

# COMMUNICATOR

## School of Business Newsletter

### Letter from the Dean



**Jessica Cummings, JD**  
Dean,  
School of Business  
Associate Professor

**Greetings, Business Students!** I am Jessica Cummings, Dean of the School of Business, and it has been a privilege to share this academic year's journey with you. Whether you returned this year to continue your studies or you joined us as a freshman, our commitment remains the same: to support your growth, success, and transformation as future business leaders. I hope the opportunities you have engaged in this year, including classroom learning, internships, service experiences, guest speakers, and signature events like our Business Student Conference, have enriched your development.



Each year, Felician Services Inc. (FSI) offers a mission and heritage theme shared across all ministries. This year's theme draws inspiration from Isaiah 54:2: *"Enlarge the space for your tent, spread out your tent cloths unsparingly; lengthen your ropes and make firm your pegs..."*

Through Widening Our Tent for Charism and Mission, we are called, guided by the spirit of Blessed Mary Angela, to embrace inclusivity and make room for others. We are invited to respond to the needs of our times by cultivating a culture that values relationships, strengthens community, and encourages creativity and generativity. **How will you respond?**



*Academic Year: 2025-2026*

### *Academic Planning & Support*

As we approach the end of the term, please remember to schedule a meeting with your faculty advisor. They are here to help you stay on track with your academic plan, internships, and career goals.

### *Gratitude*

Our students, alumni, faculty, staff, administrators, and supporters continue to inspire me, and I am deeply grateful for all who contribute to making the School of Business and Madonna University such an exceptional community. I am also thankful for the many examples of personal and professional growth I have witnessed throughout the year. As we move forward, I encourage you to pause and reflect on the experiences and individuals who inspire your own sense of gratitude.

### *Name Change:*

#### *School of Business to College of Business*

I am pleased to share that, beginning this summer, the School of Business will become the College of Business. This change strengthens our identity, promotes a stronger sense of community, and aligns us with the other colleges across the university.



This update will not affect your academic program or degree requirements. Instead, it reflects the growth of our business programs and supports our continued commitment to your success.

I look forward to finishing the semester strong, celebrating achievements at Honors Convocation, and cheering on our graduates at commencement. Let's make the rest of the year unforgettable!

*Warm regards,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Cummings'.

**Jessica Cummings, JD**

Dean, School of Business  
Main Academic Building, Room 1220A  
[jcummings@madonna.edu](mailto:jcumplings@madonna.edu)

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# Chair's Corner Graduate Programs

**Dr. Andrew Malec**

Interim Chair, Graduate Programs

School of Business

Assistant Professor

**Greetings!** I hope you are having a great academic year! Please let me know if you have any questions about graduate courses or programs in the School of Business. I support each of you as you diligently work to make meaningful progress toward your goals.

Graduate students, please remember to follow your plan of study and also check your student advising Blackboard group for any announcements (MBA Student Advising or MSBL Student Advising). School of Business graduate students are automatically enrolled in these groups which are updated on an annual basis. If you do not have access to your group, please send me an email with your student number. These groups are used to provide essential information for our graduate students.

Undergraduate students, it is not too early to think about your next steps. I recommend you take time to talk to family, friends, faculty, and mentors about your academic and career plans. I am available to discuss graduate programs offered in the School of Business. The School of Business offers the Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Science in Business Leadership (MSBL). Reviewing information online about the programs is a great place to start.

Please take a moment to review your goals and let me know if I may be of assistance.

I look forward to continuing to work with you throughout this academic year.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Malec', written in a cursive style.

**Dr. Andrew Malec**

Chair, Graduate Programs

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Administration Building , Room 1217



# Chair's Corner Undergraduate Programs

**Mr. Frank Notturmo**

Chair, Undergraduate Programs

School of Business

Associate Professor

The School of Business has seen many exciting developments this year, and I hope you share our enthusiasm.

## **New Faculty:**

We are pleased to have added two new full-time faculty members. **Dr. Ivan Gappy**, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, brings rich professional experience with companies like Amazon, Ford, and DTE Energy, along with teaching roles at various universities. **Dr. Meagan Dougherty**, our new Assistant Professor of Sport Management, previously served at Concordia University Ann Arbor and has been a Division I Head Women's Soccer Coach. We're thrilled to welcome both to our team.

We also had new adjunct professors joining us. **Mr. Don McLean**, an alumnus with both bachelor's and master's degrees from Madonna, is known for his LinkedIn workshop at our Annual Business Conference. **Mr. Brandon Slone**, another graduate, teaches Global Supply Chain Management; he is Chief of Staff, NA & EU, at RPM, an international logistics and supply chain firm serving North America, Europe, Mexico, and Canada. Finally, **Dr. Joey-Lynn Bialkowski-Peterson**, a former professor at Concordia University, teaches a variety of Management and Sport Management courses.

