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INSIDE THE

# COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

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NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring 2009

Vol. 18, No. 1

## Second Executive MBA Class Underway

The College of Business Administration will reach a new milestone this year when the ten members of the first class of the Executive MBA program receive their graduate degrees at spring commencement. In their footsteps follow the twelve members of the second EMBA cohort, who began their program on January 17 of this year. Much like their predecessors, the current class is diverse in terms of background – engineering, financial services, manufacturing, management, and education.

The EMBA is offered in a hybrid format with coursework divided between interactive classes held every other Saturday and online assignments. The creation of the program has allowed the College of Business to increase its competitiveness as a provider of a quality business education, while simultaneously addressing the business needs of the Bayou Region.

The format was designed to allow flexibility for students such as Gwen Luc, co-owner of Payroll & Business Solutions, Inc. “The Nicholls EMBA Program is allowing me to further my education in a condensed timeframe without extensive travel,” Luc notes. The hybrid format has been equally attractive for Jonathan Carothers, administrator for Digestive Health Center, who enrolled in the program because a traditional MBA would conflict with his numerous meetings and evening events that arise as a result of his marketing work in the medical field.

Overall, the initial reviews from the second EMBA cohort have been positive. Stephen Lowery, electrical engineer at DynMcDermott Petroleum Opera-



Gwen Luc



Jonathan Carothers

tions, states that “I am able to take what I learn on the weekend and apply it in real time at my workplace. I can see that the experience and knowledge gained from the program will give me the tools needed to advance my career. I would recommend the Nicholls EMBA program to anyone wanting a great education from a high quality institution.”

An equally positive review is offered by Jeremy Acosta, environmental  
See **Executive MBA**, page 6

## EMBA Gets New Home

The Executive Master of Business Administration program at Nicholls acquired a new home last summer following a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Theodore “Teddy” Duhé Building in Houma.

The Barker Family Executive Classroom, named for the family of Nicholls Foundation board member and university alumnus Dickie Barker, will accommodate 20 students in a boardroom environment. Suitable for case discussions, seminars and lectures, the room encourages interaction among students and professors via state-of-the-art, user-friendly technology. Teaching tools include a viewing monitor that allows interactive writing and recording on the screen, ceiling-mounted surround sound speakers and a high resolution projector.

“Nicholls is so very fortunate to have the Dickie Barker family among its most loyal and generous supporters,” said Dr. Stephen T. Hulbert, president of Nicholls. “Those who are familiar with the history of locating the Duhé Building in Houma know that Dickie played a key role in making that happen. For Dickie and his family to make possible the conversion of an ordinary classroom into an extraordinary high tech boardroom for students in our EMBA program is both special and significant.”

The Nicholls EMBA program, a hybrid system utilizing on-line and face-to-face instructional methods, is designed to meet the scheduling needs of professionals who have chosen to advance their education. Students complete about half their coursework online, on their own schedule, and spend the balance of their coursework in a face-to-face environment approximately



EMBA class hard at work in the new Barker Family Executive Classroom.

every other Saturday.

“It was a pleasure to work with Dickie Barker and his family to secure the funds for this project,” said Dr. David Boudreaux, vice president of institutional advancement. “Dickie’s understanding of the importance of Nicholls to this region and his leadership as an officer of the foundation have helped to make good things happen over the years. He and his family are focused on serving the people of the Bayou Region.”

See **New Home**, page 4

# Greetings from Dean Shawn Mauldin



Throughout this newsletter you will read about the great things being accomplished in the College of Business. I am very proud of our dedicated and talented faculty and staff who continue to support the college's strategic initiatives and strive to deliver the best possible education to our students. It is their unwavering commitment that sets us apart from our competition and provides the educational experience that I am sure many of you fondly remember.

The faculty, staff, and I are diligently preparing for the upcoming AACSB International maintenance visit. A team of our peers will visit campus in February 2010 to review our business and accounting programs. AACSB

International accreditation continues to be the hallmark of excellence in business education and assures our stakeholders that we are providing high-caliber teaching of quality and current curricula.

