Message from the Director

We are now well into our MBA recruiting season, and the MBA office staff would like to thank all of you who have actively participated in recruiting EMBA, PMBA, and full-time MBA students for next year. Attendance at our information sessions has increased dramatically, and we expect our total applicants this year to exceed last year's. Thanks for all of your efforts! And remember, there are still a few more information sessions to go. Please plan to help us out at these sessions, as well.

The annual MBA Wine & Cheese will be next month. MBA Faculty awards will be presented to the faculty voted by the first and second year full-time MBAs as the "Faculty of the Year," and the new MBA Association officers and cohort leaders will officially assume duty. The event should be a great time for all who attend!

I would like to extend a very special salute to the MBA Association officers who are retiring. Their success in reaching the goals that they set last year for the MBAA has laid a great foundation for their successors to build upon. Thanks to the following outstanding MBA leaders: Chris Psilos, president; Josh McInteer, vice-president; Mandy Lavergne, philanthropy chair; Nicolle Couret, treasurer; Manny Crespo, communications chair; Drew Reeves, intramural chair; and Jimmy Wong, social chair. You have each left your signature on the organization.

Next week, our guest speaker in the MBA Distinguished Speaker Series will be Bobby Theriot, Senior Resident Vice President of Merrill Lynch (Houston). On March 7, the Distinguished Speaker will be Carol Caulkins, Pricewaterhousecoopers partner from Dallas. Ms. Caulkins' speech will be at the Radisson Hotel on Constitution, not at Lod Cook. A new addition to our spring semester dates is May 2—we will be visited by Jim Flores, after whom our MBA program is named. Please be sure to mark your calendars for this very special event.

Finally, the MBA office congratulates Allyson d'Aquin, MBA Class 2003, for achieving the highest score in the world (Gold Star Award) and the highest student score in the world (Student Highest Achievement Award) on the November, 2002 CIA exam (see below for more details). Well done, Allyson, we are very proud of you.

Cheers,

P. David Shields
Director, MBA Programs

Calendar of Upcoming Events

February 18 – JD/MBA Information Session

February 21 – Distinguished Speaker Series – E. Robert Theriot, managing director, Merrill Lynch Private Client Group

February 24 – MBA Information session

March 3-5 – Mardi Gras Holiday

March 7 – Distinguished Speaker Series – Carol Calkins National Partner in Charge PricewaterhouseCoopers Transaction tax group

March 7 – MBA Annual Wine & Cheese Party

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Dear LSU MBA Family,

I am incredibly excited about the year to come. I am also very grateful for this opportunity and will do my best to keep up the great work done by the entire class of 2003. More specifically, I will attempt to continue the wonderful work preformed by the outgoing officers. The excellent leadership and dedication provided by Chris Psilos, Josh McInteer, Nicole Couret, Manny Crespo, Mandy Lavergne, Winter Malbrough, Lara Carter, Jennifer Templet, Ernie Balard, and Heather Sturlese allowed the MBAA to make great strides during the past year. The MBA Association provides many experiences and events which help make our time in the MBA program truly memorable. The association has become an integral part of the program itself and under the guidance of the new officers, will become a more important aspect to all MBA students over the next year. With the entire MBA family working together, we can make the 2003 both an exciting and eventful year.

Thank you,

Greg Determann
MBA, Class 2004

Message from the EMBAA President

The EMBA Alumni Association started 2003 with a great meeting on January 15th. Fourteen class representatives and officers were present including Wendy Luedtke and David Shields from LSU. Tommy Prejean EMBA '96 and Cindy Hidalgo EMBA '98 reported the planned events for their networking/social committee for 2003. On February 8th the EMBAAA hosted a dinner at Nottoway Plantation (see information below for details and photos). In the spring, the group will host a crawfish boil, followed by a summer golf tournament and a tailgate party for the LSU/Georgia game. Mark Wetmore EMBA '03 won the prize of two movie passes for recruiting the most members of the EMBA Alumni Association from his class. Current membership is 38 and growing.

Sincerely,

Pamela Shaver, EMBA ‘02
EMBAAA President, 2002-2003
pams@LaTechPark.com
http://www.bus.lsu.edu/alumni/emba/index.html

LSU MBA Alumni Association

The LSU MBA alumni play leading roles in organizations around the world. Because the program is growing so successfully, our alumni network is particularly strong and uniquely responsive. As a result, bonds forged with classmates during the program often become lifetime connections. Hence the reason to get all of the Alumni together united for a common good… the LSU MBA Alumni Association.

The newly formed LSU MBA Alumni Association (LSUMBAAA) provides a forum for all MBA graduates to network, stay in touch with classmates, and continue their business education through meaningful events. The MBAAA also endeavors to play a valuable role in the continued growth of the E. J. Ourso College of Business Administration through a future capital campaign and volunteer opportunities for MBA graduates.

While we are still formulating the strategy of how to best implement a new association such as this, we have been given a directive from our founding board that the LSU/MBA alumni Association will seek to:

Provide Reach. Promote LSU as a leading business program by providing a venue for connecting, knowledge sharing, and business advancement.

