

Dear College of Business Alumni,

Greetings from College of Business at Governors State University!

As the Interim Dean of the college, I'd like to share with you some recent developments in the college and the university.

On December 1, 2016, our College received one of the most distinguished honors awarded to any business education program in the world: accreditation from AACSB International—the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Achieving AACSB Accreditation is a rigorous process. Each accreditation standard assesses a school's ability to perform in critical areas, such as teaching, research, curricula development, and student learning. This achievement is a result of the hard work of COB faculty and staff over the past 8 years, led by our former Dean, Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, who retired on December 31, 2016.

I know you will be proud of this great achievement, as it's a reflection and affirmation of the high quality education we provide to our students in the College and the University. For more information about this accreditation, please see a GSU news story at the following link: <http://gsunews.govst.edu/gsu-earns-prestigious-accreditation/>.

Continuous improvement and innovation are two key focuses of AACSB accreditation. In the College of Business, this means we are always improving our curriculum and programs, to maintain the rigor and competitiveness. We recently completed a comprehensive revision of our MBA program. The revision incorporated inputs and suggestions from industry stakeholders, recent alumni, and faculty and staff. The revised MBA features cutting edge program design including two seminar series of professional development and core curriculum emphasizing strategic thinking, global competency, and risk analysis, in addition to comprehensive functional knowledge of a traditional MBA program. It also includes five specialization options: Business Analytics, Finance, Leadership, Supply Chain Management, and Custom. The MBA program can be complete fully online, on-ground, or hybrid.

We also offer MS in Accounting and MS in Management Information System, both preparing our students for highly specialized professional careers. Our MS in Accounting program prepares students for CPA exam, and it's in compliance with Illinois Board of Examiners' guidelines.

As you already know from your experience when studying at GSU, we have high quality faculty in the college who are dedicated to teaching, research, and service. We are proud to share some of their achievements in research and professional services in this newsletter.

Thank you for representing GSU's College of Business in your professional and personal lives. Please let us know how you are doing in your professional career, and how your education from GSU has helped you achieve professional and personal successes. You can send us information using the following link on COB website: <http://www.govst.edu/COBAlumni/>

We look forward to enhancing the relationships with our alumni, celebrating your professional accomplishments, and supporting your future career endeavors.

Sincerely,

Jun Zhao, DBA
Interim Dean, College of Business