It would be remiss of me not to mention the extraordinary and unprecedented economic downturn that we are facing in this country and state. As a result, higher education in Louisiana is facing some challenging and difficult times. At this point, we are unsure of the impact that the potential budget cuts will have on Nicholls. However, we will do everything possible to ensure that we maintain the strength of our academic programs and will continue to support and foster economic development in the region we serve.

I speak for the faculty, staff, and students in thanking you, our alumni and friends, for your continuing commitment to the College of Business. We understand your importance to the future of the college. In the event that you should have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## The Traditional MBA Gets a Makeover

One of the rules for modern, competitive businesses is to provide a product that the customers want and need. To that end, the College of Business at Nicholls has revised and redesigned certain aspects of the MBA program curriculum and prerequisites. A new method of meeting prerequisites will allow faster entry into the graduate curriculum while ensuring students are prepared with the necessary business knowledge to begin graduate courses. Also, the curriculum has been redesigned to be more integrative, provide a logical structure, and incorporate more business knowledge necessary to succeed in today's workplace.

### Faster Prerequisite Process

Starting this summer, MBA applicants will have an alternative to taking undergrad prerequisite courses in order to enter into the MBA curriculum. The College of Business at Nicholls will offer Pre-MBA Foundation Modules, self-study courses, each with an accompanying competency exam. For students who do not have an undergraduate degree in business, or who may need to get up to speed in one or more of those areas in business, these modules will be

used to provide incoming students with the prerequisite knowledge needed to begin graduate courses. By allowing students to complete these courses in a self-study manner at their own convenience, these new modules will significantly decrease the time it takes for many to earn their MBA degree, especially for those who have limited business classes in their undergraduate coursework.

### More Integrated Curriculum

As the College of Business faculty looked for ways to improve the individual courses that are part of the MBA degree, one major theme emerged: more integration among the courses offered. Just as modern business people need to see how their area or department interacts with other functions within the business unit, students need to understand how those various business functions affect each area that they study. Beginning in the fall of 2009, MBA courses in the core business disciplines (accounting, economics, finance, management, marketing) will be more integrative in nature, often tying in concepts from several other disciplines for cases, projects and presentations. The goal of these course changes is to produce MBA graduates with more of a "big picture" view of the firm, allowing them to see how a change in one area affects the entire enterprise.

Another change to the curriculum is a course sequence for students to follow when taking their graduate coursework. In the past, students were required to take several classes, but in no particular order. The new curriculum has students take accounting and statistics before taking finance, and requires the completion of finance, as well as economics, management and marketing before taking the capstone course in business strategy. Assessment measures used to evaluate the MBAs include the ability to critically analyze business situations and reach sound conclusions, incorporating several perspectives from the core disciplines. These changes to the MBA courses and curriculum should produce graduates that are even more prepared to handle the complexities of modern business practices.

### New Core Material

At Nicholls, the business professors take the responsibility of shaping tomorrow's ethical leaders very seriously. Unfortunately, examples of poor leadership and bad ethical decisions have been highlighted in the news, and it seems to have more prevalence recently. To combat this trend, many business schools are moving toward courses to help develop better practices in their students.

See **Makeover**, page 6

### The New Curriculum

Here's a look at the entire curriculum for the MBA program (11 courses for a total of 33 hours):

#### *The Language and Tools of Business Analysis (12 hours)*

- ACCT 500 – Managerial Decision Support
- BSAD 501 – Quantitative Business Analysis & Decision Support
- ECON 500 – The Economic Environment of Business
- FINC 515 – Performance and Planning (taken after ACCT 500 and BSAD 501)

#### *Understanding Organizational Processes, Markets, and Employees (9 hours)*

- CIS 501 – Managing Information Technology & Business Processes
- MKTG 501 – Market Analysis, Planning & Control
- MNGT 502 – Managing Human Capital

#### *Achieving Competitive Success (9 hours)*

- BSAD 507 – Leadership, Ethics & Accountability
- FINC 520 – Value-Based Management (taken after FINC 515)
- BSAD 525 – Managing Strategic Resources for Competitive Advantage (taken after ECON 500, MKTG 501, MNGT 502 and FINC 515)

Elective (3 hours/1 course) from approved courses as determined by the Director of Graduate Programs in Business.

