3-26-2014

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Dominican unveils Andrew P. Barowsky School of Business

The Andrew P. Barowsky School of Business is one component of a campus-wide series of initiatives. The initiatives will be launched by a gift – Dominican’s largest ever – from Mr. Barowsky.

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When fully realized the gift will mean $25 million in new revenue to the university, initiated by $17.5 million in outright gifts led by the chairman. It will enable Dominican to launch a renewed vision of liberal arts education that will benefit all students. Dominican’s student population, which mirrors California’s demographic shift, is the future of higher education nationwide.

“We will create a business school that not only anticipates change but also creates change,” Mr. Barowsky said. “Our goal is to be flexible, strategic, and responsive.”

Mr. Barowsky joined Dominican’s Board of Trustees in 2004, where he currently serves as Chairman. He first became involved with the University after his business associate’s sister Françoise Lepage, a long-time professor at Dominican, encouraged him to get involved and make a difference. Mr. Barowsky served as president, treasurer, and CEO of Lepage Bakeries, Inc. from 1977 until 2012 when the company was sold to Flower Foods. Lepage Bakeries continues to operate under its current name as a part of Flowers Foods' DSD segment and Barowsky serves as both co-chairman of the board of Lepage Bakeries and as vice chairman of innovation for Flowers Foods.

In fall 2014, the Andrew P. Barowsky School of Business will launch a new Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. The MBA’s common core will provide an interdisciplinary set of business skills. Students will be able to complement these skills with a concentration in either global business, sustainable enterprise, or strategic leadership.

Students will be able to apply what they have learned in the classroom through an integrated capstone experience and a global consulting project, during which a faculty-led team will research the strategic needs of an international organization. In the following semester, students will present consulting recommendations in person during a 10-day in-country visit.
“Our global consulting project will give Dominican’s MBA graduates a significant competitive edge when they enter the workforce,” said Sam Beldona, Dean of the Andrew P. Barowsky School of Business. “As more employers either look to expand overseas or work with companies based outside the United States, the global consulting project will provide students with extremely valuable skills and experience.”

The new MBA will replace the University’s current graduate level business offerings with a more cohesive, interdisciplinary program designed to respond to market demand for employees with demonstrated capacity to think critically, communicate effectively, and solve complex problems.

Students will acquire skills necessary to lead, manage, or fully participate in business teams and functional units. Sam Beldona – Dean, Barowsky School of Business

“Our interdisciplinary curriculum will provide students with the intellectual and interpersonal skills necessary to succeed in today’s increasingly global workplace,” said Denise Lucy, director of the School’s Institute for Leadership Studies, who led the graduate curriculum re-design.

The program will feature a full-time, one-year program; a part-time, two-year evening program; and a part-time, two-year weekend program. The one-year option will enable students who begin studies in fall 2014 to complete the full-time program by fall 2015. The global consulting project will be integrated into both the full-time and part-time programs.

“Today, many students want to get their MBA under their belt before they enter the workforce,” Beldona said. “In addition, professionals are telling us that they are not willing to spend three or more years going through a part-time program. They want a schedule that will enable them to continue working and spend time on personal commitments while earning a degree.”

Students will enter the MBA program as members of a cohort – a team of students who will work together while progressing through the common core. This structure will enable students to share ideas, gain new perspectives, and collaborate productively with others. Prior to the start of the MBA program, students will participate in a multi-day intensive orientation featuring seminars and team-building projects.

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March 26, 2014