IN THIS ISSUE:
• DEAN SHARPE’S LEGACY
• STUDENT SUCCESS
• FACULTY SPOTLIGHT
• GSRM HIGHLIGHTS
• Q&A WITH WILLIAM G. SCHAEFFER ’73CBA AND LINDA M. SAMA, PH.D.
• INTERVIEW WITH NEW DEAN MACIEK NOWAK, PH.D.
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business is proud to provide students an education that is entrepreneurial, experiential, and global. We have remained committed to our vision to be recognized as a distinct leader in business education, providing a transformative learning experience based on Vincentian ideals, as we continue to inspire our students to achieve their professional goals in a diverse and dynamic environment.

Over the past seven years, we have made many strides in improving the metrics of student success for both our undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, we have developed and launched innovative curricular and cocurricular programs, improved our internship and job placement rate, and raised important resources for our students and faculty. As our University continues to manage and mitigate external risks and challenges, we applaud the resiliency of our students, faculty, administrators, and staff. The dedication and devotion of our faculty to scholarship and teaching in a variety of modalities has exceeded expectations.

Our experiential learning opportunities have thrived during the past seven years, as evidenced by growth in our:

- Applied Finance Institute (AFI)
- Executive in Residence Program (EIRP)
- James and Eileen Christmas Business Plan Competition
- Junior Faculty Mentoring Program (JUMP)
- Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF)
- Thomas J. Cox, Jr. Honors Program
- Tobin CEO Seminar Series
- Tobin Graduate Intensive Foundation (TGIF)
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program.

It has been my honor to serve as Dean of The Peter J. Tobin College of Business for the past seven years and we are proud of the positive metrics in the placement and performance of our students and the professorships endowed by our dedicated alumni.

I am grateful to all our generous and devoted alumni who have supported Tobin College over the past seven years and look forward to learning of Tobin’s continued growth in the years to come.

Norean R. Sharpe, Ph.D.
Dean
Joseph H. and Maria C. Schwartz Distinguished Chair
Professor of Business Analytics
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business
DEAN SHARPE’S LEGACY AT TOBIN

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

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<tr>
<th>B.S. Business Analytics</th>
<th>M.S. Business Analytics</th>
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<tr>
<td>B.S. Financial Mathematics</td>
<td>M.S. Global Management and Entrepreneurship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences)</td>
<td>M.S. Marketing Intelligence</td>
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<td>Online M.B.A.</td>
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Dean Sharpe will be remembered for her dynamic leadership at The Peter J. Tobin College of Business and for her success in enhancing its recognition for providing a quality business education.

– John P. “Jack” Clarke, Esq. ’55CBA, ’57L Chair, Department of Business Law

Dean Sharpe’s leadership was the catalyst for the significant and consistent advancement of program offerings, outcomes, and recognition for The Peter J. Tobin College of Business, which can be clearly seen through its rise in several of the most trusted business school rankings.

– Timothy L. Kainingham, Ph.D., J. Donald Kennedy Endowed Chair in E-Commerce and Professor of Marketing

Dean Sharpe has been transformative, as she has campaigned to have Tobin College recognized as one of the nation’s top business schools. Most importantly, she fostered a culture focused on excellence, service, and impact. Dean Sharpe is a world-class educational leader and innovator.

– Christopher P. Long, Ph.D., Paul Naughton Professor of Management and Executive Director, Executive-in-Residence Program

When Dean Sharpe arrived at St. John’s, Tobin’s undergraduate program was unranked; today, it is a top-50 program. Under her leadership, the M.S. in Global Management and Entrepreneurship was instituted, the Executive-in-Residence Program (EIRP) was expanded and enhanced, and the Tobin First-Year Experience course was created.

– John Angelidis, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Management, Entrepreneurship, Consulting, and Operations

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STUDENT SUCCESS

Juan Arrieta
As a senior Tobin student with a near-perfect grade point average of 3.96, Juan Arrieta ‘23TCB chaired the Tobin Student Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, which was charged with developing and implementing suggestions to enhance the inclusive environment from both a curricular and cocurricular perspective for all Tobin students. His other activities included the GenUnion (finance mentoring program), Financial Management Association (FMA), St. John’s Student Ambassador Program, and Project AIM (mentoring program). Finally, Juan has also served as an Applied Finance Institute Fellow, a member of the Economics and Finance Society, and a Career Peer. The Colombia native interned as a corporate bank analyst at Deutsche Bank, and plans to return there to work full time after graduation.

