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Seidman College of Business

Undergraduate Student Services Newsletter • DeVos Center, First Floor
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*A newsletter for undergraduate
students of business.*

• H. James Williams, Dean •
• John Reifel, Associate Dean • Leigh Brownley, Director Undergraduate Business Programs •
• Alexandra Schmid, Special Programs Coordinator •

Beta Alpha Psi

By Lindsey Gilles, President

The Kappa Beta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi is anticipating another exciting semester by the looks of our busy winter 2009 schedule. We have a variety of educational speakers and events set up in order to continue the professional development and growth of the students here at Grand Valley State University. Of course, this opportunity would not be possible if it weren't for the continuing support of the Seidman School of Accounting, the community of Grand Rapids, and the GVSU faculty.

Our chapter is proud to announce a brand new executive board. In order to become better acquainted with the hardworking individuals of our chapter, the following provides a short insight to each officer of Beta Alpha Psi. I am Lindsey Gilles, the current president of Beta Alpha Psi. Goals in my near future consist of graduating from GVSU in April and immediately continuing my education in pursuit of my MSA degree. After completing the MSA program in the spring of 2010, I plan to start my CPA examination in January of 2010 in order to have certification before I begin my career at Crowe Horwath in September of 2010. Drew Burnett is our vice president. Drew just graduated with his BBA in Accounting and is currently enrolled in the MSA program. In the fall, Drew enjoys playing water polo for GVSU. He also plans on earning his CPA license in the near future. Brianne Eluskie is our Treasurer. She comes from a large family with two brothers and four step-sisters. Brianne will be interning at Plante Moran this summer and has hopes of getting a job working for a public accounting firm. Justin Wambaugh is our Corresponding Secretary.



L-R: Front Row: Brianne Eluski, Lindsey Gilles, Brittany Byndas
Middle Row: Matt Gary, Kevin Walkotten, Caleb Tollefson
Back Row: Justin Wambaugh, Matt Huston, Christian Goedel, and
Drew Burnett

Justin has an exciting summer ahead of him as he is planning to study abroad in France. In the future, he hopes to move to a different state and work as a CPA. Christian Goedel is our Recording Secretary and is currently a senior with plans to graduate December 2009. In the future, he would like to pursue his CPA license and eventually obtain an accounting position with a large international firm allowing him to live and work overseas. He also plans to pursue a Masters in Science in International Accounting after he completes his undergrad degree. Caleb Tollefson is a senior and our Vice President of Professional Development. He plans to start his own business. Matthew Gary is our Vice President of Information Systems. Also a senior, he is pursuing an accounting/finance double major and plans to attain an internship winter 2010 with a big four CPA firm. Matt would also like to get his CPA license and MBA.

Matt Huston is our Vice President of Development. Matt enjoys playing guitar, golfing, watching Pittsburgh Steelers football, working out, and hanging out with his friends. He has lived all over the nation; born in Orange County, CA, lived in Atlanta, GA, resided in Rockford for 10 years, moved to Fort Collins, CO, and just recently moved back to Grand Rapids this past year. Matt is double majoring in Accounting and Finance and currently works full-time as a cook. His future goals include earning his CPA license within the next year and a half. Brittany Byndas is our Vice President of Community Service. She is an Accounting and International Business major with a Chinese Minor. Brittany's plans for the summer include studying abroad in Shanghai and interning at Deloitte. Kevin Walkotten is our Vice President of Social Events. Born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, his father and uncle are both CPA's. Kevin would like to pursue his CPA license as well. He enjoys playing basketball on a weekly basis, and currently works as a financial analyst intern at Huntington Bank. In the future, Kevin would love to manage a stock portfolio.

Our winter agenda consists of a variety of firm presentations in order to better acquaint our chapter's members with the diverse opportunities in the industry. Some of the attending firms include Crowe Horwath, The Rehmann Group and Becker CPA, to name a few. An internship panel will be on our agenda as well in the latter part of the semester. The panel will consist of members who have previously interned in public and private accounting positions. This meeting will offer insight and advice on how to acquire an internship, how best to obtain the maximum benefit from the internship, and how to transform that internship into a full-time position.

Several of the chapter's executive board members attended Beta Alpha Psi's Midwest Regional Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. This event was held on February 27th - 28th and was hosted by Bradley University and Eastern Illinois University. Our chapter was given the opportunity to present on "Chapter Operations" at the conference. This conference further promotes and recognizes the chapter and its successes while giving rise to the opportunity for Grand Valley members to network with Beta Alpha Psi members from surrounding universities.

As an honors society, members are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA in their upper-division (300-level or higher) accounting courses and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Additionally, each semester members are required to regularly attend weekly meetings, complete a ten-hour community service requirement and pay dues of \$65 for members and \$120 for pledges. Membership in Beta Alpha Psi presents students with good networking opportunities in the accounting profession.

For more detailed information regarding any of the above mentioned items, a schedule of events or any additional information, please visit our website at <http://www.gvsu.edu/bap/>.

