Fall 2017 Senior Exit Surveys

Forty-Six graduating seniors participated in our survey during the Fall 2017 semester.

95.6% were either “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with their decision to earn a B.B.A. in our department. 93.5% rated the quality of instruction as either “Excellent” or “Good.” 100% of the students reported that faculty were “Frequently” or “Regularly” available to them outside of class (this one is especially noteworthy, considering the changes we made to the office hour policy). And, 89.1% reported that it was “Very Likely” or “Likely” that they would recommend our program to a friend (this one is a bit lower than previous semesters).

60.9% reported that we had the balance of online vs face-to-face courses about right. 23.9% wanted more online courses. Only 15.2% requested more face-to-face courses.

65.2% reported that they had no problems with the availability of courses. Some students noted that courses fill up quickly during registration and they have to use our course override system. I had hoped by this point that the waiting list queue would be available in BanWeb. However, the initiative to put this system in place seems to be on hold right now.

Overall, the results are good. One student noted, “The quality of professors at UWG RCOB is outstanding. Many of them had a very positive impact on my education."

Great Job!
UWG Preview Days & Majors Fair

Winter Preview Day—Sunday, January 28, 2018
1. Dr. Joan Deng  2. Dr. Jeannie Pridmore

Majors Fair—Thursday, February 22, 2018—Campus Ctr. Ballroom
11:00-12:00pm  Dr. Faramarz Parsa  12:00-1:00pm  Dr. Erich Bergiel
1:00-2:00 pm  Dr. Kim Green

RCOB Preview Day — Saturday, March 3, 2018
1. Dr. Kim Green

Spring Preview Day — Sunday, April 22, 2018
1. Mr. Philip Reaves  2. Mr. Rick Sigman

Honors Convocation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 3—5:30pm</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>TCPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Parsa</td>
<td>Dr. Gainey</td>
<td>Dr. Zachary</td>
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<td>Dr. Bergiel</td>
<td>Dr. Prince</td>
<td>Dr. Deng</td>
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<td>Dr. Pridmore</td>
<td>Dr. DeFoor</td>
<td>Dr. Upson</td>
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<td>Ms. Sanchez</td>
<td>Ms. White</td>
<td>Dr. Green</td>
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<td>Mr. Reaves</td>
<td>Dr. Turner</td>
<td>Dr. Velez</td>
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<td>New MIS Faculty</td>
<td>Mr. Sigman</td>
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Graduation Commencement—AY 18

Fall 2017 Graduation—Saturday, December 9, 2017
1. Erich Bergiel  4. Dr. Doug Turner
2. Dr. Faramarz Parsa  5. Ms. Samantha White
3. Mr. Philip Reaves  6. Dr. Mary-K. Zachary

Spring 2018 Graduation — Thursday, May 10, 2018
1. Dr. Leanne DeFoor  4. Dr. John Upson
2. Dr. Joan Deng  5. Dr. Susana Velez
3. Ms. Mariana Sanchez  6. Mr. Rick Sigman

Summer 2018 Graduation — Thursday, July 26, 2018
1. Dr. Kim Green  3. Ms. Samantha White
2. Dr. Thomas Gainey  4. Mr. Philip Reaves
Important Dates

January

Open Drop—Spring 2018 Classes (ends at 11:59pm) Jan 6-10
Open Add—Spring 2018 Classes (ends at 11:59pm) Jan 7-11
Final Fee Payment due Jan 12
MLK Holiday—no classes, offices closed Jan 15
Roster Verification (Full term & Session 1) Jan 18-22
MIS Meeting—Miller 2212—11:00-12:30pm Jan 24
MGNT Dept. Mtg., 9:30-10:45am, Miller 2212 Jan 25
Executive In Residence—Lofton Spencer Jan 26
Winter Preview Day Jan 28

February

Majors Fair Feb 22
Last Day to Withdraw with a “W” full session Feb 28

March

Last Day to Apply for Summer Graduation Mar 1
Board of Advisors Meeting Mar 2
RCOB Preview Day Mar 3
Spring Break— No classes Mar 19-24
On-Time registration for summer/fall 2018 begins Mar 26

April

Honors Convocation (5:30pm—TCPA) Apr 3
BB&T Lecture Apr 9
MGNT Dept—Meeting—8:12pm—Hubbard Apr 20
Lunch with the Dean 12-1pm—Hubbard Dining
Spring Preview Day Apr 22
Beta Gamma Sigma TBA
Spring 2018 Classes End Apr 30

