

FALL 2020

# SBMT JOURNAL

*The Official Newsletter of SAU Business School*



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## SAU Launches First HBCU Cycling Team in the Country

BY UMAR MUHAMMAD & DR. MARK JANAS

April 27, 2020 – Raleigh, NC: Saint Augustine's University School of Business, Management, and Technology (SBMT) has announced the formation of the first HBCU cycling team in the country via the Department of Sport Management. This team is a club sport within the SBMT.

The team has recently been approved and registered by USA Cycling to compete in the collegiate club Atlantic division against dozens of other schools in the Southeast. The team, which has been in the works since the summer of 2019, will be coached by professors Umar Muhammad and Dr. Mark Janas, both of whom teach sport management courses within the business school at Saint Augustine's University. The team will begin competition as early as Fall 2020.

"We're excited to be the first HBCU to formally have a collegiate cycling team," says Muhammad who continues, "What many may not realize is that while cycling might be new to most HBCU's, African Americans have made huge contributions to the sport of cycling."



In fact, cycling's first superstar, and arguably sport's first international superstar, was a black athlete named Major Taylor. This team plans to pay homage to Taylor, as well as make its own mark on the sport."

The team plans to start with a roster of approximately ten student-athletes, several of whom compete in other collegiate sports. Dr. Janas adds, "We have the opportunity with this team to be part of several 'firsts.' In addition to launching the first HBCU cycling team, the virtual cycling events planned for the Fall will segue nicely into the new sports IT and esports management content offered in the business school. "This is not just the beginning of a club sport but also a precursor to e-sport courses within the Department of Sport Management.

For more information about the Saint Augustine's University cycling team, please contact Umar Muhammad at [utmuhammad@st-aug.edu](mailto:utmuhammad@st-aug.edu) or [mjanas@st-aug.edu](mailto:mjanas@st-aug.edu).

## Dean's Column

by Van B. Sapp

It has been a surprisingly short three years since Dr. Everette Ward asked me to come to Saint Augustine's University. The School of Business, Management, and Technology has been busy moving rapidly along building up our programs, raising the bar for students, and increasing faculty capacity. Our strategic plan has been focused on objectives around graduation rates, increased majors, and earlier post-graduation decisions. The following strategies have guided our plans:

- Develop SBMT Brand and Capabilities
- Professional Development Enhancements
- Faculty Success and External Partnerships
- Curriculum to Maintain Competitiveness
- Build Student Self-Efficacy
- Administrative Rigor: Practice what we Teach
- Infrastructure to Accommodate Growth



Van B. Sapp



Over the last 3 years, we have doubled the percentage of School of Business, Management, and Technology majors at SAU from 17% in 2017 to 34% last year. Both graduation rates and GPAs are growing toward our goal of a 20% increase by May, 2021. Additionally, we have added many partnerships and guest lecturers to provide our students with a more robust college experience with practical application. It has been my belief that college educational experiences must have more practical knowledge and experiences. Our blend of these practical experiences and disruptive thinking, like starting a Cycling Club, are generating lots of buzz about our program.

In this newsletter, you will see the resilience of our program through our current students, faculty, and partners. While we have a few alumni connections, there is an opportunity for more connections. Where are you? Would you like to be a part of our transformation?

## Alumni Corner: Julian Macaulay Scholarship

BY JORDAN A. ROZIER

The School of Business, Management, and Technology are incredibly grateful to Julian Macaulay for the Julian Macaulay Scholarship. Macaulay is a graduate of SAU, class of 2004. He earned his degree in Business Administration. Currently, he resides as the Senior Vice President/Operational Risk Sr. Manager with Wells Fargo Bank in Charlotte, NC.

When asked what his inspiration was behind the scholarship, Macaulay said, "To provide financial assistance to students in the School of Business who are hardworking with good grades and excellent leadership qualities. During my undergrad days, there were a few times I needed help with my fees, and due to the help and assistance of my college professors at the Business School, I received anonymous donations, which helped me graduate."

