

Direct Communication

Communication from the
Director of
the School of Business

 **Miami Dade
College**

School of Business

www.mdc.edu/business



A Word From Your Director

Greetings to all! I hope that the first month of the semester has provided a great start to the new academic year. I am excited about serving as the School Director and about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead of us this year. I look forward to working with you and am open to discussing your ideas, plans and vision for the future of The School of Business. My door is always open to each of you.



Over the past few weeks I have had the opportunity to meet many of you for the first time and I am truly humbled by the contributions you make to the College. Your commitment to our students is laudable and I sincerely appreciate your enthusiasm and passion.

There are many exciting things happening in The School of Business right now, almost too many to mention! We are waiting for final approval of the new College Credit Certificate in Entrepreneurship, working on a proposal for a culinary program, proposing an articulation agreement with a college in China, and pursuing the possibility of proposing several Bachelor of Applied Science degree programs. In addition, we are writing numerous grant proposals in hopes of obtaining funding for special interests such as a Fulbright Scholar in Residence and for new ventures like the development of the Retail Skills Center and the development of additional programs in entrepreneurship. We have also been awarded continuing grant funds for the Hospitality Management and Minority Export Training Programs. Add to all of this the recent opening of the Small Business Transportation Resource Center for the US Department of Transportation and the new programs planned through the Center for Economic Education and you can clearly see how busy we have all been. And if you're not impressed by all of this, I can tell you that these activities barely scratch the surface of everything that is happening! There is plenty more on the horizon when you consider the many projects our faculty and staff are working on in areas like curriculum mapping, pod-casting, research, publishing, service learning, and working with student organizations.

I wish I could take credit for all of these wonderful initiatives, but the truth is that these activities are the result of the hard work and dedication of the faculty and staff at each campus. You have my sincerest thanks for a job well done!

Thank you all for welcoming me into this new role and thank you for your continued commitment to The School of Business. I look forward to a long and collaborative relationship.

Stephanie Etter

10/08/07

Issue 32

Enriching business, one learner a at time

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Quote of the Week:

" The world is moving so fast these days that the one who says it can't be done is generally interrupted by someone doing it. "

[Harry Emerson Fosdick](#)

WELCOME to our new Academic Year 2007!

A warm welcome is extended to our newest members of the School of Business family:

Dr. Alexander Pons, Chair of Business and CIS at the InterAmerican Campus
Ms. Adrianna Clark, Project Director of the Southeast Small Business Transportation Resource Center at the Homestead Campus
Ms. Christine Balmori, Accounting Faculty at the Wolfson Campus
Ms. Jeanne Canavan, Secretary at the Homestead Campus
Ms. Carolina Herlle, Part time assistant in the School Director's office

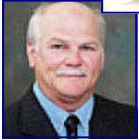
and to our esteemed colleagues in their new roles:



Prof. Jeff Foran, Economics Faculty, who transferred from the North Campus to the Wolfson Campus



Dr. Gail Hawks, Economics Faculty, presently at the Kendall Campus after 20 years of teaching at the Wolfson Campus



We also extend our congratulatory wishes to Prof. Chris Rogers, who just obtained his doctorate in Organization and Management!



Your hard work and dedication provide valuable learning opportunities for our business students, making it possible for us to continue our pursuit for excellence.

PBL's Membership Drive

The Kendall Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda held a recruitment rally on Wednesday, September 12, 2007. The event was so successful that eighty-five students immediately signed up afterwards. They are getting very close to their goal of 100 members!

The Kendall Chapter also sponsored a training workshop on Friday, September 14th for officers of other local chapters, including MDC North Campus and FIU.



Congratulations to Shelly Fano on her New Appointment



Shelly Fano has been appointed by Mayor Carlos Alvarez as the new Chairperson for the Miami-Dade County Sister Cities Coordinating Council. She has been a long standing member of Sister Cities International (SCI), and served as Vice-Chair of the Council for the past two years. Ms. Fano, as a member of SCI, has also been on several humanitarian missions to South America and has participated in hemispheric forums dealing with international culture and educational issues in both Europe and South America.

The Sister Cities Coordinating Council advises the Mayor on program issues and concerns, assists the Mayor in developing his international trade and commerce agenda, and provides coordination for the overall program.

School of Business Grants

The Southern US Trade Association (SUSTA), a trade support organization for US agricultural products, is awarding a grant to MDC's School of Business to train small and minority businesses on how to sell outside the US. Steve Colyer, Director of the Minority Export Training Program stated, "MDC has created the best agri-business export training program in the US. We have 52 South Florida firms exporting more than \$23 million in food and ornamental plants." The new grant is significant as it will target minority and women-owned businesses in Jacksonville, Orlando and Tampa. Using distance education technology, MDC will connect these businesses with unique people and resources from Miami.

The US Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (USDBU) awarded MDC School of Business \$141,500 to create a regional Southeast Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC) which will serve the states of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, as well as Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. Miami Dade College will utilize the grant funds to coordinate regional outreach efforts, create training modules, and provide development opportunities to small and disadvantaged transportation related businesses in this region and ensure that they have an equitable opportunity to participate in DOT contracts at the local, state and federal levels. Ms. Adriana Clark will be directing this project out of the Homestead Campus. Ms. Clark, a native of South Florida, has a Master's degree in International Business from the Huizenga School of Business at Nova Southeastern University and an extensive background in small business training and development. She is also an adjunct professor for the School of Business.

The Florida Council on Economic Education awarded the School of Business \$5,000 to fund educational programs for the MDC Center for Economic Education, under the leadership of Dr. Gail Hawks.

