Preface from the Dean

In the not too distant past there was a Department of Economics and Business on our campus that became the Division of Economics and Business about a decade and a half ago. Now we are proud to say that we are the School of Economics and Business (SEB). Since 2011, we are also proud to have accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), placing the SEB among the less than 5% of the world’s educational institutions to have achieved this status, one of the most prestigious indicators of academic excellence that can be achieved by any college or university’s business school.

To achieve this level of excellence, we have a faculty highly respected in their fields and offer a range of traditional but extremely desirable courses with opportunities for each student to receive individualized support and attention. Extracurricular student organizations of distinction present additional opportunities for all students to be involved with faculty members.

The School of Economics and Business at SUNY Oneonta will continue to grow along its path of excellence. Along with strengthening our core subjects, we will offer new courses and programs as opportunities allow. We would welcome any opportunity to discuss our current status and our hopes for the future with you. The future looks bright indeed for the new School of Economics and Business at SUNY Oneonta!

- Dr. David Yen

This newsletter would not have been possible without the authors (mostly Student Advisory Council members) volunteering their valuable time and many others in the SEB and College donating theirs to proofread it. I specifically want to thank Natalia Poljak who put the articles and pictures into this newsletter format—the Editor
Dr. Yen is the first year Dean of the School of Economics and Business and Professor of Management Information Systems (MIS) at SUNY Oneonta. He was drawn to the position by the challenge of being dean, the excellent faculty and student body, and the elite reputation of Oneonta. Prior to coming to Oneonta, Dr. Yen worked as Director of China Business programs (2008-2013) at Miami of Ohio. He received his PhD in Management Information Systems and M.Sc. in Computer Science from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. Previously he received his MBA and B.Sc. in Computer Science at Central Oklahoma State University. His areas of expertise include Electronic/Mobile Commerce, Management Information Systems, IT Auditing, E-Health and E-Government. This spring semester, to establish and maintain interaction with students, he is teaching Management Information Systems 351. He was quick to explain how much he appreciates Oneonta’s
Dr. Yen sees our school continuing to flourish. One of his goals is to improve our quality and reputation. Although our reputation is good, he wants to have SUNY Oneonta stand out. In order to do this, he is striving to hire and retain outstanding faculty. Another goal is enhance the curriculum. He is working hard to provide our students with more academically diverse majors such as Finance and Accounting, Marketing major and a Supply Chain Management concentration major. These proposed new majors have been submitted to the College’s curriculum committee and he hopes they will be approved this semester. A longer term goal of Dr. Yen’s is to develop Management Information Systems and Entrepreneurship concentrations and to bring masters programs in Financial Planning Services, Accounting, Marketing Analytics, Business Leadership, Business Analytics, Healthcare Information and Management Technology, Cyber Security, and Environmental and Nature Resource Economics to SUNY Oneonta in the near future.

Apart from enhancing the curriculum, Dr. Yen wants to build and maintain strong partnerships with our community and the Business Advisory Council. We have already seen tremendous improvements in our networking, an important intangible asset which pays off in students search for internships and jobs after graduation. He says that we must continue to form relationships with professionals and successful alumni in order to support the school in improving the quality of education, enhancing opportunities for experiential activities, and promoting student learning and development. Dr. Yen is not content to rest on this local and national success and wants to also build global connections. “I anticipate our students to be leaders in American and multinational organizations.”

One of the major challenges Dr. Yen has faced in his first year is attracting and hiring top quality faculty that other competing schools are keen to acquire, too. President Nancy Kleniewski and Provost and Vice President Evelyn Maria Thompson have been sensitive about the situation and very helpful in this challenge. The SEB also needs to continue to attract a strong pool of talented students, a challenging task given the current demographic environment. To meet this challenge, the SEB is recruiting and advertising more with the help of Steven R. Perry, Vice President of Student Development, and his colleagues.

