



NEWSLETTER

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BAB Association

Bachelor of Applied Business

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CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER (CFP) EXAM TIPS:

FOR THOSE OF YOU INTERESTED IN WRITING YOUR CFP EXAM, HERE ARE A FEW TIPS:

- The Gobeil cases (30 in the package) are invaluable as a study aid as our program doesn't put enough emphasis on case studies. The entire exam is based on case studies.
- The Gobeil study questions (they come in a pack of 1000) are very difficult, above the level of the exam. Gobeil may revise this package as a result of negative feedback from customers.
- There is a lot of emphasis on time value-type calculations.
- There is not a large focus on ethics, ratios, taxation, or business structures.
- It is easy to run out of time, so it's highly recommended to skip the more difficult questions and go back to them later.
- There are lots of questions about RESPs, insurance, and retirement.
- The exam is not difficult technically, but requires a tremendous amount of judgment and analysis.
- Working in a study group can be very helpful.
- The Advocis texts have many errors and are expensive; the Gobeil products are recommended instead.



INTRODUCING NADA RAKULJ YOUR EVENTS COORDINATOR FOR THE BAB ASSOCIATION

Nada was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and moved to Canada 11 years ago. Her first postsecondary studies were in Kinesiology at York University, but after spending a year there she decided that Science wasn't her forte. She entered the BAB program in September of 2004 and is in the Financial Management stream. Nada is one of our top students. She has made honour role several times with a GPA of 3.83 in the most recent semester. She is scheduled to graduate this coming April.

Nada is an Executive member of the BAB Association. As the Events Coordinator, she organizes all of the parties as well as other events which we hold throughout the year. If you haven't made it out for one of our parties yet, you can look forward to our intersession celebration coming up at the end of February. In addition, Nada has been a member of the Mosaic Executive staff as the Public Relations Officer for the past two years. Mosaic is the biggest club here at the St. James campus; they hold a number of events promoting diversity within the College. Nada has also been a member of the GBC Women's Varsity Volleyball team for two years (since its inception). For two years prior to that, she was part of a movement that was continuously pushing to create the team. Nada works part time for GBC Student Affairs (athletics), supervising the gym and weight room and staff events for other GBC varsity team games.

Outside of school, Nada works for the Canada Mortgage and Lending Corporation (CMLC). She started working there four years ago as her coop placement, and has stayed on part time working her way up in the company. She is currently the Systems Manager and is in charge of their marketing. She plans to work there full time in a new position after graduation.

BAB PARTY IN REVIEW

On December 14th, 2007 our end of semester party was held at Betty's on King St. East and later moved to Up-front Bar and Grill. It was another great night, with beer, food, raffle prizes, and more beer. We would like to thank all students, faculty, and alumni for coming out to this event! We would also like to extend a big thank you to all the individuals who donated prizes for the raffles, as well as those who purchased raffle tickets. The money raised in the raffle will go towards ensuring that our next party has plenty of food, drinks, and prizes! The midterm party is scheduled to be held on Friday, February 22, the last day of midterms. We would like to encourage all BAB students to come to this event, especially if you haven't been to one of our parties before; it's a great opportunity to meet students from other years and mingle with some of the professors, and possibly some of our graduates. If you'd like to check out more pictures from this event or previous events, there are plenty posted on the BAB website!



HAVE YOU MET BARB YET?

If you are in the Financial Planning stream, you can look forward to taking Risk Management as well as Estate Planning with Barb Syer. If you are in the Accounting stream, I highly recommend these courses as business electives; they will both help you with your own personal finances while you learn through hilarious examples taken from Barb's "anonymous" friends and family members.

Barb was born and raised in Waterloo, moved to London to attend the University of Western Ontario, and then moved to Vancouver to attend UBC. She lived in Vancouver for six years, working as an elementary schoolteacher after graduation. She decided to leave Vancouver after going on a date with a man whom she had previously dated when she first arrived in the city; this was a clear indication to Barb that her social life was looking bleak, and she was quite the socialite. After this incident, she decided to spend a year knapsacking around the world, spending most of her time in New Zealand, Australia and Southeast Asia.

When she arrived back in Toronto, she decided to go into business and thought that Wood Gundy was the place to be. She was one of the first women on their training program for investment advisors. Highlights of her career at Wood Gundy included ringing the bell on the trading floor at the TSE, and getting detained for several hours by federal agents at LaGuardia airport in New York City. They thought she was smuggling several million dollars worth of securities into the US. Of course she was released later that day and no charges were pressed. When Charlie Gundy, the company's Chairman at the time, heard about the episode, he thought it was hilarious, but Barb's senior reporting officer, who had sent her down to New York in the first place, was fired soon after for not ensuring that she was provided with appropriate documentation.

Barb Syer has a B.A. from Western, a B. Ed from UBC, and a M. Ed. from U of T. Barb's designations include her CFP (Certified Financial Planner), CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter), and FSCI (Fellow Canadian Securities Institute). She has also completed the Canadian Securities Course, Investment Funds Course and Mutual Funds Branch Manager's and Officer's Exams.

Barb has no children of her own, but two grown godchildren and she is a doting great aunt to three grand-nieces and one grand-nephew. Barb has been teaching at George Brown since 2004. In addition to the courses she teaches, she has re-designed and developed the Coop Preparation and Estate Planning courses. She really considers herself to be "home" at George Brown.



GET YOUR BAB SHIRTS!

Our new logo has arrived and we're placing a new order for BAB Golf Shirts. The shirts will be available for purchase in late February at an estimated price of only \$30 each. Further details regarding sizing, colours, and exact price will be available on the BAB Association website as soon as they're finalized. For those of you graduating this spring, it may be your last chance to purchase a shirt commemorating your BAB experience!