



Dr. Paul Grimes



KELCE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Pittsburg State University

Kelce Connection

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Hall of Fame

Dr. Paul Grimes, Dean of the Kelce College of Business, was inducted into the Mississippi Council on Economic Education Hall of Fame. Grimes is Emeritus Professor of Economics at Mississippi State University, where he served 25 years as a faculty member and administrator for the College of Business before joining the faculty at PSU. He's a two-time graduate of PSU, having earned a bachelor of science degree in Economics in 1979 and a master of science degree in Economics in 1980. He also holds an associate degree in Business Administration from Ft. Scott Community College and a doctorate degree in Economics from Oklahoma State University.

Reaccreditation

The Kelce College of Business earned AACSB reaccreditation in February 2019. This marks the 20th anniversary of the KCOB earning its first accreditation — a milestone that is unique to other institutions in the region, according to KCOB Dean Paul Grimes.



"This is verification that we have been a solid, strong business school for a generation," he said. "It's a quality check that assures students, employers, and families that the education that we deliver is of the highest quality."



Campaign boost

The Sunderland Foundation pledged \$1 million to the capital campaign currently underway to renovate and expand the building that houses the Kelce College of Business, giving the project momentum toward completion.

Your gifts make a difference! If you would like to support the Kelce College of Business, please select "College of Business" when you visit: pittstate.edu/givenow



Kelce College of Business online MBA program has been named as one of the top 2 MBA programs in the nation by College Consensus. The AACSB-accredited program was praised for its ability to instill business knowledge and equip students for leadership roles in a large variety of careers.

Bootcamp

Kelce hosted a 3 Day Startup bootcamp October 25-27. In this hands-on learning opportunity, students learned how to start a company – by starting a company.



Students generated ideas, conducted customer discovery, and developed business models. Facilitators and mentors worked alongside to help guide students through the process. At the end of the workshop, these tenacious students pitched their ideas to a panel of seasoned entrepreneurs and investors. Serial entrepreneur, Clifton L. Taulbert, wrapped up this exciting weekend as the closing keynote speaker.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS



Winners!

In November 2019, our student team won 1st place at the K.C. Federal Reserve Bank's Code-A-Thon competition. Not only that, but the team also won the "University Champion" award – earned by the university whose faculty/institution demonstrates the highest level of engagement during the Code-A-Thon in support of its participating team.



In appreciation

The Kelce College of Business hosted the fourth Employer Appreciation Breakfast the morning of the semi-annual Career Day. This event is specially crafted for business majors to informally meet with employers before the fair. Kelce will once again host an Employer Appreciation Breakfast before the Spring Career Expo scheduled for March 12, 2020.



More winners!

Wyntr Jacobs and Sarah Clausen, Kelce sophomores, took home the grand prize against nine other universities at the Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge held on the K-State campus in April 2019. Their winning concept, "Live Oriental," is a fresh food delivery service that provides pre-proportioned meal plans to the Pittsburg area.



Outstanding Senior Woman

In May 2019, Gretchen Reed was named Pitt State's Outstanding Senior Woman and spoke at the Spring Commencement ceremonies. Reed earned a 4.0 GPA across three majors - in Management, Marketing and Professional Writing - and a minor in Spanish. Gretchen, an active member of Enactus, is now part of the commercial finance team at Commerce Bank's corporate headquarters.

Inspirational conference

In November 2019, several of our women MBA students traveled to Lawrence, Kansas to attend the Kansas Chamber Women in Business Conference. They heard from several inspirational women and had the opportunity to network with other empowered individuals.





PSU President Steve Scott congratulates Dr. Eric Harris, 2019 recipient of the 2019 Dr. Robert K. Ratzlaff Outstanding Faculty Award.

Former faculty member and Pitt State alumni, **Dr. Eric Harris**, was one of three faculty members awarded the Dr. Robert K. Ratzlaff Outstanding Faculty Award during the 2019 Apple Day Celebration. Dr. Harris was nominated by a student “for making a deep and compassionate connection with students and always making time to help them.”

Dr. Harris has recently relocated to Florida to be near family but he will always be a part of the Kelce family.

Dr. Sang-Heui Lee, Associate Professor of Management, returned to Pitt State in Spring 2019 after spending the fall semester on sabbatical at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Africa University in Zimbabwe is a pan-Africa institution that has students from 25 different countries, mostly in the African continent.

During Dr. Lee’s stay at the university, he noticed students and faculty didn’t have many text-based resources for classes and research. To help rectify this lack, Dr. Lee is currently conducting a Book Drive that will benefit the community at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Want to contribute? Drop off your books in the Kelce 110 Suite.



Dr. Kevin Bracker and **Dr. Fang Lin** joined forces with a colleague from Pitt State’s Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology to publish an Open Educational Resource (OER) textbook for the Business Finance course at Pittsburg State University.

OER texts are free for students to use, making college more affordable. The text is available digitally, so faculty anywhere in the world can adopt it for their classes and comes at zero cost to their students.



After 30 years (plus one semester) of service, **Dr. Art Fischer** bid farewell to the Kelce College of Business faculty, staff and students. Dr. Fischer served as a Professor of Management. His impact on countless students will be felt for generations.



2019 Outstanding Alumni Award

Rebecca Light, a Kelce 1993 (BBA) and 1994 (MBA) gradate, was named Pittsburg State University Outstanding Alumni in Fall 2019.

Rebecca opened SilverCreek Medical Reimbursement Solutions — a business that now employs 90 and has clients across the U.S. She recalls two faculty members in particular who helped lay the groundwork for her career with instruction in statistics, negotiating contracts, forensic accounting, and business law: Mary Kay Wachter and Chris Fogliasso, both of whom still teach in Kelce College of Business.



PSU President Steve Scott congratulates Rebecca Light, recipient of the 2019 Pittsburg State University Outstanding Alumni Award.



MBA student and Graduate Assistant, Molly Menefee, attended the Kelce Golf Tournament alongside dad and Pitt State football alumnus, Jeff Menefee.

COB alumni grows business

Kelce College of Business Alumni, Ethan and Alyssa Edwards, celebrate their sixth year of owning Palluccas in Frontenac, Kansas. Ethan earned a BBA in Management in 2012 and Alyssa earned her BBA in Marketing and in Management in 2013. Alyssa is a double alum — she completed her MBA from Kelce in 2014.

This dynamic duo purchased Palluccas, a local Italian meat market, deli, and catering business, founded in 1909. Having worked at Palluccas during high school, Ethan knew first-hand the importance of Palluccas to the Frontenac community and saw potential growth.

Ethan and Alyssa have successfully carried on the Palluccas legacy and it continues to grow. They recently remodeled part of the building into an event space where large groups or parties can rent it out for special occasions. Visit their Facebook page @Palluccas or call 620-231-7700 for more information.



Ethan and Alyssa Edwards

Fore!

In October 2019, The Kansas City Alumni hosted the Kelce 10th Annual Golf Tournament in Overland Park, Kansas. Jeff Ney, member of the Kelce Board of Advisors, worked with a group of fellow alumni and made this event possible. The funds generated from the tournament fund multiple scholarships for Kelce students every year.

Interested in participating in 2020? The Annual Kelce Golf Tournament will be held the first Monday in October. Sign up at <https://pittstate.regfox.com/kelce-golf-tournament>

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