Another challenge Dr. Yen faced this year is generating additional support for the SEB to promote our strategic mission, maintain the high quality of teaching, and improve the productivity of research. Maria Thompson, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Paul Adamo, vice president for college advancement, have provided the SEB with professional development and travel opportunities for our faculty. Dr. Yen is very pleased with the achievements of the faculty. Over the last year the 22 faculty members published 18 journal articles, had 16 journal articles accepted for publication, had six conference proceedings published or accepted, had seven other publications published, presented 44 presentations, and published one book. Despite this success, additional support is needed to take the school to the next level.

Dr. Yen also provided a new structure to the Student Advisory Council (SAC). It is becoming a strong student club. Each member of the council was selected by Dr. Yen and given tasks to promote the SEB. The council is split into three subcommittees: innovation, community service, and communications. The innovation team works to promote the SEB through creating and selling our first SEB T-Shirt which expresses the unity of our school. The community service team schedules volunteer events for SEB students and faculty to attend in order to improve and create relationships with the community. The communications team works to create a newsletter each semester that keeps our stakeholders informed about our current highlights and future goals. Dr. Yen would like to recognize Dr. Paul Bauer, Dr. Philip Siriani, and Dr. Tran Trang for their dedication of time and efforts to this council as well. Each professor participates in one of the three subcommittees. Lastly, the SAC is working on creating the first School of Economics and Business Graduation Dinner. This event will be held for juniors and seniors, with their guests and the faculty in attendance, providing a chance for all to say goodbyes and congratulations.

Dean Yen

Overall, Dr. Yen believes the new School of Economics and Business is off to an extremely successful start. He particularly wants to thank his predecessor, Dr. Wade Thomas, and the entire SEB faculty for the strong foundation on which the school can build for an even brighter future.
Dr. William O’Dea, the EFA’s Fearless Leader
by Danny Lounsbury

The chair of the Department of Economics, Finance and Accounting, Dr. William O’Dea, has an extensive educational background, receiving his B.A in foreign affairs and economics at Assumption College in 1971, his M.A in west European studies at Indiana University in 1975, and lastly his M.A and Ph.D. in economics at SUNY Albany in 1978 and 1988, respectively. This is Dr. O’Dea’s 34th year as a professor of Economics at SUNY Oneonta, which began while still working on his PhD at SUNY Albany. The close proximity between the two institutions made teaching at SUNY Oneonta an attractive position.

Along with providing an education for the students at SUNY Oneonta, Dr. O’Dea’s research efforts have been published in several prominent journals. Some recent contributions examine the effectiveness of the student evaluation forms. Currently, his research interests include the economics surrounding traffic congestion and the time wasted sitting in traffic.

Dr. O’Dea has many outside interests as well. He is heavily involved in Habitat for Humanity, currently serving on its executive board, and enjoys helping out the local community of Oneonta and towns in the surrounding counties. Another hobby is rooting for the Boston Red Sox, his favorite Major League Baseball team. Some of his recent highlights include purchasing a house to renovate with his wife and teaching International Trade and Intermediate Microeconomic Theory in Russia during the summer months. As a professor, his favorite class to teach is Public Finance because he is able to apply economic theory to real world issues.

Dr. O’Dea envisions many new goals for the School of Economics and Business to ensure continued success. The first project he would like to complete is the establishment of a finance major, which he believes will attract more students interested in the field. Secondly, he would like to strengthen the economics major by adding resource economics as an elective, which would focus on nonrenewable resources and become a continuation of our newly formed environmental economics course. Lastly, he would like to be able to offer a concentration in operations research to expand the opportunities for the students within the SEB.

Overall, Dr. O’Dea has many ideas for the new direction of the SEB. He strongly stresses the need for new faculty to reduce class size and to improve student/teacher relationships. Additionally, he would like to add more Bloomberg Terminals to expand student access to this critical business and research tool, proficiency in the use of these terminals can significantly boost students’ career prospects after graduation. Lastly, Dr. O’Dea would like to eventually secure a building strictly for the SEB to consolidate our resources and create a more cohesive program. He is excited for the new direction of the school and believes that we will continue to expand and develop new opportunities for the students.

