Eagle Executive

Fall 2010

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Price Selected Fulbright Scholar

The U. S. Department of State and J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board recently announced Barbara A. Price, professor of quantitative analysis in the College of Business Administration at Georgia Southern University, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture in the Erasmus MBA and undergraduate programs, The University of Debrecen, founded in 1538, in Debrecen, Hungary, in Spring 2011. She will be joining the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at The University of Debrecen to extend the international content of COBA’s programs for graduate and undergraduate business education.

The Fulbright Program, the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government, is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. The program is administered by the Institute of International Education and funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, State Department, which receives an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress. Dr. Price is one of approximately 1,100 U.S. professionals who will travel abroad through the Fulbright Scholar Program this year.

Since establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late U. S. Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has given approximately 200,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and scientists the opportunity to study, teach, and conduct research; exchange ideas; and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. Forty Fulbright alumni from eleven countries have been awarded the Nobel Prize, and seventy-five alumni have received Pulitzer Prizes. The program operates in more than one hundred, fifty-five countries worldwide.

Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. Dr. Price previously served as an exchange professor in computing and quantitative methods at Deakin University, Australia, in 1992. Her teaching has been recognized with the Kenneth L. Stanley Outstanding WebMBA Faculty Award for the Gerorgia WebMBA program and Rutherford Award for Excellence in Teaching and Service in the Georgia Southern MBA program.

Dr. Price chose Hungary because her grandparents emigrated from Hungary, before settling in western Pennsylvania between 1906 and 1914. In the summer of 2008, she had an opportunity to participate in a Fulbright-Hays Seminar on the tradition and transformation in Hungary and the Czech Republic, laying a foundation for her selection to Hungary by the board.

Dr. Price has had numerous international travel opportunities, including Hungary, the Czech Republic, Australia, Guatemala, Honduras, and Jamaica.

Battipaglia Visits COBA

Joe Battipaglia, financial market strategist for Stifel Nicolaus and chief investment officer at Washington Crossing Advisors, spoke at Georgia Southern in October. Mr. Battipaglia, former chair of investment policy at Wall Street’s Ryan, Beck & Company, has more than 30 years of financial experience, including Wall Street’s Gruntal & Company and Enkins & Company, along with Exxon Corporation. He is a former trustee of the Securities Industry Institute, the Security Industry Association’s premier leadership and management education program.

Mr. Battipaglia is featured frequently on national television, particularly CNBC and Fox News. He is interviewed regularly by The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and business publications in which his market views are often quoted.

In his presentation, Battipaglia described the global economic environment today as an “immense credit problem,” with “global debt at $210 trillion, it is 323 percent of global GDP of $65 trillion,” inferring the sovereign debt crisis has a “stranglehold” on global economic growth. In the U.S., where the debt to GDP ratio was 83 percent in FY 2009 and 94 percent for FY 2010, the economic challenge is employment, as labor and capital mobility of U.S. technology and business models create intense competition from developing nations. China’s manufacturing sector was cited as an example of that imbalance, contributing to a destabilized global currency regime.

Battipaglia graduated Phi Beta Kappa in economics from Boston College and earned his MBA at the Wharton Graduate School of Business, University of Pennsylvania.

New Provost

Georgia Southern University President, Dr. Brooks Keel, recently announced Dr. William (Ted) Moore will join Georgia Southern as provost and vice president for academic affairs on April 1, 2011.

Dr. Moore is currently vice president for finance and planning and chief financial officer at the University of South Carolina, where he holds the David and Esther Berlinberg Distinguished Professorship in the Darla Moore School of Business. He is responsible for the areas of Business Affairs, Facilities, Law Enforcement & Safety, Budget Office, Bursar and Controller, Information Technology, and Community and Government Relations. At the state level, he leads the strategic planning for the University of South Carolina System, including oversight of Focus Carolina, a system-wide planning initiative.

Dr. Moore earned his Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, better known as Virginia Tech, in 1982 and maintains an active research agenda in the areas of capital investment analysis, asset pricing, risk measurement, and financial market microstructure. He served as executive editor of the Journal of Financial Research from 2000 to 2005 and has been awarded a number of teaching, research, and professor awards at the University of South Carolina, including the University’s most prestigious teaching award and its award for outstanding research.

During his 24-year career at USC, Dr. Moore has served as interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, vice president for planning, vice provost for academic affairs, and associate provost for budget and operations.

Dr. Moore served in the United States Army from 1968-1977 and was awarded the Purple Heart while serving as an infantryman in Vietnam. He is married to Linda T. Moore, who has enjoyed a career as an attorney specializing in health care law.
A Message from Dean Shiffer

In public, I am often asked how things are going in the College of Business Administration. In doing so, most people are politely engaging me in conversation and giving me a 30- second opportunity to play cheerleader for the college.

Since I may not have an opportunity to meet you in person, I thought I would share with you what I tell folks about COBA and Georgia Southern.

Depending on the circumstances and with whom I am speaking, I choose one of the following three or four main themes that I have been delivering for years.

First are our premier programs. Without question, we have become a national leader in the field of forensic accounting. While not ignoring our responsibility to develop certified public and management accountants, we offer today’s undergraduate and graduate accounting students a forensic accounting track consisting of five courses. We have one of the deepest—if not the deepest—programs in the U.S. in terms of curriculum.

Second, I talk about our success in online graduate education. The Georgia WebMBA® program celebrated its tenth anniversary this fall with newly minted professors who will teach in universities across the state and the country. I have already heard from two dean colleagues who said they would hire our doctoral graduates right now, if we had any!

Second, I talk about our success in online graduate education. The Georgia WebMBA® program celebrated its tenth anniversary this fall and is bigger, better, and stronger than ever. We have more than 300 students currently in the program and have added a sixth school to the original consortium to help us meet demand. We regularly win awards for quality and affordability and continue to attract a higher quality business professional into the program. The average number of years of work experience is 10+ and the average age of our students is in the low- to mid-30s. We sport an 86 percent graduation rate, too. Outstanding!

Our success with the WebMBA® program led us to move the entire Master of Science in Applied Economics (MSAE) degree program online. We are now one of the best—if not the best—online masters degree program in economics. Enrollments continue to grow and the quality of applicants is superb. The average GMAT score is 600.

Hopefully, we will launch online versions of the Masters in Accountancy degree and the Executive MBA degree next fall. We expect both programs to benefit from lessons learned in the WebMBA® and MSAE programs.

Third, we have several programs on the cusp of breaking out. The entrepreneurship program is making tremendous strides toward becoming an interdisciplinary effort on campus and is attracting interest in the community as well. It will not be long before you will be reading about its successes on these pages.

Our sales program recently received certification from the Professional Society of Sales & Marketing Trainers, and our retailing program completed a partnership agreement, only the second in the nation, with Toys “R” Us to be its preferred educational partner in the Southeast.

The Information Systems Department is hitching its wagon to an enterprise resource planning application known as SAP. We are one of only two SAP University Alliance schools in the Southeast that offer an intensive two-week program that enables students to graduate as certified SAP professionals.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to mention the growth of our banking curriculum. The Center for Excellence in Financial Services organizes an annual banking symposium, which has grown in scope and visibility.

As you can see, I have so much to talk about I often do not know where to begin. Reading about all these great programs and accomplishments should make you proud to be an Eagle! Please let us hear from you and please support the Eagle Executive Society, our annual COBA giving program.

Best regards,

Ronald E. Shiffer, Dean
Lewis M. Stewart, Alumni Editor

The College of Business Administration is a member of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, and is accredited by AACSB International. The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

The College of Business Administration is a member of the Association for University Business and Economic Research (AUBER) and the Graduate Management Admissions Council (GMAC).

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The Eagle Executive
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The Eagle Executive falls on page 2 of Fall 2010 Ga"pagination" Eagle Executive.
In November, Ednilson Bernardes, represented the U.S. in the International Purchasing Research (IPS) meeting held in the Politecnico Di Milano, Italy. Formed in 2008, the IPS team scholars, from Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, investigate supply management strategies, capabilities, and performance around the globe. Also, Ed, along with co-authors from George Mason University and Technion Israel Institute of Technology, will present “New Product Development and Supply Network for Sustainable Transportation” at the Decision Sciences Institute session on Entrepreneurship and Operations Strategy.

Financial Systems

IS faculty and students attended a North Carolina / South Carolina Chapter ASUG: America’s SAP Users’ Group meeting in December at BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC, in Greer, SC. The meeting was sponsored by Diagonal Consulting, Rimmii Street, Optimal Solutions, Assima Inc., and Extrinsic LLC.

Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Steve Rutner, director, PhD Program in Logistics and Intermodal Transportation, graduated from the United States Army War College in conjunction with his 2008–2010 deployment in the Iraq war. He received a master of strategic studies degree. The prestigious college accepts fewer than one percent of Army officers and the graduation rate is typically around 60 percent.

Tim Jahnke, CEO of Elkay Manufacturing, spoke at COBA’s Society of Human Resource Management meeting about unique career opportunities for human resource majors. His presentation focused on how human resources provides an opportunity to observe and understand a business and a foundation to move up the corporate ladder. He offered tips on how students pursuing a degree in human resources can distinguish themselves in the tough job market and gain experience through internships. Mr. Jahnke concluded, “Without human resource training or experience, it would have been quite difficult to achieve and execute the CEO position.”

School of Accountancy

Dwight Sneadeth, associate professor, is one of 24 CPAs in the state to be accepted in the Georgia Society of CPAs Leadership Academy, a leadership/management training program held bi-annually.

The Zeta Delta Chapter, Georgia Southern University, was recognized as a host chapter for approximately 275 schools and chapters of Beta Alpha Psi internationally at its national meeting in San Jose, CA, in August. More than 1,000 students and faculty from around the world attended the meetings which provided training and seminars on chapter organization, professional development, and career services.

Georgia Southern alumnus Don Daniels, vice president-controller, JetBlue Airways, secured the air travel to San Jose. Don met students in the concourse at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York, gave them a behind-the-scenes tour, including the tower, and took them to dinner during their layover.

Cheryl Metrejean, associate professor, and Eddie Metrejean’s, assistant professor, son, Steven, is a member of the American Boychoir, a prestigious national choir of approximately 40 boys, grades 4 through 8, who attend the American Boychoir School in Princeton, NJ. They tour the U.S. and world singing beautiful music and recently came to Statesboro to present a fabulous concert at the First United Methodist Church.

School of Economic Development

Dr. William A. Ampounsah, assistant professor, was invited to participate in preparing the second European Report on Development, launched by the European Union, focused on economic growth in Africa. He also assisted in drafting the first report launched for the European Development Days in Stockholm, Sweden in October 2009.

Mike Callaghan (Econ, 2008 and MS, Financial Economics, Illinois State) co-authored an article, “The Effect of the Kyoto Protocol on Carbon Dioxide Emissions,” in the Journal of Economics and Finance with former professor Risa Kumazawa. Mike is now employed with Fidelity Bank as a mortgage analyst, and Risa is a professor of economics and quantitative sciences at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

Donna Fisher, associate professor, Simon Charles, assistant professor in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, Robert Shanafelt, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, and 10 students embarked on a three-week “study abroad” trip to Botswana, Africa, this past summer. They took a 15-hour direct flight from Atlanta to Johannesburg, South Africa, then traveled over land to Gaborone, Botswana’s capital, to the University of Botswana.

Dr. Fisher described the adventure, “I taught a micro-finance course, exploring product line expansion, funding opportunities, and export potentials. Dr. Charles taught a course on environmental sustainability. We all participated in a number of cultural events including a safari, World Cup game, and visit to a traditional Botswana village.”

Students included on the trip were Sharee Ashford, Patti Jo Brown, Holly Delp, Jackson Head, Britt Lanier, Alyssa Oravec, Maegan Rainwater, Samantha Smith, Silvia Tamminen, and Jordan Tompkins. Trip sponsors included the Georgia Southern Center for International Studies, Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, and School of Economic Development.

Welcome Back Students Day Scenes

This year marked the fourth annual COBA alumni Alumni Professors for a Day event at Homecoming. Alumni were invited to come back to campus and spend Friday in class as guest professors to share their real world experiences, along with insights into their own various areas of expertise. The guest professors stressed the importance of mastering the content provided by regular professors. Visiting professors were honored with an appreciation luncheon on campus. A special thanks to those who participated, including

Jessica Hood, a project manager for the Liberty County Development Authority responsible for recruiting industry, organizing and conducting visits, and providing assistance to existing industry, graduated from Georgia Southern in 2007 with a degree in economics and a minor in regional economic development. Jessica is also a member of the Georgia Economic Developers Association;

Lauren Medina, employed with Family Connection-Communities in Schools of Athens as a grants manager, graduated from Georgia Southern in 2007 with degrees in economics and Spanish language and literature, then went on to The University of Georgia for a masters degree in public policy analysis and non-profit management.

J. Dan Speight, Jr., vice chair and chief financial and operating officer of State Bank and Trust Company, Macon and Atlanta, which has recently grown to $2.7 billion in assets with 22 offices and 460 employees across middle Georgia. Dan earned a BBA in management, cum laude, from Georgia Southern in 1979 and a law degree from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in 1982. He began his professional career in private law practice as a member of the State Bar of Georgia. He entered banking in the mid ‘80’s, and, during his career, has served as president, Community Bankers Association of Georgia; director, Georgia Bankers Association; chair, Georgia Bankers Anti-Legislation Committee; and director, Independent Community Bankers Association of America.

Stapleton Authors Text

Professor Emeritus Rick Stapleton (MM&M) has published a textbook, Business Voyages. The book’s tagline, “Set sail for a better world,” illustrates its premise to provide a must-read chronicle for those seeking to recover from the economic chaos gripping the U.S. and the world.

Thanks to William Ampounsah, Rachael Barrett, Ednilson Bernardes, Janice Brown, Mikelle Calhoun, Charlie Cox, Jackie Eastman, Godfrey Gibbison, Jan Grimes, Dena Hale, Mark Hanna, Chuck Harter, Melissa Holland, Farezan Irani, Amanda King, Lyndl King, Vicki King, Jamie Lane, Jill Lockwood, Mike McDonald, Britt McKay, Deanna Piche, Barbara Price, Sarah Rene, Ed Sibbald, Carol Waller, Karen Wells, Jay West, Linda Wilke, Stephanie Williams, Jerry Wilson, and Bill Yang for all of their help serving popcorn and soft drinks.
If you would like to support COBA's scholarship programs, please contact
Dean Ron Shiffler, Georgia Southern University, College of Business Administration,
P. O. Box 8002, Statesboro, GA 30460-8002, phone (912) 478-COBA.
Tracy Ham Inducted into CFL Hall of Fame

Tracy Ham was inducted into the Canadian Football League Hall of Fame in Regina, Saskatchewan, Providence, Canada, this past summer. He threw for 40,534 yards, ran for another 8,043 yards, and scored 284 touchdowns while playing for the Edmonton Eskimos, Toronto Argonauts, Baltimore Stallions, and Montreal Alouettes, surpassing his more than 5,757 yards passing, 3,212 yards rushing, and 34 touchdown college career at Georgia Southern, which led to his induction into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2007. Playing with Edmonton in 1989, Tracy was the league’s Most Outstanding Player and in 1995 helped Baltimore win the Grey Cup, the equivalent of the NFL’s Super Bowl.

Twenty-five years ago, it was Tracy who hooked up with Frankie Johnson for a touchdown with 10 seconds remaining to give Georgia Southern a 44-42 victory over Furman in its first national championship title. The next year, the Eagles made another successful championship run under Tracy’s leadership with the triple option offense. Paul Johnson, defensive coordinator, who installed the triple option offense in 1984 under Erk Russell’s direction, says, “Ham could change the outcome of a game faster than anyone I’ve ever coached.” Ham’s wife, Valerie, and their sons, Tracy II and Caleb, joined former Eagle teammates Ricky Harris, Herman Barron, Robert Baker, and former Southern basketball player Mike Curry at the ceremony in Saskatoon. Tracy concludes, “You realize a lot of people contributed to your success. I’m very grateful to have been a part of the puzzle.”

Ori James Scholarship

The Beta Gamma Sigma business honorary society was created in 1982 under the leadership of Dean Ori James. When Dean James passed away in 2009, Beta Gamma Sigma created a scholarship fund in his name to commemorate his organization and support of the business honorary society. In order to fund the scholarship, COBA alumni J. T. Marburger donated the use of an Atlanta Braves suite at Turner Field as a fundraiser this summer. Through the generosity of alumni, friends, and supporters, the effort raised more than $5,000 toward the scholarship fund.

SOA’s 15th Annual EIR

Mr. Clarence Davis, former CFO and COO of the American Institute of CPAs, was the featured speaker for the 2010 School of Accountancy 15th Annual Executive in Residence program in October. Davis’s career took him from a farm to Wall Street, from a disappointing football game in Paulson Stadium against Samford University.

