Greetings from the Illinois State University College of Business.

The Academic Year 2021–2022 was eventful for the college. With most classes returning to normal or periods between virtual and in-person, the disruptions of COVID-19; we were able to offer many of our co-curricular learning opportunities in-person again. Students were happy to return to internships, seminar classes, consulting projects, and Business Week activities. We were excited to welcome our alumni back for events including Homecoming Tailgating, Early Career Achievement Awards ceremonies, Family Weekend, and many more. We were pleased to invite guest speakers into our classrooms, and hold in-person career fairs through our student organizations.

The College takes pride in the high-quality education we provide to our students. With nearly forty thousand alums living and working in all 50 states and many countries, our Business Birds are thriving. Our active and growing network of College of Business Alums helps support our students through scholarships, internships, and jobs. The employment prospects for our 2022 graduates are bright. Over 52% of our graduating seniors, who completed a recent annual graduation survey, reported that they had accepted a job before graduation and the average starting salary of our graduates exceeded $60,000.

The College of Business has about 18% of the total university enrollment of 20,233 students. We are proud that the college awarded 21.4% of the baccalaureate degrees at ISU this past year. Our faculty are committed to student success by teaching the latest technology and business concepts that are needed for successful careers. We continue to take pride in offering students personal attention in a large university setting. The average class sizes of the college are 38.6 students in the 200-level classes and 20 students in the advanced, 300-level classes. The benefit of small class sizes is that most upper-division classes are able to incorporate business projects into the coursework, giving students the opportunity to interact with client managers.

Another point of pride for the college is the continued growth in students from underrepresented groups who are seeking a business degree. In 2017, only 24% of business students were members of an underrepresented group. This past year, that number was almost 29% of our class enrollment.

The College of Business’s strengths include the size and the academic depth and breadth of our faculty. With over 110 faculty members, it is possible for us to offer a wide range of academic specialties. We offer courses in data analytics, Adobe Creative Suite, personal finance, international business, human resources management, professional sales, and many other areas. Our students meet the academic requirements to sit for certification or licensure exams in areas such as Certified Public Accountancy, Certified Financial Planner, K-12 Business Education, and SCRUM.

Our faculty continued to produce with publications in prestigious academic journals. The faculty published 53 refereed journal articles this year. Each publication elevates the visibility of our university in the global academic stage. Faculty applied for and received almost $450,000 in external grants this past year. This is clear evidence of our faculty’s cutting-edge knowledge. The college’s centers of excellence and institutes continue to support students with scholarships and opportunities for participation in professional activities. Our signature activities event, Business Week, is now so popular with students and alumni that the educational activities extend well beyond a week.

This fall, we look forward to the inauguration of the Stephen and Sharon Hagge Innovation Institute with the ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for October 2022. We are very grateful to our well-wishers for the continued support of our college. This year we were able to offer over $566,750 in scholarships to more than 300 deserving students. Your generous gifts have provided student scholarships and support for faculty development, and made possible new and innovative programs and great educational facilities. Thank you for all that you do for the College of Business. Your support makes a big difference and is greatly appreciated.

Ajay Samant, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor

DEAN’S MESSAGE
The 5-story COUNTRY Financial Atrium is a magnificent focal point of the COB and a popular gathering spot for university students and guests.
COB by the Numbers

Points of Pride

Foundation Information
June 2022

More than 1,400 unique donors made gifts totaling over $4.1 million.

AACSB Accreditation was extended through 2026 to the COB after a successful continuous improvement review in 2021.

AACSB Accreditation for both the COB and the Accounting Department.

ONLY 1.8% OF THE BUSINESS SCHOOLS IN THE WORLD HOLD THIS DISTINCTION.

THE COB is a FOUNDERING MEMBER of the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME).

The COB is 1 of 23 schools to receive full membership in the Consortium for Undergraduate International Business Education.

The COB is recognized by the University Sales Education Foundation as one of the Top University Sales Programs and only 1 of 68 universities to offer a specialized undergraduate program in professional sales.

The COB is 1 of 19 universities to receive full membership in the University Sales Center Alliance.

