

RAGIN' BUSINESS NEWS



UNIVERSITY of
LOUISIANA
L A F A Y E T T E

**B.I. Moody III College of
Business Administration**

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Message from Dr. Gwen Fontenot, Interim Dean

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Interim Dean of the B. I. Moody III College of Business Administration during the past two and a half years. As you can see in this newsletter, it's an exciting time for the College. We've celebrated many accomplishments and begun new projects that will continue to enhance our students' educational experiences and prepare them for their business careers. We are eager to welcome Dean Bret Becton and to work with him to continue the momentum.



Students, faculty, staff, family and friends gathered in Moody Hall to honor the College of Business Administration's namesake, B.I. Moody III. It has been 15 years since the college was renamed and there was plenty to celebrate, including the unveiling of bronze plaques, a presentation on the impact of the Moody family's contributions to UL Lafayette students—and Moody's 91st birthday!

The B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration broke ground for the Maraist Financial Services Lab that will help its students gain real-world business experience right here on campus. A \$2.5 million gift from Lafayette businessman and alum Michael P. Maraist, '71, will fund the initial construction of the facility, where students will be able to use the latest technology to acquire hands-on experience in portfolio management, financial strategy and analysis.



The Moody College of Business celebrated its 59th Annual Awards Banquet in April. Banquet highlights included recognition of 160 student scholarship recipients, 60 professorship recipients, two endowed chair holders, and over a dozen business student organization leaders. Special thanks to our banquet sponsors: Northwestern Mutual of Louisiana, C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, LLC; Chick-fil-A; Van Eaton & Romero, A Latter & Blum Company; Darnall, Sikes, Gardes & Frederick; IBERIABANK and Meagan Andrepont Photography.



We welcome Dr. J. Bret Becton as the next dean of the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration. Becton is associate dean for operations and accreditation for the University of Southern Mississippi's College of Business. He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi, a master's degree in industrial/organizational psychology from the University of Tulsa and a doctorate in management from Auburn University. He will begin July 1. Bienvenue Dean Becton!





The Office of Career Services and College of Business' 2017 Dining Etiquette Dinner was a huge success! Over 150 students enjoyed a four-course meal while learning valuable etiquette tips and got a chance to network with professionals. Special thanks to event sponsors Home Bank, Brown & Brown Insurance of Louisiana, and Facet Group, as well as UL Lafayette Career Services, our faculty, university and community partners, and our alumni who served as table hosts.

The master of business administration program is recognized as one of the top 68 MBA programs in North America by CEO Magazine. The publication's objective is to identify schools which combine great quality with great return on investment. Other universities listed in the Top Tier for MBAs include Florida International University and Texas A&M University.

College of Business students competed in 14th Annual Bayou Sales Challenge in Thibodaux, La. There were seven competing schools with over 30 competitors. Hanna Hughes, a marketing senior from Mandeville, La. was deemed Champion of the Pressure Round.



The Moody College of Business expanded its offerings in May by launching an accelerated MBA program with nine concentrations in a 100% online format with an "all-in" tuition, which includes books and fees. Students can complete their degree in as few as 15 months! The online MBA degree program is designed specifically to accommodate the lifestyle demands of working professionals and offers the advantages of multiple starts, 8-week courses, GMAT/GRE waivers, and a quick application to enrollment cycle time. For more information call 877-588-2429 or go to degree.louisiana.edu.

Two MBA students and their professor placed among the top teams in the international X-Culture project. Jered Gaspard, who graduated in December, competed with team members from Chile, France, and India. They placed second among the 784 entries. MBA student Alanna Williams' team earned an honorable mention, one of only 13 teams to be recognized in the competition. Marketing professor Dr. David Baker was honored by being named one of the Top 30 instructors in the competition, one of only 10 in the U.S. to be recognized.



College of Business notary exam preparatory class yields record results with 60 percent of the class passing the notary exam, while the state average is 21 percent. This course is taught by Fred Davis, J.D., and is the only notary class offered in the state for university credit, as well as one of the few taught by a practicing attorney.

The College of Business celebrates the grand opening of the Student Study Center and the Entrepreneurship Think Tank, both located on the first floor in F. G. Mouton.

