The MMIS (Master of Management Information Systems) Program wishes you a great Holiday Season, Spring and Summer!

It’s already time to REGISTER for Spring Term!

We have had a very interesting and rewarding Fall 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 SPRING CURRICULUM:

MIS658 Advanced Database Management

You may recall that in our last Newsletter, we introduced our new Resident Faculty member, Dr. Narasimha Paravastu. Dr. Paravastu has developed an exciting new 2 credit elective class called MIS658 Advanced Database Management (which was piloted 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.

We are pleased to report that this class has been fully approved through all university processes and will become a part of our regular offerings.

(Please see updated Two Year Schedule later in the Newsletter and on the MMIS web site).

MIS657 is a pre-requisite for this course, and we schedule them together for your convenience: 657 first half and 658 second half - same night of week and site. This course meets many masters program requirements and is filling, so register soon.

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

As we have described in previous Newsletters, the new IA Certificate has been approved by all university committees and is expecting final approval in early January. If you are interested in gaining an important certification in this rapidly growing part of the MIS/IT field, please contact us in late January for admission into the program.

Assistant Professor Steve Creason has worked hard on this program and has done a great job in preparing some of the new curriculum. 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 contact us for details, as there are specific requirements and processes to make this happen.

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
Letter from the MMIS coordinator (cont.)

NEW SUMMER 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 (2 cr)

We are pleased to announce that new online versions of our 4 credit MIS663 Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation will be piloted in Summer as these two new 2 credit classes.

They will use cutting edge new interface and course design concepts to give you a truly exciting look at the world of new technologies, 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.

We all know the disruptive power of new technology. In these new classes, you will learn how to not only manage the introduction and leveraging of these new technologies, but also how to use them to foster great innovation in your firm and how to create new organizations to build on the technologies.

Building innovation is specifically highlighted and illustrated. You will even have the opportunity to look at the many new technologies just coming out of R&D that will be affecting the next generation of IT. We schedule them together for your convenience: 668 first half and 669 second half. These courses meet many masters program requirements, including the new Online MMIS. Your correspondent (Dr David Bouchard) will be teaching these sections this Summer – I hope to have a chance to work with you on this exciting new initiative!

COM MAKING 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.

Almost 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 a 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 had a positive first 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.

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
NEW ONLINE MMIS PROGRAM ON TRACK:

We are pleased to tell you that the introduction of the new Online version of the MMIS program has been successful, 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.

We officially started the new online program last Fall. 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 couple of Newsletters, 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 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 require-
ments 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 2009. 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 2009, as well. Much more information on these and other innovations will be coming soon.

♦ 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 innova-

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
Letter from the MMIS coordinator (cont.)

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.

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 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 options, 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.

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
NEW DATABASE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE

We are pleased to announce the upcoming introduction of a new Database Management Certificate, hopefully starting Fall, 2009. 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 will be officially offered, MIS658, Advanced Database Management.

Dr Narasimha Paravastu, our new Faculty 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 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 now have FOUR Graduate Certificate Programs:

- **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.

NEW PRESIDENT AT METROPOLITAN STATE

We are pleased to welcome new President Sue Hammersmith to Metropolitan State University, who started July 1. 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, was provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, a post she held since 2002. She was also is a professor of social change and development and sociology at the university. Her appointment was recommended by Chancellor James H. McCormick. Previously, Dr. 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.”

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
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.

I hope you are faring well during the current economic challenges. As shown from many of the most influential firms in IT hiring (especially the recent report from Dice), until a few months ago, much of the field of IT could reasonably ask, “what recession?” It had been largely spared from the downsizing seen in much of the rest of the economy. Unfortunately, in the last several months, the field of IT has started to feel the effects of the serious downturn.

While our IT employment rate is still much better than the overall average, we are starting to see some limits in budgets and hiring that may make early 2009 a tough period for everyone. More than any other time in the 25 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 IT subfields are doing especially well (e.g. security and risk management, business analysis and planning, process management).

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. 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 Spring and Summer terms!

Dr. David Bouchard
Professor and Coordinator of Graduate MIS Programs

www.metrostate.edu/com/mmis
MMIS AND MIS CERTIFICATES:

PLEASE LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM

We continue to be one of the “best kept secrets” in Twin Cities 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/com/mmis/

USE OUR MMIS WEB SITE FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION AND REVIEW

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

NOTE RE NEW WEBSITE DESIGN:

You will note there is a new Metropolitan State website format.

While the current URLs in this Newsletter will redirect you to the new addresses etc., a significant effort is being made to improve the website and content.

We hope you will soon be seeing a new look and organization of all the graduate websites. Please let us know what you like (and do not like) and we will be sure to pass that along to the University department doing the re-design.
Notes from Gloria Marcus

Registration
Spring semester registration is currently underway. Please register soon to avoid full or cancelled classes. Tuition was due on December 17 and you were dropped from spring term classes if you did not pay or make payment arrangements. 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

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.

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

Graduation
Congratulations to our December graduates! If you are planning to graduate in May, 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 spring 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
# MMIS TWO YEAR COURSE SCHEDULE DRAFT

12/17/2008 REVISED DRAFT

David Bouchard Ph.D.

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**ELECTIVE**

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)
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

Narasimha Paravastu Ph. D.
Associate Professor MIS