Letter from the MMIS & MIS Certificate Program Coordinator - August, 2009

The MMIS (Master of Management Information Systems) Program wishes you a great NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

It's already time to REGISTER for Fall Term!

We have had another very interesting and exciting Spring and Summer, and Fall term promises to be very eventful, as you will see in this edition of the Newsletter! We are looking forward to sharing 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.

NOTE re SUMMER, 2009:

We regretted having to cancel and re-schedule several elective courses for Summer. As I indicated in my note to you, the budget situation based on significant cuts by the state required us to reduce the frequency with which we could offer some of our elective courses. I am happy to report that we will still be able to offer the re-scheduled courses as planned. This information may be reviewed in the updated Two Year Schedule included later in this newsletter, and as always is available on our website: (http://db.metrostate.edu/webapps/drep/MMIS-TwoYearSchedule2009.pdf).

NEW FALL CURRICULUM

New Two Course Sequence:

♦ MIS 668-50 Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation Part One (2 cr)
♦ MIS 669-50 MIS 668-50 Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation Part Two (2cr)

Meets ALL elective requirements

We are pleased to announce that new online versions of our 4 credit MIS663 Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation will be introduced in Fall term as these two new 2 credit classes, MIS 668 and 669. These were re-scheduled from Summer, and reflect even more updates. They will use our cutting edge new online interface and course design concepts to give you a truly exciting look at the world of new technologies (see information elsewhere in this Newsletter), not only from the standpoint of their strategic management for the firm, but also from the standpoint of their ability to create new organizational opportunities and to create strategic advantage.

REMEMBER: PLEASE REGISTER FOR YOUR FALL SEMESTER CLASSES AS SOON AS YOU CAN – MANY WILL FILL FAST, OTHERS WILL BE CANCELLED IF TOO SMALL.
Students learn how to integrate process analysis visualizations into the presentations they will need to make to enable process change to become reality in organizations. They apply their work at a graduate level to real world situations through integrative projects.

MIS Graduate Certificate in Information Assurance (IA) and IT Security FULLY Approved!

As we have described in previous Newsletters, the new IA Certificate has been FULLY approved by all university and state-wide committees, and is now available for application. If you are interested in gaining an important certification in this rapidly growing part of the MIS/IT field, please contact us for admission into the program.

It has been a pleasure working with Assistant Professors Steve Creason and Narasimha Paravastu on this program, which has a great new curriculum, and meets all national standards. Please remember that, like all of our Certificates, courses you take as part of your Certificate programs should also meet MMIS requirements, subject to your acceptance into the masters program. This means that in addition to receiving a valuable Certificate from an accredited institution, your Certificate classes put you nearly half way toward a Masters degree.

Please see update elsewhere in this newsletter. Please contact us for details, as there are specific requirements and processes to coordinate the process.

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.html
Letter from the MMIS coordinator (cont.)

ONLINE COURSE DESIGN:

I have been hard at work on continuing the development of our cutting-edge new styles 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. With this graphical online interface, you can move directly to anything you wish to do within the course, and you can see not only the structure of the course, but also how the item you are working on fits into the overall work of the class. Here is the updated version of the homepage of the interface for the standard MMIS model, using the new MIS683-50 as an example:

For our new MIS668/669 sequence, we are introducing a new variation on this interface. While we are keeping the many benefits of the current interface, we are adding a very modern “dynamic flow” interface that lets students move around in ways in which they have become familiar in the best web interfaces. With this update, we hope that you will find the online environment to be as friendly and “self-documenting” as possible. Combining this interface with extensive video, which has been made much higher quality with improved speed, and using many other cutting-edge techniques, we believe your new online classes will be truly state-of-the-art! Here is an example of the new “dynamic flow” interface:

You will see in the new schedule that more classes will be offered in an online format for you. Many of you have requested this shift in our “mix” of classes toward more online offerings, as you have indicated they have helped you meet challenging personal schedules. The online course versions 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 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.

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.html
Letter from the MMIS coordinator (cont.)

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, many of our elective classes are 2 credits and normally 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 courses 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 for all current information on MIS and Certificate class schedules.

Please see the online catalog for more information.