Katerina Yiasoumi
Katerina Yiasoumi ’22TCB, ’23MS of Astoria, N.Y., is a graduate student in the M.S. Business Analytics program with a 4.0 grade point average. She received the Outstanding Paper Award in 2022 at the St. John’s Research Symposium for “An Econometric Model of US Government Sector Yield Curve Levels and Dynamics,” which is based on her masters thesis. She has also presented her work at the Global Business Research Symposium in Rome, Italy, the European Decision Sciences Conference in Dublin, Ireland, and the Decision Sciences Institute Sector Yield Curve Levels and Dynamics,” which is based on her masters thesis. She has also presented her work at the Global Business Research Symposium in Rome, Italy, the European Decision Sciences Conference in Dublin, Ireland, and the Decision Sciences Institute Conference in Houston, TX. A UBS Arena and New York Islanders Graduate Student Scholar, Katerina was a data and analytics intern at the insurance and reinsurance firm Vantage Services LLC in her last semester, applying her affinity for acquiring and analyzing data.

DANIELLE S. PATTERSON ’22MPS, ’24MBA
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
The Brooklyn, NY native and graduate of The Mary Louis Academy is working on her M.B.A. in strategic management while maintaining a 3.8 grade point average. Danielle previously earned her M.P.S. in Sport Administration from The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. She went to the NCAA Final Four twice with the University of Notre Dame, winning a championship in 2018, and ultimately graduated from Indiana University with a degree in sports broadcasting and communications. As a St. John’s graduate student in 2021–22, she played in 30 games, including 14 starts, averaging 23.7 minutes, 8.2 points, and 4.7 rebounds per game. She plans to remain in the sports industry after graduation, either behind the bench or in the front office.

JACK SIMON ’22TCB, ’23MBA
MEN’S GOLF
By winning the BIG EAST individual golf championship on April 30 at the Riverton Pointe Golf Club in Hardeeville, SC, the Sparta, NJ native became the eighth Red Storm player to win the BIG EAST and the first since 2015. Jack competed in the NCAA Regional Tournament in May and now plans to turn pro after he completes his MBA.

CAIDEN VLASIMKY
MEN’S LACROSSE
A finance major from Dallas with a 3.9 grade point average, Caiden is a starting midfielder for the Men’s Lacrosse team and was named a BIG EAST All-Academic in 2022. An Applied Finance Institute Fellow, he was an investment research intern at Icon Wealth Partners in Houston, TX in the Summer of 2022. Before coming to St. John’s, he was an Eagle Scout and coached first-through eighth-grade lacrosse.

GRACE BERNARDI ‘23TCB
WOMEN’S SOCCER
The graduate of Massapequa High School obtained her B.S. in Marketing with a 3.82 grade point average. A Fast-Track student, Grace will start her M.B.A. in Business Analytics in the fall. In her Academic Service-Learning project with buildOn, she raised $2,500 and continues to work with the organization to send volunteers to build schools in Central America. The recipient of a full athletic scholarship, she played in 17 matches, making 15 starts, as a junior in the Fall of 2021, her most recent season.

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TOBIN CELEBRATES STUDENT-ATHLETES

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
DANIELLE S. PATTERSON ’22MPS, ’24MBA

MEN’S LACROSSE
CAIDEN VLASIMKY

MEN’S GOLF
GRACE BERNARDI ‘23TCB

TOBIN STUDENTS WIN BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION
The annual James and Eileen Christmas Business Plan Competition and Pitch Event was held on April 13, on the St. John’s University Queens campus. This year’s top prize of $5,000 went to Louis Balducci ‘23TCB for NYC Arts Cypher. This arts venue in Staten Island, N.Y. inspires and educates by providing an opportunity for people to express themselves freely in an artistic environment.

