



The Business Journal

La Trobe University Business Students Association

Issue #6 March '09

News in brief

- Careers cocktail in on evening this week, get your tickets now
- Second Hand Book sale still on ends March 16
- Application deadlines for the Big 4
- Graduate Profile: Gary Sammartino

Inside this issue:

Events for Semester 2	2
Graduate Profile: Gary Sammartino	3
About the BSA	4
Letter from the Editor	4

Careers Cocktail Evening: Thursday March 12

The Careers Cocktail evening is this week and it's your final chance to meet the recruitment people from the top accounting, finance, marketing & tourism bodies, applications close end of this month.

We advise all 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students to attend:

Dates:

March 12

Choice of two sessions 6:00-7:00 pm or 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Venue:

John Scott meeting house

Located next to car park 7

Cost:

\$25 (includes membership to the BSA , finger food and alcoholic/non-alcoholic beverages)

This is an excellent networking opportunity and will help you gain a better understanding of different fields of work.

Dress Code:

Formal Attire

Sponsors Attending Include:

- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- KPMG
- Deloitte
- Ernst & Young
- BDO Kendalls, Pitcher Partners
- ICAA (Institute of Chartered Accountants Aus.)
- CFA (Chartered Financial Analysts Society)
- ANZ, Accenture
- JP Morgan
- Department of Treasury & Finance (Vic. Gov.)
- AMSRS
- AMI (Australian Marketing Institute)
- Young Tourism Network

Tickets are available this week at our book sale or in the Agora. Alternatively email us on bsabiz@gmail.com to reserve your ticket..

BSA farewells a President

Shamir Popat our previous President and Business Journal editor has left the BSA, after completing his Bachelor of Finance degree.

Shamir has been a member of the BSA for over 2 years and was the president in his final year. He was integral to the success we have achieved in the past years and was responsible for events such as the, "Money Talks Business Ball", 2008 Graduate Cocktail Evening, and the Spirits of La Trobe Booze Cruise.

Shamir is going to be hard to replace, and the whole team at the BSA will definitely miss his presence and wish him all the best in the future.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce our new president Omar Chaudhry. Omar is completing his third year of a double degree in Commerce and Law. Omar is passionate about student development and creating networking opportunities for our members, and will make an excellent leader.

The Business Journal

Events for Semester I, 2009



Want to buy cheap textbooks? Want to sell your old ones? Come to the Second Hand Book Sale

Second Hand Book Sale

Dates:

March 09 - March 11 (Selling books)

March 16 - March 18 (Return unsold books and reimburse money to owners)

Venue:

Union Hall (Function Room 2)

Located next to the Eagle Bar

Opening/Closing Times:

11am - 2pm

Graduate & Summer Vacationer Application deadlines

Applications for most big accounting firms and banks have already opened. Most firms have rolling applications, however interviews start end of march. Final year students are open to apply to graduate programs, whilst students in their 1st or 2nd year are advised to apply for a summer vacation placement.

Summer placements allow you to spend up to 8 weeks in December and January at specific firms. Placements allow you to gain a sound understanding of the work involved and working environment, with pay rates of between AU\$800 and AU\$1,200 a week and a fair chance for many summer vacationers to secure a graduate position before starting their final year. Key application dates are summarized below;

Deloitte:

Graduates and summer vacationers (all lines of service), applications close 22 March at 5pm.

KPMG:

Graduates and summer vacationers (all lines of service), applications close 27 March at 5pm.

Ernst & Young:

Graduates and summer vacationers (all lines of service), applications close 25 March at 5pm.

BDO Kendals:

Graduates (all lines of service), applications close 30 March.

Summer Vacationer applications close 17 August.

Pitcher Partners:

Graduates (all lines of service), applications close March/April.

Summer Vacationer applications open August.

Victorian Government:

Graduates recruitment and development scheme, applications close 3 April.

ANZ, CBA, NAB & Westpac:

Graduates recruitment scheme, applications close between end March and start of April.



BSA giving members crucial networking opportunities through professional events.

LaTrobe Graduate Profile: Gary Sammartino



Name: Gary Sammartino

Position: Consultant

Department: Risk & Controls Solutions

Could you describe your average day?

