A New Center for Entrepreneurship

During the summer of 2017, the School of Business’ Administration prepared a corner office in the faculty center to function as the first location for a Center for Entrepreneurship. This Center will provide opportunities for budding entrepreneurs on campus, throughout all majors and in all four teaching divisions. In its initial stages, the Center for Entrepreneurship will be used for entrepreneur-oriented meetings from student organizations such as CEO, BPWOW, the Accounting Association and others. Once a week, it will also serve as the office space of the School of Business’ rotating executive in residence, to be used for career-guiding meetings with interested students. Events such as “Meet the Firms” from the Accounting Society, the Baron Business Plan Competition, annually organized every Spring by CEO, the elevator pitch contest, annually organized by BPWOW, and the forthcoming annual Creative Minds Conference, spearheaded by CEO. To demarcate the Center’s location, a nice sign was created and donated by UltraGlas, whose founder and President, Ms. Jane Skeeter, is a member of the School of Business’ Advisory Board.

BBA Back to School Event

On Tuesday, the 5th and Wednesday, the 6th of September, the School of Business organized its annual BBA Back to School Event.

The event was held at two different times, to accommodate as many incoming and outgoing students across the four BBA majors. About 94 students attended the event, in which they were able to informally interact with their faculty advisors, chairs, and other school administrators.

2017-2018: SER Year

The 2017-2018 academic year is our Self Evaluation Reporting (SER) year, marked by recording, assessing and reporting of the School of Business’ activities. As has been the case in the past 8 or more years, we encourage and measure faculty performance, student satisfaction, and a constructive learning and teaching/research climate. While this has become the norm at the School of Business, this year is critical, because it precedes the reaffirmation visit from a peer review team, compiled by AACSB, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

2018-2019 will also be the year for reaffirmation by ACBSP, the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs.
Meet Zack, our student entrepreneur of the month! Zachary Monroy is a junior in the Management program. Zack has a keen vision for cutting edge trends in the male Fashion Industry. His areas of interest include global entrepreneurship, real estate, and global travel. He plans to expand his Zastik Empire which was built off the success of his clothing brand and sale of exclusive fashion merchandise into lifestyle and leisure enterprises within the upcoming months.

Zack plans to open a store in Mexico before the end of the year. He has recently launched a real estate company called Z|A Homes which will be an all-in-one design, construction, and real estate firm. Zack’s vision is to become a household name in LA.

Starting the fall semester of 2017, the School of Business has a Rotating Executive in Residence program. Every week, a seasoned business executive spends several hours in the School of Business, talking to students about their career development, mindful business performance, and personal as well as professional growth. The generous business executives are all members of the School’s Advisory Board, representing a wide variety of professional backgrounds. So far, we have had three executives meeting with our students: Dr. Tom Oliver (portrayed below), Dr. André van Niekerk, and Mr. Neil Sherman. Dr. Oliver served in the positions of Dean, Vice-President and President at three local Community Colleges, but also holds significant business experience as a former president of a computer consulting company and a Technical Institute. Dr. André van Niekerk (pictured below) is Dean Emeritus at Woodbury’s School of Business, but also has 46 years of international consulting experience, as well as leadership positions in the health care industry, and as a strategic positioning specialist with special focus on Luxury Brands – especially in the automotive industry, with major clients as Mercedes-Benz, Smart, BMW, and Volvo. Mr. Neil Sherman (below) is the owner of Industrial Metal Supply located in 6 locations throughout Arizona and Southern California with headquarters in Sun Valley, Calif. IMS is a 70-year-old family run metal distribution company with a combined warehouse space of over a half million sq. ft. and over 450 employees.

Meet the Firms

On Thursday night, September 21st, the Accounting Department organized its annual “Meet the Firms” event. Representatives from various accounting firms shared information about their firm and provided advice and insights into the accounting profession. Student attendees had the opportunity to speak with the representatives directly and connect with other Woodbury accounting students and alumni during a networking reception.

