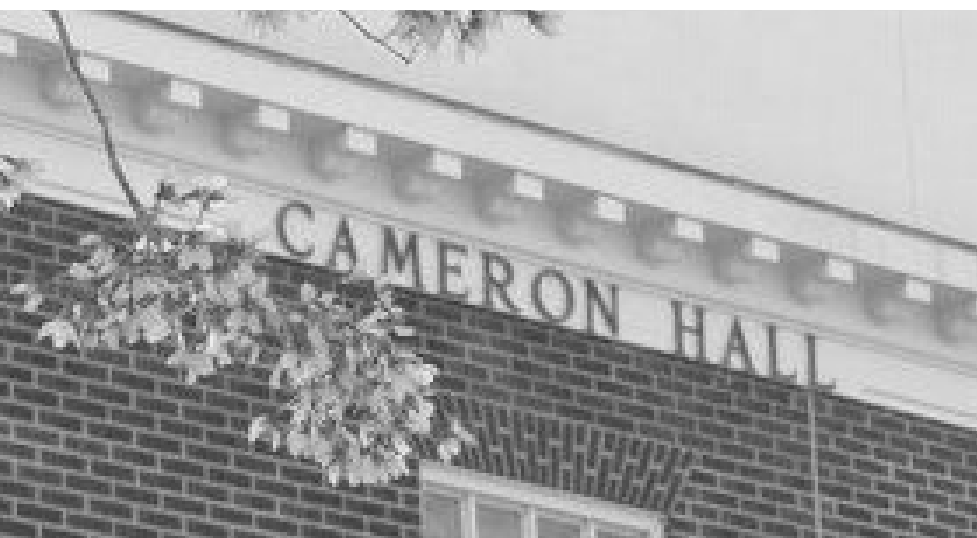


VOL. 2 | JUNE 2021

THE GRADUATE POST

Cameron School of Business Graduate Programs

Keeping you informed and engaged with the latest updates, news, and resources.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Your Newsletter, Your Voice *The Results*

We want to thank you for taking the time to share your feedback using the survey embedded in our initial newsletter which launched this past February. The results not only influenced the content for the June issue but also its name *The Graduate Post*, which we agree has a nice ring to it.

We also learned that what matters most to our readers, is staying informed on upcoming happenings in the Cameron School of Business, connecting to career resources and opportunities, as well networking with current students, alumni and faculty/staff through special features and interviews.

We've heard you loud and clear, and our goal is to ensure we incorporate these priorities into each future issue.

As always, we hope you enjoy connecting with Cameron through the pages of this newsletter- *happy reading!*

- A Global Impact, *Prague in Wilmington*
- Career Corner
- Meet Your Network, *Alumni Feature*
- CEO Magazine 2021 Rankings
- Connect with Cameron
- Upcoming Dates & Reminders

A Global Impact | Prague in Wilmington

Contributed by: **Dr. Rebecca Guidice**
Professor of Management
Director of the Executive & Professional
MBA Programs

Led by Drs. Nivine Richie, Rebecca Guidice, and Mark Pelletier along with our international partner GIOBA, 28 extremely talented MBA students (primarily from the Executive MBA program) nearing the end of their graduate studies recently undertook the challenge of completing an international consulting project with Packeta, a leading logistic provider in Central and Eastern Europe.

Although the global pandemic kept our students from traveling to Prague, it was George Earhart, one of the students, who cleverly proposed to have all the MBA students meet together in Wilmington for a "Virtual Residency to Prague." It was a success!

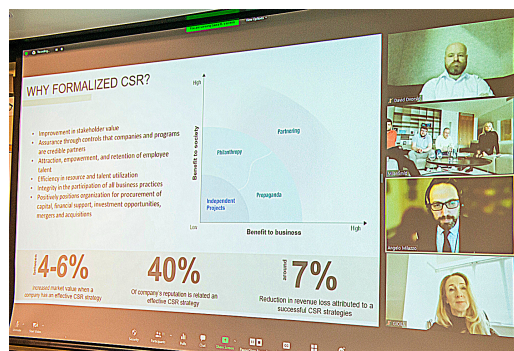
Five intense and highly productive days of research and collaborative critical thinking culminated in a final report focusing on four essential areas affecting Packeta's goal of expanding into the USA and UAE – strategic growth, logistics, corporate social responsibility, and promotional marketing.

Accompanying the report was an engaging 90-minute presentation to founder and CEO, Simona Kijonková, and members of her top management team.