## Otto Candies Endowed Chair of Information Systems Welcomed



**D**r. Neset Hikmet joined the Department of Accounting and Information Systems (AIS) last fall as the Otto Candies Endowed Chair of Information Systems and is professor of computer information systems. Dr. Hikmet, who is originally from Cypress and who grew up in Turkey, received his B.S. in civil engineering from Middle East Technical University. Later, he received his MBA and Ph.D. from the University of Rhode Island.

When asked what brought him to Nicholls he replied, “I received an e-mail telling me about an open position. The e-mail stated that Nicholls College of Business was looking for faculty with a new approach, someone who could bring life to the department.”

Dr. Hikmet taught at Northeastern University in Boston and then at the University of South Florida. Between the years 1980 to 1992, he owned his own business in Columbus, Ohio, which dealt with information systems and health care. Dr. Hikmet is married with three children.

Since joining the CBA, Dr. Hikmet has published six peer-reviewed articles

and two peer-reviewed proceedings. Through his efforts, the AIS became a Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance Partner. Through this partnership, CBA faculty and students will have unrestricted access (for educational purposes) to the complete industry version of Microsoft Dynamics® enterprise applications (valued at \$250,000). Microsoft Dynamics® incorporates complete business management applications that provide cost-efficient methods for managing and integrating finances, e-commerce, supply chain, manufacturing, project accounting, field service, customer relationships, and human resources.

Likewise, AIS is now a member of IBM Academic Initiative. Through this relationship faculty and students have the ability to download all the available IBM technology and courseware, remote access to certain hardware systems, participate in technical webcasts, and benefit from many other resources. IBM Academic Initiative Student Resource provides students with roadmaps on how to use these tools, plus other helpful resources like exercises, articles, and tutorials that can increase their knowledge. This alliance, too, is totally free to the CBA community.

Dr. Hikmet would like the Nicholls community to know he is a person of free spirit. He does not believe in conformity and joined the Nicholls community to bring about change. We are extremely curious about what else Dr. Hikmet has up his sleeves in the coming days and months!

## Information Systems Program Overhaul

by Dr. Neset Hikmet

*Professor of Information Systems*

*Otto Candies Endowed Chair of Information Systems*

**S**ince my arrival at Nicholls State University last fall, the Computer Information Systems program has been hard at work updating the information systems curriculum to reflect several changes in the global marketplace. While our students had a solid understanding of information systems in general, our old curriculum assumed that students would learn the implemented systems of their future employers, so there was less of a perceived need to get into the nuts and bolts of any particular software package.

One of the main changes we are introducing is the reinforcement of systems-oriented concepts as well. That is, we hope to provide more of a balance between the micro and macro levels of information systems. The new curriculum is intended to be custom-designed for students’ individual professional interests; it also includes a series of practicum for sophomores and juniors that allows them hands-on training in a broad range of IS issues and projects that deepen a student’s real-world understanding of the IS industry. Starting fall of 2009 Information Systems (IS) students working closely with their advisors will be able to further their expertise in the field of their interest, such as IT service management, network design and management, database administration and business intelligence, enterprise systems design, and e-commerce systems. The new IS program also offers students from other majors the opportunity to earn a minor in IS.

We have also been cultivating an advisory network of industry leaders (such as ExxonMobil, Google, and IBM) and area employers such as Thibodaux Regional Medical Center and Montco Offshore. Recently, we also joined the Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance (DynAA) because we owe it to our students to give them hands-on experience with prominent ERP/accounting packages – thereby giving them the experience they need to remain competitive as IS professionals. Our outreach efforts to these organizations have yielded new internship opportunities with IBM, Montco, Thibodaux Regional Medical

Center, and Microsoft Dynamics Academic Alliance members for those who would qualify.

