

Dear Colleagues, Students, Alumni and Friends of the Romain
College of Business,

It has been said that change is all around us. The Greek philosopher Heraclitus stated, "The only constant in life is change." Benjamin Franklin is credited with saying, "When you are finished changing, you are finished." We certainly see change around us as we move from autumn to winter. The weather is turning colder and the leaves on the trees have fallen to the ground.

We have recently experienced many instances of change within the Romain College of Business. For example, we recently hired new faculty members in several of our business disciplines, we offered two new courses (one in the Summer 2021 Semester and one in the Fall 2021 Semester) in the "Agribusiness2232eD 12 BDC BT TJETEMC /P Lang (en-US)/MCID 20 BDC BT10 0 0 10 36 289.7601 Tm(

Bridges of Hope (BOH) is a fair-trade brick and mortar store in Mount Vernon, Indiana, with a mission of empowering artisans by providing a dependable and fair market for the selling of handicrafts. Fair trade is an alternative way of doing business—one that builds equitable, long-term partnerships between consumers in North America and producers in developing regions around the world. BOH sales of these unique items from around the world have been predominantly in store, but they were already kicking around the idea of an online store when the pandemic accelerated their need for one. BOH Director Teresa Rynkiewich reached out to Dr. Abbas Foroughi, USI Chair of Management and Information Services. “In the past, Bridges of Hope was blessed to have two USI students work as interns, and we were very pleased with their development in marketing for Bridges of Hope. Dr. Foroughi shared my request with several professors and Professor Kasra Pourang graciously accepted,” she said.

These types of projects create opportunities for computer information systems and computer science students to get experience and show how the skills they are learning in the classroom create real-world impact. However, senior projects were already well underway for the semester. Still, CIS instructors wanted to support this initiative. Kasra Pourang, Instructor in CIS, met with representatives from BOH to assess their online needs. He developed a shopping cart in Shopify, so the BOH online presence—website and Facebook—now centers around their

online shop. With the click of a mouse, shoppers can purchase unique items crafted by farmers and artisans in Africa, South America, Asia and other developing regions around the world.

As part of the project, Pourang trained BOH workers how to maintain the content on their website and update products. “Thanks to the USI Romain College of Business, in particular Kasra Pourang, Bridges of Hope’s online store is up and running at www.bohfairtrade.com,” said Rynkiewich.

As a graduate student, Alicia Frederick M'21 is no stranger to organizing her thoughts, putting pen to paper and exercising her writing skills. She was reading *Strategic Finance Magazine* and noticed a prompt that asked IMA (Institute of Management Accountants) members interested in a spotlight to reach out to the editor. Frederick emailed her interest

and a few weeks later received guidelines for an IMA Life Column.

Indiana is the nation's 10th largest

Get to know the newest members of the USI Accounting Circle's Young Professionals. Here are excerpts from each one's interview. Read full interviews in the Fall 2021 eNewsletter at USI.edu/RCoBeNewsletter.

Alexandra, '13, accounting and finance, is Accounting Manager at United Fidelity Bank.

I would recommend job shadowing at a career you are planning to pursue. I would also recommend taking a career assessment test. I started college with a different major/ career path than the one I ended up pursuing.

I would recommend seniors get an internship or part-time job in the career they are pursuing. This will help build their resume and get experience that the classroom can't teach.

Bryanna, '17, accounting and finance, is Senior Audit Associate at Harding, Shymanski & Co., P.S.C.

In my opinion, the three most important skills for a successful accounting career would be organization, project management and the ability to continuously learn throughout your career. In public accounting you often will be working on multiple projects at the same time, and usually these will be with different people/teams. Making sure to stay organized and manage these projects at the same time is really critical. Also, in public accounting you are constantly running into new situations you haven't experienced before and so being able to research and apply this new knowledge can drive your career a long way.

