

Transcript from the February 6, 2008 UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School General Management Chat

Amrinder_KFBS09: Welcome to the general management chat sponsored by the admissions team at Kenan-Flagler Business School. I am Amrinder Nandha, a first year student and member of the Admissions Advisory Board. Joining us today are both second and first year students Ted Wentz, David Stutznegger, Ami Rich, Lily Nguyen and Enrique Bolanos. Thank you for joining us today, and please feel free to ask us any questions you may have.

Haren: hi amrinder

Willie G.: Hi Amrinder. I have a question for the 1st year students

Michelle V.: thank you for hosting

Aeisha W.: Thank you all for your time!

Erin M.: Hi Amrinder

Amrinder_KFBS09: I'll let everyone from KFBS to introduce themselves.

KFBS T.: Hi my name is Ted. I am a 2nd year student and I am the President of the General Management Club. Welcome!

KFBS08 D.: Hi, this is David Stutznegger of the Class of 08, one of the VP's of the General Management Club! Happy to be here and answer any questions

Lily N.: Hi everyone, I am a CHE undergrad and worked in CPG manufacturing as well as pharmaceutical R&D prior to school. I am a 1st year liaison for the GM club and am focusing on industry finance career trek.

Enrique_kfbs09: Hi everyone. I am a first year MBA here at KFBS. I am also a first year liaison to the General Management Club. Thanks everyone for joining us today. I will do my best to answer any questions you may have.

Andrew D.: how are you, amrinder?

Martin: Hi Amrinder: Who do you recommend the summer workshops for?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi Martin: I'll recommend the Analytical workshop to anyone that are interested in sharpening their skills in certain subjects.

Shasidhar K.: Hi Ted, how does UNC how is the General Mgmt compared to other specializations within UNC MBA program?

KFBS T.: Shasidhar - General Management is really what you make it to be. Some folks choose to specialize but still consider themselves GM. There really is a lot of flexibility

Jenna: 1st year students, have you noticed any slowdown in on-campus interviews for internships and/or full time jobs?

Lily N.: Hi Jenna, the CMC has continued to bring in a lot of companies. I would say that there is a slight decrease in the number of offers being made, but there are still a lot of summer opportunities for internships.

Julie W.: Jenna, I lost connection and was not sure this response came through. Even though I work in Admissions, hopefully I can speak for the first years. Having discussed the recruiting issue with our Career Management Center this week, the CMC is reporting a slight decrease in recruiting on campus but the office is making other outreach efforts to compensate.

Jenna: thanks, Julie!

Willie G.: Can each of you describe how the transition has been for you going from the working world back to get your MBA?

Enrique_kfbs09: Hi Willie G. The transition for me was a little difficult. I had to get back into "student mode." I had been out of school for over 7 years...so it was a bit of a transition in that respect.

Willie G. Enrique, what was the part that was the most challenging for you in the transition?

Enrique_kfbs09: Willie, I think it was a combination of factors. First, I stopped receiving income. So that meant lifestyle adjustments. The second transition was learning how to study again. I took advantage of the Analytic Skills Workshop, which is offered in the summer. I recommend it because 1st year can be pretty intense.

Willie G.: Ok, good to know. What industry did you come from before you came back to school Enrique?

Enrique_kfbs09: Willie - I lived in Nicaragua and I worked as a Brand Manager at a brewery.

Craig C.: Can those KFBS students please speak to why they chose to pursue the GM track at KF versus other schools of which they had interest?

Lily N.: When I joined KFBS, I wasn't really sure what was included in a GM career, but I have found that the rotational programs are a very good way to learn about a company and get a variety of experience. I strongly recommend a GM career to help develop key management skills.

Haren: how 'intense' is it?

KFBS08 D.: Haren: Depends on your definition of "intense" :) The first couple Mods (quarters) will require a lot of work and dedication. However, the students are fantastic and you will have a great support network.

Haren: thanks

Maria I.: Hi David!.. were you taking the full time program? did you quit your job??

KFBS08 D.: Maria: I did quit a job of 4 years with Citigroup. It was very difficult to leave, but once I dove into the full time program I knew I made the right choice. I just accepted an offer with Intel in Folsom CA and I am so excited! It is exactly the type of job I was looking for.

Maria I.: Thank you David!! hope you have success in your new job

tao z.: Hi David, this is Tao. Is the GM club most for those who have interests in consulting?

KFBS T.: Hi Tao, some folks in our club are interested in consulting; however, I think the consulting club probably better serves those folks. Our members tend to focus on cross functional careers working for companies.

tao z.: Thanks, KFBS T

Indrajeet G.: Greetings to everyone from the Admissions Committee! How long did each of you work before going back to school to pursue business education. What excites you the most about General Mgmt?

Erin M.: I'm interested in the ENT concentration, but I would like to know how similar or different it is to GM.

KFBS T.: Hi Erin. I am president of the GM club but am a ENT concentrator. I think following this track is great because ENT folks will have to be good general managers. Given that GM is really what you want it to be (lots of flexibility) you can make the two subjects work together however you wish.

