

Red Stick Times

The Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2015

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

The School's administration met for lunch last Friday to hear comments on the first week of the session. The reports were very positive regarding the faculty, the courses and their fellow students. Several officers expressed their appreciation for the camaraderie characteristic of the student body. The view was expressed that perhaps the school could conduct a tour of the campus facilities prior to the opening of the session to familiarize new students with the location of classrooms, cafeteria, etc.

The next meeting between the Administration and Council will be at 11:45 am this Wednesday for lunch in the private room of the 459 Cafeteria. Select your meal and proceed immediately to the room.

VISITING HONCHOS

Last Wednesday the School welcomed several trustees and banker association executives to the campus. The principal purpose of their visit was to host receptions for students from their respective states.

Representing the Louisiana Bankers Association was Ginger Laurent. Peter Brokaw hosted the Florida reception and Kathy Box hosted Texas. The Georgia reception was hosted by Joe Brannen, Kathy Friestad and Brad Barber. The Mississippi reception was hosted by Mac Deaver and George Marx. Colin Barrett and Stacey Langford of the TBA hosted the Tennessee reception and Virginia bankers were represented by Watts Steger, a BankSim faculty member from Buchanan, VA, and Arkansas was represented by trustee, Rick Pierce. Peter Gwaltney and Mike Ayotte hosted North Carolina. We appreciate these busy bankers and association executives taking time to visit the School.

TODAY @ GSB

4:45-5:45 1st Year Case Groups
5:30-6:45 Dinner

NEW FACULTY;

This session of the school features six new faculty members all of whom teach in the second week of the school. Teaching the first year course in Asset/Liability Management is Dr. Stephen Lacewell, Director of the Center of Banking and Finance at Murray State University, Kentucky

Junior students will have five new faculty members. Mike Milan, SVP Finagraph, Bellevue, WA is teaching the Banking Small Business course. Lisa Traina is offering "Hot Topics in IT", Crawford Pike, SVP, BB&T, Winston-Salem, NC is teaching the revised course Advanced Real Estate Financing, Ken Proctor, Managing Director FIS Global is teaching a two-day course in Risk Management and Ken Johnson is offering a course in Effective Strategic Planning. Ken is a consultant working out of Austin, Texas and the mountains of Colorado. Jesus Garza will teach a new course for senior Mexican students, Trends in Banking in Mexico.

FINAL GRADES

Several members of the Advisory Council raised questions regarding grades earned at the School. Upon graduation, your transcript will show sixteen grades - three grades on examinations taken after each week of the school, and ten grades on the bank study projects. You are not assigned an "overall" grade for first year exams nor for your first or second year work. Graduates do not receive class rankings upon graduation. This has been tried without success because the school has so few grades.

Grades received are held in strict confidence by the School. Only you know your grade. The School does not send grades to your CEO or to anyone else without your permission, even though they may be requested.

NOT SO FRIENDLY REMINDER

It has been reported that a very few bankers have missed classes without administrative permission. It is a requirement of the school that students attend all classes. Bank management pays tuition and travel expenses for students to attend the school and it expects 100% class attendance.

AN APP OF LSU CAMPUS MAP IS LSU MOBILE.

NEW COURSE

Juniors will have a completely new course this week, Hot Topics in IT. The course is taught by Lisa Traina who is an IT consultant working out of Baton Rouge. Lisa is very knowledgeable in the information technology area and is an excellent teacher.

The bank study project in this course, designed by Lisa and her staff, will be submitted electronically directly to her, graded and returned to you electronically. We hope to implement these procedures to other projects in other courses.

2015 SCHOLARSHIPS

The GSB provides a scholarship annually to the top graduate of the state banking school in our sponsoring states. The award is made by the state banker association and the school director. The following list of Freshmen students who received one-year scholarships to the 2015 session.

Brandon Atkins, VP/Operations Risk Manager, American National Bank & Trust, Danville, VA

Jeffrey Amburn, SVP/Chief Financial Officer, Peoples Bank of East Tennessee, Madisonville, TN

Nicholas Black, Vice President, First Community Bank, Corpus Christi, TX

Joshua Byers, Vice President/Area Executive, Pendleton Community Bank, Franklin, WV

Christopher Conken, Vice President, Trustmark Bank, Mobile, AL

Jake Guidry, AVP/Commercial Lender, St. Martin Bank & Trust Company, Lafayette, LA

Ryan Key, Senior Vice President, Bank of Lexington, Lexington, KY

James Lyle, Network Admin/ISO, McGehee Bank, McGehee, AR

James Laramore, Vice President, Unico Bank, Farmington, MO

Russell Martin, Senior Vice President, Relyance Bank, Little Rock, AR

Christina Osborne, Loan Representative/Credit Analyst, First Commercial Bank, Jackson, MS

Jason Rapuano, VP/Client Development Officer, Paragon Bank, Cary, NC

Wesley Smith, SVP & Chief Credit Officer, Community Bank of the South, Smyrna, GA

Ryan Thomas, Credit Officer, Citizens National Bank, Bossier City, LA

The School also provides one-year scholarships to bank regulatory agencies in our 15 sponsoring states. Attending the session on scholarship are 6 examiners:

Ben Cayson, Bank Examiner, Dept. of Banking & Consumer Finance, Jackson, MS

James Christenbury, Bank Examiner, NC Commissioner of Banks, Gastonia, NC

James Daniel, Bank Examiner, Alabama State Banking Department, Owens Cross Roads, AL

Kelly Fife, Examiner, LA Office of Financial Institutions, Rayville, LA

Gerald Proby, Bank Examiner, TN Dept. of Financial Institutions, Antioch, TN

Stuart Tripp, Principal Financial Officer, Bureau of Financial Institutions, Richmond, VA

INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL AND SOCCER

ALL bankers are invited to join in a friendly afternoon of Intramural basketball and Soccer starting TODAY at 7:00 pm at the Rec Center. The games will be hosted by the Senior class. Come out and be a part of which class gets crowned Intramural Champions!

ATTENTION SENIORS

THE graduation news release for Seniors is now available on-line. Those who feel reasonably confident by now that they are home free may want to send the good news to their local paper.

MEXICAN PARTY

The Junior/Senior Class party has been returned to "Tequila Tuesday". It will be located at Barcadia (formerly Serrano's - next to the Varsity.) The party is hosted by the Junior and Senior classes. (Freshman pay \$10 cover.) Festivities will include food, beverages and games. All students must have their GSB name badge to get in.

OUTLAW SIMULATION BANKS

The management of BankSim banks seem to be stretching the law a bit. One institution declared a \$1.29 per share dividend based on EPS of \$1.18. This "oversight" resulted in the issue of a new reg. As of last Thursday the examination crew had collected \$5.0+ million in fines and is expecting further additions to their coffers. And, one bank is described by the faculty member as a "walking regulatory violation."

CONSUMPTION

Bankers can eat a lot of food and drink a lot of liquid. At the school party last Friday evening between 5:00 and 7:30 pm, 23,808 ounces of beer were drank (about 1,900 cups) and 1700 pounds of crawfish, 800 chicken parts, and 300 pounds of jambalaya were eaten. This was in addition to the soft drinks, salad and bread that were served. It was apparent that all passed a good time.