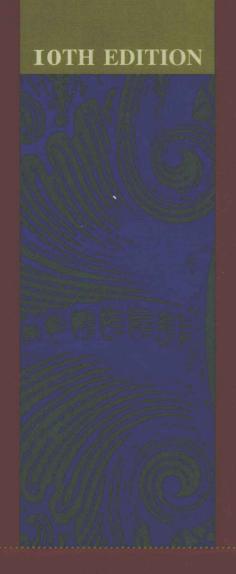
CLYDE P. STICKNEY ROMAN L. WEIL



Financial Accounting

Concepts, Methods, and Uses

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Financial Accounting

IOTH EDITION

Concepts, Methods, and Uses

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IOTH EDITION

Financial Accounting

Concepts, Methods, and Uses

For

GRETA, ISABELLA AND LILY

For

KATHY AND KATHERINE

With Thanks

For Our Students

Whatever be the detail with which you cram your students, the chance of their meeting in after-life exactly that detail is infinitesimal; and if they do meet it, they will probably have forgotten what you taught them about it. The really useful training yields a comprehension of a few general principles with a thorough grounding in the way they apply to a variety of concrete details. In subsequent practice the students will have forgotten your particular details; but they will remember by an unconscious common sense how to apply principles to immediate circumstances.

Alfred North Whitehead

The Aims of Education and Other Essays

WARNING: Study of this book is known to cause thinking, occasionally deep thinking. Typical side effects include mild temporary anxiety followed by profound long-term understanding and satisfaction.

WITHTHANKS



Preface

Over the years, we have come to refer to our book's title by the acronym FACMU—Financial Accounting: An Introduction to Concepts, Methods, and Uses. We take *concepts, methods*, and *uses* to be the central elements in learning and teaching about financial accounting.

Although it incorporates changes large and small throughout its chapters, the tenth edition of FACMU has the same principal objectives as the previous editions:

- To help students develop a sufficient understanding of the basic concepts underlying financial statements so that they can apply the concepts to new and different situations.
- To train students in accounting terminology and methods so that they can interpret, analyze, and evaluate financial statements currently published in corporate annual reports.

Most introductory financial accounting textbooks share these, or similar, objectives. Textbooks differ in their relative emphases on concepts, methods, and uses.

1. Concepts This book emphasizes the rationale for, and implications of, important accounting concepts. To learn accounting, students must develop the ability to conceptualize the transactions that accounting summarizes and the process of summarization. Without such conceptualization, students will have difficulty focusing on the relevant issues in new and difference situations.

Accordingly, each chapter begins by identifying important accounting concepts. Several numerical examples illustrating their application then follow. The end-of-chapter material includes numerous short exercises to check students' ability to apply the concepts to different problem situations.

2. Methods We place sufficient emphasis on accounting procedures so that students can interpret, analyze, and evaluate published financial statements. The text does not emphasize procedures to such an extent that students bog down in detail. All writers of accounting textbooks must decide just how much accounting procedure to include. We believe students will learn most effectively by working exercises and problems. Too much emphasis on accounting procedures, however, lulls students into the security of thinking they understand accounting concepts when they do not. We have for many years used the mixture of concepts and procedures in this book and have found it effective in the classroom.

Understanding the accounting implications of an event requires that students construct the journal entry for that event. Throughout this book we use journal entries in describing the nature of accounting events. Moreover, most chapters contain exercises and problems that require the analysis of transactions with debits and credits. Do not conclude by a glance at this text, however, that it is primarily procedural. We want students to learn *concepts*; the procedures enhance the learning of concepts.

3. Uses This book attempts to bridge the gap between the preparation of financial statements and their use in various decision situations. The chapters consider the effects of alternative accounting principles on the measurement of earnings and financial position and the appropriate interpretations of them. Numerous problems based on financial statement data of actual companies appear at the end of most chapters.

CHANGES IN THIS EDITION

The most important changes made in this revision are as follows:

- 1. Increased emphasis on financial statement analysis. Without changing the emphasis on concepts and methods described in the previous section, this edition includes a new or revised section in most chapters on analyzing and interpreting financial statement information. Each chapter also includes new problems that require students to interpret disclosures by actual companies relating to the topics that the chapter discusses.
- 2. Revised or added material in response to new financial reporting standards. Chapter 8 includes material on asset impairments, particularly for goodwill and other intangibles not requiring amortization. Chapter 10 includes a substantially enhanced section on derivatives. Chapter 11 presents revised materials on the purchase method for corporate acquisitions and Chapter 12 presents revised materials on the accounting for stock options.
- **3. Enhanced the discussion of quality of earnings.** Chapter 6 develops more fully the concept of the quality of earnings. Subsequent chapters discuss various financial reporting topics in terms of their effect on the quality of earnings.