The runner-up, with a prize of $2,000, was Stephanie Marroquin ‘23TCB for Fridge IT, a mobile app that provides the expiration dates for refrigerated food, as well as recipes for foods recognized in the refrigerator. The third-place prize of $1,000 went to Hakeem Clinton ‘23TCB for the cannabis-infused bakery Half-Baked.

The top Pitch Event winner was Biret Shrestha for Mad Honey Records, a music promotion service for South Asian musicians.

Sponsor James Christmas ’70CBA, ’10HON, retired Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of KCS Energy, served as the lead executive judge. The other judges were Scott Lemperle, Executive Director of St. John’s University’s Auxiliary and Conference Services; Roger A. Hans, M.B.A., Adjunct Assistant Professor of Management at the Tobin College of Business; and Alexander Berman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Management at the Tobin College of Business. Albert Bateh ’16TCB, Chief Executive Officer of EZ-Net Hair Care, was the keynote speaker and the other executive judge.

Once again, William D. Reisel, Ph.D., Professor of Management in the Department of Consulting and Operations, served as director of the competition.

The Brooklyn, NY native and graduate of The Mary Louis Academy is working on her M.B.A. in strategic management while maintaining a 3.8 grade point average. Danielle previously earned her M.P.S. in Sport Administration from The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies. She went to the NCAA Final Four twice with the University of Notre Dame, winning a championship in 2018, and ultimately graduated from Indiana University with a degree in sports broadcasting and communications. As a St. John’s graduate student in 2021–22, she played in 30 games, including 14 starts, averaging 23.7 minutes, 8.2 points, and 4.7 rebounds per game. She plans to remain in the sports industry after graduation, either behind the bench or in the front office.

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volunteers before the filing season ended on April 18. Almost 2,000 taxpayers reached out to St. John’s the VITA Lab, which has been in existence since 2014. Students can process returns in person or virtually through certification test and undergo tax-preparation training. The University partnered with the Food Bank for New York City tax break for low- and moderate-income families, to fund Taxpayers must make $60,000 or less to qualify. Many VITA C.P.A., Ph.D., St. John’s volunteer filers have returned moreAngelica Kusnowo Emily E. Encalada Grace Comas Daniel A. Chacko PRESIDENT’S SOCIETY 2023–2024 DEAN’S REPORT 2022–2023
TOBIN HIRES NEW FACULTY

Natalie Dixon, D.B.A., Assistant Professor of Accountancy, worked as an auditor for two of the Big Four accounting and auditing forms for more than a decade before returning to school. She earned her doctorate from the University of Scranton in 2022 with a dissertation on “Accounting Students’ Academic Dishonesty – What Accounting Students Believe.”

As an Assistant Adjunct Professor at York College/CUNY, she taught courses in intermediate accounting and auditing, as well as some continuing education courses.

Michael D. Herley, D.B.A., Assistant Professor of the Practice in Business Analytics and Information Systems, has more than 26 years of industry experience. He was a partner at Kekst CNC until June 2019, when he left to launch his entrepreneurial venture and focus on his doctoral degree, which he earned in 2021 from the Jack Welch College of Business & Technology at Sacred Heart University.

In his courses, Dr. Herley focuses on practical applications and experiential learning. His research leverages regime-switching models and machine-learning techniques to improve time-series econometric forecasts. Dr. Herley’s ongoing research focuses on examining the relationship between financial and economic variables at different levels of market risk using self-exciting threshold autoregressive and Markov-switching models.

Wanchu Li, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Risk Management and Insurance at the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science, focuses on the management of financial risks that life insurers face from offering equity-linked investment products, such as variable annuities, and on whether the life insurers’ own investments prioritize sustainability. Her research adds to our understanding of the systematic risk exposure of US life insurers resulting from long-term financial guarantees and provides insights on insurers’ participation and contribution to environmental, social, and governance sustainability in the business community and society as a whole. Dr. Li is also interested in the topics of retirement savings products, investment management, insurance economics, and corporate social responsibility.

