**

For Maclean, it was her first experience presenting at a national conference. She expressed gratitude for the opportu- nity to collaborate, engage in research and present finding to educators from across the globe. “The staff and faculty at Sullivan have all been so supportive of our efforts,” she said, “I have been inspired to do great things.” The team received institutional support via a competitive research grant award by the Sullivan University Office of Institutional Research. Funds from the Graduate School and Global e-Learning helped defray the costs of the conference. The team received additional support from Dr. Eric Hanter, the Executive Vice President/CEO of Sullivan University, who was in attendance at the conference.

“(It) was an absolutely excellent experience,” says Moran. “I would encourage any doctoral student to find a research opportunity and become involved in the process. You will be amazed at what you learn and energized by the possibilities of what lies ahead!”

So, what’s next for the research team? The group plans on conducting further analysis of the data and writing articles for scholarly journals.