COBA Advisory Council’s Fall Meetings

COBA Dean Ronald Shiffer presented the Dean’s Report highlighting record fall enrollment of 19,691, a 3.2 percent increase from Fall 2009; proposals for a new on-line Executive MBA and Web Master of Accounting program for the college; the Web MBAs celebrating its tenth anniversary; COBA being named to The Princeton Review’s “Best Business School” list for the fifth consecutive year; and, COBA’s leadership in developing the “City Campus” and preparing for the University’s future Capital Campaign. The traditional breakout and report sessions followed with strategic plan and 2012-13 AACSB Accreditation discussions and feedback. The two-day program ended at with a disappointing football game in Paulson Stadium against Samford University.

The School of Accountancy hosted its annual Advisory Council Meeting in the Professional Development Center, CIT building, in October. The executive committee, Phil Moore, chair; Phil Hickman, vice chair; Jim Creamer, faculty development liaison; and Tim Veal, student recruitment, retention, and placement coordinator, recognized the council for its generous support of officers and leadership Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting fraternity, attending the August 2010 national meeting, San Francisco, as a host chapter. The members in attendance included Greg Cashman, Smith & Howard, Atlanta (John Lucht); Jim Creamer, Drafﬁn & Tucker, Albany; Alex Gambill, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Charlotte; Billy Griffin, Hancock Askew & Co., Savannah (Mike McCarthy); Richard Henry, Holland, Henry & Bromley, Savannah; Bill Herring, WACO Fire & Casualty Insurance, retired, Statesboro; Billy Hickman, Dabbs, Hickman, Hill & Cannon, Statesboro; Raiford Hodges, Dabbs, Hickman, Hill & Cannon, Statesboro; Alex Knight, Habﬁ, Arogeh & Wynn, Atlanta; Charles Martin, Moore Stephens & Tiller, Brunswick; Phil Moore, Porter Keade Moore, Atlanta; Greg Morgan, Mauldin & Jenkins, Atlanta; and, Tim Veal, Nichols Cauley & Associates, Dublin. In other business, the group agreed to have Accounting Advisory Council members participate in the search for a new director of the School of Accountancy and revised two items of the by-laws.
Greetings from the MBA Program! We have had an exciting and busy fall here in COBA. We have new faces, more national recognition, and a new program in the works! First, I would like to say thank you to Angela Leverett who was a mainstay in the MBA office for several years. She accepted a new position with the Board of Regents in July.

As a result of Angela’s departure, the MBA office has a new recruiting coordinator, which will help us expand and improve our efforts in the recruiting and admissions arena. Karen Wells, formerly assistant to Linda Wilke in the Development Office, has recently stepped into the recruiting coordinator role and we are delighted to have her! We are recruiting a new assistant MBA director to improve our connections and contact with alumni. If you are an MBA alum, we would love to hear your feedback or success stories. You can find us on Linked In under the group name, “Georgia Southern COBA MBA Students and Alumni” or become a fan of our Facebook group, “Georgia Southern University MBA Program.” You can also drop us an email at mba@georgiasouthern.edu.

On national recognition, for the fifth year in a row, The Princeton Review has named COBA as one of its “301 Best Business Schools.” The publication surveys more than 19,000 students in AACSB-accredited MBA programs around the world to determine which schools stand out above the rest. Our students, once again, cited Georgia Southern’s affordability, the quality of instruction, and approachability of administration as factors contributing to the success of the MBA Program. We are so thankful to our students and alumni for participating in this survey because without your feedback, the recognition would not be possible. We would also like to express our gratitude to the MBA faculty for continuing to provide exceptional instruction and guidance to our students.

Finally, we have submitted a proposal for a new Executive MBA program to be primarily delivered online. If approved, it will launch in Fall 2011. Offering a focus in entrepreneurial leadership, the program will be geared toward working professionals with at least seven years of work experience. By focusing on entrepreneurial leadership, we hope to attract those seeking to be innovative leaders within their organization or who have a passion for entrepreneurship. Keep your fingers crossed because our success is your success! 🎉

For more information on any of our graduate programs, please contact COBA Graduate Studies, P. O. Box 8050 • Room 3300, Statesboro, GA 30460-8050, Phone: (912) 478-5767, E-Mail: mba@georgiasouthern.edu, Website: http://coba.georgiasouthern.edu/grad.htm.

David M. Coleman (BBA, 1978; MBA, 2003) recently celebrated the five-year anniversary of The Old Post Office Café in Brooklet. He and co-owner, Greg Frost, developed the restaurant and catering business in 2005 and have become known throughout south Georgia for their wonderful food and catering delights. David had been a comptroller for an electrical supply company and firm administrator in a CPA firm for over 25 years when he decided to leave the corporate world for entrepreneurship. When the U.S. Postal Service decided to build a new post office in Brooklet, the availability of the old post office building opened the door of opportunity and the rest is history. His successful café and catering business has allowed him to maintain strong relationships with people from the surrounding communities and Georgia Southern. David has found happiness as a successful small business owner. He currently resides in Statesboro and enjoys reading, traveling, and gardening.

Christopher Kimbrough, a second-year law student at Indiana University’s Maurer School of Law in Bloomington, served as a clerk in the Office of the Indiana Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division in Summer 2010. He is a member of the executive board in the Indianapolis Bar Association’s law student section and vice president of the Black Law Students Association. Christopher volunteers with the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, Reach for Youth Teen Court, IBA Ask-A-Lawyer Program and We The People Competition.

Huggins Joins WebMBA® Staff

Angelia Huggins (IS, 1991) is the new director of Student and IT Operations for the Georgia WebMBA® Program. In the new position, she will be assisting Director Joe Bocchi with admissions, student tracking, and program progression as the WebMBA course management system administrator and IT specialist, including database and virtual document repositories maintenance for comparative data analysis, accreditation, and retention, progression, and graduation reporting.

Angelia is an active officer of the Atlanta Eagle Club as well as a past member of the College of Business Advisory Council. Angelia received the 2002 Young Alumna of the Year award and is a past board member and executive officer of the Alumni Board of Directors.

New MAcc Director

Dr. L. Dwight Sneathen, new program director for the Master of Accountancy, reports a 30 percent increase in enrollment from Fall 2009 to Fall 2010. In the traditional master degree program, the faculty is exploring opportunities to offer more courses in taxation and business valuation, and the Becker CPA Review offering continues to increase CPA Exam pass rates.

The scope of the program is also growing with the introduction of new programs. We now offer a master of accountancy with a concentration in forensic accounting, including courses in fraud schemes, fraud detection methods, expert witness testimony, interview and interrogation techniques, and computer forensics. The program provides a comprehensive curriculum preparing students to pass the Certified Fraud Examiner and Financial Forensics exams. Our newest program, the on-line WEBMAcc, slated for launch in Fall 2011, is in approval. This two year, lock step program will allow students not located near a physical campus to pursue the degree online.

Overall, the program’s future is bright as excellent students continue to apply, and the number of firms recruiting them grows each year, including Big Four accounting firms from Jacksonville, Charlotte, and Atlanta; Wal-Mart; and government agencies, such as the Georgia Department of Audits and Office of the Inspector General.

Dr. Sneathen
Erin Schrimpf (LIT, 2005), a Chicago trainmaster for CSX Transportation, has been promoted to manager of total service integration for the compliance and execution team in Jacksonville, FL. CSX is the primary operating subsidiary for CSX Corporation, operating 21,000 miles of rail network in 23 states, serving over 70 ocean, river, and lake ports.

Erin began his career as a management trainee with CSX Transportation. He had the coveted opportunity to work in CSX’s Chicago Trainmaster office. In the CSX network, Chicago is one of the busiest and most complex terminals. Erin operates more than 50 trains daily over Chicago’s railroad networks with more than 200 people working with him on any given day. His job as a trainmaster is very demanding, often requiring 60 to 70 hours a week. Erin and his wife currently reside in Chicago, while his son, Christiaan, is in Oregon planning to attend Oregon State University.

Linda Mercedes Zablah

Linda Mercedes Zablah (MKT, 1999) became an assistant manager for Limited, Inc., in the Orlando Fashion Square Mall, Orlando, FL, before returning to her native country of Honduras and joining Demesa Office Solutions, San Pedro Sula, a family-owned company and manufacturer, merchandiser, and distributor of office furniture. Mercedes has ten years experience in administration and quality control, having been responsible for implementing the Quality System, ISO9001, for the company. In 2008, the company won a national award for the “Greatest Exporting Company of Honduras, Metals Area.”

