What’s new this semester?

New SAC Members

The School of Economics and Business (SEB) Student Advisory Council (SAC) just finished the process of accepting new members. We anticipated a large amount of applications, but this was our largest group of candidates yet. This was absolutely crucial due to the fact that most of our current members will be graduating this upcoming spring. The fact that this was our most competitive group of new applicants ensures a promising future for our council.

Community Service in the SEB

We have been very active in the community this fall. We have been promoting multiple events throughout campus and the City of Oneonta such as the Kidney Walk, Town and Gown Gala, and Toys for Tots. The Kidney Walk aimed to raise awareness of kidney disease and funds for its treatment. The council members walked several laps around the Alumni Field House and listened to the stories of community members currently struggling with the disease. The goal of the Town and Gown Gala was to bring the Oneonta community together, raise money for a SUNY Oneonta student who was critically injured in September, and to educate the community on various social issues. Specifically, SEB hosted a face painting table for children involvement. The School of Economics and Business will also participate in Toys for Tots by collecting new, unwrapped toys and distributing those toys as holiday gifts to less fortunate children in the community.

VITA

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make $53,000 or less, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and limited taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. Last year, 28 students signed up to take part in the program and 16 completed the on-line training and certification process from the Internal Revenue Service. At the beginning of the tax season, our hope was to complete 30 tax returns in our first year in operation. We completed 45 tax returns at our site for our students and the residents of Oneonta. So far this year, more than 40 students have asked to be a part of the program. The training materials are ordered and we are gearing up for another tax season beginning in January 2015.

Tom Kane Presentation

On November 12th, the School of Economics and Business welcomed one of its most distinguished alumni to give a presentation to students on hiring from a HR perspective. Mr. Kane is the Executive Vice President and Chief HR Officer for Constellation Brands, a leading international producer and marketer of beer, wine and spirits. As someone who has interviewed countless individuals over the course of his 29 years in the field, Mr. Kane was able to offer a perspective of the hiring process that most students may have never been exposed to before. He took the stressful and intimidating process of finding a job and broke down each step in a presentation that was both easy to follow and incredibly informative. Following his presentation, Mr. Kane answered questions from the students and
faculties packed into the Hunt Union Waterfront Café. Mr. Kane was very candid and it was abundantly clear that he had every student’s best interest at heart.

College Fed Challenge
This fall semester, Jennifer Ruslow, Charlene Nelson, Kyle Sisco, Michael Coleman, and John Perruna participated in the College Fed Challenge, an intercollegiate team monetary policy competition. Inspired by the work of the Federal Open Market Committee, the competition requires that students work as a team to research and analyze current economic data, develop a forecast for the economy, review potential future economic risks, develop a presentation and answer questions on their recommendation for monetary policy. For the second consecutive year, the Economics Club’s College Fed Challenge Team qualified for the semifinal round of the competition. After competing at the New York Federal Reserve Bank on November 14th, the team received an honorable mention finish for their performance.

Backpacks to Briefcases
This October, over fifty SEB students traveled to NYC to network with alumni working in NYC’s financial district. Soon-to-be grads were inspired to make connections that could jump-start their future careers. During the day, each student visits the firms of three alumni and discusses with them anything and everything career related. This year, these students visited alumni at Mitsubishi UFJ Fund Services, R. W. Pressprich & Co., The CDM Group, Treasury Partners, The New York Times, ABM Industries, Bloomberg, Ernst & Young, New York Life, Anchin Block & Anchin, Bernstein Equity Derivatives, W Capital, Green Key Resources, and AllianceBernstein. After imparting wisdom they wish they had at their disposal as a student, the alumni are always open to answer any questions the students may have. At the end of the day, the school hosted a reception where students and alumni were able to interact on a much more personal level in order to expand their professional networks at Brendan’s Bar and Grill on West 35th Street. We’d like to thank the following alumni for sharing their time and expertise: Jeffrey Strauss ’71; Seth Crystall ’80; Carol DiSanto ’80; Richard Saperstein ’81; Roland Caputo ’82; Scott Salmirs ’84; Richard Yamarone ’85; John Doherty ’87; Mitchell Gandelman ’87; Robert Gilman ’89; Steve I. Miller ’92; John Lambrecht ’93; Robert Kahn ’93, and James McAteer ’08.

Scholarships
The School of Economics and Business is proud to announce the following scholarship recipients for the 2014-2015 academic year: the Meyerson scholarship to Lauren McMaster, Michael Schaefer, Connor Smulens, and Katelyn Sniffen; the John Doherty scholarship to Ryan Dragunat, Erin Ruth, Mason Tiffany, and Marena Vigilante; the School of Economics and Business Endowed Scholarship to Daniel Lounsbury, Mason Tiffany, Marena Vigilante, Mariel Doyle, Jennifer Rushlow, Taylor Burrows, Matthew Acquavella, and Matthew Matteo; the Dr. Ignatius J.H. Ts’ao Scholarship to Natalia Poljak, Joanna Pontino, and Kyle Sisco; the John and Claudia DeMelis Founders Scholarship in Accounting to Nick Moore and Charlene Nelson; the George F. Ring, Jr. and Ellen Smith Ring Scholarship to John Reid; and the Garber scholarship to Harrison Robak and Briana Doyle.

