

## COMPLETING MY ROOKIE YEAR



In this issue of *Business*, our lead feature, *Dawgs on Wall Street*, profiles the successes of alumni in our nation's financial center. Although the Business School is defined in large part by our Seattle location—and most of our graduates do elect to stay in the Northwest—it's important to remember that our extended family of 43,000 alumni literally

spans the globe. With our growing reputation as one of the nation's premier centers for business education, it's no surprise that our graduates are highly marketable in whatever location or industry they choose to pursue their careers. Our second feature, *The Seattle School of Retail*, focuses on the iconic retailers based here—companies like Amazon, Costco, Nordstrom, REI and Starbucks—and Business School programs for students who seek careers in retail management. Although Seattle is often associated with high-tech companies like Boeing and Microsoft, it offers exceptional opportunities for graduates who aspire to work for some of the world's most successful and innovative retailers.

This spring marks the end of my first year as Dean of the Business School, and what a marvelous year it's been. I've gotten great support from our faculty and staff, I've had the opportunity to work closely with our engaged alumni and corporate partners, and I've benefited from their excellent advice on the challenges we face. I look back on the past year with gratitude, and I look forward to the year ahead with more optimism than ever.

Our number one priority for the past few years has been to raise private funds to build a world-class home for the Business School. New facilities are essential to accommodate growth, expand revenue-generating programs, attract and retain top faculty, build corporate partnerships, and provide students with the kind of educational experience they expect from a premier institution. As you know, the days of "chalk and talk" are long gone in business education. We need modern facilities equipped with appropriate technology and

with flexible spaces that support team learning and group interaction. Without such facilities, it will be nearly impossible for the Business School to preserve and strengthen our reputation for excellence in the years ahead.

Since we launched the *Creating Futures* campaign in 2000, we've raised nearly \$40 million in private funds for new facilities. We've also received strong support from UW President Mark Emmet and his leadership team for our building plans. I'm delighted to announce that we've achieved a major milestone in this ambitious project. The architects are currently reassessing the configuration of their original concept and are starting the detailed design process. That means that we can break ground on at least one new building as early as the fall of 2008, with occupancy planned in 2010. The second phase of our building plan calls for Balmer Hall to be either completely renovated or demolished and replaced by an all-new building. Although we must raise at least another \$20 million in private investment before we can proceed with construction, that figure, given our progress to date, seems well within reach. While some details of this public-private capital project must still be sorted out, I'm very confident of a successful outcome.

As for our other two campaign priorities—increasing faculty endowments and scholarship funds—we've received more than \$22 million in private support. *Creating Futures* has been a hugely successful campaign, for the Business School and for the University, thanks to the generosity of our alumni, friends, and corporate partners.

My heartfelt thanks to all for making my first year as Dean so memorable and productive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Jiambalvo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

JAMES JIAMBALVO

Dean, UW Business School

Kirby L. Cramer Chair in Business Administration