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Publisher: Dr. David Bouchard
Editor: Francis Ray Cristobal

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis

MMIS & MIS Certificate Programs

Newsletter

College of Management

Letter from the MMIS & MIS Certificate Program Coordinator April/May 2008

The MMIS Program wishes you a great Summer and Fall Season!

It’s already time to REGISTER for Summer and Fall Term!

We have had a very interesting and rewarding Spring Term, and are looking forward to exciting news for the future. We hope you will carefully review the material included in this newsletter and contact us if you have any questions.

NEW DATABASE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE

We are pleased to announce the upcoming introduction of a new Database Management Certificate, starting Fall, 2008.

This is an exciting new program that offers you not only an excellent education in this critical area of IT, but also gives you a great head start toward moving into a masters degree: the courses in the Certificate all transfer into the MMIS program, after full acceptance and application into the program.

The first classes have already been offered, and in Summer our newest addition to the program will be offered, MIS658, Advanced Database Management. Dr. Narasimha Paravastu, our new Faculty (-pg2.)

INTRODUCING OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBER: DR. NARASIMHA PARAVASTU

We are very pleased to introduce our new Resident Faculty member, Dr. Narasimha Paravastu. He joins us from Central State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Dr. Paravastu received his Ph.D. from the Bennett S. LeBow College of Management, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA. His research interests include organizational Trust, IT Outsourcing and Strategic Management of IT. His research has been presented in regional and national conferences in the United States, as well as in peer reviewed journals. His teaching interests are Data Networking, Programming in VB.Net, Systems Analysis and Design, and Database Management.

He will be teaching a range of courses in the Graduate program, including MIS 665 Systems Analysis and Design, MIS657 Database and Client Server systems, and a new course he has developed called MIS658 Advanced Database Management (starting this Summer). This new course offers an insight into Database Administration and Management using Microsoft SQL Server, and provides a survey of the database administration environment, performance management, data integrity and security, and disaster planning, recovery and management.

In greeting our graduate students, Dr. Paravastu said, “I am excited to be at Metropolitan State University. It is quite a challenging and stimulating experience to teach at Metropolitan State University because our graduate students bring with them a great deal of experience, enthusiasm and professionalism to class. It is a pleasure to interact with them in class”.

REMEMBER: PLEASE REGISTER FOR YOUR SUMMER/FALL SEMESTER CLASSES AS SOON AS YOU CAN – MANY ARE FILLING FAST, OTHERS WILL BE CANCELLED IF TOO SMALL.
Letter from the MMIS coordinator (cont.)

member (introduced above), and I will be working together to get the full certificate approvals. Dr. Paravastu has a strong background in databases and will be a key player in the program. The full Certificate will be introduced in Fall, subject to the full academic review that will be done in Fall.

Courses in the Certificate are planned to include (subject to final approvals):

- MIS 600 or MIS600-50 (4 credits)
- MIS 653 Supply Chain Information Systems (2 credits)
- MIS 657 Database and Client/Server Systems (2 credits)
- MIS 658 Advanced Database Administration (2 credits)
- MIS 683 Process Analysis and Design (2 credits)
- MIS 685 Data Warehousing & Data Mining (2 credits)
- DSCI 620 Project Management (4 credits)
- MIS 681 Data Security & Networking (4 credits)

TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS: (22 CREDITS)

This means we will now have FOUR Graduate Certificate Programs:

- MIS Generalist Graduate Certificate
- MIS Systems Analysis and Design Graduate Certificate
- MIS Information Security and Information Assurance Graduate Certificate
- MIS Database Management and Administration Graduate Certificate

We also coordinate closely with the Project Management certificate.

DR. BOUCHARD ENDS SECOND TERMS AS UNIVERSITY FACULTY PRESIDENT AND STATE CHAIR OF IMS ACADEMIC COMPUTING

As some of you may know, I was re-elected for a second term as President of the Metropolitan State University Faculty this year (for the entire university), and also for a second term as state chair of the IMS Academic Computing Council, the committee that directs the academic computing and IMS (Instructional Management Systems) functions for the 32 campus MnSCU system.

