Take A Stroll Down
Memory Lane

Introducing the CBA Memory Lane. The College honors the contributions and legacy of our distinguished retired faculty.

Pathfinders
New CBA alumni feature

New Professor
Jarrett Kotrozo
Strategic Management

4th EMBA Cohort
Comes to Modesto in April
Thursday, February 26, 2009

Meet the Firms Night

Spring Job Fair  6–8PM
The CSU Stanislaus Event Center
Network, Name-Drop, Land the Perfect Job. This is Where Careers Take Off.

Brought to you by the Student Success Center and Career Services Center at CSU Stanislaus. For more information, give us a call us at 209.667.3864

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for students, alumni, community and business leaders

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**B U S I N E S S o p t i o n s**

BUSINESS OPTIONS is published by the College of Business Administration at California State University, Stanislaus for distribution to alumni, friends, donors, and the business community. The goal of this publication is to highlight the activities and accomplishments of the College faculty, staff, students and alumni, and to provide a link to our community.

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**College of Business Administration 2008 - ’09 Calendar of Events**

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Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the administration or those of the California State University Board of Trustees.

News and correspondence should be sent to: cbritten@csustan.edu

**College of BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

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Design and Layout by University Branding/Office of Communications and Public Affairs.
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Dedicated, successful, and engaged. These three words accurately describe all of the honorees from the 8th Annual Recognition & Awards Banquet for the College of Business Administration (CBA) at California State University, Stanislaus. In this issue of Business Options, you will read about these community members, business leaders, faculty, and students. We are truly privileged to have so many wonderful people to honor.

The magazine also highlights successful CBA alumni, which will now be a regular feature of Business Options. CSU Stanislaus is proud of the fact that so many of its graduates find rewarding and profitable careers. In fact, the University rivals top prestigious schools for job placement rates of graduates.

Earlier this year, Forbes.com ranked CSU Stanislaus as one of the top 175 public universities for producing top wage-earning alumni. Only 13 of the 23 CSU schools were included in the ranking. Of course, in many ways the ranking simply told us what we already knew — that CSU Stanislaus graduates are prepared for success when they walk across the platform to receive their diplomas. Carry that diploma with pride as you follow your career path and life’s journey.

In tough economic times like today, businesses are the hope of the future and the opportunity for restoring community vibrancy and economic health. With over 70 percent of CSU Stanislaus graduates living in the six-county region of Stanislaus, Merced, Mariposa, Calaveras, Tuolumne, and San Joaquin Counties, it is our business graduates who will have a significant impact on that future here in the Central Valley and foothill communities.

So, stand up as a proud CSU Stanislaus alum and follow the lead of your colleagues, professors, and friends who were honored at last spring’s CBA banquet. Be an engaged citizen, entrepreneurial in drive and spirit to move your own business and community forward to a vibrant future. As you do, we at California State University, Stanislaus will stand ready to promote your accomplishments and contributions.

From the President

Ham Shirvani, Ph.D.
As I begin my second year as dean of the College of Business Administration, I am still as excited about the College and its accomplishments as I was a year ago. During this year, the College faculty, staff and students have accomplished great achievements. We submitted a highly successful accreditation interim report to the AACSB Maintenance of Accreditation Committee in January. They accepted our report and agreed that all issues were adequately addressed. They also congratulated us on the continuous improvement environment which we have created. Given the difficult accreditation situation at several other CSU campuses, this accomplishment is another example of the CBA faculty’s hard work, dedication to excellence, and commitment to our students and to the quality of the Business program.

The implementation of the Executive MBA Program has been one of the CBA’s main accomplishments. The first EMBA cohort in Tracy, in partnership with the City of Tracy, which started in August 2007, will graduate in November 2008. In April, the 2nd cohort started in Stockton, in partnership with Grupe Commercial Company, Partners Real Estate, and Old Republic Title Company. In August, the 3rd cohort started in partnership with the City of Turlock. The fourth cohort will start in April 2009 in partnership with the City of Modesto and Stanislaus County.

An extensive effort to connect the College with the business community has started within the College. Throughout the past year, I have met with executives from 21 companies to strengthen partnerships and create new friendships for the College and the University. Following the very successful reception the College held for CBA graduates at local Gallo companies last November, a second reception was held on April 8 at Foster Farms. We were met with the great enthusiasm by alumni who were very eager to reconnect with their alma mater.

