

The Network

Business Alumni Network

What is BAN?

The Business Alumni Network is for all alumni who are part of the business industry, whether you are a recent graduate or someone with significant experience. We are made up of good, dedicated people, who are proud of our careers, education and the University of St. Francis community.

Why Join?

This network provides beneficial networking opportunities, social events and fosters relationships between students and alumni. The group assists alumni looking for jobs, changing careers, hiring employees or just looking to reconnect with other alumni. By creating this network, a variety of backgrounds, experiences and talents are made available as a resource to others.

Commitment

BAN has 4-5 meetings a year on Saturday mornings 8:30 a.m. in the Alumni Meeting Room, Motherhouse. A light breakfast is served at 8 a.m. You may participate via conference call at (888) 204-5987, passcode 3281760.

How Else Can You Help?

Consider hiring fellow USF alumni at your place of business or connect us with your employer for a corporate partnership and tuition discount.

For More Information or to Join

Call (877) 811-ALUM or by email at alumni@stfrancis.edu



Student Organization News



There are currently 3 clubs on campus for business students; ACE, FREE, and SBA. They are always looking for speakers for events. If you would like to speak at an event or would like more information, please contact the following people:

For ACE: Steve Morsette

For FREE: Shannon Brown

For SBA: Rich Vaughan



Student Alumni Mentoring Program (SAM)

In its third year, SAM matched 36 students with 36 mentors allowing for a very successful year. This program was established to bring students and alumni together in order to provide a professional relationship, which will help mentor current students preparing to begin their careers. To volunteer or for more information, please contact the Alumni & Family Relations Office at (877) 811-ALUM or alumni@stfrancis.edu

Alumni Article:

Joliet's New Link to The World

By: Tim Wills '92

Will County has been a major commercial center since the 1840s, when the Illinois & Michigan Canal was completed. The county, and especially Joliet, became of increasing importance once railroads were built to serve the area beginning in the early 1850s.

The latest addition to the area transportation network is CenterPoint Intermodal Center to the immediate south of Joliet in the town of Elwood. Built on the former site of the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, CenterPoint Intermodal Center (<http://www.centerpoint-intermodal.com/>) was completed in 2002, and is the site of intermodal facilities operated by BNSF Railway and Union Pacific Railroad, distribution centers, and a grain transload facility on the DesPlaines River.

CenterPoint Intermodal Center is easily accessible from I-55 at the Arsenal Road exit. BNSF's Logistics Park Chicago (LPC) intermodal facility is located south of Arsenal Road along Baseline Road, and Union Pacific's Global IV facility is west of Route 53 between Laraway Road and Millsdale Road. Both railroads' facilities transfer freight containers between trains and trucks.

BNSF's facility is on its Chicago-Los Angeles line, and the UP intermodal terminal is on the Chicago-St. Louis route that also hosts Amtrak passenger trains.

Several distribution centers are also at the CenterPoint site, including Cargill, WalMart, Bissell, and Georgia-Pacific.



As the Will County Center for Economic Development noted, "Over \$65 billion of international freight passes through these facilities annually." (<http://www.willcountyced.com/>) Both the UP and BNSF terminals together handle "over 3 million TEU (twenty foot equivalent) international containers every year with room to double that capacity" (Will County CED). Overall, "Will County has 12,528 jobs in the transportation/logistics sector in 2014 with an average wage of \$52,469" (Will County CED).

The trailers and containers handled at this site would have otherwise gone into previously-existing intermodal terminals in the city of Chicago, only to be hauled back to Joliet by truck. Other traffic flows previously may have been transported exclusively by highway, bypassing the rail network entirely.

Another area of the site is a transload facility for automobiles at the BNSF facility. New autos are shipped in by rail, and in turn are re-loaded onto trucks for delivery to Chicago-area dealerships. Grain is also handled at the CenterPoint site by way of a barge terminal on the DesPlaines River segment of the Illinois Waterway.

Centerpoint Intermodal Center has stimulated growth in the logistics industry in nearby communities. A warehousing facility, RidgePort Logistics Center (<http://www.ridgeportlogisticscenter.com/>) is under construction on Lorenzo Road off of I-55 in Wilmington. This facility, in addition to easy highway access, is also to be served by BNSF Railway. A tenant will be a major distribution center for Michelin. Cherry Hill Business Park (<http://www.cherryhillbp.com/>), located between Joliet and New Lenox, is easily accessible from I-80, and has direct rail access on Canadian National (CN), and advertises itself as being in close proximity to the BNSF and UP intermodal facilities in Elwood. Distribution centers located there include Michael's, Central Grocers (Centrella), and Navistar.

Whether you are looking for a job, or perhaps considering starting a business, the Joliet area's newly-improved connections to the global market make it a great place to do business in the global economy.

-Timothy Wills

-B.B.A. 1992

-Tim holds the office of BAN Secretary, and worked for Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad and Canadian Pacific Railway

Upcoming Alumni Events

2015 BAN Meetings

Join fellow business alumni in a group that provides networking, social events and interaction with current USF students. The group assists alumni looking for jobs, changing careers, hiring employees or just looking to reconnect with other grads. All alumni are welcome and breakfast is served!

Saturday, May 2nd

Saturday, September 12th

Saturday, November 7th

8:30 am

Alumni Gathering Room, Motherhouse 2nd Floor

Complimentary

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta!

Sponsored by the Family Association

Join us as we celebrate Mexican culture that's enjoyed worldwide a few days early this year with traditional cuisine and an authentic Mariachi band. Margaritas (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic), chips, salsa and guacamole will be plentiful and all are invited to join in on the festivities!

Friday, May 1

5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Turk Theater, Tower Hall 1st Floor

\$10 per person

(\$5 of each ticket is a tax deductible donation)

Joliet Slammers Game & Picnic

Play ball! Join us for an evening with friends, food, fireworks and fun! A picnic dinner is included with each ticket. Watch with us while the Joliet Slammers bring home a win "at the old ball game!"

Friday, May 22

7:05 p.m.

Silver Cross Field, Joliet

\$8 per person (3 & under are free)

Limited Tickets Available

Young Alumni Happy Hour

Head on over after work and celebrate the start of the weekend! Open to alumni aged 22 to 35, gather a group of alumni friends or just drop by on your own. RSVP by May 29 and your first drink is on us! Food will be served; Cash bar.

Friday, June 12

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Bernie's Pub, Motherhouse 1st floor

Complimentary (\$5 donation = Free T-Shirt!)

Assisian Club Dinner with the President

Honoring the class of 1965 and before, we welcome you and a guest for a lovely evening filled with friends new and old, while we dine together on a delicious meal and reminisce your years at St. Francis. Join us as President Arvid Johnson, Ph.D. hosts this event in honor of you.

Saturday, July 11 5 p.m.

San Damiano Hall, Motherhouse 3rd Floor

Complimentary

Business Alumni Network (BAN) Bowling Party

Sponsored by the Business Alumni Network

Come join the Business Alumni Network (BAN) for an evening of bowling and fun. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy great company! All alumni are invited.

Friday, July 17 5 p.m.

Town & Country Bowl, Joliet

Outdoor Family Movie Night

Join alumni and friends for a family-friendly movie on an inflatable movie screen out on the quad. Bring your families, blankets and chairs and leave the rest to us! Snacks and treats will be provided. RSVP by June 30 for a free gift for your children!

Saturday, July 18 8:30 p.m.

USF Quadrangle

Complimentary

Spring 2015 Issue

Editor:

Emily Egizio

Senior, Marketing and
Management major