Welcome Back!
Welcome Back to our 5th Year!  
A KWS Update

Greetings and salutations from the Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality & Resort Management (KWS)! Classes began on August 28th and we are in full swing as we publish our first newsletter of the year. Our enrollments are strong and our classes full. We are looking forward to another historic year. We welcomed students back with a reception on September 6th and over eighty percent of our students were able to drop by for pizza and cake and the opportunity to meet their classmates and get information on other activities planned throughout the semester.

Photos of this and all KWS activities to date are published in this edition of the Partner.

Faculty & Curriculum

We have many new student faces in our classes and several new faces on the faculty side. First and foremost we welcome Dr. Eric T. Brey, our new full-time faculty member, who recently completed his doctoral work at Purdue University. Purdue is one of the leading hospitality programs in the country and we are happy to have Eric join us. This semester he is teaching our Hotel/Resort Operation course (HPRM 3330) and Trends (HPRM 4600) with a focus on resorts. Welcome Professor Brey!

In addition to our ever stalwart and reliable Chris Roan, Director of Member Services for the Memphis Convention and Visitor Bureau, who this semester is teaching an evening section of the Business of Hospitality (HPRM 2010), we also welcome to the classroom two new industry support faculty. Doug Browne, the General Manager of the Peabody Hotel, is lending his skills and experience working with the faculty to teach and coordinate a full section of HPRM 2010. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in activities at the Peabody Hotel. Also Mohamad Hakimian, owner and operator of the Madison Hotel in Memphis, is lending his talents and experience to teach our International Hospitality Business course (HPRM 4400). It is great to have you all on board.

For the first time we are offering three one-credit courses at the 2000 or sophomore level. These courses will allow our students to have continuous contact with the school and the faculty by taking at least one or two courses in the school each semester. These courses also provide students an opportunity to take diverse subjects. Dr. LaChelle Wilborn is teaching Special Events (HPRM 2003), the Distinguished Speaker Series (HPRM 2004) and Professional Development (HPRM 2006) this semester. LaChelle is also teaching our Entertainment Management course (HPRM 3600) and will lead students on a tour of Las Vegas and its many grand hotels. The class will meet with hotel and gaming executives and have numerous back of the house tours.

Additionally several of our classes have integrated professional certification courses endorsed by the American Hotel & Lodging Association into the curriculum. In our Business of Hospitality course students participate in Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) programs and can earn eight certifications. In our Food and Beverage Operations course (HPRM 2050) students participate in the TAP Series Food Safety certification. Both programs are offered on line.

Student Activities

Students have also begun their volunteer activities for the semester. The first event was the US Foodservice’s Foods Festival. Students will also participate in the Peabody Benefits Fair and numerous other activities this semester.

Scholarships

The KWS is also very fortunate to have awarded a number of scholarships for students this year. Scholarships are a critical tool in supporting our students. Scholarships assist students to complete their education and attract prospective students to study at the Kemmons Wilson School and the University of Memphis. We offer a combination of endowed scholarships and scholarships dedicated by industry partners to support our students.

The InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) Scholarship (full tuition) recipients this year are Miriam Elli, Marisa Venable and Sharon Beasley. Additionally, Marisa and Sharon will accompany Professor O’Halloran to Toronto, Ontario, Canada to participate in the IHG Leadership Conference. They will report on their experience next month. Additionally; the Perkins Scholarship was awarded to Stephen Rutledge, the Frank Flautt Scholarship was awarded to Chris Patterson and Kathryn Downey-Smith and the Memphis Restaurant Association Scholarship was awarded to Philip Haley. In addition to the scholarships endowed through the University, the KWS is fortunate to have numerous scholarships dedicated for KWS students. The following list outlines these scholarships and their recipients.

(Continued on page 3)
A new school year has begun and the Kemmons Wilson Hospitality Society (KWHS) is ready to start the semester off right. On September 6, 2006, the Kemmons Wilson School along with the KWHS hosted a Welcome Back Reception for all of the students and for our new instructor, Dr. Eric Brey. This was just one of the many things the Society does throughout the year. The KWHS is a society of students who are interested in the hospitality field and want to learn more about its effects in the tri-state area.