The CBA Business Advisory Board membership approved a plan to increase members’ fundraising involvement for the College. The Board has been streamlined and revitalized as part of a new direction for the board. The board has raised $11,500 for BAB scholarship endowments and sponsorships of the Business Options magazine. Plans are underway for the Board to work on achieving a fundraising goal of $100,000 in business student scholarships within two years. If you are interested to help the college reach this goal, please let me know.

The College experienced a healthy enrollment growth in both FTEs and student headcount last year achieving an all-time College record in both FTEs and student headcount. Our college now has the largest number of students in any single major in the University.

The Student Success Center (SSC) has come a long way toward achieving its initial goal of being a one-stop shop student services office, providing services on a full time basis. The SSC plays an important and significant role in representing the College and advising new and transferring Business students during the University’s New Student Orientations. New business students are now able to prepare their academic plans and establish practical goals for timely graduation. The SSC participates in many University and College student activities and events such as Family Weekend, Preview Day, Accounting Night, CIS Night, and Meet the Firms Night and has successfully developed and produced many useful and informative newsletters, guidebooks, brochures, and planning guides.
The Management, Operations, and Marketing Department hosted the 14th annual International Conference on Industry, Engineering and Management Systems (IEMS) in Cocoa Beach in March 2008. It marked the 11th consecutive year of CSU Stanislaus management of the conference, which attracts business and engineering academics and professionals from around the globe. This year more than 150 participants gathered for the three-day event. Of particular interest this year was the launching of an associated refereed journal, the Journal of Management and Engineering Integration. The JMEI published its first issue in August 2008.

The 8th Annual Recognition and Awards Banquet was held in May. Once again, this extremely popular event was sold out. Eight community members were given awards for outstanding performance in their fields, including one corporate award for social responsibility. Four faculty were honored for their outstanding performance in teaching, research, and service. Seventy-five students were recognized for outstanding academic achievements, scholarship, and leadership.

The CBA Memory Lane, honoring retired faculty with a gallery of their photos in the halls of the College, will take place in November. We expect nearly all retired CBA faculty to attend the event.

A full story about Dr. Jarrett Kotrozo, our new assistant professor of strategic management, is included in this issue. We are pleased to welcome him into the College family.

Three new faculty awards were initiated for this year’s Recognition and Awards Banquet. Dr. Theo Chronis received the Outstanding Teaching Faculty award, Dr. Peter Li, the Outstanding Research Faculty award, and Dr. Steve Filling, the Outstanding Service Faculty award. In addition, Dr. Ed Hernandez received special recognition for his outstanding efforts coaching our students in the HR games.

The Accounting and Finance department co-sponsored the Institute of Management Accountants Student Night which introduced more than 30 potential transfer students to the program. Twenty current CSU Stanislaus students participated and networked with the professional community.

Ten outstanding accounting students received a scholarship this year from the San Joaquin Chapter of the California Society of CPAs.

The University Career Development Center organized the fall 2007 Accounting Night event, which was attended by accounting faculty, 118 students, and 88 recruiters from 28 companies.

Our honor societies are thriving. Over twenty business students and three faculty were inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) Honor Society. Twenty-two accounting and finance students, two faculty, and one alum became members of the Lambda Rho Honor Society Chapter 269 of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP).

Our accounting WP class, taught by Dr. Steve Filling, worked with local homeless and businesses to prepare a “state of things” report on Turlock. They also spent significant time researching what other cities are doing about homelessness and interviewing local community members and city council members. The report was presented to the Community Participation Committee at the CARES Center. Read more about Steve in the “Featured Professor” article in this issue.

The CBA HR Games team took first and second place in the highly competitive California HR Games tournament in February. They took second and third place at the Pacific Western Regional HR Games tournament in Long Beach in April. Two of our students, Tim Boone and Tabitha Lilly, won the prestigious Boone Memorial HR Scholarship for the top HR Students in Northern California.

The Master of Science Business Administration—International Finance continues to be exciting and worthwhile program. Fourteen French students and six American students are currently studying in Turlock. They will all travel to France in the spring to finish the program.

