

THE BUSINESS COUNCIL BUZZ....

The Official Newsletter of the Leon Hess Business School's
(LHBS) Business Council

A networking breakfast featuring 55 Business Council members, LHBS leadership and faculty and students kicked off the 2023-2024 year on September 22 in the Great Hall Auditorium.



Deb Clay shares the exciting Business Council initiatives that lie ahead.

Business Council Chair Deb Clay updated the audience on Council priorities and the budget for the new year. Many of the Council's key initiatives are continuing with some enhancements driven by student, faculty and Council member feedback. Consistent with last year, the key efforts of the Council will be executed under four operating committees, each led by a chair.

- ◆ Student Engagement Committee, Joe Rice, Chair
- ◆ Faculty Support Committee, Natasha Chandler, Chair, Jonathan Leifer, Co-Chair
- ◆ Marketing & Communications Committee, Ken Young, Chair
- ◆ Membership Committee, Richard Ricciardi, Chair

Each Committee is seeking members to participate in driving one or more projects. If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out directly to any of our chairpersons to learn more.



OFFICERS:

Deborah Clay
Chair
Kenneth Young
Vice Chair
Pooja Shah
Treasurer

MEMBERS:

Jemal Beale
Glenn G. Bellomy
Alicia Caldwell
Thomas Cardinale
Brian Carolan
Natasha Maximoff Chandler
Jeremy Deck
John DiNapoli
Philip Dunn
Philip Forlenza
Karl Gordinier
Rick Gumina
Sheldon S. Horowitz
Raymond Klose
Russell Kommer
Jonathan Leifer
William MacDonald
Lisa McGarahan
Erin Moran
Gloria Nilson
Jeana Piscatelli
Richard L. Ricciardi
Joseph Rice
Emily Robinson
Nick Scarabino
Christine Schaeffer
Lawrence Shapiro
Ryan Wetzell
Jay Whalen
Michael Troy
Andrew Young

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Alexander Daudier
Jason Horowitz
Christine Nadramia
Nicole Puccio
Anthony Vazzana

Guest Speaker Shares Economic and Market Insights

Bayley Davis, Managing Director of ClearBridge Investments, provided valuable professional insights across a variety of economic and financial dimensions as the event's guest speaker. Topics included perspective on inflation and Fed tightening cycles, equities performance and continued innovation. He cited examples in ride sharing, food delivery and entertainment and addressed implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) across increasing segments of the economy. Davis was introduced by former Business Council member and chair, Deb Mannix '83, who arranged this speaking opportunity.



(From left to right) Dr. Raj Devasagayam, Deb Clay, Deb Mannix and Bayley Davis.

Progress Will Be Blooming This Spring

Dean Raj Devasagayam highlighted several student and faculty accomplishments in the Spring 2023 progress report on strategic initiatives. Among the highlights were key efforts specifically involving the support of the Business Council, including the curricular review and revision, faculty scholarship engagements, Business Council awards and scholarships and the Executive Mentoring Program.

Dean Raj also updated the audience on the Business School's upcoming AACSB accreditation review on April 7-9, 2024. Planning activities are already underway to support the required documentation and discussions and to ensure a logistically smooth three-day event. Business Council members may be asked to participate in the welcome reception and in one or more of the breakout meetings with the AACSB Peer Review Team.



Dr. Raj Devasagayam presents the progress report for the academic year ahead.



Important Dates:

December 1, 2023
Business Council Meeting

December 2, 2023
MU Gala in the Great Hall

February 23, 2024
Business Council Meeting

March 21-22, 2024
MU Giving Days

April TBD, 2024
Business Council-Sponsored Student Etiquette Dinner

May 3, 2024
Business Council Meeting

June 10, 2024
MU Golf Outing

June TBD, 2024
Business Council Summer Social

Connect to the Business Council!

Our Business Council [web pages](#) have been updated with our most recent member directory, upcoming meeting and event dates, digital newsletters, photos and more.