Mercedes and her husband reside in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and have an 18-month old son. They are eagerly awaiting the birth of their second child within the year.

Cheryl Zak

Cheryl Zak (MGT, 1981) is owner and director of The Forsyth Yoga Center, Dawsonville. After graduation, Cheryl began her business career as a project manager at Digital Equipment Corporation in Atlanta. She then moved to account executive in the automotive industry for IBM in Southfield, Michigan, and later served as a business consultant for their corporate clients.

Cheryl established her presence in the yoga for health and wellness arena through volunteer work as the former President of the Yoga Association of Greater Detroit and a founder and charter member of the Southeast Yoga Association in Atlanta. Cheryl is a Registered Yoga Teacher and Trainer with the national group, Yoga Alliance, and a member of the International Association of Yoga Therapists. She serves as a community resource for the Georgia Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund Commission.

Cheryl graduated from Georgia Southern, summa cum laude, where she received the Frederick W. Taylor Award and became a member of the Phi Kappa Phi and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies. She later attended the executive education program at The Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania. Cheryl and her husband, Alan, have been married for 36 years and love to attend Atlanta Symphony concerts and Atlanta Braves and Thrashers games.

Demére Sikes

Demére Sikes (MKT, 1995) has recently accepted a newly created position as public relations director for the Liberty County Board of Education. Her role in the new position is to keep people informed and updated on the news and activities of the school system. Prior to accepting this position, Demére served as a banking officer and marketing director for a community bank and taught at Savannah Christian Academy. Her banking and education experience and contacts were an ideal fit for her new role as public relations director, as her family is from the Liberty County area.

Demére is a member of the Kiwanis Club, Prevent Child Abuse Liberty, and the Family Connections Collaborative.

Mark Your Calendars NOW for . . .

COBA Golf Tourney

May 20, 2011
The 2010 homecoming cookout was held under the water tower in the parking lot of Paulson Stadium on November 6 before the Appalachian State game. Special thanks are extended to Jamie Lane; Matt McGhee; Susan Taylor; the Wells family, Bill, Karen, Brad, and Jesse; Linda Wilke; Lisa Williams; Richard and Susan Williams; Jerry and Myron Wilson; and Rongron Zhang for their help with this event, and to Jan Grimes and Linda Mullen for donating their parking spaces. Later that day, Georgia Southern’s Eagles pulled off a 21–14 OT victory against Appalachian State’s Mountaineers.
COBA Welcomes New Faculty

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of the COBA team presented below. We are excited about the talents and skills they bring to COBA. We presently have five faculty and administrative searches for the 2011–2012 academic year: an assistant professor of accountancy and a director for the School of Accountancy; an assistant professor of economics in the School of Economic Development; a director for the Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development; and an assistant director, marketing and admissions, for the Master of Business Administration program.

J. Nicholas DeBonis
Lecturer
Department of Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Nick DeBonis is a lecturer in the Department of Management, Marketing and Logistics. A Vietnam veteran who served on active duty in both the Air Force and the Army, Nick earned his Ph.D. in advertising and marketing from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. His master’s degree is in foundations of education from Troy State University and his BA, magna cum laude, is from Flagler College in education and psychology. His wife, Susan, is a professor in the Communication Arts department.

Dr. DeBonis has private sector experience as a senior global marketing consultant in the telecommunications, chemical, and pharmaceutical industries with a Philadelphia-based company. He maintains a marketing consultancy with select clients to maintain contact with the day-to-day business world. Dr. DeBonis’s diverse professional background includes having started and run his own business, and stints in both the talent and business sides of the newspaper and radio media. He has co-authored three successful trade books published by McGraw-Hill for the American Marketing Association and has served on the faculty at the Goizueta Business School, Emory, California State–Fullerton, Texas A&M, LSU and Pepperdine universities.

Dr. DeBonis and his wife have two children, Andrew, 23, and Gabriela, 14. They are a soccer family—he still referees high school soccer, his wife is a former coach and both of children played on the state select Lazers team in Peachtree City. The family enjoys wilderness camping, canoeing, and hiking in the North Georgia Mountains, Appalachian Trail, and at the beach.

Robert Szymanski
Assistant Professor
Department of Information Systems

Bob Szymanski joined the College of Business in August 2010 as a lecturer in the Department of Information Systems. He has a BS in arts and science from Boston College and an MBA in information systems from Boston College’s Carroll Graduate School of Management, 1998.

Mr. Szymanski is a certified SAP solutions architect consultant and serves as an instructor for our SAP ERP10 certification program. Along with his academic experience, Mr. Szymanski brings more than 20 years of practical industry experience to the classroom. Mr. Szymanski also owns and operates an independent consulting firm specializing in ERP and management consulting. Mr. Szymanski’s clients have included such companies as Universal Studios, China Grill Management, Hyatt Regency, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and Siemens Energy, Inc.

During his spare time, Mr. Szymanski enjoys time with his family, which includes his wife and two children and enjoys golfing and downhill skiing. His sporting interests include the NY Football Giants, NY Yankees, and NASCAR.

G. Scott Webb
Assistant Professor
Department of Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Scott Webb is an assistant professor in logistics. He is earning his Ph.D. in logistics and operations management from the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University. In addition to his PhD, Mr. Webb has earned a MSc in logistics management from the Air Force Institute of Technology, and a BBA from The College of Idaho.

Mr. Webb’s primary research examines how consumer behavior influences the supply chain. He was an invited presenter on supply chain complexity at the 2007 Decision Sciences Annual Conference and has published articles in the Journal of Operations Management and Decision Science Journal of Innovative Education.

Prior to entering academia, Mr. Webb was a logistics officer for the United States Air Force. During his twelve years in the Air Force, he managed hazardous materials warehouses, aircraft parts warehouses, and war reserve material warehouses. Following the completion of his master degree, Mr. Webb worked as the Officer in Charge of developing functional requirements for USAF supply systems software.

Mr. Webb’s interests include his wife and six children, basketball, volleyball, and the great outdoors. He especially enjoys backpacking, fishing, and hunting.

Stanley E. Fawcett
Visiting Distinguished Professor
Department of Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Stan Fawcett is visiting distinguished professor of logistics and supply chain management on leave from Brigham Young University’s Marriott School of Management. His teaching and research expertise is centered on global supply chain strategy and collaborative business model design. He has taught executive development programs in Asia, Europe, and North and South America.

Dr. Fawcett received his Ph.D. at Arizona State University and taught at Michigan State University before joining the faculty at the Marriott School. He has published more than 100 articles and six books on supply-chain topics, including design, information technology as a collaboration enabler, leading change through learning, performance measurement, and trust.

Stan is the co-editor-in-chief of the Journal of Business Logistics and a member of the Academy of Management, Council for Supply Chain Management Professionals, Decision Sciences Institute, and Institute of Supply Management.

Yusoon Kim
Assistant Professor
Department of Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Yusoon Kim, BE ’94, Korea University, Seoul, South Korea, MSE ’02, M.Eng ’03, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, has recently completed his Ph.D. in business administration, supply chain management at the Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. In an earlier career, Dr. Kim was an system engineer for an automobile company in South Korea and later in an industry career, involved in constructing new automobile assembly plants in Romania. His research interests include supply network structures and design, supply chain management strategy, buyer-seller relationship, and the applications of social network and agency theory in the supply chain management context.

Sang Un Yung
Visiting Professor
Department of Finance & Quantitative Analysis

Sang Un Yung, BE ’70, mechanical engineering, Yonsei University and PhD ’79, statistics, University of Florida is a visiting honor professor from the College of Economics and Business Administration, Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea. He is a highly respected professor, serving in his home country as a director of the Hanshin Engineering Corporation, chair of the Forum of New Quality Management, assistant to the president of Hyundai Automobile Company, and judge for the Korean Total Quality Awards, a program similar to the U.S. Malcolm Baldrige Awards. Previously, Dr. Yun served as chair of the Society of Engineering Statistics in Korea and vice president of the Yonbien University of Science and Technology in China, as well as dean of External Affairs and Development at his alma mater, Yonsei University. His experience includes previous visiting professorships at Georgia Southern and the University of Western Ontario, Canada.

Dr. Yun’s areas of interest include quality control, design of experiment, regression, multivariate analysis, credit risk management, and customer relationship management. He has published extensively in the area of reliability, statistics, methods, and structural equation models in the Journal of Korean Society for Quality Management, and culminating in “Six Sigma Quality Innovation” published by Freedom Academy in 2006.

