

## NEWS

### DeBrock Named College of Business Dean

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Lawrence DeBrock, a noted economist and longtime University of Illinois professor and administrator, has been named dean of the university's College of Business. The appointment was approved by the U. of I. Board of Trustees at its May 21 meeting in Chicago.

DeBrock has served as interim dean of the nationally ranked business school since 2008, when former dean Avijit Ghosh was named vice president for technology and economic development.

An award-winning professor of economics and business administration, DeBrock joined the U. of I. faculty in 1979, and was associate dean for graduate and professional programs from 2000 to 2007.

"In his role as interim dean he has shown an ability to provide vision and get people to follow him," said Richard Herman, the chancellor of the Urbana campus. "He is an individual of considerable accomplishment and speaks passionately about the college – its faculty, staff and students and has great support from them. We are delighted to send his name to our board."

DeBrock, 56, is the ninth dean in 95 years for the college, which has the nation's 12th ranked undergraduate business program and 38th ranked graduate program in the latest U.S. News & World Report rankings. The college's accountancy department is ranked second in the U.S., and its information technology program is among the nation's top 10.

DeBrock says his three decades at the U. of I. will be an advantage in building on recent successes such as faculty hiring, building programs, expanding student facilities and improving external relations.

He plans to build on the college's legacy of producing both cutting-edge research that advance the nation's business community and influential graduates that include Samuel Skinner, White House chief of staff and transportation secretary under President George H.W. Bush; best-selling author Sheldon Siegel; and former chairmen and CEOs John Ziegler of AT&T Wireless and John Georges of International Paper.

"The College of Business does an extraordinary job generating new knowledge and passing it along to students who need it for today's competitive workplace," DeBrock said. "We sit at the heart of a thriving community committed to improving business."

The full news release on Dean DeBrock's appointment can be found at: [http://www.business.uiuc.edu/publications/News\\_Item.aspx?ID=532](http://www.business.uiuc.edu/publications/News_Item.aspx?ID=532).



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 18-Aug 23:** Summer Break, Internships
- Jun 9:** Second Tuesdays Networking Event, Chicago, Ill.
- Jun 9:** Intensive English Institute begins
- Jun 9:** Professional MBA Information Session, Decatur, Ill.
- Jun 11:** Professional MBA Information Session, Bloomington, Ill.
- Jul 1:** Professional MBA Summer Module Ends
- Jul 3:** University Offices Closed (Independence Day observed)
- Jul 14:** Second Tuesdays Networking Event, Chicago, Ill.
- Aug 17-23:** PreTerm Orientation
- Aug 20:** CareerQuest, Illini Center, Chicago, Ill.
- Aug 24:** Classes Begin

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**Illinois MBA Alumni Professional Group**

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## Message from the Associate Dean

by Mary Miller, Associate Dean



It has been an eventful and exciting year beginning with the move into the beautiful, new Business Instructional Facility (BIF) on the first day of classes – August 25, 2008. We have enjoyed our new “home”

for the Illinois MBA, and it has made a significant difference in and out of the classroom. The year has been filled with many successes, and I would like to share a small list of our accomplishments.

We established a long-term relationship with the Freie University in Berlin, Germany, and 30 students attended a one-week short course on “Doing Business in Germany” during the January break. In fall 2009, we will welcome our first three master’s exchange students from Freie to our campus where they will take second-year elective courses with our MBA students.

January was a busy month since we also hosted our first Strategic Case Competition on campus with financial support from Cisco and TriZetto – and the Illinois MBA team won first place. We are looking and hoping for corporate support so that this case competition will be held again next year.

In February, we honored Alan Feldman, Chairman, President and CEO of Midas, Inc., at the annual MBA Alumni Award Banquet, which was held for the first time in Chicago. We had alumni from both the East and West Coasts attend this celebratory affair.

In November, Chris Petersen and David Chonowski organized and hosted a career fair in Chicago for veterans. Other schools such as Chicago, Northwestern and Purdue also participated. It was the first event of this type, and in April, Chris and Dave received the 2009 student leadership award from the Graduate Business Forum, a global organization established in 1983 to cultivate student leaders from the world’s top business schools.

