

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Academy of Government Accountability Announces the First Recipients of the Dr. Mortimer Dittenhofer Dissertation Research Award

Alexandria, VA – Patricia Patrick from Pennsylvania State University in Harrisburg and Annette Pridgen from the University of Mississippi, received the Academy of Government Accountability's Dr. Mortimer Dittenhofer Dissertation Research Awards on August 7, 2006. The dissertation awards were presented in conjunction with the American Accounting Association's *Government and Non-Profit Sector Luncheon* in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Patrick is completing her Ph.D. in Public Administration. Her dissertation is focused upon, 'The Determinants of Organizational Innovation: A Study of GASB 34 in Pennsylvania'. She plans to receive her degree in the summer of 2007.

Ms. Pridgen is seeking a Ph.D. in Accountancy from the E.H. Patterson School of Accountancy. She has recently begun her dissertation research on, 'Analyzing Government Financial Condition.' She expects to be completed in late 2007.

The Academy's mission is to support research and education initiatives and advance thought leadership in bringing transparency and accountability to government financial management and to forge relationships among government, business and academia to further such goals. The Dittenhofer Dissertation Award is named after Mortimer Dittenhofer, Ph.D., CGFM, CIA, a retired professor of accounting at Florida International University who dedicated his career to achieve these same objectives.

In 2005, fewer than 100 individuals earned their Ph.D. in accounting with only a minute percentage specializing in government accounting. The Dittenhofer Research Award program provides funds to selected doctoral candidates interested in the field of government financial management. The doctoral candidate must be pursuing an advanced post-graduate degree from an accredited educational institution in auditing, budgeting or business, with an emphasis in government financial management. Applicants should have completed or be within one semester of completion of coursework.

The Academy is governed by a distinguished Board of Trustees, which includes both public and private individuals. Chair of the Academy is Sridhar Ramamoorti, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, CIA, ACA, CFE, CFSA, CRP, CGAP, a partner with Grant Thornton. Vice chair is Samuel Mok, CGFM, CIA, chief financial officer of the U.S. Department of Labor. Cornelius E. Tierney, CGFM, is a member emeritus of the Board of the Trustees. Professor Michael Granof, Ph.D., is vice-chair of the Academy Research & Education Task Force.

For more information about the dissertation award, please contact Eveanna Barry at ebarry@agacgfm.org, 800.AGA.7211, ext. 324 or visit www.agacgfm.org/academy/doctoral.aspx.

The Association of Government Accountants is an 15,000-member professional Association devoted to meeting the continuing professional education needs of financial managers at all levels of government, the private sector and academia. For more information about the Association, or the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program, call 800.AGA.7211, or visit our website at www.agacgfm.org.

