

Kathy Nantz:

The first thing I'd like to do is again, welcome you to the Dolan School of Business and describe a little bit about our program here in Dolan to you. Our staff is one of the best staffs, I believe, you'll find at any school of business in the United States and around the world. We have a wonderful group of people here who's going to be guiding you through the time that you're at Fairfield and the time that you were making decisions about your academic career and your professional life beyond Fairfield. So again, I'm Kathy Nantz. I'm a professor in the economics department and working as Associate Dean right now in the Dolan School of Business Dean's office, which is on the second floor of the Dolan School of Business building.

Father Greg Konz is with us this afternoon. He's a special assistant to the Dean and he works with us to provide mentoring for students and also to do some teaching this fall in our management department. In terms of our deans, who will be working with you most closely on your curriculum and your course choices. We have assistant Dean Meredith McAloon. Meredith works primarily with our senior and junior students. Our students who are a little bit further along in their programs, but you will meet her. Trust me eventually, as you move through your time here at Dolan.

Dean Erica Spencer. Erica, again specializes in working with our students who are first and second years. So Erica is someone who you'll meet right away and who you can turn to if you have any questions, especially over the next couple of months before you joined us on campus about your curriculum or about any of your courses.

Christina Puttock is not with us today, but she's the undergraduate program coordinator like all good teams we have one person who does a tremendous amount of work to keep us all together and Christina is that person. You'll be contacting her if you need an appointment, or if you want to know some basic things about forms to fill out and other sort of more clerical aspects of your time here at Dolan.

The other group we have with us today are from our Dolan Career Development Office. Dolan has its own career development office. So we have two career professionals who are in our school, working with us shoulder to shoulder, and who will provide you with the professional development experience you need in order to make yourself ready for jobs in the business world.

So today we have the director of our development career development center Sarah Bollinger with us. Sarah will be talking with you a little bit later in the program about internships and preparing yourself for your job when you're getting ready to leave Fairfield.

So that's our team. We're each going to take a part of this program we have about 40 minutes of prepared slides for you. We want to provide you with an overview of our curriculum and the way that we see our Dolan school as unique and providing you with a really unique business learning experience. We're going to talk about that Dolan difference and why it is that our Dolan business school is able to make connections with our Jesuit mission. We're going to talk about majors and minors in the Dolan school. You don't have to have a major or minor yet, so don't be panicking over that. But Dean McAloon will tell you a little bit about that process.

We'll talk to you about your first year curriculum, which is super exciting. Dean McAloon will we'll do that. As I said, Sarah will talk to you about our Dolan Professional Development Series and internships and then again, we'll have time to get to any questions that you have, that you entered on the Q and A.

So I'm going to pass it over to Father Konz and he's going to give you chapter and verse about our Jesuit tradition here in the Dolan school.

Father Gregory Konz:

Greetings it's an honor and a privilege to be with you this afternoon. Yes, I'm Father Gregory Konz. I'm also the irons answer to a trivial pursuit question name, one of the five Jesuits in the United States with a PhD in business. I'm one of them. So I've been a faculty member and an administrator before I came here to Dolan to serve as the special assistant to the Dean.

Now looking at the vision statement what I want to focus on is the transformative essence of Jesuit education. You know why it's transformative because this really is the key to Jesuit education. It's why we Jesuits started our colleges 500 years ago. It's why we're still in the business. What it means is you will be a different woman or a man when you leave Dolan, when you leave Fairfield, then you are, as you come in. You will be transformed. You will be different.

But the important piece of that, the work you have to do is you have to be generous. You have to be willing to really give yourself to your education while you're here at Fairfield, because it's, you only change, you only grow as much as you put into it. So it's going to be very important for you to come in and generously give yourself really enter into the experience because what it means to transform you is not only are you learning things, are you getting knowledge, but we're changing your heart. The Greek word was metanoia, a change of heart. So you become a different woman or man than you were when walk in on the end of August.

