

## **Institute of Management Accountants hosts CPA speaker/alumna**

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On Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008 Amy Muhleisen, CPA, Alfred University alumna, and internal auditor at Steuben Trust Co. spoke to the Alfred University Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) members. The IMA is the world's leading organization dedicated to empowering management accounting and finance professionals to drive business performance. Ms. Muhleisen, AU class of 1993, delivered a useful message about students' futures. She shared her post-graduation experiences after leaving AU. After graduation, Muhleisen was recruited by the Rochester, NY office of KPMG to begin her career in public accounting. KPMG is an international firm that provides audit, tax, and advisory services. It operates in 145 different countries and has more than 123,000 professionals working around the world. After working for KPMG for three years and getting married, Ms. Muhleisen moved back to the Hornell/Alfred area and used her connections with the Steuben Trust Co. to become employed in their internal audit division. Muhleisen shared with students both the pros and cons of working in public accounting. She also discussed the challenges she has faced being a woman in the business world. Muhleisen learned she had to work hard to earn the respect of others in her company. She told students it is crucial to "stick with it" during those first years on the job. Senior accounting major Danielle Sandy said she learned "this is just the beginning. Where we start now is going to launch our careers in many different directions, and each experience that we have will build off of the previous ones." She continued, "Everything we learn, and all of the challenges we face, will bring us that next step closer to our career goals. We need to take it all in, one experience at a time, because we are laying the foundation for our futures." Although Muhleisen's interests relate mostly to accounting majors, her message is valuable for every student on the Alfred University campus. The world is at our fingertips when we take our first footsteps outside of Alfred University. With determination and hard work, those footsteps have the ability to leave even larger footprints if students keep working toward their goal of success.-Jessica Marble '11 March 2, 2008