My favorite accounting-related work duty would be the preparation of a company's financial statement. These financial statements really tell the story of how the company performed throughout the year. So, taking all the information you gathered throughout the audit and pulling it all together into a financial statement is a really neat experience in my eyes.

Allison, '08 M'22, has an extensive background in accounting and entrepreneurship. Her work has been featured in FOX TV Magazine, Better Home and Gardens, The Cottage, The French Cottage edition), Romantic Homes, Enjoy Brocante, and NBC News Better. Past collaborations have included The Home

The USI Marketing Club has joined the ranks of more than 300

The Romain College of Business Computer Information Systems (CIS) and Computer Science (CS) programs were invited by Debbie Garrison, CIO of Berry Global and event sponsor, to participate in this year's technology section of Junior Achievement's virtual JobSpark event, Nov. 16-17, 2021. JobSpark is a hands-on career exploration program for grades 8-12 that exposes students to different career paths.

Faculty members Dr. Xue Han, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Jiaying Liu, Instructor in CIS, Josh McWilliams, Instructor in CIS, and Kasra Pourang, Instructor in CIS participated, connecting with the students individually. In addition to learning what they might study in CS and CIS, students learned about real-world experiential client projects in the capstone course. Highlights of past projects included game development and web presences for small businesses and non-profits, as well as embedded development on microcontrollers. It made the whole program tangible to prospective students.

The topics genodsHe74p2P /dmpas embedded cark i10 0 0 1ht1BDC Bone cc

The Romain College of Business takes pride in being AACSB

administrative person to join who didn't start at Tacit Solutions. In those days my official role was Technical Training and Support Specialist, but a typical week might involve returning from domestic events I supported, working with our software engineer to resolve bugs/feature requests, shipping hardware out to a new customer and then jumping on a plane to Asia or Europe for the following weekend. I think I flew something like 175,000 miles a year for 2 to 3 years. By 2012, ChronoTrack had captured 80% of the U.S. running market, timed 12 million athletes worldwide, developed the first disposable tag for the back of race bibs and

A

J

-B

A

R
E

R
C
J
L
E
I
C
R
I
P
A
P
A
I
C
P
A

-L

A

R
-G
-
B
-
B

A
A
J
J
B

R
M
B
A

I B B R I
-C I I E D
O D
I B D I
C D F

R C
A-L M I J-D H
C E - C
C I I
A I M A -M

L

R I
K P K-A E
L J E
O C C
C G M
C P J J
C I C I
C

A

R I
K P K-A E
L J E
O C C
C G M
C P J J
C I C I
C

A

R C P
B P I P C
O A C M I
C P I E
ICPE

A R P R
A I R J ACM
M O E M J P
A C I M
ACM

R D A
E

R A
P I C J
E A

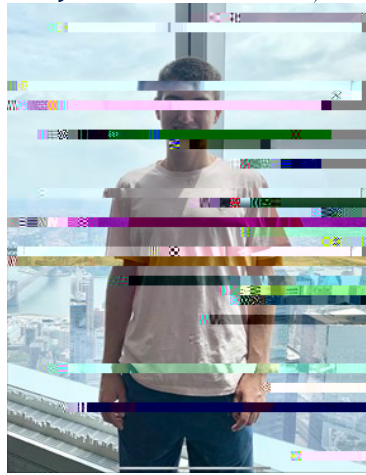
R A P H
-A I J
E A

R A P C J I

R
P
CO ID, P
CO ID,

R
I
J
K
C
K

A, A B



C
P
B
PCAOB

A

Research/conference presentation delivered: Conference: 44th Southwest Educational Research Association Presentation: Faculty Women of Color in Higher Education. Date: February 4, 2021 Learn More: <https://scholarworks.utttyler.edu/sera2021/conference/freeworkshops/10/>

* NOTE - Only current RCOB faculty are listed as authors/presenters – additional co-authors and co-presenters may exist.

BKD LLP, E
M

C
C
LEAD
IMA
ACFE

B
A
PCAOB



B