Joining the IBM Academic Initiative program provides us with complimentary software packages used throughout the industry as well as simulation and educational tools. Likewise our joining Microsoft’s DynAA program yielded complimentary unrestricted commercial versions of Dynamics Accounting/ERP/CRM/SCM applications for our students to use in a lab environment.

Along these lines, Dr. Ronnie Fanguy and I recently attended Microsoft’s Convergence 2009 International Conference in New Orleans. This was a great opportunity to experience the sense of community shared among the faculty members in the Academic Alliance, who represented universities in Austria,

— “The new IS program also offers students from other majors the opportunity to earn a minor in IS.” —

Mexico, the United Arab Emirates, the United States, and many other nations as well. The setting was informal enough that the students I brought with me also felt encouraged to speak their minds and freely ask questions among the faculty – a potentially intimidating prospect. Microsoft struck just the right balance between “professional,” “academic,” and “friendly” for all involved!

With all these initiatives at work we are extremely excited about the future of our IS students. The IS faculty is committed to provide a premier learning environment for its students.

# Alliance for the Promotion of Fair Trade and Sustainable Development

The College of Business hosted the third annual meeting of the consortium to promote fair trade and sustainable development on February 26 and 27. Faculty from six universities visited our campus and shared experiences on exchange programs and inter-institution collaboration. A series of business meetings took place throughout the event with the participation of our president, Dr. Hulbert; Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Falcon; and the College of Business Dean, Dr. Mauldin, along with faculty and other university authorities. Institutions participating in the event included the University of Colima (Mexico), the University of Yucatan (Mexico), the University of Moncton (Canada), University of Sainte-Anne (Canada), Mount Allison University (Canada), and Central Arkansas

University (USA). This event, along with the support of Nicholls authorities and more specifically, the College of Business, is part of the on-going effort to internationalize the business curricula and provide our students with the skills necessary to manage competitive organizations in global environments.

A two-day colloquium entitled “Free Trade/Fair Trade: Challenges and Opportunities of Globalization” was also part of the consortium meeting. Jeff Moore, CEO of Just Us Coffee Roasters, opened the first day of the workshop by discussing the opportunities that fair trade provides to private business, sharing also his experiences of international negotiations. Dr. Len Trevino, Gerald N. Gaston Eminent Scholar Chair in International Business at Loyola University, New Orleans, then explored the need for business schools to internationalize their curricula, providing plans of actions for accomplishing this goal. Erin Butler-Mueller, commercial officer of the U.S. Department of Commerce, concluded the first day of presentations by analyzing the business opportunities in the world market for Louisiana companies; she stressed that Louisiana’s six deep water ports exported \$41.9 billion in 2008 – the largest port in the Western hemisphere.

Dr. Nicholas Capaldi, Legendre-Soule Distinguished Chair in Business Ethics at Loyola University, New Orleans, opened the second day of the colloquium by pinpointing the challenges globalization poses to both for-profit organizations and business schools, emphasizing the need for developing competencies in multicultural communications to reap the benefits of globalization. Then, Jose Lopez-Luna, professor of finance at University of Colima, Mexico, presented a study contrasting the purchasing power of NAFTA’s citizens; the study also highlighted the strong commercial interdependence that NAFTA has fostered in the region. The colloquium concluded with the participation of Dr. Nauman Farooqi, professor of finance and entrepreneurship at Mount Allison University, Canada, who shared his experiences with the use of experiential learning in business curricula, exhibiting the tangible learning outcomes from this technique.

In short, the third annual meeting of the consortium was an excellent opportunity for sharing knowledge of cross-cultural business competencies and strengthens the relationships among institutions.

## New Exchange Agreements

The Mission of the College of Business Administration is “to prepare students to participate in society and the work force as educated individuals able to compete in a dynamic global economy.” We do this by offering courses specifically geared to the global context, by including global aspects into all courses, by attracting international students, and by offering opportunities to our students to study abroad.

We attract highly qualified international students and provide study abroad opportunities through our many exchange agreements. This year we have again expanded our exchange agreements.

