

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

COMMERCE MEANS BUSINESS

FALL 2018

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COLLEGE OF
Business

A&M-COMMERCE

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College of Business Newsletter is published by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Marketing Communications Department in collaboration with the College of Business. The Newsletter is distributed to alumni, faculty and staff members, and friends of A&M-Commerce.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Shanan Gibson

Our goal is to transform lives through education. It may sound idealistic, but this is precisely our mission. At the A&M-Commerce College of Business, we know the power business education has to change lives. First, there is the impact that business people have on the world around them. We create new organizations, that generate new jobs, that sustain generations of families. Business people are born problem solvers. We see opportunity where others may only see needs or wants, and we generate value. Take a look around you. Everything has a “business” side to it. There are few fields that can claim to have as much impact on society as ours.

But in the College of Business, we also recognize the ability that a business profession has to change an individual’s life. Some come to business because it “runs in the family” – mom or dad may have owned a business and being around a family venture is second nature. Others are the first members of their families to attend college, perhaps a little apprehensive but ready for the challenge. No matter where along the continuum one resides or what draws one to it, the decision to study business sets in motion a series of events that can lead to a life that few other careers can match for personal transformation and reward. And that transformational power comes in many forms. When I see the extraordinary things our students accomplish, or when I



SHANAN GIBSON, PhD
Dean and Professor of Management

recognize their lives have been positively transformed by a professor, a class, or an experience they had that would not have happened without A&M-Commerce, I know we are being successful.

At this time last year I was just starting my journey as a dean. The journey has included a few sharp turns, steep cliffs and even the occasional scary precipice. I wasn’t given a map when I started this journey, but because of so many of you, I have appreciated the beautiful and diverse scenery, too. We have found our way together and share a clear vision of where the College of Business is going in the future. I know the upcoming road will include a few bumps and detours to be navigated,

but I am confident we will be guided by our shared tradition as Lions.

And, I so look forward to celebrating and promoting what I learn about the inspirational ways that our faculty and staff continually enhance the educational, intellectual and transformational environment of A&M-Commerce. I want to thank all of you for your support, confidence, and patience over the past year. Tremendous work continues throughout our entire university. In this issue, you will find stories illustrating how our faculty, students and alumni are engaged toward transformation. Because no matter where you go, Commerce Means Business!

College of Business IMPACT

Distinguished Alumnus: DR. DALE FUNDERBURK



While the College of Business has many successful alumni among its ranks, only one returned to his alma mater and built a distinguished academic career spanning 50 years on the very campus where he received his bachelor's degree. Dr. Dale Funderburk, who earned his bachelor's in economics in 1964, began his career as an assistant professor of economics in 1968 and progressed through the academic ranks earning the title professor of economics in 1978.

As one of his most impactful contributions during the first decade of his tenure at A&M-Commerce, Dr. Funderburk helped conduct the College of Business self-study and prepared the initial

accreditation report that resulted in the college gaining AACSB accreditation in 1975. He also helped to establish the A&M-Commerce chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, the AACSB exclusive business honor society, and is one of the charter members.

During his time at A&M-Commerce, Dr. Funderburk has served the College of Business as interim dean on three occasions. During his first time as interim dean, he headed the university delegation that travelled to Beijing, China, and negotiated the university's original partnership agreement with the China University of Geosciences. That partnership, signed in 2001, continues to engage and educate faculty and students from both universities through a highly impactful exchange program. Dr. Funderburk also served as director of institutional research for four years during the McDowell Administration and served for a decade (1985-1995) as director of the university's Free Enterprise Institute for Texas Teachers.

Dr. Funderburk twice was awarded the Prochnow Educational Foundation Fellowship to study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's top-rated Graduate School of Banking. He also won a General Electric Fellowship to attend a summer institute at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and study under their internationally renowned faculty.



His distinguished scholarly record is marked by presentations and guest lectures at universities in China, India and Lebanon. In 2004 he was named the AGBA Global Educator of the Year by the Academy for Global Business Advancement in New Delhi, India. One of his earlier publications, "Real Estate



Appraisal: A Pedagogical Approach," published in The Appraisal Journal, was selected for inclusion in the prestigious Urban Land Institute's Classic Readings in Real Estate and Development. Dr. Funderburk has published articles in journals as diverse as the Journal of Forensic Economics, Antitrust Law and Economics Review, Real Estate Appraiser and Analyst, the National Social Science Journal, Journal of Economics, Trial, Trial Lawyers Forum and even the Quarter Horse Journal.

A frequent contributor to 88.9 KETR public radio, Dr. Funderburk regularly lends his professional expertise to organizations outside the university, being the most active business consultant in the college. First and foremost, however, Dr. Funderburk is a beloved teacher revered by many generations of business students.



DR. MILDRED GOLDEN PRYOR Named Regents Professor

With a career spanning over 50 years, Dr. Mildred Golden Pryor has 36 years of experience in academia and 17 years in business. Asked about her work experiences, Dr. Pryor said, "It energizes me when I can make a positive difference." Apparently,

her impact at work has been positive because she has received a number of business and academic performance excellence awards and honors, one of the latest being designated a Texas A&M University System Regents Professor.

In February the Board of Regents and Chancellor of The Texas A&M University

System hosted a celebratory dinner honoring the 2016-2017 Regents Professors and Fellows. The event program stated that the honorees share a common thread: "They are at the top of their professions and are dedicated to finding ways to better the lives of their fellow Texans and citizens of the world."

Some of Dr. Pryor's A&M-Commerce awards based on teaching, research and service include: 2017 College of Business Dean Star Award; 2015 Global Fellow; 2013 William L. Mayo Professorship Award; 2012, 2011 and 2010 TAMU System Teaching Excellence Awards; 2012 Provost Award for Research & Creative Activity; 2011 Lafferty Distinguished Faculty Award for Research; and 2006 Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching. As Dr. Pryor establishes her goals, achievement

plans and strategies, they are never about receiving awards. Instead, they are focused on how to achieve performance results. For example, two of her teaching strategies are: (1) Include experiential learning as an integral part of teaching and (2) Utilize writing and research to support teaching. Dr. Pryor's overall goal for teaching is to align her teaching with the A&M-Commerce and College of Business missions.

Dr. Pryor received the 2018 Martin Luther King Educator of the Year (MLK) Award and she and her husband Dr. Don Pryor received 2018 MLK Lifetime Achievement Awards. The MLK Awards are based on church and community involvement as well as efforts in academia. The Pryors contribute to their community by providing assistance to children and families. In addition, they provided strategic leadership and resources to help start the Northeast Texas Children's Museum and Cross Trails Cowboy Church and to build the new "under construction" Ridgecrest Baptist Church.