So what does it mean to be a Jesuit university? What is Jesuit spirituality all about? Well, the first thing is we Jesuit start on the premise that each and every one of us is a unique individual, loved by God. A unique individual loved by God and each one of us loved individuals is in a community of loved individuals. We don't exist just by ourselves, but with others and you can't separate the two. To be individually loved, we have to be part of a loved community. So living in that community means we're in relationships to one another and those relationships are very important.

So the other thing we believe is that God is at work in all creation, that everything that exists has a value and that's why Jesuit universities have business schools and nursing schools and med schools and law schools. Is because just as God is at work, in all creation, he's at work and all knowledge and all skill. So he's just as present in your business classes as he's going to be present in your philosophy or your religious studies classes. So God will be there and because God is in everything you do, that's where you can find out how are you being called to be transformed? How are you supposed to grow? What is the person you are called to be? That's where you're going to find it.

Now that gift has a responsibility to it like any gift does and the responsibility, and this is where generosity comes in, is your call to use your talents, your skills, your opportunities, your experiences, as well as you can to take full advantage of everything. To really take the time to explore, because if you are going to grow into those women and men, you're called to be the first thing you have to do is be self-aware. You have to be self aware. You have to know who you are now, because how else are you going to learn where you are called to go? So you have to be honest with your self and that takes humility. None of us like to look at our weaknesses, all of us like to focus on our strengths, but if we're going to be self aware, we have to look at both the light sides of our personalities and the dark side. So we can be aware.

But we can't just focus on ourselves remember we're in that community of loved individuals. So we have to focus on others as we work on our self awareness and we have to use our gifts to the utmost. We have to use our gifts to the utmost. One other thing is going to be very important if you're going to be self aware, you have to eagerly embrace new experiences. You have to eagerly embrace new experiences because when you have those experiences and you reflect on them, you start discovering more and more deeply who you are and who you're called to be.

Now, as we go through the courses you'll take and the career development opportunities she will have, and things like that, each one of these is an opportunity for you to find new experiences. Experiences on which you can reflect and experiences that will make you a better person, a deeper person, a more whole person.

Now, one thing when I was a faculty member used to driving wild was business students and complain about, well, why do I have to take these core courses? You take the core courses because they help yourself awareness and you'll find in all your business classes, especially when you get into your leadership classes, the people who are the best leaders who go the furthest in business, who truly understand their fields, are those people who are self aware. They're self aware because they generously and eagerly looked for new experiences. When they find those experiences, they reflect on them and grow.

So that's the key to Jesuit education. That's why it's transformative because we give you those opportunities to learn who you are, learn where you're going and give you those experiences that stretch you and challenge you and help you grow.

Now, Dr. Nantz will take you onto the next section of our little presentation.

Kathy Nantz:

Thanks so much Father Konz. So I think that cues us up very nicely for the rest of our presentation. So let's start with, so what is your community look like? What is your community composed of? The Dolan school at Fairfield university serves a few over 1800 undergraduate students and 180 or more graduate students. So there's a large community of students here in the Dolan school, taking classes together and interacting with one another as they pursue a variety of different majors in six academic departments. We have accounting, we have economics, we have finance, we have international business, we have management, we have marketing and we have information systems and business analytics. So we have six academic departments offering seven academic majors.

Our Dolan faculty works on the model of encouraging teacher scholars. As we like think of our model of faculty at the Dolan school. Our faculty are very much engaged with the process of teaching students and helping to mentor that growth and that seeking out of experiences that Father Greg talked about a minute ago. Our Dolan faculty are primarily focused on their teaching in the classroom and on their students.

However, they're also actively engaged in their research and their professional activity. So you'll find that your faculty members are publishing papers and giving talks and commenting in the newspapers, in the local media. You'll find that many of them bring experience from industry into the classroom, sharing and reflecting on those industrial experiences as they help to again, mentor and teach students in a variety of different curricular opportunities.

So that's the community that you're entering. The Dolan school at Fairfield is a tightly knit community. The business students share and interact quite a bit with one another in a variety of different ways. I'll fill that in, I think a little bit more clearly as we move through these slides.

