



Preparation • Performance • Progress

Division of Business Xavier University of Louisiana

Annual Awards Banquet



Inside this issue:

Enactus Regional Expo	2
Partnering for Progress	2
Honors in Business	2
Financial Literacy	3
Innovation and Me	3
Division Highlights	4



Leonard Hinton, '02 gives valuable advice to business students during this years' award banquet.

The Division honored its graduates and presented awards to its top-performing students during the annual awards banquet. The banquet's featured speaker Leonard (LJ) Hinton, '02, CEO and Co-Founder of Crediyo, a health financial technology company that helps consumers pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses, delivered an inspiring message to graduates and current students. According to Mr. Hinton "if you are passionate about what you're doing and remain authentic people will embrace you and embrace your talent."

The students that were honored included business student organization officers, Who's Who among Students in American Universities & Colleges, Dean's Honor Roll, Highest GPAs in each discipline, Delta Mu Delta Honor Society inductees, Outstanding Student Athlete, Outstanding Service, and the Division's highest award "ACBSP Student Leadership." The recipient of the ACBSP Student Leadership Award is a graduating senior who is either self, peer, or faculty-nominated and selected by the Division Faculty Selection Committee. This year's winner was finance major, Rasaan Hollis. Mr. Hollis exhibits all the qualities for outstanding leadership, both academically and outside the class room. A new twist was added this year where the Division's graduating seniors pledged to uphold a newly established version of the Division's Code of Conduct modified for graduating seniors. If you'd like to view highlights from our banquet go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yaXxwMxnxvE&feature=youtu.be>



The Division's 2016 graduating class reads their business alumni code of conduct.



Rasaan Hollis, 2016 recipient of the division's highest honor, ACBSP Leadership Award, poses with Dr. Ricks.



2016 "Who's Who Among College Students and Universities academic achievement pose for a group photo.

XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA STUDENTS EXCEL AT ENACTUS



Pictured l to r are Ralitsa Slanchev, Taj Dright, Taylor Thornton, Taylor Boyce, Ma' Lore Ledet, and Sydney Kirven displaying their trophy at the Enactus United States Atlanta Regional Exposition



Healthy Eats student volunteers serve samples of fresh produce to students during the healthy eats initiative



Mallory Butler and Davin Black, Sales & Marketing majors pose with the 3rd place trophy



Deondra Fox, Dr. Amanda Helm, Kaylen Temple, Mallory Butler, Davin Black, Gabriel Jones, Paul Waddell, and Jim Schmidt, National Sales Manager at 3M

Seven students from Xavier competed and advanced to the National Round of the 2016 Enactus USA Regional Competition in Atlanta, GA on April 1, 2016. The students presented projects on which they worked this year and the impacts that they had on New Orleans. The presentations were judged by corporate executives from some of the world's largest corporations.

Their next stop is the National Expo on May 16th in St. Louis, MO. The Enactus USA National Expo brings together teams from various universities and corporate recruiters for the teams to report on their projects. Corporations attend to recruit students who are involved in Enactus because they know that these students possess project management skills that employers seek, regardless of the major or area of expertise. Taylor Boyce, a Senior Psychology major, Taylor Thornton, a Senior Biology/Pre-Med major, Ma' Lore Ledet, a Senior Public Health major, and Ralitsa Slanchev, a Junior Accounting major delivered the presentation. They were assisted by Sydney Kirven, a Sophomore Biology/Pre-Med major and Taj Dright, a Freshman Business Administration major.

The projects included Agrowtopia, Xavier's urban farm; Healthy Eats, a program that educates people about eating healthy on a budget, Café Maria, a fair trade coffee from Haiti that will be distributed via Agrowtopia, and Building our Entrepreneurial Community, seminars that will increase loans to Black-owned businesses.

In addition to the students who presented in Atlanta, the following students assisted with the projects: Brandi Nelson; Davin Black; Emoni Harvey; Hakeem Frank; Jodi Hill; Keajuana Crymes, Kristen Patrick; Lee Myers; Morris Wright II; Sharissa Wright; Veida Johannis Payano; and Yasmine Seacrist. Congratulations to Xavier Enactus for a job well done!

Partnering For Progress at Tuskegee University

Six Xavier Sales and Marketing majors competed in the Partnering For Progress team sales role play tournament at Tuskegee University in March: Mallory Butler, Davin Black, Deondra Fox, Paul Waddell, Gabriel Jones and Kaylen Temple. Mallory Butler and Davin Black took third place. Tuskegee University and corporate sponsor 3M started this new competition especially for HBCUs in 2015. 3M staff wrote the real-world scenario for business-to-business selling, and 3M sales professionals role-played customers and served as judges as student sales reps called on a manufacturing customer demonstrating the value of changing adhesives used in their process. Davin Black stated "It was a great experience to apply what I learn inside of the classroom to a real-life selling scenario."

