The new Interim Chancellor, Dr. Bob Smith, has been touting studies that show experiential learning opportunities are very positively related to improving readiness for the workforce as well as a general improvement of life enjoyment for students after graduation. Last year, this College supported student experiential learning with over $110,000 generated from student fees. The faculty in CBGA is pleased to have empirical support for our decision to have students undertake these experiential learning activities. Importantly, students in Dr. Lajuan Davis’ INFS 236 course produced this newsletter as an example of the work our students are doing.

I note two important events in October. Homecoming is October 10 (against Tennessee State) and I ask you to visit the CBGA tent in Quad City. Additionally, the annual Career Day will be October 28, and the featured speaker will be Ms. Leigh Shockey. The CBGA Faculty/Student Committee members will be looking for industry representatives to talk to students that day and will be glad to hear from any alumni, employer, etc. if you think you could participate.

I wish to thank all those who joined last spring’s Captain’s Challenge. The College is using funds from that event to replace seating in the lobby, which would be impossible without your kind gifts. CBGA is also dependent on donations to help fund student workers who complete tasks such as monitoring computer labs for students to utilize when classes are not meeting in the labs.

Finally, I ask your assistance in helping to recruit future Skyhawks. The College always appreciates your spreading the word about your alma mater.

Ross Dickens

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CBGA Spring 2015 Honors Banquet

On Thursday, April 16, 2015, the UTM College of Business and Global Affairs held its 2015 Honors Banquet and Beta Gamma Sigma Initiation in the Boling University Center Ballroom. The purpose of the banquet is to recognize exceptional students and faculty within the College of Business and Global Affairs. Before the banquet, many students were inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, a prestigious honors society admitting the top 10% of business majors in bachelor’s or master’s programs. The evening was a celebration of exceptional students and dedicated professors. Throughout the evening the family atmosphere could be felt, and evidence was present concerning how much the College of Business cares about the students. Dr. Morgan Miles, former Chair of the Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise at UTM, provided a keynote address.

With an eye on teaching and experiential learning, CBGA Dean Ross Dickens enlisted the help from the Marketing 377, Event Planning class for the event’s layout, entertainment, audio-visual, décor, and menu planning. All aspects of the banquet from the food to the goldfish swimming in the flower vases at the center of each table was planned by the class. What a truly excellent night!

By: Mariah Whitney, edited by M. Goddard, A. Kilburn, and L. Davis

Scholarship recipients announced by the Faculty/Student Committee

*Brown/Hill Family Law
  Angelica Butler - $600
  Amanda Young - $800
  Elizabeth Harris - $800
  Wynter Crowell - $800

*Buford/Beatrice Irwin Bus Admn
  Von Griffin - $500
  Victor Guerrero - $500
  Jodie Duncan - $500
  Matthew Hirsh - $500

*Dee Fields Pritchett Business
  Toni Holford - $750

*Gene and Verletta Stanford
  Dillon Symon - $500
  Harrison Hawks - $500
  Bethany Jones - $500
  Lisa Warren - $500

*Rhonda D. Mitchell
  Angelica Butler - $300

*Robert (Pete) Vawter Scholarship
  Brandy Behrens - $875
  Jessica Hollingsworth - $875
  Kendall Daniels - $875
  Aaron White - $875

[cont’d. p. 3]
Daniels Selected as McWherter Scholar

Each year a large number of exceptionally talented applicants apply for the Governor Ned McWherter Scholarships. This year Nathan Daniels, an International and Strategic Studies student in CGBA, was designated as the 2015–2016 McWherter Scholar. As a scholar, Daniels is eligible to receive up to $2,000.

Daniels is pictured on a study-abroad trip in France, July 2015
CBGA Student Receives Management Award

Kelly Murray Portfolio Management Award—Christopher Mullins (second from right in photo) was voted by his classmates to receive the Kelly W. Murray Excellence in Portfolio Management Award for the Spring 2015 semester. The award, named for the late son of Dr. Sandra and William Murray, recognizes outstanding effort and dedication managing the UT Martin Tennessee Valley Authority stock portfolio in conjunction with TVA Investment Challenge. TVA’s Investment Challenge in a partnership between TVA and 25 universities in its service territory and provides a real-world learning experience in portfolio management by allowing students to manage actual stock portfolios. Mullins, a Clinton, KY, resident, graduated May 2 with a bachelor of science in business administration and a major in finance.

