On Tuesday, November 27 MBA student Jeff Goyer shared his post-graduate experience at the Financial Literacy Association’s general meeting. Goyer shared his personal background, the path he took during and after his undergraduate studies, and gave suggestions on how to consider pursuing an MBA. Students were interactive and asked questions about his experience and the material he presented.

Goyer, who obtained his undergraduate degree in Accounting at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, went on to work at MGM Resorts International upon graduation. He then moved on to work at The Mirage Hotel and Casino as a senior financial analyst. Now, Goyer is completing his MBA, and this past summer he worked at the Disney ABC Television Group on their ABC Finance & Planning Team.

One thing Goyer was sure to emphasize is the value of doing an MBA. As a current MBA student here at UCI Paul Merage School of Business, he shared his experience with finding the ideal program for him. Goyer explained how the smaller class sizes here at Merage are ideal for networking and foster a more supportive environment among students.

Some of the advantages of completing an MBA as explained by Goyer include higher pay after completion (roughly double what was being made prior to the degree), networking, some time away from work stress, and amazing work and internship opportunities.

Of course, the finances involved in obtaining an MBA would be a major factor to consider for most students. However, Goyer stressed a few key points. First, the benefits of an MBA degree are worth the money that goes into it in the long run (considering the dramatic salary increase). Furthermore, there are scholarships that can help pay for the program. Sometimes, companies even offer to cover part or all of the costs involved in the program.

Goyer explained that he is involved in the recruitment and admissions of prospective MBA students here at Merage. When asked what recruiters consider most important, he emphasized the importance of the GMAT. Next, he would say that work experience is most valuable. Next is the undergraduate GPA, and finally are recommendations and the essays from the application process.

All in all, Goyer explained the importance of planning ahead and researching what is the best option for post-graduate programs. If you are interested in pursuing an MBA, plan and study for the GMAT, research which schools have the best program for you, and send in your application materials on time.