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world ready.
Dear alumni and friends of the Gatton College,

The 2012-2013 academic year has begun with great optimism and enthusiasm. At our annual Gatton Welcome event we introduced nearly 600 new and transfer undergraduate students to our College bringing our total undergraduate enrollment close to 2,500 students. Additionally, this year we welcomed 26 Master of Accountancy students, 129 MBA students into our One Year Accelerated and Evening Programs, and 10 Ph.D. students. We also added seven new faculty members.

As we settle into this academic year, let me thank each of you for the support you have given to the College. From interacting with our students to supporting us financially, many of you have gone above and beyond in your commitment to us. During these six months that I have been dean, I've been able to see this, first-hand, and I am extremely grateful.

In this issue of Transform we recognize and thank each of you who have contributed to the Gatton College of Business & Economics. You will also find stories of those who have contributed greatly to our cause, along with a story of an exciting new program we are able to offer because of your generosity. And, of course, you'll find our annual roll call of donors, which contains the names of more than 2,000 individuals who donated to the College this past fiscal year. Please know that every dollar you have given to us makes a huge difference in the lives of our faculty, staff and students. Your support allows us to pursue the next level of excellence.

These are exciting days at Gatton. This summer I travelled across the country and had the opportunity to meet many of you. Your passion for the University of Kentucky is unparalleled. Thank you for joining us on our journey of preparing world-ready graduates.

David W. Blackwell
Dean
Gatton is a place where a kid can dream big and access tools to make that dream a reality, says Howard Lewis, Chairman, CEO and Founder of Family Heritage Life Insurance Company of America, based in Cleveland.

And Lewis should know. As a self-described “penniless” youngster who arrived at UK in the 1960s, Lewis discovered a wide network of supportive professors who provided hands-on instruction and one-on-one care to give him leverage to reach his goals.

That’s why today, Lewis, a Gatton advisory board member, throws his full weight – through deeds and dollars – behind the College as one of its most stalwart supporters.

“Life is about accomplishment and achievement, and when you accomplish or achieve at one level, that’s just preparation to get you ready for the next level. And that’s why the Gatton College is so effective in what it does in terms of helping kids,” Lewis says.

“Think about it. There is a wide, wide range of abilities, aptitudes and skill sets that come into Gatton. And those students all get the same information. They all get the same data. Some of them grab it and go very fast with it. Some take it and go on with it. And others are more slow-paced about it. But whoever you are, and wherever you’ve come from, that curriculum – that faculty – will take you and help you move yourself to the next level. That’s what makes the College so special.”

Lewis is in the midst of selling Family Heritage Life, a business he launched with his wife in 1989, with a $3 million loan and $14 million line of credit. Its growth has been phenomenal, even in uncertain economic times, from one small Ohio office to a nationwide sales force. Revenues in 2011 surpassed $182 million. The company, with 110 employees, serves more than 200,000 American families. Second only to Aflac in the supplemental insurance market, Family Heritage Life has won dozens of industry, community and business commendations for exceptional customer service and outstanding business practices. It also won the distinction of being one of the best places to work in northern Ohio by the Cleveland Plain Dealer in 2011.
Accolades notwithstanding, Lewis is humble about his successes and his philanthropic contributions to Gatton and a myriad of charities and causes. Family Heritage Life is also an ardent supporter of groups like the Boy Scouts of America, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Wigs for Kids (a Cleveland-based outreach program that provides custom hairpieces for children who have lost hair through accident or illness). Lewis also is a cabinet member for Harvest for Hunger, which feeds the homeless in Cleveland.

What motivates him to give back so much?
"The money that any of us have really is not our money. The money belongs to God, and we’re temporary stewards of the money," Lewis says. "And so, the money is intended for greater purposes than just a personal lifestyle or our personal hobbies or interests. I think when you’re given the opportunity to be a leader in a business or a community, you have a responsibility to everybody in that community. These are our neighbors."

