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Maine Business School & Graduate School of Business

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From the Dean

You know you are in a special place when the majority of your faculty and staff turn out for a virtual workshop offered by the Racial Equity and Justice Firm of Bangor, Maine. David Patrick and Desiree Vargas walked us through communal agreements to emphasize respect, active listening, and other items that foster trust. The identity wheel helped us all visualize the number of ways that people define themselves and the diversity in those definitions. Work with definitions of diversity, inclusion, and equity also informed aspects of improving our approaches, collaborations, and intercultural conversations. In addition, the MBS faculty invited amazing professionals to connect with students and provide relevant perspectives from the world of work, published their scholarship, and presented their ideas to others in the field. Go Big! Go Blue! Go Business!

- Faye Gilbert, Ph.D.
DEI Workshop

Last Friday, 27 MBS faculty and staff participated in a virtual DEI workshop led by the Racial Equity & Justice Firm. David Patrick, an MBS grad, is one of the co-owners of REJ. The interactive workshop lasted two hours and was spearheaded by Dr. Matt Graham, a member of the MBS DEI Committee.

AACSB

Dr. Faye Gilbert recently returned from chairing the Continuous Improvement Review Committee for AACSB. The discussions highlighted the continuous improvements of business programs across the globe and focused on the best practices that define a quality business education. "We are progressing well in strategic planning, risk assessment, faculty qualifications, the quality of our published scholarship, the addition of grants and awards, and in tracking assurance of learning outcomes," she said. "I am looking forward to adding our societal impact and evidence of our innovations for approaches, processes, and communities into the narrative that is part of our premier business education provided by the MBS and GSB in Maine."

Publications

Dr. Patti Miles and her SEAL research team have had their paper, "The Role of Mindfulness and Resilience in Navy SEAL Training," accepted for publication in Military Psychology. This paper will be the featured paper in this edition, and Dr. Miles will provide the photo for the journal's cover. The paper has
been read by Navy Special Operations Leaders and is being used to work on some modifications to the assessment process. In other good news, Patti's youngest son recently graduated with honors from U.S. Army RANGER School, which is a 62-day grueling test of a human's grit, resilience, and endurance. He was one of 63 out of 308 to graduate.

Presentation

Last week, Dr. Billy Obenauer presented his paper, "Is White Always the Standard? Using Replication to Revisit and Extend What We Know About the Leadership Prototype" in a virtual "brown paper bag" research seminar at the Mike Ilitch School of Business at Wayne State University. Wayne State University is the third-largest public university in Michigan.

In the Classroom

Tom Konieczko, Commodity Hedger at Dead River Company in Portland, was a guest speaker in Dr. Sebastian Lobe's FIN 454 Financial Derivatives and Fixed Income class. He talked about his daily hedging activities at Dead River Company. "While folks on the outside just see their tanks being filled without much thought to the fundamentals that provide the commodity, Tom's insights bridge that gap and demonstrate nicely how futures can be employed for the greater benefit of the people of the state of Maine," Dr. Lobe says. Tom, an alumnus, took Dr. Lobe's MBA 653 Investment Management class in the summer of 2021.

Bristyn Leasure was a guest speaker in Dr. Erin Percival Carter's Sales and Personal Selling MKT 374 class. Students from MKT 382, BUA 235, and Women in Business were also in attendance. Bristyn talked about managing a career in sales and marketing in tech and transitioning from undergrad to industry. Bristyn graduated from MBS with a degree in marketing in 2019 and was hired in a sales role at Oracle. She recently was promoted to Industry Marketing Lead at Oracle NetSuite.