So let's look at the broad curriculum and the purpose of this slide again, is to help highlight what we like to think of as the Dolan difference. It is fundamentally based in the Jesuit tradition that Father Konz talked about a minute ago, but this slide really shows you how we breathe life into those words, that sound very aspirational. But again, this side shows you how we breathe life into that idea of business education in the Jesuit tradition.

So let me describe this to you a little bit. If you look at the center of the slide, you'll see business fundamentals, and again, as any business school across the United States or around the world, really the

heart and soul is the business fundamentals, right? You're going to come into the Dolan School of Business. You're going to begin your first year by studying economics and studying accounting and you're going to get your feet wet with what we call business core curriculum. But you're also going to be taking math, you're going to be taking language, you're going to be taking other courses that are in the Magis core. It is that combination of courses in your first and second years, that really will help to ground everything that you're going to build after that. It's going to help to ground your major, help you to choose your major, help you to choose minors that will support that major. So it's this middle box that I think you'll find is really the place where we begin our business education and where you close out your study with a major or a minor.

Now sandwiching those business fundamentals. You'll see two other signature elements of our Dolan curriculum. The top of the sandwich describes entrepreneurial and innovative mindsets that we hope to cultivate in students, encouraging you to be creative and to think innovatively so that you'll be the person who can come up with solutions to some of the world's thorniest problems. Whoever you end up working for some of their most difficult challenges that you're going to face over the years as a business professional. It is that innovative and entrepreneurial mindset that's going to allow you to step into those spaces where there are no clear answers and where the problems are difficult and thorny.

On the bottom of that sandwich, you'll see career readiness and success. Sarah Bollinger will talk about this in a few minutes in more detail, but really, I think you've got to have, in addition to sound academic credentials, you've also got to have professional skills and the ability to get out into a business setting and be an effective professional. So that's what you're going to learn by doing internships and by visiting with some of our local business professionals who come to the Dolan school and who provide mentoring and other kinds of professional talks for students.

Embracing this business curriculum is what we like to think of two arms that are critical to your development as a Fairfield stag. First, we have that idea that we want to educate the whole person, the importance of critical thinking, skills, of communication skills, of ethics and an intention to ethical practitioner practitioners in the business community. Educating the whole person is critically important. In a global context, as you know, right, the world is getting smaller every day. We know so much more about people around the world. Business, takes place all around the world now and so study abroad and global immersion trips and other opportunities to engage with visiting scholars or with visiting international students is a real important piece to your education here in Dolan.

Finally, on the left side, we have principled leadership. We will have you taken courses in applied ethics and in business law that help you to cultivate an instinct for doing the right thing, a habit of mind that has you always concerned about the ethical nature of the business decisions that you make. Again, we believe that this package, the Dolan difference is what's going to set you apart from other folks in the business community, as you make your way as a professional into leadership positions throughout your career.

So with that in mind, again, I'll encourage you to start entering some questions into the Q and A, and I'll turn the microphone over to my colleague, Dean McAloon, to describe the details of our curriculum.

Meredith McAloon:

Thank you so much Dr. Nantz and thank you to everyone for being here today. So excited to share with you a little bit more about our academic curriculum. On this slide, you'll see our academic departments, which also represent our majors, accounting, economics, finance, business analytics, management, marketing, and international business. International businesses, particularly interesting because it's a co-

curricular major that requires work across colleges with the Dolan school, as well as the college of arts and science.

Also on this slide, you'll see our Dolan minors. You'll see we have a few more options in the minor area than we have in the major area, including accounting information systems, business law, regulation and ethics, sports, leadership, and management to name just a few. Now, certainly we have students who choose to double major within the Dolan school, say economics and business analytics. We also have students who double major across schools. So you could be a marketing major and have a double major in psychology if you wished. You could also minor across schools, you could be a management major with a politics minor in the college.

So we're hoping that you can see that there's a lot of different combinations and lots of room for you to explore. Even at this early stage, we get questions about our offerings also in the graduate area. So this is a listing of our Dolan graduate degrees. You'll notice on the top, the online hybrid delivery programs available, and these are often referred to as four plus one programs, meaning you complete your four years undergrad and in one year you're only you're able to earn that graduate degree.