## **New Majors and Courses:**

Business Analytics and Cybersecurity have advanced from concentrations to full majors. Computer Science now features several newly added and updated courses:

- **CSC 3020 Modern Technologies:** (Fall term) Covers current software development tools and practices such as Docker, Jira, cloud computing, and GitHub, focusing on their industry applications and impacts.
- **CSC 4140 Computer Systems:** Introduces basic computer architecture and systems using the C programming language, with topics like operating systems, memory management, file systems, and microprocessors.

Finally, remember that our campus offers many resources, including our new Success Coach, Jacob Fry. He's your go-to person for advising questions and his office is located within the School of Business #1210.

*Best regards & finish strong!*

**Mr. Frank Notturmo**

Chair, Undergraduate Programs

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# Advising Undergraduate Programs

**Mr. Jacob Fry**

Success Coach, School of Business  
Office of Student Advising and Success

My name is Jacob Fry, and I serve as a Success Coach for the School of Business at Madonna University. I am a proud 2023 graduate of Madonna University, where I earned my bachelor's degree in Sport Management. Following graduation, I spent two years working in Admissions before transitioning into my current role in Advising and Student Success.

As a Success Coach, I am committed to supporting School of Business students as they progress toward graduation and prepare for meaningful careers. I find it especially rewarding to help students clarify their goals and develop a focused academic and career plan. I am equally dedicated to assisting students who may still be exploring their major or future career path, ensuring they feel supported throughout the decision-making process.

Drawing on my experience as both a student and a staff member, I strive to create a welcoming and supportive environment where students feel confident navigating their academic journey. I am proud to represent an institution that values equal opportunity and encourages all individuals to pursue their passions. I look forward to helping students grow into engaged, capable leaders within their communities during their time at Madonna University.

Continue dedicating yourself to your studies and making strides to accomplish your goals! Make positive impacts here at Madonna University and beyond as you enter your career. Remember to dedicate some time for yourself, too, so that you have the energy and mental fortitude to accomplish these goals.

Students are encouraged to schedule appointments with their success coach directly through the website ([Madonna.edu/advising](https://Madonna.edu/advising)), or contact them through email or phone call. If you are unsure of who your success coach is, you can reach out to [MUAdvising@madonna.edu](mailto:MUAdvising@madonna.edu) or (734) 432-5417 for assistance.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jacob Fry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized "F" and "y".

**Jacob Fry**

Success Coach, School of Business  
Office of Student Advising and Success

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See **Page 10** for additional advising information

# International Business Programs

## Haiti – Undergraduate Program

We are proud to announce the graduation of the 11th and 12th cohorts from our Haiti undergraduate program. These exceptional students successfully completed a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Leadership while facing difficult challenges of political unrest, hurricanes, and frequent outages of electricity and the internet. We look forward to learning of the positive impact they will make in Haiti's future.

Madonna University began teaching the Business Administration and Leadership program to Haitian students in August of 2011. This is a degree-completion program which is taught online by faculty from Madonna University's main campus.

## Haiti – Graduate Program

We are also pleased to announce that 30 Haiti alumni have been admitted and have participated in our MBA program. Combined support from the Felician Sisters along with the administration of Madonna University, allowed us to provide graduate education to our brothers and sisters in Haiti. The first two cohorts attended online classes with domestic students taking advantage of ZOOM lectures and virtual office hours to stay on top of their course work.

This past academic year, the School of Business proudly graduated 10 Haitian MBA students.



## Dubai, UAE

Since 2003, the School of Business has partnered with the World of Knowledge Management Development Centre in Dubai, UAE. The International Business and Economics undergraduate program is a completion program taught online by faculty from Madonna University's main campus. Currently, the School of Business Dubai program has 17 undergraduate students taking classes in the Bachelor of International Business and Economics major.

In 2004, program offerings expanded to include a fully online MBA program. Currently, the School of Business Dubai MBA program has 9 graduate students registered in classes.

# Honors Convocation

The School of Business has recognized and awarded students with Highest Achievement Awards and the High Achievement Awards since establishing the School of Business Annual Honors Convocation in 1985.