The COB is ranked as ONE OF THE TOP INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS in the U.S. and as a top school for graduates by the Risk and Insurance Management Society and the International Risk Management Institute, Inc.

FACULTY RESEARCH

- 4 faculty serve as journal editors
- 13 faculty serve on editorial boards
- 72 faculty serve as journal reviewers
- 120 finalized publications
- 53 refereed journal articles
- 33 refereed presentations
- 5 external grants totaling almost $475,000

SCHOLARSHIPS | 2021-2022

According to the College of Business and it’s donors

$550,000 300 STUDENTS

COB ENROLLMENTS

Accounting 674
Finance, Insurance, & Law 987
Management, & Quantitative Methods 1,196
Marketing 776
MBA 316
College of Business Total Enrollment 3,562

Internships

Almost 60% of students complete one or more internships

$60,200 is the average starting salary for COB graduates

The COB is partnered with Nine Schools Around the Globe

Community Collaboration

64 Class/Client Projects were completed with over 8,000 students participating

37 Community and Service learning projects with over 2,200 students participating

Certified Public Accountant Exam

The COB ranked nationally in the Top 5 schools on each of the 4 parts of the CPA exam*

Top 5

2017 - 21.5%
2016 - 23.4%
2019 - 24.3%
2020 - 26.2%
2021 - 27.7%

97% of COB students graduate within five years

All COB Classes are Taught by Experts

Professors and qualified professionals teach at the COB.

No Graduate Assistant-taught classes are held in the COB.

FINANCE STUDENTS

manage two different portfolio valued at over $2,000,000

Student Retention

75% of students who are first time in college

AASCB Accreditation was extended through 2026 to the COB after a successful continuous improvement review in 2021.

AASCB Accreditation for both the COB and the Accounting Department.

UNDER REPRESENTED POPULATIONS

Growing

2017 - 21.5%
2018 - 23.4%
2019 - 24.3%
2020 - 26.2%
2021 - 27.7%

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

47% of COB graduates are employed...
COB ALUMS LIVING AROUND THE WORLD

Afghanistan 1
Australia 68
Bahama Island 1
Bangladesh 1
Barbados 3
Belgium 1
Bolivia 1
Botswana 1
Bulgaria 1
Canada 24
Cayman Islands 1
Chatham Islands 2
Chile 1
China 14
Republic of Congo 1
Costa Rica 5
Croatia 3
Czech Republic 1
Denmark 1
England 6
Finland 1
France 15
Germany 31
Ghana 1
Haiti 1
Honduras 1
Hong Kong 16
Hungary 1
India 20
Indonesia 4
Ireland 1
Israel 1
Italy 1
Japan 5
Jordan 3
Korea 7
Latvia 1
Libya 1
Luxembourg 1
Macau 1
Malaysia 13
Mexico 6
Nepal 3
Netherlands 2
Nigeria 3
Norway 3
Panama 126
Philippines 1
Portugal 1
Saudi Arabia 1
Serbia 1
Singapore 5
Solomon Islands 1
Republic of South Africa 3
Spain 5
Sweden 1
Taiwan 13
Thailand 16
Turkey 3
United Arab Emirates 1
Venezuela 2
Vietnam 4

Across the States

BUSINESS BIRDS
Diversity in the C.O.B.

ACUMEN and ALPHA are Registered Student Organizations (RSO’s) that are dedicated to serving the needs of historically underrepresented students.

Association for Women Accountants and National Association of Black Accountants chapters provide diverse co-curricular programming for Accounting majors.

40% of MBA Students are International Students

29% of College of Business students are from historically under-represented groups.

FACULTY DIVERSITY

COB Faculty represent over 20 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Thank You

The College of Business would like to thank all of our alumni, donors, partners, and friends who have been a part of our COB Family this past year.

Your generosity of money, time, and self allow us to continue, as we have for the past 55 years, to help students reach their dreams of higher education so that they may pursue their dreams, create fulfilling lives for themselves, and become positive contributors to our world.

We appreciate you all so very much.