Dr. Yun, his wife, two sons, and daughter enjoy tennis, golf, volleyball, and music.
The Golf Coaches Association of America announced this summer that Georgia Southern business majors Spence Fulford, Matt Deal and Logan Blondell were named to the Cleveland Srixon All-America Scholars list. The Eagle trio tied 116 other Division I college golfers in receiving this national honor and helped propel Georgia Southern to tie with six other schools for the most players represented by a Division I college golf program on the All-America Scholars list.

For Spence Fulford, this elite recognition was the second in his collegiate golf career, having previously earned the honor last year with a 3.61 GPA. Fulford’s stroke average for the season was 73.62. His 9-under par 63 at the Springhill Suites Intercollegiate set a new tournament and competitive course record, helped the Eagles win the tournament, and tied three other players for the all-time lowest round in Georgia Southern history. His 3.69 GPA in management was the highest among all Georgia golfers and he was selected the Male Scholar Athlete at Georgia Southern for 2009-10. As a senior, Fulford was selected to the Southern Conference Academic All-Conference team for the third time.

Also earning All-America Scholar honor were Logan Blondell and Matt Deal, with 3.56 and 3.37 GPAs in finance and management. Their stroke averages were 74.35 and 75, respectively. Logan’s best performance occurred at the NCAA Southeast Regional where he fired a 2-under par 208 for second place and tied his 54-hole career low. Matt’s 2-under par 70 at the Augusta State Invitational set a new career-low and also helped him card a 54-hole career-low 208.

Maggie Green, an associate in the PKM group who earned her master’s degree at Georgia Southern, says forensic training is “a valuable tool to use in the workplace.” She also emphasized the importance of fraud and forensic accounting education and the experience of the students. Green said, “PKM has been a supporter of Georgia Southern for many years and annually partners with COBA to present the Fraud and Forensic Accounting Education Conference. The next conference will be held June 2-4, 2011 in Savannah.”

The Georgia Southern Eagles Golf Team is pictured at the Southeast Regional of the 2010 NCAA Golf Tournament.

PKM Supports Forensic Program

Georgia Southern University recently announced Atlanta-based Porter Keable Moore (PKM) has made a $6,000 contribution to the Center for Forensic Studies in Accounting at Georgia Southern University. The School of Accountancy center offers forensic courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. “The donation allows us to live out one of our core values by giving back to a school and a program that has done much for our firm,” said Phil Moore, PKM’s managing partner.

“Federal Sentencing Guidelines,” discussing the purpose, mission, and function of U.S. Probation Office, a $1 million dollar book store fraud, the $225,000 unauthorized personal use of purchase cards at a military base, and two case examples to illustrate the application of the federal sentencing guidelines. Daphne Jarriel, assistant district attorney, Ogeechee Judicial District, also spoke to the class, discussing her career choice to go to law school, the functions of the District Attorney’s Office, and its coordination with investigators and the courts. In her presentation, Daphne highlighted a case involving a Statesboro business and $2.1 million dollars in fraudulent loans.

Later, students in fraud and forensic accounting and justice studies had the opportunity to attend the Mock Civil Trial at the Bulloch County Courthouse.

Finally, Alexander Gambill, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Charlotte, spoke to information system and fraud and forensic accounting students in classes taught by Ron MacKinnon, Camille Rogers, Robert Szymanski, Chuck Hartter, Tim Cairney, and Eddie Metrejean. He then joined the leadership of the accounting student organizations, Beta Alpha Psi, Accounting Association, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, and American Accounting Association of Black Accountants for dinner.

The next day Alex joined the faculty and students of Beta Alpha Psi for an open question and answer session lunch.

At each WebMBA’s graduation, the graduating class selects one professor as recipient of the Stanley Award, named for Dean Ken Stanley, Valdosta State University, one of the founding deans and archi-
Thank You 2010 Eagle Executive Society Members!

The Eagle Executive Society is an annual membership society focused upon relationships with COBA alumni and friends. The $50 annual membership investment supports educational activities beyond the classroom, including travel scholarships, student engagement, and research activities to ensure the best technology, facilities, and learning opportunities are available for today’s students. The Society’s funding is directed 100 percent to prepare the next generation’s business leaders. Members receive an Eagle Executive Society stock certificate, recognition in the Eagle Executive, and invitations to special events sponsored by the college. Charter membership renewals or new memberships for 2010 and 2011 are accepted online at http://coba.georgiasouthern.edu/ (click on EExS and then click Pay Online) or call Linda Wilke at 912-478-5050 for a membership form. Active members—including charter, renewed, and new—are—acknowledged below. We appreciate your support.

Trip Addison
Richard E. Aldredge
Mark H. Anderson
Frances M. Bagley
Rhonda O. Banks
Stephen W. Barber
Perry C. Barnett
Charles R. Barr
Matthew S. Bean
Richard A. Bean
Paul T. Bennett
Donald L. Berez
Ednison Bernardes
Gary A. Blount
Leonard H. Blount
William H. Bolen
William J. Bostwick
Edward S. Bowles
Esther Bowman
Richard Bowman
Richard Jorris Bowman
Hoke S. Brunson, Jr.
M. Albert Burke
Kenneth C. Butler
Lisa Butler
Michael R. Calhoun
Donald E. Callaway
Constance R. Campbell
Ronald L. Cannon
Brenda S. Carter
Harry S. Carter
Rosemary Carter
Thomas L. Case
Wesley S. Cobb
James Thomas (Tom) Coe
Doug Collins III
G. Gregory Colson
Lisa Conti-Bacon
Charles C. Cox, III
Branen Cummings
Lindsey E. Cummings
W. Mike Cummings
R. Bruce Dannely, Sr.
Elynor Davis
James E. Davis, Jr.
Frances S. Deal
Julian I. Deal
Luther “Trey” Denton, III
John F. Dismuke
Jacqueline K. Eastman
Kevin L. Eastman
Peter L. Fraley
Jenny L. Gentry
Carl Gooding
Jan Grimes
Mark D. Hanna
Horace W. Harrell, Jr.
Larry F. Harrison
Charles Harter
Jack W. Hartley
Peter Hayes
William D. Head
William R. Hickman, Jr.
Jeremy Hinton
Melissa Holland
James M. Hood
Walter R. Huggins
Evan W. Huggins
Feruzan S. Irani
Matthew H. Janofsky
John F. (Jack) Jennings
Lindsey D. Johnson, Jr.
Michael K. Johnson
Daniel C. Johnston
Kauffman Tire, Inc.
Brooks A. Keel
Stephen W. Keene
Grayson C. Kelly
Julia Ann Kelly
Sharon Kelly
Russell L. Kent
William C. Kirby
Brian Kramschester
Douglas H. Lambert
Jamie Lane
Josh Mathew (Matt) Lane
John Leaptrott, Jr.
Buddy Lighty
Robert S. Lovein
David M. Luckie
Abby Lynes
Chandan Maitrani
Todd Manack
William W. McCartney
Mike McDonald
Samuel A. McDuffie
Robert McGregor
William S. Mclean II
John T. McManus
C. Robert Melton
Lowell Mooney
D. Greg Morgan
G. Mike Odom, Jr.
David K. Pitman
Luke A. Pittaway
James Pollak
Barbara A. Price
Larry E. Price
RadioJones, LLC
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Patrick S. Rising
Jason A. Roberts
Stephen J. Rountree
Joseph P. Ruhland
Michael R. Sanders
Brandon T. Sauers
Thomas Sherrouse
Barbara Shiffler
Ron Shiffler
Ralph S. Sikes, Jr.
Carole J. Smith
L. Dwight Sneathen, Jr.
Brian E. Snell
Charlene K. Stewart
Lewis M. Stewart
Robert H. Stoddard
William N. Strawn, Jr.
Perry Sumner, Jr.
Cathy Owens Swift
Thomas L. Tharpe
Robert E. Thigpen, Jr.
Valerie A. Thompson
Lee R. Tompkins, Jr.
Kris M. Trinisor
F. Ward Trulock
Scott C. Tuten
Karen R. Wells
William H. Wells
Joy A. West
Linda Wilke
Susan R. Williams
Jerry Wilson
Steven J. Wilson
Jonathan D. Woodard
William R. Woolford
Thomas O. Yarbrough

(Charter Members)
IMA’s Thomson Visits Georgia Southern

Jeffrey C. Thomson, CEO and president, Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), was guest of COBA’s School of Accountancy and the Savannah IMA Chapter at the Performing Arts Center in the campus Nessmith-Lane Continuing Education building August 19. Georgia Southern accounting student, Isaac Bell, president of COBA’s Accounting Association, presented Thomson, who spoke about “The Certified Managerial Accountant Program,” an essential credential for a career in management accounting. In closing, Brenden Adams, VP professional programs, Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting honorary society, thanked Thomson, summarized his remarks, and presented appreciation.

