

Pacific Business News (Honolulu) - September 1, 2008
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PACIFIC BUSINESS NEWS

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Friday, August 29, 2008

People who make Hawaii work: Kim Tomlinson

Pacific Business News (Honolulu)

*Kim Tomlinson has been promoted to principal at **Accuity** LLP.*

She will manage the general tax practice, including tax compliance, preparation, return and consulting, and will oversee four managers and 12 staff members.

She joined the company as an intern and most recently was senior manager in the general tax practice.

Tomlinson, 36, who was born in Taipei, is a graduate of Maui High School and has bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting with an emphasis on tax from the University of Hawaii.

She is a member of the Catholic Charities Hawaii Program board and is vice president of Soroptimist International of Honolulu. She also is active in the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Why I took this job: They offered me one! Seriously, I interned with the firm when I was still a student at the University of Hawaii. At that time we were still Coopers & Lybrand. It was a great place to work; everyone mentored me and I've been here ever since.

Like most about the job: The amazing people. Seriously. Both because everyone is so intelligent and I can learn so much from them and also because everyone is unique and funny and easy to get along with. I look forward to going to work to spend time with these people.

Like least about the job: The hours can get pretty crazy. There can be so many demands for your attention that you feel stretched pretty thin.

Immediate priority: Surviving my next deadline!

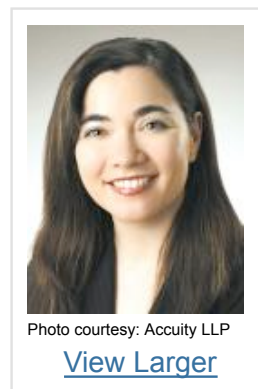
Long-term challenge: To address the issues of the next generation coming up in the work force. There are different expectations from staff and I think there needs to be change and flexibility on both sides.

Also, the increase in regulation of both the accounting industry and public and private companies. A balance needs to be found of complying with increased government regulations and also of doing the best job you can for your client.

Best way to keep a competitive edge: Put yourself in your clients' shoes. What do they want? What do they expect? What are the issues they're really dealing with? What is really important to them? How can you help?

Smartest move in my business career: Clearly coming to work for Accuity LLP fka PricewaterhouseCoopers fka Coopers & Lybrand! And also sticking with it versus job hopping.

What I value in my employees: A positive attitude and a willingness to pitch in and be part of a team. Also, the willingness to speak up and offer suggestions and to communicate.



Most overlooked secret to success: Being stubborn while not being annoying about it.

I'm inspired by: The people around me. Everyone has something to offer. Being technically smart, being great at client meetings, being skilled at managing, supporting the community. You can learn from everyone.

One rule I live by: Do no harm.

Favorite stress reducer: Mindless entertainment. I read, watch TV, go to the movies, and blow things up in video games.

Favorite way to spend free time: See favorite stress reducers above! I also have some very close friends, and even though we're all busy we try to make the time to see each other every week. I also enjoy traveling and love to go home to Maui to visit my family, go to the Mainland to visit my relatives who have relocated, and travel to new places and countries.

Meredith Prock

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