As a doctoral candidate at the Fox School of Business at Temple University, Dr. Li taught or cotaught courses in Actuarial Corporate Finance, Actuarial Economics, Long-Term Actuarial Modeling, Short-Term Actuarial Modeling, Seminar in Risk Theory, Advanced Theory of Interest, and Theory of Interest. She is currently pursuing Associate of the Society of Actuaries and Fellow of the Society of Actuaries designations.

Roy Weissman, M.B.A., Assistant Professor of the Practice in Management, is an entrepreneur and strategic executive whose business career was centered in management and client-facing roles in the media and technology industries. Possessing almost two decades of media, technology, and digital industry experience driving business growth, expansion, and competitive excellence via strategic planning and allocation of resources, he teaches courses in Leadership, Ecommerce, Managerial Strategy and Policy, International Business, Organizational Behavior, and Operations and Management Information Systems. He has also taught at Northeastern University.

His extensive and varied business career includes senior management positions in industries including education, media and technology. Working with many different organizations, Professor Weissman has mentored and advised more than 75 companies on issues involving management, strategy, and customer acquisition strategies and tactics.

GLOBAL DESTINATION COURSES

CORK, IRELAND

A group of 24 Thomas J. Cox, Jr. Honors students traveled in March to Cork, Ireland to learn about international management by visiting firms and area universities. The students, along with Norean R. Sharpe, Dean and Joseph H. and Maria C. Schwartz Distinguished Chair; Niall C. Hegarty, Ed.D., Associate Professor, Department of Management; and Tracey L. Freiberg, Visiting Professor, Economics and Finance, visited manufacturing facilities at firms such as Dell Technologies, met with faculty at the University College Cork (UCC) and Munster Technological University (MTU), and learned about Irish history through cultural visits. The Tobin students and faculty met with the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork, who gave an overview of the governance and history of Cork.

MADRID, SPAIN

As part of the marketing course Marketing for Hospitality and Tourism and the management course International Management, students traveled to Madrid, Spain, in March with Iris Mohr, Ph.D., Chair and Professor of Marketing, and Leonora Fuxman, Ph.D., Professor of Operations Management, to identify and explore cross-cultural issues and hospitality, leisure, and international trends of significance in the global business environment. The focus of this trip was on the challenges and opportunities in marketing and strategy in the hospitality and leisure international marketplace, as well as on the challenges associated with operational management and strategy of both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations operating in the global environment.
Vaibhav Anand, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Robert F. Corroon Chair of Risk at GSRM, worked in financial services and risk management for nine years before entering academia. His broad research interests are in risk management and insurance. He uses empirical and analytical methods to study how people and firms make risk management decisions. His current research focuses on the implications of forecast improvements for risk management. He holds a Bachelor of Technology in Engineering Physics from Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, an M.B.A. from Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, and a Ph.D. in Risk Management from GARP, USA. He earned his Ph.D. in Risk Management and Insurance at the Wisconsin School of Business, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Mikael C. Bergbrant, Ph.D., Reed-McDermott Associate Professor of Finance is a Chartered Financial Analyst who regularly publishes articles in the Journal of Financial Intermediation, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, and Financial Management. Dr. Bergbrant has won several awards for both his research and teaching while at St. John’s, such as the Excellence in Teaching Award by the National Society of Leadership and Success. He is currently the advisor of the Student-Managed Investment Funds, which is valued in excess of $6 million. Dr. Bergbrant holds an M.B.A., M.S.F., and a Ph.D. from the University of South Florida.

Mark J. Browne, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Risk Management and Insurance at the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, is an expert in Risk Management and Insurance. Dr. Bergbrant holds an M.B.A., M.S.F., and a Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Management, Bombay, an M.B.A. from Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow, and a Ph.D. in Risk Management from GARP, USA. He earned his Ph.D. in Risk Management and Insurance at the Wisconsin School of Business, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Anna D. Martin, Ph.D., Professor and Alois J. Theis Chair in Global Finance has been recognized for her teaching, research, and service. Her research specialties include international corporate finance, corporate hedging, and regulatory impact on corporations. She has published 45 academic research articles in high-quality finance and business journals. In 2017, she launched the Tobin Applied Finance Institute, which includes the Applied Finance Fellows Program. She also cofounded and cochairs the annual Financial Management Association’s Applied Finance Conference, which brings together academicians and practitioners. Dr. Martin earned her B.S. in Industrial Management from Purdue University, her M.B.A. from the University of Miami, and her Ph.D. from Florida Atlantic University.

