



Strictly Business

Fall 2017

Bachelor of Science with Majors in:

- Accounting
- Acquisition & Contract Management
- Information Assurance Management
- Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- Human Resource Management
- Management
- Management of Technology

Masters of Science

- Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management

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New Minors and Certificates Approved

The College of Business is pleased to announce the addition of two new minors and two new certificates for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Accounting Minor: Where money is involved, so is accounting. This minor is intended to provide a solid foundation of the essential accounting concepts that can contribute to financial success, both personally and professionally. The minor requires students to choose an elective, which will allow them to get specialty knowledge in an area that would be most beneficial to their chosen field. The minor is open to non-accounting majors.

Forensic Accounting Mi-

nor: The field of accounting is growing at a steady rate, and it is forecasted that forensic accountants will be in even higher demand than other accounting careers. This is due to the increase in both white collar crimes and the regulations put in place to prevent those crimes. The minor would serve to prepare students for the major professional certifications in forensics: Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and Forensic Certified Public Accountant (FCPA).

Accounting Certificate: This certificate would give individuals who do not wish to complete a full academic program the ability to complete a finite program in

accounting. This would include students who attend Athens State in order to fulfill hours requirements for government and government-related jobs.

Human Resource Management Certificate: This certificate contains 15 semester hours of human resource management coursework that can enhance the current HR professional or provide a working knowledge of the HR field. A person who is a current HR professional or has at least one year of experience in HR, can petition to have the beginning HR course waived in exchange for a second elective HR course that will best meet his or her specific career objectives.

A Unique Opportunity for Graduate Credit

The College of Business is pleased to tell you about a unique opportunity that has been made available to students with a major in either Acquisition and Contract Management or Logistics and Supply Chain Management. In these two majors, there is an area for six hours of specific electives. Now students can take the first two graduate-level courses in our Global Lo-



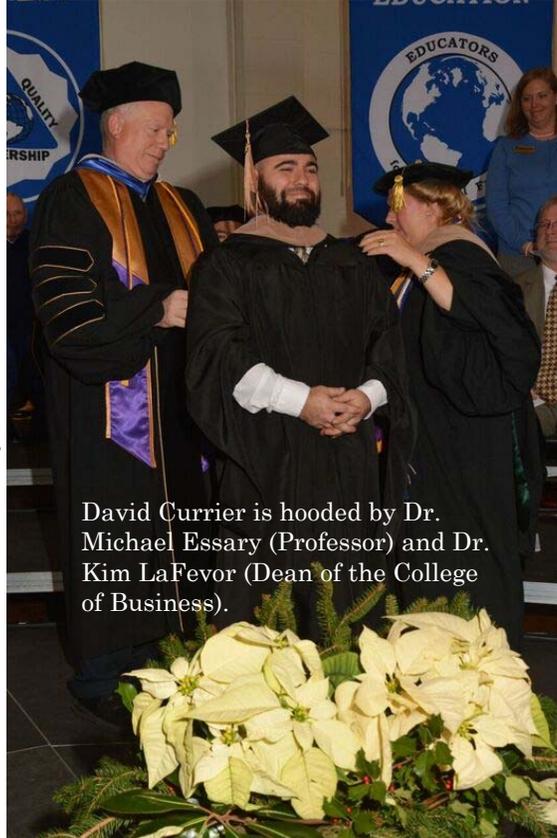
gistics and Supply Chain Management program (LSM 600 and LSM 601) to satisfy these undergraduate elective hours. Then, should you be ac-

cepted into the Master's program at Athens State University, you will have only eight more graduate courses remaining to earn your Master's. If earning a Master's is part of your approved educational plan, this could save you both time and money. Individual students should consult with Financial Aid regarding whether or not their financial aid plan will pay for the graduate courses.

College of Business Holds First Graduate Commencement

Congratulations to the six students in the first cohort who graduated from the Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management Graduate Degree Program. The students are **David Currier, Garrett Ennis, Valerie Holmes, Melissa Kaiser, Zachariah Lowery, and Christopher Moss**. The Commencement ceremony was held on Saturday, December 9, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. on the campus of Athens State University.

There are currently 15 students in the second cohort for the graduate program. These students are expected to graduate in Spring, 2018. There are currently 35 students enrolled in the third cohort and applications are being accept-



David Currier is hooded by Dr. Michael Essary (Professor) and Dr. Kim LaFevor (Dean of the College of Business).

ed until July 15 for the fourth cohort.

Athens State University received approval from the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) to begin offering a Master's of Science in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management in December 2014. This was followed by a SACS level change approval in 2015. The first cohort of students in the program began their first semester in Spring 2016, with all subsequent cohorts beginning in a fall semester. The program consists of two separate tracks, one in management and one in logistics information systems, for a total of 10 courses (30 semester hours).