Erin M.: Thanks KFBS T. Is it possible to follow both paths at once? For example, have the GM concentration and take ENT classes.

KFBS T.: Erin - You bet!!

Benjamin A.: Hi David - Kenan-Flagler is well known for the general management education it provides. What are some examples from your experience as a student that exemplify the strengths of the general management education?

KFBS08 D.: Ben: You are right, the General Management education is awesome. From the faculty to the students you will find many dedicated to general management studies. The GM club is fantastic - we have internship and alumni panel events, case competitions, interview-prep workshops, career treks, and many other programs. After your core classes, you will be able to select from an incredible array of classes to become well-rounded and improve your "opportunities." The program has blown away my expectations

Gangadhar: Hello Amrinder! I believe that the Integrative Exercise is a core component of helping students develop the general mgmt mindset...What other enablers does one have at KFBS?

Nike: Hi David. What differentiates KFBS' GM program from other schools?

KFBS_Ami08: Nike, Kenan-Flagler's general management program is particularly distinct because of its team-oriented focus. Also, they encourage students to take a wide array of classes, even those outside of our natural comfort zone. The grading system here makes exploring our weaknesses a very safe bet. That definitely differentiates us from other programs.

Nike: Thanks David. That is what I am looking for. Team work can make or break your efforts

Andrew D.: Do any of you specialize in international business? If so, could you please describe your classes and experiences?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi Andrew: You can take various international business classes at KFBS. This Module I'm taking Global Marketing and its my favorite class so far. Almost all the classes has an international business aspect to it.

Andrew D.: Thank you, Amrinder.

Ryan C.: David & Ted - Have either of you participated or plan to participate in a STAR project? If so, what did you think of the experience?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi Ryan: I'm participating in the STAR practicum, it's a lot of work but I'm getting hands on experience in consulting a company in NC. I'm also getting access to all the top people at the company. It's well worth it!

Ryan C.: Thanks Amrinder - Do you think its possible to take ENT and Management classes while also working on a STAR project?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Ryan C.: Besides STAR, I'm also doing another practicum and 4 other classes this module, so it's certainly possible!

Ryan C.: Thanks Amrinder, that sounds great

CPT J.: (question on commute time from Fayetteville deleted during loss of power)

Julie W.: Capt. J, I keep losing connection so I am resending this in case it did not come through. Having lived not too far from Fayetteville and now in Chapel Hill, I am not sure you would want to do that commute! We do have people commute from Raleigh.

CPT J.: Thanks Julie, I'm betting it's over 1 hr commute up there. Do you hold classes 4 or 5 days a week?

KANE_KFBS2008: Capt J, Usually, students have classes 4 days a week. First year, there are classes 5 days a week during the first 2 mods.

CPT J.: What's the class time range in the mods; 0730-1830? 7 am to 6 pm?

Enrique_kfbs09: CPT J. we have 5 classes the first mods (quarters). Classes meet 1 hour and 20 minutes per day. Some classes are two days a week, some are 3 days a week. Schedules vary.

CPT J.: Roger that, Enrique. Thanks for the info. What are the earliest/latest on the schedules?

Enrique_kfbs09: CPT J. The earliest class is from 8:00 to 9:20am. The latest is from 3:30 to 4:50pm.

Enrique_kfbs09: CPT J. when you have electives later on in the year, and during your second year, you can have classes from 5:00 to 8:00pm

CPT J.: Thanks Enrique. I'm hyper-operations minded about that sort of thing.

CPT J.: tell me about the Integrative Exercise--death by PowerPoint or life-altering experience?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi CPT J: We have various opportunities such as leadership day, management simulation and the MBA program is based on general management perspective.

Gangadhar: Thanks Amrinder

Lily N.: Hi Gangahar, you can email someone in the MBA program office through mba_info@unc.edu to ask them for more information.

tao z.: If I have interests in the GM career in a financial banking, what can I do at KFBS to prepare?

Bhushan: Hi KFBS08 D. I intend to work in field of Operations Management but want to acquire a consulting experience in this field before taking on a specialized Operations role in a company, post MBA. So does an MBA degree with double concentration in Operations and Consulting makes a better choice or should I consider a general management focus while getting my MBA?

KFBS08 D. Bhushan: I have recruited Amy to help answer this question because she has a consulting background. However, I can also add my 2 cents. I am actually concentrating in both Finance and Marketing because I enjoy both subjects and plan to work in strategy roles in the future. Nothing limits you from concentrating in more than one concentration.

Bhushan: Thanks Dave S.

Willie G.: Enrique, do you mind if I ask what other schools you were looking at and why you chose Kenan Flagler?

Enrique_kfbs09: Willie - I only applied to Michigan and UNC. The reason I didn't apply to other schools was time. I was so busy at work I couldn't get the apps done. I interviewed and visited both schools. I chose UNC because of my experiences when I visited - the atmosphere here was just incredible. I felt so at home and comfortable with the people that it was a no brainer. I didn't get that from Michigan. It came down to culture.

Willie G.: Very interesting, I appreciate the feedback.

