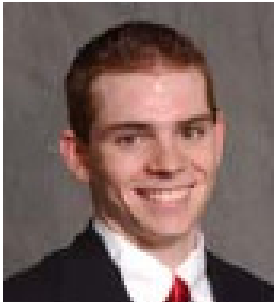
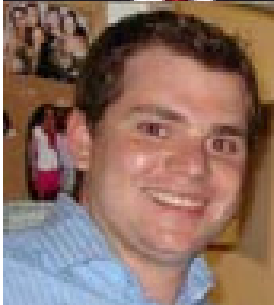
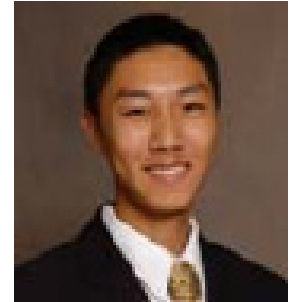


WHERE ARE THEY NOW? WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

by Stephen Dziura,
Director of Communications
National Staff



The Business Professionals of America logo tagline describes BPA members as “Today’s students. Tomorrow’s business professionals.” BPA’s recently adopted marketing core messages states that BPA educates, validates, and motivates its members. These are clear declarations of expected outcomes for members after they leave the student divisions of the organization. Recently, I contacted a couple of former Secondary Division members to find out how they were doing and what they were up to. The results are here for your encouragement.



Ari Neumann served as BPA Secondary Division National Parliamentarian, 2003-2004. Ari had also been Secondary Division President of the BPA Idaho Association. He has now graduated from Stanford University and is now studying at the University of Washington School of Law in Seattle, Washington.

Recently, Ari received the Carolyn C. Franklin Scholarship for the Study of Law. Besides being a full-time law student, Ari is an active member of several law societies including the Public Interest Law Association, Jewish Law Students Association, GreenLaw, and the Environmental Law Society for which he is a board member.

Last summer, Ari completed an internship with the Natural Resources Defense Council, a non-profit group that seeks to integrate environmental and economic policy to provide positive outcomes that benefit both the environment and our economy. Ari is passionate about working with others to find solutions to threats to the environment that are positive for business and the economy.

Ari states that it was through his involvement with BPA that he realized that personal connections are a vital key to success. He believes that, “In both college and the work world, we are frequently asked to work in groups to find solutions to tough problems and the most effective and successful people are the ones who can work well with many different types of people to achieve results as a team.”

Presently, Ari is interning locally for a political campaign in Washington state.

Kevin Tucker was also a BPA National Officer, serving as 2005-2006 Vice President for the Secondary Division, and as BPA Idaho Association President. Currently, Kevin is a sophomore, studying towards a bachelor of science in economics at the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business. He is pursuing a concentration in Marketing and a minor in Korean Studies.

Kevin is very involved, taking advantage of numerous opportunities available at Wharton including Ivy Council, Marketing Undergraduate Students Establishment, Wharton Ambassadors, Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity, Asian Pacific American Leadership Initiative, and Korean Students Association.

During summer 2007, Kevin worked as a Marketing intern for AmeriBen/IEC Group, a management consulting firm/TPA in Boise, ID. presently, he is a marketing/PR assistant for the Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania.

Kevin states that it was his involvement in the BPA competitions, especially Presentation Management—Individual, that prepared him for marketing studies. He wrote, “Having competed in Presentation Management Individual really helped me to become more comfortable presenting, especially in pressure situations such as the national competition. I am currently in the process of applying for a Global Brand Management Intern position with Nike and my experiences in Global Marketing Team gave me a good background in case analysis that I can use to talk about during any marketing interview I may have in the future.” Kevin claims that BPA membership helped him refine his leadership and team work skills, and he’s putting those to good use in numerous group projects inside and outside the classroom. □