

#### FALL 2016 VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

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#### **EDITORS:**

Ms. Stacey Utley-Bernhardt College of Business subernhardt@frostburg.edu 301.687.4019

Ms. Corrie Preston College of Business capreston@frostburg.edu 301.687.4417

## CoBNews

**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS NEWSLETTER** 

#### Student Business Leadership Retreat Held at Wisp



Story by James Kirk of FSU's Bottom Line. Photo courtesy of Daniel Ryczek.

During September 16 through 18, the Frostburg State University Student Business Leadership Committee (SBLC) held its annual leadership retreat at Wisp Resort in McHenry, Maryland. The retreat was facilitated by current SBLC members, and provided an opportunity for Frostburg State University (FSU) students interested in business to network with university alumni and enhance their leadership skills.

While many student organizations and university departments offer leadership-focused events throughout the year, SBLC prides itself on offering an off-campus event that provides participating students with a more direct and hands-on

connection to alumni who have found professional success after graduating from Frostburg State. Hannah Llewellyn, SBLC co-president, said she believes that the annual event is unique because it is "a retreat organized by students for students" and because it encourages professional development and networking in a more casual environment. Llewellyn is a junior majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Management, and attended the 2015 SBLC retreat as a participating student.

The weekend-long retreat began on Friday, September 16, and included an evening networking event attended by several FSU College of Business alumni and faculty members.

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Dr. Sudhir Singh Interim Dean College of Business

#### **CONTACTS**

Dr. Sudhir Singh Interim Dean College of Business ssingh@frostburg.edu 301.687.4093

#### **NEWSLETTER CREATED BY**

Ms. Stacey Utley-Bernhardt Executive Administrative Assistant subernhardt@frostburg.edu 301.687.4019

Ms. Corrie Preston Administrative Assistant Department of Marketing and Finance capreston@frostburg.edu

#### **College of Business**



#### **Words from the Dean**

Once again, I am proud to bring to you the stories of a particularly busy and successful Fall 2016 semester - one in which our faculty, staff, and students continued to shine and garner a new array of accomplishments.

I would also like to highlight a few key initiatives launched previously that came to fruition this semester.

First, in accordance with the AACSB Peer Review Team's (PRT's) evaluative and consultative feedback based on the visit that occurred in Fall 2015:

- The College's Faculty Development Committee, led by Dr. Tom Sigerstad, with impressive support from Drs. Ali Ashraf, Rebecca Chory, Chiulien Venezia, and Lilly Ye, undertook a robust and comprehensive process to revise and propose a new policy on the College's faculty qualifications standards that continue to elevate the College's base of intellectual capital with a discernible emphasis on improvement in the quality of faculty publications. This faculty-ratified policy serves as an exemplar of excellence when benchmarked against peer institutions.
- The Assurance-of-Learning (AoL) system, stewarded by Dr. Dwane Dean and members of the AoL Committee, continued to advance the College's primacy in the area of assessment of its core curriculum learning goals including a planned, external overlay to internal assessments, with the goal of injecting improved effectiveness and efficiency into the process.

Additionally, a landmark effort centered around the reformulation of the College of Business Advisory Board, based upon the recognized need to elevate the College's profile and positioning within the marketplace for high-quality and affordable business education, as well as to increase the number of opportunities for our students and graduates. I am grateful for the enormous contributions of Ms. Colleen Peterson, former Vice President of University Advancement at FSU and current Board member, and Mr. John Short, Vice President of the University Advancement Division, for their assistance and support in this all-important effort that has culminated in:

- The creation and ratification of a new Board governance document;
- The establishment of a new Board structure with Mr. Pat Friel of Lochlin Partners as Board Chair, and Ms. Theresa Harrison of George Street Services as Board Vice-Chair, to whose leadership and dedicated service I owe my deep appreciation;
- Recruitment of new Board members that continues to bring new areas of expertise, amplifies professional competencies, and ensures industrysector diversity as represented by the emerging membership;
- Visible engagement by the Board in activities that contribute directly to student success, including classroom speaking engagements, career guidance, and individual mentoring; and as an impressive innovation,
- The creation of a Regional Business Network (RBN) to serve as a conduit for mutually beneficial relationships between the College of Business and the regional business community.