In addition to monthly meetings, the Society also schedules time to take tours of local organizations and have people in the industry come and speak to the School. It provides students with plenty of volunteer opportunities and ways to get to know the hospitality community better. Students who are interested in joining the Kemmons Wilson Hospitality Society can email the president, Lauren Jackson at ljacksn3@memphis.edu or the faculty sponsor, Dr. LaChelle Wilborn at lwilbrn@memphis.edu.

Meet Brian Dodson
Assistant to the KWHS President
I am a senior Hospitality Resort Management major at the University of Memphis. I will be graduating in December 2006. After college, I plan to get a job at one of the many resort properties in Florida at an entry-level management position. My career goal is to own a chain of resorts and golf courses all across the country. With the education that I have acquired from the University of Memphis and the Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality and Resort Management, I believe that I will be a valuable asset to the hospitality/tourism industry.

(Continued from page 2)

- American Hotel & Lodging Association, Employment Guide Scholarship: Lauren Jackson, Allison Cox-Melton and Kathryn Downey-Smith
- American Hotel & Lodging Association, Steven Hymans Extended Stay Scholarship: Meredith Sampson
- American Hotel & Lodging Association, American Express Scholarship: Meredith Sampson
- Tennessee Hotel & Lodging Association: Ashley Sanchez and Ashley Malkin
- Metropolitan Memphis Hotel & Lodging Association: Ashley Malkin, Lauren Jackson and Brian Dodson
- Hospitality Financial & Technology Professionals: Chris Gammel and Philip Haley
- International Gold & Silver Plate Society: Chris Gammel
- Skål International: Brian Dodson
- Hotel Sales & Marketing Association International: Brian Dodson
- Tennessee Restaurant Association, Frank Moore Scholarship: Lauren Jackson

Career Fair
On Friday, November 3, 2006 we will host our third annual Career Fair. We expect twenty-five to thirty companies and numerous recruiters to provide information and interview opportunities to our students. We will also open the Career Fair to the campus and the Memphis community. If you have not received registration materials please contact us.

As you can see we have a full schedule and numerous activities. Students and faculty are busy studying, teaching and conducting research. We are beginning our fifth year and look forward to exciting times. We hope that you will continue to participate in the activities of the School. We will keep you informed as events are planned and scheduled. Please stop by and say hello when you can.

Destinations Magazine Honors Hampton

Hampton Inn and Hampton Inn & Suites hotel chain was voted by tour operators in the June 2006 issue of Destinations magazine as the hotel chain that is most accommodating to groups. Hampton Inn is a Hilton Hotels Corp. (NYSE: HLT) brand headquartered in Memphis, along with Embassy Suites and Homewood Suites. Destinations is the official publication of the American Bus Association and publishes 6,000 copies bi-monthly in the U.S. and Canada.

Phil Cordell, senior vice president of Hampton brand management and a member of the KWS Advisory Board, said the recognition is an honor to the brand. "We are delighted with the valuable recognition of being the most accommodating hotel brand by one of our most important customer segments -- tour groups and tour drivers -- which underscores our steady improvements in monthly customer service scores throughout the first half of 2006 and reinforces that our extensive Make it Hampton brand initiative is touching our guests in a substantial way," he said in a statement. Hilton's Memphis operation employs about 1,000 people and is also the base for the company's information technology division.

Moving “On Q”

The Kemmons Wilson School had the pleasure of having C. J. Millican as our graduate assistant during the 2005-2006 academic year. C. J. was quite an asset to us. During the summer, he took an internship position with Hilton Hotels Corporation in their IT Division. The results of this assignment during his internship was presented to the Corporation Office in Beverly Hills where C. J. met with Baron Hilton (pictured left). Below is his article.

OnQ Property Information Manager is the single source for property information for Hilton Hotels Corporation. I, along with the Systems Technical Analyst traveled to Beverly Hills, CA on July 17th to meet with key users of the application. During this meeting I presented performance enhancements that were planned as well as new feature functionality of the application. I also met with other corporate users of an application that OnQ Property Information Manager will replace in the new future to gather inputs on user interface design. In addition to my real job, I traveled to the beach and enjoyed some ‘away’ time with family. And, as an added bonus, I met Mr. Hilton and learned of his recent fishing trip with our very own coach, Tommy West.
Just a Note ...