These have been huge undertakings and have required large amounts of time and effort, but have allowed me to contribute to our university and the MnSCU system in many ways. It has also allowed us to be sure your MMIS and Certificates programs have had great influence throughout the university and the system. I am pleased to report that in spite of invitations to continue, I have declined to accept additional election to these positions, and will be returning to full time work on our programs after the end of the academic year.

While we have continued to make good progress in our MIS programs while I have been performing these other duties, I look forward to returning to full-time attention to our MMIS and Certificate programs.

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
COM WORKING ON DBA (DOCTORATE OF APPLIED BUSINESS) PROGRAM, INCLUDING MIS

For a long time there was only one source for doctoral programs in business through the public education systems in the Twin Cities: the University of Minnesota. Their programs are excellent, but focus on creating research-oriented Ph.D.’s in the business arena. Two years ago, the Minnesota Legislature authorized creation of APPLIED doctoral programs for the state universities in MnSCU. Metropolitan State has been a leader in this area. We already have full approvals for our DNP (Doctorate in Nursing Practice) program, as part of a consortium with several state universities.

The College of Management (COM), in which the MMIS and Certificate programs reside, has been working all year on the development of a DBA (Doctorate of Business Administration) program, which would target those students who have completed MBA, MMIS and related masters degrees who would like to get a doctorate in applied business. The degree is designed to target those seeking to teach in applied programs and those who would benefit from the additional work (and credential) in their consulting or management careers.

The program has now completed all internal approvals (including full approval of the Faculty Council in April), and will be readied for the first of several external reviews.

We will keep you informed about this exciting new program, as some of our MMIS graduates have asked to know when Metropolitan would begin offering such a degree. Your MMIS program will prepare you very well for this additional step, if a doctorate might meet your needs.

NEW ONLINE MMIS PROGRAM ON TRACK:

We are pleased to tell you that the introduction of the new Online version of the MMIS program is on track, as you will see in the new Two Year Schedule, found later in this newsletter and on our MMIS website. We have made several necessary adjustments on the schedule and encourage you to take a careful look at it as part of your academic planning.

For Summer, we are again offering the initial class in the program, Online MIS600 (MIS600 -50). We officially started the new online program earlier this year. The Online MMIS option adds new possibilities for your work in coordination with our existing MMIS program, which continues to serve our students, continuing to provide the Information Management (IM) and Systems Analysis (SA) Tracks you already know.

The new Online program was described for you in detail in the last Newsletter, available on our website. As we mentioned there, there are several points to note:

♦ The Online program is a bit more structured than our continuing MMIS program. The existing Tracks (IM and SA) allow you numerous electives, enabling you to customize your program considerably. The Online program contains the classes (-pg4)
Letter from the MMIS coordinator (cont.)

specifically listed in the sidebar. All of these classes are also regular MMIS requirements and/or electives, but the Online program prescribes a specific set of courses. These courses have been chosen to meet national requirements and standards, and those we have received from our corporate and public sector advisors board.

♦ Students in all three Tracks/programs can take either Online or Classroom-based versions of the courses in their Tracks (as available), but the actual courses that make up your program must meet the requirements of the Track for which you sign up. The new Two Year Schedule, found later in this Newsletter, will lay out the courses and Tracks in detail for you, and will show you our expected availability of courses.

♦ The new online courses are being introduced over the next year, and reflect our highly-regarded video-rich, media-rich designs that have been so well received.

♦ We are working to introduce a new Virtual Advising model sometime in Fall, 2008. This model will allow the use of a special website for some program information exchange, and Web Cams and special software to enable face-to-face advising meetings for our students, without travel. We will also be using highly innovative new technologies for our special student applied projects, which will be introduced in 2008-9, as well. Much more information on these and other innovations will be coming next academic year.

♦ Please contact me, and/or Ms. Gloria Marcus to learn more about this program and to get application information.