Willie G.: Enrique, you mind if I ask for your e-mail address, I have to go to a meeting but I have some more questions?

Enrique_kfbs09: Willie - you can ask to be put in contact with me by emailing the following address: mba_info@unc.edu I will be happy to answer any question you may have

Willie G.: Ok thank you.

Piers C.: Hi, this is Piers. What is your sense of the positions/jobs that GM graduates pursue upon completion of their MBA? How well does it set them up versus, say a finance focus?

KFBS T.: Piers, Many folks take positions in rotational programs after graduation. There are lots of these programs which are finance focused. Many students who are interested in this type of position will study both general management and finance.

Haren: amrinder from the previous chats it appears to me that while there is focus on china, UNC focus on India (in terms of cases, industry contacts) appears less, would you agree?

Amrinder_KFBS09: I don't understand what you mean by focus on China. Most of the classes have an international business perspective to it from various regions.

Chocolate: KFBS_Ami08, you said "The grading system here makes exploring our weaknesses a very safe bet. That definitely differentiates us from other programs." Can you expand on the grading system? I'm not familiar with it

KFBS_Ami08: Chocolate, The grading system here is High Pass/Pass/Low Pass, and we do not calculate GPAs.

Shasidhar K.: What is the percentage of recruiting companies hiring (internships/full time) students who are not US citizens or green card holders?

Enrique_kfbs09: Shasidhar - I don't have the stats on hand, but you can check the website. I'm sure you'll find the information there.

Benjamin A.: Amrinder - when you say that the MBA program is based on a general management perspective, can you give an example of how this is exemplified in some of your courses?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Benjamin: For example the core courses are from various different business perspectives and everyone has to take it no matter what are their background.

Benjamin A.: Amrinder - thanks for your response. Do you find that you are challenged to think like a general manager in all of the Core classes? For example, in your Core operations class, did you find that you were also challenged to incorporate what you had learned in Finance and Marketing as well?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Benjamin: Yes! The professors for the core classes meet each week to coordinate the program. For example, what I learned from finance was applied in accounting class as well.

Benjamin A.: Amrinder - thanks. Great to hear that the professors in the core work together as you described.

Stephen J.: How do companies feel when they ask for your business school GPA but you do not truly have one? Do you find that to be a problem when looking for internships / jobs post MBA?

KFBS08 D.: Stephen: I will admit, the HP/P/LP threw me off quite a bit when I arrived. I also was concerned about how companies would perceive our grading policy. However, I quickly discovered that recruiters highly respect students from KFBS (Wall street ranks it 6th in the nation, ranked by recruiters) and that grades were never an issue that came up. Some recruiters may dig deeper into grades (consulting, investment banking) but generally, those recruiting from UNC understand and accept our grading policy. We are not the only ones who use it. Stanford is on a Pass Fail system (no high pass even) and they recruit well!

Stephen J.: Thanks David

SHAVI: hi

Jen: KFBS T. - is the compensation for a rotational job less than other types?

KFBS T.: Jen- I think that depends on what you compare the jobs too. I-Banking and consulting probably pay more on average than rotational programs. But brand management or corporate finance jobs pay the same as rotational programs.

Jen: Thanks

Aeisha W.: I know that it is recommended for most programs that first years NOT work. Did any of you have part-time jobs, and how did it affect your classwork/sense of balance?

SHAVI: Do you wish to say that working in first year compromises on studies

Aeisha W. Shavi, I'm not sure if you were addressing my question, but from what I'm noticing, most programs don't recommend first year students work and go to school. Is this possible at KFBS, and if so, how did it affect school/home balance?

KFBS_Ami08: Aeisha, I did it in my first year (finishing a consulting engagement), and it meant sacrificing time that should have been spent focusing on core curriculum.

Aeisha W.: Thank you Ami

Benjamin L.: Hi everyone - Is there any way to get a transcript of this or other KFBS chats? I would love to read through, but am unable to while at work.

KANE_KFBS2008: Hi, Benjamin L, Transcript of today's chat will be posted within 2 weeks. <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/...>

Shasidhar K.: <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/...>

Benjamin L.: Thank you Kane

KANE_KFBS2008: Benjamin L. You are welcome.

Andrew D.: Have any of you participated in the UNC International Exchange program? If so, where did you study? Was the experience useful?

Mills R.: Amrinder, how much focus do the international business classes give to understanding cultural differences of people from different countries?

Lily N. Hi Mills R, I am in a global marketing class and we specifically deal with how to effectively work in a global environment and how culture plays a big impact on doing business outside of the US.

Erin M.: KFBS T. how does KFBS attract recruits for the GM concentrator? From what I've seen banking, marketing and other concentrations have a built-in system in terms of companies looking to recruit. How would GM students, particularly those looking to become entrepreneurs, market themselves. Where would they go?

KFBS T.: Erin, I think you will find that the recruiting process for marketing, corporate finance, and GM have VERY similar recruiting processes via the Career Management Center. ENT is kind of another story. If you want to be an ENT then the job hunt process is a bit less defined by the nature of those types of companies. Does that help?

