

## THE MBA COMBINES CLASSROOM LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

It has been said that teachers teach more by who they are than by what they say. Within Anderson University's Professional MBA program, teachers and students alike are seeing how much their experiences and responsibilities outside the classroom can become valuable learning tools inside the classroom. Unlike an undergraduate environment, the Professional MBA provides an atmosphere where both students and professors are as involved in the business world as they are in school. From past work experience to current consulting jobs to real-world applications of complex business theory, it is clear that experience knows best.

"Sometimes when I'm talking about a concept, I'll be consulting with a company that's struggling with the same issue," says Dr. Frank Pianki, director of academics for the Residential MBA Program. "I'll bring that into the classroom."

Pianki spent time in managerial positions in the chemical industry before spending the past 13 years teaching full time. Pianki has also worked as a managerial consultant for the duration of his time in education.

"At the MBA level, I think my experi-

ence helps me relate to the students," says Pianki, "because it's not just academic. We can also provide practical insight."

Dr. Mike Wiese is also not shy about bringing his outside work experience into the classroom. "I think this generation tends to want relevancy and applicability," remarks Wiese. "They want to know what works and if it's going to be helpful in a practical way."

Wiese started in the retail grocery business but after pursuing education, has continued to expand his business experience while also being a faculty member.

"I think, in my case, being able to do my work and teach at the same time makes me more believable, more credible," says Wiese, adding that suggestions he makes to students in class hold more authority when backed by application from his life.

Professors are not the only business savvy individuals in the MBA program. Students in the curriculum are employed in a variety of fields, each bringing a new set of experiences to the table.

"At the undergraduate level, often due to a lack of experience, the majority of

learning is faculty-directed," says Wiese. "At the MBA level that gets dispersed over the class."

Jason Richmond, a 2008 graduate, relates that he was able to interact with fellow students and professors and gain insight that would be otherwise impossible. "I was able to share work-related issues with my cohort, which led to in-depth class discussions and alternative solutions to take back to the workplace," he says. "MBA classes have raised my awareness level, creating opportunities to stand out in the workplace."

It is this combination of unique and diverse experiences that sets the Anderson University MBA Program apart. Both professors and students are able to view their education as more than a classroom through which to pass but an environment through which to grow.

"It amazes me each time I go into one of these classes," says Pianki. "My perspectives are enhanced by just listening to what the students have to say. I am able to learn from them as much as they learn from me."

### • A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR •

#### PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS WITH PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

Over the years, there has been a deliberate focus on demonstrating and appropriately establishing the reputation of the Anderson University MBA as one of quality. Delivering a high-quality learning experience that is relevant and made available in a convenient, meaningful format has been, and continues to be, a vision and focus for the program.

Attainment of specialized business-school accreditation is one way of demonstrating an aspect of quality; the extensive use of full-time faculty in the classroom is another. We believe that bringing our professional, full-time faculty into the classroom does make a difference in quality. That is why the majority of classes are taught by full-time faculty.

Specifically, these individuals are able to make a difference in quality because they are trained teachers and they have common areas of commitment. With intent, all faculty members in the Falls School of Business are committed to:

- Providing relevant and practical learning experiences
- Teaching excellence
- Being accessible to students
- Fulfilling the Christian purpose of Anderson University
- Developing an attitude of service among students

In addition, these individuals are unique in that they also possess practical experience. With a variety of areas of expertise, these individuals are uniquely qualified to discuss and bring to life the application and relevance of the material because they are professional teachers with industry experience!

The AU MBA program emphasizes quality instruction and is selective about the individuals who lead and facilitate the learning experiences. Being intentional about the extensive use of professional, full-time faculty with relevant practical experience is just one of many important, defining characteristics of the AU MBA program.



Dr. Jeffrey M. Buck

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION

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

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 (888) 622-4723  
 (765) 641-4362

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MAIL: **MBA Program Director  
 Anderson University  
 1303 East Fifth Street  
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#### 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).

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# STAYING IN TOUCH

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

**95 Kim Williams** owns Association Management Plus, which offers management consulting for medical companies.

**97 Pat Brown** has accepted a new position as engineering manager European division for ASYST Technologies, LLC, located in Bad Berleburg, Germany.