Thomson holds an MS degree in statistics, Montclair State University, and certifications in finance and accounting, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; senior executive leadership, Columbia University; and, management innovation, Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A career accountant for more than 20 years with AT&T, retiring as CFO for the business sales division with $18 billion in revenue, Thomson formally joined IMA in 2005, initially serving as its vice president for research and application development. As CEO and president, he is currently responsible for operations, products, and services, as well as leading and directing programs for IMA. In his short tenure, he has developed and launched the IMA Research Center of Excellence and become a global leader in the emerging area of governance, risk management, and compliance.

He serves on the board of directors of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations, an international organization offering global positioning guidance on internal controls and enterprise risk management. Accomplished speaker, author of numerous trade articles, and quoted in The Wall Street Journal, Business Week, Compliance Week, and Global Risk Regulator, Mr. Thomson travels globally addressing topics of financial leadership, risk management, business performance, strategic planning, costing, and competitive analysis.

The IMA is the world’s leading association for accountants and financial professionals in business. The Savannah Chapter, organized in 1965, is lead by President Kenneth Crowe, Robert Half International, VP Administration and Finance Roy Austin, Rockwell Business Solutions, LLC.; VP Communications and Community Relations Yolanda Harris, Georgia-Pacific Corporation; VP Scholarships J. Devi All, D.J. Powers Company, Inc.; VP Professional Education Tim Caimey, Georgia Southern University; Secretary Paul Hammock, Ports America; and, Treasurer Denise Marsh, Georgia-Pacific Corporation.

BBRED Outreach

The mission of the Bureau of Business Research & Economic Development (BBRED) is to provide critical information and economic development analysis for the region and state. The Effingham Hospital Modernization Study and the Economic Impact of Engineering Programs in the Allen E. Paulson College of Science and Technology are projects which, through BBRED’s research, clients have been able to obtain policy outcomes supportive of their goals.

In the initial project, BBRED was approached by the Effingham Hospital Authority to examine its modernization plan for adding a surgical facility. Three aspects of the project included analysis of the market for surgical services, evaluating the economic impact of construction and operations, and the estimating the continuation value of current property tax allocations. Utilizing BBRED studies, the modernization plan was approved by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners and a grant application was submitted to fund the expansion.

For the Allen E. Paulson College of Science and Technology, the client’s goal was to expand its engineering technology program to an engineering degree program. A BBRED report demonstrated the economic value of the current operations and illustrated the future value of proposed changes. Projections developed for student enrollment, student expenditure, and operating budgets were incorporated into a larger proposal to the Board of Regents. The proposal for a degree program was approved in November, and the full scale engineering program will begin in the Fall 2011.

Additionally, BBRED continues to engage in research of interest to the general public. The Seventh Annual Consumer Confidence and Holiday Shopping Expectation Survey was released in mid-November. It focuses on eleven Coastal Empire counties in Georgia and two Lowcountry counties in South Carolina. The survey was developed and administered by BBRED in coordination with Dr. Jacqueline Eastman and her marketing research class. For the first time in five years, consumers appear to be planning to increase their holiday spending per person, although still lower than the peak levels of 2005 or 2006.

It also appears consumers are slowly regaining confidence after several years of spending declines. With bargain shopping being the primary focus of the holiday shopping season this year, discount stores, like Wal-Mart or Target, and outlet malls will gain a larger proportion of the holiday shopping dollar. Overall, BBRED’s analyses indicate a 2-3 percent increase in holiday sales this year.

Finally, BBRED conducts an annual study that examines a nine-county region, including Bryan, Bulloch, Chatham, Candler, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Jenkins, and Screven, to determine the annual economic impact of Georgia Southern University on the region. For fiscal year 2010, Georgia Southern University had a total economic impact of $795.3 million. The increase of almost $95 million over fiscal year 2009 was primarily due to a 7.4 percent increase in total student enrollment over the time period.

For more information about BBRED’s research, or to discuss a future project, please call Joy West at (912) 478-0872, or visit the website at www.bbred.org.

Center for Entrepreneurship

The variety of programs, events, and field trips of the Center for Entrepreneurial Learning and Leadership this fall has been exciting and interactive for students.

Family Business Burnout Research Seminar

The September 2010 seminar, a research presentation, “Burnout in Entrepreneurship and Family Firms,” by Morgan Miles, David Shepherd, and Gaia Marchisio, focused on understanding the burnout occurrences in family firms due to the family’s presence and influence in the firm.

Frank L. Lane Lecture

Frank Lane, brand entrepreneur and former president Neutrogena Products, presented “The Four Sequential Steps of Entrepreneurial Success” lecture at the Nessmith-Lane Building Assembly Hall to more than 300 in attendance. Mr. Lane explained the four principles of entrepreneurship and essential steps to creating entrepreneurial culture.

Forex.com Competition Results

The Entrepreneurship Club sponsored a Forex.com Competition simulation where competition winners, producing $25, $50, and $125, respectively. Next year’s Forex.com Competition Results

Mark Anderson Scholarship

Andrew Southerland was awarded the Mark Anderson Scholarship for Entrepreneurship in Engineering Technology.

Entrepreneurship Education in Engineering Technology

Center director, Dr. Luke Pittaway, and Allen E. Paulson College of Science and Technology professor, Dr. Anoop A. Desai, have submitted a $200,000 grand proposal to the National Science Foundation to develop and embed entrepreneurship education in technology engineering courses. If approved, the grant may lead to business incubator opportunities in their respective fields of study.
**Accounting**

Larry K. Williams (1967), Statesboro, is a real estate agent with Century 21, The Hunter Group.

Sharon D. Morris (1977), Basley, is the owner of the Morris Finance Company.

Sandi Stovall Sharpe (1992), Guyton, is an insurance agent with State Farm Insurance, Rincon. She is married to Michael Williamson.

Scott Noblit (1997), Statesboro, was recently promoted to senior vice president for Georgia Southern University. He has been named a director for the Association of College and University Auditors (ACUA) Midyear Conference. The new appointment will begin in March 2011. Jana has received certification as a certified internal auditor. She is married to Terry Briley. Email: janawms@georgiasouthern.edu.

Jana Briley (2000; MBA 2008), Statesboro, is the director of audit and advisory services for Grazia Accounting, LLC, Statesboro. In addition to her work with Grazia, she is a CPA. Leesburg, is a senior accountant with Ernst & Young, LLP. He has passed the CFE exams and is waiting to fulfill the experience requirements.

Brian Prevatt (2009; MAcc 2009), Savannah, is a staff accountant with Hancock Askew & Co., LLP.

**Bus Admin**

L. Harris Churchwell (1962), Hawkinsville, is now retired as a production manager for ALP Lighting, Lithia Springs. He is the author of Civil War books including Captains of Rest, winner of the Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal given by the National Daughters of the Confederacy, a winner of Keeper of History Awards given by the Lowndes County Historical Society, and is currently writing Seeking Glory, a history of the 28th Georgia Regiment. He is married to Judy Kohn. Email: lchurchwell@msn.com.

George Evans (1975), Savannah, is now a mortgage consultant with the Atlantic Bank and Trust Company. His wife is Nancy.

Vic L. Dickey (1982), Statesboro, is the office manager for Cleve White Nissan Auto Co. His wife is Laura.

Jose Luis Ziba (1989), Key Biscayne, Fl, is the chief financial officer for a business development manager for STI Repairs, LLC. He is married to Andrea Alvarez. Email: jose_ziba@hotmail.com.

Megan Blanton Meadows (2006), Conyers, is the receptionist/billing associate for John Brown Trucking, Lithonia. Email: mmeadows@browntruckco.com.

Jennifer Lynn Chase (2010), Statesboro, currently employed by Citizens Bank of Statesboro as a senior internal auditor. She recently received the company’s Chairman’s Circle Award. In addition to recognizing an agent’s outstanding sales ability, this award honors agents who align their business with the long-term direction of the company and work with their customers. Her husband is an agent. Email: sam.sharpe@citizensbank.com.

Charles W. Widman (1997), Statesboro, has been promoted to executive vice president for lending credit and commercial banking for the Statesboro market for Sea Island Bank.