Now I know it's a little early to be thinking about that, and certainly there's no pressure at all to decide right now, as we're going to talk about in just a second, there's lots of time for students to settle in and explore and build on their fundamentals. I would also just point out on this slide before we move on to what that first year is going to look like for you. The certificates that are also available through our graduate program.

So here we are with the typical Dolan student curriculum, most students will take five to six courses per semester. Typically it's only that one semester of six courses. If a student chooses to take on double majors or additional minors, sometimes you can see multiple semesters of six. Depends on the students and what they're willing to take on at the time. In your first year, right off the bat in the fall, you're going to start working on those fundamentals with your financial accounting, micro economics, a math course, a rhetoric language course and a foreign language. In the spring you're going to do the counterpart to those courses, managerial accounting, macro economics, math, and round that out with some of your Magis core courses that we've been talking about with you today.

Now, regardless of whether you're coming in as a declared major or an undeclared student here in Dolan, this is what the first year schedule looks like. It's really designed to lay the foundation and to help you begin exploring the subjects of the Magis core. Sophomore year is when you're going to start to take what we call the rest of the Dolan core and I would point out that the courses you see highlighted in red, that signifies it's part of our Dolan core.

Dolan core includes intro courses into all of our major and minor areas. Now this is going to help you explore, help. You decide what you may want to major in, hopefully by the end of your sophomore year. So ideally you'd go into junior year being declared, which means that there is not a ton of pressure to be declared coming into the Dolan school. There's only one major that begins in the sophomore year, and that would be accounting. So even for an accounting major, your first few semesters are going to be the same as they appear here on the slide. So again, in your sophomore year, you'll take courses such as intro to finance, principles of marketing, intro to management and intro to business analytics. Those will be rounded out in your Magis core classes

In your junior year, as we said is when you begin those major courses, certainly also you could be working on courses towards two majors or a minor. In the business core you will be working on taking business law and of course the very important business ethics. These are rounded out with Magis

core classes and this is when students start to consider internships and in just a moment, we'll talk a bit more about study abroad.

Senior year here in Dolan is finishing up that major, cranking out the minors, whatever it is you have working on any special projects, also completing our Dolan capstone [inaudible 00:22:55] strategy. Some students may still be finishing up their Magis core, which is entirely expected around this time. Also you'll be working closely with the career planning team, which we'll get to in just a minute.

So with that said, I am very pleased to introduce our assistant director, who all of you will get to know during your first year here with us in Dolan, Miss Erica Spencer, to speak just a bit about our study abroad opportunities.

Erica Spencer:

Thank you, Assistant Dean McAloon, and welcome everyone to this session. Thank you for taking the afternoon to speak with us about Fairfield Dolan. Study abroad is an integral part of the Dolan experience because it helps us promote our vision of creating globally minded business leaders. It's truly one of those transformative experiences that we, that you all consider participating in. As noted in the previous curriculum, slides students typically study abroad in their junior year, but there's also opportunities in summer and winter intersessions.

Our team works very closely with the study abroad office to map curriculum, to business students curriculum, meaning that all of the locations that you see listed here offer a wide variety of business related coursework, as well as Magis core coursework to keep you on track for the four year degree. Some locations even offer international internships.

Typically students will start planning for their study abroad opportunities as early as their first year. You work collaboratively with your faculty advisors, the Dean's office, as well as the office of study abroad to find a study abroad experience that best meets your educational needs. So whether or not you're an accounting major, an economics major any of our other business disciplines, there are opportunities to study abroad for all. Now that we've reviewed all the academic components, I'm going to turn it over to director Sarah Bollinger to talk more about the Dolan Career Development Center and all of the opportunities they have available for you for professional development, as well as internships.

Sarah Bollinger:

Thank you, Erica. Yes. I'm really glad I got a chance to talk to all of you about the Dolan Career Development Center. Something that I think is very unique and advantageous for our incoming students is that our career center focuses only on Dolan majors. So all of our programs are customized and tailored to compliment our majors and minors.