ONLINE COURSE DESIGN:

Your MIS faculty have been hard at work on continuing the development of our cutting-edge new style of interface for online courses and finding ways to improve the quality of online classes with many innovations in the use of video for lectures and background information, animations for teaching procedural work and tight integration of the coursework and reference materials through strong use of web tools. This interface is widely regarded as one of the best in the country, and we are excited about rolling out the new courses for you. As you know, all grad MIS courses are already web-enhanced, which has proven a real boon to our students.

You will see in the new schedule that more Phase I (required) classes will soon be offered in an online format for you, along with the new Phase II (elective) classes. The electronic courses will meet all the equivalent program requirements as their in-class counterparts (online classes generally have the same course number, with a “-.50” added to denote online delivery).

Metropolitan State and our MIS program have been part of a major grant program from the Legislature: The Center (of Excellence) for Strategic Information Technology and Security (CSITS). As reported previously, your MIS department has received several major grants that have allowed us to develop the new online classes noted, and to move much of the delivery of the MMIS program and our MIS Certificates to online options to augment our regular in-class offerings. In addition, we were awarded a grant to develop a new Online Certificate in IT Security, which has been introduced in Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 terms. We hope to complete the necessary final approvals for that Certificate in the Fall.

Some of you have told us that as your work schedules get increasingly challenging, you would appreciate anything we could do in our curriculum to help you meet the challenges of work schedule while maintaining top quality instruction.

The new online classes discussed above not only eliminate many of the logistical issues for our classroom classes - we have also created a schedule innovation that should be very helpful. As you know, most of our elective classes are 2 credits and normally (pg5)
run either the first half or the second half of the term. Two years ago, we piloted the scheduling of 2 credit online classes over the entire semester, giving you a full semester to complete half semester courses.

Some students worked studiously and completed them in 8 weeks and received grades, moving on to take additional courses in the second half of the semester. Other students who might otherwise have not been able to complete all their work took the entire semester to complete the 2 credits of work and received their grades at the end. Some registered for multiple classes and used the online format to offset “heavy” weeks in their other classes. We are using this innovation in many of the online classes (watch the Official Online Schedule for dates), and hope you find it still another way your program works to help you achieve your educational goals.

Be sure to watch the latest Two Year Schedule and plan accordingly. **We have scheduled the year so that program requirements are emphasized in Fall term and your electives will be emphasized in Spring term. Summer is time to “catch up” on available classes and electives.** Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see an updated Two Year Schedule of our classes. We have continued the reduced electives schedule we introduced last year, but plan to offer all needed courses within any two year period, and as you will see below we have some new options for you. With a little planning, you should be able to complete your programs without significant inconvenience. Note the alternation between the online and in-class sections, if you have a preference for delivery media.

**NOTE:** Always follow the online schedule, accessible from [www.metrostate.edu](http://www.metrostate.edu) for all current information on MIS and Certificate class schedules. Please see the online catalog for more information.

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**Personal Note**

As I have said many times, I appreciate the opportunity to work with you as your Program Coordinator, and I continue to be excited about our evolution as a vital, cutting-edge program. We have an outstanding group of Resident and Community Faculty who work hard to give you the best preparation and education possible. It is a real privilege to work with you all.

As noted above, I have been very busy as President of the Faculty, as Chair of the statewide IMS Computing Council, and also serving on several Boards and Executive groups. I appreciate the patience shown by you and my Faculty colleagues as I performed this service for the Faculty and MnSCU communities, and am pleased that I will be “back in the saddle,” shortly, as we embark on many new initiatives for the future. We have a couple of additional very exciting new programs we will be introducing this Fall. I look forward to getting this information out to you as soon as possible.

I am happy to report that while the rest of the economy is facing serious challenges, the field of IT and MIS in particular is staging such a strong comeback that many are suggesting that within a year or two we will start to see some of the staffing shortages we were seeing in the late 1990’s. We are receiving many reports from our students and recent graduates that the IT hiring market is excellent and improving. Stay tuned as this emerging trend becomes clearer. This is a time when savvy MIS professionals are building their skills and knowledge through their work in programs like the MMIS and the MIS Grad Certificates, to be prepared as our field grows again.