**Myra Cocca** joined with the Central Indiana Community Foundation to lead its marketing and public relations efforts.

**Wendell Seaborne** operates a consultancy, Seaborne Leadership.

**98 Doug Holtz** is the vice president of Indiana and Ohio for Harleyville Insurance.

**Brian Osswald** was promoted to sales director-new therapies at Maquet Cardiovascular in Rastatt, Germany.

**Doug True**, president of FORUM Solutions, was recognized in February as "GonzoBanker of the Month" by Cornerstone Financial Institution Advisors.

**00 Veronica Minnefield** is officer in charge of Navy Cargo Handling Battalion- 7 Charlie and Delta Company. She is preparing her units for deployment to provide cargo-handling logistics support in Iraq.

**01 Vic Holove**, his wife, and another couple have opened Encore Desserts & More Bakery at 11852 Allisonville Road, Fishers. Encore offers a wide variety of high-quality cheesecakes, pies, cakes, and other baked goods.

**03 Randy Baker** was promoted to corporate ser-

vices director at Richmond Power and Light.

**Suzanne Maki** accepted a new position as manager of customer relations and education with the City of Carmel Utilities Department.

**04 Jodi Stuck** married Dr. Jim Dalton on Jan. 4, 2008.

**Jane Gehlhausen** was elected chair of the Board of Directors of the International Center of Indianapolis, a non-profit whose mission is to enhance globalization in Indiana.

**Brooke Hull** has started two Access to Care pharmacies, one serving in-home patients and a retail location in the Muncie American Health Network building.

**Reginald McGregor** owns Academic Coaching for Excellence, LLC and is currently working with an IPS high school.

**Dan Miller** recently returned from Singapore, where he was the co-chair for the Global Learning Summit.

**Erin Robertson** was recently awarded the Certified Financial Planner certification.

**05 Amanda J. Biedess** accepted the senior marketing manager position in the Therapeutic Surfaces Division of Kinetic Concepts Inc., a global medical technology company. She and her husband, Matthew, welcomed daughter Madeleine Jane on Dec. 8. The family will move to San Antonio in July.

**Ken Dodson** owns True North Ventures Inc., a holding company for True North Risk Management Services and Fishers Towing and Recovery, which are snow removal and towing services.

**Libby Manship** and her husband, Mike, welcomed

Elijah Paul to the family on Oct. 26, 2007.

**Shari Nicholls** and her husband, **Monte Nicholls MBA '06**, welcomed son Evan Adam to the family Dec. 20, 2007.

**06 John Moon** owns Northernlight Filmworks, which specializes in business promotional videos, Web videos, and high-end wedding videos.

**Michael Smith** owns Paramount Construction and Maintenance, LLC in Indianapolis.

**Lauren Young** accepted a position at Manor HealthCare in Anderson as HR director.

**07 Masahiro Imafuji** owns Imafuji Translations, a translation/interpreting business in Anderson.

**Paul Moore** became the director of technology infrastructure at FORUM Solutions.

**Amy Seeko** accepted the new position of laboratory quality coordinator at Riverview Hospital in Noblesville.

**Alicia Wallace** was recently elected to become a board member with Connect2Help, a non-profit organization that connects people to needed human services.

**Jen Wolfe** was promoted to director of solution planning for FORUM Solutions.

**current Vicki Bryan** was promoted to manager of finance at Wellpoint.

**Barb Buffington** owns BLB Real Estate Services and is an advisor for Lia Sophia Jewelry.

**Pamela Fugate** accepted a new position as manager of the Medical and Bariatric Weight Loss Center with St. Francis Hospital.

**Michelle Furr** was promoted to advisor of IT business systems for National Government Services, Inc. She also welcomed son Jordan Fitzgerald on Oct. 18, 2007.

**Ada Graham** received a local ASMC Scholarship.

**Heather (Hiatt) Harris** and her family own The Play Station in Muncie, a family entertainment center. She was married in November.