I close by noting the exceptional and unflinching support and encouragement provided by our top administrative leadership at this institution and, in particular, Dr. Nowaczyk, Dr. Tootoonchi, Mr. Short, and Dr. Bowman.

To all friends of the College of Business: *Thank You!* for your abiding interest and support!

## **Course Receives Quality Matters Gold Status**



Dr. Ali Ashraf, Assistant Professor in the Department of Marketing and Finance, who teaches the graduate Financial Management course is the first faculty member at FSU to have his course be awarded a Gold Status Badge by Quality Matters (QM). QM is a nationally recognized, facultycentered, system that is designed to certify the quality of online and blended courses and is one of the leaders in online education for assurance of quality in course design. QM has received recognition for its peerbased approach where instructors review each other's courses using the QM rubric which sets quality standards for online courses.

## Dr. Seonghee Han's Research Recognized

Dr. Seonghee Han, Assistant
Professor in the Department of
Marketing & Finance, was recently
recognized in the national media. Her
co-authored paper titled, "When
Crisis Knocks, Call a Powerful CEO
(or Not): Investigating the Contingent
Link Between CEO Power and Firm
Performance During Industry
Turmoil", published in the Group and
Organization Management journal
was spotlighted on both the
EurekAlert! website as well as that of
the prestigious Science Magazine.



## College Faculty Visit National Jet Co., Inc.

In November 2016, faculty members Dr. Yan Bao, Dr. Kathie Shaffer, Dr. Carol Gaumer, and Dr. Mike Monahan visited National Jet Company, based in LaVale. MD.

National Jet President, Mr. R. Samuel Griffith, a member of FSU's College of Business Advisory Board, along with Mr. Samuel B. Griffith, Special Projects Engineer, and Mr. Ben Odem, Plant Manager, discussed the story of the company, its formation, products, and challenges and then took the faculty on a tour of the business. Opportunities for student projects were explored as well.

The visit was conducted as a part of the newly-formed Regional Business Network (RBN), a collaborative project between members of the College of Business Advisory Board and FSU faculty and students. A primary goal of the RBN is to offer experiential learning opportunities as a complement to in-class instruction. Additionally, the RBN offers the business community access to College of Business resources, that includes intellectual capital provided by faculty and students.

## Programs Offered in the CoB

Undergraduate Majors:
Accounting

**Business Administration** 

#### Concentrations:

- Finance
- General Management
- Global Business
- Human Resource Management
- Marketing
- Small Business/ Entrepreneurship
- Hospitality Management

#### **Economics**

#### **Concentrations:**

- Business Economics
- Public Policy Economics
- Quantitative Economics

#### **Undergraduate Minors:**

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Economics
- Finance
- Financial Services
- Management
- Marketing
- Small Business/ Entrepreneurship

BS Accounting/MBA Dual-Degree

Master's in Business Administration (MBA)

#### Marketing Club Keeps Busy With Experiential Learning Opportunities

In November 2016, 14 FSU Marketing Club members traveled to New York City to attend a student communication and advertising career conference sponsored by New York Women in Communication led by Club Advisor and mentor, Dr. Lilly Ye. More than 40 professionals from top companies, such as Google and The Bloomburg Group, talked to students directly about how they started, the challenges they faced, and the combination of skills, knowledge and attitude it takes to remain at the top of their professions.



The panels also discussed the changing landscape of

communications, including focusing on industry either in broader strokes, like PR or broadcasting or in areas with a specific niche, such as fashion or entertainment.

