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ADJUNCT PROFILES

Clarence Nixon Jr.

President and CEO
Clarence Nixon Consulting Group
Adjunct, University of Detroit Mercy

Advertisement

Clarence Nixon Jr., president and CEO of Detroit-based **Clarence Nixon Consulting Group**, taught several management courses at the **University of Detroit Mercy** in the early 1990s before taking a break to pursue other business endeavors.

Last month, Nixon returned to UDM as an adjunct professor in the College of Business Administration's Master of Science turnaround management program.

Nixon, 53, who spends his days working at his consulting firm, teaches a twice-a-week evening course on debt and equity structuring at the Detroit-based university. The class is currently only offered in the seven-week-long summer semester, which started May 5.

"This is a pretty advanced graduate-level class," Nixon said. "So far, I like what I see."

Kenneth Kuna, associate dean of external relations for the business college, said UDM kept in contact with Nixon in recent years before approaching him to return. Nixon said the Rev. Oswald Mascarenhas asked him to help pen a syllabus for another class in the program and then persuaded him to teach the debt and equity structuring course.

Kuna said Nixon's turnaround expertise brings real-world case studies to the classroom.

"He's had quite a bit of experience himself of taking businesses and turning them around," Kuna said. "We want to give people practical tools that they can put to use right away, and he certainly can do that."

The master's program started in the fall of 2007 and came out of a graduate certificate in business turnaround management that started one year previously. The program is designed to teach students how to manage financially struggling businesses as well as understand, predict, monitor, halt and transform corporate failure.

"We don't just teach turnaround," Kuna said, "we teach techniques about making companies better. Everybody is facing some sort of disturbance to their business."

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