**Jon Kolanowski** is the managing partner of Infinamic, Inc., a marketing firm focusing on Internet development.

**Kelvin Kwok** was promoted to senior support analyst at Consona Corporation in March.

**Thomas Lorek** accepted a position as deputy director of information technology at the Indiana Department of Revenue.

**Umesh Manocha** has been promoted to senior technical architect at Sallie Mae.

**Craig Robertson** recently acquired Valesco Manufacturing, Inc., an agricultural manufacturing business. He is also engaged to Amy Schultz.

**Mike Schwarz** was promoted to team leader of information solutions at Walker Information. He also welcomed daughter Elliot Maren to the family on Dec. 4, 2007.

**Theresa Warren** and her husband, Scott, own Ready Rooter Sewer & Drain Cleaning in Elwood.

**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: KAREN KENNELLY

As the CFO of the Children's Museum in Indianapolis, Karen was working long hours and late nights but didn't feel she was getting the ongoing business stimulation and practices she desired. Deciding to continue her education, she chose the MBA program at AU because of its accessibility and convenience.

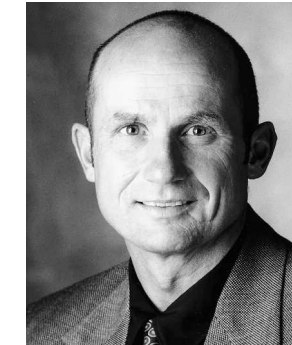
Karen is currently the director of non-profit services at Katz Sapper Miller. She is responsible for the newly created KSM charitable business services, which oversees grant-writing and back-office services for non-profit foundations, such as the Lily Foundation. Her position also oversees many non-profits audits. Kennelly is specifically in charge of helping to grow the company's non-profit industry by business development and finding non-profit business opportunities.

"The cohort I attended was right across the street from my office," explains Karen. "I was able to stop whatever I was working on, go to class, and then go right back to work. The program is tailored to adults who are in a full-time job. It is designed so that the program can be accomplished while still working demanding hours."

Karen also chose the MBA program because she wanted a generalist MBA degree. "I appreciated that the program was a general MBA rather than a specific MBA in accounting, for example. I appreciated that everyone was in the same area and class and that we were all going through the program together."

Karen has taken what she learned from her MBA into her new career path. "I first chose to go back to school because I wasn't getting any business stimulation in my career. I needed refreshment on the principles and application of business. Now, I use those principles that I learned in my everyday career path. Whether it is consulting or everyday business, the principles I learned have enhanced my business career."

### Professor Spotlight: GREG HEBERLING



Business students, no matter their level, are all asking for the same thing — professors who have their hands in the business world daily and can take their experiences into the classroom.

Professor Greg Heberling's personality and business ventures make him a unique asset to the MBA program and an asset to students. Throughout his career, he has been involved in several entrepreneurial ventures, including Kaisers Foods, Gordy's Subs, and Sandwich Seller. He was also a part-owner of Damon's, a national franchise.

Heberling also uses his knowledge and experience to give back to the community. He has created business

plans for the Anderson Economic Department and written feasibility studies for the Health Care Center.

He knows the importance of having a professor who is involved outside of the classroom. "It is important for students to have professors who have a wide range of skills and experiences," he explains. "A professor needs to be well-rounded in the business world in order to best teach the students."

## CLASS OF 2008



Last year marked another record-setting year for the MBA program. With 125 students, the 2008 class became the largest group to graduate from the Falls Schools of Business with a master's degree. The group also set a new standard in performance with 22 members graduating with honors, a distinction reserved for those who complete all classes with a cumulative GPA of 4.0. On May 10, the graduates were awarded their academic hoods and participated in the university's commencement ceremony. The students received their diplomas at a celebratory banquet held on June 14. Representatives from each of the six cohorts shared about their MBA experience at the event.

Anderson student Jason Richmond stated, "Our MBA cohort attracted many talented and inspiring individuals who came together to embrace the unknown."

This year also marked the inaugural graduating class of the Residential MBA program. Fifteen individuals concluded the accelerated course load. While earning their degrees, these students have also gained practical business experience within their desired fields. The tradition of excellence at the Falls School of Business has been both strengthened and upheld by the class of 2008.