

The background features a large, faint, circular seal of Stetson University. The seal contains the text "STETSON UNIVERSITY" at the top, "S. FLORIDA" at the bottom, and "1883" in the center. The seal is centered behind the main text.

**Stetson Business School Foundation, Inc.
and School of Business Administration**

*Honors
Banquet*

Thursday, April 16, 2026
Stetson Room
Carlton Union Building
Stetson University

THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Business programs at Stetson University began in the fall of 1897. As Florida's first business college and one of the oldest in the nation, the School of Business Administration has grown and developed over the years and has maintained a commitment to quality and the continual pursuit of excellence.

The undergraduate and graduate programs provide academic rigor and challenge our students to understand, learn and develop. The business programs build on the liberal learning base of the institution and prepare our graduates for positions of responsibility and leadership in profit-oriented, non-profit and government organizations.

The School offers an undergraduate degree with majors in Accounting, Business Administration, Business Systems and Analytics, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Family Enterprise, Finance, International Business, Management, Marketing, Professional Sales and Sport Business. At the graduate level, the school offers a Master of Accountancy, and Master of Business Administration degree.

A variety of special programs and activities, including the following, further enhance the learning opportunities for our students:

- Business Study Abroad Programs
- Centurion Sales Program
- Family Enterprise Center
- J.J. Master Center for Professionalism
- Joseph C. Prince Entrepreneurship Program
- Roland George Investments Program

There are many ways to gauge success. Stetson's continued high ranking in U.S. News & World Report is one measure. Another is business and accounting accreditation by AACSB International. Most important to the School of Business Administration, however, is the continued success of our students.

THE STETSON BUSINESS SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC.

The Stetson Business School Foundation, Inc. is an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation whose sole purpose and mission is to financially support the programs, faculty and students of the Stetson University School of Business Administration. The Foundation provides funding for business student awards and scholarships, business student participation in conferences and competitions, business faculty awards and faculty recognition events, student and faculty research and travel, and support for various business programs, among others. The Foundation also sponsors the annual School of Business Administration Honors Banquet. The Foundation is managed by an independent board of directors comprised of business professionals from the community and School of Business Administration, many of whom are Stetson alumni.

Foundation Officers Foundation Directors

George Shierling

*President and Chairman of the
Board of Directors*

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Cory Rhoads

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Thomas Underwood

STETSON
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION



STETSON BUSINESS SCHOOL
FOUNDATION, INC.

HONORS PROGRAM

The Stetson Business School Foundation is proud to host the Honors Banquet of the School of Business Administration. This annual event provides an opportunity to recognize excellence and celebrate our student and faculty successes. While we are proud of all of our students, we take special pride in those who have distinguished themselves academically through their scholarship and leadership at Stetson. It is a privilege to join with the faculty in recognizing these special students.

Welcome

Yiorgos Bakamitsos, PhD
Dean, School of Business Administration

George Shierling
*President and Chairman of the Board
Stetson Business School Foundation, Inc.*

Invocation

Betty Thorne, PhD
Professor of Statistics

Dinner

Presentation of Student Awards

Department Representatives

Presentation of Faculty Awards

Yiorgos Bakamitsos, PhD

Closing

M.E. RINKER, SR. INSTITUTE OF TAX AND ACCOUNTANCY

ACCOUNTING AWARDS

Presented by:

Carol Dee, PhD
Department Chair

Business School Foundation David M. Beights Merit Award for Accounting

David M. Beights is considered the “father” of the Stetson accounting program. He served as department chair for many years and was inducted into the Stetson Accounting Hall of Fame in 2016. An endowed chair, the David M. Beights Professor of Accounting, was established in his name. This award is presented to a graduating senior accounting major for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Jack Holmes

Business School Foundation George and Marie Putnam Memorial Accounting Scholarships

This scholarship is funded by earnings on significant donations made to the Foundation by the late George and Marie Putnam upon their deaths. These scholarships are awarded to undergraduate accounting majors or Master of Accountancy students based on outstanding academic performance.