Now, another academic year has ended and the Class of 2009 has graduated. This year we replaced the Friday evening “tent party” on the lawn outside DKH with a “graduation brunch” in BIF on Saturday after the graduation ceremony. This allowed graduates, family and friends to enjoy our new “home,” and it provided a great opportunity for photos, conversation and tearful good-byes and good wishes.

Have a wonderful summer, and the *Sixth Street Journal* will be back on September 1.

## Convocation 2009: An Event of Honor, Reflection and Looking Forward

by Tiffany Tsai and Sarah Calhoun, Class of 2009

The 2009 Convocation Ceremony of the Illinois MBA was held in Foellinger Great Hall of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts on May 16, 2009. Graduates from the four Illinois MBA programs – Executive MBA in Chicago, Executive MBA in Warsaw, Poland, Full-time MBA and Professional MBA – and their family and friends all gathered for this joyful celebration.

The ceremony kicked off with Dean Larry DeBrock’s welcome speech, followed by the student remarks presented by students from the various programs: Christopher Bradley (Executive MBA), Jasen Schrock (Full-time MBA) and Matthias Pope (Professional MBA). The students highlighted the memorable experiences from their time as MBA students, and the common theme emerged about how fortunate and proud they are to be part of the Illinois MBA family.

The convocation then continued with remarks from alumnus Paul A. O’Connor, President of the College of Business Alumni Association, and Larry Kallembach, who is the Executive VP and CIO of MB Financial Bank. Kallembach recognized the impact of the recession on MBA graduates everywhere, but he encouraged the graduates to move forward in their careers responsibly and with confidence. Afterwards, the ceremony proceeded with the presentation of the Dean’s Award for academic excellence and the presentation of all the Class of 2009 graduates.

Under the lead of Dean Larry DeBrock, Convocation not only celebrated the incredible accomplishments of the graduating students, but also recognized the devotion and support of family, friends and the University of Illinois faculty and staff.

The celebration later moved to the atrium of the Business Instructional Facility (BIF), where the Illinois MBA held a graduation brunch for all the graduates and their guests. The casual setting allowed graduates to fully enjoy the final official gathering with their loved ones. Overall, the 2009 Convocation of Illinois MBA was a huge success, and it marked a perfect and memorable ending for all the new MBA graduates.

Good luck and congratulations to the Class of 2009!



Graduates Kittipong Chintanakarn (left), Dylan Chang (middle right) and Katie Brazeau (right) are congratulated by Professor Gopesh Anand at the post-Convocation brunch.



## Alumni Reception St. Louis, Mo. Thursday, July 9

Current and prospective students are also invited to attend. For more information, contact Mary Miller at [mmiller0@illinois.edu](mailto:mmiller0@illinois.edu).

### Panel Discussion Brings Poignant Discussion on Difficult Topics

by Patrick MacKay, Class of 2010

On Friday, May 1, the Graduate Finance Association and the Latin American Business Society (sub-committee of the IMBA Diversity Association) sponsored a faculty panel discussion on the global financial crisis.

The MBA program was fortunate to have Dr. Larry DeBrock, Dean of the College of Business, moderate the event. Faculty panelists included Dr. Laura Hastings, Director of the Office of Prestigious Scholarships and an adjunct professor in the Political Science department; Dr. Larry Neal, *Professor Emeritus* in the Department of Economics; Dr. Werner Baer, the Jorge Lemann Professor of Economics; and the Illinois MBA's own Dr. Michael Sandretto, professor of accountancy. The discussion topics included the future of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, how to prevent a repeat of this past year's events, the possibility of a new Bretton Woods system of monetary management and the role India, Brazil, China and Russia will play going forward in the years ahead.

