After entering its first singing competition, a local barbershop quartet, including FSOA accounting instructor Bob Tucker, considers itself FOURTUNATE. Competing at the International Quartet Preliminaries and District Chorus Convention in Orlando last month, the four-man harmonies of FOURTUNATE earned the group seventh place out of 17 quartets. Bob Tucker, baritone of the group, said he knew their group could be successful the moment they first sang together.

The competition was split over two days, and FOURTUNATE went to Orlando with one goal: to become International Quartet Preliminary Finalists and qualify to sing both days. At the competition, FOURTUNATE sang “Wait Till the Sun Shines Nellie,” “The Story of the Rose (Heart of My Heart),” “Old St. Louie” and “Bye Bye Blues” in front of a crowd of about 1,000 people. Scores were based on singing, presentation and the categories of music.

FOURTUNATE members Bob Tucker, C.J. Shaw, Mike Roth, and Tyson Adams all became acquainted through the BarberGators barbershop chorus in Gainesville. The four men sang together randomly at a chapter meeting and liked what they heard. “I remember that magical moment,” Tucker said.

In October 2012, they became an official quartet. Although they have only been a quartet for a short time, their relationship spans further than their harmonies. They laugh and joke as if they have known each other for decades.