THE “DEAR LITTLE GUY” IN THE “UK BLAZER”
Lewis knows first-hand the importance of people leaving a life-changing lasting impression.
He was from a poor family in Covington, Ky., where as a third grader he worked in the school cafeteria to earn “free” school lunches. By the time he was in high school, he’d figured out that if he peeled potatoes in the school basement at 7:30 a.m., he could earn his lunch and escape ridicule from classmates.
And that’s when someone from UK showed up at his school – and altered his life trajectory.
"I didn’t even know I was going to college. And this dear little guy showed up in his UK blazer and patch and talked. I wasn’t even going to go to the meeting, I probably went just to get out of class,” he laughs, adding that at the time, he was focusing on getting a job to improve life for his mother.
The speaker “created a vision of hope, and he was just such a beacon of promise” and inspired Lewis to enroll at the University. "What a difference he made, at least in the life of one person! I have to believe he impacted a lot of people around the state and a lot of people that he came into contact with,” Lewis says.
He didn’t know about the existence of scholarships or financial aid, so Lewis worked 40 to 50 hours a week to support his mother while also attending classes full-time at UK’s community college in Covington. Two years later, he transferred to the main campus in Lexington and continued working his way through school in a variety of jobs. He graduated in 1970 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Subsequently, Lewis received his MBA from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

TAKING A CHANCE
After graduating, Lewis’ career took off. While serving in the Army Reserves, he worked for Central Trust Company of Cincinnati, the second-largest trust company in Ohio. In 1978, he moved to Picker International Corp., a worldwide leader in the design, manufacture and service of advanced medical imaging systems.
"We were expecting our first baby. We were 30 years old,” he says of him and his wife, Ruth Ann. "With a lot of belief and a lot of confidence, we said, ‘We’re gonna go to the other end of Ohio and relocate our family and make our life there.’ Looking back at that, there would have been no Family Heritage had I not done that.”

In 1981, Lewis began working for Progressive Insurance Company as regional manager for Northeast and Southwest. By 1987, he was president of Capitol Consumer Marketing and was responsible for more than one-third of the company’s overall sales.
That’s when things got interesting. By now, Lewis was firmly established in his career. But he decided to take a chance with a new venture altogether and started Family Heritage Life. He and Ruth Ann pledged everything they owned, including their home, towards the new business.
The rest is history.
"To me, in life, if you take one step, life will reward it with two,” Lewis says.
He credits UK and Gatton with giving him the arsenal to make those types of life-changing moves.
"I realize the decision to go to UK was life transforming because of what I learned and the way I was equipped, for the rest of my life, with the body of knowledge and the skills needed to function and compete in the business world. There are sentinel points where you look back and realize that these things make all the difference in your life."

To read more about Howard Lewis, visit gatton.uky.edu/spotlight/HowardLewis
Under any other circumstances, 19-year-old Mackenzie Sunderlin and Dallas lawyer Cindy Grimm probably would never cross paths. But this year, these two will be spending lots of quality time discussing Sunderlin’s career goals and strategies to thrive as a woman in today’s business climate.

Sunderlin and Grimm are two participants in Gatton’s “Women Business Leaders Mentoring Program,” launched this fall by Gatton’s Women in Philanthropy Committee. They met for the first time in August, when Grimm flew in from Texas to participate in the official kick-off activity: a ropes challenge course in Wilmore, Ky., that focuses on developing leadership and communication skills.

“I had a blast and the bruises to show for it,” laughs Grimm, who graduated from UK in 1984 and today works as a securities lawyer for Texas Instruments. “There was no distinguishing between mentors and mentees, other than that the students were more agile. But this activity broke the ice.”

Says Sunderlin of Grimm, “I really liked her. She was already really helpful, and we talked about personal issues, not just the business side of things. She’s a lawyer, but I’m looking forward to learning how the business world works from the inside, the hours required to be successful, how hard it is to balance a family, workplace etiquette – things you don’t learn in school.”

Bobbi Silver is the Assistant Director of Gatton’s Office of Development and Advancement, and she’s also one of the mentoring program organizers. “The reason this came up was that we started looking at University male/female demographics, and the trend we saw is that there are more female than male students. But in business colleges, the numbers were still highly skewed to males. We wanted to look at ways to attract female students to Gatton,” Silver says.

Twelve student participants were chosen from an applicant pool of 70. Mentors are members of the Women in Philanthropy Committee. Mentees must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 each semester. They also will participate in a visit to one of the mentor’s businesses as a group, keep up with book readings for discussions and attend group meetings. The year will wrap up with a celebratory dinner. They each receive a $2,000 scholarship.

Mentors were selected if they were higher-achieving female UK graduates. “We wanted them placed high in their companies. A lot of these women are very experienced,” Silver says.

The program isn’t just for women students, either. “We want men to gain exposure to the unique challenges that women experience,” Silver says. “Men who are in the program will learn about these women’s experience and coming into the workplace, forging the way in their fields, sometimes being the first. They’ll also learn what it might be like to work for or with or manage a woman who has children or who has varied responsibilities and how that can be different from a male coworker.”