ATHENS STATE BUSINESS STUDENTS TOUR CARPENTER TECHNOLOGIES

As part of Dr. Kim Roberts' Operations Management course, a group of Athens State University College of Business students toured Carpenter Technology Corporation. The corporation, located in Limestone County, is a leading producer and distributor of premium specialty alloys, including titanium alloys, powder metals, stainless steels, alloy steels, and tool steels. Students received a guided tour from Perry Detlor, Director of Operations, which included a rare opportunity to see the world's largest hy-

draulic radial press.

"I am grateful to the leadership at Carpenter for providing this learn-

ing opportunity for our students. Some things are better learned when seen in practice," says Dr. Roberts.



The tour reinforced concepts the students had been learning about such as lean manufacturing, visual management, quality control, and efficiency improvement. Other tour coordinators included Kellie Traynom and Theresa Nelson in Human Resources and Plant Manager, Ernie Jones.

Accounting Students Tour Local Manufacturing Company



T&C Stamping, Inc. in Athens, Alabama welcomed a group of accounting students and faculty to their 96,000-square-foot facility and provided the

students with a glimpse into real-world management accounting. T&C Stamping manufactures medium to high volumes of metal stampings, tool and die, and subassembly services, including one of their main products, blender blades for Sunbeam Oster.

Assistant Professor Diann Hammon coordinated with employees of T&C

to assure the group was able to hear from Leah Stephens and Operations Manager Will Speed. Stephens co-owns the business with her brother Mark Coleman. The company was started in 1985 by their father.

“Not only did the company lead the students on a tour of the facility, but they gave a detailed presentation about direct and indirect costs, flow of inventory, product costing, and other management accounting concepts that the students can better visualize and understand after seeing them first-hand,” said Emily Corzine, Assistant Professor of Accounting.

Accounting Program Recognized As Best Value

In 2017, Athens State University’s accounting program was recognized by discoverbusiness.us as a “Best Value” in online accounting degrees. Athens State was placed 27th out of 37 ranked programs on this new poll. Other schools included were Pennsylvania State University, Temple University,

Washington State University, University of Alabama-Birmingham, Auburn University, Southern New Hampshire University, and Walden University. This places Athens State University in some very good company. Kudos to our accounting faculty and students for their hard work and dedication.



SHRM Chapter Attends Conferences



Athens State University’s Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Student Chapter members served as conference hosts for the TVC SHRM/ATD Conference that was held on the campus of Athens State University on October 19, 2017. In November 2017, they attended the TERRA Conference at Middle Tennessee State University and the AL-SHRM State Student Leadership Conference and HR Games Competition at Auburn University. In May of 2018, the group will attend the AL-SHRM State HR Conference in Birmingham, Alabama.



Alpha Iota Chapter Takes Top Honor



Athens State University's Alpha Iota Chapter of the Delta Mu Delta Honor Society was recently named a Star Chapter by the international organization for business students. With this honor, the chapter was noted as the most award-winning Star Chapter in the organization's history with 15 annual recognitions.

Star Chapter must meet or exceed Society standards for chapter operation and administration. In addition, Star Chapters must either induct at least 80% of their eligible can-

didates or more candidates than the previous year, participate in the scholarship program, and complete community service projects or business-related activities on campus.

The Alpha Iota Chapter is very active on the Athens State campus by sponsoring an annual school supply drive, co-sponsoring a canned food drive, and co-sponsoring workshops that assist students in the job search process. In addition, student chapter members have received local and national recognition.

Delta Mu Delta was founded at New York University in 1913 to recognize and reward superior scholastic achievement of students with concentrations in Business Administration. The Athens State Chapter was originally formed in 1970. The chapter has grown to be one of the largest and most active chapters within the national organization. The Athens State University Delta Mu Delta chapter is housed within the College of Business. The current advisers are Professor Kim Roberts and Dr. John Berzett.

Alpha Iota Chapter Wins Coveted Jablonsky Award

Athens State University's Alpha Iota Chapter of the Delta Mu Delta Honor Society was the recipient of the 2017 Anthony J. Jablonsky Outstanding Chapter Award. This prestigious award is presented to the chapter that not only exceeds Society standards, but has developed outstanding programs to provide additional service to mem-

bers and creative ways to further chapter growth, development, and visibility. Delta Mu Delta advisers Dr. Kim Roberts and Dr. John Berzett and the Alpha Iota Chapter student president, Ms. Toni Har-



Pictured L to R: Ms. Toni Harvey (Student Chapter President), Dr. Charles Finn (Delta Mu Delta National President), Dr. Kim Roberts (Faculty Adviser), and Dr. John Berzett (Faculty Co-Adviser)

vey, accepted the award at the organization's biennial conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Drs. Roberts and Berzett presented "The Case for Conversation" during one of the breakout sessions, which explored

the consequences of digital technology, the value of face-to-face conversation, and steps we can take to improve our conversation skills.