So of course we offer individual career coaching appointments. This could be one-on-one over Zoom or also on the phone and it's in addition to myself and associate director, John [Hinder 00:00:25:37]. We also have a team of graduate assistants and professionals and residents. So these professionals are regional alumni and community partners that come and meet with students and help coach them through their lifelong career development plans.

We also provide numerous interview preparation resources. Every month we host a Dolan mock interview day for students to practice and hone those skills. Internships are of course, very important to your career development. I'm a little biased, but I feel like there's so many benefits that come with completing an internship. This is a great resume builder for students. It really gives students an exposure to different career opportunities and companies. There's an opportunity for students to get money for the work they do and of course you could also get academic credit.

Most of our students complete an internship between their junior and senior year, but a lot of our students also take advantage of internships during the academic year and really leverage our close location to Stanford and New York City to complete those internships during the academic year.

Employment services use stags for hire, which is powered by handshake and this is where we drive all of our internship and job postings. So soon we can, students can see all the opportunities that are available to them.

We also value networking and we try to connect our students with alumni and employers whenever possible. Fairfield University is actually ranked number 14 in the nation for alumni engagement and so we definitely use them in all of our events throughout the year.

Then last but not least is our workshops and events. We have so many, I actually decided to dedicate a whole slide to them. So this is a list of the events that occurred last year and will be happening again this year. We kind of do some, we may have some ad hock of events peppered in throughout the year, but we know guaranteed we will be offering the Excel Workshop Series, which comes introduction, intermediate and advanced. We also offer Money Talks, which is the financial literacy workshop. Dolan Annual Career Night is an event that's sponsored by our Deloitte advisory board and it's considered a speed learning event.

The etiquette dinner, of course, one of my favorites is offered in the spring semester and throughout the year, we also offer many employer and focus events. This varies by industry and company. Again, the Dolan mock interview days are offered every month. And then we do have some programs that are focused just on major. So every year we offer a business analytics showcase where we invite employers to come in and show our students how they use the business analytics and our students to show off their projects.

We also offer many accounting events like the accounting round table. Welcome back social and accounting resume reviews.

Undercover Alumni is one of our signature networking events. That's tailored specifically for first year students and sophomores. This is a very casual and relaxed environment for students to learn how to network and embrace it. The internship reception is offered in the spring to kick start the spring internship process and then again, employer resume views we offer typically by major. So we can really tailor those documents.

The Professional Development Series is another program we offer and this is a co-curricular program that really compliments the classes that our students take. This is the reason why we believe our students have such a high success rate when it comes to employment and going on to graduate school, because it really makes our students more competitive when it comes to the world of work. So as a first year student you'll come in and you'll start at level one and this is where you're going to learn how to convert your high school resume to a college resume. You're also going to join a club, attend Fall into Dolan, which is our majors fair and then we also have a Spring into Dolan where we talk about service.

Then we move on to level two, typically in your sophomore year. This is where you focus on skills. This is where you're going to learn how to search for an internship, how to interview and how to create a LinkedIn. In addition to how to network.

Level three is typically your junior year where you focused on experience. This is where you're going to complete a mock interview. If you haven't already, you'll complete an internship, you'll embrace a leadership and you'll attend our career night.

Then last but not least is level four. This is typically your senior year where we focus on life after college. This is where you're going to learn about financial literacy, attend the etiquette dinner, learn about social salary negotiation and attend our stags startup competition, which is our shark tank competition. I think another thing that really helps with this program is that we have a lot of great incentives. So as you complete each level, you get a different prize. Level one is a mug. Level two is a padfolio, which really compliments and leads into level three, because this is an item you'll bring to all of your mock interviews. Level three, your junior year you'll actually come to campus and have a stack of business cards waiting for you, that are tailored with your contact information. So when you finish level three, you'll get your own business card holder and then once you complete level four, the complete series, you'll get a special designation on your transcript.

This really helps us reach that 99%. So these are the three key figures I like to speak about. So as you can see, 99% of the class of 2019 either had or was able to secure a job or was it accepted into graduate school within six months. I'm just going to say that one more time. 99% of our graduates had a job or accepted into graduate school within six months. We're very proud of this because the national average is only 76. So we're significantly higher. In terms of internships 92% of our seniors have completed at least one internship and on average, our seniors actually complete over two. So 2.3 is the average numbers completed before they graduate.

