

School of Business *UPDATE*

Mar-May 2018



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Dr. Gladys DeJesus Retires after 25 Years at Chowan University

Dr. Gladys DeJesus, an economist by nature and training, joined Chowan in 1993 as Associate Professor of Economics, having most recently taught at East Carolina University. In addition to ECU, she taught at other universities, both in the U.S. and abroad. She received her bachelor's degree from National University in the Dominican Republic, and her master's and doctoral degrees from The Ohio State University. She was a Fulbright Scholar, studying at Stanford University. At Chowan, the Dr. Gladys DeJesus Outstanding Economics Student Award was created in her honor.

In 2005 Dr. DeJesus was promoted to Professor of Economics, and in 2012 was awarded the rank of Distinguished Professor of Economics. At that time she also became Chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies. She was the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2002 and 2012, and the Faculty Advisor of the Year Award in 2011. She has served on numerous standing and ad hoc committees, and was the Administrative Advisor to the Chowan Chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta.

Beyond the university, Dr. DeJesus is very active in her church, serving as a Spanish translator and a lector. She is a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Murfreesboro, supporting its mission and service activities. She enjoys attending the many cultural shows and performances on campus and in our region.

Dr. DeJesus and colleague Associate Professor of Marketing Patsy Taylor were well ensconced in Marks Hall, so it seemed almost traumatic when the Marks renovation required them to leave the third floor. Fortunately, some shuffling kept their offices in close proximity to one another in McSweeney Hall; it is wonderful having the two of them in the same building with us. The renovation of McSweeney provided sufficient classroom spaces for teaching here as well, thus finalizing her move from Marks Hall.

When speaking with other School of Business faculty members about her pending retirement, all expressed appreciation for the kindness and helpfulness of our colleague Dr. DeJesus. One individual pondered, "I wonder whether we'll be on time for faculty meetings now without Mama Gladys walking down the hall and urging us to hurry so we wouldn't be late." Another mentioned her lovely outfits – we sometimes wonder whether her closet houses an endless supply of beautiful blazers. In so many ways, she has touched our hearts with the warmth of her personality. She is a gracious model of professionalism.

There are not enough words to express how much we admire and appreciate Dr. DeJesus. She is thoughtful, kindhearted, and tenacious, a winning combination. We are all better people because of her.

Best wishes on your retirement, Dr. DeJesus. It is well deserved and we hope you enjoy every minute. God bless you!



Alexander Hughes, Student of the Month-March 2018

Alexander Hughes is the School of Business student of the month for March. He is graduating with a B.A. in Business. Alex was born in Patuxent River, Maryland on the Navy Base. However, he has lived all over the world, including Hawaii, Italy, Illinois, Wisconsin, Virginia, and North Carolina.

He came to Chowan University because of our business degree program. Many of his friends and his girlfriend were at Chowan. Alex believes coming to Chowan was definitely a good decision. He enjoyed his time here; it has exceeded his expectations. Some of his favorite things at Chowan are the sense of community in the school, and the beautiful campus.



He also states that the library staff and all the professors in the School of Business are nice and helpful, and he knows a lot of people at Chowan. He feels like he is not a stranger here. However, there are some

difficult things about being here: his family is far away and it is hard to find a part time job.

Alex said he could not name one favorite class he has taken at Chowan because he feels he has learned something from every class. He participated in the Alpha Chi Honor Society and the Vision Club. When he leaves Chowan, he hopes to secure an entry level job to get experience and then go from there.

His advice to upcoming students would be that homework is key. In all of college, homework helps you and it is a bonus. It has helped him to receive As and Bs in classes. Also, don't be a procrastinator. Effort is always better than a F. We wish Alex all the best and know that he will succeed in any endeavor that he chooses.

Victoria Smolchenkova, Student of the Month-April 2018

Victoria Smolchenkova was born and raised in Kaluga, Russia, a mid-sized city southwest of Moscow. Before coming to Chowan to play tennis, she spent one year at a Moscow university. She appreciates that she can concentrate on academics and tennis at Chowan. Victoria is very close to her parents, the most important people to her. She has only been able to return home for visits twice each year since coming to the U.S.



Victoria graduates with a degree in Business Administration, concentration in Accounting and minor in Management. She was on the President's List and the Dean's List. Victoria is a member of Sigma Beta Delta and Alpha Chi, and the recipient of the School of Business Howard Award. After graduation, Victoria plans to return to Russia for a year

to spend time with her parents, work, and take a break from school. Then she will complete an MBA in Europe.

Victoria has played tennis since she was five years old. At Chowan she is an outstanding member of the women's Tennis team, named to the All-CIAA Women's Tennis Team in 2016 and 2017. The CU women's tennis team was 2016 CIAA

champion and winner of their inaugural Conference Carolinas Regular Season title in 2018. She was named to the All-Conference First Team.

Victoria worked in the Admissions Office since 2015 and is a math tutor. Her favorite activities are reading, getting together with friends, and traveling throughout the world. She finds the cultural differences between Russia and the U.S. interesting. When asked what advice she would give to upcoming students, Victoria suggests they appreciate and enjoy their time at Chowan, and do everything early, not postponing their work.