We are very pleased to continue to evolve our programs to keep MIS at Metropolitan State at the cutting edge of our field, and are excited to tell you about our new initiatives. I hope to have the chance to see you soon. All the best to you in the upcoming Summer and Fall terms!

Dr. David Bouchard
Professor and Coordinator of Graduate
MIS Programs

[www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis](http://www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis)
## ONLINE MMIS PROGRAM

### The Online MMIS Program

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**Total Credits:** 44

## CALENDAR

- **4/22/08** Summer Registration
- **05/01/08** Spring Commencement
- **05/05/08** Summer Classes Begin
- **05/30/08** Deadline of intent to graduate in Summer 2008
- **6/15/08** Fall 08 Admission Application Deadline
- **6/30/08** End of first summer session
- **7/7/08** Second summer session begins
- **8/16/08** Summer Graduation Date
- **8/19/08** Fall Registration Begins
- **8/23/08** Fall 2008 Courses Begin
- **10/03/08** Deadline for Graduate Planning
- **10/27/08** Spring 2009 Registration (tentative)
- **12/13/08** Fall 2008 courses end

## EXCITING NEWS

- As you may know, Metropolitan State’s undergraduate and graduate programs are considered among the very best in the state of Minnesota. As noted above, the new Center of Excellence grant gives us the opportunity to develop our program even further. Another important offshoot of the Center will be new additional opportunities for our graduate students, including assistantships, research projects and internships. Please let us know if you would like to be considered for any of these while we are developing this component of the Center, and we will keep you right up-to-date when the opportunities become available.

- We also would like to mention that the ACM (IT) group has updated their national MSIS 2006 standards for graduate MIS programs, and our review of these standards indicates that the updates we have made to our MIS curriculum keeps us fully aligned with the updated standards. We will continue to work hard to be sure your programs always meet the highest standards.

## NEW PRESIDENT AT METROPOLITAN STATE

We are pleased to welcome new President Sue Hammersmith to Metropolitan State University, starting July1. As announced in her press release from MnSCU:

“Sue K. Hammersmith was appointed as president of Metropolitan State University by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees.

Dr. Hammersmith, 59, is provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, a post she has held since 2002. She also is a professor of social change and development and sociology at the university. Her appointment was recommended by Chancellor James H. McCormick.

Previously, Hammersmith was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Ferris State University, with several campuses in west central Michigan; dean of University College at Ball State University at Muncie, Ind. and assistant dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis.

She holds a doctorate and a master’s degree, both in sociology, and a bachelor’s degree in anthropology, all from Indiana University.

“Dr. Hammersmith has a long and abiding commitment to adult learners,” McCormick said. “That commitment, combined with her experience and interest in developing strong partnerships, should serve this vibrant university very well.”
New Course Offerings for Summer and Fall 2008

NEW MIS GRADUATE ELECTIVES COMING THIS SUMMER/FALL 2008

♦ MIS654: ERP and Applications (SU08)  
  Prof. Fred Potthoff

The MIS654 ERP classes provide an overview of what an Enterprise Resource Planning system is, why your organization would want to implement an ERP system, and what steps to go through to successfully implement an ERP system. Students also research current topics of their own choosing in today’s ERP environment. Then students bring together what was learned in the text about ERP – Systems, Life Cycle, Electronic Commerce, and Risk – and current ERP articles to craft a final research paper with each student’s predictions for the next 3-5 years for ERPs growth and direction. The class is segmented into 6 modules.