Dr. Pryor indicates that her research and teaching are intertwined. She creates and/or conducts research on many ideas, theories, models and cases that she incorporate into her classes (particularly strategic management and quality management courses). Dr. Pryor's research interests and current publications are in the areas of strategic management, organizational transformation, quality management and related topics. Her articles have appeared in the Journal of Management History, Harvard Business Review, Journal of Business Strategy, Journal of Management Research and other scholarly journals.

Service is an integral part of who Dr. Pryor is as well as what she does. Under her leadership, A&M-Commerce received a Texas Award for Performance Excellence (Engagement Level). Also, Dr. Pryor continues to serve as author of the annual Institutional Effectiveness Plan and Results for the MBA degree and provides input to the curriculum committee for improvements to courses and degrees. She is a member of the A&M-Commerce Advisory Committee and College of Business Faculty Committee.

Dr. Pryor continues to serve the management profession as (1) journal editorial board member, reviewer and author as well as (2) conference

presenter, manuscript reviewer and otherwise as needed. She is on the editorial board for a number of scholarly journals including the Academy of Strategic Management Journal, the Journal of Management and Human Resources, the International Journal of Information Systems in the Service Sector and The Global eLearning Journal: A Global Refereed Chronicle of Innovation, Implementation & Evaluation.

In her 17 years in industry, Dr. Pryor served as director/manager at E-Systems/Raytheon (now L-3) in Greenville, Texas, and Campbell Soup in Paris, Texas. Her primary responsibilities were in the areas of quality improvement, organizational transformation and organizational development. Dr. Pryor received a number of performance excellence awards including the top excellence award for the design, implementation and management of continuous improvement systems at E-Systems.

Over the years, Dr. Pryor has had the opportunity to work internationally including spending a year in England, Germany and Turkey teaching for the United States Air Force. She and her husband were invited by the Prime Minister's Office to speak to the Israel Society for Quality and to teach quality management and process re-engineering to personnel in the Prime Minister's Office as well as in various universities in Israel. Dr. Pryor has served as an external member of thesis and dissertation committees for students at universities in various countries.

Dr. Pryor expects to continue her commitment to excellence in her teaching, research and service at A&M-Commerce as well as service to her church, her community and her profession.



FINANCE PROFESSOR ASSISTS CITY OF COMMERCE

Dr. Alper Gormus, associate professor of finance, was approached by the City of Commerce to help with their financial depository structure. Dr. Gormus agreed to help and did a comprehensive analysis resulting in a detailed recommendation. In return, the City made a donation to the Economics and Finance Student Excellence Fund.

Student Spotlight

Lacie Jessup graduated in May with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a major in accounting. She is from Irving, Texas, and initially was interested in attending A&M-Commerce to play volleyball. While attending a university volleyball camp, she learned of the Honors College from the coach, applied and received a full scholarship. She went on to play volleyball here for all four years and ended her final season with a team that made it further than any team in 30 years, all the way to the NCAA women's volleyball playoffs.

Besides being a gifted athlete and scholar, Lacie has been involved in many organizations at A&M-Commerce including Beta Alpha Psi where she served as vice-president and represented the university at the National Conference in Anaheim, California, in August 2017. She also travelled to China in May with the College of Business exchange program with the China University of Geosciences.

Lacie has a real passion for helping her fellow students and community. She assumed a leadership role in Athletes in Action, an organization for Christian athletes, in January and is involved in the Baptist Student Ministry Kid's Club which provides fun and enriching activities for underprivileged children in Commerce. Lacie also participated in



a philanthropy organization called Bows & Beaus that organized a food drive for the Commerce Food Bank and a toy drive for Toys-For-Tots.

Lacie has been busy while at A&M-Commerce as a student worker and a volleyball coach for middle school girls at Net Force in Greenville, Texas. In pursuing her career goals, Lacie sought out an internship opportunity with McClanahan & Holmes, a CPA firm in Paris, Texas, where she has been working since January as an intern in the tax department. After graduating, she plans to continue her education at A&M-Commerce working towards an MBA while studying for the CPA exam. With her great heart for others, leadership and scholarship, Lacie is going to be a great asset to the accounting profession and successful alumna for the College of Business. We are so proud of your accomplishments, Lacie!

Economics and Finance Department Graduate Assistants Complete Consulting Project

Rangsima "Bo" Hongtinnakorn and Jirayut "Park" Wijitboonchuwong were recently charged by Dr. Asli Ogunc, department head for economics and finance, to assist Russell Armstrong, president and CEO of AIS Financial, in a billing project for Woodmoore Assisted Living. Bo and Park were grateful for the opportunity.

"Mr. Armstrong, who is extremely adept at solving problems, is making it possible for us to invoke our talents to work with him on this project," Bo said. "This is a practical opportunity for us to apply VBA, our personally-crafted macros and database tools to

generate user friendly interfaces and consolidated reports for his clients."

Bo continued: "Consulting on this project has already yielded practical rewards to us in the real-world realm of finance. We are lucky to have such a knowledgeable mentor to learn from."

"They are fantastic to work with and have produced an awesome program that exceeded my expectations! Bo and Park represent the university well and are a clear example of high quality students that come out of the TAMUC Finance Department," Armstrong said.



Faculty-in-Residence Excites Residential Students

Dr. Bo Han, associate professor of business analytics and faculty-in-

residence, developed a series of activities to engage residential students at Smith Hall. Students learned how they can become Internet entrepreneurs and use social media to make money in the "YouTuber Club." Students learned Chinese culture and business opportunities in China in the "Chinese Food

Night." Dr. Han also talked with students about how to prepare finals and write a good resume before the finals week. "These activities enrich my students' on-campus extracurricular lives," Dr. Han said. "Also, I believe they open a window for students to see latest technologies, new business and the world."

The Faculty-in-Residence Program, coordinated by the Department of Residential Living and Learning, increases the impact of teaching and research through residential interactions between professors and undergraduates.





Faculty Spotlight: Sandra Gates, CPA, PhD

The Texas State Board of Public Accountancy announced June 21, 2017, the appointment of Dr. Sandra Gates, A&M-Commerce accounting department head, as an advisory member to the Qualifications Committee of the Board.

"Advisory committee member CPAs are appointed for their experience in relevant areas," said TSBPA Executive Director William Treacy. "These advisory members are a tremendous asset to the Board because they augment the talents of Board members and bring an added dimension of skills and expertise to the important work of these committees."

The committee Dr. Gates was appointed to is a working committee comprised of at least two Board members, one of whom serves as chair, assisted by at least two non-Board members who serve in an advisory capacity. The committee makes recommendations to the Board regarding:

- » the educational qualifications of an applicant for the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination
- » the administration, security, discipline and other aspects of the conduct of the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination in Texas
- » the work experience qualifications of an applicant for the certified

public accountant certificate, and/or where applicable, the equivalency examination measuring the professional competency of an applicant for a CPA certificate by reciprocity

- » recommendations to the Board's policy-making committees (the Executive Committee and the Rules Committee) concerning proposed changes in Board rules, opinions and policies relating to the qualifications process
- » consideration of courses presented for Board approval to satisfy candidate education requirements.