In the coming year, we will focus on increasing the stature of the CBA in the business community by linking with our alumni and friends. We have accomplished a lot this past year, but we will strive to do more to raise the bar of excellence for our College.
From the Business Advisory Board

The CBA Business Advisory Board (BAB) is in the midst of taking a bold step. At the fall meeting the Board rallied around the idea of increasing our commitment to sending more students to CSU Stanislaus using funds from the Business Advisory Board’s Scholarship Endowment fund. Formed just over three years ago, the endowment has just under $20,000 and provides partial educational assistance with an award of $500 to one individual who is a first generation college student and involved in the community. The Board’s goal is to significantly increase the endowment fund over the next three to five years, increasing awards and even providing multiple full-ride scholarships. In the spirit of the Board’s mission—connecting the school and students with the local business community—these scholarships are based on applicants’ financial need and are intended to help those who, without financial assistance, may be at risk of not receiving an education. In order to accomplish multi-recipient full ride awards, it is estimated that the BAB endowment will need to grow to over $100,000.

To raise this kind of money the Board is considering an annual fundraiser. Ideas are on the agenda for discussion at the next Board meeting in November. In general, the fundraiser is to be organized, staffed, and supported by CBA faculty, staff, and students, with the cooperation of the community at large. The intent is to have an event that does not financially burden any one of the Board’s stakeholders. The fundraiser could be an annual golf tournament, BBQ, Crab Feed, or guest speaker event hosted by the Board.

If the idea of giving back to the College and community by assisting students graduate who might not otherwise, I encourage you to consider joining the Business Advisory Board to understand how you can help with the Scholarship Endowment and other student/business community activities the Board supports. The Business Advisory Board is a great way to connect alumni and community leaders with the College and help keep bright minds local. [1]

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Dr. Jarrett Kotrozo
Assistant Professor
Department of Management, Operations and Marketing, Faculty Liaison to the Business Advisory Board

Dr. Kotrozo has taught classes in both management and finance. His is currently teaching Management Theory and Practice, and will teach Global Enterprise Strategy, Strategic Management and Strategy and Policy in the spring. His research interests lie in corporate diversification and performance, absorptive capacity, and the role of technology in the classroom. Currently, he has one article under review at the Journal of Management, which explores the role of absorptive capacity in the management literature. Two other articles, related to corporate diversification, are being finalized for review.

His professional activities include membership in the Academy of Management, as well as a reviewer for Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice (ETP). While at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he was nominated for the 2006–07 best teaching assistant award.

Dr. Kotrozo’s parents as well as his two younger sisters, Heather and Lauren, reside in Mesa, Arizona. From Arizona himself, Dr. Kotrozo returns to a sunny and warm climate which will allow him to pursue the outdoor activities he enjoys which include tennis, swimming and hiking. His other interests include travel, escaping into a good fantasy book, and cheering for the Pittsburgh Steelers. Dr. Kotrozo is also an avid coin collector who started his collection with a single coin given to him by his grandmother at the age of four. [1]
Fall 1988—the setting is eastern Iowa. On the National Computer Systems campus, a harried accountant looks blearily at the clock on his desk and notes that he has only four hours before the 8:00 a.m. production managers’ meeting to discuss the budgeting process for the coming year. As his gaze returns to the budget templates he has been working on since yesterday morning, he sees a flyer for the graduate program at the University of Iowa and remembers sitting in the coffee shop studying for exams. Seemed a lot more attractive than all-night sessions writing procedures manuals. Then and there, the accountant decides that as soon as the budget meeting is over, he will call the university for more information.

That harried accountant was me. I proceeded to take a graduate class in management accounting, which exposed me to agency theory, calculus, and a whole new understanding of accounting. I was also offered a place in the Ph.D. program and a fellowship to cover the cost of living. Making the jump from accountant to graduate student was easy. Learning to live on less than half as much was not. I spent a year studying at Iowa. When my advisor moved to Louisiana State University, I moved with him. Three years later, I found myself terror-stricken in front of a class in Turlock, California. I realized that four years’ worth of abstruse math and philosophy had not really prepared me for teaching, but I also knew I was the one in the front of the room. It got better, although it is still terrifying.