David Pooser, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Robert F. Corroon Chair of Risk at GSRM, has published scholarly papers in several risk and insurance journals, and regularly presents research at national and regional academic conferences. He also consults with state lawmakers and regulators on fundamental risk and insurance topics. He serves on the Advisory Council of the Institutes Griffith Foundation, which seeks to promote insurance education for public policymakers, and as a Director-at-Large for the Big I of New York, a trade association for independent insurance agents and brokers. Dr. Pooser earned his Ph.D. in risk management and insurance from Florida State University.

Christopher P. Long, Ph.D., Paul F. Naughton Associate Professor of Management, is Director of Faculty Research and Director of the Executive-in-Residence Program. He examines the actions that leaders take within complex and dynamic business environments to accomplish a variety of key performance objectives in his award-winning research. Dr. Long holds a Ph.D. in Management from Duke University and an M.P.P. from Harvard University.

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The Peter J. Tobin College of Business

Dean’s Report 2022-2023

The Peter J. Tobin College of Business specializes in risk management and insurance, as well as an economics expert for the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations. His teaching and research experience covers themes, macroeconomics, macroeconomic policy, economic development, international financial economics, labor migration, diaspora studies, and post-socialist transition economics. His most recent book is Transition Economies: Transformation, Development, and Society in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union (Routledge, 2018). Dr. Gevorkyan earned his B.S. in International Trade and Finance and his M.S. in Economics from Louisiana State University, and his Ph.D. in Economics from The New School.

Timothy L. Keiningham, Ph.D., Professor and J. Donald Kennedy Chair in E-Commerce is an award-winning author and scholar and was named one of Poets&Quants’ "Top 50 Undergraduate Business Professors" for 2020. In recent years, he has co-authored papers in the Harvard Business Review, the Journal of Service Management, the Journal of Service Research, and the Journal of Marketing. Dr. Keiningham earned his B.A. in Communications from Kentucky Wesleyan University, his M.B.A. in Marketing from Florida Atlantic University, and his Ph.D. in Marketing from Staffordshire University (U.K.).

W. Jean Kwon, Ph.D., Professor and Edwin A.G. Manton Chair in International Insurance and Risk Management at GSRM, has authored several books and articles. A former regulator and industry professional, he helped establish the Asia-Pacific Risk and Insurance Association, the World Risk and Insurance Economics Congress, and the Research Network. He specializes in country and market analysis, insurer analysis, insurance regulation, and critical issues in insurance markets globally. Dr. Kwon earned his M.B.A. from the College of Insurance (now the GSRM) and his Ph.D. from Georgia State University.

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Mark J. Browne, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Risk Management and Insurance at the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, is an expert in Risk Management and Insurance. Dr. Bergbrant holds an M.B.A., M.S.F., and a Ph.D. from the University of South Florida.

Mikael C. Bergbrant, Ph.D., Reed-McDermott Associate Professor of Finance is a Chartered Financial Analyst who regularly publishes articles in the Journal of Financial Intermediation, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, and Financial Management. Dr. Bergbrant has won several awards for both his research and teaching while at St. John’s, such as the Excellence in Teaching Award by the National Society of Leadership and Success. He is currently the advisor of the Student-Managed Investment Funds, which is valued in excess of $6 million. Dr. Bergbrant holds an M.B.A., M.S.F., and a Ph.D. from the University of South Florida.

Mark J. Browne, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Robert Clements Distinguished Chair in Risk Management and Insurance at the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science (GSRM), is an expert in risk management, insurance, and employee benefits. He publishes in the Journal of Risk and Insurance, the Journal of Risk and Uncertainty, and the Geneva Risk and Insurance Review. He has served as the President of the Risk Theory Society, the American Risk and Insurance Association, and the European Group of Risk and Insurance Economists. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Mitsu Sumitomo Insurance USA. Dr. Browne earned his Ph.D. in Applied Economics from the University of Pennsylvania.
RECORD-BREAKING INSURANCE LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD DINNER RAISES $4.2 MILLION

The Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science (GSRM) hosted its 27th annual Insurance Leader of the Year Award Dinner on January 18, raising a total of $4,210,500 to fund student scholarships and support academic program initiatives.