Meet Dr. Lokshina! Chair MMIS
by Jessica Silsbe

Dr. Lokshina is the Department Chair of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems of the School of Economics and Business and a professor of Management Information Systems (MIS). She has been teaching at SUNY Oneonta since 2002 as a professor of MIS and Operations Management. She was very attracted to the cohesiveness of the group and welcoming environment of the faculty which is the basis of her allegiance to the SEB.

Dr. Lokshina led a successful career in industry, consulting, and academia in Russia which has enriched her teaching capabilities. She received her doctorate in artificial intelligence from Moscow State Mining University and an M.S. in applied mathematics/automated control systems from the Moscow Oil and Gas Institute. Her degrees have strongly influenced her desire to be an educator. Her notable achievements and recognitions from her acclaimed research have been published in numerous notable journals. Her research interests include Artificial Intelligence, telecommunications modeling, health information technology (also known as E-Health), nuclear power systems, and coal mine ventilation systems.

Overall, Dr. Lokshina believes the SEB is off to an extremely successful start. The organic and dynamic culture has proved that the SEB is moving into a positive future state. She wants to maintain the high status of the school’s accreditation, while continuing to expand and grow through additional majors and concentrations. She is looking forward to cultivating the new opportunities on the horizon and to teaching all her “wonderful students.”
As a new Business Advisory Council (BAC) member during 2013 to SUNY-Oneonta’s School of Economics and Business, it is hard not to reflect on the widespread growth that has occurred at the college since my arrival to the Oneonta community in 1997. Over these 17 years, SUNY-Oneonta has blossomed in so many ways, from student selectivity and the quality and diversity of students, to the growth of their endowment and scholarships provided. Indeed the current freshman class has average SAT scores of 1,136 and a GPA of 91. Where the endowment was formerly an insignificant part in student recruitment, it now awards over $3 million annually, benefiting one in six students with financial assistance, as it has eclipsed $45 million in assets. All this provides a great foundation for launching the School of Economics and Business, its students and faculty in a new and exciting direction.

I witness the value of SUNY-Oneonta in many ways on a daily basis. As the regional executive for a local bank, the direct and indirect economic impact of its 1,250 employees and 6,000 students is of great importance to the greater Oneonta community. Its $106 million dollar budget is the life blood of our area, spreading itself through our many businesses and not for profits, and enriching our community and schools.

The diversity the college affords our area in terms of culture and sporting events is easy to appreciate as well. But an underlying strength, one that is currently evolving, is the synergistic role the college can play in driving long term economic growth. Initiatives contributing to this range from its participation in New York’s START-UP NY program, as well as targeted curriculum changes that will more fully align with future employment opportunities in our upstate region. Coupled with these is a more focused internship program that will further enrich the students’ educational experience, as well as local and regional employers’ job recruitment.

The School of Economics and Business can play a vital role in aiding our regions’ reinvigorated economic growth initiatives. The largest of these initiatives and certainly providing the broadest framework for most other initiatives, is the Governors’ Regional Economic Development Councils. These are providing new resources and opportunities all across the state, and I can envision the college’s students providing internships and research based knowledge to assist with both new and existing business opportunities as they develop within our specific region. At an even more local level, there is also a renewed focus. The Otsego County’s IDA took the lead in January by hiring a new economic developer to promote a more proactive approach to economic development and to expanding local industry. Exposing and including students to local initiatives would provide value added resources as well as real world experience that can only assist in the students’ education. It will also raise the capacity by which we can further our efforts, and quite possibly contribute to the future workforce necessary with the successful recruitment of the students involved in the various projects.

As a member of the Business Advisory Council to the School of Economics and Business, I see our role being instrumental in helping forge and develop these initiatives. Members provide real world experience that can help guide the college with current trends in employment, recruitment and desired skills. Members provide access to a diversity of industries, and many are alumni, providing a unique connection to the college and its students. As the market place remains ever competitive, utilizing strategic partnerships by industry with BAC members and alumni will be a unique advantage for SEB students. And with the college participating in the renewed business development efforts underway, new partnerships can be forged that will not only benefit students, but will provide new connections with the college that can only grow into mutually beneficial relationships.