In January, we signed an agreement with Hallym University of South Korea. Hallym, a small but strong international university, is located in Chuncheon, province of Gongwon, an hour and a half train ride from Seoul. Chuncheon is noted for its many lakes, mountains, and good food. Downtown Chuncheon, which sits on Lake Uliam, is the center of many universities. The agreement with Hallym is our first venture with an Asian country. According to the agreement, we will accept third-year students for up to a year of study as non-degree seeking students. The first students would be arriving in 2010. Hallym is eager to accept our students for a semester or summer course. The courses taken would transfer as an integral part of the student’s curriculum. The courses are taught in English but the students will be expected to take a crash course in basic Korean language and culture.

The second agreement, signed in February, is with the Reims Management School in France. The school, founded in 1928, offers both graduate and undergraduate programs. The city of Reims, the site of the crowning of the French kings, is in the heart of the Champagne country and just a 45-minute train ride from Paris. Students from Reims would be accepted as one-semester non-degree undergraduates or into our MBA program provided, of course, that all admission requirements are met. Our junior level students would be accepted for a semester or summer course. The courses taken at Reims would transfer to Nicholls and be an integral part of their curriculum. Even though the courses at Reims are taught in English, the students are expected to have some previous knowledge of French and would take a language and culture course.

Our students have many opportunities to study abroad and to experience a different culture first-hand. Unfortunately, very few avail themselves of this chance. They do not seem to realize the edge that an international experience gives them in the job market. Businesses can no longer ignore the global environment. Taking advantage of the study abroad opportunities provided through the many exchange agreements of the College of Business Administration can be a key factor in a person’s success professionally. Do encourage our students to look into these programs.

## NEW HOME, continued from page 1

The foundation contributed the balance of the funds to the classroom’s construction, Boudreaux said. The total cost was approximately \$60,000.

“My family and I are pleased that Nicholls selected Houma and the Duhé Building for the Barker Family Executive Classroom,” Barker said. “Throughout my adult life I have recognized what Nicholls means to this community and to this region. The growth and development of Houma and Thibodaux have paralleled the growth and maturity of Nicholls. An Executive MBA program that is accessible right here at our doorsteps will help to make us more competitive in a global economy. My family and I appreciate what Nicholls, Dr. Hulbert, his administrative team and the College of Business Administration have accomplished to make this a reality.”

Dr. Shawn Mauldin, dean of the College of Business Administration, said the Barker family is to be commended for “allowing the College of Business Administration to achieve its vision of being recognized as a leader in business education.”

## 2008 Elite Youth Leadership Camp at Asia University

Last July three students from the College of Business—Paul Buras, Sarah Neunzig, and Josh Richard—joined students from California, Wisconsin, Spain, Iran, New Zealand, and elsewhere around the world at Asia University, Taichung, Taiwan, for a four-week fellowship program in Chinese culture. The program was designed to foster leadership among young people in North America, Europe, Asia, and the Pacific Rim by enriching their lives through an experience in Taiwan. The curriculum of the leadership camp was approved by the Ministry of Education in Taiwan, and each student that successfully completed the program received credit hours from Asia University and China Medical University Hospital. Even though the students received an intensive immersion in Chinese language and culture, most commented that meeting and making friends with students from around the world was equally rewarding.

Each fellowship included free accommodations and tuition for four weeks in Taiwan and up to \$1,200 to cover round-trip air fare to and from

Taiwan. Tuition covered morning instructions in the Mandarin language (including an optional hour of tutoring per class session with a Taiwanese bilingual student), afternoon classes in Chinese culture and management, and one to three cultural experiences per week. Tours and cultural experiences included bus tours in Taichung and Taipei; visits to Pescadores, China Medical University, and Hsin Chu Science Park; and themed field trips to the Office of Physical Education for a Diabolo show and dragon dancing, ballroom dancing, the strategies of different styles of garden cafes and leisure farms in Taiwan, and the current status of agricultural research in Taiwan. One of the highlights of the experience was a three-day trip to Penghu hosted by a professor who lives on the island. At the end of the four-week program, participants made presentations in Mandarin and on “The Society and Culture in Taiwan” with the help of their “teaching assistants” who also doubled as translators throughout the program on group tours and for free time out on the town.