Fifteen years later

Getting a rush from standing in front of people talking, trying to get them to laugh, to participate, and sometimes just trying to keep them awake. Stand-up comedian wannabe? No, professor of accounting. A strange way of talking about teaching, right? Strange, but accurate. My job, my focus, is on finding ways to help people learn. Helping them find ways to enjoy the process just makes things work better.

For me, a vitally important part of helping people learn is finding ways to get them actively involved in practicing what they’re learning; something that research tells us is an effective pedagogic strategy. I link that active practice to another important goal of my university; getting our students and our university engaged in the community; getting students out into the communities where they live. So, my students find themselves assisting local not-for-profit organizations as they develop policies and procedures for accounting systems. They work with local community agencies to set up public access computer labs. They work with the homeless population helping to craft resumes and conduct job searches. They provide tax return preparation for low income taxpayers. Research shows us that students who are engaged in the community as a part of their coursework at university are much more likely to be engaged citizens. We like to think of this as an early start on “giving something back” to the community, in this case a “giving back” that allows students to develop very practical skills in their professions.

One of our ongoing efforts is the Empire VITA Project. This project involves students taking a general education course where they learn, among other things, how to complete basic income tax returns, and where they are exposed to a wide variety of information about financial and business issues. As an integral part of the course, students volunteer their services as tax preparers at Empire VITA Project sites. We prepare tax returns for low income taxpayers, focusing on migrant farm workers and the elderly. For the past six years, the project has operated two sites, one at Empire Elementary School in Empire and the other at the Salvation Army in Turlock.

We have just applied for IRS funding to assist us in opening another site in Hughson, which will be hosted by the Hughson Community Resource Center. We are also in the initial stages of transferring the clinic management and supervision to a cadre of senior accounting students and graduate students. This will enable those students to build and practice their project and people management skills. Students will also be implementing a pervasive quality control system, one which the IRS has held out as an example for other sites. We are currently seeking funding to enable us to provide stipends for the students involved, in hopes of defraying some of the costs of their education.

Today

I have the best job in the world. I work with people who are excited, who see possibilities in the world, who are changing themselves. Teaching these people is simultaneously the most rewarding and the most frustrating work I’ve ever engaged in; and I wouldn’t trade jobs with anyone. What keeps me trying, keeps me telling [bad] jokes, keeps me working with students and the community? Simple; it matters—matters to our community, to our employers, to me, and most of all, to our students.
At the 8th Annual Recognition & Awards Banquet eight community members were given awards for outstanding performance in their fields, including one corporate award for social responsibility. Four faculty were honored for their outstanding performance in teaching, research, and service. Seventy-five students were recognized for outstanding academic achievements, scholarship, and leadership. The 9th Annual Recognition and Awards Banquet will be held on the evening of May 15th, 2009 in the Main Dining Hall. Please contact Connie Bratten to pledge your support and sponsorship of the event.

Memory Lane

On November 21, the College faculty and staff gathered in the halls of the College to unveil its new Memory Lane to honor its retired faculty. After the ceremony, faculty and staff enjoyed lunch with the retirees, catching up on old times. That evening, the retirees were regaled at a reception and dinner.

Mr. Tom Barrett, Emeritus Professor of Management. Mr. Barrett developed and taught all the courses in the business program beginning in the fall of 1961. He was the first department chair of the division. He retired in 1995.

Dr. U. Rao Cherukuri, Professor Emeritus of Finance. Dr. Cherukuri joined the University in 1970 as a founding member of the Finance concentration faculty and the MBA program. He was a University Outstanding Professor and served as interim dean twice. He retired in 2001.

Dr. Amin A. Elmallah, Dean Emeritus. Dr. Elmallah joined the CBA as dean in 2000. He led the College to successful accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, AACSB—International in April 2003. Dr. Elmallah retired in 2004 after 35 years in the CSU system.