"I am blessed and fortunate to be in a position to return the favor to few students that was offered to me when I was at St. Aug."

He also said, "My goal is to ensure the deserving students who are granted the scholarships, go out into the world to become great citizens, leaders and continue to represent the Falcon family, while also giving back to the school."



Julian Macaulay, c/o 2004



## Business School Students Breaking Barriers

BY JORDAN A. ROZIER & NATHAN WILBURN

The School of Business, Management, and Technology students are breaking barriers as they strive for excellence. Our 2020 graduating class paved the way as they went on to graduate school and positions at companies such as Amazon and Deloitte. Bercario Bodie and Jailyn N. Johnson will be attending graduate school at UNC Charlotte and NCCU. Shelia Odhiambo is currently a full-time Audit Associate at Deloitte, making her mark. Also, Curt Morris received a full-time offer as the Senior Human Resource Assistant at Amazon. Lastly, James T. Moore went into the sports industry as a Junior Golf Event Coordinator at PGA of America. This is what we call setting the bar high.

Our current students may have big shoes to fill, but they are not backing down from the challenge. As we continue to break barriers, let's break into getting to know our current students personally and their accomplishments.



"Hello, I am Mareyah Washington, a junior Business Administration major and Theatre minor from Stockton, CA. This summer, I had the opportunity to work with Lenovo as their Talent Acquisition Intern. Lenovo's adaptability with the unexpected COVID-19 setbacks made me excited to continue on as the University Recruitment Marketing Intern in the fall semester."

"Hello! My name is Jordan A. Rozier. I am a senior from Raeford, NC, majoring in Business Administration and minoring in Computer Information Systems. This past school year I had the opportunity to become an MLT Career Prep Fellow while also contracting with the FCNL Advocacy Corps. Over the summer, I interned with PNC Financial Services Group in Cincinnati, OH as a middle market and large corporate intern. I am so grateful for all the opportunities that have come my way and shaped me into the business woman I am today."





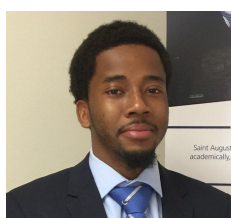
"Hello! I am Angela Gutierrez Castillo, a senior Accounting major from Honduras. This year I had the privilege of receiving two accounting offers from the Big Four. During summer 2020, I interned with Ernst & Young as a Launch Intern for their Atlanta, GA office. Next summer, 2021, I will be interning with Deloitte as part of the Audit & Assurance group in Atlanta, GA. In addition, I am currently still holding my position as an intern for Wake County Government within their Long-Range Planning Division. I am beyond grateful for these great opportunities and blessings."

"Hello my name is Tanae Newry, I am a senior Accounting major and Computer Information Systems minor. I am from the beautiful island of the Bahamas. This year I was the recipient of a \$20,000 tax scholarship for Graduate school provided by Deloitte where I will complete an internship in the summer of 2021 in Atlanta. Upon completion of Graduate school and obtaining my CPA, I will start full time with Deloitte. I am currently a member of the international students organization and the National Association of Black Accountants. "



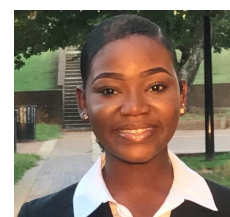
"Hello, my name is Briana Person, a senior Accounting major from Emporia, VA. This past school year I was recognized as the 2019-2020 Accounting Senior of the Year. This summer I had the opportunity to intern with Dixon Hughes Goodman as their Assurance Intern, where I had the privilege to represent SAU in their blog as the 2020 National Association of Black Accountants scholarship recipient. Next summer, I will be a Tax Intern with Deloitte and continuing my Accounting education."

"Hello, my name is Liane Moyo, I am an Accounting major, minoring in Computer Information Systems. I am from Zimbabwe, Africa. I have a keen interest in working with numbers (I enjoy data). After receiving two offers from Lenovo, I am thankful to God that I chose to work as their Business Operations Intern in the OEM Division. I worked on data analytics and competitive analysis, which tremendously grew me professionally. I'm currently the chairperson for the NABA chapter, and a presidential scholar. I'm looking forward to achieving great things with hard work and God's help."



