



FCBE Executive MBA Advisory Council Gets Started.



Jason Lee ('13)
EVP/CFO Orion Federal Credit

*A message from
Chairman, Jason Lee –*

It wasn't that long ago that I started my first year in the Executive MBA program with much excitement, or that I was eager to finish my last semester to see what lies beyond graduation. We can all reflect on similar emotions as we relate to the current classes of 2015 and 2016. Soon the classwork and team meetings will be behind them and they will join an illustrious group of alumni who have completed the journey before them. I'm sure most alumni, like I do, feel forever connected to the Executive MBA program and the FCBE. Consequently, now I feel the need to give back; a need to help improve and promote the Executive MBA program as well as engage and enrich the alumni and business community. After all, we are all forged together in one commonality. It is with this sentiment that I accepted the challenge of chairing the new Executive MBA Alumni Advisory Council. The mission is to:

"Advise, promote, and actively support the Executive MBA program in achieving its mission of becoming the premier graduate level program in the Mid-South that contributes meaningfully to the alumni and business community."

The Council has two major areas of responsibility, to provide business advice and expertise regarding the educational activities of the program, and to provide assistance in developing and strengthening the program's relations with the external community. The Council members were recently appointed from a broad mix of businesses, graduating classes, roles and responsibilities, and talents. Please join me in welcoming them to the Council:

Juloy Raymer ('14) – Levernese Anderson ('09) – Mike Bulthaus ('14) – Michele Buring ('14) – Neil Gibson ('02) – Roderick Head ('12) – Jim Horsey ('12) – Kevin Morgan ('10) – Pete Naldoza ('12) – and Anne Sparrenberger ('12)

The appointed members will cohesively work together through four committees – Recruitment, Program Content, Alumni Networking and Engagement, and Business Community Engagement and Career Opportunity. We are just getting started, but I appreciate the excitement and eagerness of each member in supporting the Executive MBA program. I look forward to sharing our efforts and re-engaging all alumni in the coming months.



(l-r) Christy Cornell ('00), Noah Gray ('15),
Stefanie Schwegman ('00)

2015 Ferris Hooshmand Recipient

This past August, the 10th Ferris Hooshmand scholarship was awarded to Mr. Noah Gray, Executive Director of the Binghamton Development Corporation. Ms. Christy Cornell

and Ms. Stefanie Schwegman, both from the EMBA Class of 2000, presented the award.

This award was established in honor of Class of 2000 graduate, Ferris Hooshmand, who lost his battle with lung cancer in the Summer of 2005. The scholarship was established to be awarded to a student in their final year of the program. His classmates, family, and friends joined together in a grassroots effort to establish this annual award and to create a lasting tribute to Ferris and his character of courage and enthusiasm. Ferris came to the United States from Iran at a time of political unrest and started a new life. He was employed by FedEx and entered the Executive MBA program because of his dedication to lifelong learning and the desire to grow in his career.

In addition to this recognition, Noah will also receive \$2,500.00. He will graduate December, 2015. *Congratulations, Noah!*

Fall 2015 - Incoming & Returning Students

The program recently welcomed 15 incoming students for the Executive MBA Class of 2016. Companies represented by both the incoming, as well as the returning Class of 2015, include the following:

GrayHair Software Inc; Binghamton Development Corporation; Shelby County Schools; AFLAC; Kroger; FedEx Services; FSG Investment Management; Navy Recruiting Command; FedEx Tech Connect; Ring Container Technologies; The Urban Child Institute; National Guard Hospital of Saudi Arabia; International Paper; ALSAC/St. Jude; IMC Companies; Ingersoll Rand; Roxul; AZO, Inc.; The Neely Agency; Results Physiotherapy; and, Central Garden and Pet.

Executive MBA Class of 2015 & 2016 – At a Glance:

Average GMAT: 620
Average Work Experience: 15
Average Age: 36
Male Enrollment: 78%
Female Enrollment: 22%

Recruitment - Fall 2016

We are currently recruiting for the next incoming class, set to begin Fall, 2016. As such, many of you work with individuals who may benefit from this type of program. If you know of a prospective candidate who would be ideal for the Executive MBA program, please refer them to contact us at 901.678.4866, emba@memphis.edu, or visit us at <http://www.memphis.edu/executivemba>. The priority deadline to apply is December 30.