In addition to attending the conference, students also had the opportunity to visit New York's top advertising agency, McCann, with the support of the "She Runs It" organization. McCann is the most awarded advertising agency in North America, operating 180 offices in more than 120 countries. It boasts a client roster that includes many of the world's most famous brands, such as Microsoft and Coca-Cola. During the visit, students competed with other student groups from universities across the country and were given the task to propose a social media strategy for one of McCann's clients. At the end of the competition, an FSU Marketing Club idea was rated as a winner by McCann professionals, who judged the idea as "creative, relevant, and executable." The trip was made possible with the generous support from the FSU Foundation grant and a student grant from the Student Government Association (SGA).

Under the continued direction of Dr. Ye, students in the Marketing Club parlayed their skills acquired via numerous club activities and experiential learning trips to host a high-impact event titled, "Grow Forward: A Night of Eco Fun", on December 1, 2016, focused on bringing sustainability awareness to the community. With strong support from the College of Business, the event was co-sponsored by Evergreen Heritage Center, Frostburg Dining (Chartwells), and the FSU Sustainability Program.



Over 200 attendees ranging between four and 70 years of age enjoyed hands-on activities led by the Evergreen Heritage Center's staff and AmeriCorps volunteers, including a "test your eco-knowledge" game wheel, mini-wreath making using fresh pine, winter herb (cilantro) plantings, and making Art(ro)Bots.

Attendees also had the opportunity to enjoy the delicious and beautifully-arranged refreshments provided by FSU Dining (Chartwells) and to participate in a local food tasting contest. Participants also actively used their passport cards for raffle prizes donated by the sponsors.

The "Grow Forward…" initiative offers an excellent model of FSU students' successes in experiential learning activities and of FSU's outreach efforts and leadership in community development.

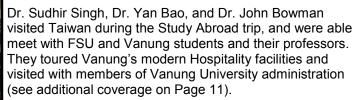
## **Hospitality Students Successfully Complete Training in Taiwan**



At the beginning of Fall semester 2016, undergraduate FSU students concentrating in Hospitality Management, John Kreuzburg, Sarah Pard, and Brad Baker spent six weeks at Vanung University in Taoyuan, Taiwan.

Over the past several years, Frostburg State University has enjoyed a close partnership with Vanung and, in collaboration with both Vanung and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), offers a new and innovative Hospitality Management program. Students pursuing this program take foundational business courses through FSU, a series of specialty courses online with UMES, and an immersive, 6-week study abroad program at Vanung.

Accompanied by FSU adjunct faculty member, Jingxian (Kelly) Jiang, the students attended several hands-on classes at Vanung University's College of Tourism, Hospitality, and Management and took field trips to hotels and businesses around the city.





Top picture: Brad Baker learns the finer points of making a delectable cappuccino.

Left: John Kreuzburg proudly displays his successful assignment in the Beverage Management class.



Pictured below are FSU students John Kreuzburg, Sarah Pard, and Brad Baker receiving their completion certificates from Vanung President Dr. Thomas Chuang.

Also pictured are Professors Wu, Sun, and Nie as well as fellow students from the Hospitality Program at Vanung.



## **Beta Gamma Sigma Receives High Honors**

Frostburg State University's chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma was recently awarded High Honors for the 2015-2016 academic year. This status is conferred on campuses where academic excellence is valued and where the faculty officers of the chapter work diligently to enhance Beta Gamma Sigma's stature on campus. In addition to receiving a Collegiate Chapter Honor Roll Certificate, FSU was also recognized at this year's Regional Dean Conferences.

As a High Honors Chapter, FSU qualified for a Leadership Scholarship to send students to the 2016 Global Leadership Summit, which was held in Dallas, TX, in November 2016.

A trip to the Summit is the perfect way to recognize top students, student officers, and student leaders—because attending the Global Leadership Summit is the first step on a lifelong leadership journey. From the moment the students arrived at the Global Leadership Summit, they began a weekend-long journey of cultivating skills and connecting with their peers: the world's top up-and-coming business leaders. Exploring strengths, forging relationships, learning from corporate innovators, and team-building to solve problems—all of it is part of the GLS experience. Students Hannah Llewellyn and Kiersten O'Donnell represented FSU admirably at this event and we recognize them on their continued service to Beta Gamma Sigma!

