



November 2008

Dear Friends of KU Business:

With 1,000 undergrads and over 500 graduate students, the fall semester is going well. These numbers are consistent with prior years, and we have experienced a nice increase in our Business Minor program. Last fall, we had 1,250 students in this program, this fall we have 1,630...a 30% increase. Almost every Business student I talk to tells me how busy he or she is, so our faculty are keeping them fully engaged. And the recent world-wide financial activity provides our faculty with a great deal of subject matter to discuss with students across all of our business disciplines.

Among the issues that KU is addressing this year is the financial literacy of all students attending the University. Last year, the School of Business created a "personal finance" course designed to prepare students for financial matters they will encounter throughout their lives. This course is open to all KU students and we have seen enrollment rise from 45 to 130, with even larger enrollments anticipated in the future. We know this course will be a great benefit to students taking it, and we look forward to assisting the University with this important issue.

This year's Business Career Fair, hosted and organized by the School's Business Career Services Center, saw another excellent turnout of company recruiters and KU students. The fair is open to all KU students, and over 1,300 attended to visit with recruiters from the 100+ employers who were represented. Among the attendees were students from area universities such as Baker, Washburn and Emporia State. All in all, it was another very successful Career Fair!

The recent financial situation resulted in a number of requests from the media for expert comment from our Business faculty. Our faculty served the public with their expertise and research on a variety of issues that affect us all, and have been featured in local and national publications. <http://www.business.ku.edu/news-1S8BL>

This year's Anderson Chandler Lecture was presented by Andrew Jetter, President and CEO of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka. Mr. Jetter's speech, which was heard by an audience of more than 900 students, faculty and members of the general public, discussed the structure and regulation of housing finance and what changes must be made to keep the system working. Mr. Jetter explained the various factors that caused the housing crisis, and proposed several solutions that could alleviate home-buyers' pain. In addition to the lecture, the School hosted a roundtable luncheon discussion with Mr. Jetter and 25 area bankers. Mr. Jetter also spoke to an accounting class and met with several Business faculty.

We continue to be proud of the accomplishments of our students, faculty, alumni and staff, and the outstanding educational services we are providing Business students, KU students generally, and the public. We know that this academic year will see much success for the KU School of Business.

Watch for my next message in December.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

William L. Fuerst
Dean