

In this issue

- Undergraduate Business Students Spend J-Term on a Mission
- Faculty Profile: Dr. Gerard Becker
- Upcoming Dates

Editor's Corner by Prof. Julie Hood

I am pleased to introduce the inaugural edition of the SBL's bi-monthly newsletter, The Advisor. This publication will serve as an online resource for faculty, staff, and students to stay connected, share resources, and be aware of important dates. Every edition will feature a faculty profile, important updates from the registrar and financial, dates to remember, and faculty resources. Our goal is for The Advisor to be a living, breathing publication, and the only way we can do this is with your help! We invite you to keep us updated as to what is happening in your area of the School of Business and your professional development. Please submit any information you would like to share by the 5th of every month to Julie.Hood@nyack.edu

Undergraduate Business Students Spend J-Term on a Mission

By Professor James Muckell



In the early, snowy morning on Friday, January 8, eleven Nyack College students, accompanied by two business professors, departed Newark Airport for Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula.

Nineteen months earlier, a team of sixteen Nyack students and two professors had come to the Yucatan to lend their assistance to a local Mayan church on a fledgling orphanage construction project. Two students, Latia Deylii and Luke Mazey, as well as me, had been part of the original expedition. We had been told that changes had come to the vicinity surrounding the orphanage and that progress had been made on the facility by local workers and other mission teams since our last trip. I'm not sure we were fully prepared for what we saw upon our arrival.

[\[Click here to continue\]](#)

Essential Information

FINANCIAL AID REMINDER:

The Financial Aid Office is required to adjust the financial aid eligibility of each student who withdrawals or is not attending the OM Program.

Faculty can greatly influence the processing time to complete withdrawal adjustments by notifying the OM Registrars Office when a student has not attended 2 or more classes in each course. Non attendance notification allows the Registrars Office to provide follow up to the student and process a withdrawal if required.

All financial aid adjustments for a withdrawn student must be completed within a certain time to meet Department of Education requirements and avoid negative audit results.

Your co-operation is much appreciated. Thanks for all you do to ensure the success of the Financial Aid Office and OM students.

OM REGISTRAR UPDATE:

The Organizational Management Registrar's Office has just had a very moving experience! Our office relocated on January 14, 2010, from the Alliance Theological Seminary building in Upper Nyack to the Shuman Hall registrars' area on the main Nyack College undergraduate campus on the South Nyack hillside.

We are cozily tucked into one of Shuman's many hobbit-holes, and welcome visitors.

Continued on page 2

Faculty Profile



New Director and Direction for Nyack's MBA

By Dr. Gerard Becker

In January, Dr. Gerard "Jerry" Becker assumed the role of MBA Director. Dr. Becker joined the SBL late in 2009 and brings with him an extensive background in business as well as teaching at several colleges and universities.

His office is located on the fifth floor at the Manhattan campus and he is teaching across the programs in the SBL.

The renewed and reinvigorated focus on the MBA program is centered on entrepreneurship with the following mission statement:

The MBA program is committed to provide students with an academic curriculum that focuses on an action based learning model that integrates theory, research and application to real world issues. Through the courses, the MBA program seeks to foster learning environments that stimulates entrepreneurial thinking and enables students to utilize their knowledge to create and launch innovative business ventures.

In January, the new MBA candidates participated in the inaugural Entrepreneurial Seminar that focused on the requirements for the new capstone project.

The capstone project is focused on the students creating a proposal for a new business venture, or an innovative major change initiative within an existing organization. Dr. Becker believes that this approach reinforces the MBA's mission related to theory, research and practical application.

When asked about the impact that the new focus will have Dr. Becker commented, "As we focus our MBA program on entrepreneurship, we will also focus on implementing effective and innovative approaches for sharing appropriate learning through the use of in-class as well as online delivery capabilities. Many of our programs in the School of Business and Leadership successfully utilize this multi-dimensional course delivery approach with effective results. We will continue to evolve these effective course delivery programs as best practices and successful results continue to be achieved."

Although there will be other enhancements to come to the MBA throughout the rest of the academic year the most important element will remain untouched. Dr. Becker vowed, "Our MBA program in the School of Business and Leadership remains committed to our students, and their eventual success in becoming true Masters of Business Administration!"

We appreciate the ease with which many OM instructors navigate the eCollege system, and notify us when grades are posted. There have been some changes in grade-posting procedures. Melinda Kong, Website Coordinator, has put some information on your home page, in the "Administrative Message Center" right after you log in.

Please remember that our office needs attendance records for all of your students, either on the paper grade sheet or entered into eCollege.

FACULTY RESOURCE ROOM UP AND RUNNING:

The faculty resource room has been created in eCollege to allow faculty members that teach a particular course to share creative ideas, best practices, and course materials. You can visit the resource room by going to eCollege and click on Academics. Next, click on OM Program Discussion and locate the course(s) you teach and add to the conversation!