That aspect of the program specifically appealed to Ann Ruzicka, a CPA who graduated from UK in 1968, received her Master’s in 1969, and today co-owns Ruzicka & Associates Ltd., with her husband and his twin brother. The CPA firm, which specializes in helping non-profit organizations, is in Northbrook, Ill., near Chicago.

“When I graduated, there were few women in the profession. I quickly realized the value of networking with other women and being supportive of others,” Ruzicka says, adding that she was “shocked” to find out that only 25 percent of women are in business professions in total, compared to 50 percent in the accounting field alone. “I had blinders on to this idea,” she says, adding that when she first entered the field, the percentage of women CPAs was at about 1 percent.

Ruzicka is excited that male students will be participating as mentees, noting that when she first began her career, “I found out that they called the clients where they were sending me to see if it was okay to send a woman. I don’t think they do that anymore,” she laughs.

Ruzicka is also looking forward to imparting her experiences this year. She has two daughters, one of whom is an attorney, and she plans on sharing with her mentee the same advice that she gives them.

“They realize the importance of networking and reaching
out to others. It’s also important to be your own self and to stand up for yourself and that you don’t have to do that in a belligerent or negative way,” Ruzicka says. “If your boss says something that is offensive, it’s important you call them on it. You can do it in a nice way, but we must stop allowing males to put women down.”

Suzanne Wingo, another mentor, is VP and Senior Analyst at Moody’s Investors Service at the World Trade Center in New York City. She graduated in 1990 and received her Master’s in 1991 in accounting at UK. At Moody’s, Wingo has been a lead analyst for more than five years.

Wingo wants “to provide someone with a broader view of opportunities available in different paths,” as she has worked for various corporations. “I just want to be a sounding board and be there to answer questions about careers and interviewing – how to approach negotiations with salaries and promotions,” she says.

Like Ruzicka, she sees “a dearth of women executives as opposed to their male counterparts,” so “any opportunity that female students can learn from female executives is beneficial,” she says.

Wingo also volunteers to mentor a girl in 2nd grade. She wants the field to become a real career goal for girls, regardless of their age, and is looking forward to working now with a UK student. She expects to receive personal benefits from the experience, too.

“I think it’s always refreshing to talk with those who are beginning their careers and have a level of enthusiasm at the outset that may have waned a bit when you’ve been in it for a couple of decades,” Wingo says. “I enjoy working with new hires here at the office. They add that level of enthusiasm that some of us don’t have that much of, and it’s really regenerative.”

As for Sunderlin and Grimm, they had their first “meeting” in a van on the way back from the ropes course in Wilmore. Sunderlin is excited to see what the year has in store.

“(Grimm) shared that she was busy, worked long days and told me how she manages to do that and what gets her through. Whatever advice she has to offer me, I’m taking it,” Sunderlin says.

Grimm notes, “As (Sunderlin) thinks through what she wants to do, whether it’s her education, career or life, I want to serve as a sounding board and offer her perspectives, things to think about. And if I help her at all, I will feel like it was a success.”
If a Gatton student asked Bill Seale for some advice, he'd offer two words: “Learn math.”

It may sound simple and straightforward, but even as Seale delivers the wisdom with a smile and chuckle, he’s also quite serious.

His discovery of math – and the mastering of economic principles during grad school – fueled Seale’s fire. Today, Seale is retired and can claim a list of achievements that include: chief economist and principal at the $28 billion mutual fund investment firm ProFunds, chairman of the finance department and senior associate dean of the business school at George Washington University and former Commissioner of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (he was appointed by President Reagan).

Seale has a UK undergraduate degree in chemistry, ironically. After he graduated in 1963, Seale worked for UK’s medical school for a couple of years and simultaneously studied for a Master’s in Agricultural Economics.

“I probably have more hours in the economics department and the business school than I do in agriculture. And I loved it,” he says, adding that, he was averaging nearly a 4.0 GPA by the time he received his Master’s in 1969 and Ph.D. in 1975.

UK is part of the fabric of Seale’s family heritage. In fact, he grew up four blocks from campus. His father, a superb high school athlete, was recruited by Harry Gamage, then UK’s football coach.

His father went on to play one year of basketball and four years of football and was the first UK football player to ever play in post-season football, the North-South Shriners game in Chicago.

Years later, when it came time for Seale to head to school, even with a few football scholarship options for himself, there was still no question: Kentucky. And that strong affinity still holds true.

