addition to his academic duties, he continues to bring his culinary gifts to the Ashby Stiff Little Dinner Series at Florida State.

Matthew Walker (MAR '89) is opening a 4 Rivers Smokehouse in Midtown, Tallahassee's Miracle Plaza Shopping Center. His company, 4 Rivers Smokehouse, is expected to open in spring 2016.

Bill Peterson (MBA '74/Ph.D. '78) was appointed dean of the College of Business at the University of West Florida. He joins the university after serving as associate dean at Florida State University. Peterson is responsible for overseeing the college's undergraduate and graduate programs in business.

Peter C. Miller (RMI) was selected to serve as an associate editor for the Financial Analysts Journal Advisory Council. She will serve as an advisor to the journal's editorial board.

Four Florida State University College of Business seniors vied against more than 1,319 teams from across the globe in the fall 2014 X-Culture Competition held in Miami. The students presented their business plans in canning tomato sauce and beer making, which were selected as the winners.

Bachman Fulmer (MAR '16) was the winner of the 2014 X-Culture Competition held in Miami in October. His team, Rowdy Rowdy, presented their business plan for a beer making company. The competition was open to students from around the world, and Bachman's team was one of the top three winners.

John Crossman, operations manager at the Hilton Garden Inn Tampa Airport Westshore, was named 2015 Hotelier of the Year by The St. Petersburg Tribune. Crossman has been with the hotel for over 15 years and has helped to increase its profit by 20%. He is also the leader of the hospitality industry in the area and has been recognized for his contributions to the community.

Noel Kruger, a former Florida State University student and current employee of the college, was named 2015 Product Designer of the Year by the American Society of Interior Designers. Kruger has been working in the industry for over 10 years and has designed numerous award-winning products. He is also an entrepreneur and has started his own design firm.

Betty G. Tanner made a $5,000 gift for a wall plaque in honor of her father, who was a professor at Florida State University. The plaque will be placed in the business school's entrance lobby.

John & Shari Lusk Entrepreneurship, Strategy and Business Development Program continues to support entrepreneurs and business owners across the state of Florida. The program offers resources, mentoring, and networking opportunities to help emerging businesses grow.

Bert Combs, graduate of the 2014 Legacy Hall campaign, was recognized as a 2015 Hall of Fame honoree by Florida State University. Combs is a successful entrepreneur and philanthropist who has made significant contributions to the university and the community.

The College of Business now waives required GMAT/GRE for working professionals applying to its MBA programs. This change is expected to make the college more accessible to working professionals who wish to advance their careers.

Lewis F. Collins Jr. made a $5,000 gift to the Barry A. Diskin Endowed Fund for Excellence in Real Estate. The fund supports research and education in real estate.

Leslie M. Bense (REE '81) of South Florida, a former Florida State University student, was named 2015 Volunteer of the Year by the university's Alumni Association. Bense has been a long-time supporter of the university and has made numerous contributions to various causes.

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