International News

CBGA was able to support seven travel study/study abroad opportunities during the summer months. Nathan Daniels (International Studies), Dana Maurizio (Political Science), and Tara White (International Studies) all traveled to France. April Golatt (International Studies) and Darcy Hulon (International Studies) journeyed to Spain. Amber Costello (Management) also studied in Spain while Japan was the country of choice for Taylor Flanagan (International Studies).

Dr. Kevin Long, Assistant Professor of Business Law, was set to lead a group of students to Kyrgyzstan, but had to cancel the trip due to security issues in the area.

UTM Graduate Speaks at Young Scholars Academy Banquet

Young Scholars Academy—Kiara Champion Castleman, a UT Martin Transportation Service coordinator, university graduate, and current MBA student, was the keynote speaker June 12 at the Young Scholars Academy closing banquet in the Duncan Ballroom. She spoke about her journey and the challenges she faced while becoming a successful college student. West Tennessee high school students attended the weeklong academy to experience the college campus atmosphere and participate in related academic-success and skills classes and leadership-development activities.

Pictured (l to r) are Castleman, Benjamin Northington, YSA counselor and senior UT Martin engineering student, and Dr. Annie Jones, UT Martin minority affairs coordinator and YSA director.
FMA Chapter Earns Superior Chapter Award

The UT Martin FMA [Financial Management Association] chapter has earned the FMA Superior Chapter Award for the 2014–2015 academic year. This highly coveted designation is awarded to less than five percent of FMA chapters. FMA received a special plaque in recognition of this significant achievement.

Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter Receives Honors

The UT Martin Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter qualified for Honors for the 2014–2015 academic year. The chapter was designated for Honors by submitting information that was reviewed and analyzed via the national Chapter Management System (CMS) and Online Operation System (OOS). The honors status is indicative of a campus where academic excellence is valued and where the faculty officers of the chapter work diligently to enhance Beta Gamma Sigma’s stature on campus. CBGA Dean, Dr. Ross Dickens, was presented with a certificate by the Beta Gamma Sigma Staff at the Regional Deans’ Meeting to acknowledge and recognize the chapter’s outstanding accomplishments.

Digital Writing Students Have Busy Semester

The students of INFS 255, Digital Writing with Business English, developed a product idea, designed graphics, completed patent searches, filled out paperwork, and submitted their idea to the company that produces Duct Tape. The students' idea passed the first hurdle and was presented to the Product Development and Innovation team at ShurTech Brands, LLC for review. The students worked on this “idea submission project” in addition to hosting the first-ever CBGA “Social Media Popcorn Blast” and a “Blooper Contest” during the course of the Spring 2015 semester.
Economics Students’ “Happy” Assignment

Each semester some instructors of economics from different institutions participate in a national contest on Rockonomix. Rockonomix uses popular music mixed with economic principles to foster learning. Students write new lyrics to popular songs and produce their own original music video. UT Martin students Jalen Taylor, Mohammed Alismail, and Kyle Goode honored UTM with their parody of “Happy” by Pharrell Williams, changing the lyrics to explain the concept of gross domestic product. The complete playlist can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMDNY3-IwUXWmGYeYxuMG0YRyXez4mz.

UTM Alum Receives Award
Jennifer Hampton (alum, CBGA Advisory Board) won the Jack Phelan Award for her exceptional achievement in building client relationships (one of 651 winners of 14,000+ financial advisors) for Edward Jones. (Full article appeared in The Weakley County Press on June 30, 2015)

Faculty Awards

Dr. Lajuan Davis (above, left), associate professor; Dr. Sam Faught (above, right), assistant professor; and Drs. Jayme Long and Cooper Johnson, adjunct instructors, College of Business and Global Affairs, recently received Presentation Excellence Awards from the International Conference on Learning and Administration in Nashville, TN

MSAAL 2015 Hosted on UTM Campus

During the week of August 2 – August 6, the campus of UT Martin hosted the third year of the Mid-South School of Advanced Agricultural Lending through the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Gil Parker Chair of Excellence in Food and Fiber. The school had 23 Ag Leaders from Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. These Ag Leaders received the most up-to-date industry information from Dr. Freddie Barnard, Purdue University, Dr. Dave Kohl, Professor Emeritus, Virginia Tech and Dr. Steve Isaacs from the University of Kentucky. For more information, interested individuals can access the following link: www.utm.edu/departments/cbga/aglending
Faculty Publications

Ross Dickens, professor and dean, College of Business and Global Affairs, has an article titled “Exploring Pricing Issues for High-quality Online Programming” included in The EvoLLLution! online publication. The article may be viewed at the following link: http://www.evolllution.com/higher_ed_business/exploring-pricingissues-high-quality-onlineprogramming/

Timothy (Ty) Perry, assistant professor of finance in the CBGA at UTM has co-authored a book with Leslie Anne Perry. This book provides a concise and informative introduction to finance for children ages 9+ and is illustrated by Nathan Dunnavant.

