

THE MACKLIN BUSINESS INSTITUTE AND CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT MONTGOMERY COLLEGE



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Students Building Bridges to the Community

Spring semester has been a busy one for Montgomery College/Macklin Institute SIFE team (Students in Free Enterprise). This year's team has broken new ground through a new partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), while it continues mentoring projects begun by last year's team.

The MCPS Family and Community Partnerships Unit program, known as the Connection Resource Bank, has provided another bridge to the community via a database of business experts willing to vol-

unteer their time to benefit school children.

Connection Resource Bank Coordinator Gail Woolf has allowed the MBI/SIFE team access to local schools, where they teach students basic business principles. In December 2003, the team made two presentations to Gaithersburg Middle School students; in March, they plan several more.

In addition to reaching school-aged children, the MC/Macklin SIFE team continues mentoring inner-city entrepreneurs in various aspects of starting and running a business, a project lead by Macklin board

member Brian Cunningham and initiated by last year's SIFE team, in conjunction with the Washington Jobs Partnership.

These community outreach projects, along with their work studying ethics and corporate governance last fall, and running a successful MBI Café project, will all be presented at the regional SIFE Competition in Arlington, Va., March 29.

Members of the community interested in volunteering with the MCPS Connection Resource Bank should call Gail Woolf at 301-279-3100 or visit www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/crb.

Family Owned Businesses: A Basic Guide

Based on research indicating that family businesses create more jobs and build wealth faster than any other segment of the economy, while representing around 50-percent of the U.S. GNP, the Macklin Business Institute hosted a program in 2000 on the topic: "From Family Ownership to Growth or Chaos—Start-up, Growth, Succession, and Transition."

As family-owned business continues to support the economy, the Macklin Institute has recently published the seminar's presentations as a 24-page guide, available to the public. In the guide, experts share experiences and advice on identifying and

locating a business, human capital and family relationship issues, success to the point of valuation, succession and/or transfer of ownership.

Not intended as an instruction manual, the booklet offers food for thought on many of the most compelling issues for family-owned businesses.

For single copies or to arrange for larger quantities for your organization, call 301-738-1707 or email: mbi@montgomerycollege.edu. For more about the MBI Center for Entrepreneurship go to: www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/mace ntre/

From the Director's Desk

Macklin Grads Hit Ground Running

The Macklin Business Honors Program, now in its fifth year, consistently produces students who go on to succeed at four-year schools and beyond, often in a short amount of time. In fact, nearly every MBI student who has completed the sophomore year program over two years ago has completed a bachelor's degree or more.

One of the first applicants to the program came to me with his father in the spring of 1999. John Rueger was just 16 years old that semester and already enrolled as a freshman here at Montgomery College. He had heard about our pilot Macklin honors program and wished to apply for admission to the first class, slated to begin in fall 1999.

John did "A" work all the way through his time here, while interning as an accountant at Aronson & Company CPAs. He transferred to the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland, where he completed a double major in accounting and finance. Not only did he graduate this past December, he sat for the increasingly difficult CPA examination in November and has just been told that he passed.

Montgomery College Instructional Dean Kathy Wessman, who was John's faculty mentor, says, "John Rueger is a professionally oriented, highly motivated student who passed the CPA exam the first time he took it. He's a great kid." Now, at age 21, John has taken a position at Deloitte & Touche in their McLean, Va., office, assigned to audit one of their largest national accounts.

We, at Montgomery College and the Macklin Business Institute, are very proud of John. He is among a growing number of young, energetic business students whose accomplishments in education have given us all something to cheer about.

- Professor Jeffrey Schwartz
Director, Macklin Business Institute



Former Macklin Business Institute student (left) John Rueger, seen here while at Montgomery College in 1999 with fellow MBI student Oana Udrea. Rueger and Udrea both went on to complete bachelor's degrees at the University of Maryland's Smith School of Business. Rueger recently, at age 21, passed the CPA exam on his first try and is now an associate of Deloitte & Touche.

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