Dr. David O. Jenkins, Emeritus Professor of Accounting. Dr. Jenkins joined the CBA faculty in 1978. His area of expertise centered on managerial, financial, and business enterprise accounting. He developed a proprietary CPA review course taken by many students with an excellent success rate. He was the first Chair of Accounting. He retired in 1998.
Michelle Pimentel-Montez, CBA Business Advisory Board Chair, 2007-08 with Dean Nael Aly

Paula Zagari Leffler, Outstanding Business Leader, with Dean Nael Aly and President Ham Shirvani

John Jacinto, Outstanding Emerging Business Leader with President Ham Shirvani

Trudia Pauley, Outstanding CBA Alumni with Dean Nael Aly and President Ham Shirvani

Brent Ives, Mayor of Tracy, Outstanding Community Leader with Dean Nael Aly, Dr. Ashour Badal, and President Ham Shirvani

Dan Costa, Outstanding Entrepreneur, was unable to attend. His wife, Denise Costa is shown accepting the award from President Ham Shirvani

Dr. Ajit Gene Murti, Emeritus Professor of Operations Management. Dr. Murti joined the CBA in 1983 as a founding member of the Operations Management concentration faculty. He has published over thirty papers. He plans to retire in spring 2009. He was the first Chair of Accounting. He retired in 1998.

Dr. Andrew Papageorge, Dr. Papageorge joined the CBA faculty in 1984. He considered teaching management and international business courses his most valuable work. He was one the first faculty to teach business courses via television, which were broadcast to Stockton and five other locations. Dr. Papageorge retired in 1991.

Dr. Peter Van Den Dool, Emeritus Professor of Finance. Dr. Van Den Dool joined the CBA faculty in 1982 as a lecturer and was promoted to professor of Finance in 1983. He is a former MBA Director and department chair of CIS and Finance. His research specialty was the Dutch East Indian Company. He retired in 1992.

Dr. Robert Van Regenmorter, Emeritus Professor of Accounting. Dr. Van Regenmorter joined the faculty in 1981 as a Professor of Accounting. He was appointed interim dean in 1988 and served in that capacity for two years. He served as the Accounting and Finance Department chair for three years. He retired in 2004.

Dr. Daniel R. Vellenga, Emeritus Professor of Finance. Dr. Vellenga joined the CBA faculty in 1986. His expertise centered on business and managerial finance, investment security analysis, real estate and international finance. Dr. Vellenga retired in 2004.

Dr. Kenneth Young, Dr. Young joined the CBA faculty in 1961, when he and Tom Barrett developed the fledgling business program. Dr. Young was the first tennis coach at CSU Stanislaus. Following his death he was commemorated in 1995 at the 89th annual NCAA National Convention for his many years of distinguished service. Dr. Young retired in 1980.
On these two center pages in each Business Options issue, we plan to feature successful CBA alumni. These stories will be about graduates of our College who are living and working in the Central Valley, giving back to their community. The first in this series highlights three of our accounting graduates. Gary Wahl graduated from the College of Business Administration at CSU Stanislaus in 1976, Michael Willemse in 1986, and Amy Wilson in 2002.

The Wahl, Willemse & Wilson CPA firm was established in 1997. On Thanksgiving Day in 1999 the office moved to its current location in downtown Turlock. From that time, the firm has grown from a workforce of seven to twelve. Gary asked Michael to be his partner in 1997. Amy joined the firm in 2000 and became a partner in 2006. Gary remembers being told not to expect to get a job in Turlock after graduation since the market was small and graduates were numerous. Ironically, all three of the partners did just that. Today, they thoroughly enjoy the downtown Turlock atmosphere and greatly appreciate the close relationships they have established with their clients.

Gary enjoyed the CSU Stanislaus campus lifestyle because it was small and he knew many fellow students. His most memorable college day moment was Warrior Day of 1974 (what he remembers of it). He laments that Warrior Days are not what they used to be. He was pleased with the guidance he received from Dr. Dave Jenkins, crediting Dr. Jenkins with being instrumental to his success. Michael enjoyed the one-on-one he received in the small class sizes, especially the help he received from Dr. Jenkins. Amy appreciated the campus flexibility that allowed her to work while going to school.

We are very proud of Gary, Michael, and Amy. They are representative of the talented business people shaped by the College of Business Administration.
GARY WAHL, CPA
Gary Wahl, CPA began work as an accountant in 1974, before receiving his license as a CPA in 1976. Along with income tax services, his areas of concentration are in the agricultural arena, estate planning, and business consultation. He is currently associated with American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), California Society of CPA’s and CSUS Auxiliary and Business Services Board.