Jamie Reynolds is a 1986 graduate of Cornell University and is a SVP and Regional Executive for NBT Bank. He is the president of the Oneonta City School Board, the secretary of the Otsego County Development Corporation and a member of the Business Advisory Council of the School of Economics and Business at SUNY-Oneonta. He resides in Oneonta with his wife and two daughters.
Alumni Perspective

by Scott Salmirs

Since I graduated from Oneonta in 1984, the changes at the school have been nothing short of transformative. The growth of the campus as a whole and the evolution of the School of Economics and Business in recent years have been incredible to watch. Beginning in the spring of 2004, I have had the opportunity to return to campus on an annual basis and spend time lecturing students on a range of subjects, sharing with them some of my personal career experiences. It is my hope that these experiences and the business insights that I have gained since graduating will provide some assistance to the students as they prepare to enter the business world. Observing and being a small part of the SEB over the past 10 years has been extremely rewarding for me.

In addition to lecturing, I also have the honor of being a member of the SEB’s Business Advisory Council. In that position, I took pride in watching the school successfully complete the rigorous AACSB accreditation process. Every aspect of the program and curriculum was put under a microscope to earn the prestigious designation of being AACSB-accredited, a distinction held by only 5% of business programs worldwide. This accreditation has raised the bar for excellence and the continuous process required to maintain the designation will ensure that the quality of education in the SEB will only continue to grow and improve.

Now that the accreditation process is complete, I am hopeful that the Business Advisory Council can expand its efforts to increase involvement of the SEB’s alumni in the education process. I believe that the interactions between Oneonta students and alumni are a key component of why the Oneonta experience is so much more than just an ordinary business education. After graduation, it is easy for alumni to get caught up in their personal lives and busy careers, but I think we can all remember being in the same seats as today’s students looking for direction and trying to figure out life after Oneonta. It was no doubt a demanding and nerve-racking time that left us not only with many unanswered questions but also with the unsettling feeling that we did not even know the right questions to ask. This is where I believe that the SEB’s strong alumni network can be most instrumental in the school’s continued evolution. From my perspective, you cannot place enough value on getting students prepared for entering the business world, and it’s why I tend to focus my lectures on networking, finding a job, and managing a career. The progression from graduating to finding a job is incredibly stressful and difficult to navigate. Through established alumni providing students with access to an array of real world business experiences, the SEB can further enhance its curriculum toward the ultimate goal of a top-flight business education while preparing students to obtain post-graduate employment and achieving successful careers. In so doing, I believe that the school will be filling a void that exists at most schools as well as creating a great differentiator for the SEB. Ultimately, as the quality of the SEB education continues to grow, so will the reputation of the school. This will guarantee high caliber students in the future, which will translate to enhanced resume value for SEB alumni and a crop of graduates we can take pride in collaborating with or employing.

Although it appears that the economic climate is improving, the job market remains tight. Graduates must have every advantage in order to secure a good job. And although the SEB and its alumni have to do their part in preparing students, the students must take responsibility as well. There is a direct relationship between the overall college experience and the effort and interest level of the student. In preparing this piece, I was asked to give advice to today’s SEB students. My advice is simple and straightforward. Don’t be passive. Make your own opportunities. The SEB and SUNY Oneonta as a whole are rich in resources. In addition to all of the programs and clubs, there are professors willing to give time and guidance and a strong alumni network that can be accessed. Embrace what is right in front of you. There is plenty of room for having a good time and also being forward-focused. You will never regret having this view.

I am excited to see the School of Economics and Business continue to take shape and hope to be a part of it for as long as the school will have me.

Scott Salmirs is currently an Executive Vice President at ABM Industries. Prior to joining ABM Industries, Scott held leadership positions in real estate groups at Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers and CBRE. Scott holds an MBA in Finance from the State University of New York at Binghamton and a BS in Business-Economics from the State University of New York College at Oneonta. He has been married for 27 years to Marcy Salmirs and has two children.
Quick Biography

Dr. David Ring received his PhD at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He has been teaching for 43 years, starting as a Teacher’s Assistant. He has been a professor here at SUNY Oneonta for 33 years.