Presiding Officer J. Coalter Baker, CPA made the appointments. During his 11-year tenure on the Board, he's witnessed an increasing diversity of candidates who attend the swearing-in ceremonies for new Texas CPAs.

"Texas is a dynamic place to live and work," Baker said. "Our profession must continue to be dynamic as well. We must draw upon the talents of individuals with fresh ideas and diverse backgrounds to meet this challenge. The Board committees require this as well. The individuals appointed have stellar professional backgrounds and a willingness to help the Board meet its primary task of protecting the public."



Student Spotlight: Ziaul Zia

Ziaul Zia is a student in the Master of Science in Accounting program and is also pursuing a second master's in business analytics and expects to graduate in December 2018. Zia has been a graduate research assistant in the Accounting Department since entering the master's program and has been active in many of the student organizations including Beta Alpha Psi as the current Zeta Epsilon chapter president; the National Association of Black Accountants, local chapter Srep chairperson; and Sigma Alpha Pi, The National Society of Leadership and Success, as a member. He also has memberships in two honor societies, Phi Kappa Phi and Beta Gamma Sigma.

Zia attended the American Accounting Association conference held in San Diego in August 2017 with Dr. Shiyou Li, assistant professor of accounting, as a participant in the student collaboration workshop. His presentation topic for the conference was Lease Accounting: A Shift in Thinking. He has been the recipient of several scholarships including the Graham M. Johnson Scholarship Endowment (2016-2017), Accounting Alumni Endowment (2016-2017), College of Business Banquet Scholarship (2017-2018) and Institute of Management Accountants CMA scholarship (2017). Zia passed all four parts of the CPA exam while pursuing his master's degree. He interned with H & R Block as a tax preparer in fall 2017 and is currently working part-time at Scott, Singleton, Fincher and Company PC as a staff auditor.

Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization Wins Three Awards



The Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization took home three awards at the 2018 RSC Student Organization Award Ceremony including:

- » 2018 Highest GPA Award - Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization
- » 2018 Graduate Student Leader Award - Susmita Bashir, president of the Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization
- » 2018 Unsung Hero Award - Malashree Basavarajiah, secretary of the Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization

Analytics Competitions Introduce Students to the Real World

The Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization collaborated with the Department of Marketing & Business Analytics and Lions Athletics Department and introduced two data analytics competitions to students in the College of Business.

In fall 2017, nine teams with 27 students total participated in the Sports Analytics Competition. Three teams were selected for the final presentation. Team Yang Li, Daniel Duc and Stephanie Moore won first place.

In spring 2018, 11 teams with 22 students total participated in the Google Analytics Competition. Three teams were selected for the final presentation. Team Nianqi Liu and Nneoma Iheonunekwu won first place. The purpose of these competitions is to give students an opportunity to apply theoretical analysis models into the real world and use what they learned in the classroom to address practical challenges.



Corporate Partners and College of Business Interns

Every semester dozens of students from the College of Business expand their career-readiness through internships across Texas. Earning both college credit and significant work experience, interns build their resumes, and in many instances, receive offers for permanent employment. Although many organizations support our students' experiential learning, L3 Technologies and Innovation First International have hired numerous interns in recent years.

In less than seven years, L3 Technologies in Greenville, Texas, has employed 60+

business interns across varied business units. College of Business students have held positions in operations, human resources, purchasing and other areas. Believing that a strong workforce is best cultivated locally, L3 is making significant gains toward ensuring their long-term talent needs are met through its internship programs with the college.

Headquartered in Greenville, Texas, Innovation First International (IFI) and its subsidiaries (VEX Robotics Inc., RackSolutions, Inc., and Innovation First Labs, Inc.) are leaders in the

educational robotics, robotics toys and rack mounting industries. IFI has also employed numerous College of Business interns, especially in marketing and robotics. Like L3, IFI has hired several students for permanent positions after graduation.

If your organization is interested in employing business interns, please contact the college. Our students are eager to learn, work hard and add value wherever they go. We greatly appreciate all of our corporate partners and their help nurturing career-ready Business Lions.



Dr. Bo Han Recognized as Outstanding Reviewer by Journal

Dr. Bo Han, associate professor of business analytics, was recognized as an Outstanding Reviewer by Computers in Human Behavior, a Social Sciences Citation Index journal.

The index only lists quality journals in the world. The Outstanding Reviewer award is given to reviewers to recognize their contributions to and impact on the research community.



Marketing & Business Analytics Department Receives Scholarship Fund Four Years in a Row

ISACA North Texas Chapter awarded a \$2,000 scholarship fund to the Marketing & Business Analytics Department in April. This award marks the fourth year in a row for the

department to receive the funding. The scholarship is highly selective and is only awarded to universities with excellent IT and data analytics research and education records.

“ISACA funds student scholarships in order to impact students’ lives professionally and academically,” said Dr. Jose Lineros, academic

outreach coordinator for the ISACA North Texas Chapter. “Our hope is that our investment in their future will yield valuable benefits for the IT Audit profession and the community as a whole.”

ISACA is an international network for IT, cyber security and data management professionals.



Globally Prepared Professionals: College of Business Students Experience China

As part of a long-standing partnership with China University of Geosciences Beijing, students from both institutions benefit from a multi-cultural learning experience each summer. In alternating years, students from China come to A&M-Commerce, take classes with our business students and visit numerous Texas businesses and landmarks. The following summer, students from Commerce enjoy an opportunity to attend classes in Beijing and

experience Chinese culture first hand. Students create life-long friendships, experience diverse business cultures and truly come to understand the concept of global enterprise. Preparation for study abroad begins well before the actual trip commences. This year Dr. Frannie Miller and Dr. Robert Rankin built cultural knowledge through seminars focused on Chinese business culture and customs. The seminars featured

guest speakers with experience doing business in China including Tyler Johnson from Ametek, Mark McLemore, a former executive with Pilgrim’s Pride, and Carlos Guerrero with Texas Department of Agriculture. International students were invited as experts on the language, food and culture from across Southeast Asia and faculty and staff were invited to share knowledge and experience on traveling for business with students.



ENGAGEMENT

Economics and Finance Department Christmas Party

The Economics and Finance Department celebrated the holidays with two different parties in 2017. The first one was done on campus where all department faculty, administration and graduate assistants attended. The department served pizza and drinks. In addition, for the ones who had the availability to attend, the department further celebrated with great foods and drinks at Café Istanbul in Plano, Texas. All attendees had a great time, enjoyed the company and watched authentic belly dancing.



