

Hoarding Statements from the Fall 2009 Graduate Hoarding Ceremony

Master of Business Administration

Adam Antell

I am proud to have two degrees from the Clayton State University School of Business, where I have learned to dedicate myself inside and out of the classroom. I would like to thank the teachers for their thoughtful guidance and I look forward to watching the program develop, and feed the Atlanta business community with new talent.

T'leen Campbell

My decision to pursue an MBA was fueled by my desire to simply increase my knowledge and understanding of current best practices in business and to gain a better understanding of globalization. Every aspect of this program exceeded my expectations. The expertise of the professors, the diversity of our cohort and the opportunity to study abroad greatly enhanced my learning experience. I am confident that I am now fully equipped to compete in a global environment as a result of completing this program.

Shannan E. Coney

I entered this program for an education. Period. But something strange occurred while being here. After the endless hours of team assignment, projects, and presentations, I started liking “these people” in my cohort. And “these people” snuck into my life and have become lifelong friends. So I thank this MBA program not only for my education, but also for the countless hours of group work that created these friendships. And I see these friendships developing into successful business relationships. Thank you to my friends for all you have taught me along the way. And I wish the MBA program and all of you much success in the upcoming years.

Edward Connally

The Clayton State University MBA program has been an exceptional opportunity to gain exposure to strong leaders of the past, as well as develop relationships with current and future leaders. The coursework was challenging and has assisted my development as a leader at my job. I have used inspired stories from Hollis Harris and Joel Cowan to formulate plans for my next business venture. The Clayton MBA experience has been the best education choice that fits my personal situation.

Myesha Cottom

I started the MBA program on a leap of faith and it has proved to be fruitful. The program has allowed me to discover gifts I never knew I had and taught me not to limit my potential. I would like to thank my classmates and professors, with a special recognition to Nichole, Danielle, and Tomika – I could not have done this without you. Also, I would like to thank my family for supporting and believing in me. To my husband and son, thank you for love and the many sacrifices. This is for you!

Pam Davis

The cohort program at the Peachtree City location was the perfect venue. I appreciate the support of my family and especially my classmates. All these classes helped me broaden my perspective and challenged me to restructure my decision-making process. The communication and capstone classes had the biggest immediate impact on my career. It was an awesome experience!

Randy Davis

As a working father and husband, my time is extremely valuable to me. This program provided me with the flexibility to advance my education, while focusing on my family and career. The curriculum was relevant and challenging, and provided me with the tools to be successful throughout my career. My fellow cohorts brought a diverse and wide range of experience, which enhanced my learning experience.

Eva Durham

The MBA program has added tools to my management tool belt. I have gained a network of friends, contacts and support. Doors to new thinking have opened.

What do I expect to achieve in the coming years? Opportunity.

My unexpected "early retirement" and consequential career search have let me experience firsthand the MBA value. The MBA is definitely noticed, respected and opens doors for me.

Sherrie Eoff

Certainly some of my MBA education came from texts and lectures, guest speakers and research, but the vast majority came from interactions with the diverse group of people I spent nearly two years with. I am proud to say that I learned from some of the most talented people I have ever met. Thank you all!!!

Jon Geldbach

"Completion of CSU's MBA program was a challenge. I grew personally and professionally and the overall experience was very rewarding. To me, the most valuable aspect of the program is the ongoing network of classmates, business leaders and professors that was built over the past two years. I would like to thank my wife April and my children Wilson, Grace, and Thomas for making this dream a reality. Without their love and support this degree would not be possible."

Thanks,

Jon

Monika Klingler

Earning my MBA is a great honor and achievement. I would like to thank my husband, parents, classmates, and my dedicated professors; it has surely taken a village. It seems like only yesterday when I asked Dr. Finley how to use Excel and Ana Morgan, "What's a PowerPoint?" But today I have the tools and the confidence to be a strong business leader. Watch out!