The event, held at the New York Marriott Marquis in Manhattan, drew a crowd of nearly 1,600 members of the global insurance industry, senior leadership from the University, students, faculty, business executives, guests, family, and friends.

The historic celebration for the insurance industry and supporters of the University honored Alan D. Schnitzer, Chairman and CEO of The Travelers Companies, Inc., as the 2022 Insurance Leader of the Year.

“My hope is that one day in the future a recipient of the generosity we’ve seen here tonight will be up on this stage being honored,” Mr. Schnitzer said in his acceptance speech. “They’ll be able to talk about their work to bring people together, to confront risks, and to overcome challenges. They’ll be able to say: ‘Someone saw a future for me that I couldn’t fully see for myself.’ What a fitting tribute that would be to our industry, your generosity, and the promise of partnership.”

During his acceptance speech, Mr. Schnitzer surprised the audience by announcing the creation of The Travelers Scholarship for Future Leaders with a pledged gift of $250,000. The scholarship fund provides annual scholarships to GSRM students with financial needs who demonstrate strong leadership potential.

ZURICH FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP AIMS TO DEVELOP DIVERSE TALENT IN INSURANCE INDUSTRY

Developing diverse talent is a key goal in creating a brighter future at Zurich and in the insurance industry. That is why Zurich is excited to announce the new Zurich Fellows scholarship, with an application that is open to all Zurich employees and nonemployees in the US and Canada who are pursuing or planning to pursue a career in the insurance industry.

The Zurich Fellows scholarship is designed to advance the development of diverse talent in the insurance industry. In this context, diversity can include individuals who represent different ethnic, cultural, social, race, religious, sexual orientation, and ability backgrounds.

Recipients will be awarded a scholarship of up to $7,000 to support study in master’s degree programs at St. John’s University’s Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science (GSRM). A global leader in risk and insurance education and training, the GSRM draws candidates from all over the world. All of the degree programs offered by The Peter J. Tobin College of Business, and thus by the GSRM, are fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

The scholarship can be applied to the Master of Business Administration in Risk Management or Enterprise Risk Management, or the Master of Science in Actuarial Science, Enterprise Risk Management, or Risk Management and Risk Analytics.

Students have the option to attend online, in person, or any combination that best suits their needs and interests. Travel to the University’s Queens, NY, campus is not required to pursue the aforementioned master’s degrees. The first of the Zurich Fellows were admitted in September 2022. Zurich’s involvement with St. John’s includes having endowed the James J. Schiro (’67CBA) Chair of Enterprise Risk Management in 2010 to honor the former Chief Executive Officer of Zurich Insurance Group.

GSRM STUDENTS TRAVEL TO LONDON

Risk management, insurance and actuarial students spent nine days in Munich, Zurich, Paris, and London, meeting executives at leading risk and insurance firms including MunichRe, Swiss Re, AXA/AXL, OdysseyRe, Partner Re, Hakluyt & Company, Canopius, Aegis, Iggov, Mosaic Insurance, Kenneth’s CMK Law, and Lloyd’s (Emerging Risks Group and InsureTech Group).

Despite a very robust itinerary, the students were able to sample much of what London has to offer, including a tour of Canterbury Cathedral in Kent.
Q&A WITH WILLIAM G. SCHAEFFER ’73CBA, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Can you discuss the most significant gift you have received for the Tobin College of Business?
The most rewarding significant gift that we received came from an alumnus who had been disengaged from the University for a long time. Following some useful research about this individual by the Advancement team, we were able to re engage the alumnus and introduce him to Dean Sharpe and the Vice President of Advancement, followed by a meeting with Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., President.

This team effort produced a significant seven-figure gift initially, which was followed by a second similar gift. This effort is an example of senior leadership working together collaboratively to raise a significant amount of money for scholarships for Tobin students.