“I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the University of Kentucky. I just want to give something back…. I want to give something back so people can do more.
for Kentucky kids, and it’s a need-based scholarship. I want to give something back so people can do more,” he says.

Seale also has strong respect for the future plans for the College of Business laid out by Gatton’s new dean, Dr. David Blackwell. “Dave came along and said, let me show you my vision, and I liked it. I want to help them even more,” he says.

A CAREER OF INFLUENCE
Following Seale’s time at UK, he found himself on a career track with a wider influence than he ever imagined possible.

After completing his doctorate, Seale went to Washington, D.C., and worked for Kentucky Senator Walter Huddleston where he ran the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture Production and Marketing and Stabilization of Prices. He was in that position about five years, when he was fired. He recalls the story candidly and with a no-nonsense business point-of-view.

“Well, they fired my boss, and the next guy fired all the officers, which is fine. I would have done that too, incidentally. You want your own people. In the corporate world, you don’t want to worry about where loyalties lie. You want to know who your people are,” he explains.

It was probably a good thing, because after that, President Reagan appointed him to the Futures Trading Commission for a five-year term.

Once his term was up, Seale planned to retire and move to Florida. But then George Washington University came calling and gave him an offer he couldn’t refuse. He became chairman of the finance department.

“I went there with the intent of staying a couple of years, and I stayed 12 years,” he says.

THE CREATION OF A NEW VENTURE
By the end of his time there, Seale had become senior associate dean of the business school. It was a one-year appointment.

“A guy called me and said, ‘I need to hire some people who know something about the futures markets.’ … He wanted somebody to write a few models for him. I said, ‘Well I’ll write them; it’s going to cost you a lot of money, but I’ll write them and train your people.’ (He said,) ‘We don’t have any money, but we’ll give you a piece of the company,’” Seale recalls.

And so The ProFunds Group was launched in 1997.

With offices in Bethesda, Md., the company provides a wide range of investment strategies for knowledgeable investors, offering more than 100 mutual funds. In 2006, ProFunds launched another business – ProShares. It introduced the first “geared” exchange traded funds (ETFs) in the United States. Today, ProShares offers an array of more than 120 alternative ETFs. Collectively, ProFunds and ProShares manage nearly $28 billion in mutual fund and ETF assets.

The firm is now a sizeable operation. It grew from three partners (including Seale) and two employees to two floors of a bank building covering about 50,000 square feet of office space and about 120 employees. Seale left about five years ago, “got drafted back” for about 18 months and then left again, but he’s still a Principal in the company and maintains an office.

“It’s been a wonderful ride. The firm has done well beyond any of our wildest expectations. If you had asked my partners, they would have said the same thing. You know everybody now is like, ‘We knew it was going to be successful.’ We didn’t have a damned clue,” he laughs.

SAILING INTO THE SUNSET
If anyone could sail into the sunset, Seale could. And does.

He now splits his time between Annapolis, Md., and Key Largo, Fla., where he has a Sabre 54 Flybridge yacht.

“I have a serious love of boating. We have a sailboat here and we have a power boat that we keep in Maine. And I enjoy flying,” Seale says, adding that one of his “Bucket List” items is to master flight panel instrumentation.

Meanwhile, helping UK will continue to be one of Seale’s priorities.

“It’s a great institution, and it’s got an absolutely spectacularly gorgeous campus, and all you’ve got to do is go around the country to figure that one out. Simply put, it’s just one of those things we have to support.”

To read more about Bill Seale, visit gatton.uky.edu/spotlight/BillSeale
Harvard – the word conjures one image for Dr. Amitabh Chandra:

**E L E C T R I C I T Y.**

Dr. Chandra is an economist and a professor of public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and a Gatton alum. His research focuses on productivity and cost-growth in healthcare and racial disparities in healthcare. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky in 2000 in Economics and his B.A. from UK in Economics in 1996. Dr. Chandra has an Honorary M.A. from Harvard, which was conveyed in 2009.

Chandra remains nostalgic for bluegrass-laden hills and his teachers at the University of Kentucky.

“The faculty who taught me at UK are still doing what they did for me 20 years ago,” he says of the Gatton College of Business & Economics. “No one teaches and mentors as well as they do at UK—the amount of attention that I received, the personal attention, on weekends and on holidays, it was amazing. I’m not able to do that for my students at Harvard. UK does more for less.”

He’s renowned for his expertise, advising Congress on health care policy and having an influential role in the ongoing insurance debate. He has been named as Special Commissioner on the Massachusetts Commission on Provider Price Reform. And he has served as Consultant for the Institute of Medicine.

