

- MBA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
- NAVIGATING TODAY'S JOB MARKET
- UPCOMING MBA EVENTS

From the MBA Office

As we wrap up the spring semester, I would like to take this opportunity to suggest some "spring cleaning" items you should add to your to-do list. Each student should have an up-to-date resume, an essential practice given today's economic climate. Whether you are looking for a new job, an internship or need to prepare for your next performance evaluation, take the time to consider your resume as a reflection of the skills you can bring to the table.

And don't forget to plan your class registration for Summer and Fall 2009. Make sure your program of study is on file with the MBA office and contact us with questions or concerns about your academic plans. I have had some fantastic conversations with many of you regarding innovative approaches to customizing your MBA, including some potential study abroad plans.

I look forward to working with you as we continue to commit to excellence in the RU MBA program.

Elizabeth Jamison

Director of the RU MBA program
ecjamison@radford.edu

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rumba@radford.edu
(540) 831-6712

RU MBA NEWSLETTER

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

Navigating Today's Job Market Advice from George Mendiola, 2002 RU MBA Graduate



George Mendiola is no stranger to the concept of successfully juggling the demands of work and school. In 2000, he graduated from RU with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice; two years later, he earned his MBA from the university. During

his tenure as a full-time graduate student, Mendiola also had a full-time job at RU in the office of the vice president for business and governmental affairs. Following graduation, he started his career at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), where he now supports a business unit valued at more than \$500 million in annual contractual revenue with approximately 2,200 employees. As deputy director of project control at SAIC, Mendiola directly manages nine employees and provides leadership support to approximately 50 controllers.

Below, Mendiola shares his tips on how graduating MBA students can navigate the current job market with confidence.

- Think of yourself as a business entity in the job market.
- The hiring process is about marketing a key product (yourself) that adds value to your client (the employer).
- In your industry of choice, take time to understand current market conditions and competitive forces that are key to determining what value you can offer.
- Branding who you are – your skills, talents and behavior—is what sets you apart from other candidates.
- During your interview, in your résumé and in your communications with potential employers, remember that your brand is what they are looking to buy.
- Help hiring managers identify you as a successful candidate by focusing on key words in your résumé that are used in the industry and are included in the job description.

To learn more about Mendiola, [see his profile](#).

Spotlight on MBA Student Jamar Jenkins

When Jamar Jenkins enrolled in RU's MBA



program, most people told him he would have to forego his time as a member of the Highlanders men's basketball team, which recently took home the Big South Conference championship title. But Jenkins refused

to give up one goal in pursuit of the other. "I'm always pushing myself to the limit, and even though I felt this would be difficult, I knew it would be possible," he said. "Throughout the season, I often found myself having to juggle basketball and school until I found the right balance for me."

As a graduate student, Jenkins is studying business models and how to become an effective manager. "This program has taught me that it's beneficial to be able to work both independently and as a team member," he said. "Everyone involved with the MBA program cares about the students, from professors to the administration." To learn more about Jenkins, [see his full story](#).

Upcoming MBA Events

Friday, April 24, 2009

Brown Bag Lunch

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

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Sharpen your interview skills during this brown bag lunch with special guest Lutheria H. Smith, director of human resources at Azdel, Inc. Smith will also speak about her experience job-hunting in the current economy and what it takes to land the job you desire. A Q&A session will follow. Participants must wear business professional attire, provide résumés and be prepared to engage in a mini-interview with feedback. Contact rumba@radford.edu to attend.

Are you about to become an RU MBA alumni? Please keep us up-to-date on your latest news and contact information by sending us an email at rumba@radford.edu.