

# College of Business Newsletter



October 2008

Volume 5, Issue 1

Welcome to the first edition of the College of Business Newsletter for the Fall 2008 semester! This is a collaborative effort from members of the Student Advisory Council to the Dean of the College of Business. We are an organization that offers a gateway of communication between the students and the Dean of the College of Business. We produce newsletters during the course of the year with the intention of providing relevant and meaningful information to the College of Business. If there is anything you would like to see included in our newsletter we welcome your suggestions, and if you have ideas or concerns regarding the College of Business, in general, we welcome that as well. Please email your ideas, suggestions and concerns to us at [lucobsac@yahoo.com](mailto:lucobsac@yahoo.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Study hard and have a great semester!

Benjamin Cowles, President

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## Junior Achievement Program Seeking Volunteers

Junior Achievement educates and inspires young people to value free enterprise, business and economics to improve the quality of their lives. Junior Achievement uses hands-on experiences to help young people understand the economics of life. How better to learn the theory of economics than to teach it? Junior Achievement is in need of volunteers to work with high school economics classes all across the region. High school economics teachers have requested this program but there are no volunteers to deliver it. Class times vary throughout the day, fitting in with most anyone's schedule! You may research Junior Achievement further by visiting [www.ja.org](http://www.ja.org) or the local website at <http://goldentriangle.ja.org>.

Junior Achievement includes several interesting programs. JA Business Ethics, for example, fosters students' ethical decision-making as they prepare to enter the workforce and take part in the global marketplace. JA Careers with a Purpose introduces students to the importance of seeking careers that help them realize their life potential and noble purpose. JA Economics examines the fundamental concepts of micro-, macro-, and international economics. JA Success Skills helps students develop work-readiness skills necessary for the workplace and JA Titan, which is similar to the MGMT 4370 Strategic Analysis game, introduces critical economics and management decisions through an interactive simulation.

***If you are interested in volunteering, please email [lucobsac@yahoo.com](mailto:lucobsac@yahoo.com) for more information.***

## Faculty Interviews

### Mr. Ricardo Tovar-Silos

**Department:** Economics and Finance

**What classes do you teach?** Finance 3310 and 4320; Economics 1301

**How long have you been teaching at Lamar?** First semester

**Education:** Currently working on Ph.D., Finance, at the University of Houston, M.A. from ITESM (Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey), B.A. in Economics from UANL (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León)

**Do you have any current research interests, if so, what are they?** Initial Public Offerings anomalies including underpricing and cycles(dissertation), Regime Switching Models and their application to finance problems (dissertation)

**Where are you originally from?** Monterrey, Mexico

**Do you have any other work experience?** Worked for the Mexican Federal Government under the Secretaria de Economía, which is an agency that deals with economic development and international trade.

**Hobbies?** I enjoy spending my free time with my wife and daughter and I also enjoy sports, particularly soccer, and reading.

**Do you have any special talents?** I think I am good at sports. I am really competitive particularly when playing soccer.

**Recommended Reading?** *Age of Turbulence: Adventures in a New World*, Alan Greenspan

**What is your favorite movie and actor?** Some of my favorite movies are “The Godfather”, “Star Wars”, “Trainspotting” and “Pulp Fiction”, “As Good as it Gets” and my favorite actor is Jack Nicholson.

**Who do you contribute your success to?** Uncle who has been a professor of Economics at UANL in Monterrey, Mexico for approximately thirty years and was the president of UANL for approximately 5 years.

**What drew you to teach at Lamar?** Faculty and supportive team spirit, opportunity to contribute to the growth of Lamar

**Would you like to say anything to Lamar students?** “You should be proud to be part of a school where faculty is really committed to teaching and research, and they care deeply about students.”

### Dr. Ann Watkins

**Department:** Accounting and Business Law

**Teaches:** Financial Accounting and Auditing

**How long have you been teaching at Lamar?** First semester

**Education Background:** BA Accounting from McNeese State University and Ph.D. from LSU

**Research Interests:** The relation between accounting and resource allocation, with particular interest in the public sector.

**Originally From:** Born in Houston, Raised in Beaumont

**Other Work Experience:** Department head at McNeese, staff accountant at CPA firm

**Published Articles:** 11 journal publications, co-authored chapter in a book, 2 working papers

**Hobbies:** traveling, movies, reading

**Recommended Reading:** *Sons and Lovers* by D. H. Lawrence

**Favorite Movie/Actor:** Napoleon Dynamite / Nicholas Cage

**Pets:** 2 dogs- Bentley (Yorkie) Bailey (three-legged mixed-breed terrier)

**Attributes Success To:** Many people, including family, friends, colleagues and former professors have contributed to her success.

**Drawn to Lamar because:** When interviewing for her position, Dr. Watkins was impressed by the enthusiasm of the faculty and the Dean of the COB. She was eager to join a faculty and work with a Dean who had such positive attitudes regarding the continued growth and development of the COB. Also impressive was their dedication to students, extensive community involvement, as well as the COB's strong relationship with an extended business community.

**Quote for Students:** Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire—W.B Yeats.

<b>October 2008</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 ExxonMobil speaker from Google	24 Last Day to Drop without Academic Penalty	25
26	27	28 Spring 2008 Schedule available	29	30 Spring Advisement Begins	31	1

<b>November 2008</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3 Last day to drop/withdraw with academic penalty	4 Last day for undergrads to apply and pay for December graduation	5	6 Spring Registration for special populations begins, ExxonMobil speaker	7	8
9	10			13 Open Registration for Spring 2009 begins		15 Open House
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 No Class- Thanksgiving	28 No Class- Thanksgiving	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

**Student Advisory Council**

Benjamin Cowles, President  
 Dawn Battiest, Vice-President  
 Carly Wright, Secretary

Lindsay King, Kristen Hampton, Sophie Wilmore, Kayla Tompkins, David Ramos and Leah Moss