



College of Business University of Nevada, Reno

Nevada grad ready to better the real world

BY BRANDI SCHLOSSBERG

With a degree in economics from the College of Business, Chris Driscoll is well-prepared to enter and enhance the world. A 2008 graduate of the University of Nevada, Reno, Driscoll credits outstanding College of Business professors and supportive scholarships with a prime role in his academic success.

The business major was selected by the Business Student Council as the 2008 College of Business Most Outstanding Senior, and his name has appeared on numerous dean's lists, both locally and nationally.

In the four years Driscoll attended UNR, he also played a vital role in a wide array of student activities and organizations, including executive vice president of the student body.

"The teachers in the College of Business promote a strong work ethic, which is something I use in every aspect of my college life, not just the classroom," Driscoll said. "I have excelled in many aspects of college life, and the College of Business was my springboard."

Driscoll will carry his work ethic into the community, where he has secured a position with The CFO Group, a Reno firm that offers consulting, audit, tax and technology services.

"My business education was progressive — we used technology in almost every class," Driscoll said. "My first real career has an IT component to it because of the computer skills I learned through my classes."

The Nevada graduate named his core business courses among the most valuable aspects of his entire education.

"These classes teach you so many of the basics that are necessary to function in the real world," Driscoll said. "I learned so much about the national and global financial systems, and that will always stay with me."

Driscoll's academic career was bolstered by several scholarships, including the Lincoln and Meta Fitzgerald Scholarship, which is open to full-time business majors who have a minimum grade point average of 3.0. Each year, roughly \$30,000 in scholarships is awarded to 15 to 20 business majors via the Fitzgerald endowment.

"Anything you can do to help people further their education is a good thing," said Lorraine Konarske, Meta Fitzgerald's sister-in-law and trustee of the scholarship. "Fitz and Meta wanted to give something back to the state of Nevada, because that's where they earned their money."

After moving to Reno from Michigan in 1945, the couple owned and operated the Nevada Club, Fitzgeralds Casino-Hotel, and the Nevada Lodge at Lake Tahoe, personifying business success.

Now the Fitzgerald legacy lives on in students such as Driscoll, who promise to bring their business savvy and strong work ethic to the world.

"My education is much more important than what the piece of paper — my diploma — says," Driscoll said. "The things I will take with me from the College of Business as I step into the real world will be how to handle myself professionally and how to get business done." ■



CHRIS DRISCOLL
BUSINESS '08



College of Business
University of Nevada, Reno

Investors in Excellence

The College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno is deeply grateful to all of its alumni and friends who give students such as Chris Driscoll the opportunity to achieve their dreams. The College of Business is here to train tomorrow's leaders. With your support, they will achieve remarkable things.

E.L. CORD FOUNDATION & ROXIE AND AZAD JOSEPH FOUNDATION

The E.L. Cord Foundation and the Roxie and Azad Joseph Foundation have provided substantial gifts to the College of Business to support the creation of a Business Student Success Center. The Success Center will be a place where students can meet with academic advisors and career counselors or gather with peers and faculty for study groups and tutoring.

PORT OF SUBS

In January, Port of Subs Owner and CEO John Larsen (accounting '72), opened a new location in the Joe Crowley Student Union. John saw this as an opportunity to directly impact UNR students. He worked closely with the College of Business to create a unique internship and clinical practicum program that gives students first-hand experience in operating a franchise.

NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION & BARRICK GOLD OF NORTH AMERICA

Newmont Mining Corporation and Barrick Gold of North America continue their support of the Elko MBA program with generous donations that will kick off another three-year collaboration. The College of Business first brought the MBA program to Elko in 1992. Both Newmont and Barrick have supported the program since 1995.

MALLORY FOUNDATION

Thanks to a major gift from the Mallory Foundation, four classrooms in the College of Business will be upgraded to "smart" classrooms. Smart classrooms allow instructors to demonstrate software, give multimedia presentations, perform simulations and display events in real-time over the Internet. Upon completion of the renovation, all classrooms in the College of Business will have been upgraded.

GARY AND JOANNE OWEN

Gary (marketing '68) and Joanne (social psychology '65) Owen recently increased the amount of scholarship money they give to College of Business students studying Supply Chain Management. The Owens have provided a scholarship for our students since 1994 and have generously supported the College of Business and other areas of the university for more than two decades.

L. LANCE GILMAN COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

L. Lance Gilman Commercial Real Estate Services provided a major sponsorship for the 2008 Regional Development Summit hosted by the College of Business Center for Regional Studies. The Development Summit showcased current and future high-impact, signature development projects within the Tahoe-Reno area. With more than 300 attendees, the event was a huge success.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The College of Business thanks the many friends and alumni who offer support through membership in the College of Business Alumni Association. This past year, the alumni association funded a work study student for the Career Connections office, provided financial assistance to the Management and Human Resource Association, hosted two graduation receptions, helped send the Integrated Marketing and Communications team to a national competition, provided seed money for the newly formed Business Student Council and organized a successful golf tournament to help fund the Career Connections program.