Hobbies

Dr. Ring enjoys teaching but he has other hobbies outside of the classroom. He is currently a radio show DJ at WONY (Red Dragon Radio) and its faculty advisor. He also enjoys drag racing and has a car of his own. His race car is very well known in drag racing and it has had many wins. His inspiration for being involved in drag racing began when he attended races in high school. He went to see a race after 30 years, and after speaking to someone that he knew and trusted he decided to join him in building a race car. The best part about this hobby is how successful his race car has been. Between his and his racing partner’s, one of their two cars has been in the top 10 nationally for five out of the past 10 years. His car is named “Professor Dave and His Three Ring Circus.” His partner’s car was a world champion in 2010 and he and his partner have been division champions three times in the past 10 years. Whenever his race car wins money prizes Dr. Ring gives some of this money to SUNY Oneonta in order to help fund scholarships.

Dr. Ring has the following words of wisdom for students: work hard and find extracurricular activities that you like and when you do something take the time to do it well and rewards will follow. Also, treat school as if it is your job, and that you do your job!!

Favorite Experience

Dr. Ring has enjoyed working with students who have trouble understanding the material he teaches, which includes when students come in to his office hours in order to get extra help. One of his biggest challenges as a professor has been learning that economics is not easy for everyone. Also, he has enjoyed helping seniors develop their senior thesis. Another favorite experience has been teaching the Fed Challenge course. The 2009 and 2013 teams advanced to the semi-finals of the Fed Challenge competition. His favorite part about coaching the team is working with students on their presentations and drilling them on how to answer challenging questions. He delights in seeing the skills of the students grow.

Advantages of Getting Older

Dr. Ring explained one of the advantages he has now he is older is his income has gone up; the nice thing for him about having more money has been being able to give back to the school. With the help of SUNY Oneonta he has set up a scholarship fund in the name of his parents, the George F. Ring, Jr. and Ellen Smith Ring Scholarship.
The recent elevation to the School of Economics and Business and AACSB accreditation were important milestones, but it is crucial to continue to look for ways to improve because the world does not stand still. To assist with this important task, the Student Advisory Council (SAC) experienced a major restructuring. We now have three sub-committees consisting of Community Service, Innovation, and Communication; each tasked with various responsibilities.

We are approaching the end of our first year as the newly restructured Student Advisory Council and it has been a busy one. During the fall semester, we immediately began working on our goals and objectives for the coming semesters. An early task was to design the first official SEB t-shirts to instill a sense of unity and to promote the newly formed school. Simultaneously the Communication team was hard at work revamping the SEB website and creating the first official SEB newsletter, which we will distribute once per semester.

The Community Service sector had an eventful fall semester and has been very busy so far this spring. The SEB assisted with the kidney walk which took place on October 27 at the Alumni Field House. Organized by SUNY Oneonta’s Center for Social Responsibility and Community, the walk is designed to raise awareness of kidney disease, its causes and prevention, and the need for organ donations. SEB students manned the face-painting table. Next, we hosted a fundraising bake sale at the Pancreatic Cancer Carnival on November 15. Lastly, we collected toys for Toys for Tots, which distributes toys to less fortunate children in the local community to improve their holiday season.

