

April 2, 2019

Dear Students, Alumni and Friends,

As we are well into our spring semester, here's an update on what is shaping up to be a successful year at Brandeis International Business School.

Planning is well underway for our <u>25th anniversary celebration</u> Sept. 20-22. This special Reunion Weekend also commemorates the 30th anniversary of our first degree program, the Master of Arts in International Economics and Finance (MA). All Brandeis IBS alumni are encouraged to attend and <u>registration</u> is now open.

We're presently in the second semester of our new Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) program, and the new classes — including the Python programming requirement — are going well. Our MSBA applicant pool, which last year was large, has nearly doubled this year. Faculty are busy designing the new FinTech concentration for our Master of Science in Finance (MSF) program. And we're doubling down on analytics next year in our Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to ensure that graduates are technologically adept business leaders. The MA program continues to attract strong candidates, with an especially large number of Fulbright applicants. We have a strong and diverse group of undergraduates starting next year in the BA/MA and Accelerated MA. Our MA graduates continue to land impressive jobs, with a heavy emphasis on technical and data-centric positions within government agencies, consulting firms, investment banks and corporations.

Our undergraduate Business Program is also thriving. Adjustments for next year include replacing a statistics module with a longer Introduction to Data Analytics course, and changes that make it easier for business students to double major in computer science or mathematics.

The <u>Centers and Institutes</u> at Brandeis IBS add immense value to the overall student experience, not to mention our intellectual heft as a university. Just this week, the Asper Center for Global Entrepreneurship co-sponsored the <u>Innovation in Israel</u> conference featuring former Bank of Israel Governor Karnit Flug. On April 8, President Ron Liebowitz will be in Beijing to present the <u>Asper Award for Global Entrepreneurship</u> to Roberta Lipson '76, founder of the largest chain of private hospitals in China. In March, Asper Center Director Ben Gomes-Casseres delivered his <u>inaugural lecture</u> as the Peter A. Petri Chair in Business and Society. With assistance from the Hassenfeld Family Innovation Center, we've fostered a strong relationship with the <u>MassChallenge</u> accelerator and built important inroads within the Greater Boston startup community. Prof. Andy Molinsky, director of the Perlmutter Institute for Global Business Leadership, is producing a new professional development <u>podcast</u> for college students and young professionals. And we're gearing up for another <u>Municipal Finance Conference</u> this July at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., thanks to the co-sponsorship of the Rosenberg Institute for Global Finance.

Commencement is right around the corner on May 19. Finally, I hope to see you all this September at Reunion Weekend.

Sincerely,

Kati

Kathryn Graddy Dean

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