SHAVI: Then KFBS is a good bet.

Erin M.: KFBS T. yes that helps. Actually, as an ENT I have a job hunt plan. But I am unfamiliar with the GM recruiting process. I will check out the CMC. Since I have been primarily focused on ENT I

did not research it as much because of my background and my area of interest. I'm a journalist. How could I contact you if I have more questions?

tao z.: KFBS T, may i know any banks offering rotational program at KFBS?

Lily N.: Hi Tao z. That would be BOA, BB&T, Citibank

tao z.: Hi, Lily, thanks, seems that you are focused on financial industry...

Lily N.: Hi tao z. I am really focusing on a few financial services and pharma companies

tao z.: Thanks, Lily

tao z.: KFBS T, additional question, do those company open to international students?

Lily N.: Hi Taoz. Some of these companies are open to international students

tao z.: Lily, if I have interests in such program, how to prepare at KFBS considering I am also in this industry for seven years and already gaining five distinct functional experience in banking industry...

Lily N.: Hi Taoz. I am sure that you will have an easier time interviewing with your background.

tao z.: Lily, thanks, hope so...

Sarah: Are those in the GM Concentration restricted from any of the courses offered to students taking other concentrations?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Sarah: We do not have any restrictions taking any courses.

Sarah: Thanks, Amrinder

Stephen J.: Were any of you in a situation choosing between KFBS and another quality school that offered you a scholarship? Do you regret turning down the money for KFBS?

KFBS_Ami08: Stephen J. I turned down a scholarship, and I've never regretted it. When you find your fit, you find it.

Stephen J.: Fair enough Ami, thanks

KFBS_Ami08: Stephen, By the way, I'm not the only one in the room who did so. There are a few of us, and they all echo that sentiment.

Stephen J.: good to know, UNC is my top choice but Vanderbilt offered me a hefty scholarship, having a tough time deciding what to do

Andrew D.: Another question.....In addition to classes, how do you find the UNC campus life?

KFBS T.: Andrew. Life here is great. The weather is pretty mild, cost of living is low, and there are lots of great places to eat/hang out. We usually get tickets to the games too. I am going to the Duke vs. UNC game tonight!

Bhushan: Hi, Dave. I haven't received answer to my first question from Amy. Anyway. I will ask my second question. Is GMAT the only important thing while looking for internships at school. How does the GMAT score affect the final job offer?

KFBS08 D. Bhushan: The GMAT is very important during admissions, and decreases in importance thereafter. In fact, unless you are going into consulting or investment banking, recruiters may not ask about it again. I interned with Intel and accepted an offer as well and they never asked me what my GMAT score is. So, if you are already admitted, but you are still concerned about your GMAT score, it may only affect you if you are going into the aforementioned fields

Haren: how is the diversity in the class (not geographically), in terms of previous experiences of fellow students, can you give some examples of students from some diverse careers?

KANE_KFBS2008: Haren, People come from Peace Corps, teaching careers, owners of family businesses, scientists, entrepreneurs, and so on.

Haren: thanks kane

Enrique_kfbs09: Hi Haren. You can find all that information on the class profile in our website. The class is pretty diverse and you'll find all sorts of backgrounds.

Haren: the class profile gives broad categorizations, i was hoping to find some examples

Enrique_kfbs09: Haren - we have people from different backgrounds. Some came from teaching, others from the army, others from non profit in different countries. We also have consultants, entrepreneurs, people from the real estate industry, from marketing backgrounds... The class is very diverse and the admissions committee does a great job in ensuring that.

Haren: thanks enrique

Chris F.: What qualities do GM recruiters, particularly the ones hiring folks for rotational programs, seek out? A candidate who already has cross functional work experience prior to B-school or someone who has stuck to one role (finance, operations, marketing etc) for the years they have worked since undergrad? Thanks (Chris, ATL GA)

Mills R.: Lily, for students interested in working internationally, are language classes offered within KFBS, or is it customary to take/audit an undergraduate language course?

Lily N.: Hi Mills R. We have three different language classes that you can take through KFBS, Mandarin, Portuguese, and Spanish. There are other language classes that you can take through the main UNC campus.

Mills R.: Nice. Thanks Lily!

SHAVI: Does KFBS provide accomodations in hostels or one has to look on own resources outside.

KFBS_Ami08: Shavi, There is on-campus student housing, and there are apartments off-campus as well.

SHAVI: Thanx ami

KFBS_Ami08: Shavi, The on-campus housing is surprisingly modern and nice. Off-campus apartments are also nicely affordable (depending on where you move from).

SHAVI: what about summer internships

Ryan C.: In general do most who come on-campus to recruit come from the SE or is there a fair representation of companies from the NE, Midwest, etc?

Stephen J. In the transition back to school, how did you / are you managing financially without a part-time job? Do KFBS students usually room together? Any tips on changing your lifestyle back to a college student again?

Enrique_kfbs09: Stephen - The transition is difficult. I knew I was coming back to school so I tried to save as much as I could before coming back. I have a wife and daughter (and a son due in April!), so my experience is a little different. However, many students do room together in b-school. Having said that, all accepted students are eligible to apply for loans.