Deliver Value. Deliver value to students, alumni, the MBA program, LSU, and the business community.

Foster Loyalty. Create and foster a tradition of a lifelong LSU MBA Community.

Build Channel of Communication. Create a constructive and strategic channel of communication between alumni and the school that fosters business exchange and program development.

In an effort to create and promote a strong alumni base, we want to also offer local MBAAA chapters worldwide. Local chapters help maintain a local point of contact and strong affiliation for LSU, provide opportunities for MBA alumni to network and socialize, assist with recruitment and encouragement of
superior students for the MBA Program, and offer LSU representation in various geographic areas.

As one of the newer organizations on campus, I would like to personally invite each of you to attend one of our functions in the coming year and take the time to forward comments to the board for improvements, or compliments. It will assist us in meeting our goals and objectives. A calendar and contact for comments are available on our website at www.bus.lsu.edu/alumni/mba/index.html

**Announcement MBA Advisory Board**

The MBA Advisory Team would like to congratulate the following students for being chosen as Consultants for the spring 2003 MBA Advisory Team:


Congratulations to Frederic Nave, Vanessa Ramos, Quincy Thomas, and Jonathan Wicker for being promoted to Team Leaders and to William Shoucair for taking on the relentless position of Project Manager.

The MBA Advisory Team has huge aspirations for this semester, and we are confident that this spring 2003 team will rise above and beyond the call of duty to make this the most successful semester in Advisory Team history.

**Student Highest Achievement Award and Gold Medal**

The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) has notified us, and we are very proud to inform you that **Allyson d’Aquin**, MBA Class Of 2003, has been awarded the IIA’s Gold Medal award for scoring the highest overall score amongst students and practitioners, on the November 2002 CIA Exam.

She will also be the 13th LSUCIA student to receive the IIA CIA exam “Student Highest Achievement Award” for scoring the highest overall score internationally amongst students.

This marks that first time in the history of the exam (since 1974) that a student has made the highest overall score in the world. Please join us in recognizing Allyson’s incredible accomplishment and dedication.

**CEO Fran Keeth speaks at LSU MBA Distinguished Speaker Series**

Shell Chemical L.P. President & CEO Fran Keeth visited her native Louisiana to stress the importance of leading in a corporate environment. She discussed how technology is driving change and knocking down barriers, the importance of diversity, and employee safety. During the question and answer session she was asked about the importance of China and she went into the details of that particular emerging market.

Her company, Shell Chemical L.P., is heavily involved in Louisiana’s important petrochemical industry. The parent company Royal Dutch/Shell Group is one of the largest players in the oil and gas industry employing 90,000 people worldwide.

On a more personal note, she mentioned her husband’s love of LSU and how Shell values the quality of LSU graduates that work at Shell. She also mentioned that Shell will continue recruiting LSU’s best and brightest.

**Jensen Young**  
MBA, Class 2004

**2003 Southwest Business Plan Competition: April 3 - 5, 2003**

A group of EMBA students has been selected to participate in the 2003 edition of the Southwest Business Plan competition. This venture is held at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Students from 30 top MBA schools around the country will compete for a $30,000 cash prize. LSU students will compete against representatives from Duke, Harvard, Georgia Institute of Technology, and others.

The winners earn the opportunity to compete in the international MOOT CORP® finals and additional funding to launch their venture. The proposed business plans will be judged by a group of approximately 70 prestigious industry leaders, including individuals from venture capital firms, corporations, and experienced entrepreneurs.

Congratulations to Sandra Thompson, Eric Shen, Jim Pesnell, and Manish Stanki for their selection. Good luck in the competition.
Ecuador—Study Abroad  
Credit Hours: 3.0

I am sure everyone enjoyed their winter holiday. Few people, however, boast such great experiences as the ones had by our group who visited Ecuador in January, 2003. The Ourso College of Business offers this trip as an international business seminar. Like learning a foreign language, traveling and experiencing first hand is the best way to learn a new economy.

After a series of lectures on business practices in South America, we explored let loose in the various markets to barter our way into everything from inexpensive leather jackets, to Incan artwork, to handcrafted jewelry. We learned never to pay the sticker price, and came home with wonderful gifts and souvenirs.

We visited several places, the Hacienda El Porvenir in Alandaluz, the Luly Flower Plantation, a palm plantation, and Otavalo, the largest indigenous market in South America.

We gained a wealth of knowledge about Ecuador and its natural resources. One of the most ecologically diverse areas in the world, Ecuador’s vast varieties of flowers, trees and birds are endless. The variety of activities available allowed us experience some things we loved and some things that we never imagined we would. One day we rode horses in the Andes Mountains, and another day we rode a boat to an island where we sunbathed and snorkeled. All day, we hiked and biked, swam and shopped, and partied and played. I cannot think of a better way to spend two winter weeks than immersed in the culture of a tropical paradise.