Ms. Kijonková and her team were not only excited about the recommendations presented but also praised the MBA students for their impressive ability to truly grasp the essence of Packeta and its competitive challenges.

This praise confirms the quality of MBA candidates admitted into our program as well as demonstrates the rewarding opportunity they have to apply the knowledge and skills developed in the program in the context of an international experience.

The benefits don't end there. An experience such as this could, for example, also be the "it factor" that separates one of our graduating MBA students from the many applicants vying for a leadership position in today's dynamic and competitive job market.



GIOBA, Packeta and MBA students virtually collaborating



MBA students delivering their 90 minute presentation to Packeta's CEO and top management team

Perhaps the greatest aspect of the residency experience is witnessing our students working together as one united and powerful force. They bring a diverse catalogue of professions and experiences to deliver an end product that each student can see a part of their own individual expertise within. More importantly, by the end of the week-long journey, they share a special bond as they celebrate a successful close to this momentous chapter in their programs.

MBA students interested in one of our future international consulting projects, including an exciting experience in South Africa tentatively planned for early January 2022 should speak with their Student Success Advisor regarding their options and how it may impact their current Plan of Study.

Career Corner

Contributed by: **Teresa Walker, Director** and **Sara Kesler, Assistant Director**
Cameron School of Business Office of Student Professional Development

The mission of the CSB Office of Student Professional Development is to assist students in achieving their professional and career goals. We have developed an online, evolving resource specifically for graduate students; a self-enroll, non-academic Canvas course, Career and Professional Development. Modules within this course include:

- Information specific to professional development such as informational webinars, networking, professional correspondence, and career assessments
- Career resources, including job search tools, university specific resources, and online tools
- Up to date resume information, guides, and samples
- A wide variety of interview resources for various types and stages within the job interview process

You are also welcomed to schedule an appointment with our office for additional assistance. Contact information is located within this course under Introduction. Additionally, you can submit a resume for review directly through a link within the canvas course and you may also request assistance as you prepare for an interview. We welcome your input and realize the importance of engaging all stakeholders. Please feel free to email articles or videos on topics of interest to csbspd@uncw.edu.

Please click the following link to self-enroll with your UNCW email address: <https://uncw.instructure.com/enroll/TEL6ND>.

Visit the CSB Office of Student Professional Development site by [clicking here](#).

Meet Your Network

We are thrilled to showcase the breadth of prestigious professionals that make up the student and alumni network in the Cameron School of Business Graduate Programs. Each issue will feature curated content and interviews highlighting current students and alumni to further enhance your connection to your invaluable community of peers.

In this issue, we asked three recent Online MBA May 2021 graduates a few questions about their experience going through their program of study. Here's what they had to share.

Why did you choose UNCW's Cameron School of Business for your program of study?

Angelo: I chose Cameron for a number of reasons, including its reputation, the flexibility it offers through the online option for professionals, the high value and relatively low cost of the program, and the positive feedback I received from colleagues who participated in the program.

Bernadette: There have been a few people who are from my hometown of Clarkton (Bladen County), NC that attended UNCW and gave a high review. I was weighing my options and just decided to go for it. It was one of the best life decisions I could have ever made.

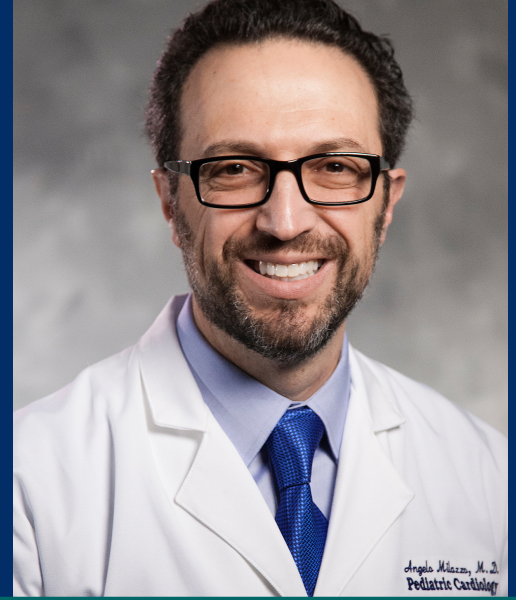
David: UNC Wilmington and CSB are quality institutions recognized for excellence in a state that has no shortage of great schools. One thing that set the OMBA programs at CSB apart is the seven-week course rotation. Because of the numerous demands on my time, I elected to take one class at a time to allow myself to focus only on one subject and still complete the program in two years. I had been wanting to do an MBA for years and finally this program allowed the flexibility that I need to maintain family life as a priority as well.