Recipients: Melissa Bacallao, Eric Brust, Jack Holmes, Jacob Lowe, Kiara Soler

George Putnam Accounting Scholarships

These scholarships are funded by an endowment established by the late George Putnam. The recipients are selected based on communication skills, interpersonal abilities, and campus and community involvement. The recipients must possess uncompromising ethical and moral standards and a high probability of success in the accounting profession.

Recipients: Pearl Dakup, Nicholas Gendreau, Jacob Lowe

Master Life Challenger Awards

These scholarships, awarded to Master of Accountancy students based on academic achievement, are funded by an endowment established to honor the late Joseph J. Master, a legendary Stetson accounting professor from 1964-1996 who served as accounting department chair and university trustee, and was one of the founders of the Stetson Business School Foundation, Inc. He was also holder of the Christian Lindback Chair.

Recipients: Morgan Carroll, Jackqualin DPina, Tijuana Lawrence, Autumn Moore, Alisa van Deijck, Tobias van Deijck, Brendan Walker

Roger Swanger Legacy Award

This award is named in honor of Double Hatter Roger Swanger, BBA '85, MAcc '86. Swanger was a 33-year veteran in the field of accounting, including 28 years at James Moore, where he served as a partner since 2001. This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding junior or senior accounting student with excellent academic performance, as well as engagement on campus and within the community.

Recipient: Kiara Soler

J. Stephen and Mary Beth Pullum Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by an endowment established by Stephen and Mary Beth Pullum. The scholarship is awarded to a rising accounting senior and is based on outstanding academic achievement.

Recipient: Josephine Young

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) Scholars

These scholarships are awarded by the PCAOB to Stetson students nominated by the Stetson accounting faculty. The student nominees are selected based on academic achievement, financial need, and the likelihood of the student pursuing a career in auditing. The PCAOB Scholars Program is mandated by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and is funded through monetary penalties collected as part of PCAOB enforcement actions.

Recipients: Beatriz da Silva Rodrigues, Vicky Ivanova

FICPA - George E. Shierling Platinum Endowment Scholarship Awards

These scholarships, named after Stetson alumnus and active contributor to the Stetson Accounting Program, George Shierling, are awarded to Stetson accounting students who plan to become a CPA and practice in the state of Florida. The awards are based on both academic ability and financial need.

Recipients: Macy Bergsman, Silke Flynn, Sadie Jensen, Nicholas Webster

FICPA - James Wilcox Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship endowment is named in memory of James Wilcox, CPA, an FICPA member, established by a gift from the Coulter Foundation to continue Wilcox's commitment to opening doors in accounting for minorities. The recipient is a minority student who is pursuing a graduate degree in accounting at a Florida university.

Recipient: De'Ja Smith

FICPA Board of Trustee Scholarship

This scholarship supports current and future CPAs by providing financial assistance to students majoring in accounting or a related field who are pursuing a career as a CPA in Florida.

Recipient: Krisztina Sipos

BUSINESS SYSTEMS AND ANALYTICS AWARDS

Presented by:

Joseph Woodside, PhD
Department Chair

Business School Foundation Kenneth Jackson Award for Decision Science

The Business School Foundation Kenneth Jackson Award for Decision Science is awarded to a deserving student excelling in one or more courses in Decision Science. Dr. Kenneth Jackson was Professor of Finance at Stetson University and developed the Roland George Investments Program.

Recipient: Keith Ohanian

Business School Foundation Theodore J. Surynt Merit Award for Business Systems Analysis

This award is presented to a graduating senior based on academic ability and performance. Dr. Ted Surynt was a professor of decision information sciences and a former associate dean at Stetson University. Dr. Surynt was also active in the community, serving on the West Volusia Literacy Council, United Way Board of Directors and as a Rotarian for 30 years.

Recipient: Jackson Frank

Business Systems and Analytics Outstanding Senior

This award is presented to a senior for outstanding ability, service and academic performance.

Recipient: Pearl Dakup

FINANCE AWARDS

Presented by:

Shan Yan, PhD

Department Chair

Business School Foundation Eugene M. Lynn Merit Award for Finance

Eugene M. Lynn was chairman emeritus of the Lynn Insurance Group and a Stetson donor and former student. He received an honorary doctorate from Stetson in 1978 and received our most prestigious honor, the Doyle E. Carlton Award, in 1979. The recipient of this award is a graduating senior selected based on outstanding academics and contributions to the Department of Finance.

