Dear Colleagues,

I just completed my analysis of the Spring 2019 Senior Exit Surveys. Seventy-one students completed the survey. Some highlights:

- 100% were either “Very Satisfied” (54.9%) or “Satisfied” (45.1%) with their decision to earn a B.B.A. in our department.
- 95.8% rated the quality of instruction as either “Excellent” (45.1%) or “Good” (50.7%).
- 94.3% noted that faculty were “Frequently” (41.4%) or “Regularly” (52.9%) available outside of class.
- 98.6% said that it was “Very Likely” (50.7%) or “Likely” (47.9%) they would recommend our program to a friend.
- 29.4% completed a certification.
- 11.6% completed an internship.
- 7.1% participated in a study abroad program.
- 43.5% noted that it was “Difficult to Balance” their school, work, and life activities.
- 60 of the 71 students reported they had a job, and 25 of those 60 reported working more than 30 hours per week.

I think you do a tremendous job with our students and these survey results show that students appreciate your work as well.

TG
# Important Dates

## May
- **Mary-K. Zachary** 1st
- **Leanne DeFoor** 5th
- **Linxiao Liu** 25th
- **Spring 2019 Graduation**
- **Faculty Workshop (Time/location—tba)**
- **Grades due by noon—Spring 2019**
- **Summer fee payment Deadline**
- **UWG Innovations in Pedagogy Conf**
- **Session I Roster Verification**
- **Last day of Session I classes**
- **Memorial Day—Offices closed**
- **Session I Final Exams**
- **Session IV Classes Begin**
- **Independence Day, no classes, offices closed**
- **Session IV—Last Day of Class**
- **Session IV — Final Exams**
- **Graduation—Summer 2019 (Saturday)**

## June
- **Monica Smith** 14th
- **Ron Colley** 17th
- **Hope Udombon** 17th
- **Jim Yoder** 18th
- **Jack Wei** 22nd
- **Faramarz Parsa** 25th
- **Karen O’Connor** 27th
- **Tom Gainey** 30th
- **June Sessions 2 & 3 begin**
- **Session III fee payment deadline**
- **Last Day of Session III**
- **Session III Final Exams**
- **Session IV Classes Begin**
- **Ice Cream Social**
- **F19 Roster Verification**
- **Leadership Academy Kick-off**

## July
- **Mary Kassis** 9th
- **Ellie Towhidi** 24th
- **Jane Smith** 29th
- **Beheruz Sethna** 31st
- **Independence Day, no classes, offices closed**
- **Session IV—Last Day of Class**
- **Session IV — Final Exams**
- **Graduation—Summer 2019 (Saturday)**
- **Last Day to apply for Fall graduation**
- **General Faculty/Staff Meeting**
- **RCOB Fall Faculty/Staff Meeting**
- **Fall 2019 Classes begin**
- **Fall 2019—Open Add/Drop until 11:59PM**
- **RCOB Fall Party—Main Event, Atlanta**
- **Fee Payment Deadline**
- **Ice Cream Social**
- **Leadership Academy Kick-off**

## August
- **Blaise Bergiel** 1st
- **Sunil Hazari** 11th
- **Liz Runyan** 13th
- **John Upson** 21st
- **Yun Cheng** 31st
- **Last Day to apply for Fall graduation**
- **General Faculty/Staff Meeting**
- **RCOB Fall Faculty/Staff Meeting**
- **Fall 2019 Classes begin**
- **Fall 2019—Open Add/Drop until 11:59PM**
- **RCOB Fall Party—Main Event, Atlanta**
- **Fee Payment Deadline**
- **Leadership Academy Kick-off**
### September
- Labor Day (Campus Closed—No classes)  
- MGNT Dept. Mtg., Adamson Hall rm 127 8:30-11:00 am—all dept. fac.  
- 11:00-12:00—MIS faculty  
- Open Mtg 9:00-11:00am—Adamson Conf. 18-19  
- ACCT/FINC Career Internship Fair 25  
- Women Empowering Women 21  

### October
- Last Day to Apply for Spring Graduation 1  
- Fall Break 3-4  
- Last Day to withdraw with a grade of W (for full term courses) 9  
- Board of Advisors—Adamson 18  
- Homecoming 9  
- Registration for Spring 2020 semester 28  
- Economic Forecast Breakfast 29  

### November
- Breakfast with the Dean 7  
- Thanksgiving Break (NO CLASSES) 25-27  
- Thanksgiving Break (No Classes, OFFICES CLOSED) 28-29  

### December
- RCOB Holiday Lunch 4  
- Classes End 6  
- Final Exam Week 7-13  
- Fall Graduation 14  
- Grades Due (By NOON) 16  

