Dear CBE Friends,

Welcome to the Spring 2018 Business Update. It is my pleasure to share with you the latest happenings in the College of Business and Economics.

Commencement is always one of my favorite events of the academic year. My tremendous sense of pride in the accomplishments of our graduates accompanies a feeling of excitement for what lies ahead for them. They have been preparing for this moment. They have the tools necessary for success. They are ready.

Over the course of four “short” years, our business students experience opportunities to apply theory learned in the classroom to solve real-world business problems. For example, a team of Integrated Business and Engineering (IBE) students developed a prototype for glaucoma screening that utilizes virtual reality. The year-long project involved extensive research and technical analyses of the market, as well as the creation of a medical device that would address the need for a more portable, efficient and affordable alternative to today’s solution. Working on an integrated team of business and engineering students that brought different skills to the project was a valuable lesson in cooperation and mutual respect as necessary components in a team-based project. This medical device is truly amazing! The lessons learned though, extend far beyond the final product.

Students from the Lehigh FinTech Group, a student run organization, extended their classroom experience when they planned and co-hosted a hackathon that fostered a multi-disciplined team approach to the thirty-six hour event. Some of the top universities in the country competed in the exercises. I am so proud to report that the Lehigh University FinTech Group took first place!

Our graduate students are just as impressive as our undergraduates! For example, the Masters in Management (M2), designed for students with non-business undergraduate degrees, provides the perfect launch pad for a career in business. Our third cohort of students who just graduated is testimony to the strength of this program. Additionally, our inaugural class for the one year, full-time MBA program (1-MBA) posted strong employment outcomes with job offers from highly regarded companies. We are so proud of the success of our graduate students in these newly-designed programs that target today’s business needs.

As we close this academic year and look forward to welcoming our newest students in a couple of months, I thank all members of the Lehigh family for your support and interest in the College of Business and Economics, and wish you a summer of rest, relaxation and renewal.

As always, I welcome any of your comments or feedback.

Warm regards,

Georgette Chapman Phillips
Kevin L. and Lisa A. Clayton Dean of the College of Business and Economics