The Partnering For Progress competition not only gives HBCU students a realistic simulation of the selling environment, it also serves as a confidence builder for sales and marketing students. According to Mallory Butler a 2016 summer sales intern at 3M "Competing in the Partnering for Progress competition was really a great experience; I learned that you should always be confident in what you do and always remember to ask for the sale!"

Congratulations to our 2016 Honors in Business graduates

Erin Ancar and Dahlia Daniels, Accounting majors; Rasaan Hollis, Finance major; Launa Metz and Kennedy St. Charles, Management majors; Ajhia Ellis and Kaila Pulliam Collins, Sales and Marketing majors; and Franzizka PirkI, Sales and Marketing minor.

Financial Literacy Seminar

The Division of Business along with the Office of Student Financial Aid hosted Mr. Dwayne Hall from the Society for Financial Education & Professional Development (SFE PD) as he made a financial literacy and money management presentation called "Mind Over Money Skills." SFE PD is a Washington, DC. based group that develops and presents customized financial education and professional development seminars and workshops. Mr. Hall is a financial management expert who manages in excess of \$200 million for his clients. This session focused on the basics of prudent personal financial management. Topics included the importance of knowing your credit score, cash budgeting for needs versus wants and the long run positive impact savings can have on your financial future. Students enjoyed the information provided, and were grateful to hear stories about some of Mr. Hall's more famous clients making some of the same common financial mistakes many of us make. According to Dr. Shael Wolfson, the event organizer and finance professor, "It is important for students that are only a few years away from being professionals to have an understanding of the fundamentals of personal financial management. The Division of Business believes in preparing students for success in all areas of life."



Students packed the house to hear invaluable information on finances, credit ratings and student debt



Mr. Hall poses with student after the Q&A session of the Financial Seminar

Innovation and Me

The Division of Business hosted Innovation and Me on March 9, 2016. Thirty individuals attended, including students, faculty and the general public, to hear from Dr. Olester Benson about innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Benson is a Corporate Scientist and technical group leader in the 3M Corporate Research Process Laboratory. He joined 3M upon completion of his doctorate at the University of Colorado. Dr. Benson has spent his career leading research efforts developing environmentally friendly manufacturing process technologies using 3M's precision engineering infrastructure and high-energy radiation. He has applied these technologies to create products in the medical, safety, traffic safety, renewable energy, aerospace, home improvement, semiconductor processing, and electronic display industries.

The main points of Dr. Benson's comments were insights on how innovation occurs at 3M and elsewhere, and how students may position themselves to thrive in creative and innovative environments. 3M is generally regarded as a worldwide leading innovator. His presentation addressed unique inventions throughout the years that ranged from the practical to the absurd, thereby making the point that innovation has practical applications that respond to the needs of people. He also provided an overview of 3M's approach to innovation and insight in to some technologies that are in the developmental stages.

The audience felt that the content of this event was informative. Taylor Boyce, a Senior Psychology major, stated "Dr. Benson's comments inspire me to seek new ways to address needs." Another student commented that "I feel better prepared for my career working for a large company and as the business owner that I will be."

The audience also enjoyed the open format that allowed them to ask questions and receive clear responses right there. Dr. Benson stayed afterwards to engage those who attended in individual conversations.

"We recognize the connection between business and STEM and this event illustrated that relationship," said Dr. Joe Ricks, Jr., Chair of the Division of Business. He added "The Division of Business will continue to engage other disciplines at Xavier so that the university is providing our students with the education that will enable them to thrive in their chosen careers." Mark Quinn, the Conrad N. Hilton Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship, stated, "The topics discussed by Dr. Benson assist our students to be better entrepreneurs and employees since they now have a better understanding of what innovation is and how it comes about."



Dr. Benson speaking on 3M's innovation model



Dr. Benson along with students host a board room style event during the Innovation & Me seminar



Dr. Benson engages students with personal innovation experiences



MGMT 4010s Leadership Class students pose for a group picture after final presentations for their service learning projects



Erik Waters (l) gives students lessons on small business development in the division's Xncubator



Business Advisory Council chair, Mike Scott gives closing remarks at the annual awards banquet



Student gives hands on experience in food preparation during the "Healthy Eats" initiative, sponsored in part, by Aetna



Dr. Ricks, Division chair, and BAC member Melvin Labat poses with award banquet sponsors from Fluor Federal Petroleum



The 2016 National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) officers pose for a photo after earning certificates of achievement

For more information on the programs offered by the Division of Business, please email us at business@xula.edu or call us at 504-520-7505. Or visit us in building 40 (Xavier South) room 325.

For previous editions of our Newsletter, visit us at <http://www.xula.edu/business/newsletters.html>

To view Division activities visit our YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJcpXMXNeURw6-qeXE83ndg>

<http://www.xula.edu/business>



Xavier University
 Division of Business
 1 Drexel Drive
 New Orleans, LA 70125-1098

