Happy New Year and welcome to 2015! As we begin this new year, I am confident that 2015 will bring bigger and better things for the College of Business and Technology (CBT).

As I reflect on my first semester as Dean of the CBT, I am proud of what was accomplished. We delivered award winning programs, had fantastic networking opportunities, provided fun social events, offered quality education and resources to our students, and welcomed new faculty members as well as a whole new department to our college. 2014 was certainly a busy year. Our leadership team is fully engaged in the developing the college for the future to ensure continued success for 2015 and our wish for the year is that you get involved!

As you move forward in this new year with your own personal and professional resolutions, I encourage each of you to make a commitment to CBT – get involved in activities, attend events, get to know our students. Whether you are a student, alumni, faculty, staff, or business partner, we hope that you will embrace what CBT has to offer. I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together in 2015.

About the Dean
Dr. James R. Lumpkin earned both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University (BS ’74 and MBA ’75). His Ph.D. (’80) is from the University of Arkansas.

Previously, Dr. Lumpkin served as the dean and Chase Bank Professor at Louisiana Tech University. He has also served as dean of the Spears School of Business Administration at Oklahoma State University and dean of the Foster College of Business Administration at Bradley University in Illinois. As a faculty member, he held endowed chairs at Baylor, University of Mississippi and University of Louisiana, Lafayette.

Dr. Lumpkin has co-authored two books and more than 80 journal articles. He is past president of the Academy of Marketing Science (AMS), and served as editor of the Journal of Business Research. He has been named a Distinguished Fellow of the AMS and currently serves on the Board of Governors.
2014 Economic Summit Recap

Overview
The 2014 Economic Forecast Summit was a huge success. The event was held on September 11, 2014 at seven o’clock in the evening at the Green Acres Baptist Church Crosswalk Center. Featured guest speaker was Stuart Varney, host of Varney & Company, Economic Journalist for Fox News Channel and Fox Business Network.

More than 440 people attended the event. Attendees from outside of Smith County included Shreveport, LA, Houston and Lufkin. Many of which were first time attendees for any CBT event. “An outstanding event which was professionally presented and carried out. The food, camaraderie, and event were just outstanding,” M.D. LeComte, The Coordinating and Development Corporation.

Sponsors
The event could not have taken place if it wasn’t for the generous support of the 38 businesses that sponsored the event. Sponsors ranged from Speaker Sponsors to Table Sponsors.


Academic Resource Center (ARC)

What is ARC?
The Academic Resource Center (ARC) is the College of Business and Technology (CBT) student resource center for advising, retention, and career planning. The ARC offers CBT students a personalized level of advising with one of our advisors assigned specifically to a student’s major.

The ARC staff is here to assist students with their growth and development at UT Tyler by creating degree plans that are compatible with their goals. The process is continuous throughout student’s education within CBT and is based on frequent personal contacts from an ARC advisor. Effective academic advising and career planning are essential to success and ARC is here to enhance that experience. ARC is open Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are encouraged to diminish student wait time.

Meet the ARC Staff
- Adrienne Hampton, Human Resource Development & Technology Advisor
- Brandy Meadows, Accounting & Finance Advisor
- Kay Pleasant, Computer Science and Computer Information Systems Advisor
- Roger Sims, Jr., Management and Marketing Advisor

Contact ARC
PHONE: 903.566.7363, OFFICE: BUS 114
EMAIL: cbtadvising@uttyler.edu
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HANDS-ON LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Robotics Equipment
CBT Industrial Technology and Management students have the opportunity to earn FANUC robotics certification without taking additional coursework.

BGC Retail Lab
The Brookshire Grocery Company (BGC) Retail Lab provides a hands-on experience for students interested in retail management. The lab consists of 16 student computer stations and a point-of-sale register system with connections to the student computers and BGC to facilitate project management and implementation.

FAST FACTS

46.4%
Growth in first-time CBT undergraduate students over last year.