Reception Planned for Graduating Business Students

Commencement is a highlight in the lives of many students who have dedicated years of hard work and sacrifice to earning their college degree. The Seidman College of Business is pleased to invite all graduating business students to a special reception immediately following the commencement ceremony on April 25, 2009. The reception is an opportunity for Seidman College of Business graduates to celebrate their accomplishments with fellow Seidman graduates, faculty and staff.

In what has become a Seidman tradition, the reception will be held at the top of The B.O.B. located directly across from the Van Andel Arena where commencement is held. Graduates are welcome to bring their commencement guests to the reception.

Seidman Professional Development Series

We look forward to seeing you at this final event for the year!
It is open to all business students and will definitely help you develop the professional polish to help you succeed in the business environment. Light refreshments will be served!

The Power of Coaching

Guest Presenter: Mitzi Taylor, Not So Basic Training
6:00-7:30 p.m., Second Floor, Eberhard Center

Here's one for your résumé! Employers will be happy to know that you attended this session described by Not So Basic Training as follows, "Successful managers today understand the importance of coaching in the workplace to improve productivity, loyalty and results. Instead of telling team members what to do or just expecting them to perform, it is important to guide, discuss and encourage – in other words, coach. Coaching is a collaborative process that can accelerate learning, self-discovery and development in individuals. This session helps the participants understand what this relationship looks like and how important a coaching system can be in the success of an organization."

For more information, please feel free to contact Seidman Undergraduate Student Services at 616-331-7500 or stop by to visit us in 101B DeVos Center.

Community Leadership Scholarship

Leadership for community and economic development results from education, experience and a commitment to work toward a vision. The Community Leadership Scholarship seeks to support and honor Grand Valley State University students who have demonstrated their willingness to combine community service with the pursuit of their professional vocations through a one-time \$1,000 scholarship. This award supports those students who pursue entrepreneurship to improve quality of life. This scholarship benefits students who major in any field, with a preference for those who major in business or public and nonprofit administration. The scholarship was established by the founding members of the Grand Valley University Foundation Leadership Committee, who seek to advance new generations of business leaders and community philanthropists.

Application Criteria:

1. Recipients must be entering their junior or senior undergraduate year at Grand Valley State University.
2. Candidates must give evidence of significant community service performed while a college student at Grand Valley State University and give expression to their desire to be engaged in community service throughout their lives, either through their professions or as volunteers, board members and so forth.
3. Recipients must be enrolled with full-time status as a degree-seeking student at Grand Valley State University.
4. Candidates shall be making satisfactory academic progress according to the norms established by the University.
5. Demonstration of financial need is not required.

Application packets are available in the Seidman Undergraduate Student Services office (101B DEV), and are due to the American Humanics Nonprofit Leadership Program office, 228C DeVos Center, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI, 49504, no later than **April 3, 2009**.

Write It – Then Cite It!

By Linda Masselink, Senior Librarian-Steelcase Library, Liaison to Seidman

Finishing a paper involves making sure you are giving credit where credit is due to ideas and quotes from other sources you discovered in your research process. Citations can add value to your paper. Of course you want to give your own analysis and thinking on your topic, but when you give someone else's opinion, you need to acknowledge that source. Finding information online does not mean it is general knowledge and does not need a citation. The purpose of citing sources is to allow your reader to easily locate your research source. Library Guides (<http://libguides.gvsu.edu/home>) can assist you in this process of citing sources correctly and preparing a bibliography.



Linda Masselink

First find out what style manual your instructor wants you to use. For Seidman College graduate courses, APA Style is preferred. The Library has prepared a Library Guide on Citing Sources. Other Library Guides that include recommended sites for learning more about citations and bibliographies are: Accounting, Taxation and Finance; Business; Company & Industry Research; Economics; International Business/Country Research.

All of the university libraries have style manuals at the reference desk for your use. Another library guide you may want to consult is Plagiarism. This guide helps you determine what plagiarism is and what does not constitute plagiarism. Did you know anything that is viewable or hearable format must be credited to the source and in many cases permission must be secured to use these images, photos, artwork, recording, etc.? Keep this in mind when you are preparing your paper or presentation.

Many of the databases such as *ABI/Inform Global* or *Business Source Complete* offer you an option to “cite this source” when you locate an article. Sounds good, but BE careful. Not every database cites correctly. You need to know enough about your citation style to recognize when something is not right. Have you used the citation program *Knight Cite* designed by students at Calvin College? It is a program that can cite books, articles, and online sources in MLA, APA or Chicago style. You fill in the blanks, hit submit and get a citation for your bibliography. Unfortunately, this program does not differentiate between the 3 styles when it comes to capitalization. You have to know whether every word in an article or book title is capitalized or just the first word needs capitalization. You must enter it correctly when you fill out the form. When using citations from databases, watch the capitalization and also how the authors are listed. Know your style format to make sure the citation you are given is a match or if you need to make adjustments.

Citing your sources is an important part of your paper. It takes time and can be frustrating until you understand the style you are working with. Use the help available to you through the manuals of style, specific websites for formatting citations, or consultations in the Writing Center.

The Seidman College of Business newsletter is published by the business school bimonthly during the academic year and once each summer. It is compiled for Seidman Undergraduate Services by the Seidman Special Projects Assistant
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