"Good day, I am Lavar Stubbs, a senior from the one and only Nassau, Bahamas, currently majoring in Business Administration. Last summer, I earned the opportunity to intern at Northwestern Mutual for consecutive years. This year I'm interning with State Farm while serving my third year as the president of the International Students Organization. I'm a member of the first cycling team in HBCU history here at SAU and a member of 4th annual HP HBCU challenge for a second time. "

"Hello, my name is Shania Duncombe, a senior Accounting major hailing from the beautiful islands of the Bahamas. This past year I have receive two big four accounting firm's internship offers. This summer I have had the privilege to work with EY Bahamas LTD as their Audit Intern 2020. Next summer, I will be a Audit & Assurance Intern with Deloitte in Atlanta. Upon the completion of graduation, I will go to graduate school and start the process of obtaining my CPA. I am grateful for all of the opportunities that have presented themselves to me and excited to see what's left to come."



"Hi! My name is Kerri Brodie. I am a senior Accounting major from Raleigh, NC. This past summer, I had the privilege of interning with Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP in their Start program. Also, I was blessed to receive a Deloitte Tax Scholarship. This scholarship allows me to intern with Deloitte for Summer 2021 and receive up to \$20,000 for graduate school. Upon completion of graduate school and obtaining a CPA license, I will have a full-time position with Deloitte Tax. I am grateful for these opportunities, and I know they wouldn't have happened without the Lord."



# Faculty Development: PhD and EdD Studies

BY JORDAN A. ROZIER

The School of Business, Management, and Technology takes pride in the development of our faculty, that's why we take the time to highlight those that have taken it upon themselves to further their knowledge and careers. Three of our very own faculty members are pursuing their terminal degrees while continuing to give bountiful knowledge to the students of SAU. Evangeline B. Brodie, Umar T. Muhammad and Valerie L. Evans are continuing their studies in the fields of (In order) Business Administration, Sports Leadership and Theory, and teacher training and efficacy in online learning programs.

"As an Assistant Professor of Accounting, I teach accounting and finance courses in SAU's School of Business, Management, and Technology. Also, I am currently a doctoral student at UNC-Greensboro where I am earning a Ph.D. in Business Administration. My research interests include real estate, entrepreneurship, and family-owned businesses, with emphasis on strategies needed to ensure family businesses successfully pass to the next generation."

~ Evangeline B. Brodie

Umar T. Muhammad is a Sport Management instructor in the School of Business, Management, and Technology. He comes to the university with experience in sports marketing, brand development, entrepreneurship, community partnership engagement, and local economic development. Mr. Muhammad has about 3 years in academia reinvigorated and re-imagined the sport management departments content, student learning process and its role in the community. He received his undergraduate degree from North Carolina State University, a Master's degree from North Carolina Central University and is currently a Doctoral student in Sport Leadership and Theory at the United States Sports Academy.

"I came to SAU in 2009 as an Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems and have taught both business and tech classes. I have an MBA from Lincoln Memorial University in TN and am pursuing my Doctorate from Fayetteville State University. My research interests revolve around teacher training and efficacy in online learning programs. I am also heavily involved with the online courses and Blackboard platform here at SAU. Off campus, I serve at the Public Relations Director for the Raleigh Rotary Club and assist with managing a social run club."

~ Valerie L. Evans

We are proud to acknowledge their outstanding achievements! It's always the right time to pursue your dreams and ambitions. Students should feel more encouraged to pursue their PhD and EdD after graduate school. They are an inspiration to everyone that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. Thank you all for your contributions and the School of Business is rooting for you all!