What are your most memorable times with alumni and donors over the past seven years?
I think that my most memorable times are those spent re-engaging with disaffected alumni and being able to bring them back into the life of the University. Usually, the alumni are amazed and impressed with what the Tobin College has become and what it has accomplished from an academic perspective.

I also have fond memories of putting together alumni dinners so the base can meet and hear the vision of Dean Sharpe. These small dinners, which we have held often over the past seven years, have been both popular and productive in terms of engaging and educating alumni.

Of course, working with the Tobin Board of Advisors will remain memorable. They are a group of successful, qualified, and dedicated professionals who work hard for the betterment of the College.

You and Dean Sharpe have been a successful fundraising team for Tobin. What do you attribute this to?
I think that Dean Sharpe, with her long career in business education as a faculty member and an administrator, and I, with my Wall Street background, complement each other well. Our collaborative approach and our passion for being advocates and ambassadors for Tobin College have helped us build an effective team.

It’s been a pleasure working with a dean who has a clear vision for improving the academic quality and reputation of Tobin College, coupled with her passion for engaging alumni. We have enjoyed our interactions with Tobin alumni and the Tobin Board of Advisors and I thank the alumni for their time and generosity.

Q&A WITH LINDA M. SAMA, Ph.D., ASSOCIATE DEAN OF GLOBAL INITIATIVES AND PROFESSOR AND JOSEPH F. ADAMS CHAIR OF MANAGEMENT

Would you share with us the history of GLOBE?
Inspired by Muhammad Yunus, father of modern microfinance, I founded GLOBE (Global Loan Opportunities for Budding Entrepreneurs) in the Spring of 2009. It is an experiential academic program running every semester that provides microloans, sourced through donations, to entrepreneurs living in poverty around the world. Since its inception, more than 250 loans have been offered to borrowers in seven countries on three continents, with the help of our field partners, the Daughters of Charity. The beauty of GLOBE is that it is completely student-managed. Student managers promote the program, raise funds for loans, measure our impact, work with borrowers to ensure success, and vet all incoming loan applications. Loan recommendations are approved by our governing body, the GLOBE Steering Committee. With 530 GLOBE graduates, the program continues to educate students about the positive role that business can play in society, and the power they have to make meaningful change “one loan at a time.”

This year Tobin sent more than 100 students abroad. Can you discuss the growth of our Global Destination Courses (GDCs)?
In 2011, in response to a growing demand among our students for an international experience that would not necessarily require spending a full semester abroad, we launched the GDC program. For many of our students who work or have internships, these opportunities for short-term travel are a perfect fit. Nearly 800 undergraduate and graduate students have taken advantage of this opportunity since the program’s inception. The destination for travel is designed to reflect the content of the academic course in which it is embedded. We started with one course to one destination and have grown the program to include travel to as many as 15 different countries over the last 12 years, with courses representing five different departments. Growth in the program has been stimulated by the fact that many of the GDC travel components are subsidized by donors or Dean Scholarships.

What does the membership of Tobin College in PRME mean for the mission of St. John’s?
Tobin became a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) in 2010, resolving to adhere to the organization’s six principles of Purpose, Values, Method, Research, Partnership, and Dialogue. PRME’s recent focus has been to uphold the priorities of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which complement the PRME Principles. As a result of the research initiatives of our faculty that align with the SDGs, we were designated as a PRME Champion School for the 2018–2019 cycle, joining a select group of 38 Champion institutions from 20 countries around the world. Both the PRME principles and the SDGs are strongly aligned with the mission of St. John’s as they reflect St Vincent de Paul’s profound concern with positive change in the world, which he brought to his role as a missionary and his work as an entrepreneur.

Tell us about the International Vincentian Business Ethics Conference (IVBEC) that Tobin cosponsors with other institutions.
We are proud to be part of a collective of Vincentian universities that rotate hosting the annual IVBEC, now celebrating its 30th year! Each conference is centered around a unique business ethics theme; for example, in 2018, the theme was People, Planet, Progress: Business Ethics for a Global Society, with a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals. The event attracts academics hailing from as many as 25 countries and more than 80 universities worldwide to share their related research. We invite keynote speakers from industry, government, and universities to share their research relating to Vincentian values.

