

CLASS OF 2011 MBA Commencement

Celebration Issue

LFGSM Distinguished Executive

Valedictorians

Distinguished Faculty

Hotchkiss Scholars

Photo Gallery



Amusement Park Veterans and the Art of Achievement: Class of 2011 Commencement Ceremony

Like it or not, the members of the Class of 2011 have the distinction of having spent the entirety of their Lake Forest MBA experience living in a roller-coaster economy. And on June 26, 2011, the LFGSM Class of 2011 gathered in the Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier together with a crowd of more than 2,000 enthusiastic supporters who had stood by them as they followed the path to earning their MBAs — from family and friends, to LFGSM’s business-leader faculty and board members, to staff and mentors. Having endured the trials and tribulations of a turbulent business environment, the graduates emerged victorious and armed with the enduring gifts of knowledge and know-how. It was a day for

celebrating achievements, offering gratitude and anticipating the range of new opportunities that lie ahead.

Welcoming the graduates and guests, LFGSM President & CEO John Popoli congratulated the Class of 2011 on their accomplishment. “Your minds have expanded to encompass new ideas and perspectives that will forever impact your lives and careers — possibly in ways you have never imagined,” he said. “You are a different and better person than you were when you started your MBA program. You have made an investment, and as Ben Franklin said, ‘an investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.’”

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2011 Distinguished Executive



Medline Industries, Inc., President Andy Mills Honored as 2011 Distinguished Executive

Andy Mills, President of Medline Industries, Inc., was honored with the Distinguished Executive Award for 2011. (Pictured are Andy Mills (left) with LFGSM President & CEO John Popoli.) “We are pleased to honor Andy Mills with our Distinguished Executive Award for 2011,” said John Popoli. “Andy’s principled leadership and steadfast passion for advancing his organization’s mission have helped Medline Industries, Inc., thrive in today’s highly competitive global healthcare products industry.”

A highly respected business executive and community leader, Mills accepted the Award and delivered the Commencement Address to the LFGSM Class of 2011. Praising their achievement, Mills encouraged the graduates to actively reach out to those who had supported them during their studies. In particular, he urged them to use the opportunity to seek out the higher career goals and responsibilities that their Lake Forest MBA education has allowed them to achieve. “The fact that you now have a graduate degree, earned while working full-time, says to me that you are capable of accomplishing a great deal in life,” Mills noted.

“You are capable of accomplishing a great deal in life.”

Further, Mills spoke of the value of learning from experience and setting extraordinary goals. Sharing obstacles that he had overcome at the helm at Medline and drawing inspiration from sports history, Mills emphasized the importance of striving to achieve excellence despite the odds. “Set new goals for yourself. Set them higher than you could ever imagine, and then begin working hard to achieve them,” Mills urged.

DID YOU KNOW...

Headquartered in Mundelein, Medline Industries, Inc., is the largest privately held healthcare supply company in the US. Andy Mills joined Medline in 1986 and has served as its President since 1997. Under his leadership, the company has continued to prosper in an intensely competitive industry. Medline employs more than 8,000 individuals and was recently named one of the “100 Best Places to Work in Healthcare.” Currently, 16 LFGSM students and alumni are Medline employees.

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Distinguished Faculty

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2011 Valedictorians



Setting the Stage for Next Round of Success:

Valedictory Address Reflects on Taking Charge of One's Future

Among the Class of 2011 Valedictorians is John Duoba, who gave the Valedictory Address. In his remarks, Duoba spoke of the importance of setbacks as well as successes in shaping one's future. Reflecting on the rapid changes the business environment has experienced recently, Duoba praised the efforts of the nation's entrepreneurs and small business owners as setting an example for taking charge of one's own future

career success through hard work, risk-taking and perseverance through good times and bad. "While each success may push you a little farther down your path, it is your failures or setbacks that blaze the trail to begin with," Duoba said. "How you react and how you use your gift of knowledge in those moments will set the stage for your next round of successes."

CONGRATULATIONS!

Seven graduates achieved a perfect GPA and earned the status of Valedictorian.

Pictured above between LFGSM Executive Vice President Chris Multhauf (left) and President & CEO John Popoli (right) are the Class of 2011 Valedictorians: Kelly Brennan, Robert Nelson, John Duoba, Peter Stueckemann, James Kearns and Eugene Altwies (Not pictured: Steven Balzer)

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Distinguished Faculty

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2011 Distinguished Faculty

David Faller Honored with 2011 Distinguished Faculty Award

During the ceremonies, Class of 2011 graduate Michelle Hoffman introduced David Faller as the Class of 2011's choice for the Distinguished Faculty Award. Hoffman cited Faller's enthusiasm for celebrating exploration and risk taking and for encouraging "thinking and not just doing." Thanking Faller for inspiring the Class of 2011 to strive for excellence, she said, "You taught us that excellence is within our reach."

