

THE BUSINESS COUNCIL BUZZ....

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



Message from the Chair

The LHBS Business Council's final meeting of the academic year on May 3 featured student-led presentations including highlights from Business Council sponsored events and the Center for Entrepreneurship's Hawk Tank winning student business pitches.

Chair Deb Clay thanked Business Council members for devoting their time, talents, and resources. Some of the contributions she highlighted are below:

- Coaching & Executive Mentoring
- Enabling student Internships
- Providing "Professor in Residence" experiences
- Supporting student clubs & organizations
- Sponsoring HR Young Lecture Series
- Advising on LHBS curriculum
- Providing student scholarships & awards
- Funding Faculty Summer Research Grants

Spring 2024, Issue #11



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

Max Cohen

Jeanie Coomber

Alexander Daudier

Jeremy Deck

Philip Dunn

Philip Forlenza

Gordon Forsyth

John Giannotto

Karl Gordinier

Rick Gumina

Sheldon S. Horowitz

Raymond Klose

Russell Kommer

Jonathan Leifer

William MacDonald

Lisa McGahran

Erin Moran

Christine Nadramia

Gloria Nilson

Jeana Piscatelli

Richard L. Ricciardi

Joseph Rice

Nick Scarabino

Christine Schaeffer

Ryan Wetzel

Jay Whalen

Michael Troy

Jeff Weinstein

Andrew Young

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Jason Horowitz

Nicole Vazzana

Anthony Vazzana

Michael Venezia

Max Cohen

Presentation of 2024 Business Council Awards

The Business Council's Student Engagement Committee presented one-thousand-dollar cash awards to seven business school students in the categories of Leadership, Resilience & Resourcefulness, Innovation & Entrepreneurship and Community Impact. Congratulations to these deserving winners!



Leadership:

Cameron Aslanian, Senior, Marketing & Management
Tanner Purdy, Junior, Finance & Real Estate

Resilience & Resourcefulness:

John Dooley, Sophomore, Finance & Real Estate

Innovation & Entrepreneurship:

Nicholas Montalto, Sophomore, Finance & Real Estate
Sarah Garcia, Senior, Leadership & Organizational Development

Community Impact:

Emilia Poirier, Junior, Economics & Finance
Vincent Sedlmeir, Senior, Marketing & Management

Thank you, members of the Student Engagement Committee (Joe Rice, Sheldon Horowitz, Nicole Vazzana, Alex Daudier, Michael Troy) for their efforts in planning this initiative and evaluating student award submissions.

Important Dates:

Business Council Annual Spring Social

Thursday
June 6, 2024
6:00 pm
Deal Country Club

Save the Date

Future Business Council Meetings

September 13, 2024
December 6, 2024
February 21, 2025
May 2, 2025

Check out the Business Council's Social Media

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, Pooja Shah and Andrew Young for this amazing modernization of our digital presence.

Business Council Website



Spotlight on the Center for Entrepreneurship

Alison Gilbert, Director for the Center for Entrepreneurship, highlighted key impacts and activities following the center's launch in February 2023.

The Center has engaged with 70+ budding student entrepreneurs, alumni entrepreneurs, and regional small business owners, supported through one-on-one coaching, strategy sessions, and workshops.



Hawk Tank 2024

The Center for Entrepreneurship's Hawk Tank 2024 business pitch competition awarded \$10,000 in prizes across six start-up team finalists. The two top teams attended the Business Council meeting and presented their winning business pitches.



Founder of **Link**, Alexander Kalina, Junior, School of Science

Link is a tool that seamlessly connects patients with the right clinical trials, making use of the [clinicaltrials.gov](https://www.clinicaltrials.gov) website. It helps the patient filter through the most compatible trial.

Founder of **Park Shark**, Gianna Piroso, Senior, School of Humanities & Social Sciences; Davian Albarran, Junior, School of Science; Drew McGovern, Junior, School of Science (shown in photo)

Park Shark is a student-developed commuter parking application, providing real-time parking availability updates and reminders, reducing stress and improving the university commuting experience.



New Entrepreneurship Minor Announced



Professor Joseph Palazzolo, Lecturer in Management, shared the plan to introduce a new minor in entrepreneurship, which will become available in Fall 2024. It will be targeted at students in non-business schools.

Welcoming the Business Council's Newest Members



Richard Ricciardi '86M, Chair of the Membership Committee, had the privilege of inducting three new outstanding members to the Business Council (shown above).