## Student Business Leadership Retreat (cont'd from page 1)

Jessica Smith, a FSU junior majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Small Business / Entrepreneurship, was a student participant at this year's SBLC retreat. She told *The Bottom Line* that the constant student-alumni interaction was incredibly valuable to her as an aspiring business professional.

With regard to the networking opportunities during the retreat, Smith noted, "It was fantastic to speak to and hear from the alumni about their experiences while in college and how they worked and used their degrees to gain employment and then grow to opening their own successful businesses." Smith added that the opportunity to learn from accomplished business alumni was helpful as she continues to evaluate her own post-graduate plans.

Day Two of the retreat kicked off with the first of the event's three alumni speakers, Mike Dreisbach. Dreisbach is the co-owner of Savage River Lodge, and delivered a speech on entrepreneurship centered around the theme of "think it, feel it, say it, do it."

Following the morning alumni event, students launched into a series of interactive team building activities designed to enhance their leadership and management abilities. Smith said that this portion of the retreat, when all of the students were forced to work together as leaders to complete challenging exercises, was her favorite. She added that it was the "hands-on leadership development," that set this event apart from others she has participated in.

The second day of the retreat concluded with a speech from Frostburg graduate, former SBLC member, and co-founder of the retreat, Dan Bible. Since graduating from FSU, Bible has gone on to become a dispatch manager at the technology company Design One. On the third and final day of the retreat, students heard from Jason VanSickle, Vice President, National Sales Manager, at PNC Bank. VanSickle, who served as president of the FSU Student Government Association during his time at Frostburg, spoke about business ethics and personal finance.

When asked what she hoped this year's participants took away from the retreat, Llewellyn remarked that she hoped that students had a similar experience to hers when she attended the 2015 retreat. She reflected on her participation last year saying, "It made me feel more comfortable as a leader because I felt more comfortable with the other students in the College of Business."

Much like the inaugural SBLC retreat, this year's event gave participating students a rare and invaluable opportunity to meet some of Frostburg's most accomplished business alumni, interact with them in a casual setting, and grow the critical leadership skills that they will put to work both on campus and in their future careers.

The Student Business Leadership Committee is centered around three "pillars" of giving, leadership, and alumni-student connection. The organization created the first ever student-endowed scholarship at the university, and has plans to hold an on-campus alumni event in the spring 2017 semester.

## **Beta Gamma Sigma Holds Induction Ceremony**



#### **FALL 2016 INDUCTEES:**

Patrick J. Coffee, Jr.

Gabrielle Daniels

Steven Glassbrenner

Elfi Goga

Christina Grove

Cy Hudson

Nneka Itabor

James Kirk

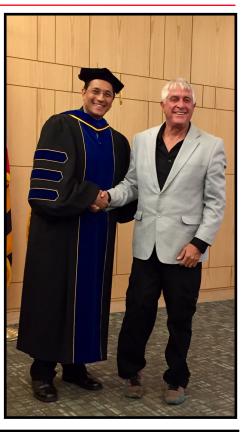
Sarah Magitti

William Robinette

Atsidi Smith

Dr. Yan Bao

Dr. Tony Stair





## **Faculty & Students Visit Bank of America**

On October 19. 2016, nine students and two faculty members took a field trip to see the Bank of America's community development projects in Baltimore, MD. Participants were: Dr. David Kiriazis, Department of Economics, Dr. Allen Shin, Department of Marketing & Finance, Magnus Atufu, Patrick Coffee, Gary Cosner, Gabrielle Daniels, Ashley Darby, Mason Holloway, Hudson Howard, John Poole, and Joshua Sills.

The trip to Baltimore was an exceptional opportunity for FSU students and faculty to learn about how the Bank of America uses tax credits to help give historical buildings a new use. Mr. Brian Tracey, Vice President of Community Development Lending and Investment and FSU Alumnus, showed the students and faculty a variety



of locations and projects, including a large industrial park that had been converted to a residential community and a dilapidated school that had been remodeled into a low-income apartment complex.