63.2%
Growth in total CBT graduate students over last year.

CBT Largest College on Campus

Fall 2014 Enrollment
As of fall 2014, the College of Business and Technology (CBT) became the largest college on campus with 2,151 students enrolled.

CBT also accounted for UT Tyler's highest percentage of graduate students enrollment. CBT's graduate enrollment was 41.3% of total graduate enrollment for the university. CBT has several graduate programs, including: Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Accountancy (MAcc), Master of Science in Industrial Management, Master of Science in Human Resource Development (HRD), Master of Science in Computer Science, Coordinated MBA-MSN, and the Ph.D. in HRD program. The increase in graduate student enrollment was contributed by the MBA healthcare program which started in Fall 2012, with 24 students. As of Fall 2014, the program had a total of 311 students.

CBT also awarded more degrees than any other college for 2013-2014 and Fall 2014.

2014 Faculty Achievements
The successful growth of the college is in part a reflection of our outstanding faculty. The 2013-2014 academic year boosted several faculty achievements. The CBT faculty published 125 peer reviewed publications, three books, 11 book chapters, conducted 72 presentations, received five grants and one patent. The CBT faculty conducted 28 outreach programs to the business community and 26 student class research projects.

CBT DEGREES
CBT offers a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science to undergraduate students with the choice from nine different majors. CBT also offers six different master degrees and a Ph.D. in Human Resource Development. For a full list of degrees, visit uttyler.edu/cbt.

The University of Texas at Tyler Riter Bell Tower.
Welcome New CBT Faculty

With the enrollment increases the College of Business and Technology (CBT) has been experiencing, new faculty were necessary to continue to meet student needs. In 2014, CBT welcomed nine new faculty members.

Abdulahell Bari, Assistant Professor of Management. Dr. Bari received his Ph.D. in Business Administration in 2010 and Ph.D. in Engineering in 2001, both from Louisiana Tech University.

Kyung-Ah Byun, Assistant Professor of Marketing. Dr. Byun received her Ph.D. in Business Administration from Texas Tech University in 2014. Her research interests include: product recalls, negativity effects, and marketing strategy.

Miguel Caldas, Professor of Marketing and Lindsey Chair. Dr. Caldas received his Ph.D. in Business Administration from FGV-EAESP in 1998. His research interests include: international management, comparative organization, & national culture.

Lidan Fan, Assistant Professor of Computer Science. Dr. Fan received her Ph.D. in Computer Science from The University of Texas at Dallas in 2014. Her research interests include: data communications and networking, database management, and data mining and securing in network environments, especially in social networks, algorithms, and theory of computing.

Nicholas Fessler, Associate Professor of Accounting. Dr. Fessler received his Ph.D. in Accounting from Indiana University. He is a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) and also a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensed in Texas. Dr. Fessler currently serves as the Director of the Master of Accountancy (MAcc) Program for the CBT.

Kevin James, Assistant Professor of Marketing. Dr. James received his Doctor of Business Administration from Louisiana Tech University in 2012. His research interests include: understanding the value in consumer behavior, specifically how service providers create value as perceived by customers, strategy sales and sales ethics.

Kim Nimon, Associate Professor of Human Resource Development. Dr. Nimon received a Ph.D. in Education Research from the University of North Texas (UNT) in 2013 and a Ph.D. in Applied Technology and Performance Improvement from UNT in 2007. Her areas of expertise include: workforce development (HRD), employee engagement, and corporate chaplaincy programs) and qualitative analytical methodologies (applied general linear model analyses, statistical software programming, and measurement and evaluation).

Jennifer Reynolds, Lecturer of Accounting. Ms. Reynolds received her Master of Science in Taxation from The University of Texas at Arlington in 2003. She is also a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensed in Texas.

Lidong Wu, Assistant Professor of Computer Science. Dr. Wu received her Ph.D. in Computer Science from The University of Texas at Dallas in 2014. Her research interests include: data analysis and management, computer networks, sensor systems, information systems, compiler construction, software engineering, and information security.

