

Business students have many opportunities to be involved

Texas A&M University's College of Business Administration offers students much more than just a classroom education. Although academic excellence is a priority, students are also involved in a wide array of extra-curricular activities. These activities are voluntary and add to the student's academic experience.

Student organizations in business are open to anyone who would like to donate time and effort to a worthy cause; the honorary societies require a minimum grade point ratio for membership. The organizations are beneficial to the college, the community and — most of all — to the students involved. Students meet many other students who have similar interests and needs.

These societies are student chapters of professional organizations and provide many programs and events to help prepare students for careers after graduation. Recruiters realize this and look for extra-curricular activities on students' resumes. The organizations serve a unique role in a student's education so all students are urged to find their area of interest and participate. We want you to know something about these groups.

MBA Association The MBA Association is an organization for graduate students in the College of Business. Members include Master of Business Administration, Master of Science and PhD students.

Speakers, career awareness conferences and social activities are sponsored by the association. A recent event was the third annual TAMU Invitational Case Competition. The association also puts out a membership resume book, which is sent to approximately two hundred companies. Another purpose of the organization is to facilitate professional and social interaction between the graduate students and faculty of the College of Business.

If you are a graduate student in the College of Business, or plan to be soon, please contact the MBA Association. The association is located in room 316 of the Academic and Agency building. *Cliff John, President*

The Finance Association The Finance Association is a student professional society open to students interested in pursuing financial careers. The association plans activities throughout the school year to help students become more aware of opportunities in the field of finance.

Membership in the association offers several advantages to students involved in the organization. First and perhaps most important, the association puts students in contact with prospective employers. Through guest speakers and field trips, students can talk to professionals on finance related topics and careers. Many banks sponsor cocktail receptions which allow students to personally talk to bank representatives. Membership in the finance association gives students an opportunity to interact with the finance faculty on a more personal and informal basis. Members also become more acquainted with other students who share similar goals and interests.

A major project of the Finance Association is a resume book listing upcoming graduates. The resume book is distributed to over one hundred businesses which gives students a broad exposure to job opportunities available. The cost of publishing the book is partially defered by contributions from various businesses. In addition to guest speakers and field trips, social activities such as parties and barbecues are held during the year. Anyone interested in learning more about the Finance Association may inquire at the Finance department or at the Business Student Council information desk (A&A 101). *Tim Meinardus, President*

The Management Society The Management Society is a student organization opened to all students with an interest in the managerial aspects of business. The society offers a variety of events and activities throughout the year. Monthly meetings with informative speakers concerning different aspects of business life provide students insight into real world situations. The society participates in numerous intramural sports and sponsors several social events. A field trip is taken each semester

to visit several businesses. The field trip allows the students to interact with personnel of the companies and to learn more about the operations of the individual firms. The Management Society publishes a resume book once a year which includes resumes of interested students. The book is sent to over two hundred companies, most of whom regularly interview at A&M.

The Management Society provides an excellent opportunity to intermingle with other students with similar interests and also provides the chance to meet with professionals in the business world. *Fred DeLira, President*

Sigma Iota Epsilon Sigma Iota Epsilon is an honorary and professional fraternity. Sigma Eta is the Texas A&M chapter of this national management fraternity. The purposes of Sigma Iota Epsilon include: to stimulate interest and achievement in the field of management; to stimulate scholarship and research in management through the development of the scientific approach to the solution of management problems; to gain recognition in business and to facilitate contacts between students and businessmen. Sigma Eta recognizes persons who have made contributions to field of management by having them come and speak throughout the semester.

Membership is determined by a committee whose purpose is to screen the applicants academic and extracurricular activities. If you are interested, feel free to contact me. *Greg D. Owens, President*

Beta Alpha Psi Beta Alpha Psi is a national professional organization comprised of honor students concentrating in accounting. In addition to promoting the collegiate study of accounting topics, the organization's goal is to cultivate a sense of responsibility and service in its members.

At Texas A&M, the Delta Iota chapter of Beta Alpha Psi plans a variety of professional meetings, activities and social functions to meet the fraternity's objectives. Also while participating in the planned activities, members are given the opportunity to associate with other members and practicing accountants.

To be eligible for membership, students must have completed six credit hours of intermediate accounting and attained a cumulative grade average of at least 3.0 overall and a 3.0 in accounting courses.