Recipient: Keith Ohanian

Outstanding Certified Financial Planning Major

This award is presented to a junior or senior for outstanding ability, service and academic performance.

Recipient: Dean Cobb

Outstanding Senior Business Award in Economics

This award is presented to a senior in the Department of Finance for outstanding ability, service and academic performance.

Recipient: Maxwell Bennett

Outstanding Finance Student

This award is presented to an outstanding finance student for their academic performance.

Recipient: Julia Ivashko

MANAGEMENT AWARDS

Business School Foundation E. C. Furlong Merit Award for Management

This award is named after Edward C. Furlong, retired dean of business and professor emeritus, who served 40 years as a faculty member at Stetson University and 30 years as business dean. The award is presented to a graduating senior management major based on outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Sevara Erdanova

Presented by: Randall Croom

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Business Administration

This award is presented to a graduating business administration major for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Diogo Jorge

Presented by: Monica Mendoza

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Human Resources

This award is presented to a graduating senior human resource management major for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Matthew Rhoads

Presented by: Paula Miller

Chris Davies Business Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship is named in memory of Stetson student, Chris Davies. It is presented to a rising senior in the School of Business Administration who plans a career in small business.

Recipient: Hana Saich

Presented by: Daniel Scott

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Prince Entrepreneurship Program

This award is presented to a graduating senior entrepreneurship major for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Joemar Gonzalez

Presented by: Daniel Scott

Monique Forte Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship, named after late professor of business administration and former chair of the Department of Management, is awarded to a student, with preference to those with a major in Management, who has provided service to the School of Business Administration, the university, and the community. The award is based on both academic ability and financial need.

Recipient: Nadia English

Presented by: John Tichenor

Sport Business Scholarship and Service Award

This award is presented to a business student for outstanding academic ability and performance in sport business.

Recipient: Kyle Elphick

Presented by: Matthew DiFebo

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Sport Business

This award is presented to a graduating senior sport business minor for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Alicia Costa Lucas Ferreira

Presented by: Matthew DiFebo

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Business Law

This award is presented to a graduating senior business law minor for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Alexandria Metivier

Presented by: Elizabeth Galloway

MARKETING AWARDS

Presented by:

John Riggs, DBA
Director, Centurion Sales Program

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Marketing

This award is presented to a graduating senior marketing major for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Zachary Guch

Business School Foundation Merit Award for Professional Sales

This award is presented to a graduating senior professional sales major for outstanding academic ability and performance.

Recipient: Valen Brown

Marketing Ethics and Social Responsibility Award

This award is presented to a marketing major who has demonstrated a commitment to their academic performance and has had a positive impact on the campus and community through their civic engagement.

Recipient: Gislene Bezerra da Silva

Distinguished Marketing Student Award

This award is presented to a graduating senior marketing major for outstanding performance in Marketing.

Recipient: Heidi Cross

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Presented by:

Carolyn Nicholson, PhD

Associate Dean

Business School Foundation Paul E. Dascher Outstanding Scholar Award

The Dascher award is named after Dean Emeritus and Rinker Distinguished Professor of Accounting, Paul Dascher. Dean Dascher served at Stetson from 1993 to 2012 and continues to serve on the Stetson Business School Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. The award is the highest honor for a graduating senior based on outstanding academic performance.

Recipients: Sydney Jenkins, Darbi Robbins

J.D. Bond and Charles E. Bradley Scholarships

These scholarships are named in honor of J.D. Bond, Jr. and his son-in-law Charles E. Bradley in recognition of their monetary contribution to the Foundation that established the scholarship. The Bond/Bradley Scholarships are presented to rising seniors based on high academic performance and excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Recipients: Christine Glezer, Kamryn Wilson

James H. Maury, Jr. Memorial Scholarships

These scholarships are funded by an endowment established through the Stetson Business School Foundation by the late James Maury, Jr., a 1979 Stetson business graduate. The recipients are rising seniors majoring in a business discipline and are selected based on their academic achievements.