23 Undergraduate and graduate business students participated in this event. Dean of Student Affairs, and former Chair of Accounting, Mauro Diaz, served as the moderator during this event.

The following seven accounting firms (listed in alphabetical order) were represented this year:
- Accountemps – A Robert Half Company
- Bessolo & Haworth LLP
- Ernst & Young LLP
- Green Hasson Janks
- Hutchison and Bloodgood LLP
- JLK Rosenberger LLP
- Kirsch Kohn & Bridge LLP
Design Thinking in MBA Capstone

With a clear focus on entrepreneurial performance, the MBA capstone seminar, Strategic Management and Consulting, encourages students to sharpen their design thinking skills. They get exposed to current, new, and future perspectives and concepts while integrating learning from previous course work, in order to solve complex and challenging business problems.

Presented with the challenge to develop an idea toward the creation of a product that would satisfy the needs or wants of 50% of the American population, students get to interact, brainstorm, research, and design, with the most mind-boggling outcomes.

The MBA capstone seminar has thus far been facilitated by Dr. Angelo Camillo (in fall and spring), and Drs. Svetlana Holt and Paul Sabolic (in summer). This capstone seminar, which is part of the new MBA curriculum, started in fall 2016, has thus far yielded high student satisfaction, and remains a work in progress.

Thank you, Mauro, Hello Jeff!

After serving as Chair of the Accounting Department (among other positions) for the past seven years, Mauro Diaz (r) has accepted the full-time position of Dean, Student Affairs on our campus. As Accounting Chair, Mauro established solid relationships with local accounting firms, ensured that 100% of our Accounting graduates found employment upon graduating, and reinstated the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program on campus. The new Accounting Chair is Jeff Neumeister (l), who teaches accounting in the MBA program, and has been an accountant for 16 years. Jeff holds Masters degrees in Accounting, Business Administration and Criminal Justice, and is certified as a Fraud Examiner (CFE), in Financial Forensics (CF F), Management Accounting (CMA), Public Accounting (CPA) and more. Jeff will continue Mauro’s great work. Thanks to both gentlemen for a seamless transition!
The Bob Talks:
Topics Concerning Humanity’s Fatal Flaws

Woodbury’s School of Business announces the launch of the ‘Schultz Awareness Lectures – The Bob Talks,’ a series of discussions on topics concerning humanity’s fatal flaws.

‘The Bob Talks’ is brought to Woodbury by Robert A. Schultz (Bob), Emeritus Professor, Information Technology at Woodbury University. Dr. Schultz served Woodbury for nearly 20 years.

Professor Schultz will invite esteemed experts to address the Woodbury community on a bi-annual basis. The lectures will be held in the Fletcher-Jones Auditorium, School of Business, at Woodbury University.

The first ‘Bob Talk’ is scheduled for Monday, October 9 at 6 p.m. Topic: "The Only Way to Go: How to Work, Live and Give as if there’s no tomorrow"

Speaker: Guy McPherson, Emeritus Professor of Climatology, University of Arizona.
Professor McPherson is the world’s leading authority on abrupt climate change leading to near-term extinction.

Location: Fletcher-Jones Auditorium, School of Business at Woodbury

No RSVP required

For 2018, there are two talks scheduled in this series:

- February, 2018 - Topic: "From Wild Animal to Master of the World: How Did This Happen?"
Speaker: Robert A. Schultz, Emeritus Professor, Information Technology, Woodbury University. Professor Schultz has published three books on information technology and ethics.

- October, 2018 - Topic: "The Collapse of Complex Societies"
Speaker: Joseph Tainter, Professor of Anthropology, Utah State University

The editorial team welcomes news from and about all members of the School of Business community, present and past, student, faculty or staff, in order to nurture a proud and rewarding relationship, and an admirable tradition, since 1884.

Please email to: joan.marques@woodbury.edu

The mission of Woodbury University’s School of Business is to Cultivate Innovative Leaders for a Sustainable Society.