One hundred students and faculty members squeezed together to attend the panel discussion in one of the beautiful classrooms in the new Business Instructional Facility. In addition, twenty-five interested students watched the panel in a spillover room via a live Webcast. The Webcast may be viewed by contacting Gagan Bhatia at [gagan.a.bhatia@gami.com](mailto:gagan.a.bhatia@gami.com) or Sayantan Choudhury at [choudhu4@illinois.edu](mailto:choudhu4@illinois.edu).

The panel's student organizers, Gagan Bhatia (MBA 2010) and Patrick S. MacKay (MBA 2010), would like to thank Associate Dean Mary Miller, Professor Charlie Kahn, Professor Nick Petruzzi and all the students who helped behind the scenes to make the panel discussion such a success.

### Women in Business Roundtable Draws Philanthropic Leaders

by Susan Starrett, Class of 2010

On Wednesday, May 13, the Women in Business Roundtable event at the Illini Center in Chicago hosted philanthropic women leaders. Dean Larry DeBrock welcomed the moderator, Yasmin Bates-Brown, a graduate of the College of Business at Illinois, as he offered warm feelings and a true sense of Illinois pride. "This is one of ours," he said. "We are very proud of her. She has achieved great things at Harris Bank and is now the Executive Vice President. We are most proud of her because she is an Illinois graduate."

Bates-Brown led the panelists in a timely discussion regarding philanthropy in this difficult economic time. Laura Anderson, President of the Junior League of Chicago; Cheryle Jackson, President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League; Kelly White, Executive Director of the Chicago Foundation for Women; and Dorlisa Martin, Director of Development for the Goodman Theatre were the illustrious guests. Each panelist brought a different perspective to the discussion, but one theme was common: we must pursue those causes that we believe in, work harder than anyone around us and take into account that *every* donation is important.

The sold-out event demonstrated the importance of taking time to meet other Illinois business graduates and to learn from their experiences. Meeting these accomplished women was inspiring for the business students in attendance who aspire to become strong and generous leaders themselves.

### Congratulations to the Illinois MBA Class of 2009!

**Full-time MBA:** Sophie Adriani, Sachin Bhargava, Arish Bharucha, Brandon Black, Ivan Bojilov, Katie Brazeau, Zachary Bridgeman, Christopher Brott, Nathan Brown, Sarah Calhoun, Chia-Chen Chang, Huan-Miu Chang, Yin-Yin Chen, Kittipong Chintanakarn, Kabid Choudhury, Ross Clover, Marcus Coleman, Adam Cook, Bret Culen, Brian DeGrush, Arthur Dehnz, Luis Delfin Solana, Thomas Desplinter, Rafael Diokno, Harrison Dobe, Sean Egan, Erkan Erturk, Megha Gahlot, Anubhav Gothi, Scott Greuel, Shoubhik Gupta, Sagar Hebbar, Brett Henthorn, Yu-chih Hung, Jung Bong Hur, Young Soon Ji, Seung Wook Jung, Aleksandrs Kalnins, Byung Yun Kang, Vidya Karigirivasan, Chung-Hsuan Ke, Chan Ho Kim, Daeju Kim, Nathan Klinker, Sang Jun Ko, Brian Kritzberg, Kristy Kuzmuk, Tzu-ling Lai, Hyuk Soo Lee, Pei-Lin Lee, Wan-Yu Lee, Nicholas Lenczycki, Sung Joon Lim, Pei-Hung Lin, Lucas McIntosh, Erin Mitchell, David Monahan, Angela Moton, Sana Naim, Sneha Nair, Corinne O'Connor, Jareer Oweimrin, Christopher Petersen, Michael Petersen, Chris Pitsikoulis, Adriana Platt, Edward Prusiecki, Sunil Rajan, Aarti Ranganathan, Carlos Riveros Aguilar, Jasen Schrock, Jagdamba Seth, Bahman Sheikholeslami, Yihuan Shen, Joshua Shenton, Joseph Slonek, William Smith, Troy Steele, Dwight Steward, Surawat Suwanyangyuen, Hiroshi Tachibana, Hirotoki Takemasa, Victoria Tamayo Uribe, Kazuhiro Tatsuzawa, Aaron Taylor, Emily Thompson, Juan Torres, Amitanshu Tripathy, Tiffany Tsai, Ben Tsao, Michael Tysor, Matthew Vander Naald, Noel Vivar, Shawn Wadhams, Sheng Hsun Wang, Yifan Wang, Thanwa Wathahong, Dustin Welch, Chang-Tao Wu, Wen-Hao Wu, Roselyne-Odetta Yao

