

Editor: Donna Fisher

University of Cincinnati  
College of Business



## Special Interest Articles:

- My Time in Japan  
"In Europe, you feel like a foreigner. In Japan, you just feel like you're not Japanese."

## Individual Highlights

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## From The Director

Hi Everyone!

I always expect summer to be less busy than the rest of the academic year, then I always find myself busier than I expected! But it's all good things we're working on. Earlier this month we had the incoming freshmen and their parents to dinner and an information session at Coldstream Country Club. Several of our upper-classmen also attended and spoke first-hand about various aspects of the program, and we were also happy to have several alumni attend to speak as well.

Thank you to Jay Herbert, Rob Reinerman, Steve Bybee, Robyn Jeter, Jay Hummel, and Tim Metzner for coming back to help out. Thank you also to Dick Wilhelm and the Cincinnati office of UBS for generously offering to sponsor the event for our students.

The pre-juniors are leaving for Europe August 11. This trip, like the ones in the past, promises to be a life-changing, extraordinary experience, and I am privileged to be able to join Raj Mehta and the students for the first 3 weeks of the trip. Norm Baker will join

Raj and the students for the last week and a half. We've had a series of excellent external speakers in to talk to the students about what to expect on their trip, and the students have also been assigned to teams that research our different destinations and prepare presentations for the class. Our trip includes Paris, Finland (University of Tampere), Amsterdam, Geneva and Munich. We'll have a complete report on the trip after we return, with pictures!

This year we're launching a speaker series for our juniors and seniors called the Executive Forum. We're planning on having two forums a quarter, with one or more speakers at each, depending on the topic. We have our list of potential speakers, but if you, or someone you know, would be interested in talking with our students, please let me know. I think our students have so much to learn from hearing the stories and experiences of people who have been successful in business and in their personal lives, and hearing their thoughts on events shaping business and the

world today. We have high hopes that this speaker series will forge positive relationships between the speakers and our students.

Thank you to the parents who have contributed to our parent fund, which sponsored the graduation party for our seniors. The support of current and past students' parents is especially gratifying, because it says to us that they truly appreciated the experience that their sons and daughters had while here at UC. Our parent fund will also buy the students traveling to Europe dinner twice while on their trip. These are only two things that the Parent Fund helps us support. This extra discretionary money makes it possible for us to provide events and opportunities which make wonderful experiences and memories for our students. Thank you so much parents, for your support.

Have a great summer – the next time I write I'll have lots of news about the Europe trip!

*Jeri Ricketts*

## Co-Op of the Month - Fort Washington Investment Advisors by: Andrew Jandes

The public side of the market can be very exciting as stock values rise and fall daily. However, there is another side of the market that few know much about. This unfamiliar side is known as private equity. For the past two co-op terms, I have worked in the private equity group for Fort Washington Investment Advisors, a subsidiary of Western & Southern Life Insurance located in downtown Cincinnati. Our group invests primarily in two different ways. First, we invest in several funds of selected companies run by venture capitalists in what is called a fund of funds. These funds can be made up of venture (or start-up companies), buyout (taking over existing companies and making them profitable), or a combination of both. Second, we also invest directly in certain companies in a plan we call our co-investment program. This program is becoming a trademark within our group at Fort Washington.



Drew Jandes (left), Christopher Baucom (center), and CIO Nick Sargen (right) discuss new investment opportunities during a meeting.

My experiences here have been absolutely invaluable thus far as I've taken on the role of an actual analyst for my team. With this position, I have learned the importance of responsibility, priority, work ethic, and integrity. I also have completed a variety of exciting projects, each

exposing me to a different aspect of the business. And there is no copying involved. My work is relied upon daily and the assignments I complete add great value to my team and the entire firm. Some of these assignments include: creating quarterly reports for our clients, assisting in revamping the entire quarterly process, editing slides for our annual meeting, researching due diligence of the venture capitalists we potentially invest in, updating the progress of our current funds and company investments, calculating the IRR's of our funds, as well several other duties. And my role increases substantially every co-op term I return.

I also have had the privilege of working directly with five investment professionals all of whom obtained MBAs from top 10 business schools. These individuals have been critical to my learning experience at the firm. They always take time to make sure I am doing okay. They direct me when I encounter problems. They include me in all the most important meetings. They provide me with the best working environment possible. And most important, they treat me like a valuable member of the group and not just a typical co-op.

My supervisor Christopher Baucom is one of these people, as he is a graduate of the University of Chicago. Christopher has recently won several awards for his leadership roles within Fort Washington. Having someone of this caliber as my manager has been extremely important because it encourages me to be at my best

every minute I am at the office. It also provides me with a role model I can mimic not just at the workplace, but when I am in school as well.

Another advantage of Fort Washington is the opportunity to listen to the thoughts of Nick Sargen, our Chief Investment Officer. Nick is one of the most respected economists in the U.S. as he regularly appears on CNBC to voice his perspective on a variety of issues. It has been a thrill to be able to work so closely to him and learn about different aspects of the U.S. and global marketplace.

Overall, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Fort Washington thus far. I look forward to going back in the fall and resuming my duties as an analyst. Also, I believe they are looking for a co-op to replace me in the winter. If anyone might be interested, please don't hesitate to contact me. I would be more than happy to answer any questions.

Drew Jandes  
[jandesam@email.uc.edu](mailto:jandesam@email.uc.edu)  
 Class of 2007

## My Time in Tokyo Japan

by: Brock Fortman

Yesterday afternoon, I escorted my parents back to Narita airport. Half relieved, half saddened; I plopped back on a train and slept the whole ride back to my apartment in Makuhari-hongo. Normally, when the family visits Cincinnati, I enjoy their company, we share happy stories, we quasi-argue over something silly, and we part with a smile. This time it compounded.

