At NU, we value the Vincentian heritage of academic rigor and service to the world. We believe that the Vincentian ideal of educating the whole person provides the foundation for responsible decision making and an “education that makes a difference” in the business world. We continuously improve our curricula to reflect two features of today’s business environment: globalization and information technology. With developed study-abroad programs, our students can study almost anywhere in the world. Our “virtual classrooms,” with their state-of-the-art instructional resources, allow students to be fully engaged in ever-evolving global issues.

Some of the key aspects of our college include:
- our student-oriented focus and our goal to enhance students’ total learning experience.
- the availability of numerous scholarships, grants and work-study opportunities for our students.
- a relatively small student body which enables us to have small classes as well as to customize a study plan to fulfill unique career goals.
- outstanding faculty members and very current programs.
- reaccreditation by AACSB International in April 2011.

The undergraduate degree program combines classes in the business disciplines with a variety of liberal arts courses. The program also puts an emphasis on internships that give students valuable interpersonal skills through real-world experience. This results in students who think critically, react analytically, communicate effectively, and develop lifelong learning skills.

Our MBA program prepares students with core business concepts and the opportunity for independent study in one of eight concentration areas. Courses are offered on a flexible evening and Saturday schedule as well.

Overall, our goal is to prepare students with a competitive edge over their peers in the global economy. I invite you to explore our website and contact my office directly. I will be happy to discuss our programs with you and help capitalize your potential and capability at Niagara University.

Tenpao Lee, Ph.D.
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716.286.8050
Professor Alfonso Oddo retired in June after 38 years of excellence in service to Niagara University. An exceptional teacher and educator, Al will be missed by everyone here. We wish him all the best in his retirement and hope he keeps his cell phone nearby as we just might need to hear his voice every once in a while to lift our spirits.

The Accounting Advisory Council and many of his former students started the much-appreciated “Alfonso Oddo Endowed Scholarship in Accountancy” via designated contributions to the NU foundation.

Jim Ingham joins Accounting Department

Niagara University has the good fortune of announcing the addition of Jim Ingham, CPA, MBA, to the faculty of the accounting department. Jim, who starts in September, has more than 35 years of experience in the field of accounting and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our classrooms. Please join us in welcoming Jim to our campus and to our Niagara family.

VITA Program earns Beta Alpha Psi Awards

Our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program has earned national recognition in each of the last five years, including awards for the most tax returns prepared (four times), for the largest amount of earned income tax credit returned to the community, and for the number of volunteers contributing at least five hours of service. This past tax season, 82 students participated in the VITA program. Our students completed 549 tax returns for the poor and elderly in our community, which provided federal tax refunds in the amount of $932,335. Professor Al Oddo, program advisor, is pictured above with several of the participating students.
DR. ABDIWELI ALI APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER OF SOMALIA

Dr. Abdiweli Ali, an associate professor of economics, was named prime minister of Somalia on June 23, 2011, following the removal of Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed. Somalian President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed has charged Dr. Ali, a Somali-American, with governing a country wrecked by war that has been virtually lawless for 20 years. Adding to that challenge is the fact that the mandates of Somalia’s transitional institutions expire in 14 months, at which time a new administration will be elected.

Somalia is located on the east coast of Africa and covers 246,201 square miles with a population of 9.3 million people. As of 2010, its GDP was $5.896 billion.

Dr. Ali holds master’s degrees from Harvard University and Vanderbilt University, and a Ph.D. in Economics from George Mason University. Our prayers and best wishes are with him as he undertakes these new tasks.

NIAGARA HOSTS WNY INVESTMENT CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

Niagara hosted the inaugural WNY Investment Conference and Exhibition (ICE) in January, an event that featured the CFA Global Investment Research Challenge. David Blitzer, Ph.D., chairman of Standard & Poor’s 500 Index Committee, provided the keynote address in a day filled with presentations by professionals and a case-study competition for students from the Rochester Institute of Technology, SUNY Buffalo, Canisius College, the University of Rochester, and NU. The conference was sponsored by Niagara’s College of Business Administration, Stalla by Becker Professional Education, Standard & Poor’s Capital IQ, Canisius College’s Wehle School of Business, the CFA Institute, the CFA societies of Buffalo and Rochester, and Citigroup.

WELCOME DR. JOHN HANNON

We welcome Dr. John Hannon to Niagara University. John earned his Ph.D. from Cornell University and comes to NU via the University at Buffalo. John’s experience and expertise will strengthen our entrepreneurship, international management, and human resource programs. We look forward to working with him.

NEW CLASSES IN HEALTHCARE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Four new healthcare information management courses have been added to our undergraduate management curriculum. These new classes will help our students learn to collect and manage information stored in the newly mandated computerized medical records. One class is cross-listed with computer and information sciences. An HIM concentration in the MBA program is currently being offered.
COLLEGE INDUCTS 39 INTO HONOR SOCIETY

The College of Business Administration inducted 39 students into Niagara University’s chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma on April 28, 2011. Beta Gamma Sigma is the honor society for students enrolled in collegiate business and management programs at schools accredited by AACSB International — The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive in a business program accredited by AACSB International. The keynote speaker, Arthur W. Crumlish, ’76, senior vice president and general manager of Computer Task Group Inc. (pictured at right), received honorary induction, while Dr. Hoontaek Seo, assistant professor of finance at Niagara University, accepted faculty membership.

Twenty-one MBA students, 14 seniors and four juniors were inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma. Pictured above are MBA honorees, and pictured below are several of the senior honorees.

Marketing major Rebecca Schied, ’11, received Niagara University’s Senior Medal during commencement ceremonies on May 22. The award is given to the student in the graduating class with the highest GPA and in recognition of general excellence in academics. We wish Rebecca well as she continues her graduate studies at Syracuse University.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 13: Meet the Accountants
Oct. 4: Family Business Center Breakfast Forum
Oct. 22: Ockerman Awards Ceremony

BUSINESS STUDENT HONORED WITH SENIOR MEDAL