

The Clarkson Integrator

Senior seminar to take place

Bob Trerice
Editor-in-Chief

The Alumni Association as well as the Office of Alumni Relations is sponsoring a free seminar for seniors on personal finance. This is the kind of finance that will help everyone in their first few months out of school.

Being prepared for life after college isn't something that is taught. We don't have a life 101 class, but through the alumni they hope to give us a head start. The information that the alumni want to give to the seniors is really information that they wish they had when leaving college. Things like managing payments, understanding tax returns, and how to handle benefits after being offered a job. The kind of information that will help make life a little easier and hopefully save some money. "We hope to give seniors a breath of fresh air," said Clarkson Trustee

James Wood.

"This seminar is really one of a kind," according to Wood. Clarkson has an immense amount of alumni in the workforce, a real untapped resource for students. Most of them would be happy to assist students with their questions.

There will be two sessions, 90 minutes each, with the first being held Feb. 28 in Cheel 113C and 29 and the second March 6 and 7. The last three sessions will be in Science Center 160. The sessions are not related so you do not have to worry about missing any background information for either session.

The first session is titled: Debt, Insurance, Wealth & Savings, while the second session is: Taxes, Legal issues including leases. Faculty Alumnus, Scott Bitler '83, will speak on the first session while alumni Charles Spector '74 and

Steve Rodriguez '79 will take the second.

Some of the topics talked about should really help out seniors in the months after graduation. As some companies offer a shopping cart style list of benefits Wood said, "Hopefully we can take away the random selection," thus allowing new employees to make informed decisions and get on the right path earlier.

The future for this seminar is not a class the organizers feel that a seminar is the best way for this kind of information to pass into students.

Students can register for the sessions at www.clarkson.edu/mymoney here you can also find additional information.

No other university, according to Wood, is doing this sort of thing. Clarkson could be setting a precedent for other universities to begin similar information sessions.

"Math in the Movies" at Science Cafe February 1

Clarkson Media Services

"Math in the Movies" will be discussed by St. Lawrence University Mathematics Professor Sam Vandervelde at the next Science Café at La Casbah, 6 Elm Street in Potsdam, on Wednesday, February 1, at 7:15 p.m.

The movie *A Beautiful Mind*, which won four Oscars in 2001, tells the romanticized story of John Nash, a brilliant mathematician whose work in economic game theory won him the Nobel Prize in 1994.

Join Vandervelde for a lively discussion as he conducts a game-play simulation to illustrate Nash equilibria and explains why it pays to

bluff in poker, among other things.

Science Cafes bring together engineers, scientists and townspeople in a relaxed, informal setting, such as coffeehouses and pubs. The speaker makes a short presentation about a topic in his or her field, and then opens up the floor to discussion.

Find out more about Clarkson's Science Cafe at <http://www.clarkson.edu/sciencecafe>.

E-mail Daniel ben-Avraham at ScienceCafe@clarkson.edu with any questions or suggestions for future Science Cafe topics.

Clarkson University launches leaders into the global economy. One in five

alumni already leads as a CEO, VP or equivalent senior executive of a company. Located just outside the Adirondack Park in Potsdam, N.Y., Clarkson is a nationally recognized research university for undergraduates with select graduate programs in signature areas of academic excellence directed toward the world's pressing issues. Through 50 rigorous programs of study in engineering, business, arts, sciences and health sciences, the entire learning-living community spans boundaries across disciplines, nations and cultures to build powers of observation, challenge the status quo, and connect discovery and engineering innovation with enterprise.

St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce Partners with Clarkson University

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St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce Partners with Clarkson University Reh Center for Entrepreneurship to Offer My Small Business 101

The St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, in its mission to support the business community, has partnered with the Reh Center for Entrepreneurship at Clarkson University for the upcoming My Small Business 101 series.

Participants in this course will also be offered a discount on joining the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce.

"The St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce works tirelessly to improve the climate for all our businesses, whether members or not," said Chamber Executive Director Pat McKeown. "Through our partnership with the Reh Center for Entrepreneurship at Clarkson, everyone who is in business or wants to start a business has access -- free of charge -- to four weeks of exemplary training. And if they have always wanted to become Chamber members, they will have an opportunity to join at a reduced rate."

The course will be held on February 13, 20, and 27, and March 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Clarkson University and will be taught by Marc Compeau, director of the Reh Center for Entrepreneurship. Topics covered include Thinking Strategically, Resource Management, Marketing

Management and Financial Management.

The Reh Center is a resource that provides strategic planning for small businesses and the communities that support them. Its one of a kind approach and understanding of the unique aspects of doing business in the North Country has led to an 85 percent survival rate for those businesses that have taken My Small Business 101.

Registration is required by February 10 and will be offered on a first-come,

first-served basis. There is no cost to attend. To register, contact Erin Draper, associate director of the Reh Center, at 315-268-3995 or edraper@clarkson.edu.

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Engineers Without Borders

Helping those in need to succeed.

Niwei Cai

Student Contributor

The Clarkson Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, a SPEED team, started at Clarkson University in 2005. Throughout years of project-based foreign aids success, this student-run organization is making their presence known throughout the Clarkson campus and will soon be reaching out to other campuses.

On Friday, January 20, members of Engineers Without Borders held the first meeting of the spring semester. "We want our organization to be like a family, to be honest and to be respectful while supporting our Ecuadorian friends," said President Niwei Cai. The passions to help communities in developing nations and the mission to deliver joy toward the world are spreading like a wild fire across the Clarkson campus.

Within the last few months, President Niwei Cai, University Professor Shane Rogers, and others have recruited many motivated students, resulting in the most members in the group's history.

The Clarkson Chapter of Engineers Without Borders have established a connection with the community of La Margarita, Ecuador. In the past, the ceramic clay pot was introduced to the community to meet their basic

needs of clean drinking water. Just a year ago, the clay pot factory started with the partnership of several other not-for-profit organizations. Now, the \$30,000 project is under the management of Professor Rogers and President Niwei Cai. In addition, Professor Rogers and President Cai were determined and motivated to improve the wastewater facilities and infrastructures. They expanded the project scopes, resulting

in four major design projects. These projects included the design of a bridge, a hydraulic press, wetland wastewater treatment, and a sand filter. "I'm amazed at how much things can change in such little time when there is someone who is dedicated and has strong leadership," said Vice President Joshua Owens. "With the E-board comprised of Niwei Cai, Ferdinand Waibel, Rebecca Prendergast, Kyle Holloway, Christopher

Laubisch, Kathryn Lawson, and Veronica Raymond. I believe we can accomplish a lot."

Please continue to look for Clarkson Chapter of Engineers Without Borders; they're becoming a successful group with admirable people. For further information about Engineers Without Borders meetings, please contact:

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