Jeanie Coomber is an Executive Coach working with organizations across the globe seeking to transform management style and culture. As the owner of Transition Enterprises LLC, she has worked with leaders in companies like Black Rock, Johnson & Johnson, Kate Spade, the NBA, Prudential and United Airlines. Jeanie received a B.A. in Communications from Wilkes University and is a graduate of the Leadership Program at Columbia University's Business School.

John Giannotto is a Managing Director at Wells Fargo. John received a B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting and Finance from Drexel University and an MBA in Finance from Carnegie Mellon University.

Jeff Weinstein is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Transcend AP, a financial services software firm that automates the accounts payable process from invoice to payment for the mid to enterprise market. Jeff, who has a B.S. degree in Chemistry from Alfred University and an MBA from Monmouth University, was the first Executive-In-Residence at Monmouth University's School of Business.

Jeanie, John and Jeff look forward to applying what they have learned to mentor our business students and foster continued growth in our Executive Mentoring Program.

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

Member Spotlight



Raymond Klose '77 is the President and CEO of Klose Associates, Inc., a full-service creative design and build production firm in West Long Branch. Never forgetting where he got his start, Klose is actively involved in giving back to both the University and its surrounding communities. In 2018, he was elected to the Monmouth University Board of Trustees, currently chairing the Building & Grounds Committee, while also serving as a member of the President's Council on Diversity & Inclusion. He is also an active participant in the LHBS's Dean's Student Advisory Council and Business Council. His own Monmouth education was a foundation for his success, and his ongoing contributions to the University will always be valued.

On June 7, Klose will receive the Monmouth University 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award.



Dean Applauds Commitment and Collaboration



Dean Raj Devasagayam provided an update on the recent AACSB accreditation review in which the Peer Review Team highlighted key LHBS strengths including faculty commitment, student-faculty collaboration and engagement, the Dean's Student Advisory Council, and the LHBS Business Council. Dean Raj expressed his gratitude to the Business Council for its support and emphasized the importance of its impact on students and the Leon Hess Business School at large.

LHBS Faculty Awarded Business Council Grants for Summer Research:

The LHBS Business Council's Faculty Support Committee has awarded \$34,000 in grant funding for 13 summer research projects. The faculty's projects are below:

Tjeerd Boonman, New Jersey's Green Muni Bonds

John Buzza, How to Manage Social Justice in the Workplace

Jonathan Daigle & Robert Scott, New Methods to Measure Policy Changes in NJ Residential Real Estate Tax Assessment

Bochen Li, Cross-Border Acquisitions: The Case of SPACs

Xudong Li, Reference Dependence Implication on Corporate Tax Planning

Yulin Li, Investor Expectations and Monetary Policy

Yun Lou, Modeling Interval-Valued Time Series, and Extreme Valued Theorem Approach

Janeth Merkle & Gilda Agacer, Impact of Student Professional Development Programs on Job Placement Success

Nguyen Pham, Leveraging Effects of AI Social Media Influencers in Public Health Advertising

Anna Sadovnikova, Nerves of Steel: The Triumphs and Trials of Tata

Mikhail Sher, Empirical Analysis of Scoring Decisions in Boxing & MMA

Minna Yu, Imprinting Theory in Auditing, Auditors Famine Experience & Auditing Quality

Charles Willow, Inflation Predictor Model Using Artificial Intelligence and Deep Machine Learning

Changemakers in Action



Sheldon Horowitz informing the crowd about student engagement initiatives



Daniella Walano and Cameron Aslanian speaking about the Madison Square Garden trip on behalf of Phi Beta Lambda, the collegiate division of Future Business Leaders of America



Our three new inductees, Jeanie Coomber, John Giannotto, and Jeffrey Weinstein sharing their past experiences and what they will bring to the Business Council



Emilia Porier and Natalie Fuquene speaking about their trip to the U.N. headquarters



Kelly Tomas and Ivana Luna sharing their New York Stock Exchange experience



Sarah Garcia accepting her award for Innovation and Entrepreneurship



Tanner Purdy accepting his award for Leadership



Jade Falvo-Fernandes and Mariana Marques getting one last photo before graduating



William MacDonald and Tom Cardinale enjoying their morning



Rick Gumina checking out the tech for one of our Hawk Tank winners - Park Shark



Dean Raj Devasagayam speaking to some of our students about upcoming ventures