

CRAIN'S

CHICAGO BUSINESS.

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Faculty all-stars

MARK FRIGO

**Strategy and management
accounting**

*Kellstadt Graduate School of
Business, DePaul University*

Mark Frigo has been studying karate for nearly 40 years, so it's little surprise that he carries that training into his own classroom.

Like martial arts students answering their sensei, Mr. Frigo's MBA students start the quarter with rallying cries of "Positive!" "Empty cup!" and "Desire to learn!"—his method for establishing a receptive state of mind.

Former student Cecilia Brunetti likens his passion to that of the character Robin Williams plays in the movie "Dead Poets Society."

"Dr. Frigo teaches from his heart, not from a book," says Ms. Brunetti, 32.

Mr. Frigo, 55, a fourth-degree black belt, joined DePaul in 1980 when he left his corporate career in strategic planning and mergers and acquisitions.

"Every professor has a philosophy of what they will be remembered for by their students," Mr. Frigo says. "I hope it's the way of thinking and doing that I incorporate into my classes."