♦ MIS663: Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation (FA08)  
  Dr. David Bouchard

We have been offering this 4 credit class in an in-class version for several years. In the new classes, Dr. Bouchard will be working with innovators in the field to show not only the important theoretical underpinnings of the Management of Technology (an important sub-field within MIS); he will also show you many exciting technologies and how to leverage them for success and excellent return on investment. This material will also be presented as two 2 credit online classes, to meet Online MMIS and other requirements. The courses will now consist of MIS 663-50 Strategic Management of Technology And Innovation, Part One, and MIS 664-50 Strategic Management of Technology And Innovation, Part Two, each 2 credits. In the first part, we will look at the patterns of technological change, models for management of the technological-choice and change-management processes, and how success-

ful companies use technological innovation as part of their strategic success. Many examples and case studies will enhance the discussions. In Part Two (pre-requisite Part One), we will build on this base to learn how technological innovation takes place (both incremental and radical), how you leverage that process for maximum benefit, and look at many exciting new technologies with the goal of understanding the patterns of change and how they will affect MIS in the future. These courses will be very exciting and interesting – we hope you will watch for them and try them as part of your programs and/or electives.

♦ MIS668 & 669: TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INTERNET MANAGEMENT

Professor Vee Narayan has taught this popular 4 credit course in-class for many years, and has been kind enough to develop an exciting new version of the material for our online offerings. The material will now be presented as two 2 credit online classes, to meet Online MMIS and other requirements. The MIS 668-50 class will cover cutting-edge issues in Telecommunications and will set the stage for the material on Internet management. The MIS 669-50 course will stretch out and cover Internet management issues in-depth, providing a strong background for managers in this area. The 668-50 course will be a pre-requisite for 669-50 (remember, the “-50” suffix indicates and online class).
MMIS Program Requirements Explained
David Bouchard, Ph.D.
MMIS Program Coordinator

MMIS Computer Standards
Each MMIS Student is required to own or have access to a laptop computer. Since standards continue to change and improve, we will periodically publish current standards for this requirement. After initial acceptance, MMIS student will be expected to upgrade as needed to complete their work. Minimum standards for Spring and Summer 2006 include:

Laptop:
- Processor: Intel Centrino Duo 1.5 GHz or equivalent
- Memory: (2 GB recommended)
- Hard Drive: 100 GB (120 GB recommended)

- Modem or high speed connection

Software:
- Office 2007
- Windows Media Player (current version)
- Internet Explorer 7
- Access 2007
- Project 2007
- Visio Professional 2007
- Flash Player (current version)
- Acrobat Reader (current version)

MMIS Conference Requirement
At some point during each MMIS student’s program, he/she is required to attend at least one MIS-related and one Management-related conference, to broaden their experience in these areas. The program plans to offer some of these programs periodically, as budget and time allow.

However, students should stay abreast of opportunities in other areas, as well. Any reasonable opportunity will be considered. If you would like to check to see if something coming up will be acceptable, please contact the MMIS Coordinator (Dr. Bouchard) by email for advice. Many national and local seminars will be acceptable, as well as opportunities at work, as long as the curriculum is well-defined and rigorous. The basic rule of thumb is that a seminar must be of professional (graduate) quality, should be at least four hours in duration, and should be directly related to the areas of management or MIS.

MMIS Visual Language Requirement
MMIS Students are required to have a basic demonstrated competence in a visual programming language. Acceptable languages include:

- Visual Basic. Net
- Visual Basic
- C or C++, or C#. Net
- Java
- XML
- Advanced HTML (through database integration)

Demonstrated competence generally means completion of courses from accredited institutions, with transcripts for documentation. Generally two semesters at a lower division level meet the requirement. Other options include successful completion of a least Intermediate level classes in the languages at other schools like AppDev or MindSharp, or even the St.Paul Science Museum. Metropolitan State has now gained access to many of the AppDev training CD-ROMs for the Microsoft language. Please contact librarian Ruth Zietlow (Ruth.Zietlow@metrostate.edu) for details. Documentation includes proof of attendance and a certificate of successful completion.

For those who believe their work experience is sufficient to meet the requirement, please be sure the language is included in the list above. Demonstration of competence requires submission of documentation of your work in the area, and an example of a personally programmed project. Be sure to check with Gloria Marcus to be sure your language requirement has been completed.

