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# COMMUNIQUÉ

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 4

NEWSLETTER OF THE AU FALLS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL MBA PROGRAMS

## AU MBA – A MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE

### • A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR •

#### THE POWER OF INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

Leadership in the 21st century requires the ability to deal with change and the skill to collaborate with people from a variety of cultural backgrounds and experiences. Successful leaders are able to visualize the future and create synergy from individual differences.

Diversity and a global perspective are important features of the Anderson University MBA program. The program is very intentional about recruiting individuals with varied backgrounds and purposely provides students the opportunity to interact with individuals from various backgrounds, as well as travel and study abroad.

Cultural diversity is an attribute associated with the Falls School of Business MBA learning experience. Whether it is the background and experiences of the students, the international activities of our faculty, or the international requirement for completion of the program, students in the MBA program at Anderson University have a variety of avenues

from which to experience different cultures.

From a very practical approach, we are proactive in getting our MBA students exposed to other cultures outside the classroom.

Recently, we have taken students to international businesses throughout Western Europe, and in the future, we hope to expand our opportunities for international travel into areas such as Eastern Europe, China, and Costa Rica.

*A program that is intentional about providing students the opportunity to learn from individual differences and experiences — another distinctive feature of the Anderson University professional MBA program ... a premier program designed for the working professional.*



**Dr. Jeffrey M. Buck**

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION

For application materials or more information, contact Sherri Fields, MBA recruiter and director of public relations.

TELEPHONE: (888) MBA-GRAD or  
 (888) 622-4723  
 (765) 641-4362

FAX: (765) 641-4356

E-MAIL: [mba@anderson.edu](mailto:mba@anderson.edu)

WEB: [www.anderson.edu/mba](http://www.anderson.edu/mba)

MAIL: **MBA Program Director  
 Anderson University  
 1303 East Fifth Street  
 Anderson, IN 46012-3468**

#### ACCREDITATION

Anderson University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools: 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400 Chicago, IL 60602-2504

In addition, the undergraduate and MBA programs of the Falls School of Business are accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

*A special thanks to our writers, Samantha Smith, Amanda Bronnenberg, Sherri Fields, Todd Baden, and Jeffrey Buck. Special thanks to Cara Miller for layout and Sherri Fields for coordinating the Communiqué.*

Today's world is one that is built on diversity — different cultures, different languages, and different perspectives. The Professional MBA program creates a place for students with common goals and perhaps different backgrounds to gather together and learn from each other.

The international emphasis of the Professional MBA program has brought an indescribable benefit to all students. As a Falls School of Business alumna and current Professional MBA student, Fan Chan agrees. She states, "I believe that I offer a great benefit to the program. I was able to share my culture and unique experiences with my classmates."

Because of their unique experiences, students from other cultures bring different perspectives to the classroom as well. Nivad Navid, a student in the Professional MBA program, explains that "Getting stuck in a so-called homogeneous set-up prevents people from seeing the facts from all angles. In different class discussions, I am coming from a

different angle compared to local opinions. This happened several times in a variety of subjects ranging from organizational behavior to international business."

The range of perspectives that MBA students gain in the classroom is helpful in the business world. Kelvin Kwok, an international MBA student, explains, "Diversity has become a norm in the corporate environment in most developed countries, especially in the United States.

Having students with international backgrounds in the program will help the students appreciate the cultural differences by bringing in different perspectives. Students will get experience for the future in working with coworkers who come from other cultures."

It is these differences that are celebrated within the classroom. "The thing I valued most about this experience is my peers," Chan

explains. "They all bring different points of view to class and teach and share things that I can't learn from a textbook."

With a mission to provide a high-quality business education which contributes to the students' current and future effectiveness on the job, the MBA is celebrating differences with an international perspective.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Now accepting applications for spring 2008 classes. Application and information session details are available at [www.anderson.edu/mba](http://www.anderson.edu/mba).**
- **Coming soon — details for the 2008 MBA international trip!**

# STAYING IN TOUCH

A special part of the AU MBA program is the personal touch. Here are some updates from MBA students and graduates.