We wish you the best in all your future endeavors! Congratulations on being selected as the CU School of Business Student of the Month for April, 2018!

Robert Williams, Student of the Month-May 2018

Robert Williams is the Chowan University School of Business Student of the Month for May 2018. He is from North East, MD, located 45 minutes north of Baltimore. Before representing Chowan, he graduated from North East High School and Cecil College. Robert came to Chowan for several reasons including a scholarship to continue his collegiate baseball career as well as an academic scholarship.

Rob is majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Management. His favorite classes at Chowan include Entrepreneurship and Management. He wants to start his own business in the future and the Entrepreneurship class provided him insight on how to accomplish this goal. It also gave him the chance to develop a business plan.

Rob has been very active and involved while at Chowan. He is the starting designated hitter for the Chowan Hawks Baseball Team and is a member of Sigma Beta Delta,



Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Phi Theta Kappa, and Chi Alpha Sigma.

Robert believes the best things about attending Chowan are building relationships with classmates and teammates from all over the world, having the opportunity to meet with visiting business executives, and being part of the Chowan Baseball Team. He says coming to

Chowan was a good decision; the small classes and close relationships with his professors have made his scholarly experience perfect for him.

When asked about some of the challenges at Chowan, Robert explained that the student-athlete's life is always challenging, keeping up with assignments, practicing daily, and early morning workouts. His advice to upcoming students, "Take all your classes seriously and be proactive. If you're an athlete, don't let anybody tell you that sports are all that matter. Scholastics and getting involved with your university are what's going to benefit you and help you succeed in the long-run".

Robert graduates in May 2018 and seeks to start a career in wealth management/financial advising at a national bank, hoping to move to Virginia Beach or Fort Myers to pursue his career goals.

President's List Fall 2017

Edmond Aynedjian
Cynthia Carrier
Robert Grubbs
Ryan Martin
Ugljesa Portic
Milica Vejnovic

Naomi Bullock
Julia Chmielewska
Qeashaunda Johnson
Joshua Nicholson
Alexis Riddick
Kenneth Wilkerson

Tyler Byrd
Brianna Cooper
George Kattan
Djorde Novovic
Michael Todd
Harley Williams

Dean's List Fall 2017

Rafiq Abdul-Wahid
Diamante Brown
Nicholas Dairon
Asia Fort
Trenton Lee
Alessandra Phillips Patterson
Victoria Smolchenkova
Henry Wells

Tiffany Barnes
Chester Crowder
Alexander Dendy
Keyonnie Jackson
Keitra Lloyd
Louis Proulx
Amber Turman
Robert Williams

Jeremy Brooker
Jarod Curley
Charles Donaldson, Jr.
Brianna Johnson
Paul Migliarina
Gabrielle Rodgers
Cody Wells

PBL State Leadership Conference



Three PBL members attended the 64th Annual NC Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference April 5-8, 2018 in Charlotte, NC, along with Patsy Taylor, PBL Adviser. All three participated in two competitive events and all received recognitions at the Awards Banquet dinner on Saturday evening for placing in the top ten of at least one of their events. Malek Leach placed 5th in Project Management. Jessica Lewis placed 6th in Marketing Concepts. Kimlin Sykes placed in both of his events, placing 5th in Accounting Analysis and Decision Making and 6th in Microeconomics.

Chowan's chapter received recognition for "Second Place – Eastern Region Chapter Membership." Additionally, Patsy Taylor was recognized for 25 years of service as a local PBL chapter adviser



Pictured are Jessica Lewis, Patsy Taylor, PBL Adviser, Malek Leach, and Kimlin Sykes

**CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2018**



Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, with Concentration

Lurin I.T. Abu-Hamamah

Marketing

Ulysses Nuer Amanfu

Management

Benjamin Jesse Bess

Management

Dwayne O'Keith Brinkley

Marketing

Jeremy Kagan Brooker

Accounting

Lexus Michelle Collins

Management

Brianna Tiara Cooper

Management

Natalia De Andrade

Management

Morning-Staar Dae-jah Dukes

Management

Richard Steven Edwards

Accounting

Alyssa Hagan Fairless

Management

Qeashaunda Marie Johnson

Accounting

Barkan Koprulugil

Management

Malek Ishmel Leach

Management

Diamond Sierra Macklin

Information Systems

Elijah Daquan Morrison

Management

Darren Peoples

Management

Neiko H. Radway

Accounting

Victoria Smolchenkova

Accounting

Kimlin D. Sykes

Accounting

William Kinchen Taylor

Management

Brandon Jamal Whitehead

Management

Robert Earl Williams

Management

Bachelor of Arts in Business

Sadiq Okikiola Amzat

Jakwail Grady Bailey

Alaya Ellamae Burnham

Benjamin Chapman

Roxana Daneshjoo

Jordan B. Francis

Tiana Aaliyah Harris

Alexander Timothy Hughes

Laniqua Davielle Mayes

Paul Migliarina

Yvette D. Mitchell

Allessandra Jean Phillips Petterson

Molly Rosenthal