Paul Buras, Sarah Neunzig and Josh Richard are pictured above with other students from around the country who attended the Asia University in Taichung, Taiwan for a four-week fellowship program in Chinese culture.

## Study Abroad in China

Business students are going to China! The first group of 10 students and two faculty members from the College of Business Administration are taking a 10-day journey to China in May 2009. Dr. En Mao, assistant professor of information systems, recruited the students and will lead them on this trip, which is designed to immerse business students in Chinese business and culture. The group will visit two of the world's largest cities, Shanghai, the financial capital of China, and the capital city of Beijing. Presentations and

tours from the Ministry of Commerce, the World Health Organization, Lenovo, Hyundai, Shanghai University, and the Shanghai Stock exchange will give Nicholls students an in-depth look into the business environment, culture and practices of China. This trip is guaranteed to be a culinary adventure with many opportunities to dine on authentic Chinese cuisine. Students will also experience shopping and practice some basic Chinese they learned prior to the trip. The cultural immersion is complete with a trip to the Great Wall and many other historic sites.

## Alumni Donors

The College of Business Administration thanks the following alumni who recently donated to the CBA Annual Fund.

Jan Alvarez	Curtis Arcement
Adam Ayme	Neal Ayme, Jr.
Paul Babin	William Barbera
Michael Barker	Jeffrey Beech
Kristin Bellanger	Danny Blanchard
Michael Blanchard	Donald Boudreaux
Doug Bourg	Randy &
Dr. Arleene Breaux	Gretchen Bourgeois
Vicki Briggs	Stephanie Caballero
Craig Cheramie	Jill Daigle
Sharon Daigle	Michael Davis
Todd Denson	Mickey Diez
Berwick Duval	Alison Edmonson
Michael Fakier	Mark Faulk
Mark Folse	Amanda Fremin
Tim Gallagher	Susan Gilbert
Eugene Gouaux, Jr.	Junius Guidry
Faye Harris	Mark Hovespian
Roland Knobloch	Jerry Ledet, Jr.
Joan Malbrough	Morrison Plaisance
Allison Rouse	Ryan Scott
Robert Sevin	Jim Silverberg
Maria Smith	Keven “Ann” Walton

## Where are they now?

### ENRIQUE JOSE JIMENEZ

**MONTESINOS** (B.A. 1980, Economics), works with Citigroup (Citisouciones in Spain and Primerica in USA) to help families with their financial needs (since 2002).

**LARRY A. BAUDOIN** (B.S. 1968, Business Administration), recently retired from Tulane University as associate dean for administration and financial services in the School of Medicine. He resides in South Carolina.

**EXECUTIVE MBA**, continued from page 1

professional at John Deere, who notes that “My early experiences have all been positive. The physical classroom is first class. My first two instructors were both able to make an 8-hour lecture challenging, yet enjoyable. My classmates are a very diverse group, which enhances our classroom discussions. I am amazed how quickly I have utilized lessons learned in class. I’ve encouraged numerous co-workers to look into the EMBA program at Nicholls.”

In addition to Luc, Carothers, Lowery, and Acosta, EMBA students in the current class include Bea Buford, instructor for St. Mary Parish School Board; Reed Davison, ship surveyor for American Bureau of Shipping; Craig Francisco, Jr., electrical and instrumentation designer for Aker Solutions; Brett Hains, financial consultant for Capital One Bank; Al Hebert, operations manager for Brand Services; Herb Hodovsky, owner/president of Terrebonne Trawl, Inc.; Bill Ridgway, project manager for John Deere; and Allyson Russell, account clerk and purchasing agent for St. Mary Parish School Board.

The next EMBA class will begin in spring of 2010. Information and applications about the program are available online at [www.nicholls.edu/emba](http://www.nicholls.edu/emba), the MBA office in 104 White Hall, or by calling (985) 448-4241. Those interested



Stephen Lowery



Jeremy Acosta

in the program are encouraged to contact Dr. Luke Cashen, EMBA Director, at (985) 448-4178 or by e-mail at [luke.cashen@nicholls.edu](mailto:luke.cashen@nicholls.edu).