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- **4. Enhanced the flow from concepts to methods.** Significant revisions to Chapters 6, 7, 8, and 12 present the underlying concepts more clearly and then link the accounting concepts to the related accounting methods in a more integrated manner.
- 5. New problems based on actual company data. In nearly every chapter, we have replaced exercises and problems with those using actual public company data.
- 6. Rewritten for greater clarity. We have worked hard to make the language clearer and more precise, and we have added headings, diagrams, and transitions to aid that clarity and precision.
- 7. New WebTutor online course administration tool for WebCT and Blackboard. WebTutor provides concept reinforcement for easier and more portable learning.

We have listed further content changes where relevant in the next section.

ORGANIZATION

This book comprises four major parts:

- Part One: "Overview of Financial Statements," consisting of Chapter 1.
- Part Two: "Accounting Concepts and Methods," Chapters 2 through 5.
- Part Three: "Measuring and Reporting Assets and Equities," Chapters 6 through 13.
- Part Four: "Synthesis," Chapter 14.

In our view, the four parts are tiers, or steps, in the learning process. Part One presents a general overview of the principal financial statements. Part Two discusses the basic accounting model accountants use to generate the principal financial statements. Part Three considers the specific accounting principles or methods used in preparing the financial statements. Finally, Part Four synthesizes material covered in Chapters 1 to 13. This organization reflects the view that learning takes place most effectively when students begin with a broad picture, then break up that broad picture into smaller pieces until achieving the desired depth, and finally synthesizing so that the relation between the parts and the whole retains its perspective.

Chapter 1 presents a brief description of the principal activities of a business firm (goal setting and strategy formulation, investing, financing, and operating) and shows how the three principal financial statements—the balance sheet, the income statement, and the statement of cash flows—report the results of these activities. We use the business activities and the financial statements of Wal-Mart Stores to illustrate the important concepts. Chapter 1 also provides an overview of the financial reporting environment. Many students feel deluged with the multitude of new terms and concepts after reading Chapter 1. However, most of these same students admit later that the broad overview helped piece material together as they later explored individual topics at greater length.

Chapters 2 through 4 present the basic accounting model that generates the three principal financial statements. In each case, the discussion begins with a description of the important concepts underlying each statement. The chapter then describes and illustrates procedures accountants use to generate the financial statements. Each chapter uses the balance sheet equation or changes in the balance sheet equation to motivate understanding of the preparation procedures. Although these chapters emphasize debit/credit procedures, instructors can use the balance sheet equation approach to communicate the basics

of statement preparation. Each of these chapters includes one or more simple problems that students can work using the balance sheet approach to prepare the three principal financial statements. Chapter 3, unlike treatments in other texts, integrates the accounting entries for transactions during a period with the related adjusting entries at the end of the period. When textbooks discuss these two types of entries in separate chapters, students often lose sight of the fact that measurement of net income and financial position requires both kinds of entries. In this edition, we have revised and expanded the section on interpreting the income statement by adding more firms and incorporating industry economics and business strategy into the analysis in Chapter 3.

In this edition, we have added justification for the statement of cash flows in Chapter 4. We continue to put coverage of the statement of cash flows early in the text (Chapter 4). This placement serves two purposes. First, it elevates the statement to its rightful place among the three principal financial statements. Students can thereby integrate the concepts of profitability and cash flow more effectively and begin to understand that one does not necessarily accompany the other. Covering this statement at the end of the course (in many cases, when time is running out) can lead students to think the cash flow statement less important. Placing this chapter early in the book forces the student to cement understanding of the basic accounting model from Chapters 2 and 3. Preparing the statement of cash flows requires the student to "work backward" from the balance sheet and income statement to reconstruct the transactions that took place. The coverage of the statement of cash flows:

- treats both the indirect and the direct method of calculating cash flow from operations, and
- 2. uses both the columnar worksheet and the T-account worksheet for preparing the statement.

Chapters 2, 3, and 4 conclude with a section on analyzing and interpreting each financial statement, serving as a prelude to the integrated analysis of profitability and risk in Chapter 5.

Chapter 5 describes and illustrates tools for analyzing the financial statements. The discussion structures the various financial statement ratios in a multi-level format that students have found minimizes the need to memorize formulas. Instructors who incorporate annual reports of actual companies throughout their course will find that analysis of the financial statements of such companies provides effective synthesis at this point. An appendix to Chapter 5 illustrates procedures for preparing pro forma financial statements. This topic helps cement understanding of the relation among the three principal financial statements.

Chapters 6 through 12 discuss the various generally accepted accounting principles that accountants use in generating the financial statements. Each chapter not only describes and illustrates the application of the various accounting methods but also considers their effects on the financial statements. This approach reflects the view that students should be able to interpret and analyze published financial statements and to understand the effect of alternative accounting methods on such assessments.