COM MAKING FURTHER PROGRESS 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. Over three 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 for over two years on the development of a DBA (Doctorate of Business Administration) program, which would target those students who have completed MBA, MIS 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), and had a positive external review. In the months ahead, we will be having additional reviews and hope for approval soon. I have been an active participant in the development of the degree on behalf of the MIS program, and as both a local and state representative to the Graduate Council from the Metropolitan State Faculty, I have been pleased with the progress we are making in developing a truly outstanding new program.

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 (with proper planning and curriculum preparation), if a doctorate might meet your needs.
NEW DATABASE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE

We are pleased to announce the upcoming introduction of a new Database Management Certificate, hopefully starting in 2010. 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 Spring, 2009 our newest addition to the program was offered, MIS658, Advanced Database Management.

Dr Narasimha Paravastu, our newest Faculty member 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 as soon as full academic reviews have been completed. We will announce the approval in the Newsletter.

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 and Data Mining  (2 credits)
- DSCI 620 Project Management  (4 credits)
- MIS 681 Data Security and Networking  (4 credits)

TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS:  (22 CREDITS)

This means we will have FOUR Graduate Certificate Programs, all of which are fully compatible with our MMIS program:

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

We also coordinate closely with the Project Management certificate.

MIS ADVISORY BOARD

We are looking at re-staffing our MIS Advisory Board, a group of IT professionals in the Twin Cities IT field with whom we work on evaluating our offerings and planning for future needs. We hope to add some new members this year. We are looking for members who are in key IT or related managerial/executive positions and are willing to meet a few times each academic year and provide input.

If you, or someone you know or with whom you work, sounds like that description and has interest in helping us ensure program quality, please send their information to me at david.bouchard@metrostate.edu by the end of August, 2009. Thanks.)
NEW ONLINE INFORMATION ASSURANCE (SECURITY) CERTIFICATE
MIS Program, College of Management (CoM)
D. Bouchard, Ph.D.

The CoM MIS program would like to introduce our new graduate IT Information Assurance (IA) Security Certificate. This is an exciting new program that offers students not only an excellent education in this critical area of IT, but also gives them a great head start toward moving into a masters degree: the courses in the IA Certificate all prospectively transfer into the MMIS program, after a student’s full application and acceptance into the program. The Certificate includes:

The Information Assurance and Security Certificate:

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Comments:

New information technologies arrive at lightning speed, allowing us to share information across town, across the country, or around the world faster than ever before. The need for organizations to manage the security needed to make these technologies valuable is the target of the new IA Certificate. The IA Certificate program is designed to meet the fast-moving needs of security professionals from a managerial perspective.

To do that, the Certificate program was designed to meet national standards for this area:

- NSTISSI-4011, National Training Standard for Information Systems Security (INFOSEC) Professionals
- CNSSI-4016, National Information Assurance Training
- CNSSI-4016, National Information Assurance Training Standard for Risk Analysts (RA)

NSA’s Information Assurance Directorate is dedicated to providing information assurance solutions that will keep our information systems safe from harm. Our national security depends on it.

Metropolitan State University is committed to enhancing its initiative in Information Assurance (IA) by offering the graduate certificate in IA through the College of Management. This initiative is designed to provide students and organizations with education, information and training on how to respond to cyber threats or cybercriminals and develop and deploy policies and other safeguards of information assets.

The Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) and The National Security Agency (NSA) certify that Metropolitan State University offers a set of courseware that has been reviewed by National Level IA Subject Matter Experts and determined to meet National Training Standard for Information Systems Security (INFOSEC) Professionals, CNSS National Standards 4011, 4013, and 4016.

These include:

- NSTISSI-4011, National Training Standard for Information Systems Security (INFOSEC) Professionals
- CNSSI-4016, National Information Assurance Training
- CNSSI-4016, National Information Assurance Training Standard for Risk Analysts (RA)

Admissions Requirements

Applicants for admission must meet the following requirements:

- Graduate application with a $20 non-refundable application fee
- Official undergraduate transcript
- A professional resume. One year of full-time professional work experience is required.
- Written personal statement describing your background and interest in the program
- Metropolitan State University diagnostic assessment scores
- Official TOEFL score of 550 (written), 213 (computerized) or 80 (IBT) if undergraduate degree was received outside the United States from a non-English speaking institution.

Application Deadlines

- Fall semester – August 1
- Spring semester – December 1
- Summer term – April 1

For more information

Contact the College of Management Graduate Program Office at 612-659-7290 or Shana.Vonruden@metrostate.edu
College of Management
1501 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-1897

NOTE:

Because this is not a degree-granting program, applications from international students studying on an F-1 student visa will not be accepted.