Bradley S. Bikler (1998), Psychology 1992, formerly an army reservist, is now in Richmond Hill, where he is a VP-mortgage sales manager for The Coastal Bank, Pooler. He is married to Denise Miles, a Georgia Southern alumna.

Rachel Collier Edwards (1998), formerly a flight attendant, is now in Register, GA, a staff accountant with the Jenkins Insurance Agency.

David T. Winicamp (1981), Townsend, is the supervisory examiner for the Georgia Southern Dept. of Banking and Finance, Atlanta. Email: davidlangland55@hotmail.com.

Charles C. Duggan, Jr. (1986), Statesboro, is the vice president-corporate affairs for Daniel Defense Corp., Black Creek. He is also the COO for a sister company, Defense Products, Inc. He is married to Melissa Palmer, a 1988 Georgia Southern management major. Email: duggan@danieldefense.com.

Mark S. Barwick (1989), Atlanta, is a senior underwriter for Uni-Vis Underwriting Mgt., a company that builds and manages risk retention groups for physicians. Email: markbarwick@ocsmcast.net.

Ashley Hines Ellis (1992), Statesboro, is vice president of Aiken, Bluff, Burke, Wimberly, & Hendricks Insurers and owner of the award winning Vandy’s Barbecue—now 80 years old. Email: ashleyhines@bwaitrons.com.

Sandra Kovskly Lott (1993), Basley, is a CPA with her own company. She is married to Jason J. Lott, a 1993 Georgia Southern management graduate.

Kimberly K. Brannon (1994), Statesboro, has been promoted to senior vice president for Sea Island Bank. She is manager of the private client group and business banking for the Statesboro market. Her husband is Aulbert Brannon.

Ebzan Paulus (1994), Indonesia, is now a senior pastor for Gereja Pusat Pontianak and has just gotten his degree, Ebzan returned to his native Indonesia and sold gold jewelry. He then became the pastor for a gold jewelry company. Ebzan spent eight years with an investment portfolio company before becoming a full-time minister as the senior pastor for an interdenominational church. Email: ebulan_palulus@yahoo.com.id.

William Walter “Sam” Sharpe (1994), Perrier, an insurance agent with State Farm Insurance, Savannah, recently received the company’s Chairman’s Circle Award. In addition to recognizing an agent’s outstanding sales ability, this award honors agents who align their business with the long-term direction of the company and work with their customers. His wife is Angel. Email: sam.sharpe@citizensbank.com.

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**Economics**

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Jonathan Paul Moore, Jr. (2004), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Loganville, where he is the IT project manager for Precise Solutions, LLC. Alpharetta. His wife is Tiffany. Email: jonathanmoore2004@yahoo.com.

Jared G. Simpson (2004), Savannah, is the results yard manager for one of Evergreen’s wood recycling yards. He is married to Beth Logan. Email: jared10533@gmail.com.

Chad Lewis Fields (2006), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Loganville, where he is a project manager for Addresses of Distinction, Newnan. Chad’s wife is Elizabeth.

Lindsey C. Slough (2006, MBA 2007), Atlanta, is now the executive administrator/human resource director for the Aqua-Tots Swim School, Kennesaw. Lindsey was a G-A in the Office of Publications and worked on the Eagle Executive while at Georgia Southern. She is married to Justin Coleman. Email: wutamknee@hotmail.com.

Carrie Harrison Arnold (2007), Brunswick, is the controller of Superior Interior Cleaning, Inc. She is married to Erin Aldridge. Email: carrik108@yahoo.com.

Jeremy J. Cianci (2007), formerly in Savannah, is now in Port Wentworth, where he is in sales with Verizon, Richmond. He is married to Jackie Ashford, a 2005 Georgia Southern management graduate.

Catrina J. Gray (2007), formerly in Savannah, is now in Richmond, where she is a clinical sales representative for Ethicon, Inc., Somerville, NJ. Email: joshalimade@gmail.com.

Tom J. Toole (1991), formerly in Tecomela, CA, is now in Cumming. He is married to Tom J. Toole, and they have three children: Jay (14), Grant (11), and Carley Rose (8). Email: toollert@toro.com.

Kurt Russell George (1992), formerly in Roswell, is now in Virginia Beach, VA, where he is the business development executive for the Toro Corporation. He is married to Allision DeAmoro Toole (1991), formerly in Tecomela, CA, is now in Cumming. He is the director of business development for the Toro Corporation. He is married to Allison DeAmoro, a 1991 Georgia Southern marketing graduate, and they have three children: Jay (14), Grant (11), and Carley Rose (8). Email: toollert@toro.com.

John K. Pritchard (1992), Ft. Lauderdale, FL, is the senior director of investments for Omega Portfolio Management, which is part of Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. His wife is April. Email: john.pritchard@opco.com.

Carissa Heck Mays (1994), Dacula, is an account executive, radiology, for GE Healthcare, Waukesha, WI.

Sean Knox (1998), Columbus, has been selected to participate in the 2011 class of Leadership Georgia.

Bria Bercich (2002), formerly in Douglasville, is now in Temple, where she is a marketing specialist with Sage. She is married to Brandon Sheffield. Email: bria.sheffield@sage.com.

Chris Bostain (2002), Jacksonville Beach, FL, is a sales rep for Johnson & Johnson selling surgical implants. Email: bostainci@yahoo.com.

Owewale “Wale” Oyedeyo (2002), Glen Burnie, MD, is now a paraprofessional for Prince George’s County Schools. Email: waleosa@hotmail.com.

Katherine “Kassi” Adams (2003), formerly in North Augusta, SC, is now on Saint Simons Island, where she is the executive team leader for Target. Email: kassap325@yahoo.com.

Carolynn Boyer Bryan (2003), formerly in Sandersville, is now in Brentwood, TN. She is married to Luke Bryan, a 1999 Georgia Southern management major and popular estate partnership with his son, M & M Properties. He is married to Deana Ruth Howard, a Georgia Southern 1974 education graduate. Email: live53ale@yahoo.com.

Janice D. Strickland (1974), Claxton, is the reference librarian for the Statesboro Regional Library. She is married to Wayne Strickland.

Charles G. Greer (1975), Griffin, is an apparel buyer for HMS Host, Bethesda, MD. Email: cgreer8143@aol.com.

Gray Koonce, Jr. (1981), Gaston, SC, has opened his own business.

Sheryl Littles (1984), Statesboro, is the office manager for the Accelerated Rehabilitation Center in the clinic, and they have three children: Jay (14), Grant (11), and Carley Rose (8). Email: alllittles@msn.com.

Jared M. Lovett (1992), Tecomela, CA, is now in Cumming. He is married to Jenna Stamps, and they have three children: Jay (14), Grant (11), and Carley Rose (8). Email: alllittles@msn.com.

Hope S. Merrill (1985), Cumming, is no longer involved with the Southcomm Publishing Co, Alpharetta. She is now raising horses and enjoying her time.

Allison DeAmoro Toole (1991), formerly in Tecomela, CA, is now in Cumming. She is married to Tom J. Toole, and they have three children: Jay (14), Grant (11), and Carley Rose (8). Email: toollert@toro.com.

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country singer. Email: clay14@hotmail.com.

Ken W. White (2004), Cartersville, is the manager of Enterprise Rent-A-Car. He is married to Lindsay Stern, and they have a daughter, Emma Grace, born September 15, 2009.

Brittany Hunter Banks (2005), Woodstock, is now the events coordinator for Great Dane Trailers. Email: bhbanks@greatdantrailers.com.

Miriam Daniel Deberry (2005; MHSA 2007), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Stephens, where she is an administrator for Ethics Health & Rehab, Greensboro. She is married to Erck Patrick Deberry, a 2004 Georgia Southern sports management graduate. Email: mdeberry@ethicahospital.org.

Deborah R. Metts (2005), formerly in Savannah, is now in Dacula, where she is the national retail field rep for AT&T. She is married to John Beegle.

Molly Daniel (2004), formerly in Sycamore, is now in Savannah, where she is a commercial loan officer for AG South Farm Credit, Statesboro.

Gary D. Sommers (2006), Richmond Hill, is the assistant vice president at Sommers Oil Co. He is married to Lisa Johnson. Email: cslommes@hotmail.com.

Jonathan F. Show (2007), Cartersville, is an individual sales rep with Shaw Hankins, LLC. Email: jfshow@hotmail.com.