Did you have a favorite course/professor, can you tell us about them and why it stood out to you most?

Angelo: A difficult question, because the quality of the course offerings and level of instruction was so strong across my time in the program. I will highlight the Healthcare Analytics course for the contagious enthusiasm of the professor and the "adult learning" approach to the structure of the course.

Bernadette: I can't say that I had a favorite professor because I was fortunate and blessed to have those who were willing to go the extra mile to assist me in meeting the ultimate goal and that is graduating. There was one course that caught my interest and that was Project Management. After taking this class, I decided this was a certification I want to have and will be looking to take the Certified Project Management Assistant test in a few months.

David: With an Engineering background, I have really enjoyed the more technical courses such as Finance and Economics. I did take a class with Dr. Ed Graham on Real Estate Investment that was probably my favorite. He has a great sense of humor combined with extensive real-world experience in finance. The class itself was challenging and surprisingly applicable to some side projects that I had going on at the time.



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How did you create your network with your fellow peers in the program and how do you plan to stay connected with them in future?

Angelo: The most effective network building was accomplished through the many required group projects (in Marketing, Information Systems, Strategic Management, Operations Management, Accounting, etc.). To a lesser extent, the various discussion assignments across the program allowed for establishing connections between students. The residency activity that I chose at the end of my program was, in many respects, the perfect capstone, as it allowed me to bring together much of what I learned in the didactic courses, and it presented a fantastic opportunity to build relationships with teammates.

Bernadette: The connection I was fortunate to have with my fellow peers was great. We communicated a lot through emails, and text messages. There are some I do hope to stay connected with in the future.

David: One of the things that I liked about this program from the start is the choice to align students in a cohort that stayed together for approximately the whole program. This means that I have seen many of the same classmates through different courses, strengthening those bonds. The courses intentionally utilize the discussion boards and group projects that encourage teamwork and building good relationships. A lot of the learning in this program does come from your peers and their diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

Now that you have reached the finish line, as you look back on your experience what advice would you now give to yourself (or another student) first starting the program?

Angelo: I would advise a starting student to focus less on the quantitative markers of success in a graduate program (i.e., grades), and focus more on absorbing critical core principles taught across the classes. In particular, the management courses provide fundamental lessons which can form the basis for ongoing professional development and leadership skill growth. Students should pay close attention to the principles and examples provided in Management, Strategic Management, and Operations Management

Bernadette: The advice I would give to another student is "Stay the course and don't give up". Challenging days may arise but know you can do anything you put your mind to do. Just know that you are working toward advancing yourself to greater heights that will pay off in the long run. The advice I would give to myself is "BeNita, keep on soaring. You have accomplished this, you can accomplish more. You have done well."

David: Family, friends, or even your boss will often ask what you are learning in the program. The more courses you take, the more you see how they fit together to paint the bigger picture. That said, each course will have a few key takeaways that are applicable to you and an AHA! moment. Make sure you capture those and reflect on them even after that course and share them when people ask. Also, stay organized; there is a lot of content to stay on top of. I used OneNote to file everything digitally and make notes that I could look back at later, which always helps at exam time. Good luck!

What is next on the horizon for you and your career now that you have earned your advanced degree with UNCW?

Angelo: I hope to apply my new skills and the experiences I gained in this program to my current work in medical administration. But, as I consider options for the next phase of my professional career, I am also considering new opportunities which will be available based on my additional training. For example, I can envision a role at the level of Chief Medical Officer or Chief Executive Officer for a healthcare system, or another sort of venture entirely, such as a role in consultation for healthcare organizations.

Bernadette: My next step is to take a rest(smile) and ponder on this wonderful accomplishment, especially since it was always a dream for me but now a reality. I plan to leap into preparation for the Project Management portion of school along with other certifications later in the year. I am looking to advance more and want to have those credentials under my belt to better assist any organization I am fortunate to come in contact with, along with assisting my own consulting firm. While I have been fortunate to provide Supportive Services as a Regional Consultant for the NC Department of Transportation over the last few years, I am also looking forward to more advancement in the business industry along with keeping my connections in the government/construction industry. I don't foresee myself advancing in a doctoral program but anything is possible. However, I want to be able to encourage others that it is never too late to further their education, complete, accomplish their goals, and become the person they were destined to be.



