

# QUARTERLY CONNECTIONS

## RAJ SOIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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## Message from the Dean

by Dean Berkwood Farmer

Welcome back to Spring Quarter 2004! We hope you had a happy and safe spring break and are working hard this quarter.

Our students took part in several outstanding competitions last quarter and I want to congratulate those who participated. Our Ethics Bowl team placed second in the National Ethics Bowl Championship held in Cincinnati. Team members included Troy Lindo, Jennifer McFarlane, Joseph Drayer, Andrea Harris, Becky Brudzynski, and Brian Apwisch with Dr. Joseph Petrick serving as the team's coach.

The Raj Soin College of Business also had two teams compete at the 20th annual National Case Competition sponsored by the Society for the Advancement of Management. The graduate team of Marguerite Quijas, Cory Jennewein, and Troy Lindo finished second in the nation, as did the undergraduate team of Denise Beining, Alyson Satchell and Jon Gauder. Both teams were coached by Lisa Crawford and Tom Brookey.

In addition, Julianne Coghlan, an outstanding accounting major, finished first in the 2004 Ohio Undergraduate Accounting Manuscript Competition. This is the second consecutive year that a Wright State accounting student of Dr. Susan Lightle's has finished first in this statewide competition.

Please join me in congratulating these outstanding students!



## Raj Soin College of Business Vision – Mission – Values

### VISION

To be the best college of business in Ohio

### MISSION

To prepare students to be successful and ethical leaders capable of making valued contributions within the global marketplace; to advance knowledge through research; and to provide professional, entrepreneurial, and economic development assistance to individuals, businesses, organizations, and governments in the Greater Miami Valley and the State of Ohio.

### VALUES

- Faculty and staff involvement with student achievement and advancement
- Communication skills, analytical skills, information technology, and ethical-decision making as intrinsic parts of the learning process
- Commitment to the liberal arts for a sound education
- Lifelong learning for faculty, staff, students, and alumni
- A quality learning environment
- Global perspective
- Teamwork and respect for each other
- Commitment to innovation
- Commitment to diversity
- Continuous improvement in all we do

**RAJ SOIN**  
College of Business  
**WRIGHT STATE**  
UNIVERSITY



## Chair's Corner

by Peter Bacon, Finance & Financial Services



A lot is happening in the Department of Finance and Financial Services this year. A team of our Financial Services Students consisting of Sally Renk, Pete Young, and Josh Sadders has advanced to the finals of the American Express Planning Invitational Competition and will be going to Minneapolis this April to compete for

this prestigious national title. The team is coordinated by Bill Wood, who is the director of our Financial Services major.

Bill Wood and Marlena Akhbari are serving as co-coordinators of our new student-to-student debt counseling service. This service called, "The Wright Financial Path," involves WSU Finance and Financial Services majors providing debt counseling and financial advice to other Wright State students.

Fall Ainina and Burhan Kawosa have been busy conducting CFA review sessions for students who plan to sit for Part I of the CFA certification exam this summer. Last year, our student pass rate on this challenging exam exceeded the national average.

This spring, our Finance Club will be visiting New York City, where they will tour the stock exchange and meet with executives of several banks and securities firms. The club meets every two weeks and is open to any WSU student with an interest in Finance.

If I can be of assistance to you in planning your schedule, finding a job, or discussing career options, please feel free to stop in for a visit at 244 Rike.

### Congratulations 2004 National Ethics Bowl Runner-Up Champions!



Left to right: Joseph Drayer, Andrea Harris, Brian Apwisch, Jennifer McFarlane, Rebecca Brudzynski, Troy Lindo, Dr. Joseph Petrick (Coach)

## Club News

**The HR Club** of Wright State University has had a great month full of lots of activities for our members! At our February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, Graduate Student Kenisha Crum spoke to our organization on the PHR / SPHR exams with new computer format, gave us details on the PHR preparation workshop sponsored by Raj Sooin College of Business, and discussed scholarship opportunities to fund students enrolling in the workshop as well as taking the exam. At our March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, Corey E. Miller, Ph.D. from the Department of Psychology spoke on the emerging field of industrial and organizational psychology and how it relates to HR and HR jobs.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, HR Club members Sara Stevens and Megan Leasher attended the Miami Valley Human Resource Association (MVHRA) luncheon meeting. They had the opportunity to meet many MVHRA members, and the club looks forward to sending more members to upcoming meetings.

In spring quarter, the HR Club will hold a booth at "May Daze," to generate campus awareness about the club in hopes of recruiting new members. We are currently collecting donations from Dayton-area businesses to use as prizes for a raffle we will hold at the booth. If you would like to donate prizes for our raffle (or know of anyone who might be interested), please contact our Treasurer, Laura Little, at [lauralittle90@hotmail.com](mailto:lauralittle90@hotmail.com).

The HR Club is also in its final stages of preparation for the Society for Human Resource Management Merit Award Competition. Led by Vice President and Merit Award Chair Kellie Gilroy, the club is currently assessing our activities of the past year to prepare the final award submission. We were honored with a Superior Merit Award last year, and we hope to earn this distinct honor once again!

Lastly, congratulations to Kellie Gilroy, Brian Apwisch, and Megan Leasher for being selected to represent the Department of Management for their upcoming website remodeling! Kellie, Brian, and Megan were professionally photographed along with two other management students to be used for up and coming changes to their website. We will be sure to send you the link to the remodeled site as soon as it is completed!

As always, we want to keep all of you informed of our club's events and activities. If you would like to be on our email list, please email our Secretary, Christie Spreng, at [spreng.3@wright.edu](mailto:spreng.3@wright.edu). In addition, if you know of anyone who might be interested in being a guest speaker at one of our meetings (or a host for a company tour), please contact our President, Megan Leasher at [leasher.2@wright.edu](mailto:leasher.2@wright.edu).

Also, be sure to check us out on the web at <http://www.wright.edu/studentorgs/hrmngmnt/>.

## Student Government

by Ryan Newman

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable spring break. Now that the quarter is back underway and everyone has had a chance to get back into the swing of things, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of how you could get involved in the Raj Soin College of Business.

Elections for next year's student government will be taking place this spring quarter. If you are interested in the Raj Soin College of Business Senator position, you can stop in the Student Government Office and pick up an application or contact me at [wsurscob@yahoo.com](mailto:wsurscob@yahoo.com).

During the winter quarter, student government conducted a week long parking study. During this week, student government surveyed every lot on the hour from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For results, please contact Student Government at 775-5508.

## Internship Report from Singapore

Rachelle Senenik, a Raj Soin College of Business International Business major has just had the time of her life! She recently completed an internship in Singapore with the American Embassy's Commercial Service Department.

While in Singapore, she assisted with Asian Aerospace, the second largest aerospace tradeshow in the world. She also worked with a trade mission of twelve U.S. businesses in Singapore to meet with various Asian aerospace companies and second a trade mission of six U.S. ICT companies interested in doing business in China.

One of her major projects involved assisting a U.S. Department of Commerce program to bring trade specialists from all over Asia to counsel American companies on the aerospace industry in their respective countries.

Rachelle found her experiences in Singapore to be both interesting and enlightening, and enjoyed learning about the cultural differences between the U.S. and China. Her activities have even led to several job leads and she is hoping to pursue those leads in the near future.



Rachelle Sedenick with the Honorable Frank L. Lavin, U.S. Ambassador to Singapore

If you are interesting in learning more about the International Business Major or Minor program, contact Monica Snow ([monica.snow@wright.edu](mailto:monica.snow@wright.edu))

## Why This Place Is Special

by Maggie Houston, Lecturer & Outstanding Teaching Award Winner



People, People, People .... That's what makes Wright State University and the Raj Soin College of Business special. For example, the diverse student body is awesome. There was the 77-year old retired bookkeeper who took the principles of accounting sequence to understand the theory behind the bookkeeping practices she followed her entire working life. Some of the students in her classes were amazed that she **wanted** to take a class that they **had** to take. Her presence sent a powerful message about life long learning.

