

The Best Business: Learning to Supersede Challenges



Jada Dunn. While managing a rigorous course of study, it was enjoyable to be engaged in a number of co-curricular opportunities on our campus. It was a pleasure to serve as an Orientation Leader for 3-years including in the role of Head Orientation Leader, members of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, Vice President of Recognition and Promotions for the National Residence Hall Honorary, and President of the student organization Women In Progress. An honor that I will not forget was representing SUNY Old Westbury at a NODA Region VIII Conference, presenting on how to create positive student leaders on a college campus as well as participating in the regional Orientation Leader Program. I do profound and humbled thank for being appointed as the 2019 recipient of the Carol M. Bailey Humanitarian Award for scholarship, leadership and service to the Old Westbury community. In a couple of weeks, with mixed emotions, I will be leaving Old Westbury with a degree in Accounting.

Jean Aiello-Guadagno. I have turned 50 this year and I cannot remember the last award ceremony I have ever been invited to attend and receive an award. I feel honored and humbled. I have found my experience of returning to school to achieve my Bachelors of Science in Finance a very enlightening experience. It was much different than the experience I had in my twenties when single-parenthood won over my college education goals. Since then, I met and married my husband, Ralph, in 2010, and continued to work in the real estate development sector for the past 27 years. After my son graduated from college in 2015, I started my own journey towards my degree here at SUNY Old Westbury. I loved my experience here at SUNY Old Westbury and I would have to credit the Assistant Dean at the School of Business, Joel Feiner, for being so welcoming on the back to school day that I attended as well as the Admission team for making my admission process so smooth.



I have been away from the learning environment for almost 20 years and I really enjoyed being around professors who wanted to see everyone do well. When comparing my daily work experience in the private sector with the competition for promotions and lack of encouragement, to my experience here at SUNY Old Westbury where I have been surrounded by encouragement and opportunities to better myself and achieve high grades, I feel transformed and energized for what life has ahead.



Edgar Montenegro. Being in a service industry, it has been my experience that people do what it takes to make sure that a complaint is heard, but seldom is that same effort made to pay a compliment and in closing a difficult year for me personally I wanted to take a moment and offer something from a place of gratitude. Before embarking on this journey to be accepted into your MS in Taxation program the road through the application process was a bit bumpy as some of you may recall but as in most things, the best things in life do not come easy. As the semesters went on and I dusted myself off from not having been exposed to academia for nearly two decades, what I learned has provided tremendous value to me both personally and professionally. While accounting still provides me with a decent dose of humility it has also given me some great talking points professionally as one of my major centers of influence are accounting professionals.

Professors Buttermilch, Glodstein, Lucido, Winkelman and Foy have been instrumental in helping me learn and, unbeknownst to them, growing my practice. My recent taxation classes taught by Professor Foy has taken my practice further as I have been able to have more involved conversations with business owners and Estate Planners. Areas that are crucial for the type of conversations I have with business owners and the solutions I provide them. The curriculum and Professor Foy have provided me with a platform to have real world conversations in class that have provided me with results on a professional level. I look forward to the journey ahead and being formally accepted and completing the program. If these are examples of my remaining course load, then I can also look forward to how this journey will enhance my career. Thank you all for your contributions and value to my education.

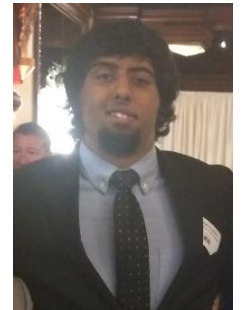
Celebrations

- Thursday, April 22, was the **Thirty-Ninth Annual Convocation to Honor Excellence**. SOB congratulated: graduate candidates Suzanne Herz, Matthew Carusillo, Melissa McLean, Justin Nakrin, Samuel Osroff, Joseph Park, Carlos Polio, Eric Trubatch, Kevin Brady, Roxana Jimenez, John Langdale, Sahida Munawear, Sikandar Syed; undergraduate candidates Justin Covert, Elizabeth Heege, Christian Madlon, Wioleta Mpureatos, Christopher Neroth, Charlotte Renker, Javier Solis, Robert Weillbrenner, Subbirul Ashraf, Ashley Canizales, Tzvetina Dionne, Megan Kahane, Jacob Varghese, Wendy Eastbrook, Alyssa Rubin, Jean Aiello-Guadagno, Jonathan Dellisanti, Raza Memon, Taylor Brockington, Bryan Griffiths, Kornprapa Kost, Marianela Rivas, Erventz Bie-Aime, Rashana Calder, Jaspreet Kaur, Raza Memon, Toha Qureshi.



- On Friday, April 26, Daniel Chacko had presented his work *Understanding the Indian-American Consumers of Financial Services in the USA*. The presentation was part of the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC)

The purpose of this study is to examine the influence of Indian-American culture and their consumer characteristics and seeing their attitudes towards products and services. We do this by reviewing Hofstede's Five Dimensions of National Culture, the Five-Factor Model of Personality and researching Indian American's financial statuses. Based on data collected from a random sample of 205 individuals this research examines attitudes towards risk, savings, asset allocations, international investment, and the need for financial advisors. Preliminary results will be presented, and our findings will set the stage for investigations that will further assist the understanding of this topic.



- Saturday, April 27, was the **Spring Open House**. Professors Shalei Simms, Costas Hadjicharalambous, Bruce Marx, Roger Mayer, Yu Lei, Lynn Walsh, Dean Raj Devasagayam, Assistant Dean Joel Feiner, Director of Career Services Lorraine Todisco, and Raul Zevallos were attending to students, parents, and visitors.



Designed and edited by Raul Zevallos – Assistant to the Dean
Assisted by Melody Young – Biology Major, Class 2019

If you have any information for future newsletter please send it to zevallosr@oldwestbury.edu