Stephen J.: Congrats Enrique

Enrique_kfbs09: Thanks Stephen

Maria I.: yes... congratulations for your new baby Enrique

Enrique_kfbs09: Thank you Maria

tao z.: Enrique, congratulations for your baby

Enrique_kfbs09: Thanks Tao Z!

Jenna: what is the number of companies that come on campus to recruit for internships and full-time positions and what is the average number of offers per student, if you have such stats

Andrew D: I am assuming none of you have participated in the international exchange program. Nonetheless, I will ask this question once again....Have any of you participated in the program? Where did you go? And did you find the experience useful?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi Andrew: Ami has been to exchange program in China but she is having difficulty sending you a response. Please email her directly at mba_info@unc.edu

Cassidy: did any of you head to Chapel Hill with a significant other (who was not going to grad school)? if so how did s/he cope with life in Chapel Hill (job prospects/culturally/socially etc).

KFBS T.: Hi Cassidy - I came here with my girlfriend (now fiancée). She found a job before we even got here because of the wealth of job in Research Triangle Park. We like life here a lot and has not had any problems adjusting to life here. There is also a partners clubs that butts on events for partners that was very helpful during my 1st year.

Cassidy: that's great to hear, thanks 'KFBS T.'

Maria I.: I am writing you from Ecuador. I have very good references about UNC, but this is really expensive for me to cover the costs of the program and living costs. Is it possible to get financial aid or better.. scholarships??

Enrique_kfbs09: Maria - it is possible to get financial aid. You can get more information from the website.

Gangadhar: Hi Lily, was wondering as to how independent study initiatives are evaluated?

Lily N.: Hi Gangahar, First year will be very busy with core classes, so there will not be that much time for independent studies. However, there are tons of opportunities to take on additional projects and practicums. I think if you want to work independently with a professor, you can also do so your second year.

Gangadhar: Thanks Lily..what is the most interesting Independent study topic that you have come across?

Andrew D.: How difficult is the math in the classes?

Andrew D.: What kind of math do you need to know?

KFBS_Ami08: Andrew, Calculus is helpful for microecon.

Andrew D.: Thank you and Thank you.

Vij: Hi everyone

Erin M.: Who selects groups for classes and how diverse are they?

Jenna: how would you compare UNC's GM curriculum versus Duke's? did any of you make a decision to attend UNC instead of Duke and how did you choose UNC?

CPT J.: Jenna, as far as I can see Duke has a slightly nicer facility for about double the cost of UNC...

Jenna: CPT J, I am not a NC resident, so the cost of attendance is pretty much the same for both schools

KANE_KFBS2008: Jenna, this is Julie Wiley in Admissions using Kane's computer. In speaking with current students who chose Kenan-Flagler over Duke, they have pointed to the collaborative and collegial atmosphere they found here on campus. If you have not had a chance to visit both schools, you should take the opportunity and see which school feels like the best fit for you. I know you have been asking some recruitment related questions. What is your area of interest/goal for post-MBA?

Jenna: Julie, I am interested in GM post-graduation

Maria I.: can you please tell us how difficult is the level on microeconomy, economy or mathematics?? Since I have been away from the University for 6 years aprox.. I am afraid about getting involved again

Enrique_kfbs09: Maria - this is a fairly quant-heavy program. You will need to know calculus. I recommend ASW for every student. It is a great way to re-learn topics that you

may not have seen in a while, and it is a way to transition into school. Plus, you get to know some classmates before the school year even begins

Maria I.: thanks Enrique.. what is that ASW program??

Enrique_kfbs09 Maria - the ASW program is Analytic Skills Workshop. It is a summer program for incoming students. You take Statistical Analysis, Economics, Finance and Accounting. It is a great way to prepare for the MBA.

Maria I.: ah ok, thanks. Is it optional?? I mean, I suppose the costs are not included

Enrique_kfbs09 Maria - it is optional. I can't remember what the tuition is for ASW. There are two sessions: ASW I and ASW II. Look it up in the website.

Maria I.: thank you Enrique

Enrique_kfbs09: You are welcome Maria.

Maria I.: I have a quantitative background, but I have been away from studies for a long time

Enrique_kfbs09: Maria - there are other benefits to ASW. You meet a lot of people... it's a nice way to ease into the program...

Andrew D. When does the ASW program begin?

Lily N.: Hi Andrew D, the ASW program has two phases, you can take ASWI starting in early June and you can also take ASWII starting early July. I would recommend taking at least one.

SHAVI: At least one for everyone irrespective of quantitative score in GMAT.

SHAVI: My AWA question still not answered

SHAVI: Is at least one AWA workshop essential

Enrique_kfbs09: Shavi - I think you mean ASW (Analytic Skills Workshop). It is not essential, but it is highly recommended for incoming students who do not have a quantitative background.

Hung-Hsin H.: How will UNC's program prepare students who plan to get involved in the field of manufacturing after graduation?