Upcoming Dates

OM Start Dates:

- ❖ Cohort 487: March 9, 2010
- ❖ Cohort 488: March 11, 2010
- ❖ Cohort 489: March 31, 2010
- ❖ Cohort 490: March 23, 2010
- ❖ Cohort 491: March 25, 2010
- ❖ Cohort 492: March 29, 2010

MSOL Thesis Defense will be held March 11th.

Info Sessions:

Mar. 9th 6 PM: Christian Cultural Center
Mar 10th & 24th 6 PM: Calvary Cathedral of Praise

Open House NYC - 361 Broadway 11am
Sat. March 20th
Sat. April 24th

The most striking change was to the contiguous neighborhood. In the midst of a desolate, rocky, brushy wilderness, more than three hundred ramshackle squatter houses had sprung up.

Almost as surprising was the progress we observed at the orphanage. The entire facility was now surrounded by a perimeter cinder-block wall. Within the compound, the land had been bulldozed and graded. Three one-story cinder-block buildings and two open-air pavilions now stood where there had previously only been one partially-completed structure.

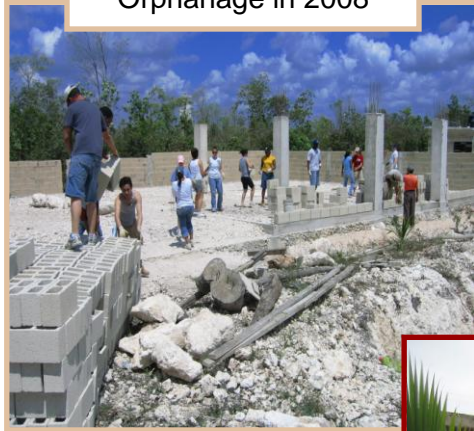
Construction on a second-story had begun on two of the buildings. But by far the most incongruous sight was beautiful, complete and fully-functional swimming pool in the middle of it all!

What a difference two years had made!

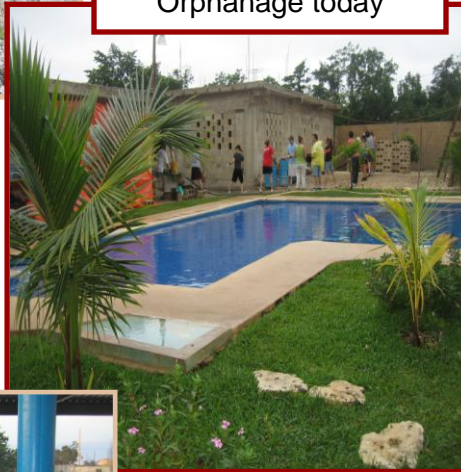
Our team of thirteen was joined by an equally energetic team of eleven young missionaries-in-training from the Atlanta YWAM base where the Esposito's serve as base directors and pastors. It didn't take long for the lines that differentiated the two teams to disappear. We

truly operated as one unified team during the entire week! Four of those days were spent hauling cinder blocks and mixing cement on the construction site. Much progress was made toward the completion of the second floor on one of the buildings. Fortunately, a cold front had settled over the entire region keeping daytime temperatures cool while we worked.

Orphanage in 2008



Orphanage today



One evening when we returned to the orphanage site, we were pleasantly surprised to find that more than a hundred men, women and children had come to participate. For the next several hours, I proudly watched as our students played, laughed and sang with the beautiful children that delighted in all they experienced. Gavin Penny, assisted by Steve Mitzel, conducted a full-scale soccer game. David and Teri Muckell, Sharon Fetters, Stephanie Azevedo, Tara Abdullah and Katie Bolles led the children in games such as Musical Chairs, as well as activities such as face-painting. The entire team participated in drama skits and several gave their personal testimonies in front of the assembled group. Piero Gorriti, however, amazed everyone by boldly and effectively preaching to the entire crowd in his native Spanish tongue. At the end of the evening, twenty or thirty children and adults came forward in response to an invitation to follow after Christ.

Because the trip was sponsored by the School of Business and Leadership, it had a strong business component. We either visited or were visited by several business owners, both Mexican and American, who shared their experiences and their Christian testimony.

We heard from people from a variety of businesses, such as construction equipment rental, hotelier, bookstore owner, travel and tourism, interior decorating, and real estate brokerage. The students listened intently to each presentation and asked many insightful questions.

Dr. Boronow and I continually marveled at how easily our students adapted to circumstances so radically different from those at home. We are also excited by the prospects of continuing and deepening our involvement in the lives of the people of this region. As we begin the spring semester, the Business Club will be exploring new ideas and opportunities that sprung from this recent trip. We hope to develop some of those ideas over the upcoming months, even as we hope to conduct a third trip next January.

******* Resource of the Month *******

The following journals published by Regent University will provide a great resource for both you and your students. And the best part...they all offer FREE subscriptions! Visit the link below to view the journals and sign up for the mailing list. <http://www.regent.edu/acad/global/publications/journals.shtml>