David: For now, I plan to leverage what I have learned to strengthen my current role in management. I will enjoy the extra free time and spend more of it with my wife and kids. We love camping and spending time outdoors. Having enjoyed the OMBA so much, I have toyed with the idea of another master's degree at some point, but we'll see.

The stories of these recent grads may align with many of yours, or perhaps something new was sparked as they shared their perspective and experiences. We encourage you to connect with these alumni, broaden your network and share your story with one another. As we've learned from meeting these three successful graduates of our programs, opportunity to grow and learn doesn't end when you receive your diploma. Allow yourself to continue to thrive as you strengthen your roots within this incredible community at the heart of the Cameron School of Business.

Have questions or would like to be considered for a future feature?

Email us at csbgrad@uncw.edu



2021 GLOBAL MBA RANKINGS

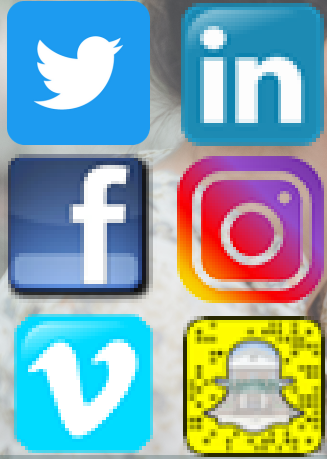
CEO Magazine has been showcasing top business schools from around the globe since it first launched in 2008. In 2012 the publication launched its annual Global MBA Rankings, profiling MBA, Executive MBA and Online MBA programmes. This year CEO Magazine reached out to business schools across North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and the BRICS, and ranked data from 180 schools, offering 338 different programmes in 27 countries (89 online, 90 EMBA and 159 full-time and parttime MBA programmes).

SCHOOL RANKINGS AT A GLANCE



CEO Magazine on issue:
<http://bit.ly/CEOMagIssuu>

Full List of Rankings:
<http://bit.ly/CEOMagRankings2021>



Congratulations

Academic Chapters

Get connected on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) with other CSB Alumni

Cameron School of Business ▲

About: Over 17,000 UNCW alumni graduated from CSB. The group hosts signature events including the annual Outstanding Alumni Speaker Breakfast and other networking opportunities. The mission of the Cameron School of Business Alumni Chapter is to engage, connect and provide networking opportunities for CSB Alumni to support UNCW and the Cameron School of Business.

Members: All graduates of the Cameron School of Business are members of the CSB Alumni Chapter.

A core group of volunteers serve on the alumni steering committee to assist with alumni engagement strategies and the planning and promotion of alumni events. These volunteers serve as ambassadors to UNCW, the Cameron School of Business and the Alumni Association.

Chapter President: Riley Stephenson '15

Spring 2021 Graduates!

Upcoming Dates & Reminders

Graduation Dates & Deadlines

Graduate students must be enrolled in the term in which they complete their graduate work or are scheduled to receive their degree.

OAP Schedule

Summer 2 and Fall 1 2021

Summer 2 2021

First Day of Class

June 28, 2021

Add/Drop Deadline

June 30, 2021

Payment Due by 10am

July 1, 2021

Last Day of Class

August 15, 2021

Fall 1 2021

First Day of Class

August 23, 2021

Add/Drop Deadline

August 25, 2021

Payment Due by 10am

August 26, 2021

Last Day of Class

October 10, 2021

How do I apply for graduation?

The graduation application is submitted through Seonet.

The link for the [Graduation Application](#) is under the Student Services & Financial Aid tab, click on Student Records, and then click on Apply to Graduate

All graduate students planning to graduate with a degree or certification must apply for graduation through SeaNet by the date established below.

Term	SeaNet Opens for Applications	Application Deadline
Summer 2021	June 24, 2020	June 22, 2021
Fall 2021	October 19, 2020	October 20, 2021
Spring 2022	March 22, 2021	March 21, 2022

Degree Audit

This is a good time to remind you to check on your progress towards your degree completion, by running a Degree Audit.

Your degree audit is a review of past, current and planned coursework that provides information on fulfilled and outstanding requirements that will be necessary to complete your program. Degree Audit is accessible through your SeaNet account.

Click below for step-by-step instructions on:

[How to Run a Degree Audit](#)

[How to Read a Degree Audit](#)

Thanks for reading!

Have any questions regarding the contents of this newsletter?

Email us at csbgrad@uncw.edu