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
Notes from Gloria Marcus

Registration
Fall semester registration is currently underway. Please register soon to avoid full or cancelled classes. Tuition is due August 6 – you will be dropped from your fall semester classes if you do not pay or make payment arrangements by this date. Not sure what to register for? The two year course schedule is included in this newsletter and can also be found online at http://www.metrostate.edu/com/dept/mis/graduate.html

Call for Tutors/Graduate Assistant
The College of Management will be hiring a graduate student worker as a graduate assistant or tutors. If you are interested, Please have a look at http://www.metrostate.edu/studentjobs/ and if you have a background in Visual Basic, please contact me right away. Email: gloria.marcus@metrostate.edu

Volunteers
I am always in need of student and alumni volunteers to provide written testimonials and/or speak to prospective students at information sessions and new student orientations. The Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC) is also looking for student volunteers. GSAC was formed several years ago to promote and facilitate open communication between students in the Metropolitan State University College of Management Graduate program, and faculty and administration of the program. Meetings are held once a month at the Minneapolis campus.

Graduation
Congratulations to our May graduates! If you are planning to graduate in August or December, please notify me the first week of classes so that I can get you on the official graduation list. You do not have to meet with your faculty advisor prior to graduation. The fall semester graduation date as well as information about the graduation expo can soon be found online at http://www.metrostate.edu/com/dept/mis/graduate.html

How to Get Additional Information

♦ Coordinator: David Bouchard, Ph.D. (david.bouchard@metrostate.edu), MMIS Coordinator for any policy issues or for programmatic design, curriculum questions and any other issues where you need administrative help.

♦ Support Professional: Aretha Hicks (Aretha.Hicks@metrostate.edu; 612-659-7252) for class scheduling, faculty contacts, facilities issues, etc.

♦ Administrator: Gloria Marcus (gloria.marcus@metrostate.edu; 612-659-7258) for administrative, admissions and assessment issues. Contact her if you would like to recommend someone for the MMIS program. When in doubt, start here!

If you are receiving this newsletter via U.S. mail and would like to receive it electronically in the future, please contact me with an updated e-mail address. Future newsletters as well as program news will then be sent to you electronically.

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
Because the MMIS program does not require a GMAT, GRE or equivalent test, a special assessment of reading, writing and math by the University Assessment Center is required of all students admitted to the MMIS program. Additional referral activities may be required as a result of the assessments.

Applicants whose native language is not English and who did not graduate from an accredited American college or university are required to score 213 or higher on the computerized Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 550 on the paper test, or 80 on the Michigan Test of English.

Some courses will be compressed and accelerated with Internet enhancement.

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<th>Phase I</th>
<th>Phase II</th>
<th>Phase III</th>
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<td>Focus is placed on the functional discipline of business and organizations as they apply to modern information systems. It provides a solid grounding in the core IT, management and marketing theories, processes and skills needed by managers in today’s rapidly changing environment.</td>
<td>Students take elective credits to meet their own IT career needs. They can choose from Information Management and Systems Development concentrations, or focus on a personally-designed mix of courses. Students can choose one of the following concentrations:</td>
<td>This phase is a synthesis and capstone phase. Cohorts will be formed to do systems projects for local organizations. Resident faculty will oversee the teams on group projects, and individual reports will be created.</td>
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<td>MIS 600 Management Information Systems (4 cr)</td>
<td>MIS 653 Supply Chain Automation (2 cr) (Requires Mktg 652 as prerequisite) MIS 673 Knowledge Management (2 cr) MIS 685 Data Warehousing and Data Mining (2 cr) MGMT620 Organizational Behavior (4 cr) 12 elective credits</td>
<td>MIS 699 MIS Capstone/Integrative Project (4 cr)</td>
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## MMIS TWO YEAR COURSE SCHEDULE DRAFT

**04/27/2008 REVISED DRAFT**

David Bouchard Ph.D.

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Thanks to our COM Dean and our other MIS Faculty!

Gary Sieler
College of Management Dean

David Bahn Ph.D.
Associate Professor MIS

Steve Creason
Associate Professor MIS

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis