MBS News, April 5, 2024

Maine Business School

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MBS News Update - April 5

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MBS News
April 5, 2024

Student Success
The Student Portfolio Investment Fund, SPIFFY, won first place in a worldwide portfolio competition. The competition was part of the G.A.M.E. Forum XIII (Global Asset Management Education) in New York City, in which 1,100 students from more than 125 universities interacted with industry leaders and learned best practices in investment strategy.

The annual event also featured a portfolio competition that compared the 2023 performance of student-managed investment funds. Each college investment team submitted its portfolio account statements and asset holdings.

SPIFFY won this competition (First Place Undergraduate Value Portfolio), which held a $1,000 prize. The value style seeks to find undervalued stocks as they generate superior returns in the long run. "We won the first prize in the value category for the first time in 2018, and now in 2024 again," says Dr. Sebastian Lobe, SPIFFY advisor. "This is not easy to achieve and is a testament to our continued hard work. SPIFFY has confirmed its value orientation and implements this style with bravado."

Read the story in UMaine News here.

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**In the News**

Dr. Qiujie "Angie" Zheng and her collaborator, Dr. Mary Ellen Camire, at the School of Food and Agriculture at UMaine and Atlantic Corporation, have had their USDA maple syrup project featured in UMaine News.

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**Presentations**

Dr. Muralee Das has had a conference paper accepted for the Academy of Management meetings in Chicago in August. The paper "Global Competency of Business School Graduates: Lessons from Other Knowledge Creating Organizations" was co-authored by Dr. Das and Fiona Devlin.

Dr. Manuel Wörsdörfer's papers "I Ethics and Ordoliberalism 2.0: Towards A 'Digital Bill of Rights'" and "The E.U.'s AI Act: Hype or Hope?" have been accepted for presentation at the annual conference of the International Association for Computing and Philosophy and the annual meeting of the Society for Business Ethics, respectively. The conferences are the world's most prestigious computer and
business ethics conferences.

On March 27th, Dr. Matt Graham and the BISSL faculty hosted an Application Security Seminar at the Maine Business School. Speakers at the event included OWASP Maine, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), and two cybersecurity professionals. They spoke about the importance of app security. OWASP & CISA advisors taught students about various cyber attacks that applications are vulnerable to and their experiences fixing those vulnerabilities. Additionally, they talked about how our BISSL students can get jobs in the fields of cybersecurity and information security management. The OWASP App Security Seminar also included a Manager of Technology Assurance & SOC services from BerryDunn, Carley Couturier, who shared internship opportunities available at their firm. A whopping 70+ students attended the seminar, asked good questions, and met with speakers after the seminar to discuss internships and job opportunities! Approximately 50 students were there in person, with another 25+ on Zoom.

Guest Speaker

A strategist, coach, and UMaine Ph.D. student, Kate Lee, joined students in Professor Buffie McCue-Quinn's MGT 326 class. Lee facilitated a dynamic case study discussion with the students. The topic of the case study was the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Students were asked to look at the scenario from a business perspective, identify key issues and stakeholders, and make decisions. Focus was placed on critical thinking and complex decision-making.

Publications
Dr. Sebastian Lobe’s paper, "Global Evidence on Growth Opportunities, Beta, and the Cost of Capital," has been accepted for publication in the International Journal of Business and Social Science. His study investigates the influence of firms' growth opportunities on their cost of capital across industries using an international sample of 28 developed and 22 emerging markets. "Our results based on more than 21,000 firms and 167,000 firm-years corroborate that a high magnitude of firms' growth opportunities leads to a higher firms' unlevered beta," Dr. Lobe says. Failure to account for growth opportunities can underestimate the cost of equity by up to 3 percentage points, depending on the industry. The beta of growth opportunities exceeds the beta of assets-in-place for the majority of sectors in our global sample.

A paper co-authored by Dr. Nadège Levallet and colleagues at the Toronto Metropolitan University was accepted for publication at Personnel Review. The "Mindfulness and Psychological Capital: Examining the Role of Intention from the Person Perspective in a Multi-week Mindfulness Training Program" paper examines how mindfulness practices and other factors, such as intention, can enhance individuals' psychological capital. Dr. Levallet's main contribution was methodological, as she used the qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) approach to identify configurations of factors leading to psychological capital. Personnel Review is an A journal on the ABDC list and has an H-index of 83.

Dr. Jason Entsminger’s paper, "Entrepreneurial marketing strategies, resources and social disadvantage: Exploring the role of resources and minority status among US agrofood enterprises" has been published in the Journal of Research in Marketing and Entrepreneurship.

Events
Thank you all who attended last week’s MaineMBA Alumni Awards and Business Forum! You can read more about our six amazing honorees in this story.

AMA Guest Speaker: Photography 101 with Seth Poplaski, Wednesday, April 10, 5-6 pm, DPC 111
Please encourage your students who want to learn more about photography to attend this event hosted by AMA. Seth is a professional photographer with robust experience shooting our UMaine athletes in action. All MBS students are welcome!

Wellbeing Wednesday: Yoga, Wednesday, April 17, 5-6 pm, DPC 205
This end-of-semester wind down will be led by Pause Massage Therapy. All MBS students are welcome, but we are asking them to register: https://form.jotform.com/240854232508050