Last November, the Kentucky Economic Association named Chandra “Distinguished Kentucky Economist” of 2011. He visited Lexington and addressed the association’s audience, which included grad students from Gatton.

Dr. Chandra came to the United States at age 18 from New Delhi, India. As an undergrad, he discovered that UK was more than a school. Rather, his professors and members of the campus community were like “parents in absentia,” he says. “My friends from UK and my professors at UK made me who I am today—they taught me everything I know—from economics to history to (American) football.”

“The University of Kentucky admitted me. They gave me aid and pursued me,” Chandra recalls. “A lot of people would go elsewhere for their Ph.D., but I stayed on because I loved my undergraduate experience so much.”

One such teacher was Frank Scott, whose seminar ignited his interest in economics. “I took his class and said, ‘This is what I want to do rest of life.’”
Economics is an incredibly powerful discipline. It can weigh in on everything from climate change, to marriage markets, regulating car companies on gas mileage, to what the Federal Reserve should do when banks fail, to spending on health care.

Another influential professor and mentor was the late economist Mark Berger. Berger worked with the Kentucky governor’s office and the state transportation cabinet. “I was always struck by what Mark would do. I’d say, ‘Why don’t you write another paper instead of helping policy makers?’ He’d say, ‘Better public policy can make the world a better place, and as an economist you can help design smarter public policy. It works faster than only writing a paper,’” Chandra recalls.

The other two ways to make a difference, Chandra says, is to teach and write papers in academic journals. His favorite method of contribution, however? Teaching.

“I get a thrill when I see the light bulb lighting up on a student. And when you hear them say, ‘I walked into the class thinking this, and now I think that you made me understand why another way was better. I keep coming back to the teaching, again and again. It is deeply rewarding,’ he says.

After receiving his Ph.D., Chandra was an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at Dartmouth College, from 2000 to 2005. That’s where he first discovered his niche in the economic arena—health care. “I discovered this largely through peer influences. I was immersed in an environment where everyone around me was studying health care. My training as an economist allowed me to enter the debates and be a productive member of the national conversation on healthcare reform. It was a marriage of Kentucky training with the questions that people asked,” he says.

While at Dartmouth, Chandra also took a role as visiting assistant professor at MIT’s Department of Economics. He was named assistant professor at Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, in 2005 and was promoted to professor in 2009.

Chandra notes that many doors have opened for him to share his knowledge with policy makers because of his affiliation with Harvard.

“It’s unbelievable what Harvard can do for a person’s career. Washington looks to Harvard several times a day. … I can’t take credit for that,” he says.

“There are great economists all over the country, but Harvard is disproportionately represented in public debates.”

He became a U.S. citizen a couple of years ago, although he frequently returns to India to visit family. Two siblings are also here in the United States. “I spent the formative years of my life in Lexington. So in many ways, I identify with American social problems,” he says.

Last March, Dr. Chandra was inducted into the 2012 Gatton College Alumni Hall of Fame. He is also the recipient of an Outstanding Teacher Award, the first-prize recipient of the Upjohn Institute’s International Dissertation Research Award, the Kenneth Arrow Award for best paper in health economics and the Eugene Garfield Award for the impact of medical research.

Of all of the awards and recognitions, he is most proud of the nod from the Upjohn Institute. That’s because usually people from Harvard, MIT and Princeton receive the award, but he was from UK at the time. “It says so much about the Institute that they found (my research), read and liked it and rewarded all that I and my advisors had done on my Ph.D. dissertation,” he says. “I felt that it was the most gratifying award. At the time, no one knew who I was. …It tells you how good the training was at UK.”
What have been your first steps since coming to the Gatton College as dean?

I have spent a lot of time listening to Gatton faculty, staff, students, employers of our students, and alumni. I have learned, and I’m still learning, about the numerous opportunities available for the Gatton College and how we can better serve all of the constituencies of the College.

What is your top priority as dean?

For a number of reasons, a new building needs to be a leading priority. With input from faculty, staff, students, employers and alumni I am assessing the type and amount of space that is needed and I am working with the leadership of the University to develop a plan to address the facilities as quickly as possible.

What has excited you most about coming to the University of Kentucky?

The high enthusiasm of the faculty, staff, and alumni for elevating UK and the Gatton College to the next level has been inspiring. With such a strong faculty, the Gatton College is starting from a strong base from which to grow and improve. The alumni seem poised to help provide the “capital” needed to finance the move of the College to the next level of excellence.

