



THE COLLEGE SPOTLIGHT

Ada Bethel: Dare to Dream

Ada Bethel, AA'06, BBA'10, MBA'12, is tenacious. When she was 33 years old, she moved from Grand Bahama to New Providence with few possessions and even less money to complete her college education. That was the beginning of an inspiring adventure for the once "skinny little girl from Lowe Sound, Andros."

"I want to motivate someone that at thirty-three you can come back to school with \$600 in your pocket and no job [and] nine years later you have three degrees you have paid for out of your pocket. You have worked and you paid for it and took care of your responsibility by the sweat of my brow and the grace of God," says Ada, the Director of Finance, Food and Beverage at the Atlantis Resort. Earlier in her life, she had stopped her college studies after her father's death, but in 2004 she was determined to make it as a mature student.

"When people label you that puts you on a corner of a shelf. When you refuse to allow yourself to be labeled, you are free to realize whatever it is that you can believe and that you are willing to work for. It is exhilarating when you can look in the mirror and you know 'I did it,'" she adds.



The single mother of two boys, Ada is now a three time graduate of The College of The Bahamas, having been conferred with an MBA from The College in December 2012.

She admits that she has a passion for learning that was instilled in her by her parents, Pearl Bettylee Russell-Bethel and Benard James Bethel. Over the years, Ada has earned an Associate of Arts degree in Law and Criminal Justice and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics and Finance – both from The College. She is proud of the institution's academic distinction.

For Ava, ambition and determination are not merely abstracts; they have led her to achieve long held dreams and in the process build a rich legacy. She aspires to one day become a forensic accountant and also a criminal prosecutor – dreams

without limits. Anything less, she says, would be a disservice.

"I see my own self-actualization as a step toward the empowerment of my people. I serve as a clear example to other Bahamians that we dare not be limited by the scarce resources we may perceive ourselves to have. We are not defined by the sun, sand and sea, but rather we are a rich and blessed nation," she says.

COB Alumni in The News

The following alumni were nominated for the Financial Services Industry 2012 Excellence Awards:

Professional of The Year

Duhiza T. Swaby-Smith '97
Banque Privee Edmond de Rothschild Ltd.

Glennette T. Reckley '94
Scotiabank Ltd.

Renaldo C. Harding '05,
Societe Generale Private Banking Ltd.

Achiever of The Year

Misty Wilson '99, UBS Trustees Ltd.

Royanne T. Rolle '90, Societe Generale Private Banking Ltd.

Shelley A. Ward '99, Julius Baer Bank & Trust Ltd.

Student of The Year

Alkeda B. King, BBA '12, winner

Delecia Sands, BBA '12

Tamara K. Hield, BBA '12

Teschandrel M. Nottage, BBA '12

The College is proud of all your professional and personal achievements!

COB and Rotaract Host WTO Panel Discussion

On December 6, 2012, The College hosted government, business and community leaders to the Harry C. Moore Library and Information Centre for a discussion on the impact of The Bahamas' accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Among the participants were Mr. Marcus Laing '98, Chair of the COB Alumni Society who gave a campus welcome and Mr. Jaime Lewis '03, President of Rotaract Club of East Nassau who served as a co-organizer and panelist.

They discussed international opportunities to expand markets for Bahamian made goods and services and our preparedness to deal with the challenges of accession to the WTO. There were also questions relating to the protection of intellectual property and the addition of new industries throughout the country. Additionally, there was much interest regarding the benefits of membership. The panel agreed that there is much work ahead in the areas of continued tax reform and implementation of industry standards and regulations.

The WTO Panel Discussion was another opportunity to address issues of national importance as The College continues to fulfill its mission of education and national development for all Bahamians.



2012-2013 COB Annual Fund

As the end of 2012 drew closer, the Annual Fund Office announced that The College was only a few hundred dollars away from surpassing our end-of-year giving total for 2011. People heard our message and responded loud and clear.

With more than \$11,000 raised by the end of 2012, we have surpassed our 2011 gift dollars by 21% and almost doubled the number of individual donors. What a great Christmas gift for The College and the students who benefit from the care and generosity of our supporters.

We still have a ways to go to reach our 2012-13 goal of \$48,000; every gift is needed and important to achieving success. Hundreds of donors coming together, giving \$1000, \$100 or \$10 will put us over the top again this year. Give once, or make it easier on your budget with smaller gifts spread over the next 4 or 5 months. Whatever is comfortable for you makes a difference for so many.

Thank you to all our donors for this special effort. With the holidays behind us, there is still time to fulfill your pledge, make your traditional spring gift or skip a morning ritual at Starbucks and make your first-time donation. Let's keep our momentum going into an exciting 2013.



Upcoming Events

- Alumni Society Meeting
January 8th, 6:30p.m.,
President's Boardroom, Keve M.
Bethel Building
- Majority Rule Exhibition Opening
January 10th, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
- First day of classes
January 14th
- Alumni Society Mix & Mingle
February 21st
- COB Career Fair, March 14th
Independence Park, Oakes Field
Campus. For job seekers and
employers.
Contact nturnquest@cob.edu.bs
to register.

Position Available at The College - Chief Internal Auditor

The College of The Bahamas is seeking a suitable candidate for the position of **Chief Internal Auditor (CIA)** who will be charged with the formation of The College's Internal Audit Department. The CIA will be responsible for designing, developing and implementing a risk based audit plan to assess and recommend improvements in key operational and financial activities and internal controls.

The successful candidate will have a Bachelor's degree in accounting or related finance field and must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Certified Internal Auditor (CIA). Preference will be given to candidates with a Masters in Business Administration or Accountancy, Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) or Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA).

Interested applicants should visit <http://www.cob.edu.bs/hrapply/> to apply or contact the Human Resources Department for more information, 302-4451. Deadline to apply, January 31st, 2013.

If you have news you would like to share with your classmates, or just say "Hi", contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 242-302-4357 or alumni@cob.edu.bs. You may also "Send Us Your News" through MyCOB.

Contact

Alumni Relations & Development
The College of The Bahamas
Oakes Field Campus

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