May

Faculty/Staff Development Workshop TBA
General Faculty Meeting—3:00pm & Best of the West May 2
Spring 2018 Final Exams May 2-8
Spring 2018 Graduation—THURSDAY May 10
Spring 2018 Grades Due—noon May 14
For the third year, Dr. Susana Velez-Castrillon organized and chaired a PDW for the Diversity and Inclusion Theme Committee (D&ITC) of the Academy of Management (AOM). This PDW, created by Doyin Atewologun of Queen Mary University of London, and Uma Kedharnath of University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, brings together the Presidents and board members of the International Affiliated and Associated Academies of the Academy of Management. This year, executive members of the academies, as well as representatives from some of the AOM divisions, discussed ways to foster collaborations across countries, use technology to make the conferences more accessible to scholars outside the US and, perhaps more important, and build mechanisms to develop research capabilities in developing countries. Each iteration of this PDW creates more connections among the Affiliated and Associated Academies, which hopefully will grow into more concrete collaborations.
In the moments leading up to the arrival of the former president of India, four University of West Georgia students had the opportunity to stand up in front of hundreds of people to give an impromptu speech about how honored we were to represent our university and how much we enjoyed Mumbai, India during the Inaugural Ceremony for the 25th International Economics Convention. I wouldn’t necessarily say that the words that came out of our mouths were the most important, but that the moment helps captivate the overall experience of this trip. Sitting in the audience, hearing students sing, watching video presentations of research, and listening to the former president encourage us with the power of education, we only saw what we could from our seats. However, the idea of all four of us being able to drastically change our perspective by being on the stage brings us to the point. With the rattling of our limited perspectives, the International Economics Convention held annually in India continues to serve RCOB’s purpose of transforming lives through education, engagement, and experiences.

The extensive research done during the months before the presentation add a new layer to undergraduate research that is unique for business students. The skills and techniques we were able to learn from our generous professors and staff taught us that there is much more to education than just classes. Our topic of the recent demonetization in India, in itself, was an expansion of perspective as we were introduced to a current event that most of our team was vaguely aware of. Not only were we able to learn the basics of undergraduate research, but we were also able to do it as a team which added yet another layer of experience that is completely necessary in today’s global workplace. However, to fully engage us in our research, we were given the opportunity to visit India to compete and more importantly to expand our perspective of the world. India has much to offer with its rich and diverse culture and our excursions helped to paint this picture. Although my teammates and I have had various travelling experiences before, I’m sure we can all agree that we witnessed a completely different point of view in India.

This new point of view was similar to how being behind that microphone changed our perspective during the Inaugural Ceremony. This competition and cultural journey gave us a new perspective of the world. An opportunity that was unimaginable, eye-opening, and for lack of a better phrase, life-changing. With the support of our professors, staff, fellow classmates and Dean McIntyre, the Richard’s College of Business sponsors an experience that perfectly aligns with its mission.

From Team India 2017, thank you for all your help, guidance, and for providing an opportunity that is hard to fully measure!
Dr. Pridmore attended the annual SAP University Alliance conference in New York City. This event was the grand opening of the new SAP Leonardo Center in Hudson Yards, NYC. The SAP Leonardo Centers are working in conjunction with the University Alliance program’s Next-gen Design Labs to bring organizations with problems to solve together with people who can work to solve them. The topics covered at the conference were design thinking, big data and machine learning analytics, blockchain, 3-D printing, and SAP curriculum design.
Dr. Pridmore attended SAP Buckhead’s first Connected Life Summit. This event focused on innovative technologies that are changing how we live, work and play. Technology is transforming everything we know through increased connectivity and speed. Speakers were from UPS, Porsche, Dell, Technicolor, and the City of Atlanta. Topics discussed were Internet of Things, blockchain, big data, security/privacy, and how the newly formed Leonardo centers are working with the University Alliance Next-gen design labs.

Dr. Pridmore is working with the Management Information Systems department at the University of Münster’s School of Business and Economics to develop a new international course. The International Work Practicum course will provide a one-of-a-kind international experiential learning experience. UWG students will have the opportunity to work with a German organization and in international teams to solve a real world organizational problem. These international teams will utilize collaborative software such as GoToMeeting or WebEx to complete pre-work for the project in early May and then students will travel to Münster, Germany to complete the project work in an SAP Next-Gen Design lab and present to the German organization. Projects will utilize a design thinking methodology and will range in scope from Enterprise Systems, Security/Privacy, Analytics, Marketing Research, and Supply Chain/
John Upson attended the Southern Management Association Annual Meeting in St. Petersburg, FL. He presented research co-authored by Kim Green titled, "Competitive Dynamics of Small Business."

