**Minutes from Meeting at Texas A&M on July 9th**.

Kelly, Jason, Rick, William, Robert, Alexis and George Menz were present in the morning and that group plus Dean Moriss , Rebecca and Arnie in the afternoon.

**Morning Session- Kelly, Rick, Jason, Robert, William, Alexis and George Menz**

**- calendar and new topics or sections for Tax Facts:**

* Tax issues with ante and post nuptial planning
* Trusts as it affects the under $5.43 M estate. Spendthrifts and to some extent GRATS and health care trusts, special needs
* Investment/Regulated Investment Company’s
* More questions on REITS
* International Tax- Beyond tax, doing business in Canada

**TO DO: Rick will work with Alexis to further define prioritize and possibly narrow the list down as this may be too many topics for us to get done in time for this year.**

**TO DO: I will ensure that NUCO has a process to sweep any updates to TFO every month so that we can make the statement that TFO is updated monthly online**

**- new online product/redesign**

* Primary sources-just include full text docs to embedded cites
* Because regulations can be so long, we may want to embed to the sub-section level. I will look at RIA and see how that is done.
* NUAM- The biggest issue is having the right level of relationship between documents in TF vs. NUAM. A three level tiering of documents was suggested as a way to pair the documents. The next step here is for Alexis and I to get together and create an approach. There already is a three level classification scheme for NUAM documents that could be used.
* Also suggested focusing on the TF documents that get used the most online as a way to focus the work on NUAM

**TO DO: The big to do here is setting up a process and defining how to integrate NUAM documents into Tax Facts. Rick will work with Alexis to discuss further on how we can leverage the existing classification scheme for NUAM.**

**TO DO: Rick will investigate the possibility of displaying regulations at the sub-section level.**

* **current awareness**

We discussed how what Alexis creates along with the Advisor’s Journal is extremely important and is our warehouse of current events information which we then deploy numerous places across NUCO products.

We showed the new e newsletter products we are rolling out to both TF Online subscribers and non-subscribers and how important Alexis’s work is to support this product.

We also reinforced how important Robert’s Advisor’s Journal Articles are and the desire to have even more articles that are like it. (Informative, concise and on point with a current topic of interest with financial advisors.

Also stressed how important it is to get even more current awareness type articles from experts such as Texas A & M faculty to improve the quality and range of our current awareness articles.

**TO DO: Not sure what William’s response was to the idea of recruiting other Texas A & M faculty to contribute to Tax Facts Online and other products. Rick will follow up on this.**

**William agreed to write a fifth article every month, however. This would be more personal and more of an opinion piece on a current topic with the idea of making Robert more accessible and extending his brand.**

**Afternoon Session- Everyone from morning plus Becky, Arnie and Dean Moriss**

**-program for legal publishing and use of interns/externs**

Texas A&M is putting together a program for law students interested in the field of legal publishing.

William asked how we use interns/law students and what the need might be. We don’t have a formal program the way William discussed it.

Possibility for ALM journals for those students interested in journalism/law?

**TO DO: A program for legal publishing for law students is more of a long-term project and probably will not happen until next year. This can be looked at later to see what opportunity there might be on this topic**

**-improving Texas A & M’s rankings**

The Dean reviewed the criteria for the rankings used by US World and News Report and re-stated the desire to be a tier one law school. Matt Weiner joined us for this part of the call.

The discussion centered on how ALM, Inc could help Texas A & M as an entity to help increase visibility of the new law school. Direct mail, advertising and other kinds of media were discussed here as a way to raise Texas A & M visibility along with forming community of Aggie lawyers and the custom Imprints of books bearing the A & M name.

We also raised the specific idea of Texas A & M having some very active role in ALM’s Women in Law conference.

**TO DO: There is a lot to discuss on this topic and Matt Weiner agreed to be the point of contact for this effort. As needed, Matt will bring people in who can assist in whatever project is planned.**

Not sure what the specific next step is here. Perhaps for Becky to discuss further with Matt?

Related to this topic, Dean Moriss related some of the subject areas where Texas A & M is strong and mentioned the following which may be helpful in touting A & Ms strengths:

**Intellectual Property**- Strong in all three fields of patent, copyright, trademarks and unfair trade

**Commercial Code reform** as well as sales and **commercial transactions**

**Alternative Energy** and specifically water policy

**Agriculture and Food Safety**

**Ethics**

**-LLM program in taxation**

An LLM in a tax/wealth management degree was discussed for Texas A & M. This program could be mostly online with some possibility for in-person instruction.

A & M will not be putting together an LLM program for another year.

Dean Moriss shared on his experience at Alabama. The students have a high need to meet and network among themselves. They sponsored a trip to the Cayman Islands where that could happen as well as instruction for credit on offshore transactions.

Alabama found that rolling 7 week sessions worked best although it took two years for the students. This is because many students go back to work and then return.

**TO DO: I do not have any to dos coming out of this meeting for LLM programs for the short term. Please correct me if I am wrong.**

**-wealth management programs**

Discussion of future programs really centered on the establishment of a wealth management program whether as a joint JD program in law and wealth management or some other approach.

We reviewed our version of a joint program on wealth management and they liked what we were proposing. A couple of thoughts came out of that presentation:

1. Should we call it wealth management or financial planning?
2. The programs we presented had an emphasis on client communication. Dean Moriss thought there were other communication classes they had done on DISC, for example
3. How much should the topic of risk management be a part of a wealth management program

The slides included some defined courses and well defined curricula for which NUCO has content. These courses would also support the CFP exam very well.

**TO DO: I think the to do here is that William Byrnes is going to call me in the next few days as he has a 60 day window on the topic of wealth management and what A & M would like to do in this area and when they would like to do it.**

**-certifications and designations**

Then Texas A & M expressed interest in additional certifications and/or designations. The Dean seemed to be of a mind that having a robust selection of these programs for law students while at A & M would enhance the student experience and better prepare them for the job market.

One course discussed was certification as a vendor to the federal government which includes a course in diversity. Jack Manheir is the man mentioned who might do something like this as he already has taught this subject in the past.

Another possible certification is forensic financial investigation that could be taught by Burke Files. He wrote an undersold book called “Financial Due Diligence for the Financial Professional” The idea would be to make a nine credit certification program for this particular subject.

There is a need for continuing education in insurance and wealth management , particularly in the Carribean based on the Dean’s experience.

**TO DO: I am unclear of the specific to do on this but will treat this as something A & M needs to decide in the next 60 days like wealth management above.**

**-distribution**

Then William brought up the idea of distribution to companies such as Becker owned by Devry and Bar-bri.

I do not have a to do out of this topic