Evangeline B. Brodie



Umar T. Muhammad



Valerie L. Evans



# SBMT Partnerships: Opportunity is Knocking

BY VAN B. SAPP



## National Football League (NFL) Campus Connection Partnership

SAU School of Business, Management, and Technology are one of the four HBCUs to partner with the NFL as a Campus Connection Partner. In this partnership, the NFL is committed to the development of our students in a variety of ways. This Fall is already underway through an externship/case study program where six business students are working under a non-disclosure agreement to improve on significant operational opportunities. In addition, a Fall virtual executive lecture series was conducted over two weeks, and voter registration PSA was created to support the NFL's voter registration program. The partnership ultimately will provide opportunities for internships and full-time employment.

[Click to view the NFL's Global release](#)



## CMG

Last year, we received a call from CMG, a boutique consulting firm, about collaborating on a program to help students understand and prepare for careers in business consulting. This industry is demanding, but starting salaries for college students start at \$75,000 per year. The strategies and techniques required for interviews are different from traditional behavioral interviews. Our students could be ready for this field with exposure and preparation.

Several SAU was selected for the inaugural program, more than the other universities. After a successful launch, CMG is expanding the program to other North Carolina institutions and a few colleges in the Washington D.C. area.



## Arise Veterans Foundation

We have partnered with the Arise Veterans Foundation to provide unique resources to the students. The foundation supports veterans with a host of services and has many partners to assist with its mission. For example, ARISE rebuilds computers as part of veteran "therapy," and our students are benefactors. Additionally, the Arise Veteran Foundation provides \$1,500 in scholarships each semester to students in our Entrepreneurship class working on repurposing leather from Southwest Airlines seats into tangible keepsakes. The leather project will be creating a must-have Alumni item in the spring... stay tuned.

# A Personal Invitation to Engage With Us

## Alumni Request

Arguably, we have made some significant improvements to the Business School culture and curriculum. However, to continue with a deep and lasting change, we will eventually need the engagement of more Alumni. As a graduate of two HBCUs, I recognize some of the communication through the years can be spotty, and one may begin to question...does my university care. Yes, we love you! Alumni are the examples, the data points, "the receipts," and verification that Saint Augustine's School of Business, Management, and Technology has had and should continue to impact the world. My two HBCUs certainly know who I am, and your beloved School of Business needs to know you, again! If you are engaged with us, thank you! If not, let's fix that today. Please take a moment to answer seven questions to assist with our engagement; after all, WE ARE ALL BUSINESS!

Click [HERE](#) for survey

# How You Can Support The SBMT

by Jordan A. Rozier

The School of Business, Management, and Technology needs your help. Learn how you can get more engaged with us!

Your alma mater is invested in your success and we offer professional and personal support. The SBMT is a community and we all need to stick together. We're increasing our communication and information shared, as well as increasing your opportunities for involvement here. You all are the back bone of our organization, and what does a back bone do?... Support!

Donate to one of the School of Business initiatives by clicking [HERE](#) and receive a Business School Swag Bag! You can choose to donate to the SAU School of Business Scholarship Fund or School of Business/SAU Cycling. We appreciate your support, thank you!





# The Future We See

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

As I move into my fourth year here at Saint Augustine's University, I am excited to see what the future holds. I've seen so much development in the School of Business, Management, and Technology and myself over the years.

This is our first issue, celebrating the extraordinary growth we've had these past years. Hopefully this newsletter has opened your eyes to the future we're building here at SBMT. We've honored student and faculty achievements, while also acknowledging our growing partnerships and alumni engagement. This also includes the launching of the first HBCU Cycling team in the country, which is a club sport within the SBMT.

We have worked so hard these last few years, and now we're sharing our progress and journey with you all. The SBMT has been a little quiet lately, but now we're ready to let everyone know that this is our show and we came to shine.



I hope you became acquainted with each student, faculty member and partner of the SBMT, personally. Join us as you've gotten to know the "New" SBMT as we've paved the way for a new future. We can only go up from here, don't be left out of the history that we're making here at the School of Business, Management, and Technology.

We're creating our own future!

*Jordan A. Rozier*

C/O 2021

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*Stay Tuned For Our Next Issue!*