Jessica M. Miles (2008), formerly in Alpharetta, is now in Cumming, where she is an account executive for Comcast Spotlight, Alpharetta. She is married to Austin F. Waters, a Georgia Southern executive for Comcast Spotlight, Alpharetta.

Jonathan F. Show (2007), Cartersville, is an individual sales rep with ShawHankins, LLC. Email: jfshow@hotmail.com.

Lydia Nicole Price (2008), formerly in Rincon, is now in Dallas, TX, where she is a project coordinator for the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Ft. Worth, TX. She married Colby Johnson August 1. Email: price12@yahoo.com.

Josh Poe (2009), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Brunswick, where he is employed by Lance, Inc. Email: joshpoe66@gmail.com.

Kari Marie Scott (2008), formerly in Jesup, is now in Dacula, where she is the national retail field rep for AT&T. She is married to Earl Williams, Jr., a 2008 Georgia Southern finance graduate.

Macc

Kyle Kimmel (2003), formerly in Lumpkin, is now in Nicholls, where he is an accountant for the Bacon County Hospital and Health System. Email: kkimmel@bchs.org.

Tammy Lynne Stevenson (2005), Waycross, is a commercial credit analyst for Prime South Bank. She is married to Danny Bennett, and they have a son, Blair Ray (4 mos.). Email: tbbennett@primencouche.com.

Daphanie Thomas Williams (2008), Savannah, is a management analyst for the City of Savannah. She is married to Herman Williams. Email: daphanie.williams02@savannahga.gov.

Mba

Kevin Paul Ryan (1990), formerly in Canada, is now in Doral, FL, where he is the general manager of Daniel Systems, Inc. He is married to Mariam Duggan Ryan, a 1990 Georgia Southern MBA graduate. Email: kryan@daniel-systems.com.

Carmina Fasculi (1992), formerly in Switzerland, is now in Fishtown, IN. She is the global marketing director for Roche Diagnostics and Beckman, both international companies. Email: carmina.fasculi@yahoo.com.

Pamela E. Parker (1994), Savannah, is now the commercial banking division manager for The Coastal Bank overseeing commercial banking activities for the bank’s clients with a team of relationship managers. Email: pamela.parker@coastalbank.com.

John G. Simshausen (2000), Alpharetta, is a senior appraiser/project manager for Moreland Alford Associates, Norcross. He is married to Kimberly Faye Saade, a 2003 Georgia Southern Mell MED graduate. Email: johnsimshausen.net.

Javier Prevatt (2001) Raleigh, NC, is the safety and environmental person for Georgia Pacific, Raleigh, NC. His wife is Yvette.

Kathryn Lynn Bowen-Williams (2002; Biology 1980), Statesboro, is the executive director of the American Red Cross and the owner of Traditions Bakery and Catering. She is married to Jeffery Samuel Williams. Email: traditionsacatering@hotmail.com.

Ryan Welney Thompson (2002), Savannah, is the owner/operator of Wilkes Dining Room, Inc., on Jones Street in Savannah. The restaurant has family-style seating with lazy susans on the table tops and has been featured by Dan Rather. Ryan’s wife is Lindsay McCorkle.

Talatwa Martha Mukangara (2006), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Austell, where she is the SEO analyst for 360i, Atlanta. Email: mukangara@yahoo.com.

Leon C. Prieto (2006), formerly in Windsor Hill, MD, is now in Savannah, where he is an assistant professor of management at Savannah State University. Email: prieto@savannahstate.edu.

A Day for Southern 2009

The official names are in our 2009 A Day for Southern Campaign and we are ecstatic over the results! Many thanks to our faculty and staff who generously support COBA and CTT through A Day for Southern. Your donations and commitment to each of our colleges and students are greatly appreciated. Your gifts are an essential investment in our mission to be the very best. Our 2009 donors are acknowledged below:

Cheryl L. Aaseham
Brenda T. Aytes
Anthony G. Barilla
John Barkoula
Edmilson S. Bernardes
Linda M. Bleicken
James Bradford
Gregory J. Brock
John H. Brown
Thomas A. Buckhoff
Gerard Burke
Constance R. Campbell
Antionette S. Carr
Thomas Case
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Vicki King
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John J. Leaptrott, Jr.
Angela M. Leverett
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Jun Liu
M. Jill Lockwood
Misty L. Loughry
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J. Lowell Mooney
Janet Moss
Steven E. Moss
Linda S. Munilla
William L. Norton
John O’Malley
Constantin Ogbolbin
Diana Orme
Abbie Gail Parham
Cynthia F. Parrish
Barbara A. Price
Carolyn A. Price
Cindy H. Randall
Camille F. Rogers
Joseph S. Rahland
Paige S. Ramer
Stephan M. Rutner
Edward H. Shibdab
Jacob V. Simons
Debra T. Sinclair
Manouchehr Tahatbabi
Michael L. Thomas
Phills A. Wainford
Xinfeng Wang
William H. Wells
Yuan Wen
James E. Whitworth
Michael R. Wiggins
Linda S. Wilke
Bobbie W. Williams
Lisa S. Williams
Susan R. Williams
Bill Z. Yang
Mark A. Yanochik
Aimao Zhang
Rongrong Zhang
Wen-Ran Zhang
Edward J. Trizzino (2008) and fiancee, Holly Bellamy, were recently in Chiang Mai, Thailand, at Tapae Gate for the “Loy Kratong” or the “Festival of Light.” Eddie is program manager for the Association for Community and Ecology Development at the Mansoengdao School in Thailand.

Office Admin

Elizabeth D. Courtenay (1976), Norcross, is a retired Delta Flight attendant after 24 years with the airline. She is married to Bob Saville. Email: savyline@bellsouth.net.

In Memoriam

John A. Beegle (former professor) of Cullowhee, NC, died May 6, 2010.


Reginald D. Dawson (Finance 1997) of Statesboro, died June 14, 2010.


Target and American Express Partnerships

The Center for Retail Studies recently announced partnerships with Target and American Express.

Target Corporation has partnered to sponsor a case study competition in COBA’s retail marketing classes this spring. Target executives will introduce the case to the students on-campus, evaluate progress and continue to prepare economic impact studies, outlook analyses, consumer surveys, and an annual Christmas outlook poll from a front-and-center location for outreach to the regional community. And, the University Store will offer access to Georgia Southern information about local events and officially licensed merchandise in the downtown arena.

Target executives will introduce the case to COBA’s retail marketing classes this spring. University’s City Campus in the old Galleria building in downtown Statesboro.

President Brooks Keel’s vision of promoting economic development took a big step forward with presentation of plans for the new Entrepreneurship Zone, permanent offices of the Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development (BBRED), and a satellite operation of the University Store. Eventually, classrooms for late afternoon and evening classes are expected to be added.

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The purposes of locating downtown are threefold: first, establish a mutually beneficial partnership with the city that Georgia Southern calls home; second, facilitate greater foot traffic in the downtown area involving Georgia Southern students and faculty; and, third, complement the economic development efforts of the local development authorities and chamber of commerce.

Clearly, an ambitious undertaking, the Center will have its share of twists, turns, and triumphs. We hope to have many success stories to share in the future!

Byington Named Dean at Coastal Carolina

J. Ralph Byington was named dean of the E. Craig Wall Sr. College of Business Administration at Coastal Carolina University in July. He had been dean of the School of Business Administration, University of South Carolina-Aiken, since 2003 and had previously spent eight years as associate dean and director of the School of Accountancy, College of Business, Georgia Southern University. Dr. Byington also has experience in state government and the business world. He was director and internal auditor at the University of Southern Mississippi, an investigator on the PEER Committee for the state of Mississippi, and chief fiscal officer for the Mississippi Governor’s Office for Federal Programs.

Dr. Byington has been recognized for academic excellence at three universities, receiving the New Faculty Excellence Award from Texas Tech, the College of Business Administration Professor of the Year at Louisiana Tech, and William A. Freemen Professor of the Year at Georgia Southern.

His publications include more than 130 journal articles, book chapters, newsletter items, and proceedings. At the 1996 national meeting of the American Accounting Association, he and a co-author received the Notable Contributions to the Information Systems/Management Advisory Services Literature Award. In 1995, he received the Southwest Federation of Administrative Disciplines Distinguished Paper Award in the accounting area. As a member of numerous professional organizations, Byington served as president of the Southeast chapter of the American Accounting Association and president of the Southeast chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs.

Byington earned bachelor and master degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi and a doctorate in accounting from the University of Arkansas. He is also a certified public accountant.

Fall 2010 COBA Facts & Figures

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