Lily N.: Hi Hung-Hsin, I come from a manufacturing background, you can concentrate in global supply chain management and focus on manufacturing firms.

Stephen J.: For a non-NC resident, how long do you have to live in NC to be able to apply for NC resident tuition levels?

KFBS_Ami08: Stephen, You can apply for residency after one year in the state, but that doesn't mean you'll get it. You must demonstrate an intent to remain in NC after graduation.

Stephen J.: Ami, how are you able to do that?

SHAVI: So NC residency is also on cards but what about job prospects

KFBS_Ami08: Stephen, There is no definitive answer. In general, students who get a driver's license, register to vote, purchase property, and accept internships in the state of NC have greater success than those that don't.

Stephen J.: Thanks Ami. But I take it even doing those things does not guarantee success?

CPT J.: Just keep your NC driver's license, it's worth about \$20k in your case.

KFBS_Ami08: Stephen, that's correct.

Stephen J.: Thats quite scary, an extra 20 grand even though you are intending to stay in NC haha.

Vij: Do I need to fix up an appointment to visit the campus

KANE_KFBS2008 Vij, you can visit at any time, but you may want to coordinate through the Admissions Visit portion of the website about attending a class or lunch with students. You would need to coordinate that ahead of time.

Vij: I will be visiting Duke on 14th feb .I want to see the campus

KANE_KFBS2008: vij, contact Monica Richard at monica_richard@unc.edu about scheduling a lunch or class during your visit.

JDM: With the subprime crisis, do we have many from the financial industry applying this year to take advantage of completing an MBA during a downturn? If yes, how is it impacting the class profile and the admits ratio?

KFBS08 D.: JDM: I frequently speak with the director of the CMC and I do know we have seen an influx of applicants from the financial field (due to the sub prime market). However, I do not have specific comparable numbers but you can attend the career services chat session on Feb 18th and ask them directly!

Haren: Julie, are students who are not admitted not informed? Or do you send out a mail to that effect?

KANE_KFBS2008: Haren, yes, we send out all decisions simultaneously for each decision deadline. Did you apply and not receive your decision yet? If you have any questions about this, please contact Sharon Moore, our Records Room Manager, directly at sharon_moore@unc.edu.

Haren: Thanks Julie, will do.

Cassidy: any advice for someone on the waiting list? i don't want to inundate AdComm with additional materials but I also really want to transition from the wait list to the accepted list!

tao z.: Hi, Julie, the same question as Cassidy's...

Enrique_kfbs09: Cassidy - inundate as much as you can!!! Show your interest and let the program know how much you want to come here and what you are doing to prepare

Cassidy: Thanks Enrique...will do!

Enrique_kfbs09: Good luck.

Mills R.: By the stats, or just by word of mouth, how prevalent are scholarships at UNCKF? Do they award them at all?

Lily N.: Hi Mills R. KFBS usually gives out 25% scholarships, these are not all full scholarships.

Hung-Hsin H.: Hi Lily, what kind of supporting resources I can leverage to improve my managerial skills in the manufacturing field in UNC?

Roberto G.: I am extremely interested in UNC's program, but am unable to visit due to lack of vacation days and distance. Is there anything more I can do to emphasize and show my interest in the program now that my application has been submitted?

KANE_KFBS2008: Roberto, just indicate your interest during your interview.

Jen: Julie - can you suggest someone to refer my residency questions to? I have lived in NC for 4 years...but will need to sell my house before starting the program...if i sell in march and go live out of state before the program starts, will that effect my residency status?

Mills R.: Jen, I'm an NC resident, and I was told that as long as you have lived in NC for a period of 1 year at any point in your life, you should be eligible. But I would definitely find out with certainty.

KANE_KFBS2008: Mills R., the residency information is on our website. The one year pertains specifically in the twelve month period before the MBA program starts. Also, there are other requirements that go along with that.

KFBS_Ami08: Mills, You're going to want to check that yourself. The requirement states the 12 months prior to the program, not "any 12 months in your life". I don't want you to find yourself disappointed.

KFBS08 D.: Any open questions?

JDM: Is there a wide disparity between the communication skills of native American students and those coming from Asian countries? How do the recruiting companies view this & does that combined by the lack of having citizenship/green card affect the prospects of such overseas students?

Amrinder_KFBS09: JDM: Everyone at KFBS is required to meet a certain level of language skills through their TOEFL.

JDM: Amrinder - I completely understand that. However, there is going to be a difference nonetheless. Does this steer the Asian students towards certain kinds of jobs and away from others? Also, how does the citizenship issue impact them?

Jenna: Julie, do you have the following stats? the number of companies that come on campus to recruit for internships and full-time positions and the average number of offers per student

KANE_KFBS2008: Jenna, I know someone suggested this already, but participate in our upcoming chat on the Career Search. CMC has indicated that certain industries are surging. I don't think, as a General Management non-concentrator, that you would be adversely affected in current recruiting trends.

KANE_KFBS2008: Jenna, this is Julie again through Kane's computer. Please email me directly via mba_info@unc.edu and I will try to get that information for you.