The Alpha Iota Chapter is very active on the Athens State campus. They inducted their first graduate student member this year from the school's Master's in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management program. In addition, student chapter members have received local

and national recognition. Athens State's Maria Rodriguez was the recipient of the 2017 Delta Mu Delta Regional Award, which included a \$500 scholarship.

APICS Student Chapter Attends Conference

On September 25-27, 2016, students and faculty from the Athens State University chapter of the American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS) attended the 2016 APICS National Conference in Washington, D.C. APICS is the global leader and premier source of the body of knowledge in supply chain and operations management.

The conference offered seven learning paths featuring more than 65 educational sessions.



Pictured L to R: James Chandler (Management of Technology major), Lara Colvin (Management major with a minor in Logistics & Supply Chain Management), Dr. Mike Essary (Chapter Advisor), Melissa Rogers (Management of Technology Major), Tim Hobbs (Tennessee Valley Chapter President), and Dr. Kim Roberts (Chapter Co-Advisor)

Students got to hear such keynote speakers as Bill McDermott, CEO of SAP, and Mel Robbins, Commentator and Legal Analyst at CNN.

Students raised funds throughout the past year to attend the conference as well as receiving some financial assistance from the Tennessee Valley Chapter of APICS to cover student registration costs.

“We are excited that our students were able to attend and learn about the field of supply chain and operations management outside of a classroom,” states Dr. Mike Essary, Associate Professor of Management of Technology and Chapter Advisor.

ACCOUNTING CLUB RECOGNIZED BY IMA

Members of the Athens State University Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Student Chapter traveled to Detroit, Michigan in November 2016 to be honored at the 17th Annual IMA Student Leadership Conference. The Chapter was awarded the Outstanding Student Chapter Award of Excellence. To qualify for the gold award, the chapter had to satisfy many criteria, including preparing newsletters, competing in a national student case competition, preparing a treasurer’s report, and participating in community service projects and promotional events.

While at the conference, The Athens State Student Chapter entered and won first place in a t-shirt design competition. Since the conference was held in

Detroit, their t-shirt design featured various aspects of the city, including auto industry and sports teams, with the CMA (Certified Management Accountant) designation as the highlight of the design.



Pictured L to R: Latasha Davis, Matthew Andrews, Jeffery Vernon, Diann Hammon (Assistant Professor of Accounting), Cliff Rybick, and Linda Hemingway (Professor Emeritus)

“Our accounting students were enthusiastic and professional as they networked with exhibitors, other students, and professors in attendance. These students represented the department and University well and are true assets for Athens State University,” stated Dr. Diann Hammon, Assistant Professor of Accounting.

WELCOMING NEW FACES

The College of Business welcomed four new faculty members and one new staff member to its ranks this past academic year.

Dr. Cynthia Lovelace was hired for the position of Assistant Professor of Logistics. Dr. Lovelace has a PhD in Manufacturing Systems Engineering with dual minors in Mathematics/Statistics and Operations Research. Dr. Lovelace teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses in Logistics. She resides in Decatur, Alabama.

John Moore has Masters degrees in both Project Management and Acquisitions from FIT. Prior to coming to Athens State, Mr. Moore worked in environmental services and owned his own business. He is active in his church and with volunteering in the community.

Christopher Nelson earned his MBA in Accounting from the University of North Alabama. He has worked as a financial analyst and cost accountant and served in the U.S. Navy. Mr. Nelson lives in Toney.

Dr. Lionel Wright holds a DBA from Walden University and a MS in Logistics from Embry-Riddle. In addition, he holds several professional certifications in Logistics. Dr. Wright served in the U.S. Army and has held multiple positions within the Army, most recently at Redstone Arsenal. He resides in Owens Cross Roads.

Sabrina Adams was hired for a part-time support staff position in May 2017. She has worked in Limestone County in the License Commissioners Office and at the Department of Human Resources. She resides in Elkmont, Alabama.



Accounting Major Selected for Leadership Program

Latasha Davis, accounting student at Athens State University, is one of eight outstanding college students selected for the 2017 Leadership Experience program. The program is designed to expose top students to governance and leadership in order to sharpen their skills for future career success. At the event, held in San Diego, California, Davis and fellow participants heard a speech from Clark Jones, VP of Revenue Management and Analytics at The Walt Disney Company, and had an opportunity to sit in on select IMA Board committee meetings.

