

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY
PERELLA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Memorial Resolution in Remembrance of
Professor Matthew (Matt) Melone
July 17, 2020

It is with great sadness that I enter this memorial resolution on the behalf of the Perella Department of Finance and the entire Lehigh community for our esteemed colleague, Matthew (Matt) Melone, 61, professor and distinguished scholar, who passed away on July 7th 2020 after a tough and prolonged battle with cancer.

Matt was a graduate of Villanova University (1980) with a degree in Accounting (cum laude), and the University of Pennsylvania Law School (1993) with a Juris Doctorate (magna cum laude). After graduating from Villanova University, he worked at Ernst & Whinney, the precursor to Ernst and Young, as a Certified Public Accountant from 1980 to 1985. Matt also obtained his Masters of Taxation degree at Villanova in 1987. Matt served as the Controller for the real estate developer and property manager, Kravco Company, where he worked until 1990. He then left Kravco to attend the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he received the Order of the Coif, and the Peter McCall Prize for graduating with the highest grades in class. This led to an offer to practice law at the prestigious firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. Instead, Matt (lucky for us) chose to pursue an academic career at Lehigh University.

He joined Lehigh University in 1993 to teach Business Law. Over the past 27 years, Matt distinguished himself as an all-round academic, excelling in research, teaching, and service. In recognition of his contributions, he was a recipient of the Class of 1961 Professorship. Matt's research was insightful, impactful, and diverse in its range; he wrote articles ranging from fantasy sports gambling to tax policy to regulatory impact.

His teaching was outstanding, and as chair of the department, I should know since I have read comments from students on his teaching evaluation forms. I have often wondered what kind of magic spells he cast in the classroom to inspire his students in business law! It is no surprise that he received the MS in Management Program's Teacher of Excellence Award, which is voted on by the students. In the recent past, despite his health issues, Matt strived to put forth his best for his students, often at his own discomfort. When his voice was affected, he used an attached voice amplifier to deliver his class instruction in person. Such level of dedication is what makes Lehigh University a truly distinctive institution.

Matt did not reserve his time only for scholarship and teaching. He was a team player and performed a long list of service duties to the department, college, and university. An abbreviated list of his contributions includes the following: he organized the college's Impact

Conference on Diversity, served as: Course Coordinator for Business Ethics; Chair of Faculty Steering Committee; Chair of Faculty Financial Planning and Operations Committee; Chair of Faculty Compensation Committee; Chair of College Policy Committee; and Member of the Presidential Search Committee. In fact, most recently, Matt served as a Senator to represent our department and college in this very chamber. Outside Lehigh University, Matt coached St. Aloysius and Media Little League boy's baseball and Haverford Hawks Ice Hockey for several years. He was also on the board of St. Joseph's Preparatory School Ice Hockey team.

Matt is survived by his loving wife Annamarie (nee Lammendola); his children Kevin Melone `15 `16G, and Mary Catherine Melone (Mary Kaye), and his English Bulldog, Nacho, among others. His family remembers him as a caring and loving husband, father, brother, uncle, and a great friend to everyone he met. His Lehigh family remembers him as a fantastic colleague – respected, fair, objective, a scholar and a gentleman. He touched the lives of many of us – students, staff, and faculty colleagues. We will miss him.

Chair lovine, I move that this memorial resolution¹ be made a permanent part of the Lehigh University faculty record by being included in the minutes of this Faculty Senate meeting, and that copies be sent to the members of his family.

Respectfully submitted,
Nandu Nayar, Chair of the Perella Department of Finance

¹ Material for this resolution adapted from Matthew Melone's obituary and email from Annamarie Melone.