Kennesaw State University
Coles College of Business

Doctor of Business Administration

Cohort 3 Students (2011 – 2014)
KSU DBA Program Progression

Students who have graduated are denoted by displaying their official title (DBA) as well as the title of their defended dissertation.

Students who have defended their proposal, thus becoming Scholarly Academics (formerly Academically Qualified), are denoted by displaying their dissertation proposal title.

All remaining students are in the early stages of their dissertation process and do not yet have a proposal title.
George Allen, DBA

**Doctor of Business Administration**
Kennesaw State University, Summer 2014

**Placement:**
Asbury University
Assistant Professor

**Dissertation Title:**
“Planning or Learning? A Comparison of Strategy Creation Approaches at the Level of the Individual Salesperson: Antecedents and Effects on Sales Performance”

**Dissertation Committee:**
Greg W. Marshall, PhD, Rollins College
Brian Rutherford, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Shalonda Bradford, DBA
Doctor of Business Administration
Kennesaw State University, Fall 2014

**Placement:**
Savannah State University
Assistant Professor

**Dissertation Title:**
“A Comparative Analysis of Training, Mentoring, and Coaching in the Sales Environment: Evaluation the Impact of Personal Learning on Role Ambiguity and Organizational Commitment”

**Dissertation Committee:**
Brian Rutherford, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Scott Friend, PhD, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
**Morten Brante, DBA**  
**Doctor of Business Administration**  
Kennesaw State University, Summer 2014  
**Placement:** Remained in Industry

**Dissertation Title:**  
“Sales Incentives and Sales Performance: The Moderating Effect of Cultural Dimensions”

**Dissertation Committee:**  
Joseph F. Hair Jr., PhD, Kennesaw State University  
Chad Autry, PhD, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

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**Chuck Casto, DBA**  
**Doctor of Business Administration**  
Kennesaw State University, Spring 2014  
**Placement:** Remained in Industry

**Dissertation Title:**  
“Crisis Management: A Qualitative Study of Extreme Event Leadership”

**Dissertation Committee:**  
Neal P. Mero, PhD, Kennesaw State University  
Torsten Pieper, PhD, Kennesaw State University

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**Ralph (Hank) Williams, DBA**  
**Doctor of Business Administration**  
Kennesaw State University, Summer 2015  
**Placement:** Middle Tennessee State University  
Assistant Professor

**Dissertation Title:**  

**Dissertation Committee:**  
Torsten Pieper, PhD, Kennesaw State University  
Joseph Astrachan, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Christine Sutton, DBA

**Doctor of Business Administration**
Kennesaw State University, Fall 2014

**Placement:**
TBD

**Dissertation Title:**
“Are all Shares Equal? A Measure of Secondary Agency Conflict and an Examination of its Influence on Investor Reactions to Acquisition Announcements”

**Dissertation Committee:**
Raj Veliyath, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Torsten Pieper, PhD, Kennesaw State University

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John (Reid) Cummings, DBA

**Doctor of Business Administration**
Kennesaw State University, Spring 2014

**Placement:**
University of South Alabama
Assistant Professor

**Dissertation Title:**
“Essays on Motivating Investment”

**Dissertation Committee:**
Gabriel Ramirez, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Divesh Sharma, PhD, Kennesaw State University

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Willie (Frank) Thompson, DBA

**Doctor of Business Administration**
Kennesaw State University, Spring 2015

**Placement:**
TBD

**Dissertation Title:**
“Supply Chain Managers and Risk Behavior: Testing the Sitkin and Pablo Model”

**Dissertation Committee:**
Brian Rutherford, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Chad Autry, PhD, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

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Robert Forrester, DBA

**Doctor of Business Administration**
Kennesaw State University, Summer 2014

**Placement:**
Midwestern State University
Professor

**Dissertation Title:**
“Behavioral Finance: Factors Influencing Angel Investor Decisions”

**Dissertation Committee:**
Lucy Ackert, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Rongbing Huang, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Lisa Ludlum

Doctor of Business Administration
Kennesaw State University, Fall 2015

Placement:
TBD

Dissertation Proposal Title:
“The Impact of Structuring Both Executive and Audit Committee Equity Incentives on Financial Reporting and Audit Effort”

Dissertation Committee:
Divesh Sharma, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Zhongxia Ye, PhD, Kennesaw State University

Scott Manley, DBA

Doctor of Business Administration
Kennesaw State University, Summer 2015

Placement:
Midwestern State University Professor

Dissertation Title:
“The Relationships Between Entrepreneurs’ Gender, Attitudes Toward Seeking Assistance From Entrepreneurship Centers, Utilization of Centers, and Entrepreneurial Success”

Dissertation Committee:
Kimberly A. Eddleston, PhD, Northeastern University
Neal P. Mero, PhD, Kennesaw State University

Lee Macenzak, DBA

Doctor of Business Administration
Kennesaw State University, Spring 2014

Placement:
TBD

Dissertation Title:
“Stuck in the Middle: The Impact of Implementing Corporate Decisions on Middle Managers’ Justice Perceptions”

Dissertation Committee:
Amy B. Henley, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Stacy M. Campbell, PhD, Kennesaw State University

Tonya Smalls, DBA

Doctor of Business Administration
Kennesaw State University, Summer 2015

Placement:
Clemson University Clinical Assistant Professor

Dissertation Title:
“The Influence of Leadership Style and Personal Costs on Fraud Whistleblowing Intent”

Dissertation Committee:
Dana Hermanson, PhD, Kennesaw State University
Jeffrey Cohen, PhD, Boston College