

The Finance Focus

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www.gvsu.edu/business/finance

Event Focus ~ Careers & Curriculum 2008

Finance Faculty

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- Yatin Bhagwat
- Larry Blöse
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- Gregg Dimkoff
- Susan Edwards
- Vijay Gondhalekar
- Frank Griggs
- Mary Kelly
- Glenn Pettengill
- Thomas Willey
- Robyn Toth, Office Coordinator

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

Over 100 students, both undergraduate and graduates, finance majors and non-finance majors attended the third annual Careers & Curriculum in Finance 2008 on September 25th.

In the first hour the business professionals informed students of what employers look for as well as what students can expect in the different career areas of Finance. Other speakers during that hour included representatives from Career Services, Undergrad Advising, IPO, and Study Abroad. H. James Williams, the Dean of the Seidman College of Busi-

ness spoke as well. The second hour allowed the students to "meet & greet" the guests from the business community as well as connect with faculty and other students.

One business professional commented how impressed she was with the Seidman students she met at the event. She was impressed by both their presence and the questions they asked.

The 2009 Careers & Curriculum event will be on held on Thursday, September 24, 2009.



Faculty Focus ~ Mary Kelly, Affiliate Professor

Dr. Mary Kelly is currently an Affiliate Professor in the Finance Department. Having recently completed her DBA in Finance, Dr. Kelly has been teaching at GVSU since Fall of 2002.

Kristi, a previous student of hers, stated, "Professor Kelly

is one of those great educators who is able to bring her years of real world experience into the classroom and relate that to what you are studying from the textbook. What stands out most about Professor Kelly is her eagerness to share what she knows, in and out of the classroom,

as well as genuinely caring about her students. She was always willing to take the extra time to provide her students with what they needed to excel."

Dr. Kelly teaches FIN 320, FIN 322 and FIN 420.

Finance Class Focus ~ FIN 221: Personal Finance

Course Description:

Designed for the non-finance major who wants to improve the management of personal finances. Aspects of finance that individuals are likely to face in their life will be discussed. Specific topics include credit purchasing and borrowing, insurance, home ownership, stock and bond investment, mutual funds, income taxes and estate planning. (3 credits)

Marcia Vanderwoude, adjunct Professor of FIN 221 states,

“Personal Finance is the most important class that students can take in high school and college. All of the issues discussed are real-life issues and deeply impact one’s financial success. We would not be in the absolute chaotic mess that we are in today if people were educated as to budgeting, financial and investment planning and estate planning.”

This class could be an important part of the undergraduate experience for those who are not

finance majors but want a better understanding of some of the basics of personal finance. Understanding personal finance issues will carry through a student’s entire life, from buying a home to basic understanding of investing.

FIN 221: Personal Finance is offered Fall and Winter semesters.



IPO Focus ~ Berkshire Hathaway’s Annual Meeting

In April 2008, a select few IPO members had the privilege of attending Berkshire Hathaway’s annual shareholders meeting. Thanks to donated passes from GVSU alumni shareholders, the attendees were graced by seven hours of Q&A from the Oracle of Omaha himself: Warren Buffet. Mr. Buffet, alongside longtime partner Charlie Munger shed more than a hint of wisdom concerning Berkshire and the broader market turmoil. Senior attendee Max Frantz stood just two feet away from Mr. Buffet only to be

quickly deterred by a 230-pound body guard. This experience for those IPO members will never be forgotten. This trip is once again on IPO’s calendar of to-do’s in 2008-2009.

For more information about the club, simply visit www.gvsu.edu/invest



“The fact that they [Warren & Charlie] take that much time to field shareholder questions was amazing. Being that close to such immense talent and success was inspiring,” remembers Frantz.

-Max Frantz

Finance Major Focus ~ Internships

It is safe to say that internships can be a very important learning experience for students. They can help solidify the students’ career decisions or change his/her direction completely—both are valuable lessons learned. Potential employers also view the internship experience very positively during the hiring process.

So how does one go about finding an internship? There are several ways. Networking on your own with other students, family, friends, etc. Contacting the company or companies you want to work for to see if they have internship opportunities. You also can check out the internship postings through the Undergrad Advising Office. Their website is www.gvsu.edu/business, look for the

posting under Undergraduate programs then click on internships. Another GVSU website to check out is LakerJobs through Career Services. The postings can be found at www.gvsu.edu/lakerjobs.

Also watch for emails sent out by the Finance department regarding finance internships and job opportunities.

