

RAGIN' BUSINESS NEWS



UNIVERSITY
OF
LOUISIANA
Lafayette.

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

**Fall 2014 -
Spring 2015**

Message from Dr. Gwen Fontenot, Interim Dean

We are excited to reintroduce our newsletter to keep you up to date on the great accomplishments in the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration. For those who have yet to meet me, I was honored to become Interim Dean of the College in January 2015. I have been on the marketing faculty at the University for over 15 years, led the College internship program and served as the head of the Marketing and Hospitality Department for seven years, and currently serve as Director of the UL Lafayette Study Abroad program. I look forward to continuing the legacy of the Moody College and leading the College in providing a superior educational experience for our students as we work to strengthen our relationships with the business community and supporters of our program.



Ragin' Business Week included a special talk and book signing with Chef John Besh as the inaugural guest for Ragin' Marketing and Hospitality's Louisiana Impact Series. The College also hosted Business Student Appreciation Day, educational seminars and Ragin' Business Day, where faculty, alumni and current College of Business students guided high school students through activities about our programs and shared success stories. Learn more at business.louisiana.edu/rbw. *Photo: Dr. Gwen Fontenot, Chef John Besh, Dr. Geoffrey Stewart*

Our **57th Annual Awards Banquet** at River Oaks Event Center honored scholarship recipients, faculty professorship recipients, donors, and faculty award winners: Dr. Curtis Matherne for the John T. and Sandra B. Landry Teaching Award, Dr. Tom Wilson for the Research Excellence Award, and Ms. Becky Dubois for the newly named Robert "Bob" Merrick Advising Award. Special thanks to our donors for providing over \$362,000 in faculty and student awards!

The Health Care Administration MBA program earned national accolades from publichealthonline.org, ranking the quality of UL Lafayette's program 43rd in the nation after a review of hundreds of accredited masters of health administration programs. This, combined with the news about the program ranking 19th in the country for affordability on topmastersinhealthcare.com, is a testament to the commitment and value the Moody College offers its students.

Lafayette City-Parish President Joey Durel received the B.I. Moody III College of Business Award at Junior Achievement of Acadiana's Business Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony. The award is given to business alumni who have made a significant impact on the local business community and economy. Fellow Moody College of Business alumnus John Petersen of Swamp Pop was honored for Start Up Business of the Year.

Photo: Joey Durel, Rae Robinson Brodnax, Robert Daigle, Dr. Gwen Fontenot, President Joseph Savoie



We are happy to introduce the new **College of Business Alumni President, Summer Marler Hvasta!** Summer, an '07 Hospitality Management and '11 MBA graduate, is Area Director of Sales for Homewood Suites and New Home2 Suites by Hilton. She looks forward to getting the business alumni group involved in Homecoming, networking, and much more to show your Ragin' Cajun Moody College of Business pride. If you are interested in volunteering for future alumni events, please e-mail summermarler@gmail.com.

The Moody College of Business continued our community involvement with our **Meet the CEO Speaker Series**, welcoming HB Rentals President and Moody College of Business alumna Deidre Doucet Toups as well as UL Lafayette Men's Basketball Coach Bob Marlin. Moody College faculty were able to gain first hand knowledge to apply to the classroom. We also hosted the **Acadiana CFO Roundtable**, which offers financial executives and our faculty the opportunity to discuss leading topics impacting Acadiana businesses.



Our Executive MBA class created a Youngsville Growth Guidance Plan in their capstone course of Policy Formation, Strategy and Administration. Youngsville Mayor Ken Ritter presented Management Professor Dr. Patricia Lanier with a key to the city.

Photo: Top from left: Matt Romero, Monique Boulet, Jim Dore, Stephen Ancelet, Mark Romero, Margaret Trahan, Corey J. Cole, Troy Hebert. Bottom from left: Diane McClelland, Sally Angers, Mayor Ken Ritter, Dr. Patricia Lanier

The Moody College of Business launched a new master's degree in accounting, which extends the depth and breadth of the accounting and business knowledge gained at the undergraduate level. It provides the necessary skills for a successful career and the required credit hours to sit for the CPA exam.

Over 135 Moody College of Business juniors and seniors completed a for-credit internship course in the 2014-2015 academic year, working in local, national, and international locations. Students worked a minimum of 150 hours and completed academic work to receive three college credits. Employers interested in participating in the October 21 Moody College of Business Internship and Career fair should contact the College of Business Internship Office at internship@louisiana.edu.



Through the AcceleRagin' entrepreneurship program, UL Lafayette students received valuable advice from alumni and other entrepreneurs. Our Entrepreneur-in-Residence, Opportunity Machine Executive Director Zachary Barker, continues to offer advising sessions to budding entrepreneurs. For more information visit www.acceleragin.com.

Photo: Alumni entrepreneurs speak with students at Moody Hall.

The 2nd Annual Non-Profit Organizational Impact Seminar, co-hosted by The Moody College of Business and The Foundation at UL Lafayette, brought together over 90 non-profit professionals, board members, University students and more as they gained valuable insight from industry guest speakers and roundtable discussions with faculty.

Mark Miller, Vice-Chairman of the Independent Petroleum Association of America and College of Business Executive Advisory Council member was a featured guest speaker for the UL Lafayette Student Association of Professional Landmen. The professional land and resource management program also hosted an American Association of Professional Landmen certification course. *Photo: Mark Miller speaks to SAPL students.*



Upcoming Events: June 19 - Erica Frenkel, Vice President of Business Strategy for Gradian Health Systems will present *Gradian Health Systems: The Business of Doing Good*. Gradian developed the Universal Anesthesia Machine, a low cost anesthesia machine designed to function with or without reliable electricity and/or compressed medical oxygen. The event is open to the public from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the LITE Auditorium on the UL Lafayette campus and is part of a speaker series associated with the J.J. & Helen Burdin/LEQSF Regents Professorship in Ethics.