**Professional MBA:** Shakeel Ahmed, Robert Boesdorfer, Collin Carlier, Margaret Cline, James Gudeman, Michael Harden, Daniel Harmon, Matthew Hartman, Rebekah Holt, Ryan Hoover, Ryan Howard, Arun Kesavan, Michael King, Firas Malouf, Brent Maue, Ramakrishna Mulukutla, Jonathan Myers, Emily Nafziger, Khalid Osman, Anilkumar Parmar, Jessica Paulsen, Matthias Pope, John Powers, Galen Rafferty, Nicholas Riordan, Justin Smith, Nicole Thompson, Krishna Topudurti, Conrad Tucker, Jessica Vlna, Sreenivasa Yanamandra



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## STUDENT AFFAIRS

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### Professional MBA Class Hosts Faculty Appreciation Reception

by Sara Murphy, Program Assistant, Student Affairs

On Wednesday, May 6, 2009, the Professional MBA Class of 2009 hosted a reception honoring the faculty for the impact they have had on their education. The event was planned by students Meg Cline, Matthias Pope and Emily Nafziger and was held in the Business Instructional Facility Atrium.

The event was well-attended by Professional MBA students, MBA staff, full-time and Professional MBA faculty, as well as Dean DeBrock. It was a great opportunity for everyone to get together before graduation and reflect on the memorable experiences they have had in the MBA program. After some light refreshments and much anticipation, Nafziger and Pope presented brief remarks and expressed thanks to all of the faculty who had so positively influenced their MBA experience.

The students also recognized the four finalists for the Professor of the Year Award – Hadi Esfahani, Avijit Ghosh, Joe Mahoney and Greg Northcraft. Professor Esfahani was honored with the inaugural award. Hadi Esfahani is a professor of economics who studies the role of the country institution in the formation and reform of fiscal, trade and regulatory policies as well as the theoretical and empirical issues associated with the political economy of development. He teaches several courses for the university, including the micro and macroeconomics courses for the Professional MBA.

Congratulations to Professor Esfahani and thanks to the Professional MBA Class of 2009 for planning an outstanding event!

## CAREER SERVICES

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### Career Services Seeks Opportunities to Engage Alumni

by Julie Sweet, Associate Director, Career Services

MBA Career Services enjoys opportunities to get to know alumni even better through our outreach and your continual support as guest speakers; event participants; internship, externship, and job shadow hosts; and more. Career Services hopes to increase the number of occasions that allow us to partner with alumni in improving the quality of our students' experiences, as well as to provide you with professional growth opportunities and networking events.

Illinois MBA alumni events are currently being planned both in the Urbana-Champaign area and Chicago. Students who are in Chicago interning or starting their full-time positions will be specifically encouraged to attend the next Second Tuesday event on Tuesday, June 9, at The Gage Restaurant in downtown Chicago. Many of these students/graduates may be seeking informational interviews over the summer to learn more about your specific industry or position.

Our PreTerm CareerQuest is also coming up in August 2009. During PreTerm CareerQuest, we invite you to meet the Class of 2011. For our alumni in the Urbana-Champaign area, watch for more details on a local alumni happy hour during the week of August 17. Then, our annual PreTerm CareerQuest trip to Chicago will happen on Thursday, August 20, at the Illini Center in Chicago. We welcome volunteers who are willing to spend a few hours networking with our new students at either of these events. To register for an event or find out more information, please contact Julie at [jasweet@illinois.edu](mailto:jasweet@illinois.edu). Please specify which event you would like to attend. We look forward to connecting with you again soon!