JACK MCLEOD

In 2003, Jack McLeod, principal at Nevada McLeod Group, put \$100,000 into an account at Wachovia for senior finance students to invest as they see fit. All interest earnings are donated to the College of Business. "Real money changes the whole perspective," he said, "rather than using computer simulations, which are relatively easy to use and monitor and have no real risk." This year, students earned more than \$7,000 — the best return in five years.

KEYSER FOUNDATION

The Robert and Dorothy Keyser Foundation continues to generously fund the Keyser Foundation Business Scholarship Endowment. This endowment awards two \$5,000 scholarships to deserving business students each year. Since its establishment in 2003, 10 outstanding students have received the scholarship.

CITIGROUP

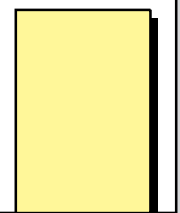
Citigroup continues to support NxLevel, the Nevada Small Business Development Center's (NSBDC) entrepreneur curriculum. This 13-week course helps entrepreneurs advance their skills in starting, growing and managing their businesses. NxLevel is one of many free or low-cost services provided by the NSBDC to Nevada businesses. The NSBDC is located on the fourth floor of the Ansari Business Building.

Business Student Success Center

The College of Business is raising money to renovate space and create a Business Student Success Center where students have convenient access to academic advisors, professors, student organizations, peer tutors, career counselors and recruiters. **We need your help in meeting our goal.** Your contribution, regardless of size, will give students a progressive hub for learning assistance and professional skill development within the College of Business.

GOAL:
\$550,000

AMOUNT RAISED:
\$215,000



To learn how you can support the Business Student Success Center or explore other ways to give to the College of Business, visit www.business.unr.edu or call (775) 682-6490.

Business is more than you think
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS www.business.unr.edu

The CFO Group banks on UNR College of Business

BY BRANDI SCHLOSSBERG

Half the staff of The CFO Group — including both founders — is made up of Nevada graduates. The hiring pattern is a reflection of respect for the University of Nevada, Reno, and specifically the College of Business.

“We have hired three graduates from the College of Business Administration in just the last few months,” said Tanya McCaffery, CPA and president of The CFO Group, a Reno-based firm that provides financial and IT services. “It’s a great business school with a wealth of wonderful professors.”

A Nevada grad herself, McCaffery founded The CFO Group in 2002 along with fellow Wolf Pack alumnus Dan Allen. Both had experience in the realms of audit and public accounting, and wanted to create a company that could go beyond those traditional services.

“We started the firm as an outsourced CFO firm — providing part-time or interim chief financial officers to companies that desperately needed that level of expertise, but only needed it on a part-time or interim basis,” McCaffery said. “We then grew the firm to include more traditional services offered by certified public accountants, such as audit and tax.”

In roughly six years, The CFO Group has grown to a staff of 14 consultants. Recently, the firm added IT to its suite of services, in order to provide client companies with high-end network setup, administration and support, as well as partnerships with suppliers such as Microsoft, Cisco and Dell.

“We have always been able to provide high-level chief financial officer expertise to companies that otherwise would not find it cost-effective to have a full-time CFO on staff,” McCaffery said. “Through our other divisions, we are now able to provide a full array of services to our clients and address most of the ‘necessary evils’ associated with owning and running a business.”

With more than 150 clients based mostly in Northern Nevada, it seems The CFO



Tanya McCaffery and Dan Allen of The CFO Group count on the UNR College of Business to prepare tomorrow’s top employees.

“The people behind the business are everything. It’s vital to our success as a firm that the team works together well and that we are good at what we do.”

— Tanya McCaffery
President, The CFO Group

Group is filling a much-needed niche. The firm works extensively in the construction, retail and manufacturing fields, and with employee benefit plans and homeowner associations.

“Because we offer our services on a part-time or interim basis, it’s the same experience at a fraction of the cost,”

McCaffery said.

McCaffery credits the passion and sincerity of the staff at The CFO Group with the company’s swift rise to success. She said the firm’s employees break the traditional CPA and IT stereotypes, as they compose a dynamic, fast-paced team.

“The people behind the business are everything,” she said. “It’s vital to our success as a firm that the team works together well and that we are good at what we do.”

“When I decided to leave public accounting, I guess I could have consulted on my own,” McCaffery added, “but I would have never had the synergy and diverse, amazing experience that our team brings to the table.”

Contact The CFO group at thecfogroup.com or (775) 359-7600. ■