How would you describe your leadership style?

I like to make decisions based on facts. I do a lot of listening to gather the facts and data; I analyze the facts and data; and I make decisions consistent with the strategy. While not everyone will always agree with my decisions, my hope is that if I openly communicate about how I reach decisions, they will be respected and the leadership team, the faculty, and the staff will move forward to execute. Great execution can make up for less than perfect judgment of a leader and great teamwork leads to successful execution. Open communication and teamwork are the keys to success.

I prefer a decentralized approach. I want to work with all constituents to develop a strategy and then provide the administrative leaders in the College with the incentives and resources to achieve the common goals. In the past, my approach has been to work with my staff to set goals, provide them with the resources to work toward the goals, and then get out of their way.

At the same time, I want to be approachable. If someone needs my input or guidance, I want to be there for them.

How have you been engaging the larger Gatton community?

I have been spending considerable time meeting alumni, potential employers and potential donors. While this means I have been on the road quite a bit, I also am trying to get business leaders to visit us on campus either as guest speakers or as participants in networking or mentoring activities for our students. I have found that potential employers or donors will support the College much more strongly if they are engaged on campus with the students. I am also looking at the College’s outreach activities to the business community. Whether that’s through executive education or an executive MBA program, the Gatton College needs to be a force across the commonwealth for providing knowledge to improve business productivity and employment.
The Gatton College of Business and Economics thanks our alumni and friends who have generously supported us this past fiscal year. Between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012, nearly $4.3 million was generously donated by the individuals whose names follow in this report.

On behalf of the Gatton College faculty, administration, staff and students, we are deeply grateful for the continued support you have given to the College. Thank you for helping us continue to educate and prepare world-ready graduates.
Tuesday, February 5, 2013
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Lexington Convention Center

Hear expert sources speak on significant issues for Kentuckians during this half-day event designed to inform you about notable economic trends throughout the State and the Nation.

For more information about the event, call 859.257.8746 or 1.800.284.6407 or register online at www.gatton.uky.edu/eec

Early registration is recommended.

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Gatton News

Gatton Opens Doors for International Education

As university graduates face an increasingly global and internationally connected marketplace, the Gatton College of Business and Economics strives to equip students with necessary experiences for success. Brendan O’Farrell, international director in Gatton, is opening doors to make those experiences possible.

O’Farrell and his students work with the HIV and AIDS prevention organization in Guayaquil, Ecuador. As international director, O’Farrell oversees the Gatton Global Scholars Program, a competitive program that combines immersive learning, leadership development opportunities and global perspectives for students with an interest in international business and leadership. O’Farrell also coordinates general education abroad efforts for the College.

This commitment involves providing an array of education abroad opportunities for students, tailored to different needs. While the Global Scholars Program requires students to spend an entire semester abroad, O’Farrell also coordinates shorter, faculty-led trips open to all of Gatton, which allow students without previous travel experience to “get their feet wet” before departing for a full semester.

In May 2012, O’Farrell led a group to Guayaquil, Ecuador, the country’s financial capital, on a service-learning project. For two weeks they lived there with host families, accomplishing a two-fold goal of providing community service and gaining insight into international business.

To read more of Brendan’s story visit: gatton.uky.edu/internationalservice
Gatton Advisor Selected as an Outstanding New Advisor by the National Academic Advising Association

Casey O. Shadix, Academic Advisor, Gatton College of Business & Economics Undergraduate Resource Center at University of Kentucky, has been selected as an Outstanding New Advisor Certificate of Merit recipient in the Academic Advising—Primary Role category from the National Academic Advising Association as part of the 2012 Annual Awards Program for Academic Advising.

This award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated qualities associated with outstanding academic advising of students and who have served as an advisor for a period of three (3) or fewer years. The Academic Advising—Primary Role category includes those individuals whose primary role at the institution is the direct delivery of advising services to students.

Since 1983, NACADA has honored individuals and institutions making significant contributions to the improvement of academic advising. The goal of NACADA is to promote quality academic advising and professional development of its membership to enhance the educational development of students.

NACADA’s membership has grown to over 10,000 faculty, professional advisors, administrators, counselors and others in academic and student affairs concerned with the intellectual, personal and vocational needs of students. In addition, NACADA is the representative and advocate of academic advising and those providing that service to higher education.

Shadix will be honored and presented with this award in Nashville, Tenn., during the NACADA Annual Conference this fall.
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