Dr. Jared Pickens Receives Engaged Faculty Award

Dr. Jared Pickens, assistant professional track professor, was awarded an Engaged Faculty Award at the College of Business's annual fundraising banquet this year. Dr. Pickens was recognized for his contributions in the classroom, being the academic advisor to the Economics and Finance Society, an Honors' College thesis

advisor, the Director of Personal Financial Planning and for his overall dedication to students. Dr. Pickens also co-chaired the Financial Literacy Advisory Council with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

"It is a true blessing to be a part of this university and especially the College of Business and the Department of Economics and Finance," Dr. Pickens said. "Our entire department always puts students first and we do all we can to better the university. This award is an award for everyone in our department because without support of my colleagues I wouldn't be able to perform my duties."



Economics and Finance Department Picnic

The Economics and Finance Department held a picnic at the Harry Myers Park in Rockwall, Texas, in November 2017. Dr. Alper Gormus and Dr. Greg Lubiani prepared

highly sought-after BBQ, while Dr. Asli Ogunc and Melissa Haynes provided sides, desserts and other snacks. Families and friends of the faculty, staff and graduate

assistants all gathered in the park and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon. The department intends to make this bonding experience an annual event going forward.



Economics and Finance Society Had Active Year

The Economics and Finance Society implemented new technology this year that enabled guest speakers to reach students from across the country. The society and the Economics and Finance Department invested in software, cameras and wireless mics that now enable all students to gain knowledge from professional speakers. The society averages about 30 – 40 students for online attendees in addition to students that physically attend meetings.

A diverse set of professional speakers provided presentations to help students better understand specific areas in finance. Additionally, presenters taught students about completing tax returns, LinkedIn and networking. This year's speaker series included:

- » **Addison Kim**, private equity analyst, Valesco Industries
- » **Trey Touchstone**, CFA, investment specialist, Lifeway Financial Corporation

- » **Alper Gormus**, PhD, assistant professor of finance, A&M-Commerce
- » **Melissa Haynes**, tax specialist and enrolled agent, A&M-Commerce
- » **Brad Chilcote**, career development specialist, A&M-Commerce
- » **Dr. Jared Pickens**, CFP®, AFC®, assistant professional track professor, A&M-Commerce
- » **Joseph Pytcher**, real estate expert and developer, Pytcher Homes

Top Ten Finance Students Receive Scholarships to Attend Texas A&M University Conference



Ten qualified finance students, many interested in a career in personal financial planning, received scholarships to attend the annual Financial Planning Conference at Texas A&M University in fall 2017. The conference provides an opportunity to unite top firms from across the country to meet and network with students. Additionally, the conference provided attendees with multiple educational presentations and a private tour of the College Station campus.

“The conference helped me understand that we must have both knowledge from the classroom and passion for what we are doing, or want to do, so that we may be successful,” said Cassie Canine, a finance student. The scholarships provided to the students were based on merit and selected carefully through an application process.

Management Department and L-3 Host Focus Groups

Management Department faculty members Guclu Atinc, Jack Cooke, Mario Hayek, Stephanie Pane-Haden and Sonia Taneja hosted focus groups in March with A&M-Commerce, graduates working at L3.

The goal of the focus groups was to assess the relevance and effectiveness of the MS in Management degree program in terms of career experience. An ancillary objective of the focus groups was to gather information that could be used to improve the content and delivery of the courses and curriculum. In this context, the focus is to create courses that provide a good balance between the people side of management and the strategic side of management.

In addition to serving as the basis for the improvement of management courses and curricula, the data collected through these focus groups will help in developing cohort arrangements with other organizations similar to the Greenville Division of L-3 Communications.

Management Department Collaborates with Local Organizations

The Management Department is reaching out to local companies in the region to understand their needs and explore possibilities for them to engage with the College of Business

by visiting classes and sharing their knowledge and offering internships and job opportunities. The department is in conversations with Raven Aerostar in Sulphur Springs, Texas, L-3 in Greenville,

Texas, and Santander Consumer USA. The department is in negotiations with L-3 Communications to begin training their employees in SAP.

Management Faculty Dr. Stephanie Pane Haden Presents in TED TALK Event

Dr. Stephanie Pane Haden was one of five faculty members chosen to be featured at the 2018 Annual Research Symposium Dinner and Awards Ceremony held in April. Nominated by her department head and approved by the dean, she was selected to share her research in a 5-minute “TED Talk” format.

The title of Dr. Pane Haden’s talk was “Using Management History to Extend Management Theory and Practice.” She addressed what management history is,

why it is important to do management history research and how management history research can be used. She shared a few of her experiences working in historical archives and how her and her colleagues were able to extend and develop current leadership theories. Dr. Pane Haden concluded her talk by explaining how she has published work that featured the historical examination of corporate social responsibility and green management and offered implications for practicing these concepts in organizations.



Students Attend Becker Meet the Firms Event

A&M-Commerce undergraduate and graduate students attended the Becker Meet the Firms Event held at Dave & Busters in Dallas in November 2017. This fun event was cohosted by Becker and the Dallas CPA Society to give students an opportunity to learn more about the Becker CPA exam preparation program and the Dallas CPA society and to network with CPA firms in the Dallas area that are currently seeking interns and full-time employees.

The students had dinner and then participated in the Ultimate Quest

scavenger hunt with the firms that allowed them to showcase their communication and problem-solving skills in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. After these events, there was a time for networking with other students from schools in the Dallas area and the firms.

Firms that attended the event this year included: Armanino, Beard Harris, CliftonLarsonAllen, Goldin Peiser & Peiser, Howard, Huselton, Morgan & Maulsby, Lane Gorman Trubitt, PMB Helin Donovan, Salmon Sims Thomas, Saville.



Students who attended the event were front row left-to-right: Scott Hollis, Munaf Karovadiya, Denise Calixto; second row left-to-right: Ziaul Zia, Roderic Wiltz, Shantel Norton, Kyria Aho, Akenese Lealamanua and Tana Isaac.

A&M-Commerce Students Receive Scholarships at National Association of Black Accountants Western Regional Conference

Two students from A&M-Commerce received scholarships at the National Association of Black Accountants Western Regional Conference held in Houston in October 2017. Scholarships were awarded to Aaron Williford, \$1,000 Ernst & Young, and Kyria Aho, Gleim CPA review.

Other conference activities included a networking night, scholarship luncheon and corporate interviews with national and Big 4 CPA firms and Fortune 500 companies as well as professional development workshops,

which covered academic excellence, survival tips for first jobs, personal branding and effective leadership skills.

Members of the A&M-Commerce chapter who attended were from left to right: (front row) Tana Isaac, Abrar Mahait, Kyria Aho, Adenike Raji; (middle row) Mary Obi, Donesia Williams, Mofoluwaso Onabule, Brianna Thomas, Akenese Lealamanua, Marie-Delia Gilbertnair, Dr. Sandra Gates (chapter advisor); (back row) Roderic Wiltz Jr., Somto Obuzor, Shantel Norton, Ajogu Akoh, Ziaul Zia.