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.html
Letter from the MMIS coordinator  (cont.)

MMIS AND MIS CERTIFICATES:

PLEASE LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM

We continue to be one of the “best kept secrets” in Twin Cities graduate education, and we are trying to help let people know about us. We also have informative brochures available that explain both the MMIS program and the MIS Certificates, so if you need some for friends or colleagues, or want to promote your program at your organization, just let us know. Remember, all enrollment information, copies of these newsletters and much more are found on our website:

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/catalog/grad/index.cfm?lvl=G&section=1&page_name=management_information_systems_mmis.html

USE OUR MMIS WEB SITE FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION AND REVIEW

Congratulations on making your program a success.

Congratulations on making your program a success.

We continue to update our MMIS and Certificates pages on the Metropolitan State University website, to make it easier for you to keep up-to-date on your program. Copies of all these newsletters are available, plus copies of the newly updated Two Year Schedule, course information on all courses, program requirements and much more.

On the web site, you can:

♦ review news of the MMIS and Certificate programs
♦ look up current editions of the Two Year Course Schedule
♦ find important contact points (phone and email)
♦ learn about faculty members

♦ find copies of all the forms you need in the program
♦ locate useful URLs and many more

To review it, just point your browser to

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/catalog/grad/index.cfm?lvl=G&section=1&page_name=management_information_systems_mmis.html

This might be a good choice for a “Favorite” or “Bookmark,” since we will try to keep this very current for you.
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.

I hope you are faring well during the current economic challenges. Unfortunately, in the last year, the field of IT has felt the effects of the serious downturn. While there was a lag in this effect, it is now quite real. While our IT employment rate is still much better than the overall average, we know that 2009 has been a tough year for almost everyone. More than any other time in the years I have been active in this field, it is important to not only make sure your skills are up-to-date and world class, but also to think strategically about your own career plans. Even in the downturn, some sub-fields are doing especially well (e.g. security and risk management, business analysis and planning, process management and others). 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 for the time when our field begins growing again.

One of the other benefits of having been in the field for so long is the recognition that things WILL improve and that the future belongs to those who prepare well for it. We are starting to see "glimmers" of hope that things have begun to turn, and encourage you to stay positive. Stay tuned as this emerging trend becomes clearer.

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 Fall and Spring terms!

Dr. David Bouchard
Professor and Coordinator of Graduate MIS Programs
Fall semester registration is currently underway. Please register soon to avoid full or cancelled classes. Tuition is due within 24 hours of registering, and you will be dropped from your fall semester classes if you do not pay or make payment arrangements on time. 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/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.html

Registration

New Student Orientation

New Graduate Student Orientations is scheduled for students admitted summer term and fall semester, or for those students who were unable to attend a spring session. Saturday, August 15 we will be meeting in the Library, room 302 of the St. Paul campus. It is extremely important that you attend orientation to learn about IT services, online library services and meet with Dr. Bouchard for specific program details. Who knows, you may even walk away with a fabulous door prize. Contact me directly to RSVP for the upcoming session.

Notes from Gloria Marcus

Graduate Student Resource Center

The Graduate Student Resource Center is open in the Minneapolis campus, room M2850. Available for your use Monday – Friday, the center contains computers, a printer, business magazines and a comfortable study area. Please take advantage of this space; it was created just for you! And please let me know what we can do to make this a better area for you.

Graduation

Congratulations to our May and August graduates! If you are planning to graduate in December, please notify me the first or second week of fall semester 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/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.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.

Please contact me . . .

If you have questions about prerequisites, course scheduling, graduation or just to say Hi. I appreciate working with you all – have a wonderful fall semester.

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.

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.html
# MMIS TWO YEAR COURSE SCHEDULE DRAFT

David Bouchard Ph.D.

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This newsletter is being sent to MMIS students, MIS certificate students, faculty, administrator and advisory committee members. This newsletter will be published at least twice per year and will cover current issues of the MMIS program. (Newsletter information is subject to change)

http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/mmis/index.html
Thanks to our COM Dean and our other MIS Faculty!

Gary Seiler
College of Management Dean

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Associate Professor MIS

Steve Creason
Associate Professor MIS

Narasimha Paravastu Ph. D.
Associate Professor MIS

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