

College of Business students/faculty attend international conference

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Alfred University students and faculty attended an international conference in Guam during spring break, March 2-10, 2007. AU faculty and students participated in an international conference and a study tour. The international conference was a two-day academic meeting on business, economics and information technology, with the theme of "Doing Business in the Global Economy: Economic, Political, Social and Cultural Environments." The conference was held on March 5-6 in Tumon, Guam. The Alfred University College of Business is a leader on the conference organization and sponsorship, teaming up with Pennsylvania State University-Altoona Division of Business and Engineering and the University of Guam School of Business and Public Administration. Representing each institution were co-chairs Dr. Claret Ruane, associate professor of economics and coordinator of the economics program at Alfred University; Dr. Barbara Wiens-Tuers, associate professor of economics, and Dr. James J. Taylor, associate professor of finance. This international conference was similar to past conferences in the Philippines and continues to support elements of AU's College of Business' mission, i.e., "provide an environment which fosters understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity and ethical conduct" and "support, conduct and disseminate scholarship in business." Noteworthy about this international conference is the scholarly collaboration between AU faculty and students with the possibility of publication in a peer-reviewed academic journal. Two College of Business students, Jason Weeks, a senior marketing major from Marietta, NY, and Kalyn Follmer, a freshman business administration major from Windfield, PA, served as co-authors to Ruane and Frank Duserick, AU professor of management information systems, on two separate papers. Both students presented these papers at the conference. These papers, along with Ruane's third paper, will be submitted for peer review and possible publication in the Allied Academics' Journal of International Business Research, published by Whitney Press. The conference also provided an opportunity to exhibit AU's artistic talents. The gift to the keynote speaker, Gerald S.A. Perez, general manager, Guam Visitors Bureau, was a ceramic artwork by AU art and design senior Carin Sankus of Gillette, NJ, while the gifts to the co-organizers featured the glasswork of another AU art and design major David Ashley and another ceramic work by Sankus.