

Whiting Business Building
Room 100
Muncie, IN 47306



Real-Time Finance Lab Opens



A. Umit Taftali

The new A. Umit Taftali Center for Capital Markets and Investing opened for students in August. Dedication will be November 18.

The lab simulates a real-world financial environment, which allows business students the opportunity for hands-on training in the workings of financial markets, financial modeling, and valuation. It also allows students to gain

familiarity with relevant technology, applications, and functionality, and work toward Bloomberg Certified credentials.

The center is named for **A. Umit Taftali**, who provided the lead gift toward the construction of this cutting-edge learning facility. Taftali, a native of Turkey, came to Muncie, Indiana, to play for Ball State's volleyball team on a scholarship. He earned his bachelor's degree

in finance from Ball State in 1985 and went on to complete his MBA at the University of South Carolina in 1987.

He began his investment banking career at Merrill Lynch. He also worked at Balentine & Company (now Wilmington Trust) and Bankers Trust Company in Atlanta, New York, and London. He then moved to Goldman Sachs International as executive director and country head to build and manage the firm's business in Turkey. Between 1999 and 2001, he was a founding partner of Cesmig & Taftali, a private equity investment partnership in London. In 2001, he joined Koc Holding in Istanbul and founded the Suna Kirac (Koc) Family Office, which he is managing.

The state-of-the-art lab has 36 student work stations, data boards, tickertapes, and smart classroom equipment in addition to analytical software.

The Taftali Center is located in the Whiting Business Building, room 147.

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BUSINESS

FALL 2010

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Exploring the World



Dean Rajib Sanyal addresses guests during the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International) reaccreditation reception in the Ball State University Alumni Center library. Miller College of Business is one of only 15 percent of all schools of business holding this accreditation. The accounting department was the first public institution in Indiana—and one of only about 170 in the world—to receive separate accreditation for its program from AACSB International.

EARNED EXCELLENCE



THE BEST BUSINESS SCHOOLS
IN THE WORLD

From faculty-led field trips to Brazil to a semester-long study abroad in Prague to **upgrading the education infrastructure in Iraq**, Miller College of Business students and professors are active learners and practitioners on a global stage. In this issue of *Ball State Business*, we showcase several examples of our international engagement from a variety of perspectives. (See page 4.)

American humorist Mark Twain observed that “Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.” At Miller College, we believe there is much truth in this piece of wit. We actively welcome international students to campus and support our students to travel abroad. We host faculty from all over the world and encourage our own to spend time overseas.

Ball State exposes students and faculty to other cultures and ways of doing and thinking (often in sharp contrast to life in these United States). The experiences offer **invaluable personal and professional development opportunities**. This is especially true today when our jobs take us to distant countries, and we work with numerous people from other cultures.

Our **commitment to international education** remains steadfast despite the difficult financial times universities are experiencing. To a large extent, the continued support of our many friends and alumni has allowed us to grow our international profile. As the second year of my deanship progresses, I hope to meet many more of you to personally express our thanks for the transformative changes your gifts create. Of course, to open the door to the world for all our 2,500 students at Miller College, our need for resources continues.

Our recent alumni meetings in Indianapolis and Chicago provided excellent forums for networking, reconnecting, and sharing. Other events are being planned around the country. (See page 2.) I look forward to these occasions and hope to see you there and tell you more about the exciting initiatives we have under way here at Miller College.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rajib Sanyal".

Rajib Sanyal
Dean

Contact us at

www.bsu.edu/business/contactus.

officer in 2006, as a result of the merger of the Community Bankers Association of Indiana and the Indiana Bankers Association.

He currently serves as a trustee of the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a board member of the Indiana Statewide Certified Development Corporation, and on the new market tax credit committee of the Great Lakes Capital Fund for Housing. He serves on the American Bankers Association Educational Foundation Inc. board of directors and the advisory board.

Melvin N. Johnson, MA economics 1974, completed his fifth year as president of Tennessee State University in Nashville. He is the seventh president of the university.

Steven C. Kehoe, BS finance 1977, is a certified financial planner in Cincinnati with Kehoe Financial Services, a regional office of NFP Securities Inc.

Rex A. Hockemeyer, BS finance and economics 1979, is the executive vice president and director of information technology and operations at Union First Market Bankshares Corporation. He is based in Richmond, Virginia.

David Merrell, BS business administration 1971, is the CEO of Merrell Consulting Services LLC,

which specializes in Windows and IBM servers and Cisco network infrastructures. Merrell is a Bellevue, Washington, resident.

Richard J. Wagers Jr., BS accounting 1973, was appointed the CFO of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. He oversees all aspects of the medical center's fiscal integrity, including financial oversight of Vanderbilt University Hospital, Vanderbilt Medical Group and Clinic, the academic and research enterprise of the schools of Medicine and Nursing and the Vanderbilt Healthcare subsidiaries.

Timothy R. Wheeler, BS accounting 1977, is president of the international division at Jockey International Inc. He is based in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and serves on the board of the International Apparel Federation.

1960–1969



Robert G. Hunt, BS business administration 1969, is the chairman and CEO of Hunt Construction Group, based in Phoenix, Arizona. The company is known as the premier builder of sports facilities and convention centers. During the fall

2010 semester, Hunt served as an executive in residence on the Ball State campus and participated in an immersive learning project.



Anthony W. Smith, BS accounting 1968, has retired as partner and director of SASA Capital Markets Center, Ernst & Young, Sao Paulo, Brazil, and has now returned to Indianapolis. He serves on the Ball State University

Foundation Board of Directors.

Stanley Stephenson, BA economics 1965, is the managing principal of Litigation Economics LLC, which provides economic, accounting, and financial consulting in tort and commercial litigation. He is based in Belmont, California.

After you leave campus, you are still considered a part of the Miller College of Business family. Send in your information to be featured in the Connections section of our magazine:
www.bsu.edu/business/contactus

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—**Michael Guio**

Michael earned a Ball State MBA with a concentration in entrepreneurship. Now, he is launching a children’s sports photography business in Indianapolis.



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