**99 Ken Martin** has accepted a new role at Delta Faucet Company as the director of commercial products.

**00 Donna Evanecky** gave birth to her second child, Chase, on Feb. 28. She resigned from her position at Purdue as her son and daughter, Reese, keep her busier than ever. She teaches as an adjunct professor part time.

**Bill Grieco** was recently promoted to senior staff accountant. He is working with the United States Southern Command in Miami, Fla. In 2006, he served as a senior budget analyst with the Multi National Corp in Baghdad, Iraq.

**01 Vic Holove** has recently joined Prairie Quest Consulting, Indianapolis, as director of business development.

**Jeff Norus** is happy to report his new position as the U.S. master network planner for supply and distribution for ExxonMobil.

**02 Dan Killion** will be traveling to Germany for the third time to discuss process improvements and planning of global marketing efforts for Roche's Applied Science Division.

**Vivian (Alvarodo) Morse** celebrated the birth of her son, Lucas David, on Aug. 21.

**Lisa Nieman** has entered the academic world teaching business and management courses for Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Ind.

**Clark Simpson** is currently serving as the chief operating officer of Midwest Health Strategies and also serves as the operations director of Integra Health Care.

**03 Ed Duning** remarried with his second anniversary on Oct. 1. He is now a certified project manager and over the past year has celebrated the birth

of his grandson, Jaiden, and his own 50th birthday.

**Jane Gehlhausen** recently graduated from the Hamilton County Leadership Academy and was also elected the 2007-2008 president of the board of directors of the World Trade Club of Indiana.

**04 Hector J. Arocha** has recently accepted a position with the Nestlé Purina Company in St. Louis, Mo., as a senior internal auditor for the Nestlé Audit Market Team.

**Holly (Boarman) Edmond** was married in February, and she and her husband are expecting their first son in January 2008.

**Dan Miller** was named senior vice president of global marketing and sales at General Physics Corporation. He has also been recognized as one of the Top 20 Training Industry Influencers by TrainingIndustry.com.

**Scott and Amanda Thomas** celebrated the birth of their first daughter, Maison (Maisie) Gayle, on April 20. Scott will be recognized as one of Indy's Best and Brightest Finalists in the Technology Field by the Junior Achievement of Indianapolis.

**05 Virginia Hall** has accepted the position of associate director of finance at North Carolina State University and has relocated to Raleigh, N.C.

**Amy and Isaac Norman** celebrated the birth of their son, Jonah Benjamin, on March 26.

**06 Mark A. Hubbard** announces that his Sallie Mae department is being moved out of state. He will remain in Indiana and is looking forward to the opportunity to begin seeking employment elsewhere.

**Kim Nichols** was promoted in June to strategic client manager for First Advantage Recruiting Solutions.

**Kirsten (Ragsdale) Becker** is happy to announce her marriage in September.

**07 Kerrie M. Aborn** has begun her new job at Anderson University as the director of professional development. She has also been named treasurer of the Indiana Council for Continuing Education.

**Maria (Davidova) Carpenter** is happy to announce her marriage on April 12 and has also accepted a new position as demand planner with Red Gold.

**Kevin Cusimano** has accepted the role of IT portfolio manager at Roche.

**Jenny Habayeb** welcomed her new baby girl, Abigail Vivian Habayeb, into the world at 9 lbs and 22 inches.

**Brandy Hooton** is now working for Steak n' Shake and was recently promoted to supervisor of accounts payable. She is also teaching online courses at Indiana Business College.

**Karen Otis** started the Masters of Public Affairs program at IU.

**Dana Porter** will be leaving her five-year position at Wesleyan Publishing House to work full time on her Mary Kay business.

**Amy Seeko** was recently promoted to laboratory manager at St. John's Health System.

**Pam (Walker) Sipes** is pleased to announce her marriage.

**Connie Whisner** was elected Vice President of the Indiana Search & Staffing Association.

**current Ryan Berry** is a project engineer and manager with Pepper Construction Company for the J.C. Penny flagship store being built at the Hamilton Town Center.

**Christopher Cross** is happy to announce his wedding last summer. He has also recently begun teaching at Indiana Business College and received the Instructor of the Quarter

Award in his very first quarter teaching.