This spring the SAC has been even more active. The Innovation team successfully executed another round of t-shirt sales. The Community Service team established a Relay for Life team, raising over $300, and witnessed strong participation from the SEB students at the event held on March 7 at the Alumni Field House. The Communication team will be generating the spring newsletter towards the end of this semester. Collectively, the SAC was instrumental in composing this first issue of the Dean’s Letter, by interviewing the dean and numerous professors of the School of Economics and Business. Lastly, the SAC is establishing a new tradition with the Spring Graduation Dinner, which will take place on May 9 at 6 p.m. in the Otsego Grille. It will be a great opportunity for the graduating students to bid farewell to each other and the faculty. In the coming years, the SAC will focus on continuous improvement of this great program.
Julia Fremante Wins NYSEA Award for Best Student Paper
Fall graduate and business economics major, Julia Fremante, presented her senior thesis titled, “The Effects of the 2007-2009 Financial Crisis on the Cointegration Relationship between Stock Markets” at the New York State Economics Association Annual Meeting in October. Her paper examined the cointegration of major stock markets around the world before, during, and after the financial crisis. Her mentors were Dr. Dona Siregar and Dr. Paul Bauer. For her work, she received the NYSEA’s Outstanding Student Paper award.

College Fed Challenge Team Advances to the Semi-Finals
This fall semester, Angie Aldana, Andrew Boylan, Mike Coleman, Matt Elliott, Conor McElhearn, Abby Renneman, Kyle Sisco, Dan Stern, and Jack Tenke, ably led by faculty adviser Dr. Ring, competed in the College Fed Challenge. Inspired by the working of the Federal Open Market Committee, the competition requires students work as a team to research and analyze current economic data, develop a forecast and review potential future economic risks, and develop a presentation and answer questions on a recommendation for monetary policy. Among the teams they beat to make it to make it to the semi-final round of the New York District’s College Fed Challenge were Columbia, Cornell, NYU, and Binghamton. During this round, the team was one of four that received honorable mention, earning a score of eighteen out of twenty points.

Student Research & Creative Activity Day
Thirteen students from the School of Economics and Business participated in the College’s 2014 SRCA Day. Their research covered a very wide range of research topics. Angelica Aldana investigated at the effects of immigration on wages. She also worked with Michael Coleman, Christopher Rollo, and Ariel Rosero on a finance project looking at a home-made fund of funds. Cristina De Marco examined the relationship between biodiversity and tourism. An economic theory paper by Mariel Doyle considered the appropriate magnitude of Pigouvian taxes when there are interacting pollutants. Chelsea Ghent analyzed the effect of environmental, social and corporate governance on firms’ performance. In another finance paper, Marlaena Le-Maitre studied the impact of asymmetric information on IPO underpricing. Investigating a problem faced by many institutions, Ariel Rosero considered spending rules for endowments. Lastly, in a group project Daniel Worden, Narain Malik, and Trevor Rehm examined the performance of the College’s portfolio. Full summaries of all student projects can be found in the official program on the College’s website.

Beta Gamma Sigma
The SUNY Oneonta Chapter congratulated 24 students who accepted invitations to join Beta Gamma Sigma during the academic year. These students will be formally inducted during a ceremony which will be held on April 25th. Beta Gamma Sigma’s lifetime membership is an international honor. Only the best business students in the world, and the professionals who earned the distinction of “the Best in Business” during their academic careers, can claim membership in Beta Gamma Sigma. These students join an expanding worldwide network of more than 625,000 outstanding business professionals who have earned recognition through lifetime membership in Beta Gamma Sigma. Students ranking in the top 10 percent of the baccalaureate and the top 20 percent of graduate programs at schools accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business are eligible for this invitation. Jessica Silsbe, who was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma in April 2013, was selected by the officers to be the first member to represent the Chapter at a Student Leadership Forum (see next article).
Beta Gamma Sigma Student Leadership Forum Experience

by Jessica Silsbe

On February 6, 2014, in the early hours of the morning, I braved the trip out of the cold, snowy Albany Airport to sunny San Antonio, Texas to become the first member of our Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) chapter to represent the SEB at the semiannual Student Leadership Forum. The four-day forum brought together students from colleges and universities from all over the world to enrich our leadership skills. The interactive experience varied from expert presenters teaching valuable lessons by leveraging off of hands-on sessions to challenging team-building exercises focused on leadership skills. There was also time for networking and social activities with the group and also with representatives from numerous business and graduate schools.