When asked about the trip Ryan Garin, MBA Class of 2004, said “The intriguing culture and the vast array of breathtaking scenery captivated my interest from day one and made my experience in Ecuador both informative and highly entertaining”.

For more information about the January 2004 session of LSU Ecuador, contact Jennifer Loftin at jloftin@lsu.edu.

Stacy McGlothlin  
MBA, Class 2004

Reminder – France Study Abroad, 05/27 – 06/07  
Credit Hours: 3.0

Scott Fargason, associate director of the Flores MBA program is organizing the second business trip to France and Switzerland from 05/27 – 06/07. The ten-day trip will include a variety of excursions. Students will interact with MBA students from the University of Lyon and visit several European companies. Last year students visited the Renault Truck factory, the Georges DuBoeuf winery, and the Pasteur Institute.

Julie Madere, MBA class of 2003, said “The International Business trip to Lyon, France was a great educational and cultural experience. We were given insight into the European business world through classroom lectures and plant visits. As this was my first trip to Europe, I was grateful that we also had plenty of time to sight-see. I would recommend the Lyon trip to everyone!”

The trip is open to all LSU students, alumni, and relatives. The price of $1,950 includes the tuition (the trip may be substituted for the international Business seminar class), hotels accommodations, and various meals.

Limited seats are available. Please visit www.bus.lsu.edu/mba/intl_courses.html. Feel also free to contact Scott Fargason at sfargas@lsu.edu for more information.

Spring Break at Wall Street, 04/12 – 04/16

David T. Crary, Finance Professor and Executive Education Director, is organizing a visit to Wall Street with the Student Finance Association (SFA) from 04/12 – 04/16. Last year students met with investors, traders, analysts, and executives from the New York Federal Reserve, Moody’s, the Capital Risk Group, Decap, Credit Research and Trading, U.S. Trust, and the Bank of New York.

While discussing interesting finance topics with professionals, students
also had the opportunity to visit the ‘Big Apple’, do some shopping, and attend Broadway shows during the week end.

The approximate price of $550 includes airfare tickets and four nights in hotel. Please contact Professor David Crary, the SFA Advisor, for more information. 225/578-6354, dcrary2@lsu.edu.

**Recruiting Updates**

Thank you to the following students for attending the MBA Information Receptions to recruit prospective students:

**Executive MBA, 2/5/03**: Eric Arken, Richard Krimmel, and Cliff Neese ’94.

**Professional MBA, 2/5/03**: Laura Boudreaux, Don Schwarzenbach, Brandon Worley,

**Full-time MBA, 1/29/03**: Eren Acar, Ernie Ballard, Andrew Brennan, Lara Carter, Justin Chatelain, Craig Collura, Nicolle Couret, Manny Crespo, Trey Daniel, Greg Determann, Christine McCary, Ashley Mendoza, Thuy Nguyen, Anessa Oufnac, Chris Psilos, Drew Reeves, William Shoucair, Jennifer Templet, Fernando Vilas, and Jensen Young.

January 29 was our largest turnout yet for an information reception, 67 students attended. We’re hoping that it will grow even larger for the next Information Reception, and need you to continue your recruiting efforts to help us reach our goal! Out of the 122 students who applied for the full-time MBA program, 18 of them have been accepted so far.

**Cohort’s Corner**

**Red Cohort Class of 2003**

Congratulations to Josh McInteen, who proposed to his girlfriend Rebecca Weidner during the Ecuador Trip.

Congratulations to the following students who were offered full-time positions:

Paul Solis, Shell, Houston
Betsy Blanchard, Postlethwaite & Netterville, Baton Rouge

**Blue Cohort Class of 2003**

Congratulations to Jennifer Templet who gave birth to Addison Nichols Templet on Monday February 3rd.

Congratulations to the following students who were offered full-time positions:

Ryan Langlois, IBM, New York

**Purple Cohort Class of 2003**

Congratulations to the following students who were offered full-time positions:

Julie Madere, Ernst & Young, New Orleans
Manny Crespo, International Paper, Memphis

**Green Cohort Class of 2003**

Congratulations to the following students who were offered full-time positions:

Adriane Purdum, Protiviti, Houston

**Red Cohort Class of 2004**

Over the holidays, a red cohort member has been officially taken “off the market”. Sorry guys, Alyssa Gautreaux is now engaged to Carl Trosclair. They have set their wedding date for June 5, 2004. Best wishes Alyssa!

Congratulations to the following students who were offered internship positions for this summer:

Wendell York, Protiviti, Houston
April Leonpacher, Baton Rouge General, Baton Rouge

**Blue Cohort Class of 2004**

Jared Hunt proposed to his girlfriend Kelly Richert over the Christmas holidays. She's 22, and will graduate in education, May 2003. No date has been set for the wedding.

**Purple Cohort Class of 2004**

Tam Tran, FedEx, Memphis

**Green Cohort Class of 2004**

Congratulations to the following students who were offered internship positions for this summer:

Andew Brennan, FedEx, Memphis
Nicole Achee, FedEx, Memphis
Robert Hanna, Protiviti, Houston