The annual Honors Convocation is an award ceremony in recognition of student academic achievement in graduate and undergraduate programs. During the event, special recognition is given to students who were nominated and awarded for the:

**School of Business Leadership Award**

**Outstanding Service Award**

**Michael F. McManus Jr. Award for Leadership and Scholarship**

**Haiti - Business Administration and Leadership Award**

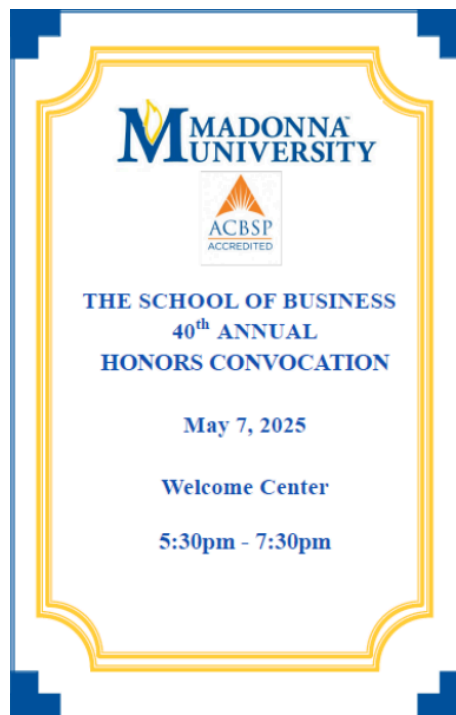
**Rising Star Awards**

**Meta and Bernard Landuyt Award**

**Alliance Catholic Credit Union School of Business Scholarship**

Additionally, many high achieving students are invited to join the Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business.

***Congratulations Students!***



# Student Business Conference

## The Power of a Professional Mindset



Career success isn't just about what you know, it's about how you show up. That message guided Madonna University's 9th Annual Business Student Conference, *The Power of a Professional Mindset*, held February 5, 2026. More than 150 attendees gathered for a day of career readiness, professional development, and networking, bringing together School of Business students, faculty, alumni, and regional industry leaders.

Keynote speaker **Jeannine Laible**, Human Resources Director for the City of Livonia, challenged students to rethink what it means to be career-ready. She emphasized that a professional mindset goes beyond technical skills, it is the energy individuals bring and how they respond to challenges and opportunities. "Encouraging students to move from "potential to professional," Laible highlighted curiosity, adaptability, accountability, and initiative as pillars of success. "The transition to building a professional mindset doesn't happen on graduation day, it happens the moment you decide to think differently," she shared.

Students also gained perspective during a career panel featuring **Jeannine Laible**; **Kimberly Fisher**, Managing Partner at New York Life Insurance and NY Life Securities; **Jay Glanton**, Innovation Buyer at General Motors; Madonna alumnus **Brandon Slone**, Chief of Staff for North America & Europe at RPM; and fellow alumnus **Jeremy Otto**, broadcaster with 97.1 The Ticket and WWJ News Radio 950. Panelists shared lessons on adaptability, storytelling, and professional growth, encouraging students to show up consistently, listen actively, and take ownership of their career journeys.

The conference offered hands-on experiences designed to strengthen students' professional presence, including a networking luncheon with alumni and industry professionals, LinkedIn strategy conversations led by Madonna alumnus **Don McLean** of McLean Media, professional headshots provided by the University's Marketing Department, and career-readiness discussions with Career Development Director Jennifer Stokes.

"Our goal is to help students connect mindset with action," said Stokes. "When students understand their strengths, build professional relationships, and practice showing up with intention, they position themselves to stand out in a competitive marketplace."

*"This conference reflects the School of Business mission to blend academic learning with real-world engagement. Hearing directly from professionals helps students see what's possible and inspires them to take ownership of their career journey"*

*-Dean Cummings*



# Faculty & Staff



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# ADDITIONAL ADVISING INFORMATION

## 1. Check your advising worksheet regularly.

- a. This tracks your progress in your degree in real-time with your registrations.
- b. To access, login to MyPortal (<https://myportal.madonna.edu/ICS/>) > Students Tab (Top Row) > Advising (Left-Hand Side) > Advising Worksheet > Wait for the report to generate and then click the PDF to view.

## 2. Check your account for any holds. You can do so by following the directions below:

- a. Login to MyPortal (<https://myportal.madonna.edu/ICS/>).
  - i. From the "Home" or "Students" tab, go to "Course Search"
  - ii. If there are holds on your account, you will see them listed under the "Current Term"
  - iii. Go to "Add/Drop Courses"
  - iv. "Holds" will be listed below the "Term" selection
  - v. Expand each hold by clicking on the "+" icon next to each one for information on who to contact to have the hold resolved.

3. **Have a balance hold? Resolve this early! Holds prevent registration.** If you need to speak with Student Financial Services (SFS), you may contact them at [sfs@madonna.edu](mailto:sfs@madonna.edu), (734) 432-5600, or visiting the Enrollment Center in Room 2003 in the Administration Building, 2nd floor.

