



The Canadian
Accounting
Hall of Fame

Le Temple
de la renommée comptable
du Canada

Karim Jamal – inducted 2023



Karim Jamal was born in Kenya, East Africa, and came to Canada with his family at age 14. After high school in Winnipeg he obtained a B.Com at the University of Manitoba in 1980. He then began his articles with Price Waterhouse in Winnipeg to obtain his CA. He graduated from the University of British Columbia in 1984, with a MSc (Hons) and from the University of Minnesota with a PhD in 1991. Upon

obtaining his Ph.D. he joined the faculty at the University of Alberta, where he progressed rapidly to chaired full professor, in 2002; he has held the CPA Chair in Accounting since 2009, and in 2022/23 is in his third five-year term as Department Chair of Accounting and Business Analytics. (The Department's name changed from Accounting Operations and information Systems in 2019). During his terms as Department Chair, Karim has reorganized the PhD program, established a highly effective practice-ready master's in accounting program, revised the undergraduate honours program in accounting, and established annual Banff Summer Research Workshops.

Karim's research interests and extensive publications include regulation and competition in accounting and auditing; judgment and decision-making, including common knowledge; persuasion and inter-personal perception; governance, fraud and earnings management; and E-commerce privacy and control. Karim, alone or with colleagues, has published over 70 articles, with about 90% being research papers and the balance are targeted at the broad professional audience, contributed over 25 unpublished reports and commentaries, and obtained numerous research grants.

Karim's PhD student supervision has included serving as Thesis Supervisor for six students, and being a Thesis Committee member for six others. His teaching has ranged across accounting and auditing topics for undergraduate, masters and PhD students, and students in professional programs.

What is exemplary is Karim's thought leadership and focus on accounting and auditing research issues of importance to the Canadian profession, and sharing the results of his research broadly. Particularly noteworthy is the manner in which Karim's work has combined contributions to accounting education and to the profession. One of those writing a letter of support said "Karim is more connected to the downtown accounting community than any other academic I know". This approach has given him almost unprecedented research access to practitioners, from both small and large Canadian firms, and has also informed the development of programs that are analytically and research based and which explicitly prepare students for accounting careers. His courses always feature substantive contributions by local and national practitioners. As Technical Editor of *CA Magazine's* education section (2011 to 2014) he communicated educationally relevant research and pedagogical information to practitioners across Canada.

Karim's research acumen is recognized beyond Canada, and notably in the U.S. where he has been very active in the American Accounting Association's Committees including chairing its Financial Accounting Standards Committee in 2009-2011.

Karim has contributed to several accounting, or accounting-related, organizations, including the following:

- Canadian Academic Accounting Association: member/chair of the Haim Falk Award Committee (2011/12, 2016/17, 2019-2021); *Accounting Perspectives* – chair of Editor Search Committee (2012/13), member, Editorial Board (2009-present) and Associate Editor (2010-present); chair Baxter Award Committee (2008/09); member *Contemporary Accounting Research* Editor-in-Chief Search Committee (2015/16) and member, Editorial Board (1994-2003 and 2007-present); Scientific Committee (2010-2013).
- American Accounting Association: member, then chair Financial Accounting Standards Committee (2006-2011); member, Deloitte Wildman Award Committee (2015-2018); member, Regulatory Reform Response Task Force (2009-2011); Member-at-Large, Council (2008-2010); member, Finance Committee (2016-2019); and member, Editorial Board, *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory* (2003-2005 and 2008-present).
- CICA/CPA Canada: Uniform Final Exam reviewer (1995, 1996, 1999, 2001); *CA Magazine* Education Section Technical Editor (2011-2014); member, CPA Competency Map 2 Task Force Academic Advisory Board (2020-2022).
- Financial Executives International: Board member, Edmonton Chapter, and chair of Programming Committee and Sponsorship Committee (2020-present).

- University of Toronto (Mississauga) Professional Accounting Centre: Advisory Board member (2014-present).
- Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators: public member of Board and member of Education and Audit/Finance Committees (2016-2019).
- Yuji Ijiri Lecture Series Steering Committee (organized by Yale University): member (2018-present).
- World Computer Exchange: served on the Canadian board for nine years (2004-2013), and on the International Advisory Council/Board (2013-2017). (This is a North American organization which provides donated, used and refurbished computers to classrooms in developing countries.)
- The Centre for Enhanced Corporate Reporting: Board member (2005-2007).

In addition to the three Editorial Boards mentioned above, he has served on the Boards of six other academic accounting (or accounting-related) journals. Further, he has been a member of committees/task forces of the University of Alberta.

Karim has been honoured by the following bodies:

- Canadian Academic Accounting Association – Haim Falk Award for Distinguished Contributions to Accounting Thought, in 2010.
- Alberta Institute of Chartered Accountants (now CPA Alberta) – Distinguished Service Award in 2005, and FCA in 2009. Also, he was named a “Centennial Ambassador” of the Institute in 2010.
- University of Alberta - as noted above, he has held the CPA Chair in Accounting since 2009. In 2005/06 he was the McCalla Professor.