



FOSTER
Full-time MBA

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

A Message from Sigrid

Hello Class of 2016!

I hope you are all enjoying a superb summer full of new experiences, professionally as well as personally. Some of you are enjoying your first Seattle summer and others are spending their summer in a new locale! Regardless, I hope you are being challenged in new ways and adding to your skills and life experience.

Now that we are a little over a month away from starting Autumn Quarter, we are sending you a newsletter to help you get ready for your 2nd year. This is a good time to look over your schedule once again and consider the year ahead – perhaps through a different lens. It is not uncommon for returning students to have new interests they want to explore, which results in changes to their elective planning.

If that is the case, please plan to come in and meet with me. If you are out of the area, we can always speak by phone. You can make an appointment using our [online scheduling tool](#).

Enjoy the rest of your summer break.

I look forward to welcoming you back to campus in September,

Sigrid Olser

First Day of Class

The first day of Autumn Quarter is **Wednesday, September 30th**.

To celebrate the beginning of the new academic year, we will be holding a **Welcome Back Pizza Lunch** from 12:30 to 1:20pm in Anthony's Forum. Come by, grab a slice, and meet the first-year students!

Changes to Independent Study Elective Options for 2015/16

If you are planning to create an independent study for one of your electives this coming year, be aware that we have made a few changes:

- **Application-based** independent study projects will now be handled by the MBA Strategic Consulting program staff (Gordon Neumiller and Jen Bauermeister). **Academic-based and research-based** study projects will be handled by the Director of Full-time Student Affairs (Sigrid Olsen).
- The enrollment deadlines for an independent study have been adjusted as follows:
 - **4-credit projects**: Registration no later than the end of the first week of the quarter (per the academic calendar)
 - **2-credit projects**: Registration no later than the end of the 3rd week of the quarter.

If you are interested in designing an independent study for Winter or Spring quarter, plan to attend the Independent Study Info Session on **Thursday, October 22 from 12:30-1:20pm in PCAR 394**. You can also make an appointment at any time to meet with the appropriate staff member (see above) to discuss your project idea and the process for setting up an independent study.

Ways to Fulfill a Practical Experience or International Business Activity

If you are looking for classes that will allow you to fulfill your remaining professional development degree requirements, please refer to the [Year-At-A-Glance](#) document on our website to see the classes that are being offered this year that will fulfill these requirements. If you have any questions, please contact [Sigrid](#). Also, remember that participating in a 2nd-Year Field Study project is a great way to earn your remaining practical experience requirement (see below for more details).

Field Study Projects for 2015-2016

As 2nd Year Full-Time MBA students you are now eligible to participate in **Field Study projects**. Compared to Applied Strategy projects, the Field Study typically lasts 4-6 weeks longer, giving teams more time to fully understand the business challenge, research potential solutions, and develop in-depth

recommendations. Projects generally span two academic quarters, Fall-Winter or Winter-Spring. Interested students are invited to attend information sessions to learn about the projects and then self-select into teams and apply. Students who complete a Field Study project will receive 4 credits per project. Field Study projects are a great way to fulfill a practical experience requirement, earn elective credits, and put valuable experience on your resume.

We have one project already confirmed for this fall, with more opportunities in the pipeline. **Alaska Airlines will be here on October 1 at 5:00 PM** to talk about their project, which is to implement an industry-leading carbon offset program. You'll get a project description beforehand, along with specifics on team formation and selection.

Autumn Quarter Elective Openings

There are many Autumn Quarter electives that still have openings. If you would like to enroll in one of the following classes or otherwise change your schedule, email us at mbaregis@uw.edu.

- BA 545 A/B: **Global Business Forum**
 - BA 545 C/D: **Global Business Forum**
 - BECON 526 A/B: **Competing in the Global Economy**
 - BECON 527 A/B: **International Finance**
 - ENTRE 510 A/B: **Entrepreneurial Strategy**
 - ENTRE 542 A/B: **Venture Capital Investment Competition**
 - ENTRE 543 A/B: **Environmental Innovation Practicum**
 - ENTRE 579 C/D: **Biomedical Entrepreneurship**
 - ENTRE 579 E/F: **Health Innovation Practicum**
 - FIN 552 E/F: **Problems in Corporate Planning & Financing**
 - ENTRE/FIN 557 A/B: **Entrepreneurial Finance**
 - ENTRE/FIN 557 C/D: **Entrepreneurial Finance**
 - FIN 560 A/B: **Investments**
 - FIN 566 A/B: **Alternative Investments: Hedge Funds & Private Equity**
 - FIN 579 B/C: **Introduction to Real Estate Finance & Investment**
 - MGMT 547 A/B: **Successful Negotiations**
 - MGMT 579 A/B: **Consulting & Management Innovation**
 - MKTG 511 A/B: **Business-to-Business Marketing (1 spot left)**
 - MKTG 515 C/D: **Pricing Strategies**
 - ENTRE/MKTG 555 A/B: **Entrepreneurial Marketing**
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Case Competition Sponsorship Changes

