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Gene Natali was, to me, the most interesting speaker yet. I really think that he had something valuable that applied not only to the public or the private accounting world, but to every student getting ready to graduate. He gave us all a smack of reality and made us all start to think about adapting in the real world. Retirement is a true crisis in the world we are growing up in and if we prepare for it now, we will not have to panic at age 65 when considering retiring.

Something that is really important to me is to make sure that I give my kids the biggest head start I possibly can. I do not want them to come out of college with a ridiculous amount of debt, that they will spend the rest of their lives paying off. So, to me, that was my biggest take away. I will make sure I start a Roth IRA for my kids as soon as possible.

Gene was realistic and relatable. Although I am sure he makes a comfortable living (especially since he has four kids), his whole presentation was extremely laid back and humble. He was eager to share all of his knowledge with us. He made it clear that it is not about the dollar amount you make each year, but the dollar amount you save each year.

I will most definitely be taking his advice and start saving as much as I can out of each paycheck in order to secure a future for myself and my family. I do not want to struggle when I am old, I want to dedicate that time to relaxing with my family and traveling. I think Gene was a perfect guest speaker for our capstone class.