Recipients: Gislene Bezerra da Silva, Elizaveta Garifullina, Naissa Thelisma

GRADUATE AWARDS

Presented by:

Petros Xanthopoulos, PhD
Director, Graduate Programs

Business School Foundation Outstanding MAcc Student

This award is presented to a graduate student in the Master of Accountancy program for academic performance and character.

Recipient: Sara Freeman

Business School Foundation Outstanding MBA Students

These awards are presented to graduate students in the Master of Business Administration program for academic performance and character.

Recipients: Jacob Lenhard, Stefany Pazmino

Business School Foundation Top MBA Academic Performance Award

This award is presented to a graduate student in the Master of Business Administration program for the highest academic performance exhibited in the program.

Recipient: Thomas Briggs

Business School Foundation Top JD/MBA Academic Performance Award

This award is presented to a graduate student in the Juris Doctor/ Master of Business Administration program for the highest academic performance exhibited in the program.

Recipient: Madelene Garcia

Business School Foundation Top MBA/MS in Pharmacy Academic Performance Award

This award is presented to a graduate student in the Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Pharmacy program for the highest academic performance exhibited in the program.

Recipient: Kimberly Marien

Business School Foundation Top MBA/MHA Academic Performance Awards

This award is presented to a graduate student in the Master of Healthcare Management/Master of Business Administration program for the highest academic performance exhibited in the program.

Recipient: Elizabeth Fisher

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Committee-Selected Honors for Professional Growth and Excellence

Presented by:

Aaron McCullough, PhD

Outstanding Teacher Award

This award recognizes significant instructional contributions by business faculty members who develop our students as productive citizens in their roles as business professionals.

Outstanding Researcher Award

This award recognizes faculty members for significant accomplishments in scholarly activity. Selection takes into account the significance of academic work and accomplishments.

Outstanding Service Award

This award recognizes significant service activity and outstanding contributions by faculty members toward the organization and administration of business and university programs, activities and committees.

Outstanding Innovation Award

This award recognizes faculty members who inspire students and enhance student learning through creative, engaging and innovative teaching methods and curriculum.

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

Dean's Distinguished Recognition Awards

Presented by:

Yiorgos Bakamitsos, PhD

Outstanding Cultural Impact Award

This award recognizes that there are many ways to support and maintain an effective organizational culture, and as a result, we encourage faculty to nominate many kinds of cultural contributions.

Staff of the Year Award

This award recognizes a staff member for exemplary service to the School of Business Administration.

Community Partner Award

This award is presented to a community partner to honor and recognize their commitment and vital role in successful collaboration that brings the campus closer to the community.

Professor of the Year Award

This award, selected by the dean, recognizes a faculty member who has made significant contributions to foster the core values of Stetson University and the School of Business Administration in our students' intellectual development, personal growth and global citizenship.

BETA GAMMA SIGMA

BBA Inductees

Gislene Bezerra da Silva	Elizaveta Garifullina	Larissa Ohotaguro
Endrik Brettman	Christine Glezer	Thomas Peterson
David Burgos	Diogo Jorge	Matthew Rhoads
Zachary Caja	Leticia Kague	Olha Romaniuk
Blake Christensen	Jeremy Korah	Pedro Sanford Sampaio
Carlos Mateo Conde	Jacob Lowe	Naissa Thelisma
Elizabeth Duffy	Daniele Mastroianni	Shuhratjon Zayniddinov

MBA Inductees

Gabriella Bramante	Jared Fuentes	Jacob Lenhard
Thomas Briggs	Georgia Goering	Dhananjay Mishra
Brianna Clary	Leigh Jackson	Stefany Pazmino
Bryan Crocker	Ronette Lategan-	Gary Sipe
Emily Flugrath	Potgieter	

MBA Inductees-Partner Program

Elizabeeth Abel	Madelene Garcia
Veronica Bekheit	Kimberly Marien
Elizabeth Fisher	Avni Patel
Lauren Flick	

MAcc Inductees

Macy Bergsman	James Pappalardo
Sara Freman	Marissa Riels
Tanner Nash	Beatriz Vossen



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