Additionally, we would welcome the opportunity to host an onsite information session with your company, as well as meet with company representatives to discuss how this program could benefit both the employee and the company, and how other companies have utilized the Executive MBA Program at the University of Memphis as part of their talent development process. In exploring these areas within your company, it would possibly determine how the program might partner with your organization for succession planning purposes and in the leadership development process. Because the program focuses on leadership, self-awareness, and teaching from a strategic perspective, this could be a valuable partnership for both your company (*as a focus on talent development, as well as talent retention*), and for the program (*as we are constantly looking to diversify industries and companies represented in the co-hort groups*). If you are interested, please contact Dr. Balaji Krishnan, Director of MBA Programs, or Mary Ann Dawson, Manager of the Executive MBA Program.

Alumni Promotions/Appointments

The Executive MBA Program congratulates the following Alumni on their Promotions / Appointments / Accomplishments.

Sondra Dowdell – EMBA Class of 2013 ▪ Director of HR, Benefits & Compensation, Consolidated Container Company (CCC); headquartered in Atlanta, GA

Travis Green – EMBA Class of 2014 ▪ Chief Administrative Officer, General Sessions Court Clerk Office - Edward, L. Stanton, Jr., Clerk

Dorchelle Spence – EMBA class of 2012 ▪ VP Memphis Riverfront Development, released her debut novel, *No Less Worthy*; published by UrbanEdge Publishing in Georgia

We would welcome the opportunity to highlight you in this section – Keep Us Posted!

Executive MBA Celebration Gala & Networking Event

The annual Celebration Gala and Networking event is *tentatively* scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2015, at The University Club. Look for your *e-vite* invitation soon. As we have in the past, this year we will honor the graduating Executive MBA Class of 2015, and will award the Dean's Excellence Award, as well as the Kurt A. Christoff award. The event is scheduled from 6-9:00pm.

As we plan for this event, we will again conduct a silent auction to benefit the Ferris Hooshmand Scholarship fund, which is the only scholarship currently available to Executive MBA students. The first award was given in 2006, and this past August we were excited to award the 10th Ferris Hooshmand scholarship to a recipient from the Class of 2015.

As we approach the event, we are looking into how it can be even more successful. Each year, students, faculty and alumni have given items, or baskets (*either individually or as a team*), for the event and we would like to ask each of you to consider giving some sort of donation. We can use a single item, tickets to events, etc., - any donation you would like to give. No item or gift is too small and it is going toward a great cause! Again, for those of you who have not attended in the past, here are some of the items that are usually available: *Memphis Grizzlies tickets; two (2) night stay at the Golden Nugget Casino & Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi and dinner for two at Farradays'; UofM Tiger Basketball tickets; UofM merchandise; variety of wines; two (2) Climate controlled storage units with one year's use from Absolute Storage Management, Inc; Tiger Football Season tickets, holiday gift baskets/items; Memphis Zoo passes; Orpheum Theatre tickets; gift certificates at various Memphis restaurants, museums and events; and many, many other great items.*

If you would like to participate, or if you would like to give a tax-deductible monetary gift to the scholarship fund, the deadline to receive those would be **Friday, December 4th**.

Fogelman College of Business & University News / Headlines

PH.D. PROGRAMS NATIONALLY RANKED

We are extremely honored and excited to announce that the Fogelman College of Business & Economics has been named one of the Top 25 Ph.D. programs in the country! We are among an incredibly elite group of universities and it is exciting to see all of our

faculty, staff, and students' hard-earned efforts recognized!

<http://www.gradschoolhub.com/best/doctoral-programs-in-business/>

OXFORD ANALYTICA 2015 CONFERENCE

FCBE representatives, including the Dean, Dr. Rajiv Grover, recently attended the Oxford Analytica Conference held in Oxford, England. Check out the FCBE two-page spread from the [OxfordAnalytica #globalhorizons](#) conference.

We are excited to have the FCBE partnership with OXAN and Cook Trust promoted in such a prestigious program.



MEMPHIS TIGERS FOOTBALL



The Memphis Football program has had one of their best starts in program history, kicking it off with a 5-0 record. In doing so, Memphis has extended the nation's third longest winning streak. In their latest matchup, Memphis took on the South Florida Bulls and came away with a 24-17 victory. They next take on Ole Miss on October 17th. GO TIGERS GO!!!

Congratulations Graduates!

697 students graduated from the University of Memphis in August 2015.

59 students received their doctorate

Fall 2015 commencement for Executive MBA students ▪ Sunday, December 13th ▪ 4:30pm

Stay Connected with the Executive MBA Program

Join our Facebook group: Executive MBA - Fogelman College at University of Memphis



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