#### **Students Attend SHRM Conference**

On Oct. 21st, three students from the FSU SHRM chapter attended SHRM's Annual Legal and Legislative Conference in Hagerstown Maryland. Students who attended the event were: Cameron Cornish, Mavis Erewa, and Malcolm Hodnett.

Pictured from left to right are Hodnett, Debra Peyton, Cumberland Valley SHRM President, Cornish, Henry Smith, SHRM Presenter, and FSU graduate (1975), Erewa, and Dr. Kenneth Levitt, Faculty Advisor.



### **Hagerstown Launches New Small Business Incubator**



Dr. Marty Mattare, Associate Professor of Management and Business Program Coordinator at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown (USMH), played a large part in helping the City of Hagerstown launch their new small business incubator recently.

The BüroBox, of which Frostburg State University is considered a major partner, is located at 60 W. Washington Street in Hagerstown, MD and will serve as a membership-based collaborative workspace and resource center for entrepreneurs seeking to start or grow their businesses.

Located in the Arts & Entertainment district, in close proximity to creative service companies, restaurants, and the education center, The BüroBox is creatively furnished and outfitted with state of the art equipment to help foster progressive and creative ideas and will help any small business with professional and affordable resources.

Members can grow their start-ups, small businesses, or non-profits. Anyone looking for a place to nurture business and personal development will be welcome.

#### **USMH Students Present Business Plans**

After researching and working all semester long on their projects, students in Dr. Mattare's Entrepreneurial Business Plan class were given the opportunity to present their completed Business Plans. On December 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, the Business Club at Frostburg's USM-Hagerstown campus proudly hosted the event at The BüroBox, the City of Hagerstown business incubator at 60 W. Washington St., adjacent to USMH. Students were able to showcase their entrepreneurial ideas to friends, family, and community members.

For the projects themselves, the students were given the option to work individually or with a partner to create and present their business plan. Each presenter or group was given ten minutes to introduce the audience to their business concept and the specific detailed components that would be required in order to run the business. As part of this task, presenters reviewed their inspiration behind the company, capital investment, and projected

finances.

Each business venture brought a unique twist, offering new or enhanced products or services that would help fulfill a need or want



many people of the Hagerstown and surrounding communities have. The business ideas presented were highly diverse ranging from an Argentinian coffee shop, an indoor sports park, a mobile pet spa, an electricity-producing gym, a consignment maternity shop, escape rooms, a laser obstacle course, and a trailer parts shipping company.

With the completion of each

presentation, the audience was allotted five minutes to provide constructive feedback and ask questions. Members of the audience included students' family, peers, faculty, and prominent community members, like Rob Bower from Hagerstown Economic Development. Chuck Ernst from TEDCO, Mark Greathouse of Mid-Atlantic Angels Corporation, and Paul Frey, president of the Hagerstown Chamber of Commerce. Audience members were not only surprised by the innovation and diversity amongst the business plan proposals, but also impressed by the level of professionalism and thoroughness the students had invested into their business proposals.

Dr. Mattare and the Business Club plan to make these presentations a tradition for the students in the Entrepreneurial Business Plan class, so students may continue to benefit from the opportunity and experience of presenting their business plans to the community.

#### MBA Program Receives Multiple Recognitions



**GetEducated.com**, the consumer guide to online colleges, has ranked Frostburg State University's Master of Business Administration (MBA) program as the 15th "Best Buy" in the nation among distance graduate business programs. This is the third time that the MBA program has been ranked as a *Best Buy*. The ranking system is based on a comprehensive review of over 180 competing MBAs that are accredited by AACSB International.

According to GetEducated.com's national survey, the average cost of a distance learning MBA is \$37,022. The estimated cost of our online MBA concentration is around \$14,328 for in-state residents and \$18,252 for out-of-state residents.