Miami Dade College, through the Hospitality Management Program, has been awarded a grant of \$85,000 from Miami-Dade County, Department of Cultural Affairs, to assist the County in its efforts to promote the economic and cultural health of the community. The Hospitality Management Program will conduct Hospitality Operations and Service Training (HOST VI) to provide workshops for career planning, customer service, and food safety training for industry representatives, as well as students from both Miami-Dade County high schools and Miami Dade College. Ms. Shelly Fano is the Director of the Hospitality Management Program.

Scholarships for Hospitality Management and Travel & Tourism Students



Two recent graduates of the MDC Travel and Tourism program at North Campus were awarded full scholarships to continue their studies at FIU by the Visitor's Industry Council, a part of the Greater Miami Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Jullisa Boyd originally from Belize, whose work history includes 2 family resorts in Belize.

Gail Reece, originally from Barbados, currently employed as a supervisor at the Turnberry Isle Resort.

The Visitor's Industry Council also awarded full scholarships to Rebecca Geneve of the North Campus to complete her studies in Travel & Tourism and Guy Corneille of the Wolfson Campus who is pursuing a Hospitality Management degree.

This organization provides scholarships to African-American students majoring in Hospitality and Tourism at post-secondary institutions located in South Florida.

Congratulations to these students who have excelled in their venues!

Entrepreneurship Panel Offers Expert Insights

North Campus hosted an **Entrepreneurship Panel Discussion** on Thursday, Sept. 27th that was attended by over 200 students. Prof. Julio Borges moderated the panel, which explained the practical steps to starting a successful small business, financing, the benefits and challenges of owning a business, the roles and responsibilities of the professionals that provide business services to entrepreneurs, and answers to a range of questions posed by students.

The panel experts were: Prof. Isis Clemente, MDC Faculty; Christian Bertot, VP/Branch Manager, Banco Popular, NA; Claudette O. Batts, Esq. ; Miguel Gonzalez, Chief, Lender Relations, Miami Small Business Administration; and Alex A. Khoja, Certified Public Accountant.

A heartfelt appreciation is extended to Prof. Borges, Prof. Clemente, and the panelists for providing our students with an outstanding co-curricular learning opportunity.



Happenings on the Horizon

Here are highlights of events in which the School is participating during the next few weeks:

- Oct. 4 | *Taxation: A Talk by Linda Soriano, CPA Price Waterhouse Coopers, 12:15 pm, Room 3217, Wolfson Campus*
- Oct. 8 | *Miami Southridge Sr. High School Faculty Visit/Luncheon, 10:30 am, Room 6342, Kendall Campus*
- Oct. 9 | *Careers in Office Administration Workshop by Sarah Poke, 9:30 am, Room 2318, Wolfson Campus*
- Oct. 9 | *Food Safety & Sanitation Workshop by Chef Ketley Pierre, 12:15 pm, Room 3315, Wolfson Campus*
- Oct. 11 | *Incredible Edibles by Chef Ketley Pierre, Noon, Room 1260, Wolfson Campus*
- Oct. 17 | *Hospitality Day & Mini Job Fair, 9 am — 1pm, Fred Shaw Plaza & Library Concourse, Kendall Campus*
- Oct. 30 | *Advisory Committee Meeting, 8 am, Room K422, Kendall Campus*
- Oct 31 | *Hospitality Management lecture by Dean Rocco Angelo from FIU, 10 am, ETCOTA Auditorium, Wolfson Campus*
- Nov. 7 | *FIU Accounting Student Orientation Video Conference, Noon, Room 4102, North Campus. Broadcast via Polycom to Homestead, IAC, Kendall, and Wolfson campuses. Please check with campus School of Business offices for room numbers.*

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THESE KIDS MEAN BUSINESS\$ Premier

Dr. Gregory Gray, Kendall Campus President, represented Miami Dade College's School of Business at the premiere of the Public Broadcasting System documentary "**THESE KIDS MEAN BUSINESS\$**." Centered on budding entrepreneurs across the country and the programs created to foster their interest and understanding of the free market, **THESE KIDS MEAN BUSINESS\$** tells the tale of underserved youth creating and living their own versions of the American success story.

Celebrated September 20th at the studios of WLRN, Dr. Gray partnered with Dr. Rudy Crew, District Superintendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, and Dr. Alan Carsrud, Executive Director, Pino Global Entrepreneurship Center at Florida International University, to highlight this opportunity unique to Miami.



Dr. Gray, Kendall Campus President, and Ms. Alice Horn, School of Business Advisory Board member and Executive Director of the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE).

More than 120 representatives from the private industry, the public school system and area colleges were in attendance at WLRN to hear Drs. Gray, Crew and Carsrud. They also saw the PBS documentary featuring a group of Miami students that participated in a high school entrepreneurship program. "Now, Miami's high school students will be able to graduate and come to an excellent entrepreneurship program at MDC," asserted Dr. Gray.

Faculty/ Staff Spotlight

We extend our heartiest congratulations to the School of Business employees who are this year's recipients of the *College President's Recognition of Excellence Award* :

Nancy Adkison, Business/CIS/CE, Homestead Campus
Steve Colyer, Minority Export Training Program, Wolfson Campus
Emma Rodriguez, Business/CIS, InterAmerican Campus
Maria White, School Director's Office, Kendall Campus

Once again, congratulations on your outstanding achievement!

Thank You for Your Input

Were you a part of, or do you know of, an event that will benefit the School of Business family? If so, please feel free to contact us directly at 305-237-0620.

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