Anyone interested in joining Beta Alpha Psi should contact Dr. James Benjamin, faculty vice president. *K.C. Mann, President*

The Accounting Society The Accounting Society is one of the largest professional organizations on campus. Its purpose is to promote relations between faculty and students as well as between professional accountants and students. The society tries to inform students about their chosen profession and stimulate their interest in accounting.

The club brings speakers to campus to give presentations on topics of interest such as "Job Opportunities in Accounting", "Dress for Success" and "The Interview Process."

The Accounting Society also provides social activities, including, for example, barbeque and dance, wine and cheese party, a luau, and our biggest activity of the year, the Greater Annual Accountants Playday (GAAP).

The Accounting Society can be an asset to students who want to learn more about the field of accounting. It gives opportunities to meet and talk with professionals. The dues for membership are only \$14 per year or \$8 per semester. We are a fun organization; come join. *Sandi Chalmers, President*

The Marketing Society The academics, faculties and facilities representing the College of Business at Texas A&M are among the best anywhere. Unfortunately this does not mean a great deal without the involvement of the students. The Marketing Society has an obligation to get students involved in the school and help them take advantage of the opportunities A&M offers.

As part of the College of Business Administration, the Marketing Society does its part toward making students' college experience fulfilling this obligation. Our membership has increased to over three hundred and fifty students,

reflecting the growth of the business school itself. One of our objectives for this year has been to increase the average attendance at our functions and meetings. The Marketing Society has tried to show its members that there is a connection between school and the professional business world. By visiting different business companies such as the field trip to Dallas last fall, we hope our members see that being part of a professional organization like the Marketing Society can be used as a stepping stone to a career in business of their choice. Other activities include speakers from different fields such as retail, manufacturing, advertising and etc. These speakers help inform members what they can do now and in the future to prepare for graduation and a business career.

Being a member of the Marketing Society gives a student many chances to meet fellow students with similar interests and many times similar backgrounds. It also gives the student a chance to interact with their professors outside the classroom.

If you have any questions about upcoming events or membership details, feel free to contact me. *Eric D. Jones, Pres-*

Beta Gamma Sigma Beta Gamma Sigma, founded in 1907, is the national business honor society. The objectives of the Society are "to encourage and reward scholarship and accomplishment among students of business and administration, to promote the advancement of education in the art and science of business, and to foster integrity in the conduct of business operations." Induction into Beta Gamma Sigma is recognized as the highest scholastic honor that a student in business administration can attain.

The Texas A&M chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma is currently preparing for its induction ceremony and banquet on April 14. The eligibility rules are:

• juniors—top 3 percent from the College of Business

• seniors—top 10 percent from the College of Business

• master's students—top 20 percent receiving the degree during the previous year

• doctoral students—completed the requirements for degree during the previous year.

Eligible students should receive a letter of invitation to be inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma within the next two weeks. For more information, contact: Dr. A.W. Smith, faculty advisor, 845-3133; Jane Prior, president, 260-0769; or Robert Berry, vice president, 693-0885. *Jane Prior, President*

Epsilon Delta Pi Epsilon Delta Pi was founded in 1973 to recognize outstanding academic scholarship of students in every application and level of computer science, including business and systems programming.

The purpose of Epsilon Delta Pi is to promote the high ideals of the data processing profession; to give recognition to those persons in data processing who manifest worthy qualities of character, scholarship, and professional attainment; to bind together similarly interested students; and to encourage excellence in data processing scholarship.

To be eligible for membership, an undergraduate student must have declared data processing as either a major or minor field, have completed at least 24 hours of course work with at least six hours in data processing-related courses, and have a minimum overall grade point ratio of 3.0 and a 3.25 GPR in all data processing course work. A graduate student pursuing a data processing degree will be required to maintain a 3.25 GPR in graduate work. *Celia Dill, President*

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Good grades and good times can go together

by Monica Lewis

Alright! Class is over and I still have time to catch some rays or watch General Hospital. I think I'll study outside. Let's see — pick up around the house, run some essential errands and, oh my gosh, dinner time already! Seven o'clock rolls around and it's about time to drag myself to the library. Quick, get on the phone and find someone who will go with me. Cruise up to the third floor, pick a good spot, unload our books and take a lap to see who's here. Okay, it's 8:15 and we're back. Time for some intensive study. First order of business is The Battalion. Now that's out of the way, I guess I'll have to open this book.