You can also now follow the Business Council group on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Thanks to Ken Young, who chairs the Communications Committee, and support from Nicole Puccio '15 '17M, Pooja Shah '19 and Andrew Young '02 for this amazing modernization of our digital presence.

Executive Mentoring Program Relaunches with Enhancements

The start of the new academic year kicked off in October with an enhanced Executive Mentoring Program, offered exclusively to Leon Hess Business School students. The program provides students with integrated access to career development resources and mentoring with practicing business professionals. More than 75 business students have registered to participate in this year's program to glean valuable advice and support. Student participation is up over 60% from last year as a result of a boost in awareness and communications efforts.

The program offers a variety of activities designed around six dimensions of career readiness. Activities will include career interest assessments, workshops and a combination of group and one-on-one mentoring.

Assistant Dean of Student Engagement Dr. Janeth Merkle '06M serves as the program's advisor in partnership with the Career Development Center and with guidance and financial support from the Business Council. Thank you to Joe Rice and the Business Council's Student Engagement Committee for their work on enhancing the program and to all the Business Council members who are serving as professional mentors this semester. Please contact Dr. Merkle at jmerkle@monmouth.edu with any program questions or additional suggestions.

Business Council Members Kick Off First Mentoring Event of the Year



Business Council Inducts New Members



Dr. Raj Devasagayam and Richard Ricciardi welcome (from left to right) Alicia Caldwell, Partner, Baker Tilly US; Lisa McGahran, Vice President, Commvault and Emily Robinson, President, Rally Point Title Agency.

Richard Ricciardi '86M, Chair of Membership Committee, had the privilege of inducting three new outstanding members to the Business Council (shown above). They each bring excellent industry diversification to the Council, representing healthcare assurance and consulting, human resources and title insurance for the real estate industry.

Alicia Caldwell, Partner in the Healthcare Assurance & Advisory Division of Baker Tilly US, received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from the College of William & Mary, an MBA in Information Systems & Marketing from Leonard M. Stern School of Business at New York University and a certificate in Graduate Accounting from Monmouth University.

Lisa McGahran, Global Head, Vice President of HR Business Policies and Practices for Commvault, will continue to foster the strong relationship between Commvault and Monmouth University. Together, they have generated more than 75 internships or full-time positions for Monmouth students. McGahran earned a Bachelor of Arts from The New School in New York City.

Emily Robinson, Title Officer and President of Rally Point Title Agency, is also the Owner and Founder of Spring Valley Turkey Farm in Old Bridge, NJ. Last year, the farm donated more than 700 pounds of fresh turkeys to Elijah's Promise Community Soup Kitchen in New Brunswick, NJ, for families in need. Robinson is looking forward to combining her real estate and entrepreneurial skills to help business students. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Rutgers University.

We continue to look for new associate and full members as we grow our formidable team of qualified and experienced business professionals who are passionate about Monmouth University and helping business students thrive! Please reach out to Richard Ricciardi, Chair of the Membership Committee, to discuss any prospective candidates you would like to introduce.

Enthusiasm and Collaboration Abounded!



Daniel Rosario, Trent Federico and Allen Rahanoff, members of the Accounting Society.



Emily Finnegan, Trent Federico, Dr. Janeth Merkle, Assistant Dean of Student Engagement, Mariana Marques, Cameron Aslanian and Allen Rahanoff.



Mikayla Poggi, Christian Symons and Natalie Fuquene gather with Dr. Janeth Merkle.



Pooja Shah, CPA, Business Council Treasurer & Content Accountant at Spotify, with two members of the Accounting Society, Darian Ricciardi and Grace Black.



Richard Ricciardi, Corporate Relations Officer, and David Howell, Director of Development, Monmouth University, are dedicated to mentoring student leaders.



Trustees Jeana Piscatelli, Karyn Cusanelli and Raymond Klose with Richard Ricciardi (second from right).