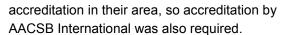
"The Frostburg State University Master of Business Administration received great marks in our 2016 ranking report. This program represents the future of online learning, providing students with an affordable, AACSB-accredited option from a forward-thinking nonprofit university," said Tony Huffman, president of GetEducated.com. "Frostburg State's MBA ranked 15th as a best buy in a group of over 100 institutions. The Frostburg model of building efficiency by leveraging the newest technologies in an age of ever-increasing

education costs shows that quality education at a reasonable price can be accomplished."

One of the many features that makes Frostburg's MBA program distinct is the well-recognized commitment of faculty and staff within the College of Business to provide the students with an exceptional education in an applied framework, augmented by opportunities for global experiential learning.

**The Best Master's Degrees**, an online organization that provides rankings and profiles of degree programs in the most common master's degree areas, recently ranked Frostburg's MBA program among the *top five* most affordable online MBAs in the nation for 2016 among one-year online master's programs.

For this ranking, The Best Master's Degrees focused on the types of degrees that are conducive to accelerated study and feature a curriculum that could reasonably be completed in 12 months or fewer. Value and affordability were also taken into consideration. The company also limits eligible programs to those programs who have





**Top Management Degrees** has ranked FSU at 48 of the most affordable online MBA programs of 2017. Their ranking is intended to find the best affordable online MBA program available. Over 350 online and accredited MBA programs were evaluated based upon accreditation status as well as the estimated tuition in order to locate and rank the best and most affordable programs.

ONLINE DEGREE

MOST AFFORDABLE

**Best Value MBA** rated Frostburg's MBA program 46 out of its top 50 programs that offer value and affordability. The top 50 programs were chosen from a list of over 500 MBA programs offered online. All programs included in this process are offered by regionally accredited or private nonprofit universities. Many of the programs have additional accreditation from national and international accrediting organizations such as AACSB, ACBSP, and IACBE. All schools were ranked based solely on their tuition.

#### **FSU Representatives Visit Educational Partners in China and Taiwan**

In September 2016, Dr. Sudhir Singh, Interim Dean of the College of Business; Dr. Yan Bao, Professor of Accounting and Coordinator of the MBA Program; and Dr. John Bowman, Interim Vice President of International and Government Affairs at FSU traveled to four universities in China and three universities in Taiwan. Over their 12 day visit, the FSU officials met with representatives from each institution to both nurture existing educational relationships as well as explore possible future partnerships.

One such relationship is with Hunan University of Commerce (HUC), located in Changsha, China. FSU and HUC have established a dual degree program in which Chinese students will begin their studies at HUC and travel to FSU to complete their B.S. degrees in Economics with a minor in Finance. HUC has already recruited the first cohort of 120 students, which began their studies in China this past fall. Small groups of the cohort are expected to arrive at Frostburg beginning in Fall 2017. In addition to the Chinese students traveling to Frostburg, FSU will also send some of our faculty to Changsha to be delivering a total of 17 courses in the program, starting with the first two courses in May 2017.

Other institutions visited during the trip included: Communication University of China campuses in Beijing and Nanjing; Hunan Normal University (an FSU partner institution), Changsha, National United University, Miaoli, Taiwan, National Taipei University of Business in Taipei, Taiwan, and Vanung University in Taoyuan, Taiwan (also an FSU partner institution).

Pictured (right) is the HUC-FSU program steering committee. In the front row, from left: Associate Dean Dr. Shu Xu, Dean Yangbin Zhang, Dr. Yan Bao, Dr. John Bowman, Dr. Sudhir Singh and Dr. Heran He, accompanied by two teachers in the program and the first cohort of students in their military training uniforms.







## **Governor Hogan Visits FSU**

Maryland Governor Larry Hogan visited the Frostburg State campus in October, 2016 to tour the University and to meet with campus officials and students. Governor Hogan's discussion centered around small businesses and how the Office of Minority Affairs works with and supports them.

The Small Business Reserve (SBR) Program and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Program, as resources for minority, small, and veteran-owned businesses, were also discussed.

Following the event, the Governor met with students from the College of Business.

Pictured from left to right are Abi Olojo, Bethany Maglit, Hannah Llewellyn, Amanda Clay, Governor Hogan, Kiersten Butler, Kayla Bradley, Silvia Eusuf, and John Poole, III.