Beta Alpha Psi National Conference

The Beta Alpha Psi National Conference was held in Anaheim, California, in August 2017. The conference activities included a community service opportunity for participants to engage with children at a local Boys and Girls Club to teach them life skills concerning the proper use of money. There were numerous breakout sessions to assist the students in the proper

administration of their local chapters, including information on recruiting, budgeting and fundraising. There were also opportunities for career development such as motivational and leadership topics with presentations by former student members of Beta Alpha Psi that are now employed at the Big 4 accounting firms. The conference speakers included Kimberly

N. Ellison-Taylor, the current AICPA president, who spoke on her own career development and the future of the accounting profession. The attendees from the local Zeta Epsilon Chapter included President Ziaul Zia, Vice-President Lacie Jessup, and Chapter Advisor for 2017, Dr. Robert Rankin (not pictured).

New Student Organization Making an Impact

The newly created Bangladeshi Student Association held their kick-off event on February 21 at the

RSC Club Patio. On April 2, they invited Harry Joe, a prominent Dallas-based immigration law attorney, to talk to their organization as well as other interested students. Joe focused on issues that are important not only to association members but to most international students enrolled at A&M-Commerce. In particular, he addressed the

challenges facing international students in seeking US employment and extending their stay in the US under the current administration and policies. Dr. Alma Mintu-Wimsatt and Dr. Scott Sewell, faculty members from the Department of Marketing and Business Analytics, are serving as founding co-advisors.

VISITING SCHOLAR PRESENTS RESEARCH

Dr. Huifang Zhang from Xian Jiaotong University in China visited the College of Business and presented her research titled

“Understanding Real China – From Economic Perspective” to college faculty in February. The event was hosted by Dr. Ruiliang

Yan from the Department of Marketing & Business Analytics.



Student Organization Meets Industry Leaders in Professional Training

Members of the Marketing & Business Analytics Student Organization participated in the ISACA Etiquette Training in February. The training provided a great opportunity for A&M-Commerce students to meet industry leaders. Students had lunch with representatives from



companies including IBM, Ernest and Young, and Oncor. Students not only had a chance to learn about those

companies' cultures and opportunities but also to build a personal connection with future employers.

All Work & No Play? No Way!

Engagement is an essential part of any successful organization. Connecting with students, the university community and the business community is not only our job, but it can also be a lot of fun! Here are just some of the ways we engage and have fun in the College of Business:

- » Annual College of Business Holiday Pancake Breakfast where faculty and staff from across campus come together to enjoy the best pancakes anywhere!
- » Cheering on our ladies' basketball team
- » Playing Big Pink Volleyball and raising funds to fight cancer
- » Competing with alumni at the 2018 Alumni Golf Tournament



Distinguished Alumnus:

Ronald Scott Wheeler

Ronald Scott Wheeler graduated from East Texas State University in 1980, double-majoring in psychology and radio/television, and went on to earn his MBA from Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business.

Wheeler began his career as the vice president of business management at the Beltway Companies. He worked as a controller managing the accounting, administrative, tax and other financial aspects of a significant portfolio of restaurants, retail spaces, offices, warehouses, and manufacturing and raw land properties. After 13 years at Beltway, Wheeler became the chief financial officer at OneSource Virtual while also consulting as an independent CFO. Currently, he is the executive vice president and CFO at Daseke Inc. – the second largest flatbed/open deck operator in North America providing services in 49 U.S. States, Canada and Mexico.

Wheeler has also served on the Addison City Council for nine years and as mayor from 1999 to 2005. He also served on the Dallas Central Appraisal District Board of Directors from 2006 to 2008 as well as on the Board of Directors for Compass Bank Dallas from 1994 to 2008. He was selected as CFO of the Year for the Middle Market by the Dallas Business Journal in 2015.

Wheeler currently serves on the A&M-Commerce College of Business Leadership Council and offers expert counsel to the college leadership. He also teaches as an adjunct professor with the Economics and Finance Department. While many consider “generosity” a term that specifically relates to financial giving, Wheeler recognizes a deeper meaning in the term and is generous in his time, actions and foresight, in addition to being actively benevolent in traditional gifting.

Wheeler lives in Dallas with his wife Kathryn and two daughters, Whitney and Kelley.



Alumni Ambassadors



Butch Haskins
Marketing & Business Analytic

Butch Haskins has more than 27 years of progressively responsible experience

in sales and marketing across multiple industries including consumer products, industrial distribution and retail. Haskins has spent years building and leading sales organizations as well as developing unique sales processes to create growth across all channel types.

In his career, Haskins has worked in sales and marketing with corporations such as PepsiCo Inc., Grainger and Nike. Currently, he is vice president of sales and marketing for the Powercare Division of Interstate Battery Corporation.

Haskins and his wife Kristi have three children, Taylor, Brooke and Hunter and currently live in Austin. He enjoys golf, hunting and working on his family's ranch.



Mella Lopez
Management

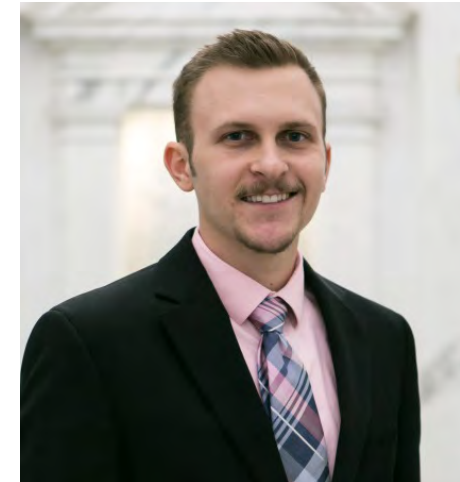
Mella Lopez holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in General Business with a minor in accounting and an MBA in finance from A&M-Commerce. During her MBA program, she also studied international finance at King's College in London.

As a student she was involved in multiple organizations such as Beta Alpha Psi, LULAC, Hermanas United, and Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc. She was also

named A&M-Commerce's first Hispanic Homecoming Queen in 2004.

Lopez joined Santander Consumer USA, an auto finance company, in 2013. She recently accepted a project manager III role working on critical regulatory projects. Previous roles include a senior portfolio manager responsible for overseeing the portfolio and risk management of over \$500 million of complex commercial loan structures along with holding a business development manager position responsible for successfully closing over \$120 million annually in wholesale commercial loans.

She has also held corporate positions with JP Morgan Chase and Energy Future Holdings – TXU Energy. Outside of the corporate world, Lopez is actively involved in the community including being on the Board of Directors for the A&M-Commerce Alumni Association, Board of Directors for National Society of Hispanic MBAs, JP Morgan Chase's Adelante diversity program, ALPFA and a member of the Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce.