## ADMISSIONS

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### Student Recruiters Honored by Admissions

by Ben Moreland, Associate Director of Admissions

On Wednesday, April 29, the admissions office honored student recruiters for their assistance in bringing in the Class of 2011. Snacks and Illinois MBA gifts were provided for students in 3019 Business Instructional Facility. As the room filled to capacity, students gained awareness of the tremendous collaborative effort it takes to attract a new class of students to the Illinois MBA. The admissions team is truly grateful for being able to depend on these students as they draw the best talent to the Illinois MBA each year.

Student recruiters fulfill various responsibilities throughout the year. They review applications; they host visiting students for lunch, campus tours and class observations; they serve as student contacts for admitted applicants; and they serve on student panels during special events. Some students have even held their own information sessions or have met one-on-one with prospective students from their hometown during Winter vacation or Spring Break.

All these efforts combine to show prospective students the unique, family-like culture of the Illinois MBA. The admissions team will miss the graduating students as they set out for successful careers (but will continue to engage them as alumni recruiters). Finally, admissions looks forward to working with our returning and incoming students next year as we bring in another talented group of young professionals in 2010.

2009 Illinois MBA  
CareerQuest

Presented by Illinois MBA Career Services



**A Networking Event**

**CareerQuest  
August 20, 2009  
Illini Center, Chicago, Ill.**

E-mail [jasweet@illinois.edu](mailto:jasweet@illinois.edu) for details.

## CLUB ROUNDUP

### Diversity Association Ends Year with Latin American Cultural Party

by Susan Starrett, Class of 2010

*Pandebono, arepas, patacon, papas en salsa!* The Diversity Association's Latin American cultural party, organized by Sandra Ossa, Camilo Arango, Henry Palomino and Patrick MacKay, was a great success with over 75 people in attendance. The Latin music was keeping the beat for dancers on the floor, and the tacos, guacamole and salsa satisfied those with a craving for authentic Colombian, Peruvian and Mexican cuisine.

Juan Torres, Carlos Riveros and RJ Diokno hosted the chefs, Sandra Ossa and Susan Starrett, in their kitchen to prepare the food while Henry prepared his Peruvian papas at his home. It was a fun event to bring together first- and second-year MBA students as well as Master's of Finance students.

This event was one of several events planned under the umbrella of the MBA Diversity Association. This organization has promoted the involvement of three other groups, including the Latin American Business Association. LABS appreciates the encouragement and endorsement that they have received this year. LABS looks forward to upcoming events in the fall and hopes that even more students, faculty and staff will join them.



MBA students Susan Starrett (left), Carlos Riveros (middle left), Juan Torres (middle right) and Sandra Ossa (second from right) enjoy the festivities with friends during Latin Cultural Night.

### Diversity Association Reflects on Successes

by Lauren Johnson, President, Diversity Association

The Illinois MBA Diversity Association has made great strides since its inception this past semester. This new organization encompasses the previously separate student clubs Latin American Business Society, Global Business Society, Asian Business Society and the MBAs of Color. The energy and zeal of this organization emerged from their preliminary launch party event. Here the student body was exposed to the IMBADA platform, structure, mission and goals. Following this event, the organization began to take shape as a number of first-year students joined forces with the executive board composed of President Lauren Johnson; Nicole Wang, VP of Finance; and Jeff Hong, VP of Marketing.

The organization has participated in marathons, conducted lectures, organized soccer leagues and held festivals celebrating culture. Positioned members will be working diligently over the summer to ensure the momentum is continued and shared with the incoming class. Given the organization's dedicated student leaders and desire for success, it is clear that this organization's foundation is firm and expectations are set high. We are anticipating great things from this group next school year.

## LIFE EVENTS



Marc Carlton (Professional MBA, Class of '11) and his wife, Katie, are proud parents of Patrick Stephen, born April 22, 2009. Patrick is welcomed home by Jack, 6, and Abby, 3.

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