Barney Named a ‘Best’ Business School by The Princeton Review

The University of Hartford’s Barney School of Business has once again been named an outstanding business school, according to The Princeton Review. The education services company features the Barney School in the 2015 edition of its annual book, The Best 296 Business Schools.

According to Robert Franek, Princeton Review senior vice president–publisher, “We recommend the Barney School of Business as one of the best institutions a student could attend to earn an MBA. We chose the 296 schools we profile in this book based on our high regard for their academic programs and our reviews of institutional data we collect from the schools. We also solicited and greatly respect the opinions of students attending these schools who reported on their experiences at their schools on our 80-question student survey for the book.”

The following is a sample Barney student quote from the survey: “The faculty is amazing. They really care and do their best to foster a great learning environment [by being] clear and straightforward in their explanations.”

Wright-Campbell A’02, ’04 Wins Hillyer Award

When Ebony Wright-Campbell A’02, ’04, was a sophomore in Hillyer College, she suffered a personal tragedy that could have derailed her dreams of graduating from college. Her mother and only parent, Sandra Patricia Campbell, was killed in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Rather than giving in to despair, Wright-Campbell became determined to honor her mother’s memory by completing her college education. With the help of mentors, scholarships, and her own perseverance, Wright-Campbell earned an associate’s degree from Hillyer College and a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Today she is employed as a social worker, helping young people finish high school, and she is pursuing a doctorate in social work. On Oct. 7, Wright-Campbell was honored with Hillyer College’s Outstanding Young Alumna Award. During the award presentation ceremony in Wilde Auditorium, Wright-Campbell captivated the crowd with an acceptance speech that served as a tribute to both her mother and the family she created for herself at the University of Hartford.

Black Named Dean of A&S

Professor Katherine A. Black, who served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) for 10 months beginning in January 2014, has been named dean of A&S, effective Nov. 1. Black succeeds Joseph Voelker, who stepped down as dean after more than a decade of service.

Black joined the University of Hartford faculty in 1998 as an assistant professor of psychology. She has served in many administrative and leadership roles at the University, including assistant provost, A&S associate dean for budget and finance, chair of the Department of Psychology, as well as interim dean of A&S.

In outlining her vision for A&S, Black says, “We must continue to promote the value of a liberal arts education and to prepare our students with the critical-thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills they will need to be effective in the world. We must help our students delineate clear pathways to careers, and instill in them the values of integrity, responsibility, and lifelong learning that will serve as their guides. We must continue to support innovative teaching and scholarship, and build upon the strong faculty-student relationships and one-on-one mentoring that make the University of Hartford so distinctive.”

The University of Hartford Emeriti Association celebrated its 25th anniversary in October by dedicating a tree and a commemorative plaque outside the Auerbach Computer and Administration Center. The Emeriti Association, founded in 1989, is an organization of retired faculty and administrators who have been awarded emeritus status by the University. In addition to making it possible for members to continue professional, educational, and scholarly activities, the Emeriti Association annually awards scholarships to undergraduate students.
IN MEMORIAM: Grace Ellsworth (1913–2014)

Grace Ellsworth, a founder and longtime supporter of the University of Hartford and a member of its original board of regents, died in June 2014 at the age of 100. The following contains excerpts from University President Walter Harrison’s message to the University community upon her passing.

When Grace Ellsworth passed away in June at the age of 100, the University of Hartford lost not only its last living founder and last living member of the original board of regents, but also one of its most steadfast supporters. Grace was a woman who had helped frame the University’s purpose in 1957, who had helped define its links to the Greater Hartford community when it was founded, who presided as chair of the board of regents’ physical plant committee over many, many years as the University grew into a national and international university. And she always retained her fervent interest in the University’s intellectual mission as a center for teaching, learning, artistry, and scholarship. Grace stands out in my mind as a person who devoted a significant part of her long and happy life to making the University what it is today.

Grace’s conservative tastes were reflected in virtually everything she did—in politics, economics, finance, music, and art. She was lively and outspoken, but always interested in debating and discussing her views and opposing ones. For the first decade I was president, she came to see me at least twice a year to be sure we were giving students a chance to hear a variety of viewpoints: she always worried that our faculty—especially in political science—were too liberal for her tastes. And when Dean Malcolm Morrison and The Hartt School faculty decided to change the structure of the voice department in Hartt, both the dean and I had visits from Grace! . . . But here is what I always appreciated: Grace had strongly held views . . . or remember what Grace would say about some of the visiting lectures I hear. But I also always recall that Grace valued above all else our freedom to express these views. She was adamant that she and her colleagues had founded the University as a place of learning, and she knew that learning frequently involved conflicting opinions.

Editor’s note: To read President Harrison’s entire message, go to www.hartford.edu/grace-ellsworth.