Matthew Starek
Accounting

Matthew Starek was born and raised in East Texas in the Cedar Creek Lake area. He

began his college career at Trinity Valley Community College after graduating from Mabank High School in 2010. Starek began studying at A&M-Commerce in 2012 and received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting in 2014. Starek went on to earn his Master of Science in Accounting from A&M-Commerce and Texas CPA license the following year.

Since beginning his career in public accounting at Saville, Dodgen, & Company in August 2014, Starek has enjoyed working with international clients by assisting in planning cross-border entity structures and transactions, navigating complex IRS compliance rules related to foreign activity reporting and playing the role of mentor and coach to new staff. Starek also

serves professional services clients such as engineering firms, dentist offices and law firms through providing effective solutions in the areas of tax planning, tax compliance and financial analysis and budgeting.

Starek enjoys spending time with his family and friends doing outdoors activities such as hiking and fishing, learning the guitar and singing karaoke. He enjoys learning about other cultures through international travel and has studied Spanish while traveling abroad.



Jim Chester
Economics & Finance

Jim Chester is a 20-year technology and business attorney and founder/ managing partner of Chester PLLC, in Dallas. Chester advises technology and knowledge-based companies regarding

core business legal services to innovation-based companies doing business. His work involves trademark, copyright and trade secret protection; licensing and enforcement; e-commerce and digital media and marketing; and IT service providers. Chester's background and experience make him an ideal legal counsel for software, app and video game developers, publishers and distributors.

Chester graduated from A&M-Commerce, received his law degree from South Texas College of Law and his LL.M from the University of Houston Law Center.

Chester has received numerous industry awards, including: named to the "Best Lawyers in Dallas" list by D Magazine; listed as a "Rising Star" and "Super Lawyer" by Texas Super Lawyer Magazine; and

featured on the cover of Attorney at Law Magazine as its "Attorney of the Month." Chester is an adjunct professor of law at Baylor University School of Law. He teaches a graduate course at A&M-Commerce and teaches at the University of Dallas.

Chester has published one legal textbook, is author or co-author of several chapters of legal compilation texts, has written numerous published articles and is a frequent speaker at legal and other industry events. Chester is also an entrepreneur. He is CEO and co-founder of OWL Suites and other business ventures.

Chester lives in Heath with his wife, Beadie, and their four children. He serves as president of his neighborhood HOA and is a member of the finance council of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Rockwall.



Tailgating to Victory

Beginning a new tradition, the College of Business “pitched its tent” at every home football game this year and welcomed alumni, students, parents, faculty and staff to participate in the excitement surrounding Lion football. The festivities included great food, fun games (including a dunking booth where a dollar, plus a strong arm, bought many students the pleasure of making the new dean “swim”) and cheering our Lions to the Division II National



Championship. Another highlight of the season - senior marketing student Danyale Shackle being

named 2017 Homecoming Queen! We look forward to the 2018 season and hope to see you at the COB tent!



Financial Forecasting Workshop

With the assistance of Dr. Frannie Miller and Dr. Lirong Liu, Dr. Stanley Holmes developed a forecasting workshop that aimed to assist small businesses in business forecasting. Dr. Holmes gave the initial presentation to the Commerce Chamber of Commerce in November 2017 and delivered the small business forecasting model to the Chamber in March 2018. Dr. Holmes continues to work on further development and delivery of the workshop.



Our Century as Lions: Scholarship & Internship Banquet

The A&M-Commerce College of Business celebrated academic excellence and professional partnerships with its annual Scholarship and Internship Awards Banquet in December 2017. This year’s theme was Our Century as Lions – Through the Decades!

The event featured Dr. Dale Funderburk as the keynote speaker and honored his 50 years of service to East Texas State University and A&M-Commerce. In attendance were student scholarship recipients, student interns, scholarship donors, employers and many College of Business alumni. Corporate sponsors, silent-auction donors and an auctioneer all contributed to make the night a wonderful success.

SBECON Hosts Lunch & Learn

Forty five representatives of businesses and economic development organizations from around the region converged on the A&M-Commerce campus in May for a professional Lunch and Learn event. Jeff Wacker, professional futurist, offered his insight on the major socio-economic trends that are affecting businesses and people’s lives. As with any gathering of the business community, one of the best parts of the meeting was the conversation that ensued. Wacker’s presentation aligned with the College of Business’s goal to serve the region through supporting the sharing of cutting edge ideas and focusing attention on small business, entrepreneurship and economic development for the region.

A big thank you to the numerous economic development corporations who helped to sponsor the event – Commerce EDC, Greenville EDC, Farmersville EDC and Sulphur Springs EDC.



College of Business INNOVATION



Building a State-of-the-Art Financial Analytics Lab

The Economics and Finance Department started securing funds in 2017 to build a comprehensive finance lab with the first donation being from Russell Armstrong, former alumni ambassador for the Economics and Finance Department. Currently, the project has reached over \$780,000 including the

HEF contributions for the construction. All Economics and Finance Department faculty members, including the department administrator, donated funds to see this impressive project come to life.

After evaluating several competing project renderings, the department decided on

a project lead and expects the construction to start in 2018. The lab will have real-time market displays, a large number of Bloomberg terminals, simulation and statistical software, analytic databases, a conference room and state-of-the-art electronic capabilities.



Management Department Graduate Research Assistants Present at Annual Research Symposium

Hamza Shakil, Samira Baten and Siddharth Sharma presented their research at the Annual Research Symposium held in April. Shakil is working with Dr. Leslie Toombs and presented his research on the influence of social media and big data on various countries. The research focuses on how social media has become a mode of communication between governments and the citizens of a country, and how it could have an effect on the laws, policies and citizen behavior within a country.

Baten is working with Dr. Guclu Atinc to investigate the effects of board diversity

of publicly traded companies on financial performances. The study specifically focuses on a board's gender diversity and firm innovation. It also looks into the differences between countries where female presence on a board is mandated and countries where female representation on a board is not required.

Sharma presented his research on the acceptance of organizational restructuring. The research is a qualitative case study to investigate the impacts of organizational restructuring on employee motivation and job satisfaction.

Faculty Publishes in Top Marketing Journal

Yuying Shi, assistant professor in marketing and business analytics, recently had her first authored article titled “The Impact of Retail Format Diversification on Retailers’ Financial Performance” published in the Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science (JAMS). The journal is considered one of the top five marketing journals by the American Marketing Association (AMA) and is listed as one of the top 50 business journals by Financial Times (FT). Both the AMA ranking and FT ranking are widely used in business school research by major universities. The journal has a high impact factor of 5.888.

