



MONDAY MORNING MEMO

Lewis College of Business

Dr. Avi Mukherjee, Dean

August 20, 2018

Lewis College of Business Fall 2018 Annual Retreat and Impact Conference

A warm welcome back to everyone as we return from the summer break! The Lewis College of Business hosted its Fall 2018 Faculty/Staff Annual Retreat and Inaugural Impact Conference at the Guyan Golf & Country Club on Thursday, August 16 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, with over 100 attendees. President Gilbert started the day with an inspiring welcome address. Provost Taylor also delivered his remarks for the new academic year. Commodore Tony Martin, President of the College of Business Advisory Board, joined us to discuss the goals of the board. We had presentations from the Dean, Associate Deans, and Task Force Chairs. Discussions focused on strategic imperatives, mission alignment, AACSB updates, new building planning, doctoral program planning, STEM business initiatives, experiential learning, and global initiatives. Our new faculty members were introduced by their respective Division Chairs.

The Impact Conference started over lunch with keynote speaker Dr. Ron McNeil, who is a former Dean at two AACSB accredited business schools for over 25 years, the PNC Bank Distinguished Emeritus Professor at University of Illinois Springfield, and a regular chair of AACSB visiting teams. About twenty of our College Advisory Board and Division Advisory Board members participated in the Impact Conference. The purpose of the Impact Conference was to engage our Advisory Boards with our Division Chairs, faculty and staff as participants in the college's strategic planning process. The Division Breakout Sessions involved advisory board members interacting with the faculty of each division to help them identify curriculum needs, skill development needs, and opportunities for engagement and impact. The conference provided an opportunity for the Lewis College of Business to share information with stakeholders and seek their feedback on the key concepts and ideas that will shape the future direction of the college.

New Faculty at the Lewis College of Business

The Lewis College of Business welcomes six new full-time faculty members joining us in Fall 2018.

Jingran Zhang, Assistant Professor of Management



Jingran Zhang joins LCOB as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Supply Chain & Business Analytics in the Division of Management and Health Care Administration. Dr. Zhang earned both doctorate and master's degrees in Industrial Engineering from New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), and Bachelor degree in Safety Engineering from China Jiliang University in China. Her research focuses on the performance advantage of innovative operation systems for online retailing and warehousing using fast and intelligent supply chain. She is also interested in big data analysis and decision-making research questions related to manufacturing, fast fashion and health care. She has three publications in leading journals of her field in retailing, production economics and supply chain management – *International Journal of Production Economics*, *International Journal of Production Research*, and *Production Planning and Control*.



Bo Feng, Assistant Professor of Economics, and Director, Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER)



Bo Feng joins LCOB as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Economics and Director of CBER from The Ohio State University, where he was a Research Associate for C. William Swank Program in Rural-Urban Policy. He recently obtained his PhD degree from the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics at The Ohio State University. He received a B.S. degree in Finance from Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Shanghai, China), and a M.S. degree in Economics from the University at Buffalo-SUNY. His research focuses on state and local fiscal policies and regional development programs. His interests also include related topics such as persistent poverty, intergenerational mobility, migration and education. Bo Feng had also worked as an assistant research fellow in Urban Economy Institute at Central University of Finance and Economics (Beijing, China). As a researcher in China, he conducted extensive studies on the strategic planning of local economic development, and advised local governments on various issues regarding development strategies.

Kevin Knotts, Assistant Professor of Management



Kevin Knotts joins LCOB as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior in the Division of Management and Health Care Administration. Originally from Keyser, WV, Kevin received his Ph.D. in Management from West Virginia University in Spring 2018. Kevin also has an MBA from WVU. His teaching and research interests lie in leadership, human resources, and organizational behavior. Kevin has published two peer-reviewed journal articles - one in *Journal of Leadership and Management*, and another in *Employee Responsibilities and Rights Journal*. He has another five working papers at various stages of manuscript development and submission. Kevin has presented his research in Western Academy of Management and Southern Management Association. He is a member of the Academy of Management and the Southern Management Association. Kevin has taught a variety of courses at WVU, including Fundamentals of Human Resource Management and Survey of Management.

Yi Duan, Assistant Professor of Economics



Yi Duan comes to LCOB as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Economics in the Division of Finance, Economics, and International Business from Valparaiso University, Indiana, where she worked as Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics. Yi Duan received her Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Oklahoma in 2017. Her primary research fields are economic development, applied macroeconomics, and spatial analysis. Yi Duan has published an article on foreign direct investment and productivity, in *World Development*, a top journal in development economics. She has taught courses in Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Statistics, Development Economics, and International Economics.



Boniface Yemba, Assistant Professor of International Business



Boniface Yemba comes to LCOB as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of International Business in the Division of Finance, Economics, and International Business from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, where he worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics for three years. He holds MA and PhD degrees in Economics from the University of Kansas, having graduated in May 2015. His dissertation was under the supervision of Professor William Barnett. His teaching and research are in the fields of International Economics, Macroeconomics, Monetary Economics, and Econometrics. Dr. Yemba was born and grew up in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he earned his BS degree in Economics and Business from the University of Kinshasa. He has taught courses in Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Labor Economics, Quantitative Analysis for Business, and Global Environment for Business.

Monisha Gupta, Instructor in Marketing



Monisha Gupta joins LCOB as an Instructor of Marketing. She has over twenty years of experience in the service industry ranging from advertising, hospitality and retail to consulting and operating sales franchisee. Additionally, she has worked in product management, direct selling, research, forecasting and planning. In her business career, she has been involved with the development and launch of new products, as well as setting up supply chains for existing products. Some of the organizations Monisha has worked for include Dabur India, Taj Group of Hotels, Fabindia, J. Walter Thompson India, and Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising. Monisha has completed Masters in Business Economics and Masters in Philosophy from India, and she is currently working on her PhD. She is well-traveled and is comfortable in dealing with people from diverse social and cultural backgrounds.