Department of Computer Science Joins CBT

The Department of Computer Science and Computer Information Systems joined the College of Business and Technology (CBT) fall 2014. The department was previously housed in the College of Engineering. The addition to the college comes with an outstanding group of faculty and staff.

The Department of Computer Science offers comprehensive programs to prepare students for work in a wide variety of computing environments. The department offers a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems, and supports a secondary teacher certification in computer science and technology applications. Students can also earn a Master of Science in Computer Science.

The Department of Computer Science has been approved by the Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) as meeting the requirements of the CNSS security standards. Students can therefore earn a CNSS Computer Security Certification.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about The Department of Computer Science, visit uttyler.edu/cs or call 903.566.7403.
New Academic Ventures

3+1 MAcc Plan
The 3+1 plan allows students to complete the Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and the Master of Accountancy (MAcc) in just four years. Under this degree plan students achieve a BBA in Accounting in the first three years and the MAcc in the fourth year.

After completing the undergraduate degree in accounting, students will have meet the education requirement of the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy (TSBPA) to sit for the Uniform CPA Exam upon completion of the MAcc Program.

The MAcc is a non-thesis program that prepares students for a professional accounting careers in the public, corporate, not-for-profit or governmental sectors. The minimum number of credit hours required for the MAcc degree is 30. The student must maintain a 3.0 grade point average (4.0 basis) in all graduate coursework, and in all accounting graduate courses. No course with a grade below “C” may be applied toward this degree. A student receiving a grade below “C” may be dismissed from the program, as may a student receiving more than two “C’s” during their program of study.

Required Courses
ACCT 5310: Research Problems in Federal Income Taxation
ACCT 5335: Advanced Government and Not-for Profit Accounting
ACCT 5355: Strategic Cost Management
ACCT 5360: Advanced Problems in Accounting
ACCT 5380: Advanced Auditing
ACCT 5385: Research in Accounting Theory
BLAW 5310: Business Legal Environment
MANA 5360: Global Business Perspectives

Spring 2015 Events

- February 10: Dr. Mary Gentile – Giving Voice to Values, Luncheon
- March: 2015 Retail Summit (Date TBD)
- March 26: Family Business Series featuring Goodwill Industries
- April 17: CBT Awards Day
- April 23: Texas Productivity Center Summit
- April 24: Spring Mock Team Interviews

Continue to check uttyler.edu/cbt for events.

Certifications
The College of Business and Technology (CBT) is now offering more chances for students to earn certifications. While working on their degree, students can now earn certifications without having to take additional course work.

Some of the Undergraduate certifications currently offered include: Computer Security Certification, Excel Skills Certification, FANUC Robotics Programming Certification, Hootsuite (social media management) Certification, and Professional Category Analyst Certification.

Graduate certifications currently offered include: Computer Security Certification, Excel Skills Certification, Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certification, FANUC Robotics Certification, Organizational Development and Leadership Certification, Supply Chain Management Certification, and more.

Certifications are a great way for students to enhance their skills in their field of study. These skills and certifications are designed to better equip students for jobs upon graduation while adding more value to their degree.

To find out more about certifications, email cbtinfo@uttyler.edu.

Fall 2014 Mock Team Interviews
Each semester, students in MANA 3170: How to Get a Job and TECH 4372: Capstone Experience, are required to take part in a Mock Team Interview. Students sit down with businesses from throughout the East Texas Region to practice their interviewing skills. Many students are offered internships and even job opportunities as an outcome.

Family Business Series
The Center for Family and Small Enterprises held its second Family Business Series featuring Fastenal on October 23rd. The series provided an interactive learning and networking experience for UT Tyler students, faculty and staff, as well as family and small business owners in East Texas. Fastenal showcased the No. 99 Fastenal Ford Fusion Race Car and visited several CBT classes encouraging students to attend the UT Tyler career fair.

