

Town Hall Updates:

Kaushik

- MBAA socials have been scheduled so far this term to enhance existing club events, however, moving forward, extraneous events will be planned as well (e.g. archery before exams)
- Winter Bound will be March 14th weekend in Collingwood. Talk to Kaushik for details.

MBAA President Update:

- MBAA events now require waivers if they are to be held off campus. We are currently working on a way to digitize this to make things easy for event planning.
- Wine and Cheese was a success and well attended.
- DeGroot Case competition planning is underway and will occur next fall. Stay tuned for details.
- A referendum will be held in the fall to ask students whether or not they would like to add additional health plan options for an additional fee.

Dr. Sue McCracken

- The dean's office has been busy implementing the new strategy and moving forward with the program redesign. Key concepts include interdisciplinary, transformative business, and evidence-based. The vision is to be globally recognized as top tier by 2020 and a leader in digital analytics. Healthcare Management and Digital Innovation will be the focus; that does not mean that core programs will suffer. However, more courses will be offered in the digital space. The program's core concepts will be innovation, generosity, collaboration. Additionally, these efforts are expected to increase alumni engagement and enhance brand awareness.
- Sue has been busy working to develop the 'integrated case' concept which will be incorporated into all core courses. Focus groups which include alumni, staff, faculty have all indicated feedback is good. The groups have also provided insights on areas for improvement, which the dean's office is considering in the redesign. Sue will also be conducting focus groups with existing students in March to solicit additional feedback. All students are encouraged to attend.
- There will also be a new consulting course that will be spread over two terms. It will be a good avenue to develop consulting skills, general business skills, and proposal writing skills.

- Students have expressed they are not always happy with course instruction. The dean's office advises students to take the course evaluations seriously. Where there is evidence of ineffective teaching, the office can act.
- As director of the program Sue will soon be heading to China for recruitment initiatives.
- The DeGroot leader program was well received and will move forward again next year for incoming students.
- The study trip to South America could not go forward this reading week because 15 students were required and 8 signed up. We are optimistic that it will move forward next year. In addition to a learning trip to South America, students will also receive course credit.

Melanie Walker – School Counselor

- She is available for counseling at the RJC 5 hours/week. Email her at bewell@cogeco.ca. Advise of availability in your email to her.

Michelle Reyes - CBCD

- CBCD is very busy with campus recruitment. Rankings are on track to be released on Thursday.
- Some students have been hired already since many employers released results in January.
- Coming into the term there were 116 students seeking employment (actually 97 because some had deals in progress). 151 positions have been opened. 33 students have been hired already. 34 positions decided not to move forward. For 48 positions, employers did not respond (some could be postings that didn't get applicants). After rank and match, results will be communicated in the bulletin.
- Next week is reading week. CBCD will start site visits during this time. There are roughly 120 site visits that will need to be conducted in person. There will still always be someone available in CBCD for consultations and support, with the exception of Feb 18 since CBCD will have its team development day with the staff from main campus. The office will reopen the following morning.
- Some students noticed that jobs appeared to be open to first year students. Michelle believes that these cases occur only by special request from the employer. Michelle will follow up on this and communicate the rationale via the bulletin.

Carolyn Colwell - MASO

- MASO is gauging interest on the 16 month full time MBA. If the demand is there, course offerings will be increased. Full-time students are encouraged to respond to the email that was circulated by MASO today asap.

- A tentative summer schedule will be available online by early next week.
- The SOLAR registration system will be phased out this summer in favour of the Mosaic system. Student numbers will be transitioned to a 9 digit number. Existing numbers will still be valid but will be preceded by two zeros.
- As a result of the changes, summer registration dates will be changing. Information about this will be circulated in the bulletin.
- MASO will also be offering an online appointment booking system via oscarplus similar to booking coaching sessions with CBCD.
- This year was the first year that a transfer credit system was offered. This is different than the older waiver system. In this fashion some students were allowed to take less than five courses. A survey will be circulated soon and MASO asks that any students affected by this provide feedback to improve the system and student experience.
- Joanne is working on the exam schedule, but a definitive date of release has not yet been set.

Linda DeSantis – Black & MacDonald

- Linda gave a history of the company (for more info Google the Black & MacDonald Wikipedia) and explained framework of service offerings at RJC.
- Linda is available for feedback in her office and Cassie will be circulating a feedback form this evening.

Jennifer McCleary – Director of Student Experience

- Out of the classroom experience will be addressed via a focus group near end of term. Students outside of the active student body are desired for attendance.
- Restaurant Brand International and President of Tim Horton's brand are interested in meeting MBA students on March 6th. Students should communicate interest to Jennifer Dunk. Aravind and Rick will ask around and advise students to contact CBCD. This will be circulated in the MBAA Weekly now.
- DeGroote is recruiting a marketing and strategist role. Second round interview begin next week. Once the role is in play, students will be asked to provide feedback of what they would like from a portal.
- Michelle Reyes will be leaving for Maternity leave and to have more personal time will return as a relationship manager. A CBCD Manager posting will go live soon. Students will be invited into the recruiting panel. Interested students can reach out to Jennifer McCleary.
- 4th Floor of RJC—there are plans to have it functional by end of 2015. It will have moveable walls and have a different feel than the rest of the building. There will be 3 classrooms and extra office space.