Live daringly, boldly, fearlessly.

Taste the relish to be found in competition
- in having put forth the best within you.

- Henry J. Kaiser

#### **Alums Return for 2016 Career Expo**

Held in conjunction with Homecoming Week, four alumni returned to FSU on October 21, 2016 for the College of Business Career Expo to speak with students about their time at FSU and how the College of Business prepared them to be successful in their careers.

Wayne Scott ('89), Mary Beth Pirolozzi ('90 & '95), Tiffany Brown ('07), and Trevor DeVore ('13) shared with students what they felt were the most

beneficial classes they enrolled in as students at FSU and offered them tips on how to better prepare for their careers after college. A common theme that resonated across the speaker panel were the relationships they built not only with their peers, but specifically with CoB faculty members.

Students were also given the opportunity to interact with the visiting panel members.

#### 2016 Majors Fair Held

The College of Business was well represented at the Fall 2016 Majors Fair, held in October in the Lane University Center on campus. Representatives from the Global Business Club, Marketing Club, and Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) had booths at the event.



Representing the Global Business Club are Hudson Howard (left) and Scott Harding (right).



Representing the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) are Dr. Dong Wook Huh (left) and Ashley Zollicoffer (right).



Representing the Marketing Club are Niara Brown (left) and Tiaju McCalup (right).

## Student Organizations

**Accounting Association** 

Beta Gamma Sigma (Honor Society)

Delta Sigma Pi (Professional

**Co-Ed Fraternity)** 

**Economics Club** 

Entrepreneurship

Club

**Finance Club** 

**Global Business Club** 

**Marketing Association** 

**Omicron Delta Epsilon** 

Society for the Advancment of Management (SAM)

Society for Human
Resource
Management (SHRM)

**VITA Program** 

# College of Business Core Values

Accountability
Excellence
Fairness
Mutual Respect
Openness
Professionalism
Service
Teamwork
TRANSPARENCY
Trust

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY GUILD 125 101 BRADDOCK ROAD FROSTBURG, MD 21532-2303

301.687.4019 PHONE 301.687.3074 FAX www.frostburg.edu/colleges/cob

#### **College of Business**



## **Accounting Association's Busy Year**



The FSU Accounting Association had a very busy 2016 leading to several significant accomplishments.

A new logo (above), which reflects the evolution of the accounting profession into a more dynamic role in the world of business and consulting, was selected from several designs developed by an FSU Graphic Arts major.

Graduation cords featuring a twist of red and silver were designed to be worn by graduates with their academic regalia. These cords signify a high level of involvement in the Association for a minimum of one year. The first cords were worn at the May 2016 Commencement ceremony.

In partnership with the FSU Foundation, an Accounting Alumni luncheon was organized during the Homecoming weekend for the first time.

More than thirty alums gathered in Lane Center for food and fellowship.

Thanks to the generosity and commitment of its alumni, the Accounting Association Scholarship Fund, which was established in 2015, moved from a holding account to an endowed status. This allows the fund to begin earning income and paying out annual scholarships. Given its success, plans are already underway to make it an annual event. The Accounting Association is extremely grateful to our alumni for their support which comes in many forms.

Also helping to build the scholarship fund, as well as generating support for Association activities, were several successful fund-raisers conducted by the membership. Cake pop sales held in Lane Center proved so popular that Association members had to run for more supplies and stay up late baking for the second day of the sale. A sale of roses around Valentine's Day also generated a lot of interest requiring the sale to be re-stocked from one day to the next.

The Accounting Association is looking forward to another busy year as it dives into an ambitious agenda for 2017.

#### **Upcoming Events**

March 18-26, 2017 Spring Break—No Classes

April 7, 2017 President Nowaczyk's Inauguration—2pm
May 5, 2017 College of Business Honors Reception—4pm

in LUC Atkinson Room

May 16, 2017 Last Day of Regular Classes

May 18-24, 2017 Final Exams

May 25, 2017 Commencement