Some of the specific changes to Chapters 6 through 12 of this edition include:

- an integrated discussion of revenue recognition for various types of businesses, particularly technology-based firms, along with the related treatment of receivables (Chapter 6),
- new material on analyzing accounts receivable (Chapter 6),

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- increased emphasis on the effects of the LIFO versus FIFO choice, deleting material on periodic and perpetual inventory systems, standard costing, and direct costing (Chapter 7).
- a new discussion of the relation between asset valuation and income measurement, with application of these concepts to inventories (Chapter 7)
- new material on analyzing inventories (Chapter 7),
- major revision of accounting for long-lived assets, relating various accounting methods more clearly to underlying concepts (Chapter 8),
- new material related to identifying and accounting for intangibles (Chapter 8),
- new material on analyzing long-lived assets (Chapter 8),
- expanded discussion of the nature and accounting for derivatives (Chapter 10),
- integrated discussion of the market value method for marketable securities and investments in securities to illustrate commonalities and differences (Chapter 11),
- an enhanced discussion of the purchase method for corporate acquisitions and the rationale for elimination of the pooling-of-interests method (Chapter 12),
- altered flow of accounting for shareholders' equity, beginning with the firm's obtaining funds, then using funds to acquire assets to generate earnings, and finally distributing funds through dividends or treasury stock purchases (Chapter 12), and
- enhanced illustration and discussion of the accounting for stock options (Chapter 12).

Chapter 13 deepens the explorations of the statement of cash flows by presenting a comprehensive illustration using transactions discussed in Chapters 6 through 12. Instructors have flexibility in structuring their coverage of the statement of cash flows by covering Chapter 4 early in the course and Chapter 13 at the end of the course or by covering both chapters at the end of the course. New to this edition, we have added to Chapter 13 a review of the important concepts and procedures for the statement of cash flows from Chapter 4.

Some students who have used the previous editions of this book report that they find Chapter 14, which synthesizes much of the material in the first thirteen chapters, the most useful in the book. This chapter explicitly considers the combined effects of alternative accounting methods on the financial statements. The chapter also summarizes the effect of various accounting principles discussed in earlier chapters on the quality of earnings.

For this edition, we have also added discussion of quality of earnings considerations for asset impairment losses and derivatives (Chapter 14). The self-study problem and Problems 16 and 17 at the end of Chapter 14 provide thorough review for the entire book. Case 14.19 requires students to evaluate the quality of earnings for many of the topics discussed throughout the book.

An appendix to the book describes compound interest and present value computations for students not previously exposed to this topic.

The end of the book includes a comprehensive Glossary of accounting terms. It serves as a useful reference tool for accounting and other business terms and provides additional descriptions of a few topics, such as accounting changes and inventory profit, considered only briefly in the text. Containing illustrations, tables, and examples, this Glossary is, we believe, the most comprehensive, useful, and informative financial accounting reference of terminology in any accounting textbook.

The Web site for the book (http://stickney.swcollege.com) includes expanded discussion of topics in the text, including income taxes, retirement benefits, consolidation with

a minority interest, proportional consolidation and special purpose entities, foreign currency translation, and general price-level accounting.

RELATED MATERIALS ACCOMPANYING THE TEXTBOOK

The following supplementary materials augment the textbook:

INSTRUCTOR'S MANUAL

The instructor's manual presents suggested outlines for courses of varying lengths, a list of chapter objectives, helpful teaching hints, detailed lecture and discussion outlines, including the numbers of particularly germane questions, exercises, problems, and cases.

SOLUTIONS MANUAL

The solutions manual provides full solutions for all end-of-chapter assignment items, including questions, exercises, problems, and cases. We give computations, allowing the instructor to show how to reach a particular answer. The Solutions Manual is available for sale to students of adopting instructors.

STUDY GUIDE

This study guide, by LeBrone C. Harris and James E. Moon, lists highlights from each chapter and provides numerous short true/false, matching, multiple-choice questions, and exercises, with answers.

TEST BANK

Prepared by Douglas M. Stein (Cardean University), the test bank includes multiple-choice items, matching questions, short essay questions, and problems.

EXAMVIEW COMPUTERIZED TESTING SOFTWARE

All items in the test bank are available in ExamView computerized testing software for Microsoft Windows. This supplement allows instructors to add or edit questions, instructions, and answers by previewing them onscreen. They can also create and administer quizzes online—whether over the internet, a local area network (LAN), or wide area network (WAN).

LECTURE PRESENTATION SOFTWARE IN POWERPOINT

Sample lectures created by Gordon Duke (University of Minnesota) aid in lecture preparations by those using this text. Software is available by download on the book's Web site.

SPREADSHEET TEMPLATE SOFTWARE

At least three problems per chapter have a corresponding template where basic problem data appear on a Microsoft Excel® Spreadsheet to reduce tedium in solving problems and increase student awareness of basic software applications. Software is available by download on the book's Web site.

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SOLUTIONS TRANSPARENCIES

Solutions acetates accompany all numerical requirements for end-of-chapter exercises, problems, and cases.

WEBTUTOR ON WEBCT AND BLACKBOARD

WebTutor allows instructors to easily teach their course online and provides students with online learning features that make learning financial accounting easier and more portable.

We encourage instructors to contact their South-Western sales representative for information and samples of these items.

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