November 2013

By now, you should have received your copy of *Reaching Higher: The Binghamton University School of Management Magazine*. I hope you feel proud of our school as you see the wonderful accomplishments of our students, faculty and alumni. We are more than halfway through the fall semester, and a number of exciting developments have already taken place.

Our Mentoring and Networking Event held during Homecoming weekend in mid-October was enormously successful. We had our highest number of student participants ever - more than 350. We are thankful that more than 50 busy professionals came to campus on a Saturday to share their insights and advice with our current students. The job market is incredibly competitive, and we know our students appreciate the opportunity to interact and learn from successful professionals.

During Homecoming weekend, we held a unique event to help bridge the gap between students and faculty. We organized a day trip to Watkins Glen State Park, about 90 minutes from campus. The good weather, rock formations and fall foliage provided an unforgettable outdoor experience. Our goal was to bring students and faculty together in a social setting so they could see sides of each other that are not always apparent in a classroom setting. About 40 students were on the trip, along with a few alumni and faculty members Surinder Kahai and Dina Naples-Layish (who took the lead to organize the trip), Tony Frontera, Dennis Lasser, Jonathan Ross, Aleksey Tikhomirov, Ali Yayla and me.

More than 130 alumni attended our Oct. 17 networking event at the New York Athletic Club in Manhattan. We were pleased to have Robert Goldstein ’94 as the featured speaker. Rob is managing director at BlackRock and No. 5 on Fortune's 40 Under 40 List. His insightful commentary warned of the impending crisis caused by the combination of longer lifespans and people staying in the workforce longer because they cannot afford to retire. Robert Eicher ’81, a member of the club, graciously sponsored our event. We look forward to meeting again at this historic venue in the spring.

The Abraham J. Briloff Lecture on Accountability and Society is another signature event for our school; the 27th annual lecture took place Oct. 30, on campus. Benjamin Lawsky, New York State’s first Superintendent of Financial Services, was the featured speaker. As superintendent, Lawsky regulates the operations of all insurance companies in the state, all New York state-chartered depository institutions, and most United States-based branches of foreign banking institutions. Recently, he was in the news for investigating conflicts of interest among bank consulting firms and
exposing the practice of setting up shadow-insurance transactions by New York-based firms. Professor Briloff traveled from New York to be present at the lecture and provided some additional perspective.

We hope you will partner with us in creating future success stories. Alumni are always welcome to be engaged with the school as mentors, internship sponsors, Executives in Residence and to speak in classes. A list of volunteer opportunities is on the Alumni Association website (http://www.binghamton.edu/alumni).

Thank you for your support of Binghamton University.

Kind regards,

Upinder S. Dhillon
Dean and Koffman Scholar