The MBA Program Office is continuing to develop the External Case Competition sponsorship process. This year we have made the following changes based on your feedback:

- Teams of students wishing to participate in external case competitions (i.e., Baylor, Net Impact, KeyBank Minority) can now [apply to receive a grant](#) from the MBA Program Office to use toward their registration and travel expenses.
- If awarded a grant from the MPO, teams will receive instructions on how to proceed with registering for and booking travel to the competition, and a form to submit afterward to request reimbursements against their grant.

[Click here](#) to see a list of 2015-16 national case competitions.

[Click here](#) to apply for a grant for your team.

Online Directory – New Functionality

We are continuing to develop the online [MBA Student Directory](#) to make it a useful tool for you. This year we have implemented the following functionality:

- **Individual Detail Pages:** click on a student’s name to view their degree and job information
- **All Student Search:** click on the All Student Search tab to search all current Full-time and Evening students by name, UWNID, degree, or job information (note that some students have elected not to share degree and/or job information in the directory)

If you notice that the information listed about you is incorrect or out of date, please let us know by emailing mbaweb@uw.edu.

Replacement Name Tags and Name Tents

If you need to order **a replacement for your Foster name tag or name tent** for the new school year, please fill out this [application form](#). The costs for replacements are \$20 and \$3, respectively. The MBA Program Office will notify you when your replacements are available. *Please note that we will no longer laminate replacement name tents.*

First TG of the Year: October 2nd

The first TG of the year will be on October 2 and the theme is “Seattle Crunch & Grunge.” Come and get to know the first-year students and mingle with members of your own class. Look for more info from your VPs of Student Affairs.

MBA Staff News

Welcome, Collins Christmas!

Jessica Christmas will be out of the office for a few months as she gave birth to a lovely baby girl last Monday. Baby Collins and family are doing great! While Jessica is away, Jenny Forbes will be assisting you with registration issues. Please continue to email all of your questions and requests to mbaregis@uw.edu.

Goodbye Heidi Mathisen, Hello Gregory Heller



After many years helping students to accelerate their leadership development in the critical area of communications skills, **Foster Teaching Associate Heidi Mathisen** has decided to step back from working with students to allow more time for her family. Heidi's knack for assisting students in unlocking the power of their messages was truly exceptional. Whether providing one-on-one coaching for formal presentations, working with students on interview preparation, or helping student consulting teams deliver powerful recommendations to clients, Heidi helped students find a way to be their most authentic, most expressive, and most persuasive selves. She has been a great teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend. We are grateful for her many contributions to the Foster MBA community, and we wish her well on the next phase of her journey.

We are also pleased that Heidi helped in the recruiting of a new colleague who will continue the important work of helping students in the communications realm. **Gregory Heller** joined the Foster School as **Business Communication Advisor** in June. In this role, Gregory serves as a resource for the MBA community.

From Gregory Heller:

I am excited to join the Foster School and work with MBA students on developing and improving critical public speaking and presentation design skills. While my background and specific style may differ from Heidi, I will continue to offer the same range of services she did, from one-on-one coaching, to work with student consulting teams, independent study presentation and interview preparation. My mission is to help students communicate confidently, persuasively and authentically.

You can learn more about the kinds of coaching and support I can provide, and review a collection of resources on public speaking and presentation skills on [Canvas](#). You can also find my office hours, and information about scheduling appointments at other times on [Canvas](#).

Before joining the Foster School in June, I worked most recently in communications and public relations. In the past few years I have helped dozens of professionals prepare and deliver powerful presentations at conferences. I also volunteer with Ignite Seattle and help speakers hone their presentations for these quarterly events that routinely attract audiences of 700 or more. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you in your final year of study at Foster.

See you soon!
The MBA Program Office