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**Calendars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 2019</th>
<th>October 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hilde Patron 6th</td>
<td>Samantha White 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Abrokwa 7th</td>
<td>Grace Li 7th</td>
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<td>Mariana Sanchez 13th</td>
<td>Doug McWilliams 7th</td>
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<td>Joan Deng 13th</td>
<td>Doug Turner 7th</td>
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<td>Rick Sigman 17th</td>
<td>Faye McIntyre 17th</td>
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<td>Brad Prince 19th</td>
<td>Todd Anduze 29th</td>
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<td>Jim Burton 21st</td>
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<td>David Nickell 27th</td>
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<td>Nancy Lott 30th</td>
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<th>November 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Hopper 1st</td>
<td>Salil Talpade 8th</td>
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<td>James Murphy 10th</td>
<td>Adrian Austin 11th</td>
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<td>Cheryl Brown 16th</td>
<td>Agnieszka Chwialkowka 13th</td>
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<td>Bashu Dutt 18th</td>
<td>Michael Sinkey 21st</td>
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<td>Erich Bergiel 22nd</td>
<td>Kathy Cannon 22nd</td>
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### Honors Convocation

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Dr. Zachary</td>
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<td>Dr. Deng</td>
<td>Dr. Bergiel</td>
<td>Dr. Prince</td>
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<td>Dr. Upson</td>
<td>Dr. Pridmore</td>
<td>Dr. DeFoor</td>
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<td>Dr. Green</td>
<td>Ms. Sanchez</td>
<td>Dr. Towhidil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Velez</td>
<td>Mr. Reaves</td>
<td>Ms. White</td>
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<td>Mr. Sigman</td>
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<td>Dr. Turner</td>
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### Graduation Commencement—AY 19-20

- **Fall 2019 Graduation**—Saturday, December 14, 2019
  - TBA
- **Spring 2020 Graduation** — Thursday, May 7, 2020
  - TBA
- **Summer 2020 Graduation** — Saturday, July 25, 2020
  - TBA

### UWG Preview Days & Majors Fair

- **Fall Preview Day**—Sunday, November 3, 2019
  - TBA
- **Winter Preview Day** — Sunday, January 26, 2020
  - TBA
- **Spring Preview Day** — Sunday, April 19, 2020
  - TBA
**Citizenship!!**

Dr. Susana Velez-Castrillon and her husband Juan Forero became American citizens on February 21 of this year. She first came to the United States in 2006 to study for a Ph.D., and became a resident of the country in 2013—with the invaluable help of the Richards College of Business, in particular Nancy Lott and Dean McIntyre; and Alicia Hargraves. Right after the ceremony, they registered to vote thanks to Atlanta’s “League of Women Voters” who sent dozens of volunteers to register new voters.

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**CISCO Networking Academy**

**May 2019**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Drs. Jeannie Pridmore and Gelareh “Ellie” Towhidi completed an intensive CCNA Routing and Switching: Introduction to Networks course through Stanly Training Center. Both faculty are now a certified “CISCO CCNA Level 1 Instructor.”
Ms. Samantha White attended the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) conference in Atlanta, GA.

"Dr. Jeannie Pridmore, Dr. Gelareh Towhidi, and Mrs. Samantha White attended the "22nd Southern Association for Information Systems Conference" on March 22nd to March 23rd, 2019 at St. Simons Island, Georgia. Dr. Pridmore served as the conference chair and presented two papers.

Dr. Towhidi & Dr. Pridmore presented the paper “Aligning Information Systems Security in Higher Education with Industry Needs”. And, Dr. Pridmore and Mrs. White presented the paper “Data Analytics in Human Resources,”
Dr. Jeannie Pridmore and Ms. Monica Smith worked with Carrollton Elementary School to create and run a 2nd and 3rd grade coding club. We had a great time working with these students and introducing them to programming. They programmed games, amazes, created digital art, and created programs that would talk and translate their words into other languages. We even had the opportunity to visit Carrollton Middle School for a special robotics programming day. On the last day, their parents joined us to go through their portfolio of programs created during the year.
RCOB Students Tour Vietnam

Spring Break - March 2019

During spring break, the Management study-abroad class traveled to Vietnam. The class of 15 students focused on global management, marketing, and culture.

At the time they arrived, the summit between President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un was still fresh on the minds of the locals, having concluded two weeks earlier. The students began in Hanoi, the capital city, where the summit had taken place. Here they visited KPMG, for an economic overview, and KOTO, a local social business that takes kids off the streets and trains them in the hospitality industry. Also in the area is the picturesque Halong Bay.

Later in the week, the students flew to Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), formerly Saigon. Here they toured the Coca-Cola bottling facilities and LTP Textiles shop floor. They also attended a panel session of three entrepreneurial firms.