What are your fondest memories your time at St. John’s University?
Without a doubt, my fondest memories of St. John’s revolve around time spent with students in both GLOBE and our Executive-in-Residence Program (EIRP). It has been my distinct privilege to work with many highly motivated undergraduates and these unique experiences with my students lead me to reflect on the value of experiential learning. There is a quote I often share with my students to encourage them on their path to success. It is from one of my favorite poets, Maya Angelou, and reads: “I’ve learned that you shouldn’t go through life with a catcher’s mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back.”

While it is meant to remind students that giving back is an important element of a meaningful career, it also embodies a tenet of my teaching philosophy, which is to dare to be bold in the classroom, and to give back to students and to society with my heart, energy, and mind.
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18 DEAN’S REPORT 2022–2023
17 THE PETER J. TOBIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
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INTERVIEW WITH
MACIEK NOWAK, PH.D.
NEW DEAN OF THE PETER J. TOBIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

With the support of Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., President of St. John’s University, Maciek Nowak, Ph.D., was appointed Dean of The Peter J. Tobin College of Business and the Joseph H. and Maria C. Schwartz Distinguished Chair, effective June 1, 2023.

Dr. Nowak was the Senior Associate Vice President for Strategic Planning and Implementation at Loyola University Chicago, where he was a member of the President’s Cabinet. He previously served in a wide variety of leadership roles at Loyola’s Quinlan School of Business, including Interim Dean, Associate Dean of Faculty and Research, and Department Chair.

An accomplished scholar of supply chain management with an extensive record of publications in top business journals, Dr. Nowak earned his Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and his bachelor’s degree and two master’s degrees in engineering from the University of Michigan.

Through his research, Dr. Nowak has worked with Federal Express, the United Parcel Service, the Polish Post Office, The Home Depot, and Bosch. He has also received grants for research from the US Small Business Administration, the US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration, the US Department of Transportation, and the US State Department.

Dr. Nowak joined the business faculty at Loyola in 2008. He has also served as a visiting scholar at Northwestern University and the University of Tunis El Manar, a visiting faculty member at Creighton University, and a Fulbright Scholar at the SGH Warsaw School of Economics.

What about The Peter J. Tobin College of Business attracted you to this role?
After 15 years at a Jesuit institution, I couldn’t imagine working at a school that doesn’t have a mission-oriented focus. As I met with St. John’s faculty, staff, and students, I was impressed with how everyone spoke of their excitement and optimism about the leadership of Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., President, and Simon G. Moller, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. It became clear to me that this is an exciting time to join the Tobin family. Tobin has risen in academic rankings and reputation under Dean Sharpe and I am excited to have the opportunity to continue to build on this strong foundation.

Which of your experiences have most prepared you for this new leadership role?
As interim dean at the Quinlan School of Business, I was focused on our mission of building business for the betterment of society, educating future leaders who are interested in both profit and purpose. This included a major initiative to work with minority-owned businesses in the Chicagoland area, the development of a workshop to draw more underrepresented minority students to careers in academia, and collaborating closely with our School of Environmental Sustainability. These initiatives closely coincide with both Tobin and St. John’s mission. Serving on the President’s cabinet in my current role allowed me to see how all schools and units operated together, providing insight into interdisciplinary opportunities and challenges. It is evident the deans at St. John’s are collaborative, and I look forward to working closely with them on initiatives that bridge the various academic units.

What existing programs will you expand on and what new programs are you eager to launch?
The Thomas J. Cox, Jr. Honors Program brings to Tobin some of the most incredible students I have had the pleasure to meet. I have been impressed by the engagement and professionalism of those students. I would like to continue to develop that program and see how it can further contribute to Tobin’s burgeoning reputation. Along those lines, Dean Sharpe’s efforts to draw more national attention to Tobin is reflected in the growth in rankings. I hope to continue that path, further bringing into prominence the incredible things happening at Tobin.

Prior to launching any new programs, I’d like to take some time to learn about Tobin and get to know more about its strengths and how those can be best utilized to benefit Tobin’s various constituents. There are many promising opportunities at Tobin; I am excited to guide us as we determine which of those to focus on first.