Since the middle of March, I have been living in the Tokyo area, on a marketing co-op with an American Fortune 500 company, and trying my best to understand every third word a native Japanese speaker says. This culture and language are really something unique.

Mom told stories of my hometown, my brother told stories of his newest position (Brutus at OSU), and Dad silently let them have their time to talk. All three were amazed with the country—the impenetrable language, the use of space, the relative absence of body fat, the lack of garbage on sidewalks even (annoyingly) without available trashcans. Many things they said reminded me of what we said when Matt Lashway and I first arrived.

The past few months have been an extended sight-seeing tour for me. I brought my parents to Hiroshima on a history mission, to Kyoto and Nara on an older history mission, and to Aichi for the World EXPO where Matt gave a speech (in Japanese) last April. Thanks to a handy Japan Rail Pass, all this travel

was \$200, or the price of one cheap night's lodging in Tokyo. During Golden Week—a string of national holidays that allows everyone a week off work, like Christmas in May—a similar rail pass let me visit Kagoshima, Nagasaki, and Osaka, with Nikko on a separate day-trip from home and Hokkaido on a company-sponsored flight. Overall, I have “seen” more of Japan than many natives, but I still feel a bit strange sometimes here. A friend of mine said it best: “In Europe, you feel like a foreigner. In Japan, you just feel like you’re not Japanese.”



The picture is from our office downtown with a view of Tokyo Bay in the background.

My co-op has dealt with everything from editing the translation of a Japanese business-management book, to webpage design, to a branding expansion program wherein we are bringing several American brands here with the promise of sales to Japanese companies operating abroad. The best part of my job, however, had to have been last week when I was given two days off work to climb Mt. Fuji with the COO and his family, since they needed an English-speaking guide. I knew I was lucky to get into certain programs at UC—like the one I am writing for now and International Co-op—but I had no

idea that luck could extend to Japan.

Tomorrow marks my four month anniversary in Japan, and simultaneously my two month countdown for departure. These first few months have really just been a warm up for the Japanese culture and language. I know I have more to learn before I return to classes and a part-time-job search. You don't get to save much on co-op when you live in “The Most Expensive Ex-Pat City” in the world, according to the *Economist* in 2004. With family safely back in Ohio, and a gift of Tootsie Rolls staring me down, I should get back to a normal routine, if such a thing actually exists for me.

Brock Fortman,  
Class of 2006



Gift shop in Utaru, when I went on the company trip to Hokkaido

Feel free to write, if you have any questions about Japan.  
[brockfortman@gmail.com](mailto:brockfortman@gmail.com)

## Items of Interest

**Drew Jandes**, Class of 2007, was recently elected to External-President of BANG! (AKA: Bearcat Advertising & Network-ing Group!). They are trying to get the name out for recruitment next year.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> the ALS Association, Western Ohio Chapter, is kicking off its annual *Walk to D'Feet ALS*. Team "Kayser & Co." will be walking strong for the second year, and we need everyone's participation. My name is Susan Kayser and I am an incoming freshman in the **Carl Lindner's Honors PLUS Program**. As an eighteen year old I thought there was nothing I could do to fight this devastating disease. However, last summer I became the team captain of "Kayser & Co.," and together with my friends and family we fought back. Team "Kayser & Co." had 125 members and raised over \$10,300. However, this year I am asking *you* to join me in the fight against ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) so that Team "Kayser & Co." can reach its new goal of **200+** members and raise more than **\$15,000**.

ALS is a fatal, neuromuscular disease, which attacks the motor neurons making even the simplest movements of walking, speaking and gesturing impossible. Ultimately the body becomes paralyzed, yet through it all,

the mind remains unaffected. Currently there is no cure, and two years ago my **MOM**, Irene Kayser, was diagnosed with it. She is the mother of five children, and the best mom anyone could ever ask for. This disease has forced my mom to end a career she loved at Shriners' Hospital helping children, and has confined her to a wheelchair. However, despite many new limitations and trials she has remained optimistic and cheerful.

The ALS Association loan closet has provided my mom with a lightweight wheelchair, a lift recliner, and a walker all of which have allowed her to get out of the house and enjoy life with her family. I would like to return some of the generosity that they have bestowed on us, and I hope that together we can help to find a cure for this overwhelming disease.

This is an easy way to get three or four hours of volunteering, and in addition you help to find a cure for this devastating disease and spread awareness. Please don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions or concerns. We need everyone's participation in order make this a success. Thank you very much for your support.

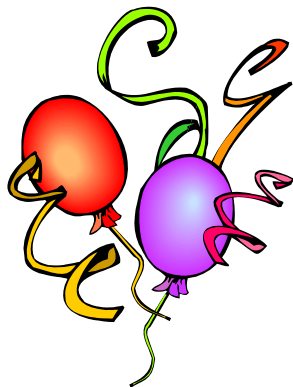
Susan Kayser  
(Incoming Freshman)  
Class of 2010  
kaysersa@email.uc.edu

## Alumni Corner



Abby Layne, Class of 2004, married Albert Chavez on May 27, 2005 at the Cincinnati Art Museum. They spent a wonderful week on the Mayan Rivera for their Honeymoon and now reside in Blue Ash.

Abby Layne Chavez  
Class of 2004



## August Birthdays

Tyler Drake	August 11
Andrew Laskey	August 18
Nicole Murphy	August 25
Kevin Perkins	August 26
Bradley Stephens	August 30

