



# HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

## Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration

### NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2009

Volume 2, Number 2

#### In This Issue:

- Town Hall Meeting
- IT Project Update
- Verizon Wireless Visits the Campus
- Alumni Update
- SFE&PD, Washington, DC, Sponsors Personal Money Management Seminar
- Faculty & Staff Attend IACBE Workshop
- VITA Center/Tax Clinic
- Students attend Thurgood Marshall College Fund's Leadership Conference

#### TOWN HALL MEETING HELD AT THE BUSCH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



A Town Hall Meeting was held on Thursday, February 5, in ABSBA's Cafeteria/Student Center. It was well-attended by students, staff, faculty and adjunct faculty. There were approximately 100 students in attendance. Students were eager to ask questions, such as: Will HSSU offer a MBA graduate degree? Will HSSU offer more online classes? Will there be more classes in the accelerated program? How can students get funds to buy books in a timely manner? Adjunct instructors Kimberly Franklin and Joyce Eisel facilitated the event.



# IT PROJECT



HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY  
2707 WILSON AVENUE  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63110-2707



GREATER ST. LOUIS WORKS  
ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE  
SUITE 1300  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63102



BETTER FAMILY LIFE  
6347 PLYMOUTH AVENUE  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63133

The IT Project is running smoothly. Students are excited and enthusiastic about what they are learning from the project. Each student can now build a computer. In the computer lab, the joy and pride exerted by students as they build computers is overwhelming.



## VERIZON WIRELESS VISITS INSTRUCTOR FLOREZ'S CLASS



On February 3, Jennifer Stamburski, a recruiter for Verizon Wireless, visited ABSBA Instructor Westelle Florez's Corporate Communications class. The purpose of Stamburski's visit was to reinforce the goals of the course and, specifically, the chapter devoted to the importance of excellent oral and written communication skills in business. Important information was shared about communication at Verizon Wireless, how it mirrors the textbook theory and how advances in technology have affected business communication processes. An active discussion followed the presentation, and students later wrote short essays about the experience.



## ALUMNI UPDATE: TIARA THOMAS

Tiara Thomas, a 2005 HSSU graduate, attributes most of her success to the University. Long before the college received its University status; Thomas was a young lady just graduating from middle school when she entered HSSU's Upward Bound Program. Upward Bound, one of the many programs offered by HSSU, prepared Thomas for a promising, but not easy, road ahead. Thomas said, "That without this program, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to visit different universities, or engage in many summer enrichment programs at universities such as SIUE and SLU, not to mention school on Saturdays during the school year and all during the summers." The program also allowed Thomas to jump-start her college career. She attended HSSU as a part-time student during her senior year of high school. There, she earned her first nine credits of her college education.



While Thomas thinks highly of all her instructors at HSSU, she mentions two in particular who had an effect on her success; they are Dr. Curtis Doyle and Dr. Larry Acker. She said, "To the present, I keep in touch with the two men and anytime I need a reference, I can always call on them." She acknowledges that Dr. Doyle took a special interest in her and became her "school dad," a dad away from home, by giving her knowledge, skills and advice to succeed and achieve more. Dr. Acker, with his wisdom, knowledge and networking abilities, landed Thomas her first job within her field of interest.

Although Thomas credits many others for her success, she knows that without her hard work and dedication, she couldn't have made it this far. Since graduating cum laude from HSSU in December of 2005, Thomas has obtained a MBA from Lindenwood University and is working in a promotional position that she loves at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## PERSONAL MONEY MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

The Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration hosted a Personal Money Management Seminar, sponsored by the Society for Financial Education and Professional Development and presented by Marc Creighton on February 11, 2009.

Creighton joined Metlife in 2001 as a Registered Financial Representative. There, he assisted individuals and small business owners with financial planning. He became Agency Sales Director in 2003. His responsibilities included recruiting, managing and training new representatives. After realizing his true passion within the industry, Creighton returned to personal production. He began building his own practice in 2005.

For his expertise and accomplishments within his field, Creighton received top producer recognition in 2006. Creighton also qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) recognition, the premier international association of financial professionals. Less than one percent of the world's most successful life insurance and financial services professionals are given this remarkable distinction.

Creighton also gives back to the community by providing financial literacy workshops in Missouri and southern Illinois for churches, non-profits and companies of all sizes. In 2007, he was one of three Epsilon Lambda Leadership awardees acknowledged for their professional accomplishments and community service work.

Dr. Fara Zakery, Dean of the School of Business, said, "Every semester we try to improve and enhance the quality of services to our students by promoting student-centered collaborative teaching and learning by bringing local and national speakers to deliver current issues in the business world... Students will gain ample information and training from personal financing practitioners to couple with what they learn in classes and from books."





## DR. CHARLES SYKES AND DEBBIE JOHNSON ATTEND IACBE WORKSHOP



On February 17, Dr. Charles Sykes and Debbie Johnson attended the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE) Workshop in Kansas City, Missouri. The Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration will begin the self-study evaluation process in March 2009. The IACBE on-site visit will take place in 2011.

## FREE TAX PREPARATION CLINIC/VITA CENTER

The volunteers at the VITA (Volunteer Individual Tax Assistance) Center are working hard to get everyone's taxes completed. The VITA Center is located in Room C09 at the Busch School of Business campus at 5707 Wilson. The center's director is Quintin Davis. The center has prepared more than 500 federal and state forms this tax season. All households with an income of \$40,000 or less qualify for the free service.



## BUSINESS SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL ATTEND THURGOOD MARSHALL

Five students will attend Thurgood Marshall College Fund's 2009 Leadership Conference of Member Universities Professional Institute & Exhibition in New Orleans, LA, March 15-18, 2009. The students scheduled to attend are:

Nakaji Mitchell  
Sheila Harris  
Hillis Willis  
David Beduh  
Lucas Rodrigues Alves

The mission of the program is to develop and prepare a new generation of leaders by providing resources, opportunities, scholarship and advocacy to public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), students and alumni.