Jenna: Thank you Julie, and I'm sorry if I missed someone's suggestion about contacting CMC directly (got disconnected for a while).

Benjamin A.: Ted - As the leader of the general management club, can you describe some of the activities that the club organizes?

KFBS T.: Hi Benjamin! We organize many events throughout the year including trips to visit companies, speaker series, interview preparations workshops, networking events hosted by companies, and case competitions. We try to involve companies in as many events as possible. Hope this helps!

Benjamin A.: Ted - thanks!

Bhushan: Hey Dave, Can I have your email id where I can contact you with some more questions ?

KFBS_Ami08: If anybody wants to get in contact with participants from today's chat, please e-mail mba_info@unc.edu. We will facilitate the connection offline.

KFBS08 D. Bhushan: you can email mba_info@unc.edu and you will receive a response with my email! I will be happy to answer any more questions you may have.

Bhushan thanks Dave.

KFBS08 D.: Bhushan: No problem, thanks for coming to the chat

Andrew D.: thank you

Hung-Hsin H.: Hi Lily, I've scheduled a phone interview on Feb. 12, but also plan to visit the campus in early March. What's your suggestion ?

Lily N.: Hi Hung-Hsin, I think that a phone interview earlier than your visit is okay. I would definitely recommend a visit because that will give you and idea of the culture of the school.

Amrinder_KFBS09 Hi everyone, we have 15 minutes left for the chat session.

Stephen J.: Thanks for your time KFBS current students, have a good day

Enrique_kfbs09: Thanks Stephen J. Good luck.

Hung-Hsin H.: Hi Dave, I've scheduled a phone interview on Feb. 12, but also plan to visit the campus in early March. I need some suggestion for the next action I should take.

Hung-Hsin H.: Hi Lily, but a decision could be made before my visit..

Lily N.: Hi Hung-Hsin, If you are deadline 3 the decision date is March 17.

Hung-Hsin H. Hi Lily, but my application is considered the 2nd round

Hung-Hsin H.: So a decision might be made in weeks after a phone interview...

Lily N.: Hi Hung-Hsin, if your application was due Jan 4 then the decision is due back to you on March 17. Let me know if this answers your question.

Lily N.: Hi Hung-Hsin, even if you visit after a decision, then hopefully the visit will give you additional reason to join KFBS :)

Hung-Hsin H.: Hi Lily, I think that's the only option I have for now.

Hung-Hsin H.: Hi Lily, thanks for the answer and I hope we can meet in the campus in March.

JDM: What would be the best advice you would give to prospects that they can do prior to joining the program so that they can make the most out of the short MBA program?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi JDM: Consulting firms that recruit at KFBS usually will look at the student's language skills. For certain industries like finance, it's less important, from my experience.

KFBS_Ami08: JDM, You're going to get a different answer from each of us on that question. For me, I wish I had more math before coming in. Others probably wish they had more work experience. Still other wish they had come sooner.

Pradeep: Hi Amrinder: The management consulting concentration pretty much defines what i want to take away from my MBA but how do you suppose a student can tailor a combo of more than one concentration? - is there a bid process to get courses?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Pradeep: Most of the time, you are able to get the courses you want. Yes, there is a bidding system involved but mostly its used to pick your intended session (i.e. morning vs. afternoon)

Haren: If each one of you can reply: What is one thing you wish you knew about UNC, that you know now, before you decided to go there?

KFBS08 D. Haren: How AWESOME the experience would be, then I would not have struggled with the decision so much!

Haren: haha KFBS, can you explain: awesome better

KFBS T. Haren, wished I knew a bit more about basic finance

Haren: thanks T, any suggestions on books to catch up on finance?

KFBS T.: Haren, I suppose any basic undergrad finance book would work but I can't say that one specific book comes to mind.

Aeisha W.: How/when did you let your employer know of your intention to enroll?

KFBS_Ami08: Aeisha, I let my employer know during the application process. As soon as I was accepted, they knew I'd be leaving.

Aeisha W. Ami - I believe we have/had the same employer, may I email you offline with some specific questions?

KFBS_Ami08: Aeisha, Absolutely. Good to see you again. Hope you're well. You can catch me at mba_info@unc.edu. I'd love to hear from you.

Enrique_kfbs09: Aeisha - I let my employer know as soon as I decided to apply. After all, I needed their recommendations, and they needed time to replace me.

Maria I.: thank you again enrique.. and bye bye

Maria I.: bye to everyone

Enrique_kfbs09: Good Luck Maria.

JDM: Is the Engineering/software services profile the most common among the Indian applicants? Does this drive this applicant sub-pool to have higher GMATs/GPAs to get admits? Any specific successful examples of what they have done to distinguish themselves from others with similar background?

KANE_KFBS2008: JDM, this is Julie Wiley form Admissions. Please direct your specific Admissions question to mba_info@unc.edu.

Ravi: I'm interested in the sustainable enterprise enrichment concentration but not yet sure if I will take it with the general management or entrepreneurship. Is anyone of you doing a general management with the sustainable enterprise enrichment concentration?

