COB Lion Pride
#BestInClass

Homecoming 2017 Success

A huge THANK YOU to all that came out and helped us celebrate Our Century as Lions! Whether you came by the COB tent for coffee and donuts, applauded Dr. Dale Funderburk’s 50 years of service to the institution, or did your best to make some of us “swim,” I appreciate you being part of the festivities! And the icing on the cake – seeing one of our own COB students, Danyale Shackle, named Homecoming Queen. Our students truly are #BestInClass! If you’d like to see more; follow the COB on Facebook.

Annual Scholarship & Internship Banquet – December 1st

Our Century as Lions – Through the Decades!
The College of Business at A&M-Commerce invites you to join us in celebrating academic excellence and engaged learning – past, present, and future! Please join us on Friday, December 1st at our 2017 Scholarship and Internship Awards Banquet where we will be recognizing our current class of exceptional Lions, as well as honoring Dr. Dale Funderburk and his 50 years of service to East Texas State University and A&M-Commerce.

Our goal is to grow this banquet into an annual tradition, connecting current College of Business students with our graduates, cultivating a network of future professionals linked to the Lion leaders of the business community. Please join us for dinner, dancing and a celebration of Our Century as Lions. Attire is semi-formal, but feel free to choose apparel from any decade you wish to commemorate. After all, we have 10 proud decades of Lion History to honor!

In addition, if you or your organization is interested in sponsorship opportunities, I would love the opportunity to explore this with you. We look forward to seeing you December 1st!
Go Lions!

Dates to Know

- Last Home Football Game – Visit the COB Tailgating Tent November 4th
- TAMUC Annual Veterans Vigil November 9th
- Speed Networking Event @ UCD Campus November 14th RSVP
- COB Scholarship & Internship Banquet December 1st – Reserve Tickets
Networking with COB Students

On November 14th the College of Business will host a Professional Networking Panel for our students and area business leaders. Held at our UCD location, the goal is to provide students with insights into the leadership and professional skills currently in demand, industry growth potential, and internship and employment opportunities available in the market. If you are willing to donate your time and share your professional wisdom, we would greatly appreciate your participation in this event. Please RSVP to Lacey Henderson for more details and to discuss your availability.

New COB Center for Excellence Director

A strong college of business can and should do more than simply educate the professionals of tomorrow. As good stewards of the resources entrusted to us, we reaffirm our commitment to student success and regional transformation. The COB Center for Excellence provides a conduit for regional business and industry to access the outstanding knowledge and skills found in the COB toward economic and professional growth. Newly leading these efforts is Mr. 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 NY, Dallas TX and Brussels, Belgium. If you or your organization is interested in learning more about the customized professional consulting, seminars, and workshops the COB can provide, please reach out to Frank.

Our Strategy Forward

One of my first priorities as the new COB dean was to engage the faculty to take a hard look at the COB’s Mission, Vision, and Strategic Plan. Like Edward Stiles, I genuinely believe that great things can be achieved through synergy when we pull together toward a common goal. I’m sharing the 20,000’ view of our efforts with you so that you will know where we are headed and hopefully want to engage with us as we move forward. Ask me how you can help us succeed in our efforts!

Vision - Become the College of Choice for those seeking a highly-relevant, accessible business education from a well-respected institution.

Mission - The COB at A&M – Commerce produces career-ready business professionals who add value to the global business environment. We accomplish this through experiential learning, impactful scholarship, and partnership with the business community.

Strategic Goals

- Provide a quality, accessible business education differentiated by value, innovation and engagement
- Expand knowledge through basic/discovery, applied, and pedagogical scholarship and research
- Engage in public service, economic development, and professional education
- Attract and develop diverse, talented and engaged faculty and staff
- Ensure long-term viability and relevance
Notable Accomplishments...

Wondering what happens during the summer? 
Our COB Team was very busy!

World Class Scholarship Published & In Press ...
- Collins, J.R. & Doty, M.A. (forthcoming). Building a strong business foundation for startup companies. Accepted for presentation at the Academy of Business Research Fall Conference, November 2017, San Antonio, TX.
- Randolph-Seng, B. (forthcoming). Shared authentic leadership in scientific research teams: Role of shared mental models, trust, and coordination. *Small Group Research*.
- Rankin, R. & Driskill, T. (forthcoming). Higher degrees of an ethical dilemma. Accepted for a poster presentation at the American Accounting Association, Management Accounting Teaching Case Conference.

Professionally Engaged and Making an Impact ...
- Al Gormus is helping the City of Commerce establish its depository structure and long-term investment criteria for its funds
- Billie Abell was named University Staff Employee of the Month for October
- Bo Han was awarded the 2017 Junior Faculty Research Award
- Franchise Miller and Robert Rankin coordinated an amazing student exchange for students from the China University of Geosciences
- Frannie Miller was named the 2017 Outstanding 4H Volunteer for Hopkins County for her work as a project leader for the STEM club
- Guclu Atinc was invited to join the editorial board of the *Journal of Managerial Psychology* and served as the Proceedings Editor for the Academy of Management
- Janeen Gibson was named University Staff Employee of the Month for May
- Leslie Tombs was certified as an Entrepreneurial Mindset Profile Practitioner
- MaryAnne Doty is writing a case in International Marketing related to her experiences helping establish a clinic and pharmacy near Copan Ruinas, Honduras over the summer
- Ruiliang Yan was named Managing Editor of the *International Journal of Information Systems and Supply Chain Management*
- Sandra Gates was appointed to the Qualifications Committee of the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy
- Sarah Elder was named University Staff Employee of the Month for July
- Shanna Hoskinson celebrated her 25-year anniversary with the university
- Stephanie Pane was elected Chair of the Management History Division of the Academy of Management
- Thomas Deaton was sworn as a voting member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Commerce
- Vicki Hub authored a high-profile article on low-interest credit cards for WalletHub.com
Final Thoughts…

When I first reached out about a month ago, it was with the intention of opening lines of communication that I feared had been neglected in recent years. I truly appreciate each of you that responded by welcoming me to the College of Business and expressing your desire to be part of the life of the College going forward. It is my intention to do everything I can to build relationships with you, to engage you in what is happening in the College of Business, and provide you with the means to be part of our success in any manner that is meaningful to you.

As a new dean, I owe a debt of gratitude to all of you that already include the College in your philanthropic giving. Whether it is through student scholarships or donations to the College of Business Excellence Fund, buying tickets to our Scholarship and Internship banquet, or hiring our students as interns, your gifts are part and parcel of how we transform lives. Thank you for the legacy you are building. If you are interested in learning more about our initiatives and how you can assist us, please don’t hesitate to speak up.

The one thing people seem to say over and over after meeting me is that “I seem to be having fun.” And they are right; I am probably ridiculously enthusiastic about my job as dean. I am having a fabulous time working with our students, meeting our alumni, collaborating with faculty, and shining the brightest light I possibly can on the “best kept secret” in Texas higher education. Rest assured; if I have my way, everyone will know that a superlative business education is available from A&M – Commerce’s AACSB accredited College of Business. Please, help me spread the word!

If you are in town, please stop by and introduce yourself (or visit us at the last tailgate of the season). I look forward to hearing your story of Lion Pride!

Best,

Shanan G. Gibson, PhD
Dean, College of Business

P.S. I know the font on the preceding page is very small; but I just couldn’t help but brag about the COB team and all they have recently accomplished! I’m so proud to be part of the Lion Pride and I hope you as alumni feel the same way!