John Upson attended the Academy of Management Annual Conference in Atlanta and served as Discussant in the paper session titled, "SMEs, Entrepreneurship and Performance “
Hurricane Harvey made landfall August 25, 2017. It continued to flood parts of Texas through August 29 — some areas received more than 40 inches of rainfall.

“So proud of my Legal and Ethical Environment students for their participation in a Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Project sponsored by local company Southwire! We had discussed legal and ethical issues surrounding the hurricane and were moving into discussing corporate social responsibility and corporate citizenship in the next chapter. The students decided to participate in the relief project and filled the very spacious back of my vehicle with their contributions. Many thanks to them, to department grad students Evan and Danielle (pictured) and Kara (currently on her bachelorette trip!) for pitching in with receiving and hauling goods, and to boss Tom Gainey for signage and location assistance!”
RYAN GOVERNALE
MIS MAJOR—F17 GRADUATE

Currently, I have been at Southwire Company for 9 months as an intern for the Contractor Solutions team. My role has been to use my knowledge as a Management Information Systems major to develop a new web application to assist contractors in the field. The university has taught me how to use SQL server, which is a widely used database platform. All applications I have worked on while at Southwire run off SQL server between this custom application for contractors and the SSE (Southwire Sales Enabler). Southwire and the University have taught me to always expand your knowledge for I have currently learned and taught myself up to 8 coding languages (proficiently).

As I approached the last semester of my senior year here at UWG I thought to myself, “there is something missing”, and it turned out to be an internship. I became determined to get an awesome internship so that I could gain hands on experience before making the big transition after graduation. After strenuous search, I lucked up and landed a Marketing internship with an amazing organization, Tanner Health System, for my last semester of college. I anticipate that this opportunity will teach me a lot about the field I am going into as well as open doors for me in the future that would’ve otherwise been closed. If I have any advise for my fellow students it is to get the most out of your education and do everything you can to start preparing for the future today.
From Left: (rt corner photo)
Pontoon crew members
• CEO — Sean O’Keefe,
• Brewmaster—Cole Brown & Tyler Cole
• COO—Marcus Power

The following article was featured in AJC.com

Atlanta startup, Pontoon Brewing, which has been brewing beers such as its No Pants Pilsner under contract at Thomas Creek Brewery in Greenville, SC, and Coastal Empire in Savannah, GA, is set to open a new brewery in Sandy Springs.

According to an announcement today, the facility at Northridge Business Center will be located between Georgia 400 and Roswell Road, on Dunwoody Place, and will occupy an 11,000 square foot space that will house a custom-made 10 barrel, six vessel brewhouse.

The anticipated opening date is Sept., 2017, and the brewery will offer tours, tastings, growler and crowler sales, events, live music and tailgate parties.

“We love the relaxed lifestyle of enjoying beer with friends on a pontoon boat,” partner Sean O’Keefe said in the announcement. “Our vision here is to appeal to the business community and offer a relaxing way to spend time after a day at work. A big portion of our clientele lives and works in the Sandy Springs area, so we will now be able to offer them not only our product, but a place to enjoy it. We want to be the happy hour spot.”
HR Certificate
Currently, 112 students have completed the HR Certificate program and we have 54 active applicants. Four (4) certificates were awarded this fall 2017 (listed below)
1. Joshua Alise 2. Keairoh B. Craft
3. Alyssa Sibilia 4. Claire Tracey

OM Certificate
We have 26 active participants in the OM Certificate Program. Three (3) certificates were awarded this fall 2017.
3. Amelia Anne Cooper

Please remember to mention both certificate programs to the students in your classes and refer them to Liz for more info and how the required courses will fit in their schedule.

New Graduate Assistant—S18
Shelby Powell—IT GA

My name is Shelby Powell. I graduated from the University of West Georgia with a degree in Business Management. I will be pursuing my MBA over the 2018 year. I hope to gain a better knowledge of the realm of business through the course of this upcoming year. I am thrilled about the opportunity to be a Graduate Assistant for such a great department!
GRADUATE/STUDENT ASSISTANTS—CURRENT

1. Danielle Dillinger (Grad—IT)
2. Shelby Powell (Grad—IT)
3. Evan Little (Grad)
4. Brionna Kilgore (FWS)