The great thing about PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) is the variety of work that it can offer, every day is a new challenge and no day is ever the same. The greatest benefit in working at PwC is the opportunity one has at deciding the path that his/hers career will take. If you wish to work on specific clients such as Government, Resources, Financial Services, or Manufacturing clients, one is able to seek opportunities in working in these specific areas.

The average day at PwC starts off with attending to our daily task, spending approximately a few minutes of our day filling in our timesheets from the previous day. Most of my time is spent out at client sites and minimal time in the Southbank office.

Currently, I perform Internal Audit reviews for my main client Boral (Dealing in construction materials - Concrete, Asphalt, Quarry excavations). Boral has plants all around Australia. Having only spent approximately 8 months with the firm, I have been lucky with the opportunities that this client has provided. Travelling to Mildura, Shepparton and Bendigo in performing these site visits has enabled me to see parts of Victoria that would otherwise have been unattainable. The daily duties accompanying a site visit can vary from meeting the production manager in discussing the plants procedures, policies and performance to the undertaking of a site walk around in order to gain an understanding of site operations.

How much exposure do you really have to clients?

Working at PwC offers great client exposure. The majority of my time has been spent out at client sites thus enabling us graduates at the firm to gain some real and exciting client experience.

What training have you had?

In my initial month at PwC I was subject to four weeks of intensive challenging training. Accompanying the initial training was a further two days of graduate development training which was more around self awareness i.e how does one best learn new information, what learning techniques best serve you in your future development.

Being self aware of individual learning styles at PwC gives one the opportunity in developing as one is able to grasp information that much quicker.

Other training I have undertaken is a two day Project Management course. This benefit in having the opportunity to select training courses that align with you future goals and aspirations is an excellent working environment to be involved in

What else have you been involved in at PwC?

Once a year each employee at PwC is required to attend 'PwC Foundation Day'. PwC have selected and approved charities that employees are able to attend and help volunteer for. This year I had the opportunity in helping out the RSPCA. Foundation day is great as you are able to give back to the community in the form of volunteering work.

PwC Application Dates:

Graduates Applications -

Open February 18

Vacationer Applications (2nd year students) -

Open February 18

Applications have no closing date, however there based on a first come, first serve basis. (www.careers.au.pwc.com)



Furthering your Career

Who we are

The La Trobe University Business Students Association is a student-run self funded organisation with over a thousand members studying the disciplines of Commerce, Economics, Finance, Accountancy, Management, Hospitality, and Sports Management.

La Trobe University Business Students Association

2 Research Avenue
Bundoora
VIC
3086

Email:

bsabiz@gmail.com

Visit us at:

www.ltubsa.org.au

The BSA is highly contributive to the university, faculty and accounting department by providing exposure to the students of possible future industries and firms that they may seek employment in. These are opportunities that they would otherwise not receive, and by corresponding with both the firms and the students, the students are able to gain an insight into possible ways to enhance their employment opportunities after completing their degrees.

What we do

We aim to provide our students with the resources and skills that they need for their future. Our activities are both social and professional which we view as a key to gaining student participation and maximising the benefits they reap from our events. Our social activities range from the O-week activities, book sale for students to our annual extravagant ball, whilst our professional activities range from careers nights, students visits to our sponsor offices to development workshops with potential employers.

Letter from the Editor

Dear Students

I hope you enjoyed your summer break taking the time to relax and unwind.

It's only the second week of University, but already things are in full swing. Most firms in Australia have moved their recruitment date forward from June last year to February this year, meaning the time to act is now.

As the number of unemployed across Australia increases daily, students will need every advantage possible to help you in securing your future. Hopefully the BSA can assist you in doing this.

To our 1st and 2nd year students, we advise you to be proactive at meeting employers and getting work experience.

The BSA has new and improved website so check it out at (www.ltubsa.org.au). We also have a Facebook group called 'The La Trobe University Business Students' Association (BSA)' where you can view upcoming events, meet other members as well as give us feedback on what the organization can do to improve.

I wish you the best of luck with your studies and hope to see you all at the events.

Kind Regards,

Tineyi Matanda

Vice-Chairman

Business Students' Association



Aim Higher