“Being able to network with business professionals has inspired me to continue my path to become an accounting professional and to spread the word about IMA and someday become a member of the Global Board of Directors. Everyone made me feel welcome and made sure that we all got the most out of our experience. I am so thankful to have been chosen for this experience and for making new friends with the other students. I would encourage other students to apply for such a wonderful opportunity.”

Davis' experience was featured in the August 2017 edition of *Strategic Finance* magazine.

ACCOUNTING CLUB CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

The Athens State University IMA Student Chapter (a.k.a. The Accounting Club) celebrated its 25th anniversary on April 20, 2017, in the Founders Hall Parlor on the campus of Athens State University. Former and current accounting students were invited and over 80 students attended the event. Linda Hemingway, Professor Emeritus, prepared many old pictures and documents to share at the event. Current student accomplishments were shared and celebrated as well. The event provided an avenue for former students to reconnect and share their memories and experiences with the current accounting students.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS SERVICE AWARDS

Athens State employees were honored with Service Awards at the 2017 Fall In-service held in McCandless Auditorium. The recipients are pictured with President Bob Glenn.



Congratulations to the following faculty:
Promotion
Mike Essary to the rank of Professor
Individual Meritorious Award Winners
Emily Corzine, Kim Roberts, and Gary Valcana

5 Years – John Berzett, Assistant Professor of Accounting (second row third from right) and Kim Roberts, Assistant Professor of Operations (first row first from left)



10 Years – Debra Vaughn, Assistant Professor of Management (second from right), and Teresa Wanbaugh, Assistant Professor of Management (first from left)



15 Years – Jim Kerner, Professor of Management (second from right)

Congratulations to the following faculty for their recent accomplishments:

John Berzett—Received his Doctor of Education in Higher Administration from the University of Alabama and was Awarded the Outstanding Doctoral Student Award

Diann Hammon—Graduated with a Doctorate in Business Administration from the University of South Alabama and was selected for lifetime membership into Beta Gamma Sigma

Kim Roberts—Was awarded the Excellence in Dissertation Research Award from the University of Alabama



25 Years – Lisa Rich, Professor of Management Information Systems (second from right)

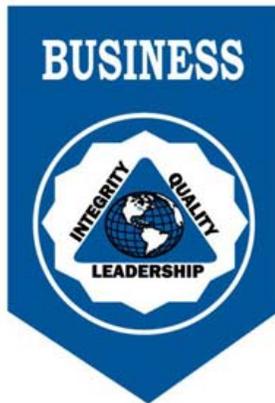
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Sanders Hall, College of Business

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With the challenges facing higher education, your help is very much needed and greatly appreciated. We solicit your assistance in ensuring the continued progress of our institution through course offerings, programs, and progress in the College of Business. We urge you to make your tax-deductible contribution to the ASU Foundation in support of the College of Business.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to the College of Business.

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Mail your contribution to: College of Business, ATTN: Dr. Kim LaFevor, Dean, College of Business, Athens State University, 300 North Beaty Street, Athens, Alabama 35611

The Benefits of Partnership

A partnership has its benefits. These benefits can go well beyond the all too familiar concept of "You scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours." If a partnership is well developed, it can be a true win-win for both parties. Take the case of the partnership between Athens State University and Lyons HR. Lyons HR is a company that provides comprehensive human resource solutions for small and medium-sized businesses through a variety of services including payroll and tax administration, employee benefits, consulting, regulatory compliance, risk management, staffing, and recruiting.

In Spring 2017, Athens State University and Lyons HR held a ceremony to celebrate a learning partner agreement that will benefit thousands of employees from more than 500 work sites across the Southeastern United States. The partnership is designed to assist Lyons HR employees and im-



Pictured L to R: Dr. Bob Glenn (Athens State President), Paula Watkins (Lyons HR Senior VP), Bill Lyons (Lyons HR Chairman), Dr. Joe Delap (Athens State Provost), and Dr. Kim LaFevor (Athens State Dean of College of Business)

mediate family members in achieving their educational goals in career-appropriate disciplines through online and traditional classroom settings. With access to more than 50 undergraduate programs and degree options and three graduate programs at a reduced tuition rate, employees will be able to obtain the knowledge and skills needed to advance their careers and reach personal and professional goals.

"Together, Athens State University

and Lyons HR are meeting the relevant workforce readiness needs of employers in the state of Alabama and beyond," said Dr. Glenn, President of Athens State University. "This partnership is another way we are enabling learners to go from where they currently are to where they need to be, for their future, their careers, and their families."

If this partnership proves successful, then the same agreement could be expanded to other area companies. That should be a win-win for us all.

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