Beta Gamma Sigma
Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) lifetime membership is truly an international honor. Students ranking in the top 10 percent of the baccalaureate and top 20 percent of graduate programs at schools accredited by AACSB International are eligible for this invitation. Daniel Lounsbury and Bryan Schlesier each received scholarships from BGS in recognition of their achievements. Natalia Poljak, who was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma in April 2014, was selected by the officers to be the second member to represent the Chapter at the Student Leadership Forum. It will be held in San Diego, CA from February 5-8, 2015. This forum brings together student members from across the country for a chance to improve their leadership skills.

Future activities in SEB
The Student Advisory Council has some important events in the works for next semester. We will continue to take part in community service events, so watch out for them in your emails! This is a great way to improve your resume and give back to the school and community. We are also planning to help students get professional headshots for their LinkedIn and other professional profiles, and to help students network by creating personalized business cards. In addition, we are setting up a faculty versus student sporting event to create unity within the SEB. We will be hosting George Heath as part of the SEB distinguished speaker series. Mr. Heath is Group President of the Global Finishes Group at Sherwin-Williams, a $1B+ manufacturer and marketer of paints and coatings to professional, industrial, commercial, and retail customers, and a Fortune 500 Company. The SAC is working hard to guide students to a better future and create unity in the School of Economics and Business.
MESSAGE FROM DEAN YEN

Our goal is to move the School of Economics and Business (SEB) from a better to best state, and we truly believe we have succeeded in this regard. As the 2014 Fall semester draws to an end, I would like to highlight some of the accomplishments and changes throughout this academic year.

1. SEB successfully recruited two new faculty members, and they are Professors Charlene Foley-Deno (accounting) and Simona Giura (Management).
2. SEB was assigned two new positions (Finance and Marketing) and the search committee has just organized. Hopefully, we will have some exciting news soon.
3. Mr. Thomas M. Kane, Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer of Constellation Brands visited the campus as a distinguished SEB speaker and gave an outstanding talk to around 230 SEB students. This is one of the major events organized with the help from the Students Advisory Council of SEB.
4. A student exchange agreement was developed with the College of Management (COM) of National Chung Cheng University (ranked No. 8 in Taiwan). Three COM students joined SEB in Fall 2014 and one more will come in Spring 2015.
5. The curricular requests for a finance major, marketing major and supply chain management (SCM) concentration were submitted and are currently being reviewed by the university curriculum committee.
6. The 2015 Summer SEB China Program is initiated. This is a first time Faculty-led study abroad program developed by SEB.
7. SEB students have made some outstanding accomplishments and are becoming increasingly engaged in community service activities: the College Federal Reserve Challenge team made it to the semi-final round for the second consecutive year; More than 40 students have committed to participating in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program; Students traveled to NYC for Backpacks-to-Briefcases; Beta Gamma Sigma has once again been recognized as a “premier chapter”.

With the assistance of faculty and staff, SEB is continuing to expand study abroad opportunities, internship opportunities, and curricular programming to enhance engaged learning and career prospects for our students. As an important stakeholder of SEB, our students participate in academic and professional enrichment activities, and challenge themselves by interacting with regional and domestic universities and institutions. SEB encourages them to continuously contribute to campus life at SUNY-Oneonta and to our global community by sharing their educational and learning experiences with all of us. Further, SEB would also like to encourage faculty and staff in our community to read this newsletter and learn more about the activities on campus and SEB in particular that link us with the college and our business partners.

Sincerely,
David C. Yen
Dean, School of Economics and Business
State University of New York (SUNY) at Oneonta

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE SAC

It has been another tremendous fall semester for the School of Economics and Business (SEB) at SUNY Oneonta! It truly encourages me to witness the SEB flourish directly in front of my eyes. This newly formed school has offered me many challenging, yet rewarding, opportunities that I know I can carry with me in my professional career. Better yet, the SEB is merely in the beginning stage of a long transformation, and I am excited to watch the many new opportunities that will certainly surface in the near future. As the Chair of the Student Advisory Council (SAC), I strive to make these opportunities readily available for the students within the SEB through the three sub-committees of the SAC; Community Service, Communication, and Promotion and Innovation. I undoubtedly owe sincere acknowledgement to my Vice-Chairs, Natalia Poljak and Abby Renneman, to the remaining SAC members, to the dean David Yen, and to the SEB faculty members. The accomplishments met this semester would not have occurred in their absence.

Sincerely,
Daniel Louinsbury
Chair of the SAC