

Events

- > Wednesday 2/4 7:25p  
Steven J. Baum SU 210
- > Friday 2/6 7:00-10:00p  
Open Bar @ Average Joe's  
Support the trip to N.O.
- > Sunday 2/8  
1st vs. 2nd Snow Football
- > Thursday 2/19  
GMA Charity Auction  
Volunteers Needed!!

# The UB MBA Exchange

“ because knowledge is power. ”

## The Mentoring Relationship

MARY CLISTA DAHL

By the time you acquire that coveted MBA you will probably have heard the term “mentor” so many times that you feel like it’s tattooed in the middle of your forehead. That’s because the benefits of finding or becoming a good mentor cannot be overstated.

Mentoring goes well beyond the casual business relationship. The bond that forms between a mentor and student is true passion for a profession, not just the similarity of a chosen field. This personal element makes it much more meaningful. Once this relationship is established, the mentor shares his or her expertise, showing how to fully utilize the skills to exercise that passion.

This relationship is mutually beneficial for a number of reasons. The novice acquires life lessons not found in textbooks, earns hands-on practical knowledge and receives one-on-one attention and sound advice from an enthusiastic teacher. The mentor gets to share details of their career with a mind anxious to learn, reinforcing the validity of that career. They get a sense of satisfaction by help-

ing someone avoid mistakes, and an opportunity to keep up their skills, rejuvenating their career.

Faculty tend to be transitional, family members know your personal hang-ups, and your friends don’t necessarily fully understand your true professional ambitions. Mentors, on the other hand, are primarily there to inspire you to move forward. A good mentor does not discourage or condemn you. Instead, he or she listens intently to your ideas and thoughts and offer honest assessments. They encourage you to live up to your potential. This type of support is not always readily available from the best friend and family network.

There are many ways and places to find a mentor. Here at the School of Management, you can begin by contacting the Career Resource Center and signing up for the Tele-mentor Program which provides a way for students to contact alumni for assistance with career exploration and planning. UB Career Services offers a Meet-a-Mentor Program which connects UB students with experienced professionals willing to help transition from college to the

workplace. Faculty members, student and professional organizations are also good starting places.

It was through an information interview with a graduate programs director that I found my mentor. I mentioned a very specific career interest, and he gave me the phone number of an alumni involved in that work. I gave her a call with the simple intent of picking her brain about her career, and she offered to be my mentor. Not having a thorough understanding exactly what that meant, but trusting her expertise, I accepted. That was over ten years ago. Since that time her guidance has led me to speaking and publishing opportunities, professional association memberships, up and coming industry trends, contact information for likeminded people, and trade secrets. Our successful collaboration has been intensified by the fact that she was mentored closely by someone else.

So whether you are interested in becoming or finding a mentor, don’t take the search lightly, and never underestimate the power of the relationship.

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## The Raleigh Story: Pawn to King 4

RALEIGH LOVE

The man behind the story.



So, a bunch of us got together last week for some good old fashioned socializing and one of humanities oldest pastimes, the board game. From the Mayan game of Bul, to Egyptian Senet and the Viking Hnefatafl, people have all over the world have delighted in the frustration of defeat represented by the positions of small pieces on flat gaming spaces for centuries, if not millennia. Over the years, however, one board game have proven more proliferous than any other. Though the simplicity of draughts (that's "checkers" for you Americans) helped it spread across Europe and the Middle East, it pales in comparison to the triple continent spanning phenomena that is Chess.

Yes, I know there are seven continents and people play board games on all of them (at least I think Antarctic researchers get some down time). But prior to the globe spanning empires, the spread of the popularity of board games was relatively culturally confined. The fact that Chess and its variants still managed to reach from Morocco to Japan is a feat unmatched by any other phenomena.

The ancestor of western chess was developed in India sometime around 500 AD and was called Chaturanga. The name means "four parts" and refers to the four divisions of an army of the ancient world, namely, infantry, cavalry,

elephants, and chariots. These were the predecessors of the pieces of pawns, knights, bishops, and rooks. The game spread east and west, being adopted in Persia under the name "Shatranj." By that name, it traveled through the Arabic world and was carried by the Moors through Africa and into Spain. There, the name was translated to "Ajedrez." The Greeks adopted this word as well, calling it "Zatrikion." In Eastern Europe, the name of the game was changed to Shah, the Persian word for "king", and was transliterated from language to language, becoming "Sah" in Romania, "Schach" in Germany, and eventually "Echecs" in France. Then the Normans took the word during the invasion of Great Britain in 1066 to become the old English root for its modern English name.