**MAKEOVER**, continued from page 2

Toward that end, the College of Business will introduce a new required course called Leadership, Ethics and Accountability. This course will examine leadership as the integrating force in the functional areas of a business enterprise. Key areas of study will be developing organizational goals and strategic plans, and guiding, developing and motivating the people within the organization, all within modern, ethical frameworks.

In order to strengthen students’ grasp of the core area of finance, the course previously labeled Seminar in Financial Management has been replaced by two courses. The first course, Performance and Planning, provides concepts and analytical frameworks to measure a firm’s performance and establish

short-term plans that are of value to the firm. The second course, Value-Based Management, provides the analytical framework to evaluate the long-term strategic investment and financing decisions the firm’s management faces. These two courses will provide students with a better understanding of how these financial forces impact the firm and provide them with an improved ability to evaluate different financial options and make sound decisions for the future of the company.

If you have questions or would like to explore pursuing your MBA at Nicholls, contact the Office of Graduate Programs in Business at (985) 448-4241. For more information, refer to the Web site at [www.nicholls.edu/mba](http://www.nicholls.edu/mba).

## Go Colonels!



Dr. J Field (top left), assistant professor of marketing, treated students, faculty, and staff to view the Colonels basketball team in the Southland Conference tournament. Dr. Field paid for live video streaming of the tournament into Powell Auditorium and invited everyone to enjoy the game. He even treated everyone to popcorn!

# New Faces in the College of Business Administration

The CBA gladly welcomed four new faculty members last fall. Dr. Shane Sanders joined the faculty of the Department of Finance and Economics as assistant professor of economics. Dr. Sanders received his B.S. in economics from Indiana University and his Ph.D., also in economics, from Kansas State University. When asked why he chose to teach at Nicholls, he replied, "I wanted to work where both my wife and I could be employed. I also wanted a productive and exciting workplace. I feel the faculty here is both supportive and positive." Dr. Sanders originally majored in journalism, but was not challenged. He knew he loved math, so he chose economics because it involved advanced mathematical problem solving. Before coming to Nicholls, Dr. Sanders worked as a graduate instructor at Kansas State University and then as an assistant professor in economics at Auburn University in Montgomery, AL. In addition to teaching, he referees journals and writes blogs for internet columns at LiveJournal.com. He currently has six publications in economic journals and two articles in their late stage of review. When asked if there was anything he wanted the Nicholls community to know, he laughed, "I have strange work hours; I'm a night-time researcher. College buddies used to call me 'the phantom.'"

Also joining the Department of Finance and Economics as an assistant professor of economics is Dr. Bhavneet Walia. Dr. Walia received her B.A and M.A. in economics from Panjab University in India. She recently received her Ph.D. in economics from Kansas State University. Prior to joining the Nicholls faculty, Dr. Walia worked for Kansas Health Institute and then as a graduate teaching assistant at Kansas State University. Along with teaching, she researches health economics, particularly early childhood development. Dr. Walia would like the Nicholls community to know that she enjoys learning and has an inquisi-



Dr. Shane Sanders



Dr. Bhavneet Walia



Dr. Gregory Turner

tive personality, especially on the subject of early childhood development. Dr. Walia is married to Dr. Shane Sanders. They have no children.

Dr. Gregory Turner, originally from Mullins, South Carolina, joined the Department of Management and Marketing as an assistant professor of marketing. Dr. Turner earned his B.S. from the College of Charleston in South Carolina, his MBA from Winthrop University in Little Rock, S.C., and his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University. He states that he came to Nicholls primarily because his wife wanted to leave their state. Dr. Turner was motivated to teach marketing simply because it was his strongest subject area. Prior to Nicholls, he taught at Livingston University, Coastal Carolina University, and the College of Charleston. Dr. Turner has several book inclusions, publications in academic peer-refereed journals, and proceedings. Dr. Turner's wife, Nancy, is a nurse.