Faculty Promotions in CBGA

Dr. Lajuan Davis in the Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

Dr. Chris Baxter in the Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science was promoted to the rank of Professor.

UTM Professors Sponsor Travel Study to Washington D.C.

A group of three professors and nine students visited Washington, D.C. this May to introduce students to international jobs and internships in government and with non-profit organizations. This was the third trip led by Dr. Malcolm Koch, political science and Sandra Koch, international studies. This year Dr. Anderson Starling accompanied the group to get ideas for leading a similar D.C. trip in 2016 to explore domestic jobs and internships for UTM graduates.

The group spent time at the Pentagon, State Department, and on Capitol Hill visiting with mid-level professionals who shared inside stories of their career paths and offered tips for skills needed to succeed in the DC job market. The students also visited the U.S. Institute of Peace, Devex (a job board and information service for international development professionals), and the American Security Project (ASP), a think tank, with which UTM has a relationship as part of UTM’s International Security Program.
Steve Wiley Visits UTM Campus

On April 20, Steve Wiley of The Lincoln Leadership Institute at Gettysburg was on the UT Martin campus as part of an Academic Speakers program for the 2014–2015 academic year. Mr. Wiley is a highly acclaimed speaker who has influenced and entertained tens of thousands of top executives from around the world. Without exception, Steve Wiley receives the highest ratings possible from his audiences and his manner of presenting leadership development and leadership insights have received high praises.

While on campus Mr. Wiley conducted a leadership workshop for UT Martin students from the College of Business, some of whom are also a part of the Ned McWherter Institute for Innovation and Collaboration. In the workshop, Wiley talked about leadership using examples from The Battle of Gettysburg.

Students and faculty attending the leadership workshop are pictured with Wiley.

Students: Taylor Martin, Spencer Atkins, Crystal Climer, Rebecca Lund, Kristen Welch, Jessica Stephens, Emily McCartney, Abbegail Bingham and Rachael Wolters. Faculty and staff who attended the workshop where David Belote (Office of Student Engagement), Dexter Davis (CBGA) and Jennifer Schlicht (CBGA) (Not pictured: Anna Whitten)
UT Martin Offers New Hybrid MBA Program

Just launched for the 2015 fall semester, The University of Tennessee at Martin now offers a hybrid MBA program that allows students to learn in a mix of online and in-person instruction. The program requires students to visit campus five times per semester at the nationally ranked top 60 school while working towards the 38-credit-hour degree. Students can select the general business degree option or take advantage of the agricultural option. Tuition is $1,293 per credit hour.

For more information on the hybrid online program, please contact: mba@utm.edu

Best Online MBA Programs for Vets

U.S. News & World Report announced that UT Martin’s Online MBA program ranked #16 for Best Online MBA Program for Veterans and #87 for Best Online Bachelor’s Program for Veterans.

Meet the Editors

Students in the INFS 236 (Microsoft Applications) class served as copywriters, researchers, and completed paste-up on this edition of the CBGA newsletter.

Retirements and Goodbyes

- Ms. Robbie Hillsman, Instructor of Marketing, has announced her retirement at the end of the Fall 2015 semester
- Dr. Mason Kim, Assistant Professor of Political Science, resigned his position at the end of Spring 2015 to accept a job in the greater-Atlanta area
- Dr. Morgan Miles, Professor or Marketing and Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise, accepted a position in Christchurch, New Zealand
Featured in the first four rows are all the student award recipients from the 2015 CBGA Honors Banquet. The bottom row features the faculty award recipients. In the picture on the left are the international students who were recognized during the banquet. Pictured on the front row are Dr. Ross Dickens, Dean, (l) and Dr. Malcolm Koch, Executive Director of the Center for International Education, (r).