There are students who face more challenges in one day than I face in a year, and they succeed academically. I have taught students who are blind and who are deaf. I had a student with Tourette Syndrome, and the entire class worked with the student to ensure his success. Of all of the students in wheelchairs, the one I remember best is a student who couldn't move his arms or legs. He controlled himself by manipulating a straw he held between his teeth. He earned the second highest grade in a junior-level accounting class. What an inspiration!

There are really smart students at WSU. It is probable that you will sit next to a high school valedictorian and/or salutatorian in at least one of your business classes. These academically gifted students ask questions that stimulate conversation and interaction. As they challenge themselves, they challenge the entire class. Also, there are students who are getting a second degree; your classmate could be a fully qualified engineer or attorney. Currently there is a student in undergraduate business classes who holds a science degree from MIT!

At WSU there are really good and kind people who care for each other. After September 11, there was the Christian male student who offered to escort the Muslim female classmate around campus if she felt intimidated or uncomfortable. In a favorable reflection on all WSU students, she said she didn't need an escort; that she wasn't being harassed.

In addition to the diverse student body, there are innumerable WSU employees who make this place special. Students may never meet them, but they keep student success as their core mission. One of my favorite examples is the WSU employee who is hired to keep some machinery in good working order, but he describes his job as making sure the infrastructure is functioning so our students can earn their degrees.

## Why This Place Is Special

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For more than twenty years I have been associated with WSU and I am grateful for the many people who make this place special including students, faculty, administrators, support staff, and the folks at Taco Bell in The Hangar who are always cheerful in spite my relentless special requests.

DON'T FORGET...

**MAY DAZE**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 7TH**

## Dean's Student Advisory Board

by Mindy Wallace

The Dean's Student Advisory Board has a very busy spring quarter planned. The main event the board will be sponsoring is the Student-Alumni Connections luncheon on April 14<sup>th</sup>. This annual event will bring together successful WSU alumni and current students for a day of networking. We are excited to say we have expanded the event to include nearly 100 students this year. We hope that this event will continue to grow in popularity in upcoming years.

Additionally the board will be hosting the outstanding teaching awards at the end of spring quarter. Students in senior capstone classes will vote for the outstanding faculty members from each department. Senior students should look for ballot distribution around the fifth week of the quarter. Also during the quarter we will select new board



members for the 2004–2005 school year. New members will be introduced to the student body at the teaching awards ceremony. The board will be meeting with department chairs to discuss issues such as career placement, class offerings for next year, and other issues raised by students during the Town Hall meeting. If you have a suggestion, concern or improvement idea for the Raj Soin College of Business, please feel free to contact the advisory board at [rscob-dsab@wright.edu](mailto:rscob-dsab@wright.edu).

### *FYI – FALL 2004 REGISTRATION AND ADVISING*

May 6      Fall Registration Begins

Advising appointments may be scheduled by stopping by 110 Rike Hall or calling 775-2437. If you have any questions or problems, please stop in and talk to one of our advisors or check the Academic Programs bulletin board in the basement of Rike Hall.

## We'll Miss You!

The faculty, students, staff, and administrators of the Raj Soin College of Business would like to offer our sincere gratitude and congratulations to two of our Department Chairs who will be leaving us soon.

Dr. Peter Bacon, Chair of Finance and Financial Services, will be retiring after 35 years of service.

Dr. Crystal Owen, Chair of Management has accepted a faculty position at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

*We wish much success and happiness to Dr. Bacon and Dr. Owen!*



Your *Quarterly Connection* will return in the fall.

Have a great summer!