The article investigates the growth strategies of the top 250 global leading

retailers in their internationalization process. Retailers frequently utilize the format portfolio management in their expansion. The study analyzes the relationship between format diversification and retailer performance in a global setting. The dual strategies of geographic diversification and format diversification substantially complicate the diversification-performance relationship. Using a six-year panel data set for leading global retailers, Yuying and her coauthors find a positive impact of geographic diversification, a negative impact of format diversification and a negative interaction of the dual strategies, supporting a single focus diversification strategy. The study provides important managerial implications for retailing business.



New Finance Course Aimed at Financial Literacy

Dr. Jared Pickens, assistant professional track professor, created and will offer a one-hour financial literacy course in fall 2018. The course will cover budgeting, credit management, goal setting, long-term investing and more. The course is available to all students. Current research shows that many college students lack financial literacy.

“This course, albeit only one hour of credit, will help our students have a strong foundation in financial planning skills which will help them achieve both their short and long-term financial goals,” Dr. Pickens said.



Student Scholars = College of Business Pride

The College of Business student body is a diverse group. Athletic, research-engaged, international – these are just a few of the terms that describe COB students.

Great Students and Great Athletes: The college is proud of all the COB athletes! During the 2017-18 academic year, the college was proudly represented by 22 football players, six men and five women golfers, 15 men and seven women track and fielders, two women soccer players, three women basketball players, seven women volleyball players, one softball player and five rodeo athletes. Many of these COB athletes earned regional and national academic accolades in addition to their noteworthy athletic performances. These students prove that they can achieve excellence in both academics and athletics.



Scholars in the Truest Sense: While one expects our faculty to be engaged in cutting-edge research, what you might not realize is how many of our graduate students are building their own

research capabilities by partnering with faculty. This year’s research symposium highlighted the efforts of many COB students as they competed with other graduate students from across the university.

COB Faculty Contributes to Literature at the Highest Level

Aside from exceptional teaching and service, our faculty continue to excel in academic research as well. During the 2017-2018 school year, COB faculty had a significant impact in all areas of academic research where their findings

were published in globally recognized journals. A total of 85 studies were published. Among these studies, eight were published in journals that were ranked “A+” and 13 were published in journals that were ranked “A”.

College of Business GENERAL

New Faces



Penny Dodd
GRADUATE RECRUITER

Penny Dodd completed her B.S. in Liberal Studies and M.S. in Political Science with 18 additional hours in history from Texas A&M University-Commerce. She is Six Sigma green belt certified and has 20 years of experience in corporate and academic environments as a project and operations manager and recruiting and sales specialist.



Micah Miles
GRADUATE ADVISOR

Micah Miles is a Graduate Advisor for the College of Business. In this role, Micah advises graduate students enrolled in the Marketing, Management and MBA programs. Her passion is helping others achieve their goals and being an uplifting support system throughout the entire process. She enjoys baking for her non-profit organization, D'sLicious Delights, which she founded in 2014. Micah also enjoys spending time with her husband Chris, a College of Business alum, and her three boys Lawson (6), Liam (4), Lincoln (2).



Frank Smith
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

The College of Business Center for Excellence provides a conduit for regional business and industry to access the outstanding knowledge and skills found in COB toward economic and professional growth. Newly leading these efforts is Frank Smith. Frank comes to us with 12 years running the not-for-credit business executive education programs at other universities including Virginia Tech, Oklahoma State University and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Prior to entering academia, Frank worked for IBM Corporation where he established and managed corporate universities located in White Plains, New York, Dallas, Texas, and Brussels, Belgium. If you or your organization is interested in learning more about the customized professional consulting, seminars and workshops COB can provide, please reach out to Frank at frank.m.smith@tamuc.edu



Dawn Gomez
CAREER SERVICES

The College of Business welcomed a new Coordinator of Career Services – Dr. Dawn Gomez.

Dr. Gomez comes to A&M-Commerce with over ten years career development and placement experience, and she encourages all COB students to avail themselves of COB Career Services early and often. She is also available to work with our alumni as they seek to pursue career transitions, new positions or just want to freshen up their networking skills.

Programs include career counseling and assessment, resume preparation, mock interviewing, comprehensive job search, networking, internships and the Distinction of Professional Development (DPD).

If you are interested in the Career Services offerings or if you have internships or permanent positions you need to fill and would like to fill with our students, email Dr. Gomez at COBcareers@tamuc.edu.



Marcia Henderson
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATIVE

Marcia Henderson, a Skyline High School graduate and Graphic Design student from Eastfield College, joined the Texas A&M University-Commerce Administrative Team for the College of Business during the Summer of 2018. Her background includes, but is not limited to, financial services management, workforce recruiting and crisis intervention. When she is away from work, she focuses her time and energy on her passion for helping people. She is the founder of Marcia Henderson Ministries, a non-profit organization that uses its resources to provide food, clothing and basic necessities to those who are less fortunate. Marcia is also a musician who teaches piano to children, an international singer, a songwriter and an author. She released her debut album, titled, "Steppin' Into My Season" in 2014, and her single, "That's Why I Died," has been played in more than 30 countries. She is currently working on her first published book to be released in March 2019. Marcia lives in the small town of Klondike, Texas, with her husband, Efram, of almost 11 years. Marcia is fortunate to be a part of the College of Business and is excited about this new life journey.

College of Business

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Melissa Haynes, administrative associate for the Economics and Finance Department, was awarded the Employee of the Month in February. Melissa has been a great addition to the department. She is professional, efficient and effective. She goes above and beyond the call of duty to help faculty with various tasks, activities and inquiries. President Emeritus Ray Keck made the announcement of the award during a celebration party for Melissa in March and Jeremy Gamez, Staff Council president, presented her the award.

NEW College of Business Faculty and Staff



Melissa Haynes
ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Melissa Haynes joined the Economics and Finance Department as the new administrative associate in fall 2017; however, Melissa is not new to the university. Prior to joining the department, Melissa worked as the administrative assistant in the English Language Institute and the office of the Dean of CHSSA. In addition to her role as the administrative associate, Melissa also works with Jackson Hewitt preparing income tax returns.



Mostafa Malki
ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Mostafa Malki holds a PhD in Applied Economics and an MS in Economics from Auburn University, an MA in Finance from the University of Alabama and a BA from the University of Massachusetts-Boston. Dr. Malki has more than 14 years of experience teaching graduate and undergraduate students in business, economics and finance courses. His research is centered on economic growth and development. He specializes in the analysis of the economic impact and feasibility of construction projects, energy projects and tourism and recreation activities. At present, Dr. Malki works with the Innovation Centre at Krinova, a Swedish incubator and science park, to promote development in northern Africa, sub-Saharan Africa and the border region of South Texas. Dr. Malki is fluent in English, French and Arabic.