## 4. Each student also has an assigned Financial Aid Officer. Please find yours below:

<b>Elisa Dossantos</b> , LAST NAMES A TO L	Email: <a href="mailto:edossantos@madonna.edu">edossantos@madonna.edu</a>
<b>Kimberly Saylor</b> , LAST NAMES M TO Z	Email: <a href="mailto:ksaylor@madonna.edu">ksaylor@madonna.edu</a>
<b>Alisa Carducci-Bieritz</b> , VA benefits	Email: <a href="mailto:acarducci-Bieritz@madonna.edu">acarducci-Bieritz@madonna.edu</a>

## 5. Graduation Requirements are as follows:

- a. Completion of Core Curriculum (General Education) requirements.
- b. Completion of Major, Minor, and/or Certificate requirements.
- c. Completion of 120 credit hours.
  - Minimum of 30 must be completed at Madonna University for transfer students.
  - Completion of your final semester with a 2.0+ GPA AND a cumulative GPA of a 2.0+ GPA.
  - Completion of the Graduation Application.
  - Payment of the Graduation Application fee.
  - Complete your Graduation Participation form.
  - Order your Regalia.

6. **The Office of Career Development is a great resource** for career exploration and questions about next steps after graduation. They can be contacted at [careerdevelopment@madonna.edu](mailto:careerdevelopment@madonna.edu)

## 7. Faculty Advisors:

- **Accounting** .....Melissa Force
- **Business Administration, Human Resource Management, Marketing** .....Frank Notturmo
- **Business Analytics** .....Andrew Malec
- **Finance** .....Clara Chen
- **Information Technology Management, Computer Science, & Cybersecurity**.....Ivan Gappy
- **Sport Management** ..... Meagan Dougherty
- **Supply Chain Management** ..... Nermin Atteya



# MADONNA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

## Undergraduate Programs

### Majors

- Accounting
- Business Administration
  - Concentrations
    - Business Analytics
    - Finance
    - Global Supply Chain Management
    - Human Resource Management
    - Information Technology
    - Marketing
- Business Analytics
- Computer Science
- Cybersecurity
- Sport Management

### Minors

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Computer Science
- Finance
- Global Supply Chain Management
- Marketing
- Sport Management

### Certificates

- Coaching
- Cyber Security
- Digital Media
- Entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurship for Sport Management
- Esports & Gaming Administration
- Forensic Accounting
- Pre-Law Studies

*Questions? Email [schoolofbusiness@madonna.edu](mailto:schoolofbusiness@madonna.edu)*

## Graduate Programs

### Majors

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science in Business Leadership
- MSN/MBA: Admin./Business Admin.  
Dual Degree

### Certificates

- Criminal Justice
- International Business Management
- Non-Profit Leadership
- Operations and Global Supply Chain Management
- Quality Management

*For Admissions Information: Email [gradadmissions@madonna.edu](mailto:gradadmissions@madonna.edu)*

## Mission Statement

The mission of the School of Business at Madonna University is to promote academic excellence in undergraduate and graduate education. As a community of scholars, faculty and students study the foundational principles of business. We prepare students to become knowledgeable, ethical, professional, and articulate global workers and citizens. The academic programs offered through the School of Business challenge students, add a solid body of knowledge, understanding, and experience in various aspects of business, and are taught in view of the global business environment.

# C A L E N D A R

Registration	Dates
Summer 2026	Now Available
<b>Fall &amp; Winter 2026-2027</b>	
- Web Registration	Opens March 23, 2026
- In-person	Opens March 30, 2026
Semester Dates	Dates
Winter 2026	1/12/2026 - 5/9/2026
Winter 2026 Final Withdrawal	4/10/2026
Summer 2026	5/18/2026 - 8/8/2026
Summer 2026 Final Withdrawal	7/17/2027
Fall 2026	8/31/2026 - 12/19/2026
Fall 2026 Final Withdrawal	11/20/2026
Winter 2027	1/11/2027 - 5/8/2027
Winter 2027 Final Withdrawal	4/9/2027
Filing Deadline - Application for Graduation	
File by	Graduation Date
1/30/2026	August 2026
5/29/2026	December 2026
9/30/2026	May 2026

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Graduation Mass**  
Tuesday, May 12, 2026  
Presentation of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary Chapel  
6:00pm

**School of Business  
Honors Convocation**  
Wednesday, May 13, 2026  
Welcome Center  
5:30 - 7:30pm

**School of Business  
Commencement**  
Thursday, May 14, 2026  
PAAAC  
11:00am

## School of Business Communicator: 2025-2026

### Administration

**Dr. Christopher Dougherty**  
President

**Dr. Chris Benson**  
Provost & Vice President  
Academic Administration &  
Student Affairs

**Jessica Cummings, JD**  
Dean, School of Business

**Frank Notturmo**  
Chair, Undergraduate  
Business Programs

**Andrew Malec, Ph.D.**  
Chair, Graduate  
Business Programs

**Laura Carravallah**  
School of Business  
Program Coordinator

**Jacob Fry**  
School of Business  
Success Coach

**School of Business**  
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**Office Hours**  
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