Although the main focus was business, the students enjoyed generous free time. For fun, the students engaged in a cooking class, a scooter dinner tour, a boat ride on the Mekong Delta, the War Remnants Museum, Reunification Palace (old US Embassy), a dinner cruise, and the local markets.

In sum, these experiences taught the group that Vietnam is a thriving and growing country. Today’s Vietnamese youth are smart, motivated and optimistic. The country is on an upward trajectory and the UWG group enjoyed see it at this phase of development.
Dr. Susana Velez-Castrillon presented “Ethnic Supermarkets as Oasis in Food Deserts: What are they Barriers to Access?” at the 2019 International Association of Business Disciplines Conference held in Jacksonville, FL, April 3-6.

International Work Practicum
May 2019—Munster, Germany
TIE University Business Plan Competition

Nikkita Gordon placed 3rd at the TiE Atlanta TYE University Business Plan Competition. Nikkita started out with an idea a couple of years ago and presented her idea at The Georgia Bowl™ and at the TYE University Business Plan Competition. She took her idea and the feedback from the angel investors and refined her business plan along with her product. She returned to compete this year with a patented product and solid business plan. She placed 3rd out of 24 teams and won $2,000 in prize money. Her company Cute & Cocky, LLC was featured in Shooting Industry® “The industry’s Business Magazine- EST. 1955” in their first ever Woman’s Issue. While she attended The SHOT SHOW in Las Vegas this year, she was interviewed on the Steve Gruber Show and the MoJo 5.0 Radio Show. She also had an interview with Zach Snow who is the Director of The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF). She was featured locally in The West Georgian. Rick Sigman helped to prepare Nikkita for the competitions and serves as an advisor to her business. Nikkita graduated from UWG Fall of 2018.

Ms. Gordon have a guest appearance on Atlanta Business Radio on June 10, 2019

Makenzie Bryant
Spring 2019 Graduate
Management & Marketing Major

Ms. Bryant graduated Thursday, May 9 with a double major in Management and Marketing.

She was accepted to the Physical Therapy Graduate program and waitlisted to the Doctorate program at Breau University. Makenzie plans to start her graduate studies this summer and should finish this three year program in 2022.

Congratulations Makenzie!
**Spring 2019 SAP Certifications**

Our department awarded SAP Certificates to seven (7) students in the spring 2019 semester.

The University Alliances program in North America offers students at member schools an option for recognition of their “SAP skillset.”

The purpose of the Student Recognition Award is to recognize students at UA member schools that have spent notable time using the SAP product suite within their degree program.

SAP Courses: CISM 3330, 4330, & 4350

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**The specific criteria:**

- Students must complete all SAP-supported coursework with a C or better
- Qualifying courses must contain at least a one third hands-on component using SAP products
- Students must complete a minimum of three different courses containing SAP content
- The qualifying courses must be approved in advance by the University Alliances Program Director

1. Yannick Brassard  
2. Nicholas Burks  
3. Kierra Clayton  
4. Quavious Hazzard  
5. Ambrose Joey Moncayo  
6. Destin Porche  
7. Khaleel Rogers

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**S19—(HR) Human Resource, (OM) Operations Management & (EN) Entrepreneurship Certificates**

**HR Certificate**

Currently, 131 students have completed the HR Certificate program and we have 39 active applicants. Seven (7) certificates were awarded this Spring 2019


**OM Certificate**

This certificate program was approved summer 2014 and we currently have 29 active participants. One (1) certificate was awarded this spring 2019.  *Joshua Sosobee*

**EN Certificate**

The Entrepreneurship certificate program was approved fall 2017 and we currently have 15 active participants. Three (3) certificates were awarded this spring 2019 — *Tyrahn Brown, Milan Miles, & MaryLeith Turner*

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*Please remember to mention both certificate programs to your classes and refer them to Liz for more info and how the required courses will fit in their schedule.*
Alexandria Redding
Graduate Assistant—R19

I’m from Atlanta, Georgia. I attended the University of West Georgia for undergrad where I attained a B.B.A in Management and Marketing. My favorite subject is Business Communications. I chose to pursue my master’s degree at UWG because of the excellent program, great professors and staff, and resources available. As well as further my education in management.

areddin1@my.westga.edu

Theodore “Ted” Lyon
IT Graduate Assistant—F19

Hello, my name is Ted Lyon, and I consider myself a technology hobbyist working my way towards being a technology specialist. I’ve had the pleasure of being able to dabble in information systems, cyber security, game development, and many areas in-between. Over the next year, I’m hoping to hone my skills in these areas through problem solving and teaching others.

tlyon1@my.westga.edu