IMPACT

Net Impact is an international nonprofit organization with a mission of making a positive impact on society by growing and strengthening a community of leaders. The organization's membership consists of over 10,000 MBAs, graduate students and professionals worldwide.

Kurt Flor, a 2010 Baylor MBA candidate, recognized the need for a student-led organization at Hankamer that would work toward a greater cause through partnerships and collaborations. A Net Impact campus chapter proved to be a perfect fit.

"Net Impact is a way for business students to collaborate with other entities on campus, such as the School of Social Work and the Global Poverty Center; with local organizations, like the Waco Chamber of Commerce; and with the general community," Flor said. "We all have the same goal of wanting to help others and promoting sustainability and social change. We can all unite with Net Impact as the umbrella organization."

Net Impact focuses on several initiatives: campus greening, nonprofit capacity building, work impact and curriculum change. The organization is also starting a new program specifically geared toward undergraduate students—Net Impact Undergrad. Flor said he hopes the campus chapter, consisting of MBA students, will grow to also include the undergraduate program. "Business is changing, and we have to adapt," Flor said. "Universities need to look at curriculum, understand how CSR and environmental initiatives relate to business strategy, and then implement courses that cover those topics. A mentality of sustainability needs to be instilled within professors and students who will become socially responsible business and community leaders."

Flor serves as president of Net Impact: Baylor University. The campus chapter is one of few university chapters in the state of Texas. Flor said the group meets once per week and offers environmentally friendly ice cream at all meetings.

"What better way is there to help share our message than by promoting companies that offer environmentally friendly products like Ben & Jerry's or Horizon?" he said. "Plus, it's a nice incentive most people like ice cream."

For more information about Net Impact, visit http://www.netimpact.org.

Baylor Mourns Loss of Supporter and Servant Leader

Baylor University Alumnus Honoris Causa Harry Chavanne passed away Oct. 24 in Houston at the age of 96. Along with his wife, Baylor alumna Hazel Prince Chavanne, who preceded him in death, the couple was committed to serving students and promoting Christian ethics education at Baylor.

"I recall Harry Chavanne saying, 'I can accomplish anything in life as long as I don't care who gets the credit.' He was a wonderful example of a businessman who also was a servant leader," said Terry Maness, dean of Baylor's Hankamer School of Business. "His vision to emphasize Christian ethics in business education has served Baylor well and will serve the business community well as our students enter the professional world."

Although Chavanne did not attend Baylor, his wife, Hazel, earned a BA in Speech Communication from the University in 1938, and he received Baylor's Alumnus Honoris Causa designation, the highest honor bestowed by the university upon non-alumni. Together they supported the Harry and Hazel Chavanne Chair of Christian Ethics in Business at the Hankamer School of Business, as well as the Mary Ellen Chavanne Scholarship Fund, the William J. Boswell Chair in Law, Student Foundation, Armstrong Browning Library Guardian Angel Fund and the Library Book Fund. Chavanne was a member of the Old Main Society and the Baylor Alumni Association. Mr. and Mrs. Chavanne were recognized as members of the Baylor University Medallion Fellowship, first with the James Huckins and Pat Neff Medallions in 1989, then with the Presidents Medallion in 2004.

Mitchell J. Neubert, associate professor of Management and Entrepreneurship, currently serves as the Chavanne Chair of Christian Ethics in Business.

"The generosity of the Chavanne family has allowed us to devote particular attention to meeting the critical need for developing leaders of integrity, who practice business with clear ethical standards and demonstrate Christian character in the workplace," Neubert said.