“Thank you guys for attending and helping with our food show. We had a blast with the kids and they were lots of help. Several of our employees stopped by my office today to tell me this. They added some “umph and excitement” to the show. I think they enjoyed themselves and hopefully learned a little about the foodservice distribution business along the way.”  Carlie Cascio, Industry Liaison

Congratulations Aubrey!!

Aubrey Gillespie, Peabody’s first Student of the Month was accepted into the PL/US Manager Trainee Program after graduating in 2005. She has just accepted a position at the Peabody Hotel as the new Housekeeping/ Laundry Manager.

Peabody Student of the Month

A Day with Doug and the Ducks

Congratulations to senior Kathryn Downey-Smith for being selected as the Peabody Student of the Month at the Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality and Resort Management. Kathryn will spend a day with general manager Doug Browne and participate in the activities and operations of the Grand Dame of the South. Kathryn will report on her experience in next month’s newsletter.

Congratulations KWS Summer 2006 Graduates!

Kristy Wilson and Ryan Schmitt

Levy/Grizzlies Day

September 26th was Levy Restaurants/ Memphis Grizzlies Day. The organizations were on hand all day to lectures in classes and provide information on internship and employment opportunities with Levy and the Grizzlies organizations. Levy and the Memphis Grizzlies professionals provided guest lectures in the Business of Hospitality, International Hospitality, Distinguished Speaker, and the Entertainment Management courses.
Have You Registered Yet?

THIRD ANNUAL
HOSPITALITY, ENTERTAINMENT,
TOURISM & RESORT MANAGEMENT CAREER FAIR

Friday, November 3, 2006
Holiday Inn - University of Memphis
3700 Central Avenue   Memphis, TN 38152

7:30am – 8:45am
Set-up & Continental Breakfast

9:00am – 2:00pm
Career Fair/Corporate Information

2:00pm – 5:00pm
Allotted Interview Space

Registration Fee
- Regular Registration $250.00
- On-site Registration and Payment $275.00

A six-foot skirted and draped table with electricity (upon request) will be provided. Other audio visual prices will be quoted upon request. A Continental Breakfast and two lunch tickets are included in the registration packet. Additional lunch tickets may be purchased at the cost of $15.00 each.

Registration forms were distributed in early August. If you need a form or have any questions, please contact Dr. LaChelle Wilborn, Faculty Coordinator and/or Ms. Sharon Beasley, the KWS Administrative Coordinator at 901-678-8021, lrwilbrn@memphis.edu or sbeasley@memphis.edu.
Southeast CHRIE

The Kemmons Wilson School will host the annual fall meeting of Southeast CHRIE 2006. The Council on Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education is the professional association for hospitality and tourism educators. The agenda is included; all educators and trainers are encouraged to attend.

Southeast CHRIE
October 26th, 27th, 28th
Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality and Resort Management
University of Memphis

Thursday, October 26

• 6:30 - 8:30pm Welcome Reception: KW Gallery: Local industry leaders invited

Friday, October 27

• 7:00 - 9:00am Continental Breakfast and Registration
• 8:00 - 10:00pm Paper Sessions, KWS Rooms 145, 147, 149
• 10:00 - 10:15am Break
• 10:15am - 12:00noon Paper Sessions, KWS Rooms 145, 147, 149
• 12:00 - 1:00pm Lunch, Fourth Floor KWS Meeting Room
  Lunch Sponsored by Neely’s BBQ
  Speakers: Pat Neely, Chair, Memphis Convention & Visitor Bureau and Kevin Kane, President, Memphis Convention & Visitor Bureau
• 1:30 - 3:00pm Afternoon Sessions, KWS Rooms 145, 147, 149
• 3:00 - 3:30pm Beverage Break
• 3:30pm SECHRIE Business Meeting
• 4:00pm Transportation Downtown & Back of the House Tour of the Peabody Hotel
  Free Time: Beale St.

Saturday, October 28

• Tour of Memphis: Depart Holiday Inn-University of Memphis
• Bus Transport: Step on Guide

Fall 2006 Schedule of Classes

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Day</th>
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*The last column indicates total enrollment to date for the class

“Podners”

MEMPHIS
Home of the Blues
Birthplace of Rock ‘n Roll

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Do you have information that you would like us to consider for future newsletters?
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