

Jane Watkins – VCU School of Business All Star for 2013

Thank you for such a great honor. To be recognized by a school that I hold such respect and affection for means so much to me.

Like so many students in their first year of college, I had really not thought too much about what college would do for me or what I wanted to do when I graduated. College was just the next step in the education process that I was expected to take.

But thanks to a faculty and a school that challenged and encouraged me, I found a career that was both satisfying and rewarding. I left out the “exciting” word because I knew you would not believe that could describe accounting.

Most important to me, my experience at VCU taught me to appreciate and respect what diversity can bring to your education. There is no such thing as a “VCU type” of student. Our varied backgrounds and experiences made the discussions and interactions a richer experience.

I learned that education can be more about realizing and appreciating how **little** you know versus how much you **think** you know. The education part never ends!

The sheer size of the university requires students to develop independence and initiative. That experience taught me that I can make a difference. It made me **want** to make a difference for my school, in my career and in my community.

Again, thank you for this recognition.