Gary is an active member in the Turlock Rotary Club, Turlock Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Arts Advisory Board. He is also very active in revitalization activities in downtown Turlock.

Gary received an AA from Merced College in 1971 and his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from CSU Stanislaus in 1974

MICHAEL WILLEMSE, CPA
Michael Willemse, CPA received his CPA license in 1991. Prior to that, in 1986, Michael received his Bachelor of Science Degree in accounting from CSU Stanislaus. He completed his Masters in taxation at Golden Gate University in 1998.

AMY WILSON, CPA
Amy holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from CSU Stanislaus. She has ten years of public accounting experience, and was licensed as a Certified Public Accountant in California in April 2005

Amy is member of the California Society of Certified Public Accountants.

She is also the treasurer of the Turlock Community Theatre and Turlock Sunrise Rotary.

AND THE LIST GOES ON...

ANGELA GARCIA
graduated in 2003 with a concentration in Accounting. She has been employed in the accounting field since 2003. She is a member of the California Society of Certified Public Accountants. She is also a member of the Central Valley Alumnae Chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, where she holds a position on the advisory board and finance committee.

CRYSTAL HYATT
graduated in 2004 with a concentration in Accounting. She has been employed in the accounting field since 2002. She is currently pursuing her CPA license. She has a variety of experience ranging from accounting for automotive dealerships to construction accounting.

NICOLE JESSEE
graduated in 2004 with a concentration in Marketing. She has six years of banking experience and has been employed in the accounting field since 2006. Nicole is a team member for Legacy Circle. She is currently attending CSU Stanislaus accounting classes to obtain an additional accounting degree.

SARAH NYSTROM
graduated in 2007 with a concentration in Accounting. She has been employed in the accounting field since 2005. Sarah is a member of the Beta Alpha Psi and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies.
Three new faculty awards were initiated for 8th Annual Recognition and Awards Banquet held last May. Dr. Theo Chronis received the Outstanding Teaching Faculty award, Dr. Peter Li, the Outstanding Research Faculty award, and Dr. Steve Filling, the Outstanding Service Faculty award. In addition, Dr. Ed Hernandez received special recognition for his outstanding efforts coaching our students in the HR games. We congratulate these very special professors and wish them continued success.
Business Curriculum and the Business World

Each year, the CBA faculty meet with executives from across the region to discuss its curriculum. Starting in January, a new format for these meetings will begin with the CBA Business Advisory Board. Each Board member will be asked to bring two colleagues to attend a conference with the CBA faculty. In March, CBA alumni will be invited to a similar conference.

The BAB curriculum conference will enhance the College’s knowledge of what the business world requires in business graduates when hiring new accountants, IT experts, human resource managers, financial officers, and marketing directors. The alumni conference will allow graduates to give feedback on how their business classes helped them, or not, when they entered the corporate world.

The CBA faculty understand community engagement is increasingly important to identify skill and knowledge deficiencies and appreciate its influence in the creation of a culture of high expectations. To help fine-tune business courses and program offerings, faculty and stakeholders will break into groups at the curriculum conferences according to the business concentrations, Accounting, Finance, Computer Information Systems, Management, Marketing, and Operations Management.

Comments regarding business curriculum and the business world conferences may be sent via email to Dean Nael Aly at naly@csustan.edu.

If you wish to participate in either or both of these important conferences, please contact Connie Bratten at cbratten@csustan.edu

what’s your story?

Tell us where you’re at. Update your address with us so you don’t miss out on the next issue of Business Options. If you would like to be featured on the “Pathfinders” page, send your bio as well. You can call or email us at 209.667.3672, cbratten@csustan.edu.
The EMBA comes to Modesto—4th Cohort

In partnership with the City of Modesto and Stanislaus County, the 4th Executive MBA cohort will start next April in Modesto. This class will be working with city officials on an assortment of economic development projects. Applications are now being accepted for the Modesto cohort.