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

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2014 Outstanding Students
Select students were chosen from each field of study to be recognized as standing out among their peers. Students were selected by faculty vote and were awarded prior to the BGS and EPT ceremony in April.
CBB Alumni Spotlight

Matthew Vincent Riccardi
BBA in Management & MBA, 2009
Current Position: Senior Manager, Basketball Operations – Brooklyn Nets

My story, like so many others in my profession, is quite unconventional. I spent 5 years at UT Tyler and during that time received both a Business Management Degree and a Master’s in Business Administration. I worked in the business building and also played/coached for the UT Tyler basketball team. My heart is very much entrenched in Tyler, specifically in the Business Building and the HPC.

After graduating I took a financial insurance job in The Hague, Netherlands with a company called Aegon. It was an incredible opportunity to explore a foreign world and gain an understanding of the business environment internationally. My expenses were paid for and I was given a nice monthly check that allowed me to spend my weekends gallivanting in Italy, Belgium, Spain, and all over Europe. My GPA at UT Tyler opened the door to this opportunity for me and would not have been possible without my educational background.

After my four-month training program had finished I decided that I would head back home to pursue a life in basketball. Basketball was my first love and the game consumed my thoughts for much of the day. After many attempts to obtain an internship at the NBA level, I finally broke through with the New Jersey Nets. I moved from Dallas to NJ for an unpaid internship and no guarantee of a job afterwards. It was a leap of faith and the ultimate “betting on yourself” situation and although it has been a crazy path it worked out in the end.

I am now in the middle of my sixth season with the Nets. My job has changed each year as new responsibilities have been added and my job description has morphed into the current dream situation. I have a dual role between scouting and player development. I attend college and minor league (D-League games) across the country typing up reports, gaining background info and learning about potential players that we could add to our roster. On top of that, I spend time traveling with the Nets working with our younger players on how to manage their finances, real estate, relationships and everything else that goes into being a professional. The player development side of my job is challenging but extremely rewarding. I work for an incredible management team that has constantly instilled trust in me and allowed me to grow as a person and as a professional.

UT Tyler prepared me for all my current and past experiences in the professional world. The day to day class work is long forgotten but the concepts of time management, lessons learned from professors and the ability to work within teams have been embedded in my mind. Relationships are the most important part of the everyday working environment. Working to establish the trust of my coworkers and supervisors has made the biggest difference in my career. Thinking back to my time spent in Tyler I realize now how each moment spent presenting something in front of the class or even answering a professor’s question out loud was future training for being able to properly express my position or opinion on the job today. The communication aspect of the classroom did wonders for my career and is something that I will forever be indebted to UT Tyler for.

I have so many great memories there that it is very difficult to pinpoint one specific class or event. I will say that the class trip to Italy during my grad school days is something I will never forget. The prep work and project were tough but very interesting and the overall experience opened my eyes to all the world had to offer. The Business Law class taught by Professor Cowart was always one of my favorites as well. Joining the front office of an NBA basketball team allowed me to combine both my basketball and educational background to make a perfect fit for my career. The NBA world is very temporary and within such a volatile environment things change constantly. I am hoping to be able to work in the NBA and for the Nets for the rest of my life but it is always good to know that my education has prepared me for anything.

My advice to current students would be fairly simple; enjoy your experience. As happy as I am with how my career and life have turned out there are still days where I long to be back in college. I received some of the greatest advice, from a fortune cookie of all places, and it read "do not let great ambitions, overshadow small successes". This is something that I remind myself of daily. We all have goals, dreams and ambitions but we should strive to enjoy the daily successes, the growth and the path of our lives even more than we spend thinking about where we want to be in 10 years. Find something you are passionate about and throw yourself completely into it. If you love it and want it bad enough you will find success and happiness in it.

WANT TO BE FEATURED?

Let us know what you are doing since graduating from CBT and be featured in our next newsletter: cbtinfo@uttyler.edu