The College of Business and Technology continues to build distinction through new academic initiatives and outreach events. The College continues to see significant growth while building distinctive new programs that enhance student’s educational experiences and provide value to the community. Construction is well underway on the 140,000 sq. ft. business building. I hope you will enjoy reading about just some of our activities and successes during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Enrollment and Growth

The College of Business and Technology saw another year of significant growth. Majority of the areas within the college grew with the largest growth, 28%, within the MBA program. Overall enrollment for Fall 2016 grew 18% from last fall. This includes both undergraduate and graduate programs. As the CBT continues to enjoy outstanding growth, recruiting and retention initiatives remain a priority at the undergraduate level.

Program Rankings

- #9 Best Online MBA Program in Texas for 2017 (College Choice)
- #23 Best Affordable AACSB Online MBA Programs (Get Educated)
- #10 Most Affordable Graduate Accounting Programs (Accounting Degree Review)
- #12 Best Online MS in HRD Program (The Best Schools)

Academic Initiatives

Concentrations
- Energy Risk Management (Finance)
- Investment Management (Finance)

Certifications
- NSA/DHS National Center of Excellence in Cyber Defense for Consumer Cybersecurity (Computer Science)
- Nano/Advanced Materials Safety (Industrial Technology)

Centers/Laboratories
- Center for Consumer Cybersecurity
- Digital Forensics Laboratory

By the Numbers

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<tr>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Total CBT</th>
<th>2,763</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>2,035</td>
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<td>Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
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<td>HRD</td>
<td>331</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Total CBT</th>
<th>18%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MBA</td>
<td>28%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Degrees Awarded | 633 Degrees |
Special Outreach Events

The College presented two major events during the year. The Retail Summit sponsored by the Center for Retail Enterprises and the Center for Cybersecurity featured R. David Mahon, Chief Security Officer for CenturyLink. The event also include a panel discussion with Mahon, Paula Anthony, VP and CIO for ETMC, and AJ Burns, Assistant Professor for Computer Science. The college’s Leadership Institute hosted its first Women in Leadership event for all UT Tyler female faculty and staff. The event featured guest speaker Paula Anthony, VP and CIO for ETMC and the College’s Executive in Residence. The Leadership Institute also hosted the Leadership Program for UT Tyler department chairs and assistant/associate deans in the fall and spring. The event offered leadership training and a development program for attendees. In addition, the Texas Productivity Center offered training sessions for Lean Champion Certification and the Center for Family and Small Enterprises held the annual Small Business Roundtable, providing marketing, human resource, entrepreneurial and financial advice to attendees.

The CBT also held Mock Team Interviews both fall and spring semesters. Over 50 business representatives conducted the mock interviews with over 125+ students participating.

The college’s Beta Alpha Psi chapter hosted the annual Meet the Firms event for accounting and finance students. Over 80 students attended the event and had the chance to meet firms from as far as Dallas.

The Computer Science Department held its second Cyber Patriot Games Hackathon. The event was the culmination of a project from undergraduate and graduate classes, including Information Technology, Computer Science and Computer Information System senior projects courses and ethical hacking courses. The event helped prepare students to defend cyber infrastructures.

Alumni

Valari Staab (BBA 1982) was named B&C Broadcaster of the Year. Throughout her tenure, which started after Comcast bought NBCU, Staab has focused on giving individual stations the resources they need to grow from the ground up. As a result, NBC and Telemundo owned stations today airing unprecedented amounts of local news, building I-teams and partnering on consumer advocacy. For her achievements, B&C and the TVB have selected Staab as Broadcaster of the Year. She will receive the honor at the TVB Forward Conference on September 29.

Kyle Cole (BBA 1978) was named executive director of business development at Praxis Healthcare Solutions.

Keith Roe (BBA 1990) is the Senior Vice President, Venues at PSAV, a global event technology services industry.

Chris Wootton (BBA), former UT Tyler tennis All-American was named University of Southern California women’s assistant tennis coach.

The CBT hosted Dallas/Fort Worth area MBA Alumni at the Texas Rangers Game at Globe Life Park in Arlington in June.

The Accounting Department held its annual Awards Dinner prior to the May 2017 Commencement. The event hosted 97 attendees. Alumni presented endowment scholarship awards to their 2017-2018 student recipients.
Students

Graduate students in Advanced Marketing Fundamentals course collaborated with the East Texas Veterans Alliance and Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce on the “Recognizing Our Servicemembers Everyday” or R.O.S.E. Veteran Discount Program. Students applied marketing concepts to create this veteran discount program for local veterans.

Two of this year’s 22 NCAA Division III PING All-America Team members are CBT students; Sam Hill (Finance) and George Toone (Finance).

Faculty

Dr. John James Cater III was honored as a Family Firm Institute Fellow with advanced certification in family business advising at the 2016 FFI Global Conference.

Dr. Veronda Willis, CPA, an associate professor of accounting at UT Tyler was named the 2016 Texas Society of CPAs’ Outstanding Accounting Educator recipient.

Dr. Venu Gopalakrishna-Remani received the Outstanding Faculty Award by the Texas Alpha XI Chapter of Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

Dr. Kim Nimon (Human Resource Development), Dr. Heshium Lawrence (Technology), and Ms. Kerrie Anne Clark (Management) received the UT Tyler CBT research award, service award, and teaching award respectively for the 2016-2017 academic year. Dr. Kerri Camp and Dr. Barbara Wooldridge received the AP teaching award for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Dr. Camp was also chosen as UT Tyler’s nominee for the Regent’s Outstanding Teaching Award for Tenure-Track Faculty.

Development

$94,000 was given to endowed scholarships and special programs for the college.

Construction began on the new $53 million, 140,000 square foot business building that will house the College of Business and Technology.

Partnerships

The College has partnered with the City of Tyler on the new Innovation Pipeline to provide educational opportunities and courses to the community. The project is focused on encouraging the entrepreneurial community. People can rent space to converge, work together and sharpen their skills. The premise of the pipeline is to be a place where anyone in need of equipment or experience can come to collaborate with professionals and experts.