Enrique_kfbs09: Ravi - General Management is not a concentration. It's actually a career path.

Ravi: Thanks Enrique, does this mean I can be on general management path and take advantage of courses offered in sustainable enterprise and also from other concentrations?

KFBS T.: Ravi - You bet!

Ravi: Perfect, thanks a lot.

Enrique_kfbs09: Ravi - yes you can. I am concentrating in finance, but I'm a liaison to the General Management Club.

tao z.: For the GM club, which kind of companys the member will visit or invite for on-campus speaking?

Lily N.: Hi Tao Z. We have had multiple companies come on campus for the GM club, some of them are: GE, BOA, and Scott Madden.

tao z.: Thanks, Lily

SHAVI: What is everyone's opinion about KFBS

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi Shavi: I'm having a great time at KFBS!

Pradeep: Amrinder: Thanks for the info. its real nice that they have the bid - help me understand this - so the lecture is repeated over two sessions? (i presume thats for the more in-demand courses?)

SHAVI: You are from India.Amrinder

Amrinder_KFBS09: Pradeep: Some are repeated 3 - 4 times in a day. Shavi: No

SHAVI: your name sounds like indian

Amrinder_KFBS09: Shavi: Well we are living in a global world.

SHAVI: I loved all this information.

Pradeep: Amrinder: nice :) and what help did you get to focus (rather tailor) your concentration combo?

Amrinder_KFBS09: Pradeep: It's based on my interest

Benjamin A.: What type of guidance is available for students who want to customize general management study across concentrations? Are there specific classes that are recommended after the Core?

KFBS T.: Benjamin, Most folks wind up tilting their GM studies to marketing or finance. Some color their toward other subjects as well. There is considerable support from several places to help you make those types of decisions.

JDM: Sorry if this has been asked and replied to earlier..but is there a way to save this chat session. A lot of useful information was discussed and I would hate to lose it.

KFBS_Ami08: JDM, The chat transcript will be posted about a week from now.

KANE_KFBS2008: Hi, JDM, The script of today's chat will be posted within 2 weeks. <http://www.kenan-flagler.unc.edu/Programs/...>

Andrew D.: I am also going to leave now. Thank you very much to you all. Hopefully I will be able to meet you all in person. :) Take care.

Jenna: Thanks, everyone, for answering my questions! I have to go back to work now :-)
Bye!

Amrinder_KFBS09: Hi: we have 4 more minutes to go!

Bhushan: Thanks all.. for sharing some really good information

KFBS_Ami08: Final questions anyone?

Aeisha W.: How did you prepare/calm yourself while waiting for the decision letters?>

KFBS_Ami08: Aeisha, It was definitely stressful, so I kept myself very busy with work.

Aeisha W.: Thank you!

SHAVI: Amrinder are you in second year

Amrinder_KFBS09: Shavi: First year

Haren: what do students typically do after school? besides study of course

Enrique_kfbs09: Haren - I typically spend time with my family. But there are always networking events with companies, or MBA clubs. There are also a ton of social events.

Haren: Enrique my wife will be moving as well, but after Boston, I am hoping there will be more for her to do while I study

KFBS08 D.: Haren: My wife has made fantastic friendships here at UNC and actually sees me more now than when I was working. She has enjoyed "our" experience at MBA school!

Enrique_kfbs09: Haren - There is the Kenan Connection chat next Tuesday the 12th. Kenan Connection is a social network for spouses

Haren: ok, that's great Enrique, I will be there

tao z.: Today is a special day for Chinese, it is the Chinese New Year. So happy Chinese New Year to everyone here...

Haren: happy new year to you as well tao (rat isn't it?)

tao z.: you are right, Haren.

Sarah: Thank you for taking the time to chat!

Pradeep: Amrinder: I presume firms are looking to pick up interns in the first semester itself? How does one prove grades in the MBA prog is something that perplexes me - the course is more to gain, learn leadership skills and hone one's quant abilities right? given competition, how do you say the students prepare to outshine one another (I don't mean it in a bad sense)

Amrinder_KFBS09: Pradeep: we have plenty of leadership programs

Cassidy: thank you all for your time and candor

Ravi: Does this path give you enough exposure to enter a specific industry for internship or later for full-time work?

KFBS_Ami08: Bye everyone. E-mail us at mba_info@unc.edu if you have further questions.

Pradeep: Amrinder: I was wondering if the career center would help with choosing the more appropriate courses (I won't deny the individual's capability) - but seniors might seem like a good avenue to approach before selecting a course?

Benjamin A.: Thank you all for your time.

SHAVI: Arm do the firms offer placements in summer breaks

Haren: thank you everyone for your time

Roberto G.: Thanks for the great information!

Amrinder_KFBS09: Thank you all for joining us today.

Erin M.: Thanks you all for your time!

LynneStrickler: thank you!

SHAVI: Thanks everyone.

Enrique_kfbs09: Thanks everyone!! Good luck!

Ravi: Thanks a lot folks. This was useful. Have a great day.

KANE_KFBS2008: Everyone, thank you joining us today!! Good luck, all!!