This next slide is usually what I get the most questions about and that is where will I get a job, or where have students found employment with a major in international business or info systems or marketing? So this is not an exhaustive list of where all of our students landed, but it's snapshot of where our top employers are and where students have landed based on major. So you can see it is a spread of corporate, nonprofit, regional companies, international companies, and national companies. So definitely take a look. So again we're very proud of these employer partnerships, and these are all companies that help recruit at Fairfield and participate in our networking events.

Without further ado, I'm going to pass it off to Father Greg Konz to talk about the Dolan community.

Father Gregory Konz:

Sarah had a nice overview of everything we offer here at Dolan And the big piece is going to kind of pulls it all together is going to be our Dolan community. Remember, as I said, at the start of our talk, we all exist in a community of loved individuals, and we're all here to help one another grow to become better people.

Now, first of all, we have all the activities there on campus, both here in Dolan and in other parts of the campus. Now that's to support you in what you need. Now, it can be anywhere from emotional help, physical help, clubs, all that sort of stuff. Then the clubs and organizations. Now those clubs and organizations are going to be particularly important for you because then your classes, you're going to learn these various business skills, but the easiest place for you to test drive them, to learn them, to find out what you need to know and what you do know is in a club and organization. For example, you can read all the books on leadership you want to, but until you've been in a position in an organization where you have assumed a leadership role, you're never really going to know how to do it. No, are you going to learn what your leadership style is? What you need to learn, all those sorts of things. So participating in clubs and organizations becomes very important for that.

But it also is important for you to learn how to work in a team. Because when you get out in the workforce, you're going to find out that much of the work you do is team oriented. You'll be working with a team and learning how to work in a team and act in a team isn't easy. Once again, you can read

all the books you want to on high performance teams but until you got a project that you and a group of other individuals have to complete, you're not going to know how to do it.

Now admittedly in your courses, many of your courses will have team projects, but think about it for a moment when you were completing a project in a course, your team members will probably have the same major you are, are going to be the same year you are and have the same interests you are. Now you'll learn a lot by working within a team, but you won't have that wider experience of joining clubs that have a mixture of group. Especially if you join clubs that are campus-wide where you get to deal with people at all kinds of different majors and minors and interests and personalities.

So the clubs are there to help you make connections. They're there to help you develop your business schools, practice your business schools, and let's face it in an environment that is very friendly. So you can develop skills whether it's networking skills, meeting people, leadership, followership, all those skills in an environment that will pay off when you're in your internships and in your first jobs, in a place where basically, everybody wants you to succeed.

Finally, something that Dr. Nantz talked about at the very start of this presentation, our faculty. Our faculty, and as Dr. Nantz said our faculty here, because they want to do one thing and that's teach. They understand that teaching is more than just what goes on in the classroom. Because in that teaching, what you're doing is you are conveying information. But if you're teaching a class of 24 students, you're giving that information to 24 students who can't individualize it, and that's what faculty want to do. That's why they have office hours. That's why they want you to approach them. Is because then they can sit down with you in a one on one discussion, tailor that information, that learning for you as a unique individual. So that the faculty member can help you as an individual to develop, to understand, to learn. They're eager to do it, eager to do it.

What I would recommend all of you to do is when you take those first classes, is within the first week of class, check in on your professor during his or her office hours. Just to introduce yourself, say a little bit about yourself. You know, if there are certain issues that are particularly important to you let the professor know because what'll happen is she or he is eager to work with you, but you have to make that first step. You have to make that first step and reach out to the professor. The professor is going to be there. The professors eager to be a mentor, but you have to take the first step.

The same way you have to take the first step to join clubs and organizations you have to take the first step to assume roles within those clubs and organizations and when you're looking for campus support, if you talk to people in the clubs, if you talk to anybody here on the staff, if you talk to your faculty members, they can help aim you to the sort of help you need, the sort of support you may need, but you have to make the first step.