



CHOICES

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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Finding Your Center

From the Dean's Desk....

Do you remember East Texas weather—especially in the spring? There can be such wide swings in temperature that one has to decide whether to button up from the cold front or sneeze from the blossoming pollen. This uncertainty reminds me so much of life. It's easy to be tossed about by changing circumstances and unexpected events.

As Dietrich Bonhoeffer encourages, "It is the mark of a grown-up man... that he finds his center of gravity wherever he happens to be at the moment..."

When spring finally settles in eliminating that bit of weather uncertainty, be steadfast my friend, find your center, in the more significant challenges that are coming your way.

Keep your feet on the path, your eye on the horizon, and "whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might..." (Eccl. 9:10) Many blessings.

Graduation!

Saturday
May 2nd

Traditional Students

9 a.m.

Graduate and Professional Studies

2 p.m.

Belcher Chapel
and Performing
Arts Center

Senior Awards

From left to right:

- Dr. Ken Fairweather
- Kevin Skinner, Outstanding Student,
Industrial Management
- Mrs. Kathleen Mays
- Colin Bartholemew, Outstanding Student,
Human Resource Management
- Dr. Beverly Rowe
- Greg Poelman, Outstanding Student,
Business Administration
- Dr. John Feezell
- Joe Birky, Outstanding Student, MIS
- Dr. Juan Castro
- Esther Castro, Outstanding Student, Finance



Not Pictured:

- Ben Luckert, Outstanding Student, Accounting
- Valerie Lewis, Outstanding Student,
International Business
- Kendra Koltermann, Outstanding Student, Marketing
- Clayton May, Excellence in Advertising
- Peter Trevino, Outstanding Student, Management



The Best of the Business School: Juan Castro, Professor of Finance & Economics



Background:

Originally from Honduras, Castro has been married for 24 years to Lizete Castro, a Bilingual and Montessori teacher with Longview ISD. They have three children, Juan Jr., Esther and Daniel. Juan Jr. and Esther are both expected to graduate from LeTourneau University in fall 2009. Juan Jr. is expected to apply to law school and Esther to apply to graduate school in finance. Dr. Castro has a bachelor's degree in Computer Science, a Master in Economics and a

Ph.D. in Finance and Economics from the University of New Orleans. His doctoral specializations include international finance, financial institutions and investments, and he has taught at several universities, such as the University of New Orleans, Southern University in New Orleans and East Texas Baptist University. He has served as Dean of the School of Business at East Texas Baptist University and Vice-President of Risk Management at Hibernia Bank in New Orleans.

Activities:

Castro believes he has a missionary calling for the Hispanic community in the U.S. Juan is an ordained Baptist pastor and four years ago, with his family and eight bilingual student students from LeTourneau, planted a Hispanic Baptist church in Longview, called Vida Abundante (Abundant Life). Currently, Vida has almost 200 people in attendance on Sundays and for the past two years has been recognized as the church with the most baptized new believers among all the Baptist churches in Gregg County. Juan also is the founder and the faculty adviser for Americans for Christ, an international and bilingual student association at LETU, as well as the Investment Club. He is also a regular contributor to the *Longview News-Journal*.

Global experience:

Castro has traveled throughout the world teaching, speaking and leading mission trips. In August 2009, he was invited to participate in the Oxford Round Table at Oxford University in England to discuss international policy and trade agreements, such as CAFTA-DC and NAFTA. His international teaching experience includes economic and finance instruction in Austria, Spain, Honduras and Ecuador. He has also traveled to El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico, Scotland, France, Austria, Germany, Czech Republic, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Favorite Bible verses:

Before entering a new land and a new culture, God gave the following words: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:7-9); and God's promise for those who love Him: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him."

A snapshot of
someone who
makes a big
difference,
from our
classrooms to
our community.

SIFE Ethics Bowl Competition 2009



SIFE hosted the first annual Ethics Bowl competition on Wednesday, Feb. 18. It was an overwhelming success with 32 participants.



Each team consisted of four people who were given an ethical case study to solve. The teams were evaluated on presentation of their solution as well as solution content.



Alumni News

We are looking for alumni to highlight in our upcoming issues! "Where are They Now?" will catch up with former students and highlight their accomplishments. Tell us where you are and what you are doing! Please include the year you graduated, degree, current position, family life and any other information you would like to share.

Email: schoolofbusiness@letu.edu or karenjacobs@letu.edu

Welcome Back!



Michael (2008) and Rachel Swartzbaugh Gaines (2007) With Dr. John Feezell



Alumni Reception
Homecoming 2009



Jesse Newton Class of '78 with Dr. Bob Wharton