

Business 2: Connecting with Commerce

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By Ahmad Murrah

The College of Commerce at DePaul is an excellent resource for talented, underrepresented students who are interested in a career in accountancy, economics, management, finance, marketing, real estate, and hospitality leadership. Though there are many variables that can either hinder or halt students' progress towards their professional goals, there are important resources you should be aware of that will help you compete in a premier selection pool for internships and careers upon graduation.

If you are interested in learning about available networking opportunities, gaining insights on professional development, or attending events where you can sit next to industry leaders in your field of interest, then you will find this monthly section on Commerce useful.

Preparation is important if one plans to pursue a career in Commerce. One could attempt to dive into the world of business with hopes and aspirations of fulfilling one's dreams; however, you would miss out on the current resources available that can aide in your success.

Within the College of Commerce, there are two organizations committed to providing professional development for underrepresented students. The National Society of Minorities in Hospitality (NSMH) and the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) are dedicated to connecting students to resources that will support their academic and career success.

NSMH serves as the premier organization for students interested in the hospitality industry, which includes but is not limited to hotels, restaurants, event planning, and private clubs. NSMH addresses issues of diversity and multiculturalism in these industries, as well as the career development of its student members. DePaul University's NSMH provides events and programs that bring together college-level students with company sponsors, industry representatives, other hospitality organizations, advisors and mentors, and hospitality high school students. NSMH is a resource for the industry to find dynamic talent as well as for students to find qualified answers to relevant questions and have a window to the industry that awaits them.

The main purposes of the DePaul NABA chapter are to promote and develop the professional skills of black students and to encourage and assist them in entering the accounting profession. NABA activities include chapter management and development skill building, firm visits, on-campus workshops and seminars provided by firms, community service projects, joint activities and projects with peer groups, a member award program, and social activities with members, firm representatives, chapter alumni, and NABA professional members.

These two featured organizations provide a catalyst for our community to enter into the world of commerce. We can choose to remain docile and allow opportunities for advancement to pass us by or we can cultivate our futures now by diversifying our professional prospects.

To become involved in DePaul University's NSMH Chapter and NABA DePaul Chapter, contact depaul@nsmh.org or NABA@depaul.edu, respectively.