Accepting the Award, Faller maintained that the central role students themselves play in the Lake Forest MBA learning experience. Comparing LFGSM to a "theatre of the mind," Faller explained, "We set the environment and help move the play along but the real stars in this performance are the students. You are

the ones who take the syllabus, the script as it were, and like method actors, internalize it. Through class discussions, presentations, case studies and papers you bring the words and concepts to life in the classroom and in your business and private lives."

David Faller has been an LFGSM faculty member since 2003, teaching courses in Global Business, Global Finance and Economics. He earned his MBA from LFGSM in 2003, graduating as a Hotchkiss Scholar and Valedictorian. Currently Senior VP and Head of Global FX at Penson Worldwide Inc., Faller has more than 25 years of treasury and capital markets experience in trading and advisory roles in the foreign exchange, commodity and equity markets.



2011 Distinguished Faculty Award Recipient David Faller with Class of 2011 Graduate Michelle Hoffman

2011 Hotchkiss Scholars



Hotchkiss Scholars Honored

In 1984, LFGSM founded the Hotchkiss Scholar designation, an academic honor that recognizes exceptional achievement and is awarded to the top 5% of each graduating class. This honorary society was named for Dr. Eugene Hotchkiss III, President Emeritus of Lake Forest College and active member of the School's Board of Directors for almost 20 years.

Pictured are the Class of 2011 Hotchkiss Scholars: Eugene Altwies, Steven Balzer, John Duoba, Robert Nelson, Cathy Dinkelkamp, Peter Stueckemann, James Kearns and Kelly Brennan. (Not pictured: Jonathon Leslie, Kathryn Rudey and Steven Urbanski.)

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Valedictorians

Distinguished Faculty

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2011 Graduation Day



Akshay Patel with wife, two daughters and extended family. "I had a great experience at the ceremony, not only for myself but also with my family. It was a big thing for me and I hope that my peers and other people enjoyed it as much as I did. We will keep this memory alive forever."



(Above, left) Graduates Samantha Lay and Richard Hickman met, married and welcomed their first child into the world — all while earning their Lake Forest MBAs.

(Above) Kelly Brennan, Class of 2011 Valedictorian and Hotchkiss Scholar, was the recipient of a full-tuition scholarship through the Ready-Set-MBA Mentium Scholarship Contest



(Left) Graduate Alina Fernandez, who holds MD and MPH degrees, is pictured with her Mentium mentor Kathy Leck, LFGSM VP— Research & Development and Innovation.

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2011 Corporate Groups



Abbott Laboratories



CDW



Allstate Insurance Company

DID YOU KNOW...

Corporate Alumni Relations provides a dedicated alumni liaison for large alumni groups, creating a partnership that helps you take full advantage of alumni programs and services. For more information about connecting with, or creating, a corporate alumni group at your organization, contact Martin Parker, Corporate Alumni Relations Manager, at mparker@lfgsm.edu or 847-756-3946.



ITW

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Valedictorians

Distinguished Faculty

Hotchkiss Scholars

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2011 Graduation Day



To see more Class of 2011 Commencement photos, visit our 2011 Graduation Photo Album on LFGSM's Facebook page. 

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Welcome to the Alumni Community

Congratulations Graduates!

LFGSM welcomes you to our business community of more than 8,000 alumni. To support your continued success, we offer a variety of programs and services, such as career services, ongoing education and networking opportunities. For details about these programs and services, as well as more opportunities to stay connected, visit www.LFGSM.edu/Alumni

We also invite you to connect with fellow alumni and LFGSM in the LFGSM Alumni Group on LinkedIn and in the LFGSM Facebook Group. LFGSM also has two Twitter feeds: @LFGSM reports School and industry news, and @LFGSMAlumni follows and brags about our LFGSM alumni.

If you prefer, please feel free to contact us directly. You can reach Kate Colbert, Director of Marketing & Alumni Relations, at 847-574-5214 or Kcolbert@LFGSM.edu; and Jessica Gardner, Alumni Relations & Events Manager, at 847-574-5266 or Jgardner@LFGSM.edu.

DID YOU KNOW...

Alumni receive reduced rates for most LFGSM courses, and are now allowed to audit classes — all the learning, without the homework! Visit www.LFGSM.edu/BackToClass for more information.



Rising Higher Already

Your Lake Forest MBA experience has given you the skills and perspective that will get you noticed. Consider Class of 2011 grad Grace Tumuti's experience: "The knowledge I gained has been instrumental in my career growth," Grace says. "I've transitioned into three different roles within the past four years. My most recent promotion was in April 2011, where I'm currently responsible for a multi-million dollar transportation budget for a leading technology solutions provider.

Most of my family travelled from Kenya to attend the commencement. It was an honor to have them share the occasion. I truly appreciate LFGSM's support in ensuring that all documentation needed to arrange for their travel to the US was available in a timely manner. As my 9-year old daughter says ... LFGSM Rocks!"

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Congratulations Class of 2011 on a job well done!



With the hard-earned knowledge and know-how gained in the Lake Forest MBA program, the Class of 2011 is well-armed to set the stage for their next round of successes. Pictured above are Class of 2011 Class Representatives (from left): Solonge Dorner, Grace Tumuti, Jennifer Rosator and JC Chupack.