**Venkat Gopalakrishnan** has been promoted to systems analyst in the Information Technology Division of Sallie Mae.

**Rajendra Govindaswamy** and his wife, Sreeroopa, were blessed with a baby boy, Aditya, on Sept. 4.

**Jonathan Kolanowski** and his wife, Jessica, celebrated the birth of their third child, Corbin Joseph, on May 4.

**Steve Livingston** and his wife welcomed their son, Alexander Christopher, into the world on May 14 at 11 pounds and 21.5 inches!

**(Sara) Nanette Long** is happy to announce her engagement and also her promotion to IS auditor at the Federal Home Loan Bank.

**Linda L. Maynard** will be leading a workshop titled "Oncology Care in a Developed Country" to registered nurses in India.

**Kevin McLaurin** is happy to announce his daughter, Mandy's, engagement and is excited for the wedding on Dec. 29.

**Danielle J. Smith** is currently the director of communications for the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services. The division oversees services for the State of Indiana.

**We want to stay in touch with you! Send an e-mail to Sherri Fields with your news at [sdfields@anderson.edu](mailto:sdfields@anderson.edu) or call (765) 641-4362.**

## COMMUNIQUE SPOTLIGHT

### Alumni Spotlight: HECTOR AROCHA

Falls School of Business alumnus Hector Arocha MBA '04 recently accepted a new position in the Domestic Audit Department at Nestlé Purina in St. Louis, Mo. He was appointed to the position this past July and believes he made a good choice by accepting the position. "There is a world of opportunity — literally. Nestlé Purina is in 86 countries. You can pick where you want to work and in any area of the business, after a period of training, of course."

Arocha, a native of Venezuela, came to the United States with his wife just before 2002 to learn English. He unexpectedly met up with Pastor Hutchinson, a Church of God pastor, who directed him toward Anderson University. Soon after, he met with Dr. Buck, director of the MBA program, and became an MBA student.

While he was helping the university set up a job fair, Arocha came in contact with Citizens Gas and Coke Utility out of Indianapolis. Citizens Gas took his resume, and he was offered a position in their

auditing department. He remained there until July 2007 when he accepted the job at Nestlé Purina. Arocha says that his new position is much different than the position at Citizens Gas, where he was senior auditor.

"Nestlé Purina is a world company," Arocha said. "We have a higher level of structure for the organization and higher standards for business. I work with the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean. This position requires 60-70 percent travel."

Arocha believes that his MBA from AU has made a difference in his life and career. "Having an MBA from Anderson is a higher value point on my resume and in my life," he said. "I have an advantage over other candidates because my MBA shows I can learn and can operate with speed and efficacy. Going through the MBA program as a student, especially as a Hispanic student, added value to my life and to my profession."

## MBA ALUMNI AFTER HOURS

The MBA Alumni Chapter held an after-hours event on Nov. 8 for all MBA alumni, RMBA students, and second-year Professional MBA students. Forty-five alumni and second-year students attended the event representing 26 MBA cohorts.

Dr. Wendell Seaborne, associate professor of finance and business and a '97 MBA alumni, led a Sharpening Your Skills seminar for attendees. He also led a seminar on networking and self-presentation skills, including how to make a great first impression, how to carry a conversation with someone you haven't met before, and how to create value for your contacts by helping them make beneficial connections. He emphasized that networking is really about relationship-building, networking is a two-way street, and that one should approach networking from the standpoint of helping someone else.

During the event, students had the opportunity to meet alumni and second year students from different graduating years and cohorts. Kerri Aborn MBA '07 said, "I have something in common with every one of the people here — we all have an MBA from the Falls School of Business at AU. It is so much easier to meet people when you have a similar background as a starting point for conversation. These people are talented, ambitious, and successful, and I'm honored to be among them."

A strong alumni association is an invaluable resource for our graduates. Through the alumni association, graduates have the opportunity to develop relationships that will benefit them professionally and personally. If you would like to become more involved in the alumni association, please contact the MBA office at [mba@anderson.edu](mailto:mba@anderson.edu) to ensure that the office has your correct e-mail address, to learn about upcoming events, and to join the MBA Alumni Association Yahoo! networking portal.



Dr. Wendell Seaborne



Shana Bradley and Vicki Munson



MBA students and alumni gathered for the after-hours event