GVSU ~ Seidman College of Business Finance Department

The Finance Focus

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www.gvsu.edu/business/finance

Finance Faculty

- Sridhar Sundaram, Chair
- Yatin Bhagwat
- Larry Blose
- George Chang
- Gregg Dimkoff
- Susan Edwards
- Vijay Gondhalekar
- Frank Griggs
- Mary Kelly (Visiting Professor)
- Glenn Pettengill
- Thomas Willey
- Robyn Toth, Office Coordinator

Inside this issue:

Graduating soon? Please keep us informed of what you are doing after graduation by emailing scbfinance@gvsu.edu.

Event Focus ~ First Advisory Board Meeting

The chair of the Finance department along with a few of Seidman's Finance alumni started meeting about six months ago with an idea to form an Advisory Board for the Finance Department.

The first meeting was held on March 26, 2008. With fourteen board members, faculty and IPO students, the breakfast meeting was a very strong and encouraging start for this board.

The expected role of the advisory board is to form a partnership with the department that will provide dialogue in regards to issues related to students, faculty and alumni.

The inaugural board members are Boomer Hoppough (Independent Bank), Bob Frey (GVSU), Mark Redfield (Redfield & Irish Finance Group), Jim Walsh (Meijer, retired), Matt Cinco (Wadell & Reed), Jim Gillette (CSM Worldwide), Kathleen Vogelsang (Van Andel Institute), Mike Metzger (JSJ Corporation), Brandon Finnie (Adamy Valuation Advisors), Scott Setlock (Mercantile Bank), Joe Nowicki (Herman Miller), Mark Mossing (Steelcase), Rob Jamula (Fifth Third Bank), and Mitch Stapley (Fifth Third Asset Management).

Please check out the website for more information coming soon.

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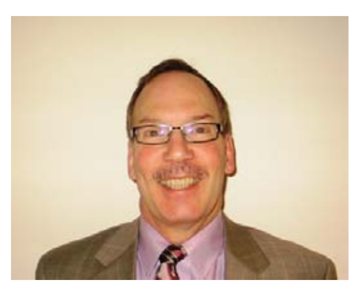
Faculty Focus ~ Gregg Dimkoff

In previous newsletters we have focused on the new chair of the department and the newest member of the department so now how do I go about choosing who is next? Well how about the one who has been here the longest, Professor Gregg Dimkoff.

Professor Dimkoff was charged with creating the Finance department 33 years ago. Currently there are 10 full time faculty, one visiting professor and over 430 finance majors. Besides mainly teaching FIN 331: Risk & Insurance, Gregg is also the Director and instructor for the Certified Financial Planning certificate program.



Finance Class Focus ~ FIN 380: Seminar in Finance

Course description: Course content varies. Refer to schedule to determine course description and prerequisites. Students may repeat this course under different topics.

FIN 380 is a seminar class that is used by the department to offer different classes that are not something offered on a consistent basis as of yet. Different semesters can mean different choices. For example in the Fall 2007 an Ethics in Finance class was scheduled. In the Winter 2009 the class will be Short-Term Financial Management. These classes may become permanent classes in the future under a different number. Sometimes the classes will be offered more than once under the FIN 380 course number.

If you are in need of a course description for the class specific to what is being offered in any given semester please contact the department for a description or a copy of the syllabus.

As with any of your classes seek help from the instructor, other students, or tutors for assistance if needed. Don't be afraid to ask questions!

IPO Focus ~ R.I.S.E. Symposium VIII

Members of the IPO club attended the R.I.S.E. Symposium (Redefining Investment Strategy Education) in Dayton, Ohio again this year. This event had over 2,000 participants representing colleges from over 50 different countries that were brought together to experience the world's largest investment conference for college students.

As always the conference carried on its tradition of bringing in several world-renowned speakers in the field of finance to discuss the current issues that these students will have to face as they enter the workforce. The remainder of the conference was dedicated to investment-focused break-out sessions and workshops, which each student could select based on his or her interests and career objectives. The first remote NASDQ market closing on a college campus was held this year at the symposium.

Todd Jennings stated, "The most rewarding portion of the trip was the opportunity to get to know my fellow IPO peers better as well as network with students from other Universities." He also felt that it was a highly educational experience for him and strongly recommends it to other IPO members.

"The RISE symposium has shown me the multiple opportunities and diversity of roles there are in the finance industry...I am excited to get out there in the finance world." stated Pete Mondejar, another IPO member who attended. He also felt that the quality of the speakers and the ability to network made this experience a very positive one.

"The conference is highly educational for students ranging from minimal experience to near-grads preparing to enter the workforce."

-Dan Lupo

Finance Major Focus ~ Faculty continue to learn...

About six times a year a presentation is made to the department faculty. These presentation lunches offer the faculty an opportunity to interact with the business community and discuss current financial practices in the industry.

For example last month Joe Nowicki, Treasurer and Vice President for Investor Relations from Herman Miller came in and spoke about the capital structure of Herman Miller including their new debt issue.

Past presenters have included Rick Adamy from Adamy and Company to discuss their procedures to value private companies and Linda Masselink of Steelcase Library talked about new resources the library has that would be useful to professors. Others from Steelcase and Fifth Third Bank have presented to anywhere from twelve to fifteen people.

Many faculty appreciate these presentations as it gives them current knowledge of business practices and they can then pass that information on to their students. It also creates a lot of discussion between faculty not only in finance but in other disciplines as well.

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