



Dear Friends of KU Business:

We have reached that point in the academic year when everyone on campus is racing to the finish line. Students, faculty and staff alike are making that big push toward finals, the end of the semester or graduation. Let me tell you about our upcoming graduation recognition ceremonies and some of the mile-markers we have achieved along the way.

In just a few days we will be honoring over 400 School of Business students who have earned their Bachelor's, over 140 who have completed their Master's and two who are finishing their Ph.D.s. This year we are hosting two ceremonies on May 15th at the Lied Center: the Undergraduate Ceremony at 4:00 p.m. and the Master's Degree Hooding at 7:00 p.m.

With students facing a challenging job market, our Business School Career Services helped host a "Just in Time" Career Fair in late April to facilitate last-minute connections between students and hiring organizations. This late-semester career fair is a new event and another great way to get some excellent and excited students together with companies that are hiring.

Among those who will be celebrating are ten U.S. Army logistics officers and one international officer who will graduate from both the KU School of Business and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth. They represent the first class to graduate with a Master of Science in Business with a concentration in Supply Chain Management and Logistics through the KU and Army Staff College program. Each of the new graduates has seen combat, with service in Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iraqi and elsewhere. Most of them have also earned Bronze Stars, in some cases more than one. We are very proud of this special class, and appreciate their involvement as we launch this unique program. We anticipate a large class in the fall, given early registration.

On the international scene, the School has established a new exchange agreement with European Business School (EBS) in Germany. Our undergraduate and MBA students now have the opportunity to study at EBS for a semester or for three-week summer programs, gaining knowledge of how business is conducted in the European Union. Our first three students to take advantage of this opportunity leave for Germany soon. To read more, click [here](#).

Our international education alliances continue with two universities in China and the CIMBA program in Italy. Meanwhile this year we celebrate the milestone of a 60-year partnership with the Groupe École Supérieure de Commerce (ESC) in Clermont-Ferrand, France. Since the



start of the program in 1949, hundreds of students at the undergraduate and MBA levels have participated in exchange programs, along with Ph.D. student and faculty exchanges. We think this long-time partnership is *très bon*.

As I have mentioned before, the School is using its social networking groups LinkedIn and Facebook to stay in touch with alumni, and to help alumni stay in touch with one another. We're finding that LinkedIn is of particular interest and our LinkedIn group has over 1,100 members. Through both sites we routinely send updates about our accomplishments, activities and special events. If you'd like to keep up with Business School alumni and learn the latest about what is going on at the School, we encourage you to join.

- **LinkedIn KU Business Group** [click here](#)
- **Facebook KU Business Page** [click here](#)

As you can probably tell, things are moving along at a quick pace, and these are just a few of the many accomplishments that ensure "we're not business as usual."

We trust you find these messages useful and that you enjoy reading about the School's activities. We appreciate your interest in and support of the School. If you have any questions or would like to talk with me, please send me an email at bfuerst@ku.edu or call me at 785-864-7575.

Have a great summer and look for my next message at the start of the fall semester.

Rock Chalk, Jayhawk!

Bill

P.S. Save the date of September 17 (approximately 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.) for the next Kansas City area alumni gathering at [The Culinary Center of Kansas City](#) in Overland Park. It was a fun event last year and we are planning for a big turnout this year. More details will be coming your way.