The itinerary for each week is basically the same. Wednesday evening is Hall of Fame. Thursday morning comes and it's difficult to tear yourself out of bed, but making it to your 8:00 class gives you a real sense of accomplishment. Thursday night is spent at the Chicken or Bennigan's, and Friday morning comes all too soon. Eleven o'clock already — so much for morning classes. You feel guilty for a while, but it's Friday and time to get ready for the weekend. Clean your room, run to the store and the cleaners, and you're back just in time for Happy Hour.

If this little scenario sounds similar to your approach to college you may be in for a rude awakening when time comes to graduate. People go to school for all kinds of reasons. I admit I wasn't exactly here to learn. I was here to get a degree so I would get a good job when I graduated. In the meantime my objective was to make school as painless as possible.

I majored in marketing instead of management because that meant I didn't have to take English 301, Calculus 230, and had a choice of Bana 304 or 305, and got to pick my economics electives. Perfect reasons to switch, right?

I graduated, got an okay job and found my options were really limited because of my poor grades. I really could have used some more finance, accounting, and English instead of three semesters of racquetball.

So here you are with a 2.4 and a business degree, so what? Unless you have a 3.0 or better or have some great connections, you could be in for a real disappointment. Why? Because there are a lot of other folks out there dressed in grey pinstripes and wingtips who have used their creative writing skills on their resumes and you're all competing for the same jobs.

Assuming the main reason you are in school is to get a good job, good grades are almost essential. Here's some hindsight that may be useful to you.

Go to class! You learn more in less time from your own notes than from a xerox of someone else's. Besides, think about the time it takes to borrow notes, find a working copy machine, get change to run the machine, and return the notes.

Attending class regularly may sound hard to swallow but if you start learning while you are sitting there instead of mechanically copying the lecture, you are a step ahead of the game. And as silly as it sounds, sit in front of the classroom. This will force you to be on time and pay attention.

Use the time between class productively. If you devote your daytime to school you will probably end up spending more hours studying than if you tried to study from 7:30-10:30 every night. And this approach leaves time for

meetings, relaxing, or partying in the evenings without feeling guilty.

Major companies pay professors thousands of dollars for consulting advice and you can get for free. So get to know your profs — they are sources of good advice and information about the real world.

Join and participate actively in a minimum of two organizations. Just paying your dues and listing them on your resume isn't enough — because everyone else does it too.

Corny as it sounds, working in a group helps you learn to work with others and get things done. People in companies really do have the same quirks and problems as people in college, so why not learn by practice now?

Make good grades early! If you study hard and do well in those freshman and sophomore courses that everyone must take, the grade points will help your average later. There will come times when you really have to work to earn a "C!"

Study hard all four years and it will pay off over and over again when you graduate. Develop a track record that will make recruiters confident in offering you the most attractive position.

Research

What it takes to find executives, managers

by Lori Weldon

A research team of the Texas A&M College of Business Administration will be surveying executives of independent oil and gas producers to find out more about the firms and the type of people who run them, said Dr. Richard Woodman, co-director of the project.

The executive profile is being commissioned by a grant from Korn/Ferry International, the world's largest executive recruiting firm. "They're in the business of finding executive and management people," said Woodman. The firm conducts studies at several different universities on the type of person who is needed to fill the executive positions in a given industry.

Included in the profile are questions on everything from the executives' family background, education and career path, to their ideas on key issues concerning the industry, and the amount of time they spend with their families.

"There's no data on these particular people," said Woodman. But the oil and gas industry is attracting public attention now, and the survey seems to be of interest to executives in the field as well as to Korn/Ferry.

Mailed to all survey participants will be responses compiled into "statistical aggregates" by a team of five students and two faculty co-directors, Woodman and Dr. Stuart Youngblood. The final report should be completed by late April or early May, said Woodman, and will be sent to all firms participating in the survey and will also be disseminated by Korn/Ferry.

While the report may not bear out traditional stereotypes concerning independent oil and gas businessmen, it will probably show that they are "entrepreneurial people, not averse to taking risks, but not as risky as our stereotypes would make them seem," said Woodman.

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