Attending the BGS Student Leadership Forum was one of the high points of my college career. The Forum allowed me to reflect on and evaluate my path while improving my ability to make important decisions effectively and productively. The different sessions, such as playing Human Minesweeper and Scrabble gave us the opportunity to understand the importance of working as team and the idea of cooperation verses competition. I was exposed to a broad spectrum of varying insights from my peers and extraordinary presenters. This experience provided me with a clear sense of direction regarding my personal and professional plans. My most valuable takeaway was meeting and working with like-minded peers who shared the same uncertainties, dreams, core values and goals. These ideas are still echoing through my mind as I plan and make decisions that will determine the path I choose.

I cannot thank Dean Yen and the BGS Chapter Advisor, Dr. Buchan, enough for presenting this opportunity to me. This experience has unquestionably changed my perspective and enhanced my skills to become a better leader. Overall, the BGS Student Leadership Forum for me was eye-opening, challenging, and above all, a time filled with self-discovery and reflection.

SEB Students Volunteer Their Accounting Skills

Sixteen SEB students contributed their time and skills for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, offering free tax help to low income households, the elderly, and those with limited English. IRS-certification requires about 20 hours, but enables the volunteers to provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. Locally, the program is coordinated through the CASH Coalition, a group of non-profit and charitable organizations operating in the community including Catholic Charities of Oneonta, the United Way of Oneonta, CDO Workforce, and others.

Next year, adviser Jeff Weinell plans to have some students complete the Advanced and International training programs so that we can coordinate with the Office of International Education to provide income tax services for our international students. Joanne Passineau, our IRS contact, congratulated the students on their low error rate and the ease of resolving the three errors that did arise. She noted this was impressive for our first year of participation.
Scholarships

The School of Economics and Business was proud to present the following scholarships for the 2013-2014 academic year.

- The John and Claudia DeMelis Founders Scholarships in Accounting were awarded to Nick Moore and Charlene Nelson.
- The School of Economics and Business Endowed Scholarships were granted to Jessica Silsbe, Daniel Lounsbury, Julia Fremante, Marena Vigilante, Mariel Doyle and Jeffrey Schnorbus.
- The John Doherty Scholarships were awarded to Marena Vigilante and Angelica Aldana.
- The Dr. Ignatius J.H. Ts’ao Scholarship recipients were David Stanton, Katherine Tighe, Christopher Rollo, Natalia Poljak and Philip Chieco.
- The Joel Meyerson ’80 Annual Scholarships were granted to Brenden Murphy, Kip Barrows, Ryan Cabahug and Addison Straub.
- The George F. Ring, Jr. and Ellen Smith Ring Scholarship was awarded for the first time this past fall to John Reid.

Backpacks-to-Briefcases

Every fall semester, the economics club offers a free trip to SUNY Oneonta students to New York City called “Backpacks-to-Briefcases.” At this event, students meet with alumni who work in large corporations such as Bloomberg, Alliance Bernstein, ABM Industries, and Gold-man Sachs. These alumni talk about networking, career preparation tips, insights of their daily workload, working with different people, and much more. This was a very informative trip for students plotting their future careers. Students were provided with tips on how to make a successful transition from college to the workforce, and the trip gave students an opportunity to expand their professional network in the NYC area.

Opportunities to Support the SEB

Alumni, faculty, staff, and friends are making the business school stronger by contributing to scholarship campaigns and other initiatives for excellence. Their generosity is increasing the number of scholarship awards every year. One way you can help to increase the awards is by contributing to an endowed scholarship fund of your choice:

- Economics and Business Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Ignatius J. H. Ts'ao Scholarship
- John Doherty Scholarship
- John and Claudia DeMelis “Founders Scholarship in Accounting”
- George F. Ring, Jr and Ellen Smith Ring Scholarship
- Steven Edelstein Scholarship in Honor of Dr. Foster Brown
- Economics and Business Academic Excellence and Improvement Fund - A multipurpose fund providing financial support for excellence and program improvement.

Please contact Dean David Yen (david.yen@oneonta.edu) to discuss the full range of opportunities for supporting our program. Thank you for joining donors from the alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the School of Economics and Business!