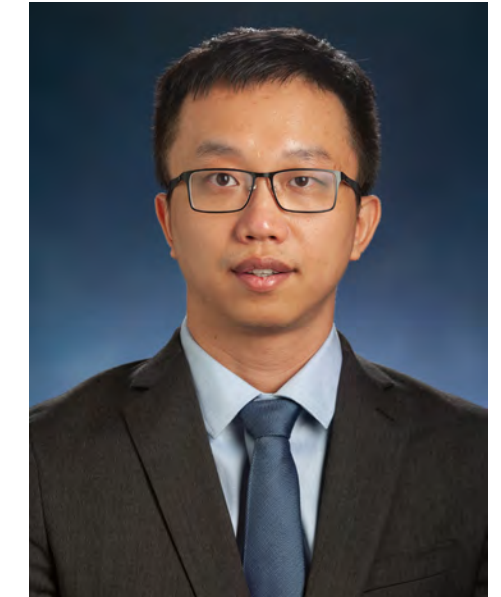
Jim Hamill
ACCOUNTING

Jim Hamill is in his first year as an assistant professor of accounting. He teaches undergraduate and graduate tax courses. Jim previously taught at the University of Oklahoma and the University of New Mexico where he was the KPMG Chair and served as department chair. He has published 94 journal articles and several tax books and still writes a weekly column on taxes for the Albuquerque Journal, which he has done for over 20 years. He was a prior chair of the New Mexico Society of CPAs, has been a CPA for 36 years and has taught tax education courses for Deloitte, EY, BDO, RSM and the AICPA. Jim lives in McKinney with his wife of 35 years and they have four daughters, three of whom live in the Dallas area and one who attends Baylor University. He coached softball at the little league, USSSA and high school levels in New Mexico.



Terry Brawand
ACCOUNTING

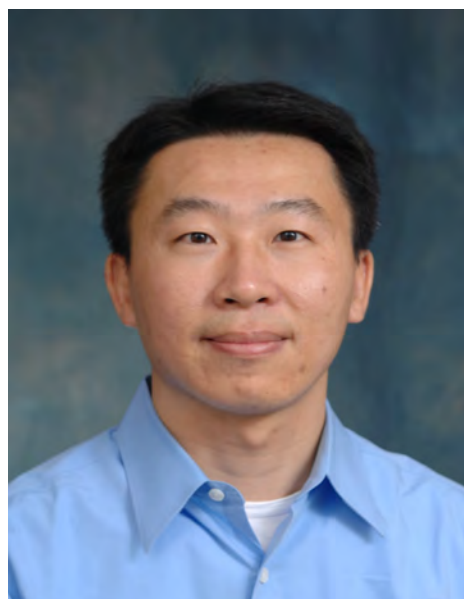
Terry Brawand is a Certified Estate and Financial Planner and an Enrolled Agent. She did her undergraduate education at Penn State and her MBA at Texas Woman's University. Ms. Brawand has had a private tax practice since 1980. She also serves as Chief Financial Officer of her family farm and oil production company in upstate Pennsylvania. Her prior academic experience was as an undergraduate accounting instructor at TWU. Terry loves golf and actively participates in college athletics! Ms. Brawand resides with her husband in Irving, Texas.



Chen Chu
ACCOUNTING

Dr. Chen Chu graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso where he earned his PhD and his master's. His research interests include financial reporting quality, capital market, ethics and international accounting. He enjoys swimming, food and road trips. His next plan is to drive to Alaska all the way from Texas.

NEW College of Business Faculty



Daniel Hsiao
ACCOUNTING

Dr. Daniel Hsiao is excited to be back in Texas after 10 years serving as a tenured accounting faculty at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Dr. Hsiao has broad teaching experience on the topics of financial reporting, AIS, fraud and forensic accounting. He also has many years of industry experience and is very active both in accounting academics and professions, frequently presenting papers at conferences and publishing research in the journals. He earned his MPA and PhD from the University of Texas at Arlington. Dr. Hsiao is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA).



Ran Ling
ACCOUNTING

Dr. Ran Ling earned her PhD in accounting from Florida International University in 2018. She received numerous scholarships during her undergraduate and graduate study. She has professional experience both in accounting and audit. Dr. Ling is a licensed CPA and she has actively participated in professional conferences. Her teaching interests are financial accounting and audit. Her current research areas are financial reporting quality and audit.



Mohamed Komaki
BUSINESS ANALYTICS

Dr. Mohamed Komaki is an assistant professor of business analytics. He received his PhD in systems engineering from Case Western Reserve University in 2017. His main research interests include decision making under risk, multi-criteria decision making, energy supply chain and optimization. He has published over fifteen articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals. He also has served as the reviewer for more than eight scholarly journals in systems, energy and supply chain management and as session chair for international conferences.

NEW College of Business Student Staff



Sindhura "Sindy" Chitukoti
GRADUATE ASSISTANT

My first job on US soil was my best ever! Working as a graduate assistant-research was an enlightening experience for me both professionally and culturally. I study computer science and working at the College of Business was a different experience. I got to work on curriculum-based research, and this job gave me a whole new outlook on work culture and I got to dabble in the how and why of university education. The job itself was fun and my boss, Dr. Shanan Gibson, is super supportive. Working under her guidance was one of the best opportunities in my career. This job beckoned me to the department, and I have given my best to present my research work that will hopefully enable us to be among the best business schools in the US.



Alyssa Sagun
STUDENT WORKER

Over the summer, I've contributed to projects such as Sedona, key inventory and organization of

the office and conference rooms. Other duties I've done are filling in when I'm needed, answering phone calls and providing an efficient environment for the administrative assistant and the dean. I am a nursing major. This student worker position has allowed me to gain experience in an administrative point of view and improve my professional skills overall. I'm grateful for the opportunity to grow in these areas!



Tristan Withrow
STUDENT WORKER

I've been in the College of Business Advising Office since September 2016. I'm a nursing

major. The projects that I've been working on over the summer include assisting with undergraduate orientations, the graduate inactive project as well as the graduate graduation project. I am currently serving as the office administrative assistant while we search to fill the full-time position.



Arturo Cantualla
TRIO STUDENT WORKER

I was enrolled in the TRIO program for the summer and currently my major is undecided.

During my internship in the College of Business Dean's Office, I worked on key inventory, filled in for the front desk in the Advising Department, filed, scanned and faxed documents. I also helped keep everything organized for the supervisors and student workers.



Abigail Newton
STUDENT WORKER

I am a sophomore here at A&M-Commerce and my major is nursing with a minor in human performance. My

plan is to graduate in August 2021. Some things I do in the College of Business Dean's Office are scan/print papers, deliver mail and other items around campus, make files and Word documents, answer phones, and for the past few weeks, I have been working in Sedona. I have really enjoyed working in the Dean's Office, and the people I work with make my job better.



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A&M-Commerce's College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)—the gold standard for business accreditation achieved by only 5% of the world's business schools. Programs and courses are offered **online**, in **Commerce** and in **Dallas**.



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