## Tell us how you are doing!

Help us keep up with what College of Business Administration alumni are doing by filling out this form and returning it to the address below. We'll use the information in the upcoming Inside The College of Business Administration newsletter. You can also visit the Web site at [www.nicholls.edu/business](http://www.nicholls.edu/business) and update us using the link provided.

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Degree/Year graduated \_\_\_\_\_

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Your news \_\_\_\_\_

Clip form and return to: Alumni News, P.O. Box 2015, 106 White Hall, Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, LA 70310 or go online at <http://www.nicholls.edu/apps/business/alumni.php>

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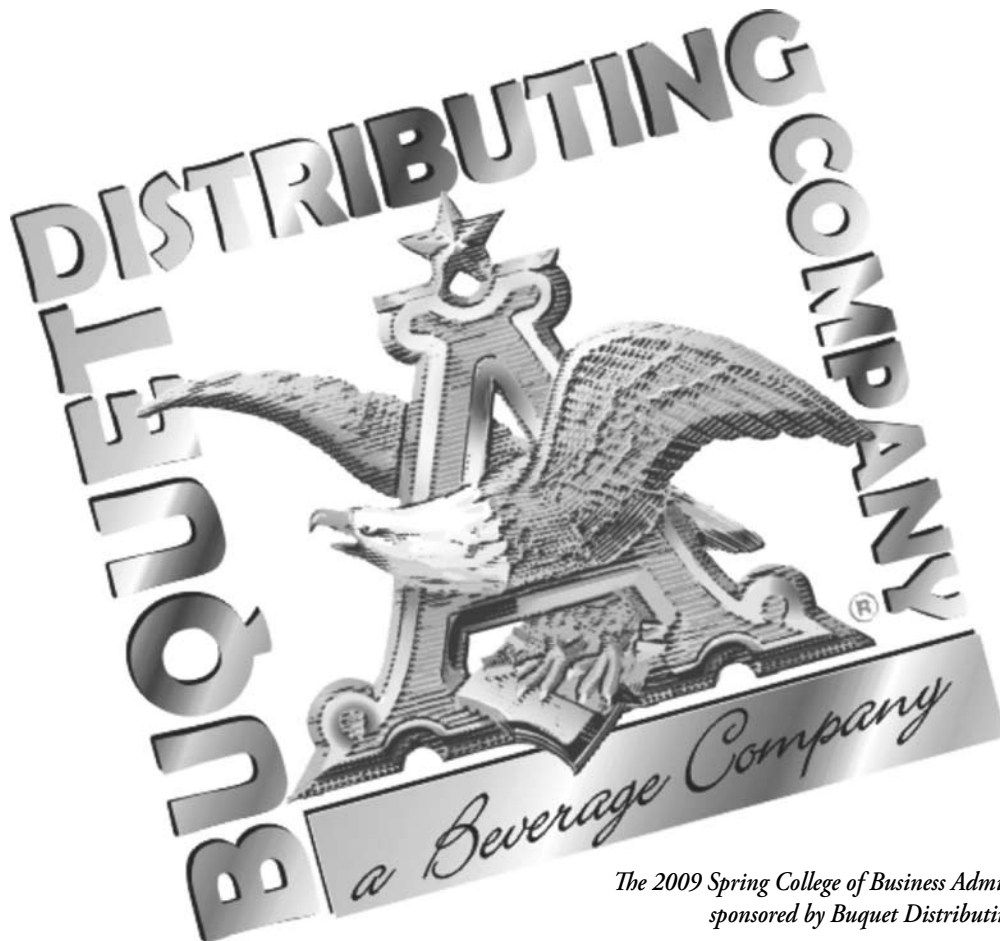
Nicholls State University College of Business Administration Newsletter

Vol. 18, No. 1

Spring 2009

The Nicholls State University College of Business Administration newsletter is published by the College of Business Administration, Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, Louisiana 70310. Production by University Printing and Design Services at Nicholls.

Stephen T. Hulbert, University President • Shawn Mauldin, Dean • Sonya Premeaux, Associate Dean



*The 2009 Spring College of Business Administration Newsletter is  
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