For further information contact:
Dean Aly at 209-667-3288
naly@csustan.edu or
Dr. Ashour Badal at 209-467-5358
abadal@csustan.edu
Also, see our EMBA website:
www.csustanemba.com

Foster Farms Alumni Reception

Following the very successful reception held for CBA graduates at local Gallo companies last year, a second reception was held in April at Foster Farms. The alumni were very eager to reconnect with their alma mater and greeted the dean and faculty with great enthusiasm. An important part of our College plan is to reconnect with our alumni and strengthen ties with the business community. The objective of these gatherings is to get to know each of our graduates and share their vision for the future. We are very proud of their professional achievements. We delight in recognizing and highlighting their accomplishments, linking them back to us in a way that is very beneficial to them and the College.
Student News

Accounting Student News
This past year, our accounting students worked at two Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites, which are run by program director Kevin Riley, who is an Accounting concentration alum. Thirty-five enrolled students and ten alumni volunteered to assist low-income taxpayers with preparation of their tax returns. Approximately 230 returns were prepared, generating about $300,000 in tax refunds for the low income community. The Accounting and Finance department co-sponsored the Institute of Management Accountants Student Night which introduced more than 30 potential transfer students to the program. Twenty current CSU Stanislaus students participated and networked with the professional community.

BAB Scholarship Program
The CBA sincerely thanks its Business Advisory Board leadership, Michelle Pimentel-Montez (left), past president, and Chris Courtney (right), current president, for their leadership and commitment to our BAB scholarship program. Through their efforts and contributions from Board members, the scholarship endowment balance currently is nearly $20,000.

Business Honor Societies
This November, in a joint induction ceremony with Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS), sixteen accounting and finance students became members of the Lambda Rho Chapter 269 of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) honor society. The chapter also inducted Dean Nael Aly as an honorary member. Thirty-five business students and one faculty member were inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society. The CBA congratulates the new inductees for their outstanding academic achievements.

For further BAP information contact Dr. Kim Tan at ktan@csustan.edu and for BGS, Dr. Tzu-Man Huang (BGS) thuang@csustan.edu.

Human Resource Management Student News
The College of Business Administration and the CSU Stanislaus Society for Human Resource Management chapter is hosting the 2009 California Human Resource Games Championships on February 28-29, 2009. This is the first time we have been asked to host this highly prestigious event. Our team has won the 2006, 2007 and 2008 California HR Games Championships.

Dayna Iverson is a former Human Resource student at the College of Business Administration, and is competing in the Miss Rodeo America pageant in Nov/Dec of 2008 in Las Vegas. She is the current Miss Minnesota Rodeo and a former Grand National Rodeo Queen. At CSU Stanislaus she was the President of the SHRM chapter in 2007.

The SHRM chapter academic publication, The Western Journal of Human Resource Management, is publishing a special edition titled “Educating HR Students” in the Fall of 2008. This journal is a Cabell’s listed, peer-reviewed, publication.

Demetrios Zarafakis and Tabitha Lilly were selected to receive the 2008 National Society for Human Resource Management Internships scholarship.
Dr. Ashour Badal

CBA FACULTY TO RECEIVE ABOUT $50,000 FROM THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY (OHS) FOR HIS TRAINING PROGRAM AND RESEARCH ON ANTI-TERRORISM AND DE-RADICALIZATION.

Dr. Ashour Badal, CBA faculty and Senior Associate Director of the Executive MBA program has received the support of the Office of Homeland Security to continue his research on the leadership, organizational structure, and recruitment process used by the Mid-East radical groups. In addition, Dr. Badal has been asked to implement a training program that he has developed for the OHS and law enforcement agencies.

The research part of this program will offer an applied theoretical understanding of the radicalization and de-radicalization process, principally in terms of middle eastern fundamentalism in the U. S. Specifically, the goal is to provide new perspectives and a qualitative understanding of various ideological elements associated with this type of terrorism and the organizational and leadership structure, religious, and socio-cultural factors that are often overlooked in existing research.

The programmatic component is designed to provide the education and tools needed for local law enforcement agencies to establish an effective terrorism prevention and assessment program founded on multi-agency cooperation and long-term community partnership. Moreover, this program will provide law enforcement agencies, local social services programs, and other public safety agencies the support and activities needed for effective fusion centers where different agencies can work and operate collaboratively.

If you would like to nominate someone for the Last Page Spotlight, send a 100-word statement telling us why. Include your name, major, year of graduation and telephone number. Send the information to: CBA Spotlight | CSU Stanislaus | One University Circle | Turlock, CA 95382 or EMAIL cbratten@csustan.edu
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