On the other side of the globe, there has been some controversy as to whether Chaturanga or the Chinese XiangQi was actually first to develop. Some theories claim XiangQi was played as a model for military tactics during the warring states period at the end of the Zhou Dynasty. That would place it nearly 700 years before Chaturanga spread from India. However, historic sources can only trace the history of XiangQi back to the 9th Century AD, making the game from India the older. XiangQi is different from the standardized western chess in a number of ways. The

name translates as "elephant game," but the symbols used can mean "representation game." The Chinese version introduces a new piece and changes the movements of others. The cannon is not found in western chess and has an interesting limitation in that it moves like a rook, but must jump a piece in order to capture a piece.

By the 13th century, the game had migrated to Japan and had been renamed Shogi or "General's Boardgame." The game was further customized with the addition of more pieces. Additionally, the pieces were no longer separated by color. In the Japanese version, the pieces were physically shaped to indicate which player controlled the piece. Once a piece was captured, the player who captured the piece could forfeit a subsequent turn to place the captured piece back on the board, facing the other direction to indicate the change in control.

So the next time you find yourself without enough work to do, try picking up chess or one of its various cousins. The game transcends borders and languages and can help you make friends the next time you're abroad. I can personally vouch for that. Until next time, here's to keeping your imagination well fed.

### Hat of the Week



#### Deer Stalker

English Origin

Originally a Hunter's cap with earflaps for warmth

Popularized by Sherlock Holmes

## Superbowl Recap

EVAN LLOYD

Thirty-five seconds left. Steelers are down by 3. Holmes just missed what could be the Steelers' last chance at winning the game. Big Ben takes the snap. He's looking for his receivers; takes a step and lets go of what is possibly the most perfect pass he has ever thrown. The ball spins over the heads of two Cardinal players, as the fans watch Holmes grab the ball with both hands almost miraculously, barely keeping his feet in bounds, to score the final and game winning touchdown of Superbowl XLIII.

For those who missed the game, it was a great one. Last year was one of the most exciting Superbowl championship games ever played in our generation. The Giants managed to destroy the perfect season of the New England Patriots, in what was a big "upset" win. This year's Superbowl was one to match the excitement of the infamous defeat of the Patriots.

Starting off in what seemed like a blow out, the first half ended with the Steelers on top. The Steelers scored a field goal in their first drive of the game and did not lose their lead through the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, to the surprise of many, the Cardinals came crawling back. First pinning the Steelers on their own half yard line, and getting two points for a safety. Following those points, quarterback Kurt Warner, hit his key receiver Larry Fitzgerald to score a touchdown, putting the Cardinals on top for the first time in the game, with only a few minutes left.

It turned out to be a much closer game than it seemed like it would be. The final minutes of the fourth quarter had every viewer on the edge of their seats.

**"This year's Superbowl  
was one to match the  
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Patriots."**

### Updates from the Editor-in-Chief

We're looking for a few ambitious first year students to take over for Evan and I starting next fall. Do you want to be the next Editor or Director-in-Chief? If so, we want to hear from you!

Are you interested in contributing to the MBA Exchange? We are always looking for people interested in sharing articles, updates on SOM activities, pictures of MBA events, etc. Do you have something to share with your classmates?

**Send us an email — [mbaXchange@gmail.com](mailto:mbaXchange@gmail.com)**

**Dave Anthony. The man with all the answers.**



## Ask Dave

DAVE ANTHONY

*I need an internship and am having trouble finding one. What can I do since I want to have one this summer?*

Hopefully you are not stuck in this situation. The earlier that you start looking for an internship, the better off you will be.

The majority of the largest firms hire early so if you are still looking now, those options might be closed.

If you are a finance major, just about every brokerage house in the area is going to hire an intern because they are cutting high salary jobs. If this is your passion, make sure you do your research first. Cold calling and data input are not exactly a fine learning experience.

You could also try looking for internships with the government. I am currently at the

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and while it is unpaid, I am learning practical skills and actually doing work that makes a difference. Don't fear the unpaid internships because they might be a wonderful learning experience. You can always get a second job for supplementary income.

As always, check the CRC's and CBIP page for other internships as well. Good luck with your internship searches!

## THE UB MBA EXCHANGE

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