

Red Stick Times

The Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University

MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

The School's administration met for lunch last Friday with the 18 members of the Student Advisory Council. The Council was generally complimentary of the first week of the session but made a couple of thoughtful suggestions. Several officers commented that it was difficult to absorb the amount of information that is presented in a relatively short time period. The suggestion was advanced that perhaps a couple of courses should be extended to two weeks. Also, several first year students commented that they would have benefited from having more knowledge about the program prior to arriving on campus.

It was also suggested that a course be offered addressing special problems and opportunities for females in banking.

The administration commented that all these concerns would be addressed at future meetings of the School's Executive Committee.

The next meeting between the Administration and Council will be at 11:45am this Wednesday at the 459 Commons Cafeteria in the private dining room in the rear of the building.

THE REAL WORLD

Your colleagues in the real world back home are probably enjoying a day out of the bank and participating in family barbeques, picnics, and other fun activities while you are sitting in class and listening to stimulating lectures. The School session seems to always conflict with the Memorial Day holiday. You should probably remind your CEO of your sacrifice and plead for a compensating day off! Good Luck!

TODAY @ GSB

4:45-5:45 1st Year Case Groups
5:30-7:00 Dinner

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 7:30pm, 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.

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.

SWAN SONG

The senior management of the School, the President and Chairman, serve two years in their leadership roles. The Board of Trustees meets each fall, usually in the month of October, to elect a new president and chairman.

Our current president, Watts Steger, will have, at the end of this session, led the school through two very successful sessions and in October will assume the title of Immediate Past President. Watts has served the School in an outstanding fashion as president and his executive leadership will be missed. But, he will continue his faculty assignment on the bank simulation team.

2016 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 received one-year scholarships to the 2016 session.

- **Brannen Smith**, VP, Sea Island Bank, Statesboro, GA
- **Brandon Will**, VP/Sr. Credit Analysis Officer, First National Bank of TN, Cookeville, TN
- **Dustin Bays**, AVP, Bank of Botetourt, Troutville, VA
- **Michael Bush**, VP/Commercial Lending Officer, United Cumberland Bank, Whitley City, KY
- **Donald Hillbish**, VP/Retail Team Leader, C & F Bank, Quinton, VA
- **Lauren Burns**, AVP/Internal Auditor, United Mississippi Bank, Natchez, MS
- **Brookie Aycock**, AVP, Trustmark National Bank, Jackson, MS
- **Jay Cook**, AVP, Bank of Commerce, Starkville, MS
- **Christopher Cherry**, Financial Reporting Manager, Capital City Bank, Tallahassee, FL
- **Phillip Partain**, Community President, Arvest Bank, Little Rock, AR
- **Michael Holly**, Loan Officer, Schertz Bank & Trust, Schertz, TX

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

- **Steve Hariprasad**, Manager, Bureau of Financial Institutions, Richmond, VA
- **Jeff Cox**, Examiner, MS Department of Banking & Consumer Finance, Jackson, MS
- **Christi McEacharn**, Compliance Examiner, Louisiana Department of Financial Institutions, Delhi, LA
- **Renee Dzek** – SC Board of Financial Institutions, Columbia, SC

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 will host the Tequila Tuesday party on Tuesday from 7:00pm - 10:00pm at Barcadia (next to the Varsity). The party is hosted by the Junior and Senior classes. (Freshman pay \$10 cover.) Festivities also include food, beverages and games. All students must have their GSB name badge to get in.

As you may know cactus juice has a strong effect on those who imbibe, so be careful and be sure you are in attendance at the 8:15am class on Wednesday. The traditional school requirement to start on time and stop on time will be observed.

BY BANKERS, FOR BANKERS

The governance of the school is unique among other graduate schools of banking in that the top administrative body is composed of practicing commercial bank officers. Each of the 15 sponsoring states is represented on the board by a banker-graduate who serves a two-year term and a president and president-elect, who are also bankers. Each state is further represented by the chief executive officer of the sponsoring state banking associations. All board members serve without compensation and meetings are held annually.

MBA

Several universities now offer graduate academic credit to our graduates who want to pursue their MBA degree to our graduates. This provides an excellent opportunity for those who wish to pursue a graduate degree program to get a head start on the academic schedule. A list of participating universities and details about the various programs is on the school's website, www.gsblsu.org. The school will provide free of charge your transcript to the university you select.

BANKSIM OUTLAWS

The Bank Secrecy Act has been violated by a BankSim faculty member who revealed critical and sensitive data to competing institutions. The criminal, who was fined \$1.0 million was none other than the School's own president, Mr. Watts Steger. The fine is currently under appeal.