Christopher Madura

The Clayton State MBA program provided me with the opportunity to continue my education to effectively meet the challenges of today's business environment. The educational curriculum and professors assisted me and provided hope for employment during a difficult time of unemployment. I was able to develop new avenues through relationships created within the CSU

MBA program. I now plan to further my education to acquire membership into the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) with my employer the Department of Aviation.

Regards,
Christopher

Celest Mapri Maimo

The program made me appreciate the value of team dynamics and the different strengths of individuals. I learned so much from my mates and the experiences they brought to the classroom setting was invaluable. The highlight of the program was when I saw the product of hard work in my final semester which made the experience worthwhile. I am grateful to the faculty who imparted their knowledge and grateful to my family who supported me.

Shawn Mechelke

My attendance in the MBA program was very timely. I was able to apply what I was learning in the areas of marketing, communications, leadership, and finance directly to my job while taking each course. While I was attending the program, we sold our company and my MBA pursuit positioned me for a senior level position with a large Fortune 500 company. I am now also pursuing new opportunities for the next phase in my career path and having my MBA has given me an advantage as I am being pursued by recruiters and obtaining interviews with large companies that I was not able to attain before.

I look back and can't believe how I made it through all the courses, study groups, etc. while balancing work and family as the time commitment was challenging. I will continue to build on what I learned in the CSU MBA program in my career pursuits and want to thank CSU and all the staff involved in bringing the opportunity and program to Peachtree City, GA.

Thank you,
Shawn

Ana Morgan

First, I would like to thank God for giving me the strength and the courage to pursue my MBA degree, as well as for blessing me with a wonderful family. I want to thank my husband and my girls for their encouragement and support, and my parents for believing in me. I guess getting my MBA would make it harder to convince my husband to let me stay home now. It has been a tough 20 months, but I could not have done this without the help of my cohort and all the teachers that shared their knowledge and expertise. Dr. May, I almost thought that I would never pass your class, especially the Communication and Leadership class. Thanks for all your help and for believing in me. Good luck to all my friends – both Cohort 2 and Cohort 3.

Heather Nemeth

Overall, my MBA experience has opened my world up to new possibilities. I have been inspired by professors, such as Dr. May, to reach beyond my comfort level expect more. Maybe I will pursue my doctorate in the future, who knows. Finally, the education that I have received from my fellow classmates is priceless. Thank you!

Rishwai Patel

I view my MBA experience as a projection of self-growth. I smile, reflecting back on the never-ending late night conference calls, emails, and study sessions between my peers. I want to thank my professors, MBA family, my parents, brother, and personal friends, that have inspired me to push forward and show my true potential as a strong, independent, and successful individual.

Arnold Powell

When I started Clayton State's MBA program I was excited, somewhat anxious, and a bit nervous. All of that changed quickly after meeting and working with my professors and classmates – some of the best entrepreneurs, bankers, accountants, and managers from many industries. Each relationship provided a great learning experience that was not only academic, but fun and practical. I will use tools and skills that I've learned in Clayton State's MBA program to develop one product for the toy industry, and one local business in Fayette County within the next two years.

Joshua Rochester

My mantra for the CSU MBA has been 'expect the unexpected'. I came into this program expecting to further hone my business skills. Instead, you all became my extended family and my focus shifted to relationship development and networking. We grew so much and I realized that the MBA was so much more about networking. I love you all and wish you much success.

John Sitler

Earning an MBA has been a culmination of a lifelong dream. The ability to discuss and exchange everyday business practices with highly qualified professors and fellow MBA students was both gratifying and enlightening. Even after over thirty years in the business world, I was still able to learn new techniques and ideas, which I have incorporated into my management style. I have and will continue to highly recommend the Clayton State University MBA program.

Jaigaye Spivey

The Clayton State MBA program has broadened my knowledge and made me more aware of business and management. My professors taught with such drive, thrill, and excitement that every class session ignited me with new, fresh ideas. The small class ratios gave me the opportunity to get to know my classmates and interact effectively with my professors. This program has given me a new sense of confidence and confirmed my ability to excel. I am happy to have been a part of something so wonderful and I look forward to the bright future ahead.